

WCW power drives through Erie

by Ryan Russell
staff writer

Have you ever been to a live pro wrestling event? If you haven't, your once in a blue moon chance to see one just passed by Erie. On Tuesday, September 19th, World Championship Wrestling, WCW, came rumbling into the Erie Civic Center for a taping of their television show, "WCW Thunder." While Thunder isn't WCW's main show, Tuesday's event had all of the top stars there, in what was a very entertaining evening. Many of WCW's current stars, such as Jeff Jarrett, Booker T, Scott Steiner, Vince Russo, Sting, and Mike Awesome, wrestled in matches and helped make the evening enjoyable.

Many times, on TV, wrestling doesn't look all that hard, but after seeing it in person, many, if not all, people are left to wonder how these guys get out of bed every day. Some of the moves they perform are simply awe-inspiring to see live, such as Jeff Jarrett's finishing move, "The Stroke," which basically smashes his opponent's face first into the mat at

an incredible rate of speed. Another move no one would want to be on the receiving end of is called a "powerbomb". This move involves lifting an opponent by his stomach up above your head, and then smashing him, back first, onto the mat with as much force as possible. The pain is indescribable.

However, wrestling is only half of the story. When at a TV taping, interviews are done, "backstage footage" is shown, and an unbelievable fireworks display is put on for each wrestler's entrance. The fireworks display is amazing to see live. They are very much an integral part of a wrestler's entrance. For example, even though Goldberg wasn't there that night, when he begins walking down the rampway, everyone in the arena knows it. When his pyro goes off, and he walks out from behind the sparks and exhales the smoke, there is an adrenaline rush that is indescribable, and you honestly expect that Goldberg could kill his opponent with his bare hands. Then the chant starts, "Goldberg!...Goldberg!...Goldberg!" and another adrenaline rush hits you,

and you think that if you chant his name he will recover to win the match. Once you calm down though, you remember that wrestling is scripted. That's right, every match's winner is predetermined.

One thing not scripted is the interviews. Tuesday night, a wrestler named Mike Awesome had an interview segment called "Lava Lamp Lounge". Now, if the title didn't give it away, understand that Mike Awesome is stuck in the 70's completely. He wore a leisure suit, had lava lamps around, and listens to disco music. He even wore one of those golden peace necklaces. In his interview segment, he interviewed several really good looking women for an upcoming bikini contest and tried to use some of the corniest pickup lines ever used in the history of mankind. These lines will not even grace this article. Suffice it to say that I hope you watched this part on TV Wednesday, as words can't do the interview or the women justice.

Since this show has already been on TV, it would be useless to recap all of the matches, but there is a need to talk

about one match: Rey Mysterio, Jr. against Juventud Guerrera. These two pull off some of the most acrobatic moves ever seen, not just in a wrestling ring, I mean anywhere. The "luchadors", as they are called, have bodies of silly putty that allow them to do some of the most gravity defying stunts, flips, and rollovers that some Olympic gymnasts probably couldn't do. There is a serious difference between seeing these moves in person and on TV. On TV, it seems as if these moves require no effort at all, and can be done by anyone. When seen live, one realizes the incredible amount of energy needed to do this the proper way, make it look believable, and not hurt your opponent, all at the same time.

So the next time wrestling comes to Erie, it's highly recommended that you go and have a good time. And the next time someone sees wrestling on TV and cracks a stupid comment, tell them to either see it or try it before they knock it.



Happenings in Erie

September 22
Band "The Brannock Device" at Cup-a-Chino's 9:00 p.m.

September 24
"Mr. Trombone" Harold Betters Concert & Dance, Sabella's at Historic Union Station, 8:00-10:00 p.m.

September 27
The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber, at the Warner Theatre 7:30 p.m.

September 28
Musician Clint Black, at Tullio Arena, 8:00 p.m.



Cruisin' 4 CASH

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Contest Rules

Any Behrend student can submit a 300-500 word story about a road trip they have taken since the end of the spring 2000 semester. The trip must be more than 150 miles from the original location. A photo must accompany entry with sufficient proof that the trip was made. Insufficient proof will lessen chances to win contest. If more than one student took part in the road trip, only the student submitting the story is eligible, unless all members send name in with entry. If more than one student name appears on entry, prize will be divided amongst the students who entered. Send in entries as soon as possible to ensure publication in the Beacon. Only entries appearing in the Beacon will be voted on. Beacon members are ineligible and will vote on the winner.

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21 - April 19). Go out and have some fun this weekend.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20). Show your Behrend pride, stay home if you're sick.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21). Order a pizza one night this week.

Cancer (June 22 - July 23). Question, why must an English major take twelve credits of French? Can you say irony?

Leo (July 24 - August 22). You've studied hard this week, do something fun.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22). You'll soon meet that special someone.

Libra (September 23 - October 23). Relax, your hair looks fine.

Scorpio (October 24 - November 21). Start buying those Christmas presents!

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21). Get more sleep. You're too tired.

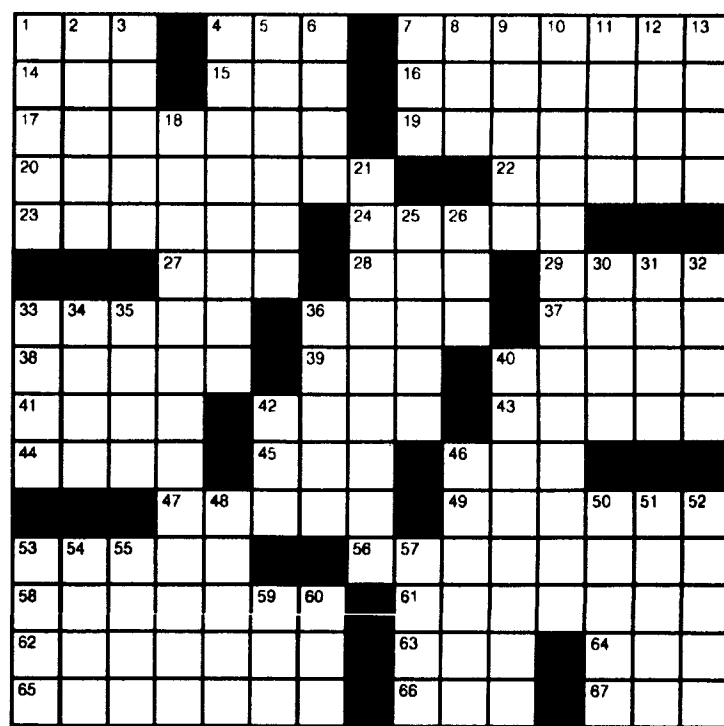
Capricorn (December 22 - January 19). Start that finals project.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18). Read a good book.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20). You will be getting an invitation to a party soon.

Crossword

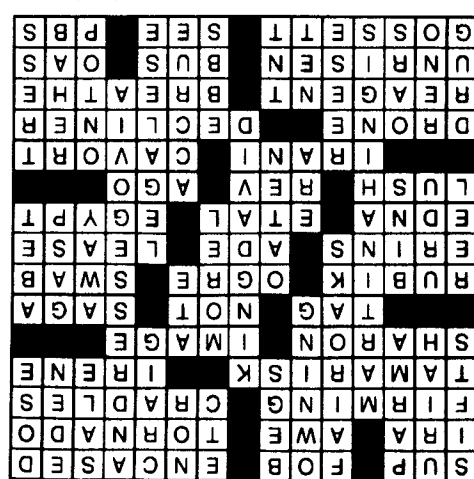
- ACROSS**
1 Have dinner
4 Pocket-watch accessory
7 Boxed
14 Pension \$
15 Profound dread
16 Cyclonic wind
17 Becoming set
19 Holds and supports protectively
20 African shrub
22 Actress Ryan
23 Stone or Gless
24 Mental picture
27 Label
28 Alternative to ready?
29 Legendary tale
33 Toy-cube inventor
36 Brute
37 Medicinal applicator
38 Gray and Moran
39 Lemon drink
40 Rental agreement
41 Writer Ferber
42 & others
43 African nation
44 Profuse
45 Car gear: abbr.
46 Past
47 Teheran man
49 Romp
53 Monotonous monologue
56 One who refuses
58 Schiff's ___
61 Take in air
62 Still in bed
63 Municipal vehicle
64 NATO cousin
65 Lou __, Jr.
66 Behold
67 Network of "Nova"



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- DOWN**
1 Processes flour
2 Dickens' Heep
3 Cleveland suburb
4 Seven Pines, aka ___
5 Possessing
6 Pleads
7 & so forth
8 Scand. country
9 Golfer Stadler
10 Classical guitarist
11 Vender's goal
12 Utopia
13 Spoonful of medicine, perhaps
18 '97 U.S. Open champion
21 Saul's successor
25 Edible mushroom
26 Had lunch
30 Not home
31 Sound shocked
32 Help on a heist
33 Lively dance
34 Pakistani language
35 Open receptacles
36 Like Cheerios

Solutions



- 40 Attorneys' jargon
42 Pitcher's stat
46 Accumulate
48 Actress Della
50 Where the victor comes out
51 12-step program
52 Ringlet of hair
53 Narcotic, e.g.
54 Gambling city
55 Paddles
57 Waner
59 Catch (fish)
60 Blast letters?