

# BATTLE OF BOSTON

## Preview Show

[We start on a black screen as most shows do. We fade up into a royal blue screen with a glittering silver Fox Sports logo in the center of it. A fanfare plays in the background as a voiceover begins.]

"Home to the World Series. The NFL. The GFC. The Daytona 500. The US Open Championship."

[A quick clip from each sport flashes by during the voiceover.]

"The world's biggest events are on Fox Sports."

[The logo and fanfare fade...

...as a giant robot appears, holding up a different version of the Fox Sports logo with the audio bug...]

"WE ARE... FOX SPORTS!"

[The shot fades from the graphic to another black screen with the AWA logo splashed across a starry field. A barrage of lasers flash in from all sides of the screen, etching along the borders of the letters, illuminating the plain white text into glowing and glittering gold. A deep voiceover begins. The words "American Wrestling Alliance" come up one by one at the bottom of the screen.]

"The recognized symbol of excellence in professional wrestling."

[The logo fades to black...

...and then back up to a panning shot of a screaming and shouting crowd outside the TD Center in Boston, Massachusetts. The voice of Theresa Lynch is heard.]

TL: Hello, wrestling fans, and welcome! We are LIVE outside the TD Center in Boston, Mass where the greatest wrestling fans have come from all over the world to be witness what could go down as one of the greatest weekends of pro wrestling action in history. It's the Battle of Boston and gentlemen, we are now less than twenty-four hours away!

[Our panning shot lingers on an elevated stage, the scene for tonight's Preview Show. After a moment, we cut to said stage where a large studio-style desk has been set up with four familiar faces behind it.]

TL: I'm Theresa Lynch and once again, I'll be your host as we run down everything you need to know about this gigantic tournament... to my left is our esteemed panel which will be giving you all the expert analysis you need. First... a man who knows a thing or two about tournaments... he won one of those at the very first Memorial Day Mayhem to become the inaugural AWA National Champion... the San Jose Shark, Marcus Broussard!

[Cut to a shot of the well-dressed former wrestler turned Combat Corner trainer and AWA talent scout.]

MB: You can feel it in the air, Theresa! Anticipation! We've been waiting for this for months. Ever since Emerson Gellar made the announcement back at SuperClash, I think we've all been waiting for this weekend and it's finally... finally... here.

TL: Almost here, Shark. We've got one more day so don't burn yourself out early. Our next guest tonight is a man who - if you ask him - needs no introduction. So... here he is.

[Colt Patterson does not look amused in his shimmery golden jacket with the sleeves cut out to show off the guns. His matching golden beret is something to behold as well.]

CP: You're a real riot, Lynch... and how dare you not tell these people that I'm an expert on tournaments as well? I was in the tournament to crown the first EMWC World Title - well, it was the Universal Title back then.

TL: Oh yeah? How'd you do in that?

CP: I lost to that slippery snake Lorenzo Vasquez in the Finals. If I ever get my hands on him...

[Colt's words trail off, daydreaming of beating up his old rival.]

TL: And our final guest tonight... fantastic to see you here, my friend. Recently retired from the ring but still AWA to the core... Sweet Daddy Williams, welcome to Boston!

[Williams is wearing a white sportscoat over a green Combat Corner t-shirt.]

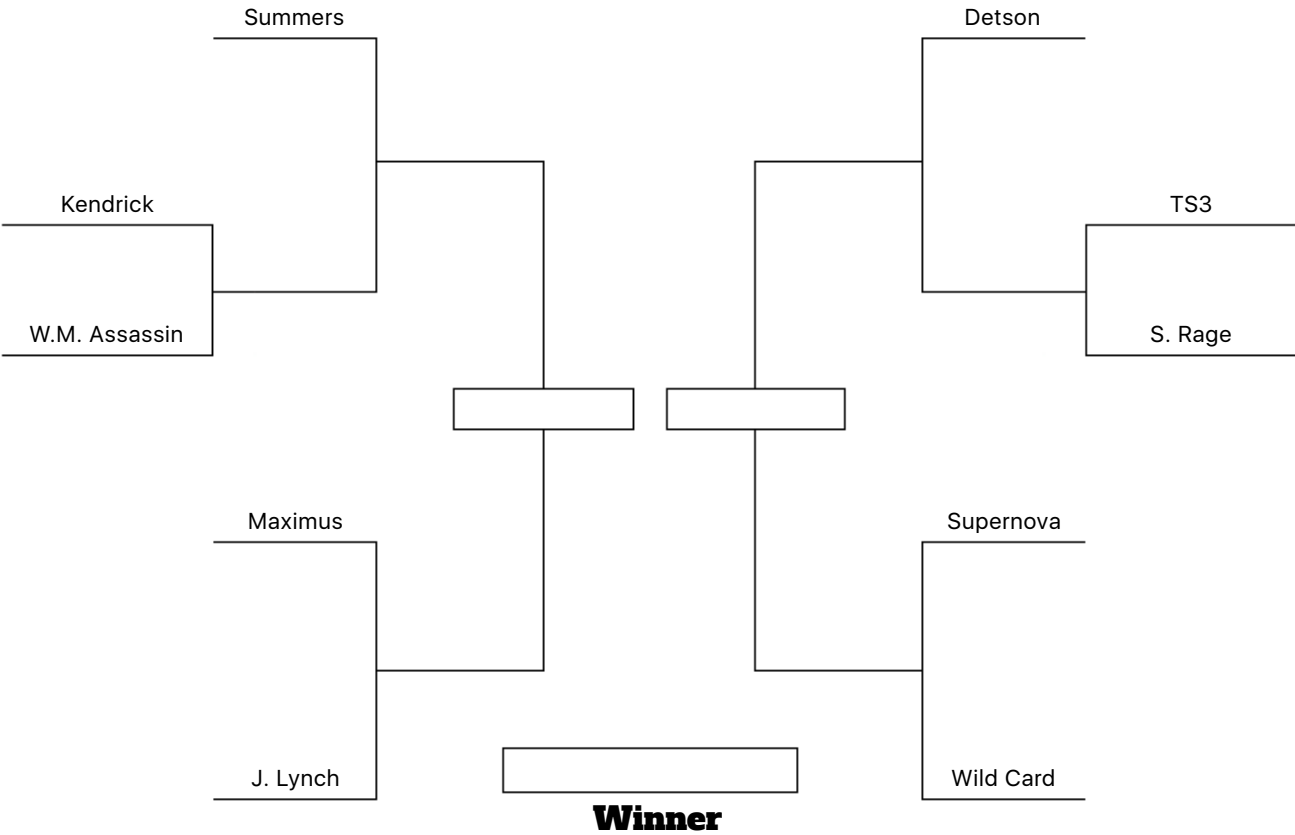
SDW: Thank you much, baby. It's my pleasure to be here tonight although when this shindig got announced back at SuperClash, I was hopin' to be in that ring tomorrow night and not sittin' here with the likes of y'all but things happen... the good Lord upstairs has a plan for us all and my plan is to be at this desk tonight so let's get this party started, Theresa.

[Cut back to a smiling Theresa Lynch.]

TL: As you say, good sir. Fans, the Battle of Boston is a tournament with an unusual structure. Traditionally, we're used to tournaments with eight competitors... sixteen... thirty-two... or even sixty-four like the AWA World Title tournament years ago. Those were designed to end up with two people in the Final match. This weekend, we're looking at a tournament designed to end in the very first AWA Three Way Dance - that's right, we're making history left and right this weekend. We're going to talk more about a Three Way Dance later tonight but let's take another look at the brackets for this weekend...

[A graphic appears on the screen showing the three brackets for the tournament.]

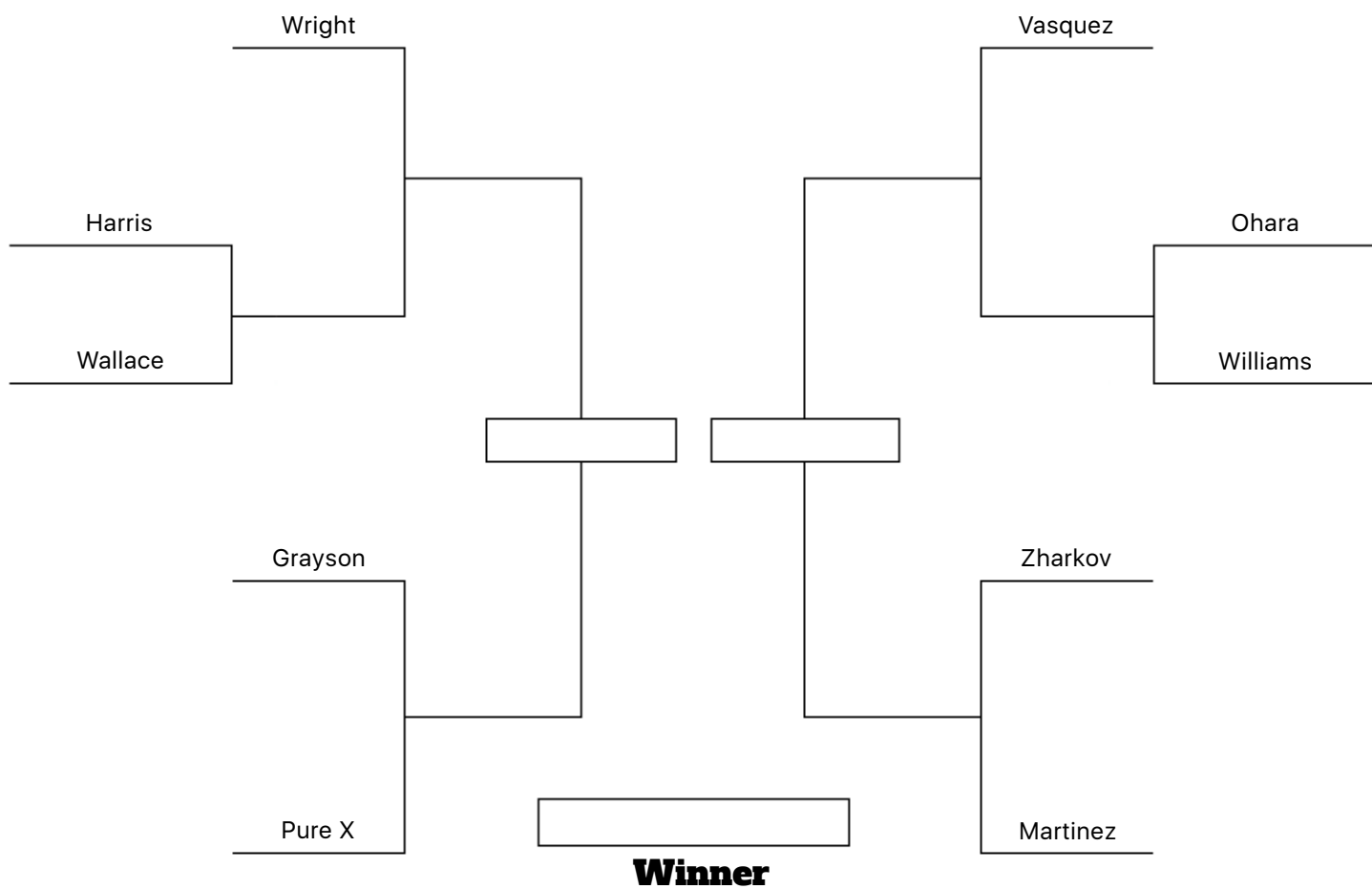
*The Hardin Bracket*



# *The Graham Bracket*



# *The Temple Bracket*



TL: Three tremendous brackets of action and this night, on this Preview Show, we're going to do things a little differently. We're going to be going match by match through these brackets and we're going to be relying on our expert panel to pick the winners all the way through until we end up with one predicted winner of the whole thing. Sound like fun? Let's get right to it!

[Cut to a graphic of just the Hardin Bracket.]

## *The Hardin Bracket*



TL: And we're going to kick things off with the Hardin Bracket, named after the legendary Hall of Famer, John Wesley Hardin... the Outlaw of professional wrestling. Now, another unusual thing we have to point out about this tournament is the existence of two "play-in" matches in each bracket, increasing the amount of competitors involved in the tournament. So, we start there. Gentlemen, talk to me about this first play-in match - Kerry Kendrick taking on the mysterious West Memphis Assassin. Shark, whatcha got?

[Cut to Marcus Broussard.]

MB: Well, the wild card in this match is who is under the hood, right? We've seen more than one man wear that mask in the past.

SDW: Including yourself.

MB: That's right! And as much as I'd love to be in there this weekend, I can promise you this bad neck means that you can cross my name off the list of people who might be the West Memphis Assassin this weekend. But that's the real

question. Without knowing the answer to that, we're flying completely blind when picking a winner in this one.

CP: Personally, I don't much care who is under that mask because this is Kerry Kendrick's weekend to shine. He's been pushed down, held down, put under the glass ceiling for as long as he's been here in the AWA but this tournament could be a big chance for him to break through and become the major superstar that everyone - including yourself, Broussard - has predicted he'd be for years now.

MB: I think Kerry Kendrick is a heck of a talent but... I'm a sucker for a good mystery.

TL: Sweet Daddy, your thoughts.

SDW: My thoughts are that Kerry Kendrick does nothing but whine... he does nothing but complain... this weekend he gets a chance to drop all that and show the world what he's truly made of. Can he do it? I just don't know.

TL: Alright, gentlemen... prediction time!

CP: No doubt about it - Kerry Kendrick wins this one.

SDW: I gotta go with the Assassin. It's a gut feeling for sure.

CP: And you've got a lot of gut to feel it in.

[Some chuckles all around.]

MB: This is a tough one for me. Like I said, I'm a big fan of Kerry Kendrick... but at the end of the day, Emerson Gellar knows who is under that hood and thinks they're worthy of being in this tournament. That's enough for me to say I think Kendrick's going down in this Play-In match. The Assassin moves on.

TL: Our first prediction of the night, the West Memphis Assassin moves on in the tournament. Let's light it up on the bracket, guys!

[A new version of the bracket comes up, showing the WMA advancing to the next round.]

TL: Okay, let's move over to the other side of the Hardin Bracket to the other Play-In matchup that'll see former AWA World Television Champion-

CP: The longest reigning World Television Champion, Lynch!

TL: My mistake. Shadoc Rage going one-on-one with Terry Shane 3. Colt, since you seem so eager to get going, we'll start with you.

CP: Theresa, there's no doubt in my mind that Shadoc Rage is going to embarrass Terry Shane... he's going to humiliate him... and he's going to send Shane skulking off into whatever place he was hiding where he lost every bit of his manhood.

TL: Ouch. Harsh words there. Sweet Daddy?

[Cut over to Williams.]

SDW: I've been in the ring with Shadoc Rage when the stakes were high and I can tell you that he brings it harder than just about anyone else on the roster. Terry Shane's got something to prove to the world - and to himself, I think - but I'm not sure he can get past a determined Rage. What do you think, Shark?

MB: I think Terry Shane has gone from being one of the hottest rising stars in our sport - remember, we're not far removed from him winning the Rumble and challenging for the World Title on a major event - to what amounts to a punchline. Shane's been struggling to find his footing since coming back to the AWA and this is a great opportunity for him to kick things to another level.

TL: So, by my count, that's two votes for Shadoe Rage and one for Terry Shane. That sound correct?

[Nods all around.]

TL: Alright, Shadoe Rage gets the vote in this one. Light it up, boys!

[A graphic with Rage and Shane on it comes up for a moment before a big red X lands over Shane.]

TL: Terry Shane moving on in our expert panel's predictions. The Play-In matches are in the book. Let's talk about the first round now. Some very intriguing matches in there starting off with Supernova, the current World Television Champion, taking on the Wild Card winner, Bobby O'Connor. Shark, who do you have in this one?

MB: Theresa, I'm concerned about Bobby O'Connor's arm. Now, I don't think Supernova will have the killer instinct to go after it but I also think O'Connor's going to be feeling the effects of what Johnny Detson did to it earlier this week. I think everyone would love the good comeback story for Bobby but... my gut says Supernova takes this one.

TL: Sweet Daddy?

SDW: I love both of these guys for what they do in and out of that ring. This is a tough one for me but... I'm also going with Supernova.

TL: Colt?

CP: O'Connor's arm is hanging on by a thin, thin thread and killer instinct or not, I think Supernova's gonna snap that string and move on.

TL: Wow! A clean sweep predicted by our team there who think that Bobby O'Connor's injury woes will continue to give him problems in the Battle of Boston. Boys, light it up!

[We get another graphic showing Supernova advancing.]

TL: Again, we move to the other side of the bracket for a match near and dear to my heart. The Iron Cowboy himself, Jack Lynch, taking on MAMMOTH Maximus.

CP: Here's something to keep in mind, Theresa. There are several guys making big comebacks for this show. And while your brother has been back for a few months now, he's also been wrestling mostly in tag team matches... and I think everyone on this panel will agree there's a distinct difference between working in tags and being out there all by yourself. Especially against a guy like Maximus. I just don't see how Jack Lynch gets past someone the size of Maximus. Shark?

MB: Jack Lynch had two of the toughest years imaginable in 2014 and '15. He had that war with Demetrius Lake followed right up by what many called World War Lynch last year with Supreme Wright and the rest of Team Supreme. He was mentally and physically exhausted after SuperClash last year... but since coming back, he seems like a new man. He's refreshed, he's healthy, and he's focused on being at the top of this business. No better way to get to the top than to win this



tournament. It's not going to be easy but I think Lynch slips past Maximus to the Semifinals of the Hardin Bracket.

TL: Sweet Daddy?

SDW: Another tough call. Maximus has been laying waste to people all over the sport for years. He's a guy who has won titles almost everywhere he's been. When the AWA said they wanted the best in the world for this tournament... well, Maximus is that guy. He's one of the best even though he doesn't work here anymore. But Jack Lynch is one of the toughest guys I've ever met. He won't go down without a fight... a hard one. This is one that I wonder if we don't even get a winner. Both of these guys have hot tempers so I wouldn't be surprised to see a double countout... double DQ... but I'm going to go with my brain on this one and pick Maximus in what many will call an upset.

CP: But they'd be wrong. Sorry, Lynch... your brother's out early.

TL: It wasn't the result I was hoping for but you guys are the experts. Jack Lynch eliminated in the first round, MAMMOTH Maximus moving forward. Light it up!

[A new version of the bracket shows up with Maximus moving to the Semifinals of the bracket.]

TL: That leaves us with two more first round matches - first, let's talk about Rex Summers taking on the man our panel picked to advance, the West Memphis Assassin. Colt, earlier you said that it didn't matter who was under the mask... that Kerry Kendrick was putting them down. Do you feel the same way about Rex Summers?

CP: I feel even stronger about it. All the mystery in the world won't help the Assassin if he gets hit with the Heat Check, jack.

SDW: How can you say that when you don't even know who's under the hood?

CP: Heat Check.

SDW: That's crazy to me. It could be anyone under that mask and who it is is going to have a major impact on the outcome. It's almost impossible to pick a winner.

MB: I agree with both of you actually. The mystery of the Assassin is one of the wild cards in this tournament. Depending who is under that hood, it could very well be someone who could run the table and throw all of our predictions out the window. But that Heat Check DDT is arguably the most devastating move in the AWA and I believe if ANYONE gets hit with it, they're going down for the three count. I'm going with Colt on this one. Summers picks up the win.

TL: Sweet Daddy, looks like you've been outvoted no matter what so let's light it up! Rex Summers moving on! One side of the bracket is set with Rex Summers taking on MAMMOTH Maximus. But on the other side, we've got our final first rounder in this bracket with the World Champion, Johnny Detson, taking on the man you picked to face him, Shadoe Rage.

CP: What a match! This one might steal the show right out the gate, Lynch.

SDW: I hope they both wear their track shoes because there's going to be a lot of running and hiding.

[Broussard chuckles.]

MB: This is a match where the DQ could come into play. Both of these guys are so used to bending - or just flat out breaking - the rules, they might fall into that old habit but in a tournament like this, that's dangerous. One wrong move in front of the referee and your weekend is over.

TL: Prediction time, gentlemen. Who walks out the winner and moves on to face Supernova in the Semifinals of the bracket?

SDW: I'm going with the upset. Johnny Detson's mind has been on the World Title as of late. He's barely acknowledged that he's in the tournament at all... and I think Rage will take advantage of that.

MB: Aggh, he's the World Champion, Sweet Daddy! How do you pick against the World Champion in the first round? My gut says that the Kings of Wrestling want to win this tournament to show how great they are and they're going to pull out all the stops to make it happen. Detson over Rage.

TL: Colt?

CP: This is like making me choose between my kids, Theresa... but I gotta go with the Shark on this one. Johnny Detson is the World Champion which makes him the best professional athlete in the world today... he moves on in the tournament.

TL: Our Final Four is set... light it up!

[We cut to a graphic highlighting the bracket Final Four with Rex Summers vs MAMMOTH Maximus and Johnny Detson vs Supernova.]

TL: Four men left, only two can go to the Finals. Let's hammer through this one, boys. Summers vs Maximus. Talk to me, Sweet Daddy.

SDW: You know the saying that styles make matches? This is an interesting clash of styles to me. The superheavyweight Maximus, looking to dominate everyone in his path, taking on sneaky Rex Summers.

CP: "Sneaky" Rex Summers as you call him is a tough competitor in his own right, Williams. He's not going to roll over and die just because someone has a hundred pounds on him.

MB: More like two hundred. But again, to me, this one comes down to the fact that both of these men have something to prove. Maximus wasn't happy with how his AWA run ended. He's been very vocal about that on the Internet in recent years. Well, this is his chance to - maybe not erase - but change those memories a bit. Rex Summers walked into 2016 thinking the world was his for the taking. He won Steal The Spotlight at SuperClash... he knew he could cash it in for a World Title opportunity at his convenience... and then Emerson Gellar entered the picture and turned his world upside down.

CP: Unfairly.

MB: Arguably.

TL: Okay, prediction time here on the Preview Show!

CP: Sexy Remy takes the win and we declare it to be Rex Summers Day.

SDW: Maximus runs Summers right over, continuing Summers' bad year.

TL: Shark?

MB: I'm going to call this one a battle to see who is more motivated... and I think the answer to that question is going to be Rex Summers.

TL: You heard it, fans! Rex Summers moving to the Finals of the Hardin Bracket - let's light it up!

[We get a graphic confirming that choice.]

TL: Two more matches to go in this bracket. Let's move on to the other Semifinal which you three have chosen to be World Champion Johnny Detson taking on World Television Champion Supernova. A clash of champions in this one, fans. Gentlemen, your thoughts?

CP: Is there really any doubt on this one? Johnny Detson is the greatest professional athlete in the world today and Supernova doesn't stand a chance of taking him down.

SDW: Oh, I beg to differ there, Colt. Supernova has been - no pun intended - on a hot streak ever since winning the World Television Title. He's taking on and turning back all comers. He's been more of a fighting champion than Detson ever has been... and don't even try to spread that propaganda that Detson's been spewing about his title defenses.

[Colt freezes with his mouth open, apparently about to do just that.]

MB: I gotta agree with Sweet Daddy here. Supernova is one of those guys who has seemed on the cusp of being THE guy for a long time now. It's been a while since he's had that chance but this is it. He may never get a better shot to show the world that the AWA is his turf. I think he's focused. I think he's driven. And I think Johnny Detson is going to be more worried about his World Title than winning this tournament. I'm going with Supernova.

SDW: Me too.

CP: WHAT?! Lynch, are you going to allow this?! What a sham!

TL: Hey, I didn't pick the format, I'm only following it. A controversial decision for sure but the masses have spoken and Supernova moves on to the Finals.

CP: This is a joke. You two have just made a complete joke out of this. I hope your happy.

[The grins on the faces of Broussard and Williams imply that yes, they are happy.]

TL: Light it up, boys!

[A graphic appears showing the predicted Hardin Bracket Finals of Rex Summers versus Supernova.]

TL: And what a match this would be. Colt, even you have to admit that.

CP: I don't have to do anything I don't want to, Lynch. It's in my contract... but yes, this would be a heck of a match and a great showcase for Rex Summers to punch his ticket into the tournament Finals.

TL: Pretty obvious prediction there. Sweet Daddy?

SDW: Again, I've gotta disagree with Colt.

CP: Big surprise there.

SDW: If you look at this as a story of momentum, I don't know if Supernova could have MORE momentum going into this and Rex Summers' momentum is all uphill. I'm picking Supernova to ride that wave right into the Finals of the Battle of Boston.

TL: Shark, looks like you're the deciding vote.

MB: Another tough call between two very talented competitors... but I keep coming back to how devastating that Heat Check is. I just feel like it's such an impactful move and so easy to apply... Summers will find an opportunity to hit it and when he does, it's all over. I'm going with Summers.

[Colt gives a big thumbs up.]

TL: Alright, light it up!

[A big picture of Rex Summers appears on the screen.]

TL: Our expert panel's predictions of the Hardin Bracket is complete with "Red Hot" Rex Summers going to the Finals of the tournament. Who will join him? We're going to take a quick break but when we come back, our panel dives into the Graham Bracket. Don't go away!

[Fade to black as our panel silently jabbars away.

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"

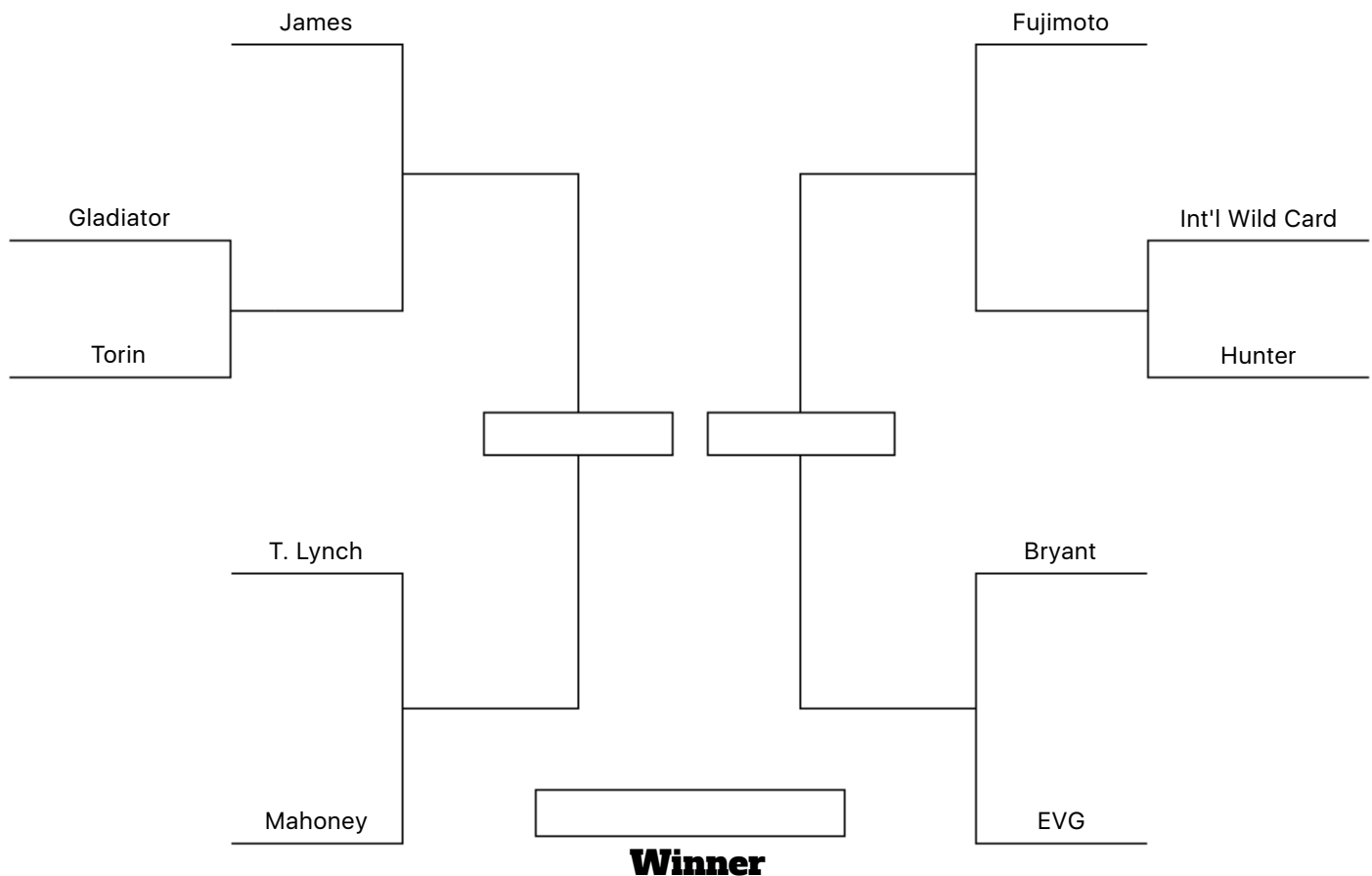
[And then... black.

We fade back up on the expert panel with the Boston crowd cheering in the background.]

TL: Welcome back to this Battle of Boston Preview Show, fans. If you're just joining us, our panel just picked "Red Hot" Rex Summers to survive the Hardin Bracket and move into the Battle of Boston Finals. Now it's time to find out who will join him out of the Graham Bracket.

[The Graham Bracket appears in graphic form on the screen.]

## *The Graham Bracket*



[And then fades back to the panel.]

TL: Again, we'll start at our Play-In matches, beginning with one of the most-anticipated matches of the entire tournament pitting The Gladiator against Torin The Titan. I believe Director of Operations, Emerson Gellar, called this one a battle of the irresistible force and the immovable object.

MB: That's the perfect description, Theresa. But as much as this is likely to turn into a debate about things like size and power... I wonder about mental makeup. The Gladiator suffered his first loss in his AWA career back at Memorial Day Mayhem to Johnny Detson. Now, you can argue it was a tainted decision but it was still a loss and we haven't seen or heard from the Gladiator since. At this point, if I'm Emerson Gellar, I've got someone on standby because he might not even show up.

CP: Good points all around, Shark, but I have to wonder if Torin The Titan is cut out for an event like this. Yeah, he's big and bad... but he's also carrying around a lot of weight. His cardio has to be suspect and if he gets through the Play-In match, he's got another match the next night... that might be okay... but on that final night... with all those matches you have to go through to win, I think we might see Torin's first loss on AWA television too.

SDW: You both are on target with this, I think, but whoever walks out of this one on top - the real winner are the fans... fans like all those people watching tonight

and fans like me. Yeah, I'm a fan of this business and the idea of seeing Gladiator and Torin square off...

[Williams lifts his arm.]

SDW: See that? Goosebumps, baby. I think Emerson Gellar has done a tremendous job of putting this tournament together with the Selection Committee and a match like this so early in the tournament is a gift from the AWA to all of their loyal fans out there. Theresa, you talked about it being one of the most-anticipated matches... I'm going to go out on a limb and say for many fans, I'd bet it's THE most-anticipated match.

TL: Alright, gentlemen... prediction time! Sweet Daddy, start us off.

[Williams shakes his head, exhaling through his teeth with a whistle.]

SDW: I don't know, Theresa. I just don't know. I... well, if I have to pick someone, I think I'm going with Torin. I just don't know how the Gladiator will react to his first loss. Some guys thrive, some guys spiral down.

CP: Gladiator's a spiral down kind of guy in my book. I'm betting he doesn't even show and Torin gets a gift.

TL: Shark, looks like your vote doesn't even matter this time around - we're sending Torin The Titan on in the tournament. Light it up!

[A graphic with both Gladiator and Torin gets a big X over Gladiator.]

TL: We're going to take a little different approach this time. So, Torin's going through according to the panel... but when he does, he's got Brian James - the Tiger Paw Pro CAGE champion - waiting for him. What a battle that would. Thoughts and predictions, guys?

CP: You talk about an anticipated match? I love the idea of this one. Brian James is a well-honed fighting machine, Lynch. You look up and down the lineup of people in this tournament and I don't see a single one that I don't feel fairly confident that the son of the Blackheart could put down... and that includes the big nasty giant. James scores what some so-called experts would call an upset... but not this expert.

MB: AWA fans know that Torin is big... they know he's tough... and when they saw him dominate Supreme Wright, they found out what he's capable of. Could Brian James use his unique blend of size, power, and skill to put him down? Could, yes. Will he? My guess is no.

TL: Sweet Daddy, you're the tiebreaker in this one.

SDW: My gut says that Torin can beat anyone you put in front of him when he's only fighting one match a night. I think on Night Two, he beats Brian James... but Night Three is where he runs into problems.

TL: Alright, Torin The Titan advances again, earning himself a spot in the Bracket Semifinals... but who will meet him there? Will it be the man who failed to capture the World Television Title last weekend, Callum Mahoney, or will it be the current AWA National Champion, Travis Lynch?

CP: I'm calling it now. Bucky Wilde is going to have a great night in Boston when Mahoney gets hold of Travis Lynch's arm, snaps it like a twig, and we have to crown a REAL National Champion to be proud of.

SDW: National Champion to be proud of? You've got one, Colt! Travis has taken on all comers, he's beaten everyone the company has put in front of him, he's... what? One of the longest reigning National Champions ever. How can you not be proud of that kid? Lynch wins this one and moves on, Period.

TL: Shark, you make the call.

MB: I think Callum Mahoney has been waiting for an opportunity to step up to the next level. I thought he might be walking into Boston as the TV Champ but that didn't work out for him. This tournament could be a big night for him... but my gut says Travis Lynch has something to prove as well. Lynch advances in a tough battle.

[Colt throws up his hands in disgust as the production team "lights it up" and puts Travis through to the Semifinals where Torin The Titan's name awaits.]

TL: And that leaves us with the first of our bracket Semifinals where Torin The Titan takes on Travis Lynch. A tough battle for Travis who - if these predictions hold up - would be going through quite the tough road to advance.

SDW: I've been a friend of the Lynch family for many years, Theresa... you know that. I know what kind of hearts those boys have and I know what they're capable of.

[Williams shakes his head.]

SDW: But I just can't imagine how Travis can put down the giant. I just can't do it. Sorry, Theresa, but I've gotta pick Torin here.

MB: We talked about the giant's stamina a little while ago. If he makes it to Night Three, this would be his first match of the night... and I think he can survive the first match. But when we get to the Bracket Finals or the tournament Finals, I think that's where the stamina issues kick in. I'm going with Torin here as well.

[Theresa looks disappointed.]

TL: Again, not the answer I was hoping for... but light it up, gentlemen.

[Torin The Titan's name gets put into the Bracket Final.]

TL: Alright, let's shift over to the other side of the bracket... and that's where we find Riley Hunter making his AWA debut against our International Wild Card winner. Of course, before we can discuss that Play-In Match, we need to know who our International Wild Card winner is... and to bring you highlights of the Semifinals and Finals of that tournament from right here in Boston earlier this week, let's go to my good friend, Mark Stegglet! Mark?

[We fade to the bank of television monitors that can only mean the return of the Control Center. This time, we go right to Mark Stegglet in front of those screens.]

MS: Thanks, Theresa. Over the past several weeks now, the best of the best from around the wrestling world have been competing for one of the final spots in this tournament - now the final spot as a matter of fact. It's the International Wild Card and we entered this week down to four competitors. From our Asia bracket, it's the Iron Badger, Manzo Kawajiri. From North America, Guerrero Azteca. From Europe, Logan Blackburn. And from the Everywhere Else bracket, former kickboxer Jack Watts. Four men left and as they came to Boston this week, all were looking to be the last man standing. Along with some local partners, we were able to present the Final Four earlier this week.



[We fade to a shot of Jack Watts and Manzo Kawajiri in a small venue jammed with fans.]

MS: We kicked things off in New Jersey last Sunday evening in a show for our friends at Pro Wrestling NEXT - you can check all their shows out at [PWNTV.net](http://PWNTV.net). It put former kickboxing sensation Jack Watts against the one and only Manzo Kawajiri - the man known as the Iron Badger. Now, the reports we got out of New Jersey were that the Japanese fans were out in force for this one, greeting Kawajiri with streamers.

[We see footage of Kawajiri being showered with black and white streamers as Watts looks on menacingly from the corner.]

MS: To many, this match would be a pretty simple showdown between the striking power of Jack Watts and the incredible endurance of Manzo Kawajiri. That man can take some serious punishment and the question would be - could Kawajiri absorb enough from Watts and still manage to pull off a comeback?

[We cut to a shot just after the bell with Watts shooting in on Kawajiri, rushing him back into the corner where he begins to tee off with rights and lefts, aimed at the skull of the Iron Badger who covers up, trying to absorb the blows...

...and then Kawajiri fires back, rifling off stiff forearms to the side of the head, backing Watts across the ring. Watts is dazed for a moment.]

MS: And just when Kawajiri seemed to have things going his way...

[Watts steps back, leaping into a kneestrike on the chin, putting Kawajiri down on the mat!]

MS: ...Watts scores with the kneestrike! He quickly covered and picked up a near fall before Kawajiri someone how escaped. But Watts could smell blood in the water.

[We cut deeper into the match where Watts has secured a Muay Thai clinch, firing off knees to the head that have Kawajiri slumping down to a knee. Watts continues to pound away, switching to elbowstrikes to the skull...

...when Kawajiri suddenly erupts for a knee, lifting Watts off the canvas, flinging him down with an Exploder suplex!]

MS: And again, the endurance of Kawajiri - the ability to take so many strikes - saves him and pays big dividends.

[We cut a little deeper into the match where Watts is sucking wind in the corner as the Iron Badger lays in big chops across the chest.]

MS: And as the match started to roll on, Jack Watts' conditioning came into play. The former kickboxer with so much experience in the round system seemed to have difficulty keeping his wind with no breaks to recover.

[A running lariat in the corner lifts Watts off his feet, causing him to slump down into a seated position...

...where a running cannonball squishes the former kickboxer in the buckles!]

MS: Then the question became - could Jack Watts find a second wind to carry him to the finish line?

[We get a series of Kawajiri offensive attacks - a delayed vertical suplex with the fans counting down the seconds that Watts is hanging upside down... a series of stiff kicks to the chest of the seated Watts... and a devastating lariat for a near fall.]

MS: Kawajiri was dominating, battering Jack Watts at will... and then came the attempt at a German Suplex...

[The Iron Badger pulls Watts to his feet, locking a waistlock...

...and Watts responds by slamming his head back into Kawajiri's face, breaking his grip. Watts turns, ready to strike again...]

MS: HEADBUTT!

[...and Kawajiri lashes out with a big headbutt, knocking Watts off his feet and down into a seated position on the mat. Kawajiri hits the ropes, rebounding back with a sliding lariat and scores the three count.]

MS: It's over! A victory by Manzo Kawajiri sends the Iron Badger on to the Finals which took place earlier today. We'll get back to that in just a moment but let's find out who Kawajiri faced today as we take a look - also courtesy of Pro Wrestling NEXT in New Jersey - at the highlights when the luchador Guerrero Azteca took on the Dirty Rotten Scoundrel, Logan Blackburn.

[We cut to a different set of footage in the same arena. This time, we see the lucha heavyweight, Guerrero Azteca in his golden mask with eagles and panthers on it in colorful intricate designs. Azteca's body is incredible muscular, rocking well-defined abdominals that are oiled up. As the camera shot changes, we see an enormous eagle tattoo on his back, the wings spread across his shoulders.

In contrast, Logan Blackburn is a Caucasian male with a thin, sinewy build. He has a short boxed beard, black hair shaved on the sides and held up in a samurai-style manbun topknot. He's not a bad looking guy, but he has an arrogant, condescending sneer on his face that immediately rubs people the wrong way. He has the looks of a man that should not be trusted.]

MS: You couldn't have two more diametrically opposed competitors than in this one. But the one thing they both have in common is their tremendous skill level inside that squared circle.

[As the bell sounds, the Brit raises his hand, demanding a test of strength against Azteca who quickly obliges, raising his own hand to meet Blackburn's.]

MS: And right off the bat, Blackburn plays right into Azteca's game. You can't look at the muscles of the luchador and expect you're going outpower him.

[But the two are barely tied up when Blackburn opts for a quick headbutt to the mouth, an eyerake, and a jawbreaker in quick succession, leaving Azteca down on the mat writhing in pain as the crowd jeers...

...and we cut to a little deeper into the match where Blackburn is teeing off with European uppercuts. He grabs Azteca by the arm, whipping him across the ring.]

MS: Azteca hits the corner, Blackburn charging in after him...

[But Azteca has other ideas, storming out of the corner and throwing himself into an impactful spear tackle!]

MS: The spear! Blackburn nearly getting snapped in half!

[We cut again, this time to Azteca laying in heavy overhanded chops to the chest of a cornered Blackburn, leaving red welts on his very white flesh. He uses a whip of his own to shoot Blackburn across, running in after him to catch him with a double handed sledge to the chest...]

MS: Ohhh! Mexican Hammer in the corner!

[We cut again, this time finding Azteca looking for a superplex...

...but Blackburn has other ideas, rifling punches into the ribcage to fight out of it. With Azteca dazed, Blackburn hoists him up across his shoulders in a fireman's carry, leaping off and swinging Azteca so that he lands neckfirst across Blackburn's bent knee to a huge reaction from the crowd. A near fall follows.]

MS: A very close call for Guerrero Azteca right there as Logan Blackburn looked to punch his ticket to the tournament Finals.

[Cut again to where Blackburn is throwing quick-paced knife edge chops to the chest, pauses to throw a crotch chop in Azteca's direction, and then steps up on to the middle rope, throwing an enzuigiri!]

MS: Another devastating combination by Logan Blackburn...

[But Azteca kicks out at two and change again.]

MS: ...but Azteca continues to fight back, refusing to stay down for three.

[We cut again as a staggered Azteca comes off the mat to find Blackburn attempting a superkick. The luchador raises his arms to block the telegraphed move...

...which is just what Blackburn intended, faking the kick to throw one to the knee instead...]

MS: A superkick downstairs takes the luchador off his feet... and BOOM!

[A superkick to the kneeling Azteca lays him out.]

MS: Another near fall followed by again, Guerrero Azteca showing the heart of a true warrior.

[And another cut shows Blackburn grabbing Azteca by the trunks, looking to send him shoulderfirst into the ringpost...

...but as he approaches the corner, Azteca slams on the brakes, wheeling around to face a surprised Blackburn who rushes forward...]

MS: Blackburn runs into a mouthful of boot!

[With Blackburn dazed, we get a montage of Azteca offense. A superkick up under the chin... a Samoan Drop on a running Blackburn... and then the Giant Swing with Azteca twirling him around and around and around...]

MS: The power of Guerrero Azteca! Oh yeah!

[As Blackburn is flung through the air to the mat, we cut ahead to Azteca pulling Blackburn into a front facelock...]

MS: And then it appeared time for Tiacochtli... the small package driver...

[But as he goes to lift Blackburn off the mat, the Dirty Routten Scoundrel reaches out a hand, giving the referee's shirt a yank, preventing the lift...]

MS: Blackburn with the illegal - and forced - assist.

[The official reprimands Blackburn as Azteca shouts at both men...

...and Blackburn blatantly jabs a thumb into the eye of Azteca in front of the official. The referee shouts at Blackburn again, threatening to disqualify him as Blackburn rushes in behind Azteca, pulling him down into a schoolboy...]

MS: Cradle by Blackburn, the referee forced to count if he's not going to disqualify...

[...and as Blackburn secures a handful of tights, we get the three count.]

MS: ...and the Dirty Rotten Scoundrel gets the win! And our Final is set!

[Blackburn celebrates the win as Azteca loudly protests.]

MS: Logan Blackburn advancing to the Finals to take on the Iron Badger, Manzo Kawajiri... but before we bring you that, we're going to take another quick break. But don't go away, fans, because when we come back, it's time to find out who won the International Wild Card and the final spot in the Battle of Boston tournament.

[Fade to black...

...and then back up on the exterior of a fast food restaurant that looks quite familiar to fans of delicious, mouth-watering, artery-clogging fried chicken. Yes, it is the Mecca Of Fried Chicken, KFC.

We cut inside where a friendly young man is working the counter, smiling at the customers he aids.]

FYM: Thank you and have a fantastic day!

[The next person steps up to the counter wearing a black trenchcoat, dark sunglasses, and a hat. We see him from the front.]

FYM: Good afternoon, sir, and welcome to KFC! What can I get for you today?

[The customer lifts his head slightly to look at the menu and responds.]

C: Three piece meal. Original recipe. Breasts and legs... heh... breasts and leg, oh yeah.

[The employee raises an eyebrow in recognition.]

FYM: I'm sorry. But aren't you former World Champion and Pro Wrestling Hall of Famer Eddie Van Gibson?!

[The sunglasses come down to reveal an angry EVG.]

EVG: How did you know?!

[We cut behind him to see the back of his trenchcoat is covered in a large maple leaf with the words MISTER MAPLE LEAF surrounding it. Cut back to the friendly young man who smiles.]

FYM: I had a hunch.

[We cut to a shot of the chicken, glimmering and golden in all its glory. A voiceover begins.]

"Come into your local KFC today and not only can you get our three piece combo meal for the low price for \$4 but you can also pick up these special souvenir cups featuring some of the greatest pro wrestling stars of all time!"

[Cut to a young boy showing his cup.]

"I got Ryan Martinez!"

[To an older lady.]

"Hamilton Graham? I remember him!"

[To a family of four, all showing different cups.]

"Collect them all!"

[We cut back to Eddie Van Gibson sitting at a table, groaning as he eats a piece of chicken. He looks up, his eyes locking on a pair of twins in their early twenties. The two blondes giggle as they look at the Hall of Famer.]

EVG: If I were to LET you suck on my...

[He looks down invitingly.]

EVG: ...Original Recipe chicken from KFC...

[And then into the camera.]

EVG: Would you be grateful?

[Cut to the end graphic advertising the promotion. Another voiceover.]

"Get your KFC today! As good as it's always been!"

[Fade to black...

...and then back up to Mark Stegklet in the Control Center.]

MS: Alright, fans, welcome back to the Battle of Boston Preview Show... we are now less than 24 hours away from the start of the biggest tournament in professional wrestling but right now, we need to know who won the final spot in the tournament. It's been a long road for Logan Blackburn and Manzo Kawajiri... but now it's time to find out who is in... and who is out. Let's take a look at this special matchup that we featured earlier today right down by the USS Constitution!

[We cut footage of a ring outside, surrounded by standing fans watching wrestling action...

...and then fade specifically to footage featuring Logan Blackburn and Manzo Kawajiri as they square off right before the International Wild Card Finals.]

MS: A lot on the line for both of these men. An opportunity at worldwide spotlight working in this tournament this weekend - to be on the cover of magazines, to be the talk of social media. But would it be the Dirty Rotten Scoundrel or the Iron

Badger moving on to face the Seven Star Superstar, Riley Hunter, in the Play-In Match? Let's find out.

[And we start things off footage-wise with an exchange of strikes: forearms from Kawajiri and European uppercuts from Blackburn. The crowd is roaring for every blow landed, breaking into an early dueling chant of "I-YURN BAD-GER" and "DEE-ARR-ESS"]

The two competitors change their pace, matching the crowd...]

"I-YURN BADGER!"

[Forearm smash from Kawajiri.]

"DEE-ARR-ESS!"

[And an uppercut from Blackburn.]

The blows trade off like this for several moments before Blackburn throws a series of uppercuts, backing Kawajiri across the ring...

...and then the Iron Badger returns the favor, using forearm after forearm to batter Blackburn up against the ropes...

...where Blackburn attempts a thumb to the eye but Kawajiri sees it coming, slaps it aside, and drives home a headbutt to the sternum that sends the Dirty Rotten Scoundrel tumbling through the ropes and out to the floor.]

MS: Wow! What a start to this one!

[Cut a little later where Blackburn and Kawajiri are trading forearms out on the floor while the referee counts... and counts... and counts...]

...and just before the ten count, they both break off the attack, sliding into the ring in time, pop up to their feet, and start fighting again!]

MS: It's a brawl for it all here in Beantown!

[We cut again - this time finding Kawajiri down on the mat as Blackburn holds him in an armbar. After a few moments, he bends the arm back, planting Kawajiri's palm on the canvas...]

...and then STOMPS the elbow, jamming the arm! Kawajiri rolls to the side, cradling his arm as Blackburn pounces on him, pounding the arm and shoulder with fists, forearms, and elbows...]

MS: Blackburn taking aim at the arm at this point in the contest, perhaps with an eye towards his dreaded Chickenwing submission hold.

[Cut again to Blackburn holding Kawajiri in an armbar, kneeling on the mat to apply the pressure. He's there for a few moments until Kawajiri regains his feet, rears back with the other hand...]

...and DRILLS Blackburn with an overhand chop to the chest!]

MS: That's the kind of chop that'll make you sting for a week!

[The chops continue, backing Blackburn into the ropes...]

...and then, as the referee is calling for a break, Blackburn ducks back through the ropes swiftly, dropping down off the apron to the floor, snapping the tricep down across the middle rope, pulling Kawajiri through the ropes and out to the floor!]

MS: A crafty counter out of Blackburn, doing further damage to the arm!

[Outside the ring, Blackburn goes to work with kicks and stops to the shoulder, leaving Kawajiri in pain on the mat as he gets up on the apron, arguing with the official.]

MS: But Blackburn wasn't done with Kawajiri yet...

[As Kawajiri regains his feet, Blackburn goes running down the ring apron, driving home a penalty kick to the chest and face, knocking the Iron Badger back down to the floor to the groans of the assembled fans in Boston.]

MS: ...and wham! A PK to the mush puts Kawajiri back down as the referee lets Blackburn have it for his questionable tactics.

[We cut again to find Blackburn catching Kawajiri with a boot to the gut, doubling him up. The Dirty Rotten Scoundrel tugs down his kneepad, takes aim, and DRIVES a kneelift up into the face, knocking Kawajiri down to the canvas again.]

MS: The kick opened the door for Blackburn to punish Kawajiri... the kneelift you just saw...

[A big scoop slam ends with Kawajiri's legs hitting the ropes.]

MS: ...a slam into the ropes...

[A leaping stomp down on the shoulder.]

MS: ...continuing to go after the arm with this leaping stomp.

[And we cut deeper where Kawajiri is struggling to get up off the canvas as Blackburn cries out, "CHICKENWING!" The British grappler rushes forward, looking to procure the painful submission hold...

...but Kawajiri hooks Blackburn by the arm, flipping him over into a seated position on the canvas. He quickly dashes to the ropes, rebounding back...]

MS: Kawajiri gets an opening, looking to finish it off!

[...and drops down, sliding into a lariat attempt but Blackburn leans back flat, avoiding the clothesline but reaching up to snare the Iron Badger as he goes by, hooking in a front facelock while lying on his back!]

MS: What a counter!

[Blackburn swiftly executes a Gator Roll, flipping Kawajiri a few times, dizzying his opponent before pushing up to his knees, throwing a bushel of quick kneestrikes to the top of the skull before pushing over into a bridging necklock.]

MS: And into the submission hold! Kawajiri having his neck torqued with incredible pressure here, desperately trying to hang on and keep his shot at being the International Wild Card alive!

[Kawajiri stretches out his arms, dragging his body along the mat, pulling Blackburn with him...

...and eventually makes the ropes to big cheers from the assembled fans watching the high stakes encounter!]

MS: And the Iron Badger escapes!

[Blackburn comes up to his feet firing on all cylinders, raining down blows as Kawajiri struggles to get up off the mat. Leaning past the kneeling Kawajiri, Blackburn grabs the middle rope, yanking it back into the face of Kawajiri, stunning the Japanese superstar. Blackburn quickly pulls him up in a front facelock, slinging his legs over the middle rope...]

MS: Blackburn looking for that rope hang cutter we saw earlier in the tournament...

[But Kawajiri slips his ankles off the ropes, wrapping his arms around the torso of Blackburn, twisting his body slightly...

...and LAUNCHES him skyward with a released Northern Lights, throwing Blackburn into the turnbuckles!]

MS: OHH!

[Kawajiri moves quickly, pulling Blackburn up, flinging him into the ropes...

...and EXPLODES forward with a lariat, falling to his knees as Blackburn hits the canvas. The Iron Badger dives into a lateral press, hooking the leg as the referee counts once... twice... but Blackburn's shoulder pops off the mat just before three!]

MS: Another nearfall!

[Kawajiri climbs up off the mat, leaping up, driving his feet down into the gut of Blackburn, forcing him to sit up as the Iron Badger dashes to the ropes, bouncing off at top speed...

...and CREAMS Blackburn with the sliding lariat!]

MS: LAAAAARIAAAAATOOOOOOO!

[Kawajiri stays on top, hooking both legs this time as the crowd counts along on the one... two... three!]

MS: And with that sliding lariat, Manzo Kawajiri - the Iron Badger - wins the International Wild Card tournament, earning himself a spot in the Battle of Boston tournament where Riley Hunter awaits him.

[We see Kawajiri celebrating his victory as a devastated Logan Blackburn lies on his back, staring up at the sky.]

MS: From the Control Center, I'm Mark Stegglet... let's go back to the city of Boston and our All-Star panel to see if they think the Iron Badger can get past the man who was formerly the hottest free agent in our sport.

[We fade from the Control Center back to our panel.]

TL: Thanks for that, Mark. Well, boys... one heck of a win by the man they call the Iron Badger and that puts him as the final official entry into the Battle of Boston tournament. He'll be the International Wild Card and that means he'll be making his AWA debut at the same time that Riley Hunter will be making his. Gentlemen, your thoughts on Manzo Kawajiri's win and his chances against the Seven Star Athlete.



MB: Theresa, you've gotta give Manzo all the credit in the world for winning that tournament. He took on some of the very best competition that I can imagine - several guys who probably could've been in this tournament very easy - and he came out the other side. But the question to me is - how much did the wear and tear of going through that tournament take out of him? Riley Hunter hasn't wrestled a single match in the AWA yet. He's sat back and he's waited. So you know he's going to be rested and in top flight condition. Can Kawajiri overcome the fatigue... the nagging injuries... all the little things that wear on you when you're wrestling night after night?

CP: Shark, you gotta look at it from the other side too though. I'm a big Riley Hunter fan but personally, I think it was a mistake for Hunter not to get in the ring until this weekend. He should've been working the live events... maybe get in a TV match or two... get some AWA matches under his belt before diving into the deep end of the pool.

SDW: But the deep end of the pool is where that kid thrives, Colt. There's been a whole lot of people who've told Riley Hunter that he'd never amount to anything in this business... and he gets a kick out of showing them just how wrong they are. I'd never count him out in any situation.

TL: Alright, prediction time, gentlemen... Sweet Daddy, you sound like a Riley Hunter fan.

SDW: Absolutely. And I love what I've seen out of Kawajiri too but Riley Hunter didn't come halfway around the world to sign on the dotted line to be a part of the AWA to go home before this tournament even gets going. The American Ninja takes a tough one.

MB: I'm going to go out on a limb and call for the upset here. Hunter thinks the world should be given to him but the Iron Badger's willing to work for the world.

CP: You couldn't be more wrong if they paid you to be, Broussard. The Seven Star Athlete is going to steal the show on Night One... book it.

TL: Riley Hunter moving on according to our All-Star Panel... which puts us right into a Tiger Paw Pro rematch when former rivals Noboru Fujimoto and Riley Hunter collide in the first round of action.

MB: You want to talk about a barnburner? Look, I just picked Kawajiri to score the upset but part of me is praying that Hunter advances. I've seen the battles between Fujimoto and Hunter. These two don't like one another and the times where they've clashed have been amongst the best matches in Tiger Paw Pro history. This one should be something else and I think if Hunter gets here, he's getting through to the Semifinals.

TL: A turn of support for the American Ninja. Colt?

CP: I like both of these guys a lot and Fujimoto's got a lot of momentum after earning himself a spot as one of the Steal The Spotlight Series captains. But he doesn't get to enjoy that for another couple of weeks. This weekend, he's gotta be focused on the matter at hand and... well, I think Hunter's got his number.

TL: Two votes for Riley Hunter means we don't need a third and on goes Hunter to the Semifinals... but who will he be meeting there? In a battle of comebacks, we've got former two-time AWA World Champion Dave Bryant returning from a neck injury suffered in 2015 to take on the Hall of Famer and former World Champion Eddie Van Gibson! This one sold a lot of tickets, guys.

MB: Eddie Van Gibson. The Idol O' Millions isn't just a catchphrase, guys. This guy truly is one of the best wrestlers in the world and has fans supporting him all over the world as well.

CP: He WAS one of the best in the world, Broussard. Now what is he?

SDW: Well, we don't know the answer to that, do we? And I think that's the only question in this one that matters. If Eddie Van Gibson is the same guy who shocked the world when he beat Hall of Famer "Crimson" Joe Reed to win his first World Title... if he's that guy... Dave Bryant's in for a tough night.

CP: But he could be yet another in the long line of former top guys who've come to the AWA to try and relive their glory days only to be shown that their glory days are long gone... I'm talking about guys like Ronnie D... like William Craven... like Devon Case. How would EVG's name look in that list?

TL: Guys, you're talking about EVG's big comeback... but what about Dave Bryant? We haven't seen the former AWA World Champion in the ring since Labor Day of last year. That's ten months on the shelf. Sure, he threw a superkick at Memorial Day Mayhem and looked good doing it but what's he got to bring to the table this weekend?

SDW: A great question. We've all been focused on whether EVG's still got it but Bryant's got some questions to answer too.

TL: Well, right now, all three of you have questions to answer. It's decision time here on the Preview Show. Which of these two are advancing to the Graham Bracket Semifinal?

MB: This one might be a decision I'm making with my heart instead of my head but Eddie Van Gibson is one of the reasons I got into this business... and I want to see him go out on top. I'm pulling for EVG and I'm picking him to advance.

CP: I'm not a big Dave Bryant fan but I like the odds of Bryant coming back from a spike piledriver in better condition than Van Gibson thriving after a decade plus off. Bryant wins.

TL: Sweet Daddy, looks like you're the tiebreaker in this one.

[Williams shakes his head.]

SDW: Tough call, Theresa... but I agree with the Shark over there. I think there's a whole lot of us who are Eddie Van Gibson fans who want to see the same Idol O' Millions we saw years ago. I know the fans do. I'm pulling for him too and I'm going to say he pulls this one out.

TL: Alright, Eddie Van Gibson scoring what some might consider an upset of sorts, moving on to the Semifinals to take on Riley Hunter. Gentlemen, your picks in that one? Who is going to take on Torin in the Finals?

SDW: Does it matter?

TL: What do you mean?

SDW: Can either of you honestly see either EVG or Hunter beating Torin in the Bracket Finals?

CP: I hate to agree with him... in fact, I've made it my personal goal to never agree with him. But he's got a point there. Hunter might get past EVG and he may run circles around Torin when he gets there but Torin is always one big move away from

ending your night. I'm still questioning Torin's stamina but I'm saying that whether he faces EVG or Hunter, he's winning.

MB: It's a valid point. It's hard to foresee a scenario where either Eddie or the American Ninja can chop this big giant down I... yeah, I'm going to have to agree that Torin wins here and moves on to the tournament finals.

TL: Wow. A shocking turn of events there to me... but now we've got two of our three finalists. Our All-Star panel says it's going to be "Red Hot" Rex Summers versus Torin The Titan versus... well, we're about to find out. We're going to take another quick break but when we come back, it's time to talk about the so-called Death Bracket.

[Fade to black as our panel silently jabbars away.

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 on the expert panel with the Boston crowd cheering in the background.]

TL: Rex Summers is in. Torin The Titan is in as well. We've got one bracket left to discuss and boy, is it ever a doozy, AWA fans. In fact, Marcus Broussard, when these brackets were announced, you labeled this the Death Bracket.

[Broussard chuckles, nodding his head.]

MB: That's exactly what it is, Theresa. There's so many talented competitors. So many wild cards where anything could happen. So many fantastic potential matches but when you put all the cards on the table, it's incredibly difficult to imagine that the winner of this bracket will have enough left to win the whole thing... especially if Summers and Torin really are the ones waiting for them in the Finals.

TL: The Death Bracket it may be to former AWA National Champion Marcus Broussard but to the rest of the world, well... we call it the Temple Bracket. Let's take a look...

[A graphic appears on screen with the Temple Bracket.]

## *The Temple Bracket*



TL: Alright, panel... let's start with our two Play-In matches... two very different contests.

MB: In a way. Both matches do feature competitors that many consider to be the future of this company. But Rufus Harris... that's one of those wild cards I was talking about. Who the heck knows what Rufus Harris brings to the table? We've all seen him dominate the GFC... but we've also seen him kinda fail to impress in our world. If the likes of a journeyman like Kraken can send Harris running for it, you have to wonder, right?

CP: I hear that Harris is really taking this seriously. I mean, if the rumored amount of zeroes on his check are anywhere close to true, he better be. I heard he had a fight camp just like he'd do for a MMA fight, that he's trying to adopt the skills he'd need in a wrestling ring instead of just coming out and punching. If any of that is true, Larry Wallace may be in some trouble and I love me some Larry Wallace.

SDW: You know... I HOPE Harris is ready because I'd love to see someone knock the smug right off Wallace's face for once.

TL: Predictions?

CP: I'm gonna buy into the hype and say that the Rottweiler comes ready to wrestle enough to get the win. Sorry, Flawless One.

MB: Hamilton Graham would bust open Wallace's eyebrow if he lost to some guy from outside the pro wrestling world, right? That's like the fear of God right there. That should be enough for Wallace to be motivated to get the win.

SDW: I'm going to go with my hopes. Harris by KO... and me with a big smile on my face.

TL: Rufus Harris picked by our panel to advance and... well, that's not going to sit well with the Flawless One. Switching over to the other side of the bracket for that Play-In showdown. Jordan Ohara taking on Derrick Williams... and that's a battle of two of the AWA's young lions, guys.

SDW: Not only that but they just TEAMED together last weekend. It's gotta be tough to go from teaming with someone to facing them a week later.

CP: Hey, Ohara knew what he was getting into when he offered to be Williams' partner. In fact, I wouldn't be the least bit surprised if that's WHY he agreed to be his partner. So he could scout him from up close.

SDW: That doesn't seem likely to me.

CP: There's something not right about that Ohara kid. He's too nice. Too much of a goody goody.

TL: Colt?

MB: I like both of those guys. Ohara's got the speed, the quickness, the athleticism... and Williams brings the intensity and the striking power to the table. I think it's going to be one heck of a match and it really could be a toss-up.

TL: Let's hear some predictions, gentlemen.

CP: I'm going with Williams. At least he's got a little bit of an edge to him... I think.

SDW: Ohara's really been on a roll since arriving in the AWA back at SuperClash. I expect it to continue here and for Ohara to move on.

TL: Shark?

[Broussard seems to be pondering his decision.]

MB: You know... some people are going to see this is a copout and maybe they're right but I just can't decide and I'm saying this one ends in a draw.

TL: A draw?!

MB: Yep. They're both too good... and I think it ends in a draw of some kind, eliminating them both from the tournament.

TL: But that means that-

MB: Right. It means that Juan Vasquez is going to get a gift straight through to the Bracket Semifinals.

TL: Well... we've got a tie in our voting so I suppose we'll go with a tie in our predictions. Both Ohara and Williams are out... and... well, let's light it up, boys.

[The graphic shows Vasquez jumping ahead to the Bracket Semifinals.]

TL: Since we're already on this side of the bracket, who will face Juan Vasquez in the Semifinals? Will it be his Axis of Evil ally in Maxim Zharkov or will it be the White Knight - and the man who Vasquez put on the shelf for months - Ryan Martinez?

MB: Now this, Theresa... is a tough call. And to me, just as interesting as it is to who will actually win... who would Juan Vasquez WANT to win? Would he want the man who is going to be so focused on him that he can barely think about anything else? Or would he want his ally? His partner-in-crime? The guy who has been standing back and watching EVERYTHING that Vasquez has done for months. Oh, and the guy - by the way - who is undefeated since arriving in the AWA.

CP: I'm going with the Tsar.

SDW: Shocking.

CP: Hey, it's simple logic, Williams! Martinez has been hurt... and my sources tell me that he's STILL hurt. In fact, I heard that he injured himself AGAIN during training.

TL: I haven't heard-

CP: You don't get sources around here by trading makeup tips with the interns, Lynch.

[Theresa looks annoyed by that.]

CP: I hear he's hurt... and I'm betting that Maxim Zharkov stays undefeated.

TL: Sweet Daddy?

SDW: I got a question for Colt.

[Patterson arches an eyebrow, nodding his head.]

SDW: Have you ever seen anyone... and I mean ANYONE... in the AWA who fights with more heart than Ryan Martinez, Colt? Be honest.

[Patterson grimaces.]

CP: Maybe not...

[Williams smiles.]

CP: But as our employer once said back in the day... they don't give championships for heart. If Ryan Martinez wants to be the Most Inspirational Wrestler or some garbage like that, more power to him. What he's NOT gonna be is the Battle of Boston champion. I'm picking Zharkov. Period.

SDW: And I'm disagreeing with every fiber of my being when I pick Ryan Martinez.

TL: Shark, it's up to you.

[Broussard thinks a bit, stroking his chin.]

MB: Both of my fellow panelists raise excellent points... especially Colt. If his sources are correct and Ryan has reinjured himself, that could be the ballgame right there. But until someone proves Ryan Martinez can be stopped, I'm going with the White Knight.

[Colt throws up his hands in dismay.]

TL: Our panel thinks that Maxim Zharkov's undefeated streak will be shattered and that Ryan Martinez will move on to the Semifinals to face Juan Vasquez.

CP: Not all of "our panel," Lynch.

TL: Maybe not but two out of three gets the job done. Let's go back to the other side of the bracket where we've got two big showdowns in place. How about what promises to be an explosive encounter if Rufus Harris does indeed advance to face Supreme Wright?

MB: There is no one in the world who can match Supreme Wright hold for hold. I truly believe that. And if Rufus Harris thinks he can, he's in for a rude awakening.

CP: But Harris won't think that. That's not his game at all, Shark. He's going to storm Wright, throwing bombs, hoping to catch him. Whether he does is the question. If he does, Wright might get laid out.

MB: And that just might be one of the biggest upsets in AWA history. A former two-time World Champion getting knocked out by a relative newcomer. It's hard to imagine it going down like that but it certainly could.

TL: Sweet Daddy, you're quiet over there.

[Williams shrugs.]

SDW: I don't even know what to think about that, Theresa. We all know how dangerous Harris' hands are. But Supreme Wright is one of the best in the world and he's been on a major hot streak for the past... what? Three or four months? He's gone all that time without a loss, right?

TL: He has.

SDW: Hard to argue with momentum like that, isn't it?

TL: It certainly is.

CP: Sounds like everyone wants to hedge their bets in this one so I'm going first. Here it is... Harris storms him, Wright hooks him... game over.

MB: You make it sound so simple, Colt. This is one of those matches that you can imagine being debated in locker rooms... is our guy better than their guy? You can hear it debated in bars? Is the AWA better than the GFC? I don't know the answers to questions like that but I know that Emerson Gellar wouldn't have brought Rufus Harris to this tournament if he thought he'd get blown out. I'm going with the upset. Harris over Wright.

SDW: I don't know how it's gonna happen. I can't even imagine how it goes down... but my gut says that Supreme Wright is arguably the best in the world at what he does... and he's going to prove it this weekend.

TL: Wow! Wright advances in the eyes of our panel, heading into the Semifinals where his opponent will be something more along the line of what he's used to when he takes on the winner of Pure X and Bret Grayson. One of the finest



technicians in our sport taking on a legit Olympic gold medalist... and we caught up with Pure X earlier tonight to get his thoughts on that matchup.

[Shot cuts to Pure X - dressed in a black tee and jeans in front of a green screen that displays the Battle of Boston logo.]

PX: Respect. That's what the Battle of Boston means - RESPECT!

[Pure X waves his hand dismissively.]

PX: No, I'm not talking about respect for me - THE most technically sound WRESTLER in the tournament... No, not that, even if it's an important point... No, the "respect" I'm talking about?

[X briefly looks away.]

PX: The RESPECT that the Battle of Boston means? It's that ring! This SPORT! It's restoring all that the American WRESTLING Association stands for!

[X holds up his hand again, holding up one finger.]

PX: This past year, we've seen the circuses and slaughterhouses parade around between those ropes, defiling it, bastardizing what I've dedicated my life for...

[Pure X shakes his head.]

PX: So where some might complain about being in the so called "bracket of death" in this tournament? I relish it. I WANT that! How else am I supposed to sanctify that ring, prove my worth, than by going through an Olympic gold medalist? Or an mixed martial artist champion? Or the man who could - maybe - be my equal in technical ability? Or even the two reasons for two reasons for downfall of WRESTLING in the AWA, the Axis and the White Knight?

[X takes in a deep breath.]

PX: At the Battle of Boston? My quest... my WATCH begins!

[And with that, the shot fades back out to the panel.]

TL: Pure X taking on Bret Grayson, gentlemen... let me hear it.

MB: Again, Theresa... this is one of those wild cards. We've seen Bret Grayson compete a bit... I've seen him more than most because of my duties down in Combat Corner Wrestling but... we don't really know how he'll do on a stage this large. How will he fare against an opponent who is going to stand equal - or better - than him on the mat? How will he stand up when he knows he might face someone like Supreme Wright if he wins? You just don't know until he does it.

TL: Sweet Daddy?

SDW: I don't know a whole lot about transitioning from amateur 'rasslin' to the pros but everyone I talk to says Bret Grayson is the real deal... the whole package. But Pure X is tough. He's a veteran. And he sounds like he's got something to prove.

CP: He does have something to prove. Pure X hasn't gotten much done since coming back to the AWA and to me, this is a time when he's gotta prove he's worth his contract and not just a whiner with an attitude problem.

TL: Predictions, gentlemen?

CP: I'm going to say that Pure X is able to get back on track and show the world why so many think he's the best on-mat wrestler in the entire world.

SDW: A tournament like this one gives a whole lot of people a chance to really shine. And I think this Bret Grayson's chance to shine. I think he'll knock off Pure X and then give Supreme Wright the fight of his life.

MB: There... right there. The idea of Grayson versus Wright. That's why I'm picking the Olympic gold medalist in a tough battle and upset in my opinion.

TL: Bret Grayson moving on to the Bracket Semifinals. Three matches left in the so-called Death Bracket. Supreme Wright taking on Bret Grayson and Juan Vasquez meeting Ryan Martinez.

MB: And you couldn't get two more different matches, Theresa. Vasquez and Martinez is going to be ugly. It's going to be violent. It's going to be about a victim who is getting his shot at payback. And we're going to love it. I think Ryan Martinez is going to knock off Vasquez and put himself right into the Bracket Finals... where I expect he'll meet an old friend.

CP: Vasquez is so deep in Ryan Martinez' head, the so-called White Knight just lay down right at the bell and let Vasquez pin him.

SDW: Never.

CP: Then he'll eat another piledriver. It's pretty simple.

SDW: There's nothing simple about this at all. Ryan Martinez has the hopes of a lot of people riding on him but luckily, he's also got a lot of people supporting him... including me.

CP: It ain't gonna matter.

MB: That remains to be seen. I'm also picking Martinez to move on and set up one of the most anticipated rematches of all time.

TL: Alright, Ryan Martinez moving on... and where do we stand on Wright vs Grayson?

CP: The kid won't know what hit him. Wright wins.

MB: I'm going to agree with that.

TL: Two easy answers puts Supreme Wright into the Finals to take on Ryan Martinez in a SuperClash rematch and... well, who is joining Rex Summers and Torin The Titan in the Finals?

CP: They had one hell of a match at SuperClash and I expect nothing less in Boston... but I also expect Supreme Wright will take advantage of Martinez' injury issues and punch his ticket to the Finals.

TL: Sweet Daddy?

[Williams nods.]

SDW: Ryan Martinez will win because Ryan Martinez is destined to win...

MB: I'm not sure destiny is a good enough reason to pick a winner. Colt's right. Wright will bring the pain hard to Martinez but Ryan Martinez has shown over the

years that there is no pain he can't handle... no comeback he can't engineer... and I'm saying Ryan Martinez heads to the tournament finals.

TL: And there we are. Three men in the Finals. Three outstanding competitors. Three very different competitors. Rex Summers, Torin The Titan, and Ryan Martinez... and there can be only winner. But it's a Three Way Dance... it's elimination style. Gentlemen, we're running low on time here but give it to me straight. Who wins this tournament with the three names we have left?

SDW: Hmm. I'm going with Ryan. Again, until someone stops him, I ain't gonna believe he can be stopped.

CP: The Red Hot One is gonna turn the 4th of July into Rex Summers Day! You're welcome!

MB: And I guess that leaves me. I... as much as I'd love to pick Torin, I'm too concerned about his conditioning. And I think Ryan Martinez is going to be out of gas by the Finals so that leaves...

CP: SEXY REXY BABY!

[Broussard shrugs with a nod.]

TL: How about that, fans? After all that, we've got our All-Star Panel's projected winner and it is... one more time, light it up, boys...

[The graphic lights up on the screen readings "2016 Battle of Boston Winner: Rex Summers."]

TL: Fans, it's been one great night here previewing all the action to come this weekend. I want to invite one and all to join us right here all weekend long for the biggest tournament in the sport. It's the Battle of Boston and it's right here on The X all weekend! I want to thank my All-Star Panel of Marcus Broussard, Colt Patterson, and Sweet Daddy Williams. I want to thank my special co-host Mark Stegglet. And most of all, I want to thank the fans of Boston...

[Big cheer for that!]

TL: ...for making us feel so very welcome. Fans, that's it for the Preview Show but don't forget to be right back here tomorrow night! So long fans!

[Fade to black.]