

EAST TEXAS (Fritz/Blanchard/Boesch) 1971: A Year in the Life

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Territory Fact Sheet

(full-page, full-color version at the end of this PDF)

PRO WRESTLING TERRITORY FACT SHEET		1971
EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH)		
SAMPLE WEEK		
MON 11/1	FORT WORTH	
TUE 11/2	DALLAS	
WED 11/3	AUSTIN	
	SAN ANTONIO	
THU 11/4	BEAUMONT	
	CORPUS CHRISTI	
FRI 11/5	HOUSTON	
SAT 11/6	DEL RIO	
	KILLEEN	
SUN 11/7	--	

TOP SINGLES	TOP TEAMS
JOHNNY VALENTINE	BRONCO LUBICH & CHRIS MARKOFF
WAHOO MCDANIEL	
TORU TANAKA	
THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON	

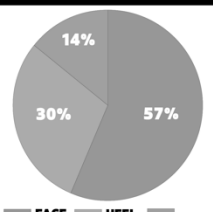


LEGEND
METRO AREAS RUN REGULARLY (star) OTHER TOWNS RUN REGULARLY (star)

HOUSE SHOW RECORDS			
DOCUMENTED HOUSE SHOWS	327	SHOWS PER WEEK	6.3
ESTIMATED COMPLETENESS	80-85%		
MISC. BOOKING STATS			
HEEL/FACE TURNS	4*	ROSTER TURNOVER	203%
ROSTER SIZE/COMPOSITION	MATCH RESULTS		

AVERAGE # OF WRESTLERS: 17.5

OVERALL

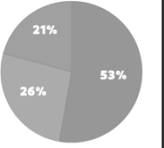
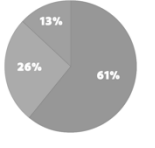
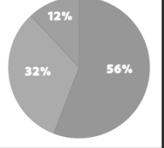
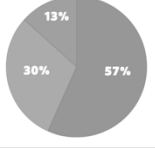


FACE WINS 57% HEEL WINS 30% DRAWS 14%

TOP RIVALRIES
WAHOO MCDANIEL VS TORU TANAKA
JOSE LOTHARIO VS JOHNNY VALENTINE
WAHOO MCDANIEL VS THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON
WAHOO MCDANIEL VS JOHNNY VALENTINE
THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON VS JOHNNY VALENTINE
PEPPER GOMEZ VS JOHNNY VALENTINE

TITLE CHANGES	
AMERICAN HEAVYWEIGHT	4
AMERICAN TAG TEAM	4
TEXAS HEAVYWEIGHT	5

MAIN EVENTERS (4.4)
UPPER MID-CARDERS (3.6)
MID-CARDERS (6.1)
PRELIMINARY WRESTLERS (3.4)

MAIN EVENTS	UPPER MIDS
 <p style="font-size: x-small;">FACE WINS 53% HEEL WINS 26% DRAWS 21%</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small;">FACE WINS 57% HEEL WINS 30% DRAWS 13%</p>
MID-CARDS	PRELIMS
 <p style="font-size: x-small;">FACE WINS 56% HEEL WINS 32% DRAWS 12%</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small;">FACE WINS 61% HEEL WINS 26% DRAWS 13%</p>

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Rankings

This is a list of the “most pushed acts” in the territory during the year.

RANKINGS FOR EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

- 1 - JOHNNY VALENTINE**
- 2 - WAHOO MCDANIEL**
- 3 - TORU TANAKA**
- 4 - THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON**
- 5 - BRONCO LUBICH & CHRIS MARKOFF**
- 6 - JOSE LOTHARIO**
- 7 - PEPPER GOMEZ**
- 8 - THE SPOILER**
- 9 - BUDDY WOLFE**
- 10 - ERNIE LADD**

Wrestlers are ranked based on their week-by-week **SPOT Rating** as well as the total number of weeks they were in the territory during the designated time period

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

Wrestler Profiles by David Gibb

David Gibb is a writer and author of "[How to Ace Your Comeback](#)"

PEPPER GOMEZ

Pepper Gomez was a bodybuilder-turned-wrestler who blended the country's rising obsession with fitness and old-fashioned strongman tricks to create the modern blueprint for a muscular babyface. All the flexing heroes, from the Ultimate Warrior to John Cena, owe something to Gomez.

Jose Serapio Palimino Gomez was born in Los Angeles in 1927. Unlike most wrestling "bodybuilders," he was quite successful in competition, placing fifth in the 1951 Mister America contest and finishing consistently in the top three on the California circuit between '47 and '52. Even before Pepper broke into wrestling in 1953, his physique had a reputation for selling magazines.



Pepper Gomez in 1961 (l) and 1975 (r)

Gomez's incredible body attracted the attention of Black Guzman (the brother of El Santo), who trained him and got him booked on the Southwestern circuit, breaking Pepper in as a preliminary in El Paso and Tucson before returning to his stomping grounds of Southern California as a featured wrestler.

Throughout the late '50s and early '60s, Gomez became a big star in East Texas, earning several runs with the Texas Heavyweight Title as well as various area tag titles. Since early '61, however, he'd been operating primarily out of Roy Shire's Northern California territory, becoming an area legend on the strength of the Bay Area's growing Mexican population and his feud with Ray Stevens.

In perhaps the biggest angle in San Francisco history, Stevens "injured" Gomez during a 1962 demonstration of the bodybuilder's cast iron stomach ("great abs"). Stevens was *supposed* to jump off the ladder and land feet-first onto Gomez's midsection but instead dropped his "Bombs Away" knee across Pepper's throat, causing him to writhe in agony and cough up blood. This controversy kicked off a feud that sold out the big houses on both sides of the Bay Bridge and was replicated several times throughout the '70s and '80s. Grizzly Smith did it with Harley Race in El Paso, Ivan Putski did it with Dusty Rhodes in LeRoy McGuirk's territory, and Pepper himself rehashed it years later with Bob Roop & Alexis Smirnoff in Southern California.

Gomez made a full-time return to East Texas in January of 1971, instantly challenging NWA World Heavyweight Champion Dory Funk Jr. in Corpus Christi. Pepper even captured a fall against Junior before being disqualified for a low blow, which the champion likely goaded him into, given his "hot Latin temper."

Three weeks later, Pepper was back in Corpus Christi, this time standing across the ring from a less prestigious but perhaps more intimidating opponent: NWA Texas Heavyweight Champion Johnny Valentine. Gomez *probably* won their first non-title encounter, as he received a title rematch against Valentine two weeks later where the champion did something to necessitate a rematch with two referees. In what was ultimately their third match in the city, on February 18th, Gomez captured the first and third falls to win the Texas Heavyweight Championship for the first time since 1964.

Or maybe he had already won the title in San Antonio the night before – at least, that’s what the local newspaper reported. Repeating title changes in different towns on the same loop was a semi-common practice across the territories and seemed to be the norm in the East Texas towns promoted by Joe Blanchard (San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Austin).

During those early weeks of 1971, Gomez and Valentine also had a three-match series in Houston, with Gomez “losing his temper” for a DQ on January 22nd before winning by disqualification two weeks later when Valentine hit him with a chair. On February 26th, with Pepper as champion, the two returned to Houston for a no-disqualification match, which ended when Gomez and Valentine were brawling on the floor and Pepper literally scaled up his opponent’s body to climb into the ring and beat the referee’s ten-count (and, no, a countout is not a disqualification).

On March 10th, however, Gomez’s luck ran out in San Antonio when he lost the title back to Valentine via – you guessed it – disqualification (with the traditional rule having been waived). The match featured special referee Stu Gibson, a semi-retired boxer-wrestler who Joe Blanchard used as an “enforcer” to officiate volatile rivalries. Valentine’s zest for denying the babyface and fans was on display, as – with the match tied at one fall – the two competitors became entangled in a hold on the mat, causing referee Gibson to duck in close to check for a submission. As he did so, Valentine gave the referee a headbutt or elbow to the back of the head, causing a disqualification – but Stu Gibson indicated what was clearly the wrong decision to the ring announcer: that Pepper Gomez had struck him, thus awarding Valentine the Texas Heavyweight Championship.

Whether Gibson’s mistake was incompetence or treachery, it led to a tag match pitting the special referee and Johnny Valentine against the team of Pepper Gomez and Wahoo McDaniel. The good guys won that one in a righteous thrashing, and Pepper defeated Gibson in a singles bout the next week. Wins aside, to those who could read the tea leaves, it was clear Gomez wasn’t getting the title back.

After that memorable first-quarter feud with Valentine, Gomez slipped down cards across the territory, facing the likes of Gorgeous George Junior and teaming with rotating partners including Tim Woods and George Scott in a series of unsuccessful attempts to capture the American Tag Team Championships from Bronco Lubich & Chris Markoff.

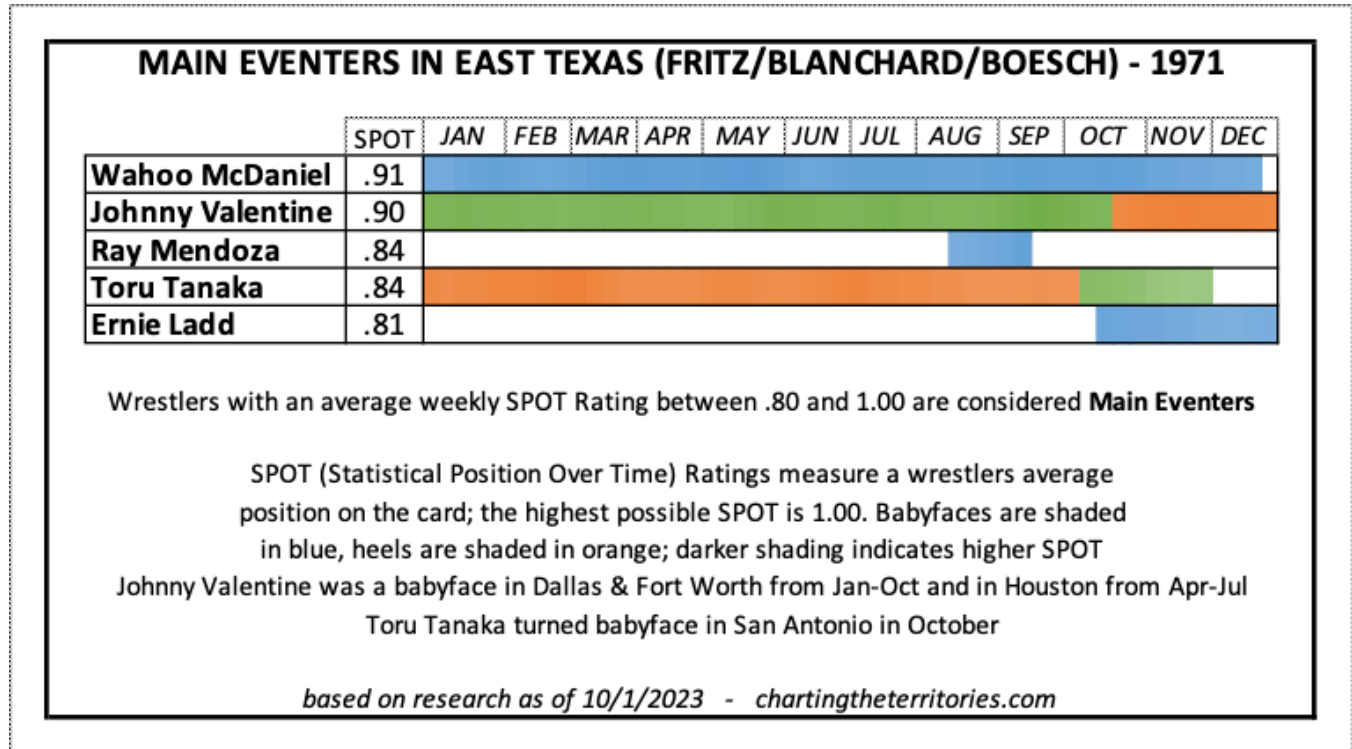
By the middle of the year, Pepper Gomez wasn’t being used to his full effect in East Texas, and his longtime boss Roy Shire’s top star, Ray Stevens (Pepper’s one time villainous rival but now the local hero), was about to head to the AWA. The decision to return to San Francisco was probably a no-brainer, as they would be needing a new top babyface.

Whether the exit was orchestrated for the specific purpose of getting Gomez back to the Cow Palace before Stevens' last date or he and Blanchard always had a six-month agreement, Pepper wrapped up on June 18th, losing to Toru Tanaka in Houston. Gomez won the first fall, but Tanaka gave him such a devastating karate blow to the throat that he couldn't answer the bell after the second, forfeiting the third fall in a devastating win for the Professor.

While Pepper Gomez went out like a lamb in East Texas in 1971, it's important not to lose sight of the fact that he came in like a lion. Such was frequently the case in the territory era, where paying back what you'd been given was as important – more important, even – than being built.

Roster

All the wrestlers who completed regularly in the territory are listed below, grouped into categories based on their average position on the cards using a metric called Statistical Position Over Time (SPOT for short). After the first four categories, you will find links to articles/biographies/obituaries for many of the wrestlers from SLAM Wrestling.



Wahoo McDaniel <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2022/02/21/wifes-insights-make-wahoo-mcdaniel-bio-even-better/>

Johnny Valentine <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2001/04/25/flair-friends-remember-johnny-valentine/>

Toru Tanaka <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2006/05/03/toru-tanaka-nice-guy-villain/>

Ernie Ladd <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2007/03/11/the-big-cat-ernie-ladd-was-seldom-tamed/>

UPPER MID-CARDERS IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	SPOT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Thunderbolt Patterson	.79	[Blue shading]							[Orange shading]					
The Spoiler	.79	[Orange shading]										[Blue shading]		
Jose Lothario	.76	[Blue shading]							[Orange shading]					
Killer Kowalski	.75	[Orange shading]		[Blue shading]										
Chris Markoff	.73	[Orange shading]							[Blue shading]					
Pepper Gomez	.68	[Blue shading]							[Orange shading]					
Buddy Wolfe	.68	[Blue shading]							[Orange shading]		[Green shading]			
Dusty Rhodes	.65	[Blue shading]			[Green shading]	[Blue shading]								
George Harris	.64	[Orange shading]							[Blue shading]					
Dean Ho	.60	[Blue shading]										[Orange shading]		

Wrestlers with an average weekly SPOT Rating between .60 and .80 are considered **Upper Mid-Carders**

SPOT (Statistical Position Over Time) Ratings measure a wrestlers average position on the card; the highest possible SPOT is 1.00. Babyfaces are shaded in blue, heels are shaded in orange; darker shading indicates higher SPOT

Buddy Wolfe turned babyface in Dallas/Fort Worth in Oct; Dusty Rhodes was a babyface in Austin/San Antonio

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

Thunderbolt Patterson <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2008/08/14/thunderbolt-patterson-still-on-top/>

The Spoiler <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2006/12/17/the-spoiler-don-jardine-dies-from-leukemia/>

Jose Lothario <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2018/11/07/jose-lothario-passes-away-at-83/>

Killer Kowalski <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2008/08/30/killer-kowalski-dies/>

Pepper Gomez <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2004/05/06/pepper-gomez-dies/>

Buddy Wolfe <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2017/07/13/buddy-wolff-dies/>

Dusty Rhodes <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2015/06/11/the-american-dream-dusty-rhodes-dies/>

Dean Ho <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2021/02/28/dean-ho-dies/>

MID-CARDERS IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	SPOT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Bronco Lubich	.58	[Orange shading]											
George Scott	.57	[Blue shading]											
Tim Woods	.52	[Blue shading]											
Bob Orton	.52	[Orange shading]											
Gorgeous George Jr.	.51	[Orange shading]											
Bobby Shane	.49	[Blue shading]											
Nick Kozak	.49	[Blue shading]											
Bob Burns	.42	[Blue shading]											
George Gaiser	.42	[Blue shading]											
Bob Ramstead	.41	[Blue shading]											
Joe Blanchard	.41	[Green shading]											
Klondike Bill	.41	[Blue shading]											
George Hultz	.40	[Orange shading]											
Luke Brown	.40	[Blue shading]											

Wrestlers with an average weekly SPOT Rating between .40 and .60 are considered **Mid-Carders**

SPOT (Statistical Position Over Time) Ratings measure a wrestler's average position on the card; the highest possible SPOT is 1.00. Babyfaces are shaded in blue, heels are shaded in orange; darker shading indicates higher SPOT

Joe Blanchard was a heel in Dallas & Fort Worth

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

Bronco Lubich <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2007/08/12/the-life-of-bronko-lubich-wrestler-referee-and-trainer/>

George Scott <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2014/01/21/george-scott-dead-at-84/>

Bob Orton (Sr.) <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2006/07/17/bob-orton-sr-dead-at-76/>

Gorgeous George Jr. <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2012/05/14/gorgeous-george-jr-dies/>

Bob Ramstead <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2019/06/26/remembering-journeyman-mr-pro-buck-ramstead/>

Joe Blanchard <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2012/03/22/joe-blanchard-passes/>

Klondike Bill <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2000/10/03/klondike-bill-passes-away/>

PRELIMINARY WRESTLERS IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	SPOT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Scandor Akbar	.39												
Jimmy Valiant	.39												
Joe Dusek	.38												
Sabu Singh	.37												
Gary Fulton	.37												
Mike York	.36												
Johnny Walker	.35												

Wrestlers with an average weekly SPOT Rating below .40 are considered **Preliminary Wrestlers**

SPOT (Statistical Position Over Time) Ratings measure a wrestlers average position on the card; the highest possible SPOT is 1.00. Babyfaces are shaded in blue, heels are shaded in orange; darker shading indicates higher SPOT

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

Scandor Akbar <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2010/08/20/the-celebrated-career-of-the-late-skandor-akbar/>

Jimmy Valiant <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2004/05/26/from-handsome-to-boogie-and-back/>

Johnny Walker <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2020/06/10/mr-wrestling-ii-johnny-walker-dies/>

PART-TIME WRESTLERS IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	SPOT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Fritz Von Erich	1.00	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Mil Mascaras	.93							■					■
Terry Funk	.89					■							
Stu Gibson	.57		■	■	■	■		■	■				
Sid Jones	.48							■	■	■	■	■	■
Tiger Conway	.46	■					■	■	■	■		■	
El Medico	.45									■	■	■	■
Mike Paidousis	.39				■		■	■		■			
Tommy O'Brien	.38									■			
Benji Ramirez	.37						■	■					
Tony Gonzales	.37		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Jerry Timmons	.36	■				■		■	■	■			
Joe Bednarski	.35	■	■		■	■	■	■	■				
Jack Bence	.35			■	■	■							
Benny Matta	.34		■	■				■	■	■			■
Eli Kashey	.30			■	■		■	■					
Swede Karlssen	.28	■											

Wrestlers who meet at least one of the below criteria are considered **Part-Time Wrestlers**

- 1) Were not booked as a regular for at least four consecutive weeks during the time period
- 2) Had less than 40% bookings per week as the most frequently booked wrestlers in the territory

SPOT (Statistical Position Over Time) Ratings measure a wrestlers average position on the card; the highest possible SPOT is 1.00. Babyfaces are shaded in blue, heels are shaded in orange; darker shading indicates higher SPOT

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

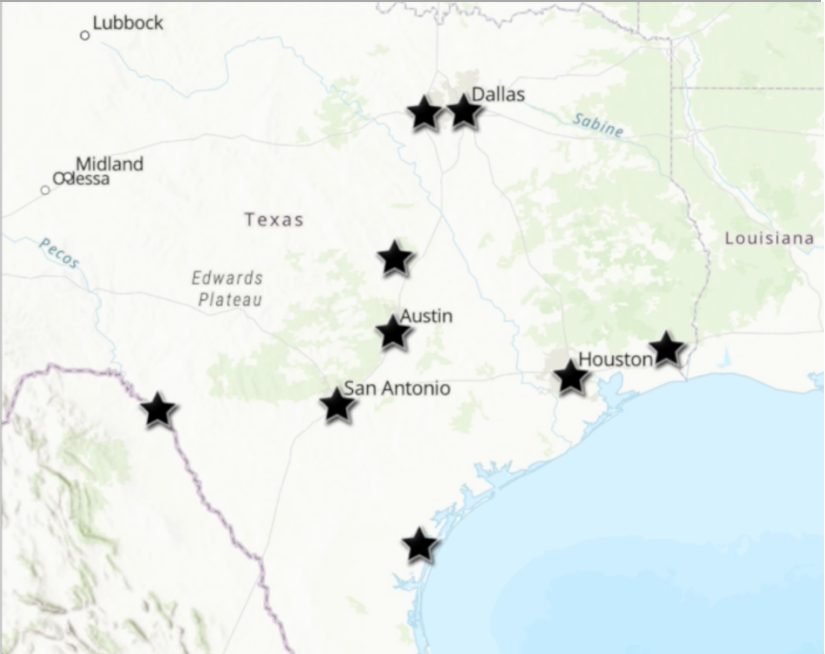
Event Center

A look at a week's worth of house shows in the territory.

Video available on the Charting the Territories channel on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/igVL6ofID84>

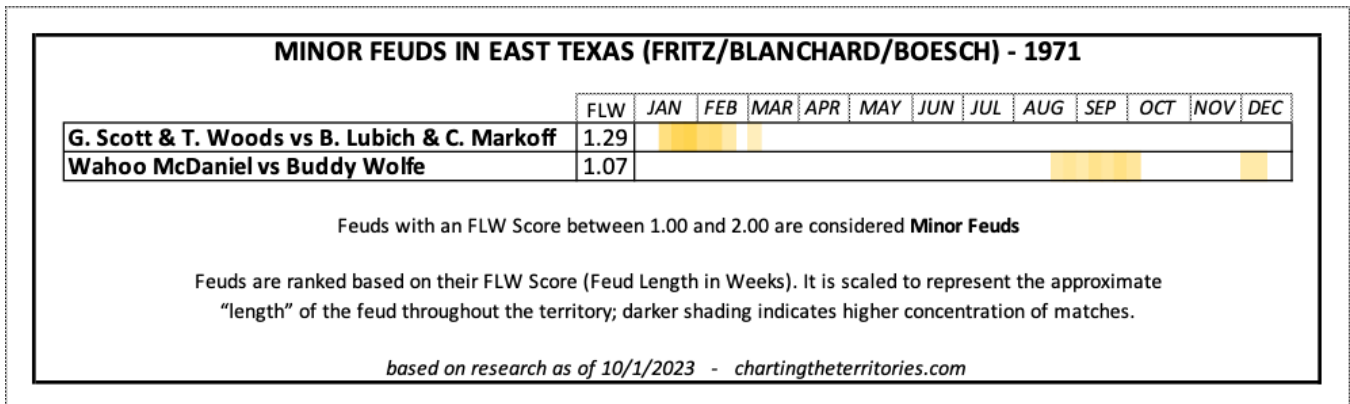
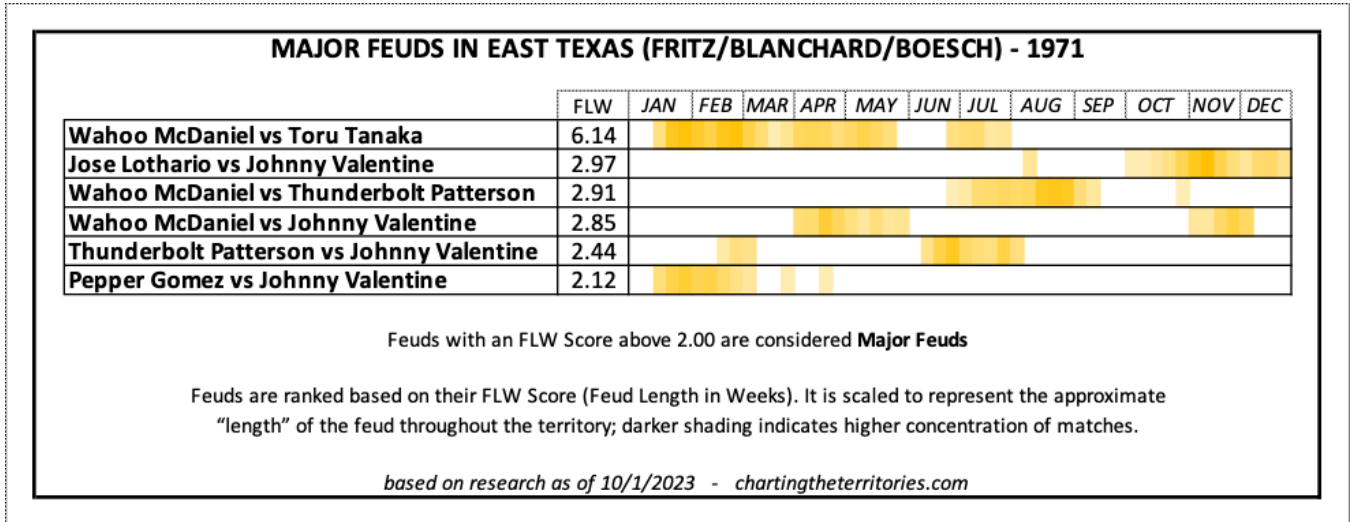
SAMPLE WEEK	
MON 11/1	FORT WORTH
TUE 11/2	DALLAS
WED 11/3	AUSTIN
	SAN ANTONIO
THU 11/4	BEAUMONT
	CORPUS CHRISTI
FRI 11/5	HOUSTON
SAT 11/6	DEL RIO
	KILLEEN
SUN 11/7	--



A map of Texas showing the locations of house shows for a sample week. The map includes major cities and geographical features. Stars indicate the locations: Fort Worth (Monday), Dallas (Tuesday), Austin (Wednesday), San Antonio (Wednesday), Beaumont (Thursday), Corpus Christi (Thursday), Houston (Friday), Del Rio (Saturday), and Killeen (Saturday). The map also shows Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, the Edwards Plateau, the Pecos and Sabine rivers, and the border with Louisiana.

Feuds

Here are two charts listing the biggest feuds in the territory using a metric called Feud Length in Weeks (FLW for short).



The progression of feuds often differed from city to city. This led to each market having its own narrative. If a main event drew well the first time out in some cities, they could build to a rematch the following week. In other cities where it didn't draw well, they may choose to have that first match end in a clean finish and present a different main event the following week.

Below are examples of how some of the bigger feuds played out in select cities.

WAHOO McDANIEL vs TORU TANAKA

Austin

- 1/27 Indian strap match: Results not available
- 2/3 American title: Tanaka won, taking the second and third falls
- 2/17 No disqualification: Wahoo won in two straight falls
- 5/12 Combination Indian strap / judo jacket match: Wahoo won in two straight falls (the first fall was an Indian strap match, the second fall a judo jacket match)

Corpus Christi

- 1/7 Indian strap match: Wahoo won
- 1/28 American title: Results not available
- 2/25 One fall to a finish: Wahoo won (results state that he wore a "leather collar as protection against the karate chops of Toru Tanaka")
- 3/4 American title: The match went to no-decision due to what was only reported as "a disputed third fall"
- 5/6 Combination Indian strap / judo jacket match: Tanaka won, taking the second and third falls
- 7/1 American title: Wahoo won, taking the third fall by disqualification after Tanaka threw him over the top rope
- 7/8 American title, Texas death match: Wahoo won; Tanaka took the first three falls and Wahoo took the fourth, with Tanaka unable to answer the bell for the fifth fall

Dallas and Fort Worth

- 1/26 (Dall) The match "went to a draw"
- 3/15 (Ft W) Tanaka won
- 4/6 (Dall) Combination Indian strap / judo jacket match: Tanaka won
- 4/20 (Dall) American title: Wahoo won
- 6/21 (Ft W) Tanaka won
- 8/24 (Dall) Wahoo won

Houston

- 1/22 Wahoo won, taking the first and third falls
- 2/19 American title: The match went to a draw
- 3/5 American title, must be a winner, Wahoo to leave town if he gets beat: Wahoo won the match and title; both men were counted out in the first fall, then split the next two before Wahoo won the fourth and final fall
- 4/9 American title: Wahoo won, taking the third fall with the "Choctaw Death Lock"
- 7/17 American title: Wahoo won

San Antonio

- 1/20 Indian strap match: Wahoo won
- 1/30 American title: Tanaka won, taking the first and third falls
- 2/20 American title: Tanaka won
- 2/24 Wahoo won
- 4/28 Tanaka won by disqualification
- 5/19 Wahoo won

JOSE LOTHARIO vs JOHNNY VALENTINE

Austin

- 7/21 Valentine won, taking the third fall by disqualification after Lothario “spent more time pounding on the referee than on ... Valentine”
- 8/18 Texas title: Valentine won, taking the first and third falls (while the bout was promoted as a title match ahead of time, newspaper results state it was non-title)
- 11/10 Texas title: Lothario won, though Valentine retained the title because he was disqualified in the second fall

Corpus Christi

- 8/12 Lothario won, taking the second and third falls
- 9/23 No holds barred, 10 rounds: Results not available
- 10/21 Texas title: The match went to a draw
- 11/4 Texas title: Valentine won, taking the second and third falls
- 11/11 Texas title: Both men were counted out in the third fall
- 11/18 Texas title, special referee Lou Thesz: Lothario won the match and title, taking the second and third falls (he also “won” the title the previous night in San Antonio)
- 12/16 Texas title: Lothario won, taking the second and third falls

Dallas and Fort Worth

- 10/26 (Dall) Valentine won
- 12/13 (Ft W) Lothario won

Houston

- 8/20 The match went to a 15-minute draw
- 11/12 Both men were disqualified in the third fall
- 12/10 Texas title: The match went to a draw

San Antonio

- 8/11 Lothario won, taking the third fall by knockout
- 9/15 Results not available
- 9/18 Lothario won
- 10/13 Texas title: Lothario won by disqualification
- 11/3 Texas title: Valentine won
- 11/17 Texas title, disqualification rule waived: Lothario won the match and title (he also “won” the title the following night in Corpus Christi)
- 12/1 Texas title: Lothario won by disqualification

Feuds by Wrestler

By listing feuds of the top wrestlers in chronological order, you can get a better feel for their “arc” during the year.

JOHNNY VALENTINE IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
vs Jose Lothario												
vs Wahoo McDaniel												
vs Thunderbolt Patterson												
vs Pepper Gomez												
vs Toru Tanaka												
vs Lubich & Markoff vs (w/McDaniel)												

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

WAHOO McDANIEL IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
vs Toru Tanaka												
vs Thunderbolt Patterson												
vs Johnny Valentine												
vs Buddy Wolfe												
vs Lubich & Markoff vs (w/Valentine)												
vs Spoiler												

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

TORU TANAKA IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
vs Wahoo McDaniel												
vs Johnny Valentine												
vs Jose Lothario												

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
vs Wahoo McDaniel												
vs Johnny Valentine												
vs Killer Kowalski												
vs Lubich & Markoff vs (w/G. Scott)												

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

BRONCO LUBICH & CHRIS MARKOFF IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Lubich												
Markoff												
vs G. Scott & T. Woods												
vs J. Valentine & W. McDaniel												
vs G. Scott & T. Patterson												

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

JOSE LOTHARIO IN EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH) - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
vs Johnny Valentine												
vs Toru Tanaka												

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

Title Holders and Histories

The following charts show the chronological progression of title holders in the territory. Looking at them this way gives you a better feel for the length of title reigns, and how they may have differed between babyface champs and heel champs.

AMERICAN HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE - EAST TEXAS - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Toru Tanaka	Orange											
Fritz Von Erich			Blue									
Wahoo McDaniel			Blue									
The Spoiler												Orange

Only title changes recognized across the entire territory are listed.
 In this chart, new champions are generally recognized the calendar week after the title change.
 Blue shading denotes babyface champions, orange shading denotes heel champions.

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

AMERICAN TAG TEAM TITLES - EAST TEXAS - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
George Scott & Tim Woods	Blue											
Bronco Lubich & Chris Markoff			Orange			Orange						
Johnny Valentine & Wahoo McDaniel					Blue		Blue					
Thunderbolt Patterson & Toru Tanaka								Orange				
Thunderbolt Patterson & Johnny Valentine												Orange

Only title changes recognized across the entire territory are listed.
 In this chart, new champions are generally recognized the calendar week after the title change.
 Blue shading denotes babyface champions, orange shading denotes heel champions.

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

TEXAS HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE - EAST TEXAS - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Johnny Valentine												
Pepper Gomez												
Wahoo McDaniel												
Jose Lothario												

Only title changes recognized across the entire territory are listed.
In this chart, new champions are generally recognized the calendar week after the title change.
Blue shading denotes babyface champions, orange shading denotes heel champions.

based on research as of 10/1/2023 - chartingtheterritories.com

NOTE: While Valentine was a babyface in Dallas & Fort Worth for much of the year, the Texas Heavyweight title was generally not acknowledged in those towns, and all of Valentine's defenses were against babyfaces.

Charting the World Champ

In 1971, NWA World Heavyweight champion Dory Funk Jr. had one 5-day stint in the territory plus 4 stand-alone appearances in Houston. All singles matches were title bouts unless otherwise noted.

January 4th through 8th

- 1/4 Fort Worth: Dory vs Fritz Von Erich. Dory won.
- 1/5 Dallas: Dory vs Toru Tanaka. Dory won.
- 1/6 San Antonio: Dory vs Toru Tanaka. Dory won.
- 1/7 Corpus Christi: Dory vs Pepper Gomez. Dory won, winning the third fall when Pepper was disqualified for a low blow.
- 1/8 Houston: Dory vs Wahoo McDaniel, Texas death match with two judges and a backup referee at ringside. Dory won. Wahoo attempted a flying tackle but went right "into the champ's knee and was knocked cold for 15 minutes".

Other Houston appearances

- 4/30 Dory vs Wahoo McDaniel. The match went to a 60-minute time limit draw.
- 5/29 Dory & Terry Funk vs Johnny Valentine & Wahoo McDaniel. Dory Funk Sr. subbed for Terry Funk, who was reportedly injured earlier in the week. Valentine & Wahoo won when Valentine took the final fall over Dory Jr.
- 10/8 Dory vs Johnny Valentine, no disqualification. Dory won, pinning Valentine in the third fall.
- 10/29 Dory vs Wahoo McDaniel, Indian strap match. Dory won, taking the third fall after the referee reversed his decision.

Taking Attendance

In this section, we look at any attendance (and/or gate) figures we have. Unless otherwise noted, these numbers come from newspaper reports. They should be taken with several grains of salt.

We have attendance figures for 5 of the Houston cards and 3 cards from Beaumont. My belief is that the Houston attendance figures were probably among the highest attended cards of the year in the city, while the Beaumont attendance figures are more likely to represent the average crowds for that city during the year.

Houston

- 1/8 drew “more than 12,000” (NWA World champ Dory Funk Jr. defending against Wahoo McDaniel in a Texas death match and a Texas title match with Johnny Valentine defending against Mr. Wrestling, who would unmask before the match). The Houston newspaper stated this was a turn-away crowd and the largest for a wrestling card in Texas up to that point (though it likely wasn’t).
- 2/19 drew 9,000 (American Heavyweight champ Toru Tanaka defending against Wahoo)
- 3/5 drew “more than 9,000” (title rematch between Tanaka and Wahoo, must be a winner, Wahoo to leave town if he gets beat)
- 4/30 drew “more than 10,000” (NWA World champ Dory Funk Jr. defending against Wahoo and a Brass Knucks title/trophy bout between Johnny Valentine and Toru Tanaka)
- 6/4 drew “more than 8,000” (Russian chain match: Wahoo McDaniel vs “Mr. Houston”. Based on our research it seems that Boris Malenko, who had feuded with Wahoo in Houston in 1970, was “Mr. Houston” here.)

Beaumont

- 7/22 drew 744 (Wahoo McDaniel vs Bronco Lubich)
- 10/28 drew 600 (Ernie Ladd vs Thunderbolt Patterson)
- 11/11 drew 800 (Ernie Ladd vs Buddy Wolfe Texas death match)

House Show Lineups and Results

We have shared newspaper clippings for over 300 shows from this territory in 1971 with wrestlingdata.com to aid them in providing comprehensive information.

To see the cards and all available results, visit

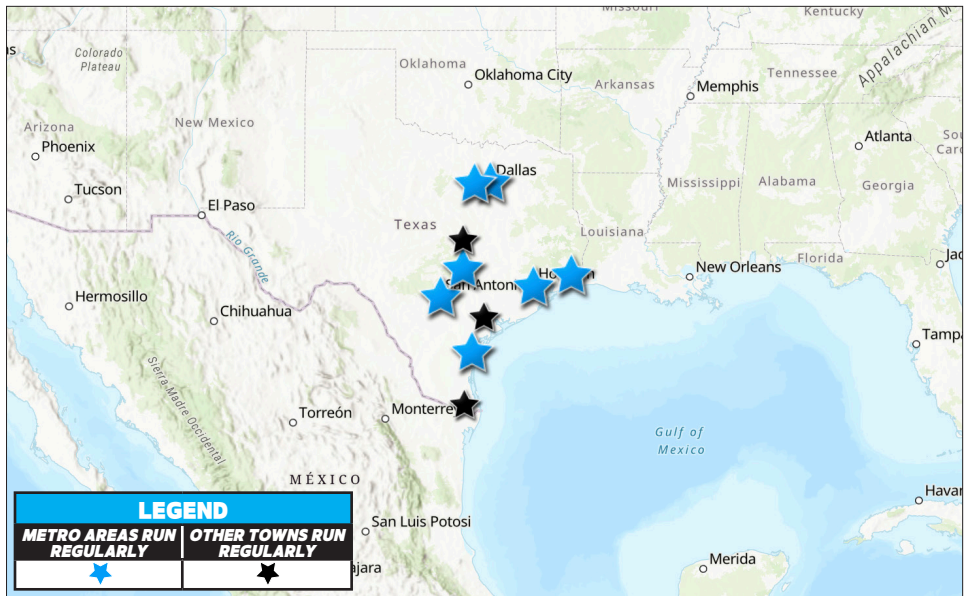
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EAST TEXAS (FRITZ/BLANCHARD/BOESCH)

1971

SAMPLE WEEK

MON 11/1	FORT WORTH
TUE 11/2	DALLAS
WED 11/3	AUSTIN
	SAN ANTONIO
THU 11/4	BEAUMONT
	CORPUS CHRISTI
FRI 11/5	HOUSTON
SAT 11/6	DEL RIO
	KILLEEN
SUN 11/7	--

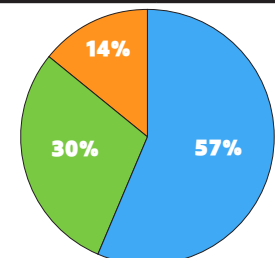


TOP SINGLES	TOP TEAMS
JOHNNY VALENTINE	BRONCO LUBICH & CHRIS MARKOFF
WAHOO MCDANIEL	
TORU TANAKA	
THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON	

HOUSE SHOW RECORDS			
DOCUMENTED HOUSE SHOWS	327	SHOWS PER WEEK	6.3
		ESTIMATED COMPLETENESS	80-85%
MISC. BOOKING STATS			
HEEL/FACE TURNS	4*	ROSTER TURNOVER	203%
ROSTER SIZE/COMPOSITION		MATCH RESULTS	

AVERAGE # OF WRESTLERS: 17.5

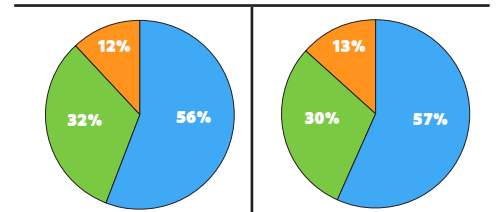
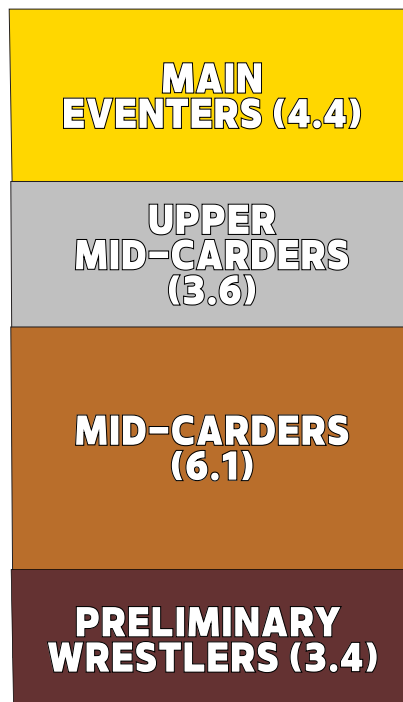
OVERALL



FACE WINS (Blue), HEEL WINS (Green), DRAWS (Orange)

TOP RIVALRIES

- WAHOO MCDANIEL VS TORU TANAKA
- JOSE LOTHARIO VS JOHNNY VALENTINE
- WAHOO MCDANIEL VS THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON
- WAHOO MCDANIEL VS JOHNNY VALENTINE
- THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON VS JOHNNY VALENTINE
- PEPPER GOMEZ VS JOHNNY VALENTINE



TITLE CHANGES	
AMERICAN HEAVYWEIGHT	4
AMERICAN TAG TEAM	4
TEXAS HEAVYWEIGHT	5

