

may 2008

# SLAM'D



magazine



“ PAROW CIVIC  
30 April 2008 ”

“ All hail the new  
**'CHAMPION'**  
of the AWA  
- Long live the new champ

MISSING LINK

**HOUSE  
OF  
PAIN**



news • reviews • brawls & more

www.awfwrestle.com



**Story:** Nick Fury  
**Pics:** Peter, Waleed and Keith

### **HOUSE OF PAIN**

**Headlined by the 4x4 All Africa title fight, sponsored by 911 energy drinks, the AWA's highly anticipated return to the House of Pain was an overwhelming success.**

The action packed card put on display the very best that South African wrestling has to offer, from young exciting flyweights to the dramatic main event that saw the All Africa Heavyweight Title change hands for the first time in 4 years. The legendary atmosphere of a Parow civic event was heightened at the 4x4 Fury by the fast rising band, Failing Forward, who rocked the House of Pain playing out numerous of the wrestlers entrance's as well as a 20minute gig during interval that electrified not only the fans but the wrestlers as well. A special mention must be made to Coca Cola, Tow Bars Cape and Connaught Electrical and Africa Electric Fencing for their continued support, without them great events like the one on the 30th would not be possible.

### **EI-Matador vs. Blankman**

When I heard this match was planned for 'House of Pain' I was not impressed, firstly because I would have liked to get my hands on one of them, after I was robbed in our last HoP encounter, and secondly because I truly believed these two pansies would as likely do the waltz as wrestle a serious match. I am pleased to say I was wrong, I underestimated them and was pleasantly surprised by the way each pushed themselves to dish out pain despite their widely known personal friendship. Blankman had the upper hand during the opening few minutes using his superior strength to dominate the Latino heartthrob. EI-matador's heart (or ego) kept him in it, fighting back through cheeky and speedy offence. Just as the match started heating up both men were counted out while not paying attention to the referees warnings. Like typical pansies, this didn't seem to phase them as they got in the ring, shook hands and applauded the crowd. This mockery was soon set straight when the then Heavyweight Champ, Shaun

“new-comer Warlock cleans up the ring with his unorthodox grappling style”



Koen, made an appearance and declared the match to a restart because “this is the AWA and in the AWA we don't do draws”. With the restart the fear of Koen fuelled both Blankman and the Lucha-sensation into a more aggressive frame of mind leading to high paced back and forth bout. Blankman managed a narrow victory after a well hit splash from the op rope but in truth this one could have gone either way.

**Nick Fury vs. Revyv**

In his first ever singles match Revyv was destined to be up against it no matter who he faced; unfortunately for the newbie he was destined to go one on one with yours truly. It was an impressive debut as he threw out an insane array of high risk moves. I analyzed the situation and preferred to stay grounded, steering the high flyer away from the ropes, that said, I couldn't resist a suicide dive to the outside to gain the upper hand. Showing a fondness for the moon-assault, Revyv hit me with every possible variation in the book, from a sit-down to the lion assault and a perfectly executed flip to the outside. In the end it was his own skill that cost him the match, as he set himself up for his grand finale top rope moon-assault I wised up, moved out the way, finished him with my modified famouser and simply pinned the debutant for the 1..2..3..

“Another event, another big debut - meet 'Revyv'”



**Warlock vs. Vinnie Vegas**

The second encounter between these two top class cruiserweights was even more heated than the first in which Warlock gained his maiden AWA victory. The spattering of support for Warlock quickly took a backseat with the spectacular entrance of his card playing

adversary. Over the last few months Vinnie Vegas has displayed a softer side, finding a place in the hearts of the AWA faithful. The softer side of Vinnie Vegas was not his best in the early moments of the bout being pushed around by the heavier man. Vegas showed his big match temperament and slowly worked his way into the fight; a fight that he soon took control of, shepherding the more experienced Warlock around the ring. The strength of the mysterious Warlock continues to amaze as well as his calculated setup for game breaking manoeuvres. One such manoeuvre was his leap of faith over the top rope which nearly sent both competitors to the emergency ward of the nearest hospital. It was Vegas's focus however that gave him the edge in this match, few can doubt that he would have deservedly had his hand raised at the end if it wasn't for the unsportsmanlike conduct of his opponent. Nearing the 15 minute mark Warlock turned and gave the innocent referee, Bruno 'Black Mamba', a haymaker of note, knocking him out for a 10 count of his own. Vinnie then launched into an attack of his own, this one to the man who deserved it, hitting him with a Royal Flush neck breaker and going for the cover for what would have been a clean victory if there had been a conscious ref to count the pin fall. On recovery, Bruno furiously disqualified Warlock, bringing a sad end to a great match. Something tells me this feud is not over, and I wouldn't be surprised seeing these two in a grudge match real soon.

**Oz vs. Bruiser**

Expecting another dirty exhibition from Bruiser I was on the edge of my seat with anticipation; I couldn't believe

my eyes when I saw perhaps my favourite wrestler in the AWA prance down to the ring in white and shiny pleather pants and one of those 'Ooo look at me' transparent vests. One can imagine I was behind Oz from the bell. Oz gets more and more impressive every time I see him, he stared off this match with the hard hitting style which his fans have come to know and love. Bruiser put on a far more expansive display with wild high risk that both hit the mark and found him in serious trouble. The turning point of the bout was when he had complete control and missed with a corkscrew moon assault that left him at the mercy of his opponents prison rules sense of aggression. Although he did gain minor advantages after that moment it was OZ who showed the staying power. To my delight the man from Mitchell's Plain caught Bruiser with a ridiculously severe OZ-Bomb, not only gaining the victory but sending a message to those in the main event that there is a fifth heavyweight in the AWA that means business.

**Johnny Pallazio vs. William McQueen**

Johnny Pallazio the long reigning cruiserweight champ going one on one with the current title holder of the toughest annual tournament in the AWA, the Coca Cola Royal Rumble. To spice up the anticipation of this juicy contest, William McQueen has for the past few years been in a battle with the top cruiserweights to be the number one contender for the Italian Stallion's converted title. There is no better way to show AWA management you deserve a shot at the title than beating the champ himself. McQueen started off fast and furious with Johnny Pallazio





“AWA's loud mouth gets his justice with a controversial pin cinching victory for Missing Link”



perhaps underestimating his less experienced opponent. The power and technical supremacy of Pallazio soon came to the fore as he took control and slowed down the match to a pace he could dominate. Toying with Willie Mac, the champ found his form and his usual arrogance. Although Johnny P held control through the majority of the match it was the key moments that Will stamped his mark and made the locker room sit up and take note. The behind the scenes work put in by McQueen was made clear when time and again he countered Pallazio's signature moves while executing his own with uncharacteristic venom. In the end it came down to who wanted it more and McQueen pulled out a shocking victory putting him at the head of the pack in the hunt for the Cruiserweight Championship. One feels that this must have been a wake up call for the champ and I doubt whether Johnny Pallazio will ever take an opponent lightly again.

**Missing Link vs. BDX vs. African Warrior vs. Shaun Koen**

The main event... to borrow a catchphrase it was a 'slobber knocker'. When this colossal match was booked AWA management intended it to be a four way elimination match; this plan all changed on the spot when the CEO of AWA, Koos , put BDX's suggestion of a rule change to his own title contender, the Missing Link. With 'Links' approval Koos stacked the table against the champ declaring the Main event would be a no disqualification title match with only one pin fall,

meaning anyone of the 3 challenges could leave House of Pain with the All Africa title without pinning the champ. These new rules didn't faze the Lion of Africa who looked as confident as ever, while making his way down to the ring. The match started in 1st gear with African Warrior and BDX working each other in the centre of the ring while Koen and Link looked on. Things didn't take long to heat up and soon all four men were battling it out in brutal style. To go over the highlights of the star studded match would take all day but my personal favourite moment was when the brawl went into the crowd, sending fans screaming, and culminating in Shaun Koen being launched into the sponsors marquee leaving the 911 stand absolutely destroyed and the lion of Africa Worse for wear. This moment, one can cite as the turning point as the injuries sustained by Shaun visibly slowed the big man down, similarly BDX suffered massive rib injures in a tussle with African Warrior leaving him suffering towards the end of the match. With two of the 4 not 100%, one could see the match swinging in the favour of African Warrior and Missing Link, which was exactly the case. In a bizarre sequence of events Link managed to counter a stunner by BDX and pin the Lion of Africa just out of reach of a desperate Warrior slipping in the blood of his adversaries while diving to stop the match winning cover. The Missing Link, a madman from parts unknown, picked up the biggest victory of his career, catapulting him into the position as the All Africa Heavyweight Champion, the most prestigious wrestling title on the content.