

*The greatest professional wrestlers in the world come to one town for one weekend...
...to crown the very best.*

BATTLE OF BOSTON

4TH OF JULY WEEKEND

THE GARDEN

BOSTON, MASS

[We fade up from the conclusion of Saturday Night Wrestling onto a makeshift studio set up somewhere in the Calgary Saddledome where Mark Stegglet and Marcus Broussard are seated, smiling in the direction of the camera.]

MS: Hello, everyone, and welcome to a very special half hour of television. We are coming to you live from Calgary and this is our Battle of Boston Bracket Reveal show. Ever since last fall when the Battle of Boston was first announced, wrestling fans and experts from around the world have been waiting for this night - to find out who will be facing who when we reach The Garden in Boston on 4th of July weekend. My co-host for this night is the one and only... the very first man to wear championship gold in AWA history... and a man who knows a thing or two about tournaments, the San Jose Shark, Marcus Broussard!

[The camera cuts to the grinning Broussard.]

MB: Thanks for that stellar introduction, Mark. The Battle of Boston is the talk of the wrestling world. During that Press Conference last night, my Twitter was going crazy with all the potential matchups as big name after big name was announced for what's going to be one of the greatest weekends in the history of our sport.

MS: Let's get right down to what you all are here for... the brackets. Marcus, you've had a chance to take a look at these brackets now. What do you think?

MB: The brackets are... INTERESTING!

[Stegglet looks puzzled for a moment.]

MB: Interesting, fascinating, intriguing. Call them what you want, Mark, but we're about to give the fans a lot of dream scenarios to ponder for the next few weeks.

MS: Alright, remember... we've got 30 of the best wrestlers in the world heading into Boston for that weekend. There will be three brackets of 10, leading us down the road to our magical final three who will compete in the very first AWA Three Way Dance to crown the very first Battle of Boston winner! Those bracketologists out there are probably trying to puzzle that out but all will be clear soon enough. I actually was just informed a few moments ago that AWA officials have decided to name these brackets after some of the legends in our sport and we'll be revealing

that soon enough as well so let's kick things off by talking about the Hardin Bracket, of course named after the legendary John Wesley Hardin.

[The shot of Mark and Marcus disappears as a giant graphic of the Hardin Bracket appears on the screen.]

The Hardin Bracket



[The graphic shrinks to a smaller portion of the screen as we get our hosts back in view.]

MS: The Hardin Bracket packed with the current World Television Champion AND the current World Champion not to mention former champs like Shadoe Rage... like Jack Lynch... like Rex Summers. This one is loaded, Shark.

MB: It absolutely is. But this whole tournament is loaded, Mark. Where do we start?

MS: Let's start with our two play-in matches. Remember, fans, because of the increase of the size of the tournament, a handful of competitors face an uphill battle because they've got an extra match to contend with. In our first play-in match, we've got a member of SM&K, Kerry Kendrick, taking on the West Memphis Assassin. Your thoughts, Shark?

MB: Look, I'm a big fan of Kerry Kendrick and have been for a long time and I think I can predict his reaction to this news pretty well. He's going to be upset he's in a play-in match, thinking the deck's been stacked against him. And he's going to be upset that he's facing what is essentially a mystery opponent, thinking the deck's been stacked against him. But Kerry Kendrick's a talented kid with a whole world of opportunity ahead of him. Can he win this tournament? Absolutely. Is it going to

be a little harder because of where he's been dropped into the brackets?
Absolutely.

MS: You spoke about the mystery of the West Memphis Assassin. Many have worn that hood over the years, Shark... including yourself. Something you'd like to tell us?

[Broussard chuckles, waving a hand.]

MB: I wish I could be in there, Mark, but I'm retired.

MS: Alright, let's move on to our other play-in match in this bracket - Shadoe Rage taking on Terry Shane. An intriguing matchup.

MB: AWA fans might remember that these two have crossed paths before but it's been a while and I'm looking forward to this one. Terry Shane is a competitor who has the genetics, has the talent, has the skill to be a World Champion in this sport... but a lot of people will question if he's got it here...

[Broussard taps on his temple.]

MB: ...to make it. Lucky for him, he's facing someone who lost his mind long ago in Shadoe Rage.

MS: Former World Television Champion - longest reigning TV champ ever in fact.

MB: Rage is a top level competitor. You mentioned the TV Title but he's held gold just about everywhere he's been in this sport. He knows about big matches with lots of pressure when you think back to the Double Eye and his battles with Steve Kowalski. I believe Shadoe Rage can win this tournament as well but the biggest thing that might work against him in a tournament like this - especially with the extra match - is age. He's in tremendous shape, don't get me wrong, but Father Time has a way of catching up to even the fastest sprinter. This should be an interesting matchup.

[We cut to a closer shot of the bracket again.]

MS: Now, if Kerry Kendrick is able to get past the West Memphis Assassin which may be a tough task depending on who is under the hood this time... he's going to find himself face to face with his own teammate in "Red Hot" Rex Summers.

MB: With the stakes this high, I'd imagine they'd set their friendship aside and get down to business, Mark. Both of these guys want to be the best in the world and this isn't personal for these two, it's business.

MS: The other first round matchup on that side of the Hardin Bracket will see Jack Lynch taking on MAMMOTH Maximus. That should be VERY interesting.

MB: The great thing about a tournament like the Battle of Boston is to see encounters you never thought about. I know I've never daydreamed about seeing Lynch and Maximus do battle but now that I see it on paper, I wonder how I never wanted that match before. Lynch doesn't face a lot of competitors who completely outmeasure him in the size department but in Boston, he's going to.

MS: Is the Iron Claw the great equalizer?

[Broussard chuckles.]

MB: I'd wager we're going to find out on 4th of July weekend.

MS: Alright, let's shoot over to the other side of the Hardin Bracket where the winner of Shane and Rage will take on the World Champion, Johnny Detson.

MB: Having Detson in this tournament creates a very interesting dynamic, Mark, because if he were to lose... let's say he loses to Terry Shane... if Detson loses to Terry Shane, how does the Championship Committee not say Shane is next in line for a shot at the World Title?

MS: That's assuming Johnny Detson is still the World Champion that night in Boston. He's gotta get through Bobby O'Connor in two weeks in Toronto to make that be true.

MB: Good point, good point.

MS: We had a little bit of mystery on one side of the Hardin Bracket with the West Memphis Assassin but how about the other side with our Wild Card entry who is slated to take on Supernova?

MB: Who also could be a former champion by the time the Battle of Boston rolls around.

MS: Very true. Marcus, when you sit back and think about it, who do you think should be the Wild Card entry?

[Broussard sighs.]

MB: It's a tough call, Mark. There are a lot of talented competitors who didn't make the list. You mentioned Bobby O'Connor a few moments ago... he's gotta be a contender. You think about guys like Flex Ferrigno... maybe some of the tag team guys like Daniel Harper... like Taylor and Donovan... what about Canibal? Canibal is going to be part of the Steal The Spotlight series and he didn't make the tournament? That seems like an oversight. Then you look across the world to competitors like Nenshou... like Mifune... like Super Solar down in Mexico. There are a lot of tremendous competitors who didn't make the field of 30 so I think the fans have their work cut out for them making this decision.

MS: Whoever is the Wild Card will certainly have their work cut out for THEM against the likes of Supernova, Shark.

MB: Absolutely. Supernova over the past year and a half or so is perhaps at the best I've ever seen him. I know a lot of people take 'Nova for granted but he's one of my sleeper picks to win this whole thing.

MS: Okay, fans... one bracket down... two more to go. We're going to take a quick commercial break but when we come back, it'll be time to look at our second bracket of the night... the Graham Bracket. Stay tuned for that, won't you?

[The music swells as Stegglet and Broussard discuss the brackets without us able to hear them while we fade to black.]

We fade up on the logo for the television network known by its fans as "The X" - Fox Sports X. Standing next to it is Terrence Howard of "Empire" fame.]

"They tell me that Lucious Lyon ain't the toughest man on Fox anymore. Hah! I'll believe that when I see it!"

[Cut to a shot from SWLL's LUCHA LUCHA LUCHA where El Caliente snaps off a death-defying dive over the top rope, over the corner ringpost, and onto a prone figure. A voiceover not belonging to Terrence Howard provides the hype.]

"Enter the world of lucha libre!"

[Then to a shot of the GFC - a recent shot with Ivan Petrov knocking Rufus Harris out to win the GFC Heavyweight Title.]

"Or maybe you prefer a little bit of MMA!"

[On to Tiger Paw Pro's WrestleGalaxy as Yoshinari Taguchi exchanges stiff slaps with the man AWA fans would know as Nenshou.]

"Travel to the Land of the Rising Sun for some puroresu action!"

[A highlight reel level head kick from a European looking kickboxer drops a Japanese one.]

"The hottest new action on The X belongs to SKB - Super K Boxing!"

[And finally to a shot of Ryan Martinez lighting up Supreme Wright's chest with a series of machine gun chops.]

"Saturday nights bring you all the action of the American Wrestling Alliance!"

[We cut back to Terrence Howard, wincing and rubbing his own chest as if he could feel Martinez' chops.]

"Alright, alright... those boys are pretty bad too. But can they sing?"

[Howard laughs as we cut back to the logo for The X. Howard delivers the closing line.]

"Fox Sports X. Come get some."

[The "come get some" slogan fills the screen as we fade to black...

...and then come back up to our hosts for this special Bracket Reveal show, Mark Stegglet and Marcus Broussard.]

MS: Welcome back, fans. And if you're just joining us, we now know the full bracket for the grouping known as the Hardin Bracket. Now, our next group of ten competitors comes to us from the Graham Bracket, named of course after the legendary Hamilton Graham.

MB: Stay strong, Hammy.

[Stegglet visibly rolls his eyes.]

MS: Let's not keep the people in suspense any longer - let's take a look at this one...

[Our shot of the studio desk vanished and is replaced by the graphic showing off our next bracket.]

The Graham Bracket



[The graphic shrinks down to a smaller portion of the screen as Stegglet and Broussard are visible again.]

MS: Shark, anything stand out to-

MB: Are you kidding me?! I think there's one match on this list that stands out to EVERYONE! The Gladiator versus Torin The Titan!

[Stegglet chuckles.]

MS: I thought you might say that. Now, it's important for the fans to know that the participants in the play-in matches were randomly selected. No one picked this match to happen.

MB: If they didn't, they should have! Last year, we talked about the irresistible force meeting the immovable object when the Gladiator took on Oni at SuperClash. This is that clash again. Torin The Titan... let's not forget... defeated a two-time former World Champion in Supreme Wright in UNDER FIVE MINUTES IN HIS DEBUT! He came very close to winning the Battle Royal at Memorial Day Mayhem. He's in the Steal The Spotlight series in a couple of months and... well, the last time we saw the Gladiator, he was running off into the night after having his undefeated streak broken. No one has seen or heard from him since. In fact, no one REALLY knows if he'll even make it to Boston for this tournament. This could be a forfeit victory for Torin.

MS: Not so fast, Shark. I've been told that there will be a handful of alternates there that weekend to stand in for anyone in the first round or play-in matches that suffer any kind of injury or travel delay. No forfeits in that first set of matches.

MB: Maybe not but that's going to be a spectacle the likes of which we rarely get a chance to see if it happens.

MS: What I have to wonder is about stamina... about endurance. Neither of these guys are known for that and they both just got put into a situation where they have to wrestle an extra match. Could that be a deciding factor that ends up in a later round upset?

MB: Later round upset?! Did you see who they have to face if they win? Brian James! The Son of the Blackheart! That's who you get... IF YOU WIN! This tournament is crazy, Mark.

[Stegglet smiles.]

MS: Let's look at the other half of that side of the Graham Bracket where the National Champion, Travis Lynch, is set to take on Callum Mahoney. That match could be champion vs champion if things go Mahoney's way in Toronto.

MB: It certainly could be... and again, Mahoney and Lynch aren't strangers to one another. I think that could be one of the best matches of the entire tournament. Hah! Mark, I just realized something. Imagine if you're Travis Lynch or Callum Mahoney looking at this bracket right now. Imagine planning out your strategy to get past the other guy... and then realizing that if you do, you're either going to face The Gladiator... Torin The Titan... or Brian James. Whew. I might think about calling in sick if I was those two.

MS: An excellent callout there as we switch to the other side of the bracket which has taken on an international flair when you see Riley Hunter, the hottest free agent in the sport, taking on the International Wild Card.

MB: We don't know who that is yet but with Hunter's extensive international resume, I'm betting there's a good chance that he's faced - and defeated - them already.

MS: If he does the same thing in Boston, he'll face Noboru Fujimoto and those two are no strangers to one another either.

MB: A lengthy history between Hunter and Fujimoto in Japan that we don't have the time to get into tonight but again, that could be one of the best matches in the entire tournament if it happens.

MS: And of course, the final match in the Graham Bracket - are you kidding me? Former two-time World Champion Dave Bryant taking on the one and the only... the Idol of Millions... the Hall of Famer himself... Eddie Van Gibson.

MB: The whole wrestling world - especially some of our friends elsewhere - got rocked to their toenails when Emerson Gellar announced that Eddie Van Gibson was going to be a part of this tournament. And with EVG's return comes a battle against someone he's quite familiar with - Dave Bryant. Bryant, of course, is making his own return to the AWA after that spike piledriver by Hamilton Graham and Demetrius Lake put him out of action for so many months. The question in this one is who comes in ready to compete? Bryant's got the injury... he's not going to get into the ring before that weekend. Van Gibson's been out of action - retired from the game for years, making chicken commercials for crying out loud. Does he have what it takes to shake the dust off, get in that ring, and show the world why

he's in the Hall of Fame already? This one's got a lot of stories to tell and a lot of intrigue surrounding it, Mark.

MS: It certainly does... and that wraps up our rundown of the Graham Bracket. A lot of top flight competitors... a lot of interesting matches... and that leaves us with just one final bracket to talk about... the Temple Bracket... and perhaps the most fascinating one of all. Don't go away, fans, because we'll be right back to take a look at the final bracket in the Battle of Boston tournament!

[Fade to black as our hosts silently discuss the brackets so far.

We fade up from black on a star-lit sky. All is peaceful as our voiceover begins.]

"This year, the fireworks won't just be on the 4th of July."

[On cue, the shot is filled with exploding fireworks - red, white, blue, green, orange - all exploding in tremendous bursts of color as the opening guitar riffs "Highway" by Bleeker begins to play. As the vocals kick in, we cut to shots of AWA competitors in action.]

#No going down
No cutting out
The sun comes up before you go#

[The first group shows Pure X securing The X anklelock on an opponent before flash-cutting to Supernova sailing through the air with a Heat Wave splash to Brian James delivering the infamous Blackheart Punch to a set of steel steps.]

#My baby's gone
My hollow soul
I feel a cold wind start to blow#

[A Travis Lynch Discus Punch starts up the next batch followed by a flash-cut to Jordan Ohara sailing off the top rope with a crossbody and finally to Dave Bryant delivering the Call Me In The Morning superkick.]

#Every little stop sign#

[Rufus Harris bulldozes down an opponent, delivering ferocious ground and pound inside the GFC Hexagon.]

#All the red lights like#

[Maxim Zharkov recklessly flings a victim across the ring with a released gutwrench suplex.]

#A preacher on a Saturday night#

[Rex Summers drops a foe on their head with the devastating Heat Check DDT.]

#The devil's in the details#

[Derrick Williams delivers the Neuralyzer, blasting his opponent in the back of the head with a rolling elbow.]

#Pretty little females#

[The Gladiator brings a helpless foe crashing down to Earth with his military press powerslam.]

#Tell me all your sweet sweet lies#

[MAMMOTH Maximus PLANTS his victim with a devastating powerbomb before we flash cut to Jack Lynch connecting with a leaping knee to the jaw.]

#I can't slow down it's so damn loud
Let's burn this town alive#

[Larry Wallace delivering the Best Dropkick In The World flash cuts to Noboru Fujimoto using the Falling Laser Lasso to plant someone facefirst into the canvas.]

#Oh pocket full of moonshine
Countin' all the white lies#

[Riley Hunter gets big air, diving over the top rope onto a pile of competitors with a Tope Con Hilo before we flash cut to Eddie Van Gibson driving someone facefirst into the mat with the Move That Shall Not Be Named to Johnny Detson using the Wilde Driver.]

#Time to take the highway highway highway#

[Supreme Wright brings someone crashing down onto his knees with Fat Tuesday.]

#Baby take the highway#

[Juan Vasquez delivers the Right Cross to a kneeling opponent.]

#Ima' take the highway#

[Ryan Martinez delivers the brainbuster onto his foe as we flash cut to black, the music still playing as we see the details on the big event.]

"BATTLE OF BOSTON
July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th
TD Garden
LIVE on The X"

[And then... black.]

We fade back up from black on our studio desk, Mark and Marcus chattering away silently as "Highway" by Bleeker is heard over it.]

MS: Welcome back to this Battle of Boston Bracket Reveal show, fans, and we're finally here - the final bracket in this tournament... the one we're now learning is called the Temple Bracket, of course named after another legendary Hall of Famer in the King of the Death Match, Caleb Temple. Our thanks go out to Bleeker for their song "Highway" - the official song of the Battle of Boston available on Apple Music and Spotify. Marcus, we've already seen two very competitive brackets announced and now... now we've got what I'd have to say might be the most competitive of them all.

MB: Three former World Champions. One Olympic gold medalist. One former GFC Champion. One undefeated Tsar. This is the Death Bracket, Mark, so it's only fitting that it carries the King of the Death Match's name. Every single person in this bracket better be ready for the fight of their lives because it's going to be absolutely exhausting to get through this grouping to the Finals.

MS: Does that put the winner of this bracket at a disadvantage?

MB: Absolutely. The level of effort you're going to have to put in to get through this bracket means you may not have anything left for the Finals.

MS: Alright, let's show the world what the San Jose Shark just affectionately deemed the "Death Bracket!"

[The graphic fills the screen for a moment so all can take a look.]

The Temple Bracket



MS: The Death Bracket indeed.

MB: I told you.

[After a few more moments, the graphic pulls down to fill a smaller portion of the screen as Stegklet and Broussard continue to discuss it.]

MS: Let's run this down - how about that clash of young lions in the play-in match, Shark? Jordan Ohara taking on Derrick Williams! That should be quite the sneak peek at the future of the AWA.

MB: It should be an excellent matchup between two of the fine young competitors looking to be the future of this company and this industry... unfortunately for them, they've got a piledriving psychopath in the next round who might just decide to end their career that night.

MS: Juan Vasquez, a Hall of Famer and former World Champion, waiting in the wings for the winner of that one... and you know that he'd like nothing more than to continue his self-proclaimed quest to "Make AWA Great Again" by winning this tournament.

MB: It would sure go a long way to proving his point that he's not done yet. He's still got a lot left in the tank and he's determined to show that the AWA still revolves around him.

MS: But let's look at the other side of that bracket. Ryan Martinez, returning from a neck injury at the hands of Juan Vasquez, takes on Vasquez' ally in the Axis of Evil, the undefeated Tsar, Maxim Zharkov!

MB: And my sources are telling me that Martinez STILL isn't cleared to compete. They gave him this spot in the tournament hoping he'd be cleared in time but even if he is, are you telling me that on his first night back, you want to feed him to the Tsar? And if he wins, he might collide with Vasquez?! The fates are conspiring against Ryan Martinez, Mark.

MS: But if anyone can do it, it would be the AWA's White Knight who I'm told is deep in training for this tournament, getting himself back to the level of condition that few in this sport possess... and what a story it would be to see the former World Champion return to the ring and win this whole tournament on his first night back!

MB: Keep dreaming, Mark. At this point, I'm not even sure Martinez gets out of the first round. Zharkov has been absolutely unstoppable since arriving here in the AWA and this is his first chance to show exactly HOW unstoppable he is.

[Stegglet nods.]

MS: A big opportunity for the Tsar and his agitator supreme, Jackson Hunter... but let's take a look at the other side of the bracket where the fates have not smiled on the former GFC Heavyweight Champion, Rufus Harris. The Rottweiler draws the short straw, ending up in a play-in match against "Flawless" Larry Wallace.

MB: I don't know, Mark. Did Harris draw the short straw or did Wallace? Sure, no one wants the extra match and Harris' endurance is going to be questionable since he's used to the rounds system and shorter matches but he's going to be an explosive competitor in there. The key for him is going to be to get to Wallace quick.

MS: Which he certainly can do.

MB: Absolutely. And if I'm Larry Wallace, I'm going to spend the next few weeks practicing every bit of striking defense that I can because Harris is going to come at him fast and hard, trying to knock him flat in a hurry because he knows what's waiting if he gets past him.

MS: The former two-time World Champion Supreme Wright who has been on an undefeated streak of his own for the past several months since SuperClash. Could this tournament be the end of that streak?

MB: The mere idea of Harris vs Wright is fascinating to me as Wright might be the only guy on the roster who can avoid the strikes, stuff the takedown attempt, and wear Harris out. But on the other side of that, what happens if Larry Wallace has to face his former teacher in Supreme Wright?

MS: Personally, I'd love to see that.

MB: Me too. I think Wright's in for an interesting night no matter who he faces.

MS: And if we look over at the other side of that bracket, we see Pure X set to take on the Olympic gold medalist, Bret Grayson, who is looking to impress the front office enough to make his AWA stay permanent.

MB: Pure X is one of the best technical pro wrestlers on the planet. Bret Grayson is arguably THE best technical amateur wrestler on the planet. This is going to be something else, Mark.

MS: You said it, Shark. And the winner potentially taking on Wright? Or maybe Rufus Harris? Incredible.

[The tournament bracket graphic fades out, leaving Stegglet and Broussard. Stegglet grins, sighing deeply.]

MS: And that does it, fans. The entire bracket for the Battle of Boston has now been revealed - the Hardin Bracket, the Graham Bracket, and the Temple Bracket. Which one is your favorite? Which match are you looking forward to the most? We want to hear it. Hit us up on social media - Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat - and let us know! Fans, we hope you've enjoyed this very special Bracket Reveal show - don't forget to tune in to The X right here next weekend for the Power Hour and coming up in two weeks, Saturday Night Wrestling LIVE from Toronto, Canada for a jam-packed night of action! For Marcus Broussard, I'm Mark Stegglet - we'll see you next time! So long everybody!

[Fade to black.]