

WITH A TEAR IN MY EYE



A COLLECTION OF WRASSLIN' SONNETS

JULY 2018 • VOL. I



ANDRE THE GIANT

"I don't like to speak badly of people. I have grown up thinking and being told that if you cannot say something nice about someone, you should not say anything at all. But I must break that rule in this case because I hate Hulk Hogan very much. He is a big ugly goon and I want to squash his face."

SLICK RIC

RIC FLAIR • AUGUST 17, 1985



[Flair struts to the interview podium]

Ric Flair: You know, girls, why don't you give it to 'em one more time.

Women in audience: Slick Rick!

Ric Flair: That's who's standing here today the World's Heavyweight Champion, only one--

Women in audience: SLICK RICK!!

Ric Flair: Oh girls, I can't stand. Now, I've gotta talk and y'all have to be quiet.

Nikita Koloff. We've only just begun. That's the end of it. **Dusty Rhodes.** Don't ever make the mistake of sticking your nose in my business. If I'm down and out, I'll get up and take care of myself. So Dusty Rhodes, remember when you walk out here (WOO!) talkin Ric Flair, don't think you can walk in that ring and give me a hand or try and help me out and ease the tension in our relationship.

Philadelphia (WOO!) I'm gonna to tear ya down. **Pensacola Florida,** when I get to town we're gonna treat all you women (WOO!) the way women outta be treated. Because the NWA and some real men are gonna take that Civic Centre apart and then we're all gonna be over at Rodeo, whoo, drivin' the women wild. **Miami Beach,** get ready. We on tour and we're doin it better than anybody else alive.

Now, **Buddy Landel,** it's so hard for me to sit back here in this studio, looking at a guy out here hollerin' my name, when last year I spent more money on spilt liquor in bars from one side of the world to the other than you made. You're talking to the Rolex wearin', diamond ring wearin', kiss stealin' (WOO!) wheelin' dealin', limousine ridin', jet flyin' son of a gun! And I'm having a hard time holding these alligators down! (Woo!) There's only one. **Jim Crockett,** when you brought me here ten years ago, you knew that I was gonna be the biggest star of them all. It cost a lot of money to bring the real World Champion on

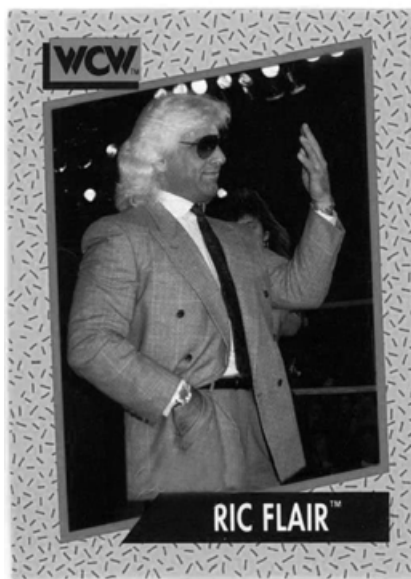
location. Because you see when you got the Andersons-- you know we're family. Ole and Arnie and Ricky. We do it better than anybody else-- don't wrap me up!

[Points at someone off camera]

The national tag team champions. The World Tag Team Champions. Ric Flair the World Champion. Dusty Rhodes the World TV Champion. The National Wrestling Alliance (WOO!) we're just better than anybody else alive. One question, girls all around the world keep asking me the same question. They all want to know...

[Takes jacket off and begins flexing bicep]

They all wanna know-- and my cousin Arnie is the one that put this across. They all want to know what's causing all this. You know what it is? Intensified beef products. You're talking about all man. Ric Flair. Woo!



HARD TIMES

DUSTY RHODES • OCTOBER 29, 1985

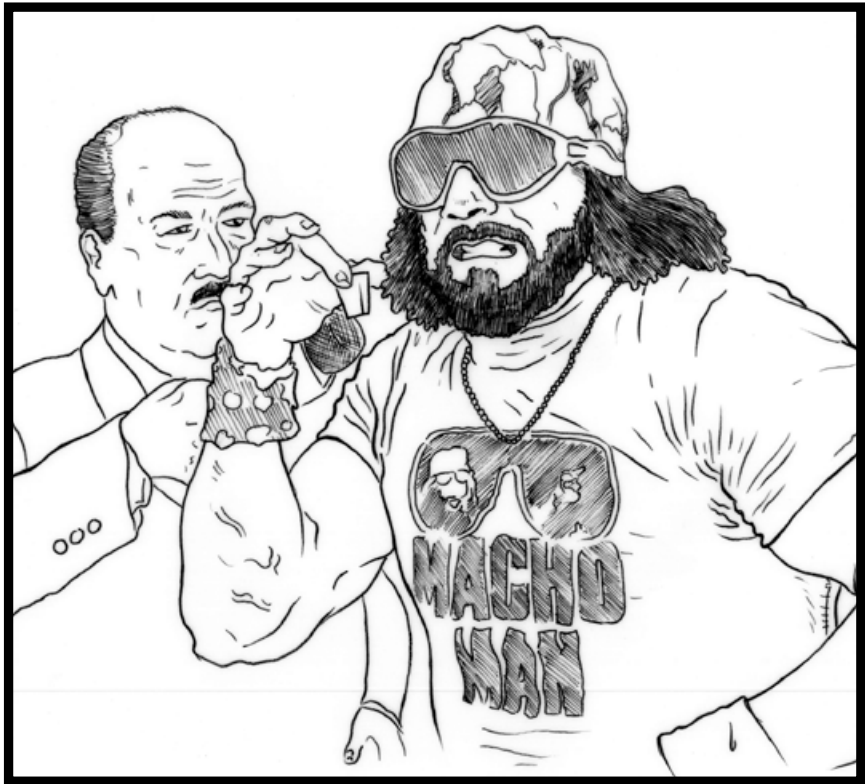


And Ric Flair, Nature Boy... Let me leave you with this. One way to hurt Ric Flair, is to take what he cherishes more than anything in the world and that's the World's Heavyweight title. I'm gon' take it, I been there twice. This time when I take it daddy, I'm gon' take it for you. Let's gather for it. Don't let me down now, 'cause I came back for you, for that man upstairs that died 10-12 years ago and never got the opportunity to see a real World's Champion. And I'm proud of you, thank god I have you, and I love you. I love you!



CREAM OF THE CROP

MACHO MAN RANDY SAVAGE • MAY 11, 1987



Mean Gene Okerlund: ...Wrestlemania III at the Silverdome Pontiac, Michigan, it's a day that I'm certain my guest at this time will not forget, I'm talking about the former Intercontinental Champion of the World, Macho Man Randy Sav..'

Randy Savage: Nothing means nothing!

Mean Gene Okerlund: Noth...?

Randy Savage: Nothing mean nothing, man.

Mean Gene Okerlund: Nothing means nothing? What do you mean by that?

Randy Savage: I'm talking about all the way to the top, yeah. I'm justifiably in a position that I'd rather not be in. But the cream will rise to the top, ooh yeah. Macho Madness, yeah has got more to offer than President Jack Tunney thinks that I got yeah and let me tell you something right now, cards stacked against the Macho Man Randy Savage and Wrestlemania III let me say it yeah, let me say it out loud and let me point to the President of the World Wrestling Federation, The Macho Man Randy Savage is not happy with your decision, yeah. I am the cream in the World Wrestling Federation and there is no doubt about it, yeah, you Mean Gene Okerlund you know that I'm the cream of the crop!

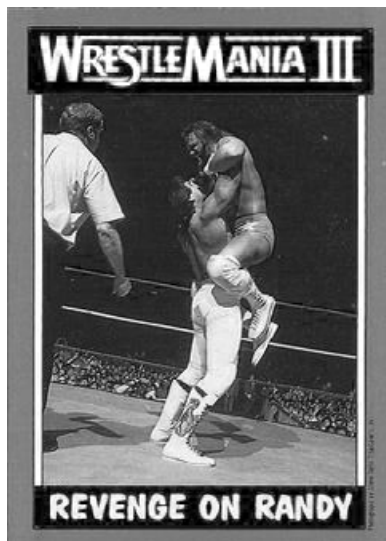
Mean Gene Okerlund: Wait a minute though Randy, I've got to ask you very seriously, do you blame Mr. Jack Tunney, the distinguished President of The World Wrestling Federation, for Ricky Steamboat being the Intercontinental Champion today?

Randy Savage: Yeah, I do, yeah. Outside interference, yeah. In my moment of glory! Yeah. And now I'm living in a nightmare. And I am the cream. And now, not only the Intercontinental Heavyweight belt must fall but, The World Heavyweight Championship belt! Because Hulk Hogan yeah, I am the cream, yeah, the cream of the crop. And

there is no-one that does it better than the Macho Man Randy Savage! On balance, off balance, doesn't matter. I'm better than you are, yeah and I'm talking everyone in the World Wrestling Federation. And I'm even talking to President Jack Tunney, yeah. I'm on my way and nothing is gonna stop me. Nothing's gonna stop me.

Mean Gene Okerlund: You know, just out of curiosity, Randy, and I certainly don't want to diminish your tremendous God given talents, but I'm very curious. I haven't seen Elizabeth lately.

Randy Savage: Yeah. She's on the outside of the ring, does she interfere in matches? Yeah? Nothing, zero, pure athlete yeah and I've been uh yeah, maligned from the top to the bottom and because they can't handle the Macho Man Randy Savage, the cream of the crop. Nobody does it better!



INTERMISSION

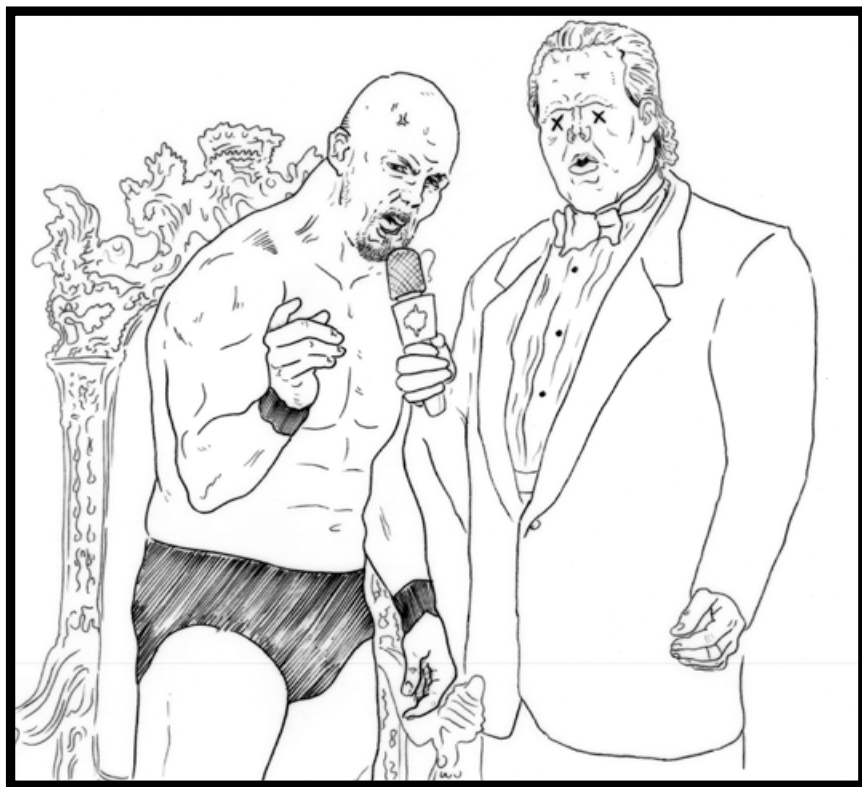


Look, doing this over again, I probably would've picked something from 1988-1995 for this spread. There was a lot of trash in this time, but also some alright stuff. As it stands, I didn't have such foresight and as a result, there's a pretty big time jump about to take place. All I can do is ask for forgiveness and hope the this picture of Muhammad Ali, Hulk Hogan, Cyndi Lauper, LIBERACE, and Wendi Richter can somehow make up for my error.

- Eternally yours, @snail_nah_sigh

AND THAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE

STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN • JUNE 23, 1996



Dok Hendrix: The fourth prestigious King Of The Ring, Stone Cold Steve Austin, an incredible victory!

Austin: The first thing I want to be done, is to get that piece of crap out of my ring.

[Referees drag Jake the Snake Roberts' lifeless body from the ring]

Don't just get him out of the ring, get him out of the WWF because I've proved son, without a shadow of a doubt, you ain't got what it takes anymore! You sit there and you thump your Bible, and you say your prayers, and it didn't get you anywhere. Talk about your psalms, talk about John 3:16...

Austin 3:16 says I just whipped your ass!

Hendrix: Come on, that's not necessary

Austin: All he's gotta do is go buy him a cheap bottle of Thunderbird and try to dig back some of that courage he had in his prime.

As the King Of The Ring, I'm serving notice to every one of the WWF superstars. I don't give a damn what they are, they're all on the list, and that's Stone Cold's list, and I'm fixing to start running through all of 'em.

And as far as this championship match is considered son, I don't give a damn if it's Davey Boy Smith or Shawn Michaels, Steve Austin's time is come, and when I get that shot you're looking at the next WWF Champion.

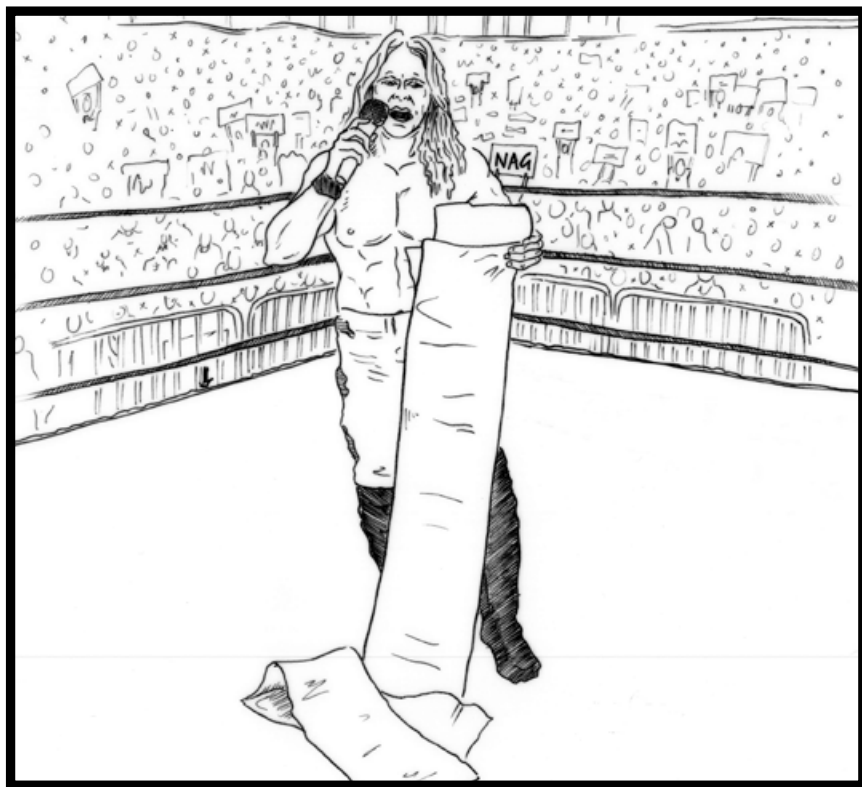
And that's the bottom line, because Stone Cold said so.

Hendrix: Obviously anything but humble, the fourth prestigious King Of The Ring, Stone Cold Steve Austin!



1004 HOLDS

CHRIS JERICO • MARCH 30, 1998



Having beaten his opponent in under four minutes, Jericho takes a microphone to assert his superiority to "The Man of a Thousand Holds" Dean Malenko by proclaiming himself the Man of 1004 Holds

Jericho: Thank you. Thank you very much. You know, since I took care of Mr. Jannetty so quickly, I came prepared. Malenko, you claim to be the man of a thousand holds. But I counted and you know about sixty. But I know 1004 and I wrote them all down, here we go.

[Pulls out a several metre long computer paper printout]

Hold one - Arm Drag. Hold two - Arm bar. Hold three - the Moss-Covered, Three Handed Family Gradunza

Announcer Tony: Why doesn't he just mail us this list and we'll announce it.

Announcer Mike: He's Just ranting

Jericho: Hold four - Arm bar. Number five - the Saskatchewan Spinning Nerve.

Announcer Tony: This must be meathead microphone night, you think so?

Announcer Mike: He's got nine hundred and ninety eight to go...

Announcer Tony: Get the hook, we're outta here. Shut up!

[5 minute commercial break]

Jericho: Hold number seven hundred and twelve...Arm Bar.

Announcer Tony: Can we physically get him out of the ring?!

Jericho: Hold number seven hundred and thirteen - the professionala. Hold number seven hundred and fourteen - the Canadian super jawbreaker.

[30 seconds of fireworks]

Jericho: Hold number seven hundred and twenty three--
Wow! I'm starting to get blown up here. Hold number seven hundred and twenty three - the Jericho screwdriver twist

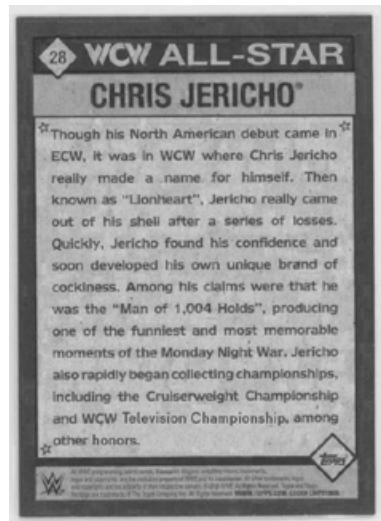
Announcer Tony: Is he just going to stay in the ring? Are we gonna get some officials out move him along?

Announcer Mike: He still has several huundred more to go...

Jericho: Hold number seven hundred and twenty five - the super wizard.

[Prince laukea (?) storms down to the ring talking about how Jericho dishonoured the memory of his mentor or something...I don't know, I fell asleep cause he's got no charisma. He charges at Jericho and forces him out of the ring.]

Jericho *[screaming at the referees to return his list]:* Give me back my holds!! I still got two hundred more... I got two hundred more moves to list. I've written them all down.



THE PIPEBOMB

CM PUNK • JUNE 27, 2011



John Cena, while you lay there, hopefully as uncomfortable as you possibly can be, I want you to listen to me. I want you to digest this because before I leave in 3 weeks with your WWE Championship, I have a lot of things I want to get off my chest.

I don't hate you, John. I don't even dislike you. I do like you. I like you a hell of a lot more than I like most people in the back.

I hate this idea that you're the best. Because you're not. I'm the best. I'm the best in the world. There's one thing you're better at than I am and that's kissing Vince McMahon's ass.

You're as good as kissing Vince's ass as Hulk Hogan was. I don't know if you're as good as Dwayne though. He's a pretty good ass kisser. Always was and still is.

Whoops! I'm breaking the fourth wall!

[Punk waves to the camera]

I am the best wrestler in the world.

I've been the best ever since day one when I walked into this company. And I've been vilified and hated since that day, because Paul Heyman saw something in me that nobody else wanted to admit. That's right, I'm a Paul Heyman guy. You know who else was a Paul Heyman guy? Brock Lesnar. And he split just like I'm splitting. But the biggest difference between me and Brock is I'm going to leave with the WWE Championship.

I've grabbed so many of Vincent K. McMahon's brass rings that it's finally dawned on me that they're just that, they're completely imaginary. The only thing that's real is me and the fact that day in and day out, for almost six years, I have proved to everybody in the world that I am the best on this microphone, in that ring, even in commentary! Nobody can touch me!

And yet no matter how many times I prove it, I'm not on your lovely little collector cups. I'm not on the cover of the program. I'm barely promoted. I don't get to be in movies. I'm certainly not on any crappy show on the USA Network. I'm not on the poster of WrestleMania. I'm not on the signature that's produced at the start of the show. I'm not on Conan

O'Brian. I'm not on Jimmy Fallon. But the fact of the matter is, I should be.

And trust me, this isn't sour grapes. But the fact that Dwayne is in the main event at WrestleMania next year and I'm not makes me sick!

Oh hey, let me get something straight. Those of you who are cheering me right now, you are just as big a part of me leaving as anything else. Because you're the ones who are sipping on those collector cups right now. You're the ones that buy those programs that my face isn't on the cover of. And then at five in the morning at the airport, you try to shove it in my face so you can get an autograph and try to sell it on eBay because you're too lazy to go get a real job.

I'm leaving with the WWE Championship on July 17th. And hell, who knows, maybe I'll go defend it in New Japan Pro Wrestling. Maybe...I'll go back to Ring of Honor.

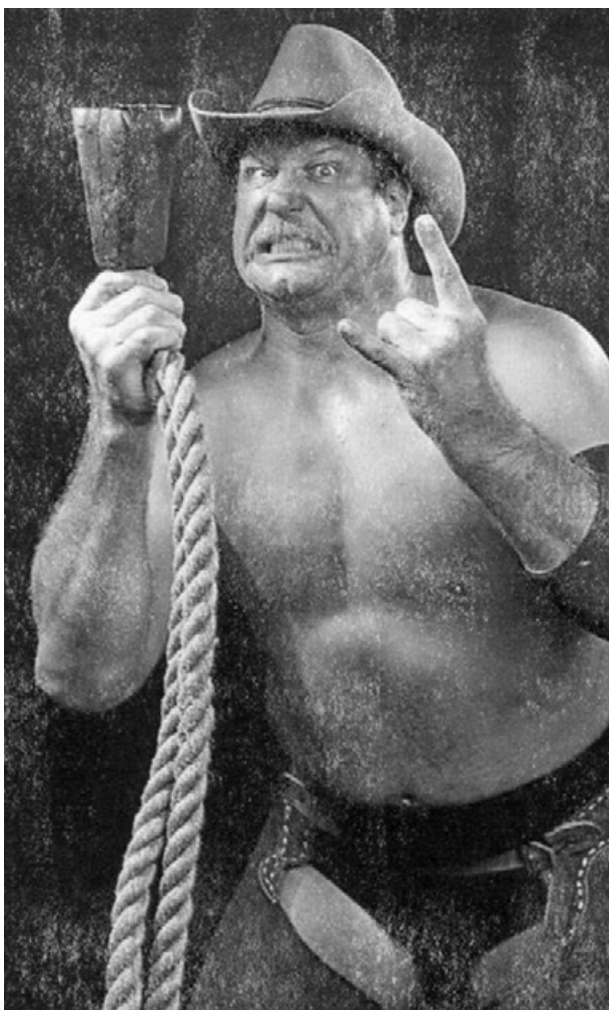
[Punk looks at the camera and waves]

Hey, Colt Cabana, how you doing?

The reason I'm leaving is you people. Because after I'm gone, you're still going to pour money into this company. I'm just a spoke on the wheel. The wheel is going to keep turning and I understand that. Vince McMahon is going to make money despite himself. He's a millionaire who should be a billionaire. You know why he's not a billionaire? Because he surrounds himself with glad-handed, nonsensical, douchebag (censored) yes men, like John Laurinaitis, who's going to tell him everything he wants to hear, and I'd like to think that maybe this company will be better after Vince McMahon is dead. But the fact is, it's going to be taken over by his idiotic daughter and his doofus son-in-law and the rest of his stupid family.

Let me tell you a personal story about Vince McMahon, alright? We do this whole [anti] bully campaign...

[Microphone cuts off]



SEE YOU SPACE COWBOY...