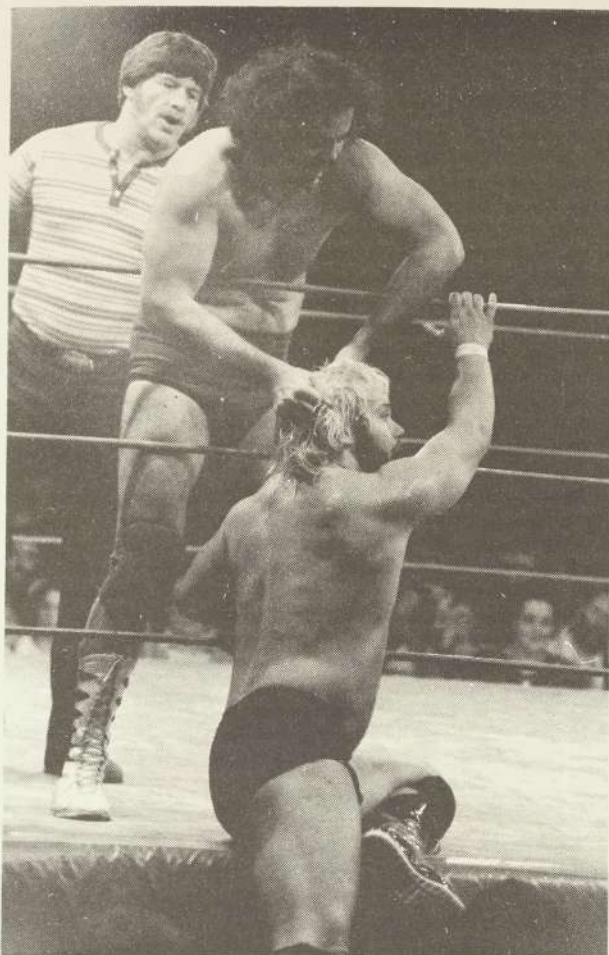
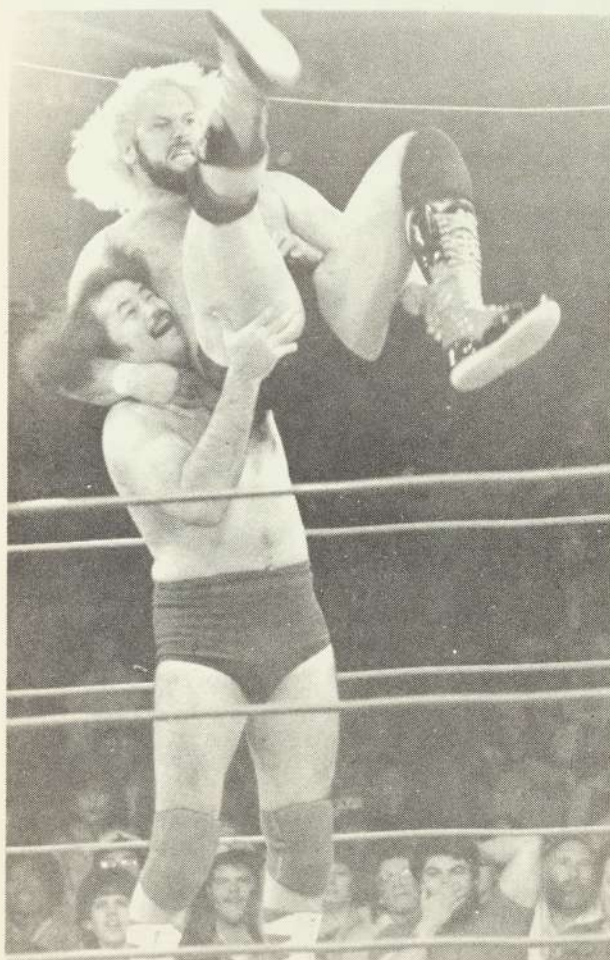


Fast paced action of professional



OUCH—Action got a little hairy in the semi-main event. Matt Bourne (bottom) won the match over the veteran Alberto Madril. Referee Sandy Barr looks on.



BOTTOMS UP—Alberto Madril sets Milwaukee's Matt Borne for an atomic drop.

Jack, McGee, Chief, w

An estimated crowd of 600 braved near freezing temperatures Saturday night to make their way to the Portland Sports Arena for a truly "big time" evening of professional wrestling.

The main event pitted Rip Oliver and his "Clan" (the Assassin and the Dynamite Kid) versus the darling of the northwest, Billy Jack, and his partners Chief Juls Strongbow and "Irish" Pat McGee.

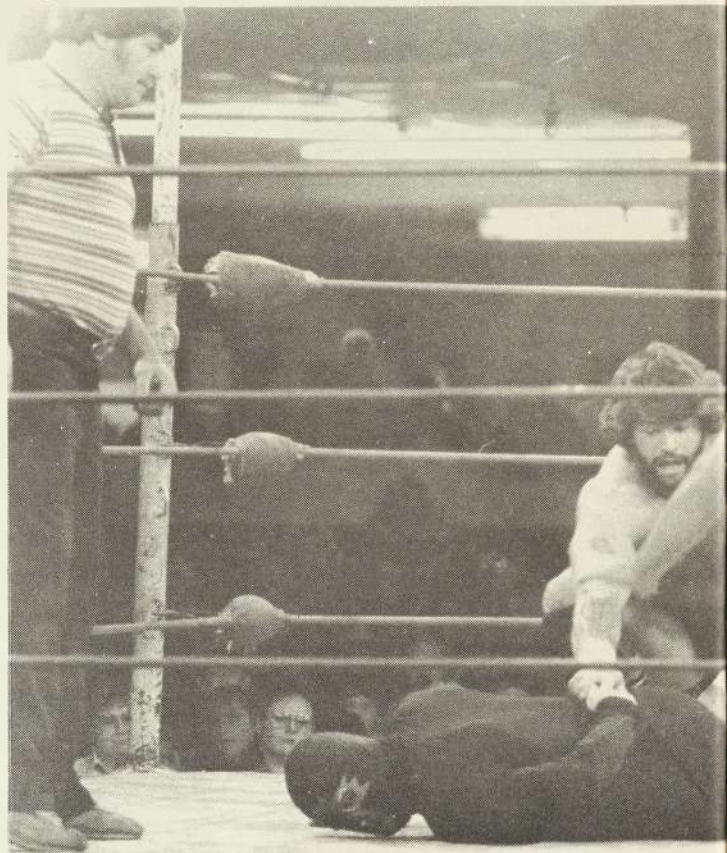
The match was yet another chapter in the ongoing saga of Billy Jack and Rip Oliver, one of the fiercest rivalries in all of professional sports today. Oliver, the holder of the Pacific Coast championship belt and self-proclaimed "Crippler", had set the stage earlier in the week by cutting up Jack in a "bull rope match."

As the late, great "Moondog" Lonny Mayne would have said, "there was excitement in the air!" The event had all the makings of one of the great matches in Northwest history. It did not disappoint, as all six men were in the ring when the match was decided.

The "good guys" opened the match sticking to their game plan making a series of quick tags hoping to break the rhythm of The Clan. The tactics were extremely effective in the opening minutes. However, Oliver's team was able to slow their counterparts, The Clan gained control and recorded the first fall.

It looked bleak for the challengers during the second fall as The Clan continued to run rough-shot over their opponents. Some of the partisan crowd feared an early exit, as two straight falls looked like reality.

Referee Sandy Barr had his hands full trying to maintain order throughout the match. During the second fall Barr showed why he is considered to be one of the top officials on the West Coast. While Barr was busy clearing the ring of Strongbow and McGee, Oliver and the Dynamite Kid took the opportunity to enter the ring to triple-team Billy Jack. Barr recognizing the foul play, immediately disqualified The Clan and awarded



DOUBLE TEAMING—Billy Jack (center) holds the Assassin as "Irish" Pat McGee defeated the Assassin, Rip Oliver, and the Dynamite Kid in a six man tag match.

Fans carry on Northwest tr

Taking in my first night of live professional wrestling in the Portland Sports Arena after nine years of devoted television viewing was truly a treat. I do not care how many matches you have watched on the tube, there is nothing that can match the excitement of live wrestling action.

I've seen the greats and not so greats come and go, and come again. The likes of Jimmy Snuka, Don Leo Johnathan, Ripper Collins, Lord Johnathan Boyd, Lonny Mayne, Shag Thomas, Gene Koniski, Jesse Ventura, Bull Ramos, Dutch Savage, and the list goes on. There were the preliminary men, never paid the big bucks, but nonetheless truly devoted to the sport. Haru Sasakki, the Calipso Kid, Matti Suzuki, and Johnnie Eagles, obscure names yes, but Portland Wrestling could not have survived without them.

Yes, it has been a long time since I watched my first match on "Big Time Wrestling," a coal miners glove match

between Dutch Savage and a fan ever since.

While at the match I had the chance to tune of meeting two young men, a lot of myself and my own. Two brothers, Ricky, you know, professional wrestling man.

Boys will be boys. While their skills, pretending to be professional wrestlers, Rose, I'm sure. Ricky says he'll be a professional wrestler someday, while I have the attitude I had, "No, I'm not."

When it comes to professional wrestling, I agree they are partial to the style of professional wrestling that is ironic that Rich and I both like it. I know how to

