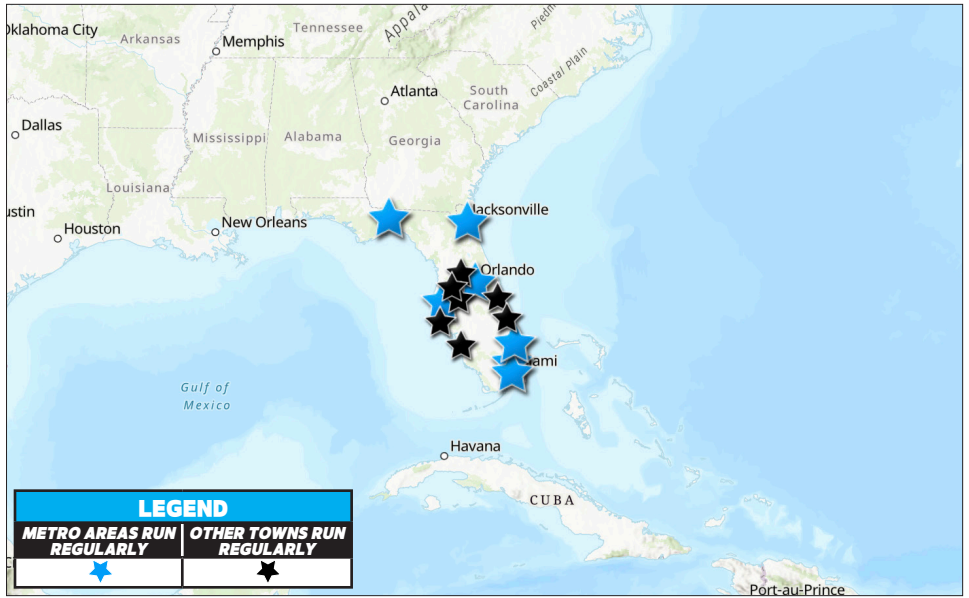


CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA

SAMPLE WEEK

MON 4/5	ARCADIA
	ORLANDO
TUE 4/6	FORT MYERS
	TAMPA
WED 4/7	MELBOURNE
	MIAMI BEACH
THU 4/8	JACKSONVILLE
FRI 4/9	FORT LAUDERDALE
	TALLAHASSEE
SAT 4/10	LAKELAND
	LEESBURG
SUN 4/11	--



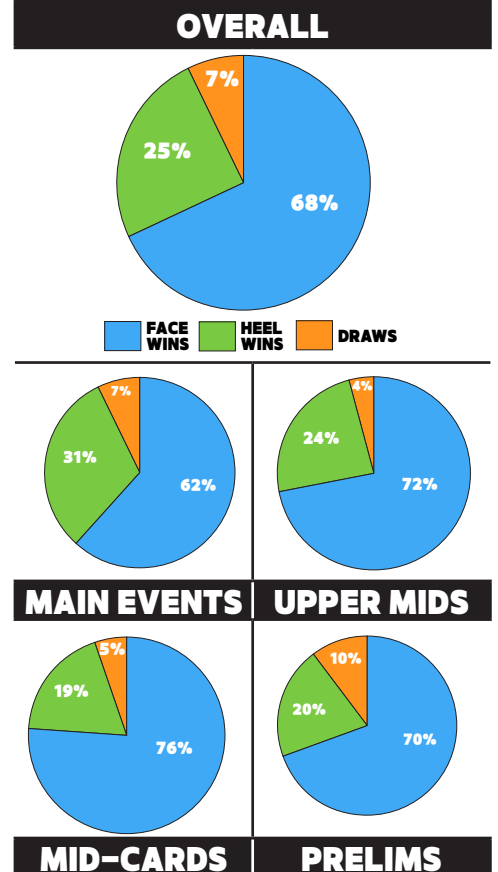
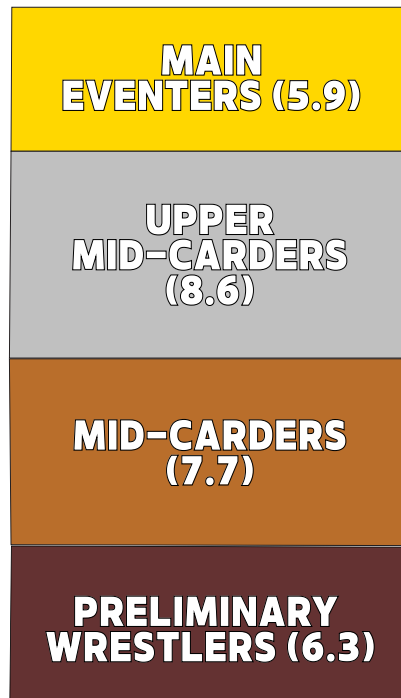
TOP SINGLES	TOP TEAMS
JACK BRISCO	LARRY O'DAY & RON MILLER
DICK MURDOCH	
THE GREAT MALENKO	THE INFERNOS
RENE GOULET	OLE ANDERSON & RONNIE GARVIN
BOBBY DUNCUM	

HOUSE SHOW RECORDS			
DOCUMENTED HOUSE SHOWS	501	SHOWS PER WEEK	9.6
		ESTIMATED COMPLETENESS	95%
MISC. BOOKING STATS			
HEEL/FACE TURNS	6	ROSTER TURNOVER	205%
ROSTER SIZE/COMPOSITION		MATCH RESULTS	

TOP FEUDS

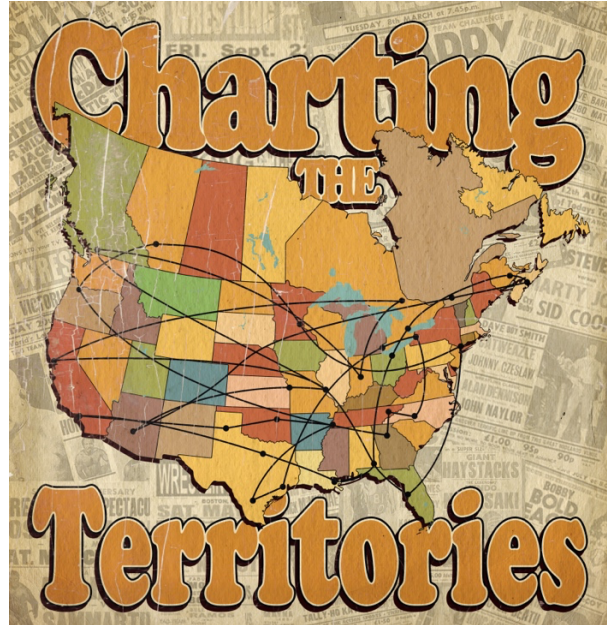
- RON FULLER VS RONNIE GARVIN
- JOSE LOTHARIO VS THE GREAT MALENKO
- JACK BRISCO VS DICK MURDOCH
- JOHNNY WALKER VS MR. WRESTLING
- LOUIE TILLET VS RONNIE GARVIN

AVERAGE # OF WRESTLERS: 28.6



TITLE CHANGES

SOUTHERN HEAVYWEIGHT	9
BABYFACE CHAMP	52%
HEEL CHAMP	48%
FLORIDA TAG TEAM	9
BABYFACE CHAMPS	69%
HEEL CHAMPS	31%
FLORIDA HEAVYWEIGHT	1
BABYFACE CHAMP	92%
HEEL CHAMP	8%



CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA 1971: A Year in the Life

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Rankings

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

RANKINGS FOR CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

- 1 - JACK BRISCO**
- 2 - DICK MURDOCH**
- 3 - THE GREAT MALENKO**
- 4 - RENE GOULET**
- 5 - BOBBY DUNCUM**
- 6 - THE GRAPPLER/J. WALKER**
- 7 - MR. WRESTLING (WOODS)**
- 8 - TARZAN TYLER**
- 9 - HIRO MATSUDA**
- 10 - JOSE LOTHARIO**
- 11 - RONNIE GARVIN**
- 12 - RON FULLER**
- 13 - OLE ANDERSON**
- 14 - LARRY O'DAY & RON MILLER**
- 15 - THE INFERNOS**
- 16 - BOB ROOP**

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 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

Territory Profile (1971-1973) by Al Getz

On April 23, 1940, Texas-born journeyman wrestler Cowboy Luttrall (spelled "Luttrell" at the time) faced Dorv Roche in Atlanta with a very special referee: former boxing champion Jack Dempsey. Luttrall, billed in a newspaper article as a "Texas crowd baiter", ended up getting disqualified and jaw jacking with Dempsey, earning "a series of short, rapid-fire punches". This of course led to a boxing match between the two on July 1. Luttrall talked a big game leading up the fight, and "close to 12,000" showed up to watch Dempsey pick the cowboy apart and knock him out in the second round. The crowd was a significant uptick from the 3,000 that attended the April 23 card at the same venue. Luttrall's wrestling career may have failed to set the world on fire (and he clearly was no boxer), but this outing showed that he had the ability to draw a large crowd under the right circumstances, so maybe he had a future as a promoter.

Before exploring that aspect of the graps game further, Luttrall spent the rest of the decade bouncing from territory to territory. Along the way, he had a hand in training a young wrestler by the name of Eddie Gossett. In 1949, Luttrall went all-in on his next chapter, opening a wrestling office in Florida. Twelve years later, he welcomed Gossett (now Eddie Graham, a superstar in the northeast) into the fold as a partner.

The two built Florida into a powerhouse territory. Luttrall worked behind the scenes with a network of local promoters to bring year-round weekly wrestling to virtually every major city in the Sunshine State. In the ring, Graham's feuds with Hiro Matsuda, Bob Orton, and especially The Great Malenko attracted throngs of fans. Their weekly television show, featuring announcer Gordon Solie, became appointment viewing.

In early 1969, Dory Funk Jr. made a few appearances to serve as an "introduction" to local fans (though he had wrestled a handful of matches in the state very early in his career). On February 11, he stunned fans in Tampa by defeating Gene Kiniski to win the NWA World Heavyweight title, the first time the title had changed hands in Florida (but far from the last). In 1969 and 1970 the state was a hotbed, attracting a variety of talent from all over. Wrestlers with bona fide amateur credentials such as Jack Brisco, Mr. Saito, Dale Lewis, and Bob Roop found success in Florida. They were thrown into the mix with rough-and-tough wrestlers like Wahoo McDaniel, Johnny Valentine, and a couple of outlaws from Texas named Dusty Rhodes and Dick Murdoch. To spice things up, you also had a few bloodthirsty heels who sometimes seemed to teeter on the edge of sanity like Malenko, The Missouri Mauler, and The Great Mephisto.

In the summer of 1970, sixty-four-year-old Cowboy Luttrall broke his hip. After six weeks in the hospital, he realized his time in pro wrestling had come to an end. He sold his remaining interest in the office to Graham and rode off (not literally, given the broken hip) into the sunset.

Eddie shifted his focus to behind-the-scenes duties, working a reduced schedule in the ring throughout 1970 and 1971, though he wouldn't disappear completely. He also brought wrestling to the Bayfront

Center in St. Petersburg for the first time in November 1970, a venue that would come to host some of the biggest cards Graham put together over the years.

By early 1971, Jack Brisco had become the top hero to local fans. He began the year feuding with The Great Malenko, but soon found himself battling three tough Texans: Dick Murdoch, Bobby Duncum, and Terry Funk. The matches with Terry served a dual purpose, with him being a steppingstone toward NWA World title matches with Dory Jr.

Brisco would get help in some of his battles during the second half of the year from a surprising source. At house shows in different cities, The Great Malenko started having “differences of opinion” with tag team partners such as Murdoch and Rene Goulet, leading to a full-fledged babyface turn for Malenko. He would battle Murdoch, Goulet, and Duncum for much of the next several months, sometimes teaming up with Brisco and even the semi-retired Eddie Graham, which likely made for a surreal moment for fans who remembered their blood feud several years earlier.

If Malenko and Graham could put aside their long-standing differences to team up, perhaps there was hope for other local in-ring rivals. Johnny Walker and the masked Mr. Wrestling (Tim Woods) started to feud in September. Woods was the heel, using a knee brace that he wore underneath his tights as a weapon. The two faced off in a mask vs. hair match, and after Mr. Wrestling won, Walker indeed had much of his hair cut in the middle of the ring. The two would eventually let bygones be bygones – just in time for the holiday season to boot. On Christmas, they teamed up in St. Petersburg, going to a draw with Bobby Duncum & Dick Murdoch. Of course, in early 1973, Walker would officially become Mr. Wrestling II in Georgia, setting up a legendary run.

That same Christmas 1971 card was also notable for the first encounter between Jack Brisco and the latest brash, cocky heel to make a splash in Florida: Bobby Shane. Brisco was the Florida Heavyweight champion at the time, while Shane held the Southern Heavyweight title, though neither belt was at stake (Brisco won the bout). Shane would continue to face Brisco in early 1972, as well as Walker and Woods (now unmasked), losing the Southern title to Woods in February.

As 1971 became 1972, the Florida Tag Team titles were a set of hot potatoes, going from The Australians (Larry O’Day & Ron Miller) to The Alaskans (Frank Monte & Mike York) and then back to The Australians, who then lost them to The Infernos (Rocky & Curtis Smith) before regaining them in February 1972. Before the year was out, Boris Malenko & Bob Roop, a masked team consisting of The Zodiac (Bob Orton) & Taurus (Dennis Hall), Nick Bockwinkel & Ray Stevens, Jimmy Golden & Ron Fuller, and Jack & Jerry Brisco all had runs with the tag titles.

Zodiac also found singles success, dethroning Tim Woods for the Southern title over the summer. He briefly lost the title to Hiro Matsuda but regained it a week later. Woods would eventually defeat him to capture the title, setting up a title vs mask match against his hooded rival. Zodiac unmasked following Woods’ victory in that bout to reveal himself as Orton.

Later that same month, Bob’s son Robert Keith Orton Jr. would make his professional debut in Florida, billed as Bob Orton Jr. He wasn’t the only second-generation wrestler to debut in Florida in 1972,

however. Back in April, Eddie Graham's son Mike stepped into the ring for the first time. A couple of weeks after Mike's debut, his real-life friend Dick Slater debuted as well. Another acquaintance of theirs, Steve Keirn, had debuted earlier in the year. Tampa's Robinson High School, which all three had attended, was fast becoming Florida's version of West Texas State University (or perhaps Minnesota's Robbinsdale High School) as the home to many future professional wrestlers (Austin Idol and Hulk Hogan also went to Robinson High).

In addition to Bobby Shane, Paul Jones and Buddy Colt found success as heels in Florida throughout 1972. Jones ended Jack Brisco's almost 16-month reign as Southern Heavyweight champion and went on to hold the title for six-plus months before Brisco regained it. Colt won the Florida Heavyweight title from Tim Woods in September, and the two traded the title back-and-forth a few more times before the end of the year.

In early 1973, Jones and Colt were facing challenges from babyfaces Mark Lewin and Big Bad John. Lewin won the Southern Heavyweight title from Colt in January, holding it for four weeks before dropping it back to Colt. Two weeks later, Colt defeated Brisco to win the Florida Heavyweight title. Colt's run as double champ didn't last very long, and neither did Brisco's time without a title belt. After Harley Race defeated Dory Funk Jr. in Kansas City to win the NWA World Heavyweight title, Brisco defeated Race in Houston over the summer to capture the title. This could have left a major hole on the babyface side of things in Florida, but Eddie Graham had already shored things up earlier in the year.

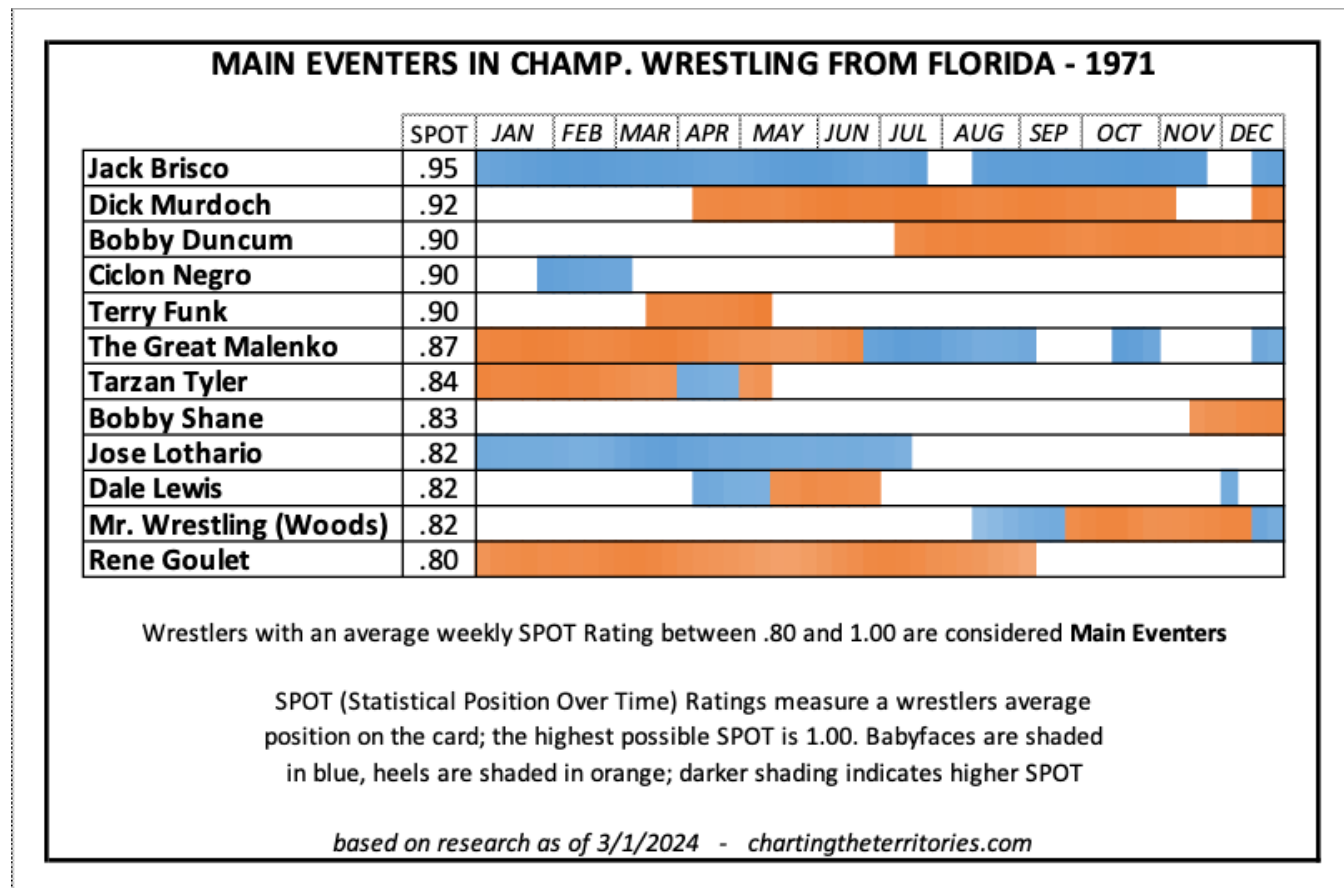
Paul Jones had turned babyface in the spring to feud with Colt. On June 12, Jones defeated Colt to win the Florida title. Ron Fuller also established himself as a force to be reckoned with in the first half of the year, holding the Southern Heavyweight title for over two months before losing it to Johnny Valentine. Concurrently, The Great Mephisto was earning the wrath of fans, winning the Florida Heavyweight title from Tim Woods over the summer before dropping it to Jones. In November, Colt would beat Jones to win the title, and then Eddie Graham would win it from Colt for what would be the final singles title reign in Eddie's illustrious career. Colt would regain it before the year ended.

While Eddie won his final singles title in 1973, his son Mike would win his first pro title, teaming with Kevin Sullivan to take the Florida Tag Team titles from Bobby Shane & Gorgeous George Jr. in February. The young babyfaces would feud with The Samoans (Tio Tio & Reno Tuufuli) for much of the year. Meanwhile, Mike's childhood friend Dick Slater was trying out different tag team partners of his own in an effort to unseat the champs. In October, he found just the man for the job, as Dick & Dusty Rhodes beat Graham & Sullivan to win the titles. Dusty had returned to Florida in August, picking up where he had left off (back in late 1970) as one of the territory's most hated villains by winning the Southern Heavyweight title from Bill Dromo.

As 1973 ended, Dusty Rhodes, Mike Graham, Kevin Sullivan, and Dick Slater were firmly established as stars in the state of Florida. But nobody could have predicted just how successful all four would become over the next decade plus – or how two of them were poised to reverse roles in ways that would become the stuff of wrestling legend.

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.



Jack Brisco <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2010/02/01/jack-brisco-dead-at-68/>

Ciclon Negro <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2013/07/24/singing-a-song-of-ciclon-negro/>

Terry Funk <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2023/08/23/terry-funk-dead-at-79/amp/>

Tarzan Tyler <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/1999/12/24/slam-wrestling-canadian-hall-of-fame-tarzan-the-boot-tyler/>

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

Dale Lewis <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2004/08/17/the-olympian-life-of-dale-lewis/>

Rene Goulet <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2019/12/11/news-of-rene-goulets-death-age-86-slow-to-circulate/>

UPPER MID-CARDERS IN CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	SPOT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Hans Mortier	.78												
Ole Anderson	.78												
George Gaiser	.75												
The Grappler (J. Walker)	.74												
Bob Roop	.70												
Inferno I	.70												
Inferno II	.69												
Louie Tillet	.69												
Ron Fuller	.68												
Ronnie Garvin	.68												
Hiro Matsuda	.66												
Scandor Akbar	.66												
Super Inferno	.66												
Danny Miller	.65												
Frank Monte	.64												
Ron Miller	.63												
Mike York	.62												
Larry O'Day	.62												
Skull Von Stroheim	.60												
Robert Fuller	.60												

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

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

Hans Mortier <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2010/12/15/dreaded-heel-hans-mortier-dies/>

Ole Anderson <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2004/01/05/ole-anderson-offers-insights-and-insults/>

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

Bob Roop <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2000/09/19/olympics-just-another-step-for-bob-roop/>

The Infernos (Curtis & Rocky Smith) <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2023/09/29/inferno-curtis-smith-dead-at-80/>

Louie Tillet <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2011/08/22/size-never-mattered-to-louie-tillet/>

Ron Fuller <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2020/10/17/ron-fuller-never-say-die/>

Ronnie Garvin <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2000/01/12/slam-wrestling-canadian-hall-of-fame-ronnie-garvin/>

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

Danny Miller <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2016/06/06/danny-miller-passes-away-at-age-84/>

Skull [Karl] Von Stroheim <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2006/08/15/hockey-injury-led-to-wrestling-for-karl-von-stroheim/>

Robert Fuller <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2013/08/22/guest-booker-with-robert-fuller-a-philosophical-discussion/>

MID-CARDERS IN CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	SPOT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Pat Kelly	.57												
Jose Huertas	.57												
Medic II	.56												
Mike Kelly	.55												
Medic I	.53												
Jack Dalton	.52												
Corsica Joe	.51												
Jim Dalton	.51												
Sonny King	.51												
Mr. Okuma	.50												
Duke Myers	.49												
Jack Welch	.47												
Bull Marcus	.46												
Mike Bowyer	.46												
Hideo Koma	.46												
Masao Ota	.43												
George Strickland	.42												
Smasher Sloan	.42												
Les Thatcher	.42												
Eduardo Perez	.40												
Hurricane Rivera	.40												

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

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

Jack Dalton [Randy Colley] <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2009/12/07/mondog-rex-still-howling-at-the-moon/>

Corsica Joe <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2010/03/16/corsica-joes-love-of-wife-and-wrestling-always-shone-through/>

Sonny King <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2010/05/31/sonny-king-talks-about-his-career-for-the-first-time/amp/>

Duke Myers <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2015/08/22/duke-myers-dies/>

Mike Bowyer [Boyette] <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2012/07/07/mike-the-hippie-boyette-dies/>

Les Thatcher <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2005/04/11/les-thatchers-maritime-memories/>

PRELIMINARY WRESTLERS IN CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	SPOT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Oki Shikina	.38	[Orange]											
Corsica Jean	.38							[Orange]	[Orange]	[Orange]	[Orange]	[Blue]	[Blue]
Greg Peterson	.38							[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]		
Black Bart	.38										[Orange]	[Orange]	[Orange]
Ken Lusk	.37	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]
Frank Martinez	.36	[Orange]	[Orange]										[Orange]
Al Velasco	.33	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]						[Blue]	[Blue]	
Mickey Doyle	.32										[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]
Pepe Gomez	.31	[Blue]	[Blue]					[Blue]	[Blue]				
Koa Tiki	.30	[Blue]											
Cisco Grimaldo	.30		[Orange]	[Orange]	[Orange]	[Orange]	[Orange]						
Joe Flaherty	.30	[Blue]			[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]						
Miguel Feliciano	.29									[Orange]	[Orange]		
Jerry Oates	.27		[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]								
Juan Garcia	.26							[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]	[Blue]		

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 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

Mickey Doyle <https://slamwrestling.net/index.php/2006/05/08/irish-mickey-doyle-years-to-come-home/>

PART-TIME WRESTLERS IN CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	SPOT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Eddie Graham	.92												
Jerry Brisco	.86												
Don Curtis	.81												
Bearcat Wright	.80												
Dick Steinborn	.64												
Man Mountain Mike	.62												
Buddy Fuller	.52												
George Harris	.48												
Roy Welch	.48												
Les Welch	.48												
Mr. X	.41												
Nick Adams	.41												
Duke Keomuka	.41												
Al Coco	.40												
Salvador Lothario	.39												
Porter Tindale	.36												
Harry Smith	.33												
John Heath	.29												
Calvin Taylor	.25												

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 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

Feuds

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

MAJOR FEUDS IN CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	FLW	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Ron Fuller vs Ronnie Garvin	3.43												
Jose Lothario vs Great Malenko	3.39												
Jack Brisco vs Dick Murdoch	2.79												
Johnny Walker vs Mr. Wrestling	2.14												

Feuds with an FLW Score above 2.00 are considered **Major Feuds**

Feuds are ranked based on their FLW Score (Feud Length in Weeks). It is scaled to represent the approximate "length" of the feud throughout the territory; darker shading indicates higher concentration of matches.

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

MINOR FEUDS IN CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	FLW	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Louie Tillet vs Rene Goulet	1.74												
L. O'Day & R. Miller vs O. Anderson & R. Garvin	1.64												
Louie Tillet vs Ronnie Garvin	1.62												
Hiro Matsuda vs Rene Goulet	1.55												
Jack Brisco vs Tarzan Tyler	1.44												
Great Malenko vs Dick Murdoch	1.34												
L. O'Day & R. Miller vs Mike & Pat Kelly	1.33												
Johnny Walker vs Dick Murdoch	1.21												
Johnny Walker vs Bobby Duncum	1.16												
Bob Roop vs Dick Murdoch	1.13												
Ron Fuller vs Rene Goulet	1.09												
Jack Brisco vs Bobby Duncum	1.05												

Feuds with an FLW Score between 1.00 and 2.00 are considered **Minor Feuds**

Feuds are ranked based on their FLW Score (Feud Length in Weeks). It is scaled to represent the approximate "length" of the feud throughout the territory; darker shading indicates higher concentration of matches.

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

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.

RON FULLER vs RONNIE GARVIN in Fort Myers

In December 1970, Fuller beat Garvin won a Texas death / loser leave town match. This led to Garvin coming back under a mask as "Mr. Fort Myers".

- 2/16 If Fuller loses he will leave town; if Mr. Fort Myers loses he will unmask and if he turns out to be Ronnie Garvin he will be suspended: Mr. Fort Myers won in "overtime". After the 60-minute time limit expired, Fuller asked for five more minutes and was counted out during the extra time.
- 3/2 The Challenger (Fuller under a mask) pinned Mr. Fort Myers.
- 3/9 Mask vs mask: Mr. Fort Myers (Garvin) beat The Challenger (Fuller) by

disqualification. During the bout, Garvin twisted Fuller's mask around, so he voluntarily removed it in order to see. Fuller was then DQ'd when he "clobbered" the referee.

- 3/23 Lights out match: Mr. Fort Myers beat Fuller, but after the bout Fuller tore Myer's mask off to reveal Ronnie Garvin.
- 4/27 Garvin beat Fuller by countout.
- 5/4 Lumberjack match: Garvin beat Fuller.
- 8/17 Fuller beat Garvin. Originally, Garvin won the match in controversial fashion. After "fans protested", the referee then changed his tune and "called it no decision". Garvin then "clobbered the referee who declared Fuller the winner."

JOSE LOTHARIO vs GREAT MALENKO in Tallahassee

NOTE: Results are not available for these cards, but we're showing them so you can get a feel for the progression of the feud. It is generally believed that Malenko won the Brass Knucks title match on 3/12 and Lothario won the loser leave town match on 5/7 (since Malenko wrestled under a hood as "Mr. Tallahassee" in June and July).

- 3/5 10 rounds boxing
- 3/12 Brass Knucks title
- 3/26 Lumberjack match
- 4/9 Russian death match
- 5/7 Loser leave town

JOHNNY WALKER vs MR. WRESTLING in Tampa

- 9/7 The two went to a 30-minute draw.
- 9/14 Mask at stake, match can be won only with a submission hold: Mr. Wrestling won.
- 9/21 Mask vs hair: Mr. Wrestling won.
- 11/30 No time limit, winner take all: Mr. Wrestling won; after the match, both became involved in an altercation with Ole Anderson and Bobby Duncum, which led to Mr. Wrestling turning back babyface.

JACK BRISCO vs DICK MURDOCH

Jacksonville (no results available; Brisco was the Southern champ in August, so Murdoch probably won the 8/19 match to set up the title bout the following week. Given that Murdoch left for a Japan tour right after the 11/4 match [and then wrestled under a mask for a few weeks in Jacksonville as The Texan], it is likely that Brisco won the 11/4 loser leave Florida match.)

- 8/19
- 8/26 Southern title
- 9/2 Texas death match
- 11/4 Loser leaves Florida
- 12/16 Florida title

Miami Beach

- 5/5 Florida title vs Southern title: The match went to a double disqualification.
- 9/15 Florida title: Brisco won.
- 9/22 Texas death match: Brisco won.

Orlando

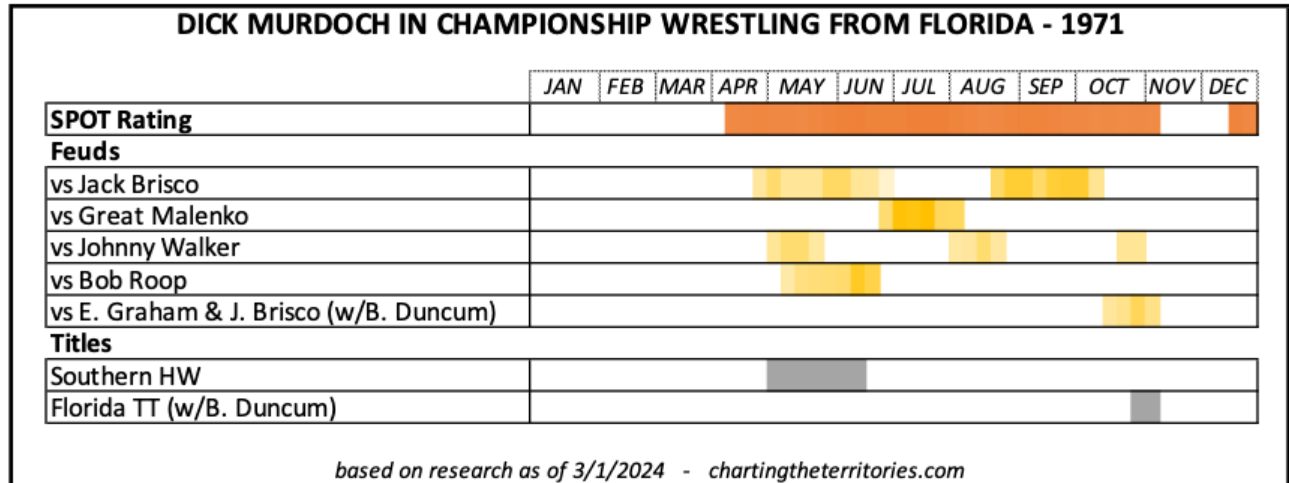
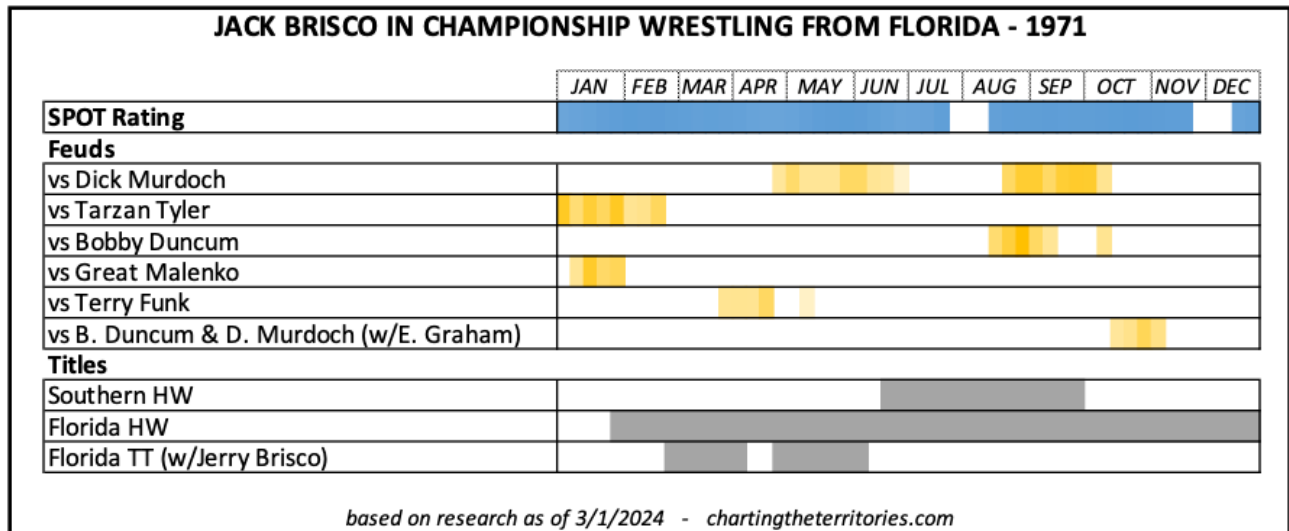
- 4/19 Florida title: Murdoch won by disqualification.
- 4/26 No time limit, no disqualification: Brisco won.
- 6/21 Southern title: Brisco won.
- 10/4 Murdoch and Brisco “fought to no decision”.

Tampa

- 5/25 Southern title: Brisco won after Murdoch was DQ'd for “refusing to break at the referee’s command while he had Brisco tied up in the ropes”.
- 6/1 Texas death match: Brisco won; in the final fall, the Great Malenko’s attempted interference backfired (this would lead to Malenko’s babyface turn in the market).
- 6/8 Southern title vs Florida title: Florida champ Brisco beat Southern champ Murdoch to lay claim to both titles.
- 7/6 Southern title: Brisco won.

Wrestler Data

A look at the “character arc” for select wrestlers, showing their weekly SPOT Ratings, biggest feuds, and title reigns chronologically.



THE GREAT MALENKO IN CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
SPOT Rating	Orange						Blue			Blue		Blue
Feuds												
vs Jose Lothario	Yellow		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow					
vs Dick Murdoch							Yellow	Yellow				
vs Rene Goulet						Yellow	Yellow					
vs Jack Brisco	Yellow	Yellow										
vs Bobby Duncum								Yellow	Yellow			

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

RENE GOULET IN CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
SPOT Rating	Orange											
Feuds												
vs Louie Tillet		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		Yellow		Yellow	Yellow			
vs Hiro Matsuda	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow								
vs Ron Fuller	Yellow	Yellow						Yellow	Yellow			
vs Great Malenko						Yellow	Yellow					
vs Jose Lothario	Yellow					Yellow	Yellow					
Titles												
Southern HW	Grey		Grey	Grey								

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

BOBBY DUNCUM IN CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
SPOT Rating								Orange				
Feuds												
vs Johnny Walker								Yellow	Yellow		Yellow	Yellow
vs Jack Brisco								Yellow	Yellow		Yellow	
vs Mr. Wrestling								Yellow	Yellow			
vs Great Malenko								Yellow	Yellow			
vs Don Curtis									Yellow	Yellow		
vs E. Graham & J. Brisco (w/D. Murdoch)											Yellow	Yellow
Titles												
Southern HW											Grey	
Florida TT (w/D. Murdoch)												Grey

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

JOHNNY WALKER IN CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
SPOT Rating			[Blue bar]									
Feuds												
vs Mr. Wrestling												
vs Dick Murdoch												
vs Bobby Duncum												
vs Original Grappler (J. Huertas)												
vs Bobby Shane												
Titles												
Southern HW												

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

RONNIE GARVIN IN CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
SPOT Rating			[Orange bar]									
Feuds												
Ron Fuller												
vs L. O'Day & R. Miller (w/O. Anderson)												
Louie Tillet												
Ken Lusk												
Jose Lothario												
vs L. O'Day & R. Miller (w/B. Marcus)												
Titles												
Florida TT (w/O. Anderson)												

based on research as of 3/1/2024 - 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.

SOUTHERN HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE - CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLA. - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Rene Goulet	Orange	Orange	Orange									
Hiro Matsuda		Blue										
The Grappler (J. Walker)				Blue								
Terry Funk				Orange								
Dick Murdoch					Orange	Orange						
Jack Brisco						Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue			
Bobby Duncum										Orange		
George Gaiser										Blue	Blue	
Bobby Shane												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 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

FLORIDA TAG TEAM TITLES - CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLA. - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Danny Miller & Jose Lothario	Blue											
The Infernos		Orange	Orange									
Jack & Jerry Brisco			Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue						
Dory (Jr.) & Terry Funk				Orange								
Ole Anderson & Ronnie Garvin								Orange				
Larry O'Day & Ron Miller								Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	
Bobby Duncum & Dick Murdoch											Orange	
Frank Monte & Mike York												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 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

FLORIDA HWT. TITLE - CHAMP. WRESTLING FROM FLA. - 1971

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Tarzan Tyler												
Jack Brisco												

Only title changes recognized across the entire territory are listed.
 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 3/1/2024 - chartingtheterritories.com

Charting the World Champ

In 1971, NWA World Heavyweight champion Dory Funk Jr. had seven stints in the territory plus stand-alone appearance. All singles matches were title bouts unless otherwise noted.

January 11th through 16th

- 1/11 Orlando: Dory beat Rene Goulet
- 1/12 Tampa: Dory's scheduled opponent, Tarzan Tyler, was "hurt in an altercation during a previous match"; Funk was then "paired against Jack Brisco in an exhibition" (which may have been won by Brisco)
- 1/13 Miami Beach: Dory and Jack Brisco were both disqualified for "not listening to the referee"
- 1/14 Tallahassee: Dory vs Jose Lothario
- 1/15 Jacksonville: Dory vs Great Malenko
- 1/16 Nassau: Dory vs Danny Miller

February 8th through 12th

- 2/8 Orlando: Jack Brisco & Louie Tillet beat Dory & Rene Goulet
- 2/9 Tampa: Dory went to a one hour draw with Jack Brisco
- 2/10 Miami Beach: Jack & Jerry Brisco beat Dory Jr. & Dory Sr.
- 2/11 Jacksonville: Dory Jr. & Dory Sr. vs Jack Brisco & Ciclon Negro
- 2/12 Tallahassee: Dory vs Ciclon Negro

March 30th through April 1st

- 3/30 Tampa: Dory Jr. & Terry Funk beat Jack & Jerry Brisco to win the Florida Tag Team titles
- 3/31 Miami Beach: Dory beat Rene Goulet
- 4/1 Jacksonville: Dory vs Jack Brisco in a non-title match

April 12th through 15th

- 4/12 Orlando: Jack Brisco & the Grappler beat Dory Jr. & Terry Funk
- 4/13 Tampa: Jack & Jerry Brisco beat Dory Jr. & Terry Funk to win the Florida Tag Team titles
- 4/14 Miami Beach: Dory beat Dick Murdoch
- 4/15 Jacksonville: Dory vs Jack Brisco in a death match (may have been non-title)

June 19th

- 6/19 St. Petersburg: Dory and Jack Brisco went to a draw

June 28th through July 2nd

- 6/28 West Palm Beach: Dory beat Jose Lothario
- 6/29 Tampa: Dory beat Bob Roop (non-title)
- 6/30 Miami Beach: Jack Brisco beat Dory in a non-title Texas death match
- 7/1 Jacksonville: Dory vs Jack Brisco
- 7/2 Tallahassee: Dory vs Dick Murdoch Texas death match (may have been non-title)

July 26th through 30th

- 7/26 Orlando: Dory beat Sonny King
- 7/27 Tampa: Dory "held off the challenge of" Dick Murdoch
- 7/28 Miami Beach: Dory beat the Grappler
- 7/29 Jacksonville: Dory vs Bobby Duncum
- 7/30 Tallahassee: Dory vs Dick Murdoch

August 9th through 14th

- 8/9 West Palm Beach: Dory beat Hiro Matsuda
- 8/10 Tampa: Dory beat Ciclon Negro (non-title)
- 8/11 Miami Beach: Jack Brisco defeated Dory, winning the first fall in 30:15 and the second fall by disqualification in 37:45 when Funk threw Brisco over the top rope
- 8/12 Jacksonville: Dory vs Bobby Duncum (may have been non-title)
- 8/13 Tallahassee: Dory vs Dick Murdoch (may have been non-title)
- 8/14 Sarasota: Dory beat Hiro Matsuda

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 44 (out of 48) cards held in Miami Beach. Forty-one of those cards were held at the Miami Beach Auditorium and three were held at the Miami Beach Convention Center (a larger venue that is part of the same overall complex).

For the cards held at the Auditorium, the average attendance was 3,202 fans. The largest crowds:

- 6/30 4,300 fans (Jack Brisco vs Dory Funk Jr. in a Texas death match)
- 6/2 3,900 fans (Jack Brisco & Eddie Graham vs Dick Murdoch & the Great Malenko)
- 6/16 3,900 fans (The Great Malenko & Klondike Bill vs Dick Murdoch & Rene Goulet)
- 6/23 3,900 fans (The Great Malenko vs Dick Murdoch)
- 5/26 3,842 fans (Bob Roop vs Dick Murdoch no DQ no time limit)

It is very tempting to look at the dates of these cards and think that seasonality played a large role in attendance. However, in looking at the years before and after 1971, the cards held in May and June did NOT have significantly above average crowds. So it just seems to be a time when the booking was firing on all cylinders (Brisco chasing Dory Jr., Murdoch as the top full-time heel, the Malenko face turn).

For the cards held at the Convention Center, the attendance figures were:

- 7/21 4,600 fans (Eddie Graham & Great Malenko vs Dick Murdoch & Bobby Duncum)
- 7/28 4,200 fans (Dory Funk Jr. defending NWA World title against The Grappler [Johnny Walker] plus a rematch of Graham & Malenko vs Murdoch & Duncum)
- 8/11 8,147 fans (Dory Funk Jr. defending NWA World title against Jack Brisco; 90-minute time limit)

They ran 3 cards at the Bayfront Center in St. Petersburg and we have attendance data for 2:

- 6/19 drew 7,525 fans paying \$39,056
- 12/25 drew 7,700 fans

We also have attendance figures for 3 cards held in Fort Myers, 1 in Sarasota, and 3 in Tampa. These likely represent above-average crowds for those towns at the time (based on the belief that if they're picking and choosing ones to report, they would be the larger ones and not the smaller ones).

Fort Myers

- 3/16 drew 1,500
- 4/6 drew 1,300
- 6/1 drew 1,000

Sarasota

- 12/18 drew 2,400

Tampa

- 2/9 drew 6,000 (Jack Brisco vs Dory Funk Jr. in a World title match; show was held as part of the annual Gasparilla Pirate Festival)
- 2/23 drew 5,800 (Jack Brisco vs Tarzan Tyler hair vs hair [Brisco won])
- 5/11 drew 5,500 (Jack Brisco & the Grappler vs Terry Funk & Dale Lewis no DQ)

Link to House Show Lineups and Results

We share our newspaper clippings and other documents with wrestlingdata.com to aid them in providing comprehensive information.

To see the cards and all available results, visit

<https://www.wrestlingdata.com/index.php?befehl=shows&sort=liga&kategorie=8&liga=354&jahr=1971&monat=0&showart=&ansicht=1>