

mick mcmanus the wrestler

Mick McManus the wrestler is a legendary figure in the history of British professional wrestling, renowned for his skill, charisma, and enduring influence on the sport. With a career spanning over three decades, McManus became an iconic heel (villain) character and a household name among wrestling fans in the UK. His contributions to wrestling, both in the ring and as a personality, have cemented his legacy as one of the most significant figures in British wrestling history.

Early Life and Entry into Wrestling

Background and Origins

Mick McManus was born on August 11, 1920, in London, England. Before venturing into professional wrestling, he was involved in various sports and physical activities that laid the foundation for his wrestling career. His athletic background helped him develop the strength and agility necessary for the demanding world of professional wrestling.

Transition to Wrestling

McManus began his wrestling journey in the 1950s, initially competing in local circuits. His natural talent and tough demeanor quickly gained attention, and he soon became a prominent figure in British wrestling promotions. His cunning in the ring and ability to connect with audiences made him a formidable competitor and a fan favorite as a villain.

Career Highlights and Achievements

Dominance in British Wrestling

Mick McManus is best known for his long tenure with the British Wrestling Federation and other prominent promotions during the 1950s through the 1980s. His style was characterized by a technical, no-nonsense approach, often employing underhanded tactics to gain an advantage. His persona as a ruthless heel made him the perfect foil for heroic wrestlers of the era.

Signature Matches and Rivalries

Throughout his career, McManus engaged in memorable rivalries with notable wrestlers such as Steve Veidor, Big Daddy, and Mick McGregor. Some of his most iconic matches involved intense storytelling, crowd engagement, and moments of dramatic tension. His feuds often culminated in highly anticipated bouts that drew large audiences.

Achievements and Titles

While wrestling in Britain, McManus amassed numerous accolades, including:

- Multiple British Lightweight Championship titles
- Numerous tag team victories
- Recognition as one of the most consistent and dominant wrestlers of his era

The Character and Wrestling Style of Mick McManus

Persona and Gimmick

Mick McManus's wrestling persona was that of a villainous tactician, often resorting to cheating, illegal holds, and mind games to outwit opponents. His character was crafted to evoke both disdain and excitement from fans, who loved to hate him. His sharp wit and quick comebacks made him a compelling character both inside and outside the ring.

Wrestling Technique and Skills

McManus was renowned for his technical proficiency, particularly in submission holds and mat-based wrestling. His signature moves included:

- The Camel Clutch
- The Boston Crab
- The Sleeper Hold

These techniques showcased his mastery of wrestling fundamentals and his ability to control matches.

Legacy and Influence

Impact on British Wrestling

Mick McManus's influence on British wrestling cannot be overstated. He helped elevate the sport's popularity during its heyday, inspiring generations of wrestlers. His persona set a template for heel characters in Britain, blending technical skill with theatrical storytelling.

Mentorship and Later Life

After retiring from active competition in the late 1980s, McManus remained involved in the wrestling community. He was respected as a mentor to younger wrestlers and continued to attend wrestling events, sharing his insights and experiences.

Recognition and Honors

Throughout his life, McManus received various recognitions for his contributions to sport and entertainment. His legacy is celebrated in wrestling history, with tributes and memorials acknowledging his pivotal role in shaping British professional wrestling.

Controversies and Notable Incidents

Heel Character and Controversies

As a prominent heel, McManus often engaged in controversial tactics that sparked debates among fans and officials. His willingness to bend rules and provoke reactions made him a memorable villain but also drew criticism at times.

Legal and Personal Challenges

Despite his on-ring villainy, McManus maintained a reputation as a professional and respectful individual outside the ring. Any personal challenges he faced were kept private, and his professionalism remained intact throughout his career.

Enduring Popularity and Cultural References

Fan Base and Cultural Impact

Even decades after retiring, Mick McManus remains a beloved figure among British wrestling fans. His clips, matches, and interviews continue to be shared online, keeping his legacy alive.

Appearances in Media

McManus's character has appeared in documentaries, wrestling retrospectives, and popular culture references, highlighting his status as a wrestling icon.

Conclusion

Mick McManus the wrestler stands as a towering figure in British sports entertainment history. His combination of technical skill, compelling persona, and ability to engage audiences made him a true legend in the wrestling world. His influence persists today, inspiring new generations of wrestlers and fans alike. Whether remembered as a fierce competitor or a masterful villain, Mick McManus's legacy endures as a testament to the enduring appeal of professional wrestling in the UK.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who was Mick McManus and what is he best known for?

Mick McManus was a legendary British professional wrestler renowned for his heel persona and long-standing career in British wrestling, particularly in the 1950s to 1980s.

When did Mick McManus start and end his wrestling career?

Mick McManus's wrestling career began in the late 1940s and continued into the 1980s, making him a prominent figure in British wrestling for several decades.

What were some of Mick McManus's signature wrestling moves?

Mick McManus was known for his technical wrestling style, including moves like the headlock, sleeper hold, and his signature dirty tricks that emphasized his heel persona.

Did Mick McManus ever win any championships during his wrestling career?

Yes, Mick McManus held several titles, including the British Lightweight Championship and the British Welterweight Championship, during his career.

How did fans and peers view Mick McManus in the wrestling community?

Mick McManus was highly respected for his skill and longevity, though he was also known as a villain or 'heel,' which made him a memorable and influential figure in British wrestling.

Are there any notable matches or feuds involving Mick McManus?

Yes, Mick McManus was involved in many memorable feuds with wrestlers like Steve Veidor and Big Daddy, which were popular among British wrestling fans.

What is Mick McManus's legacy in the world of professional wrestling?

Mick McManus is considered one of the greatest British wrestlers of all time, known for pioneering the heel persona and helping popularize professional wrestling in the UK.

Did Mick McManus appear in any television or media outside wrestling?

Yes, Mick McManus appeared in various television programs and documentaries about British wrestling, helping to bring the sport to a wider audience.

When did Mick McManus pass away, and how was he remembered?

Mick McManus passed away in 2010, and he is remembered as a wrestling legend who greatly influenced British professional wrestling and inspired generations of wrestlers.

Is Mick McManus still influential among modern wrestlers and fans?

Absolutely, Mick McManus remains an iconic figure in British wrestling history, with many modern wrestlers and fans citing him as an inspiration for his skill, character, and contributions to the sport.

Additional Resources

Mick McManus: The Legendary British Wrestler Who Defined an Era

Mick McManus remains one of the most iconic and influential figures in the history of British professional wrestling. His remarkable career, characterized by a distinctive in-ring style, a compelling persona, and a lasting impact on the sport, continues to resonate with fans and historians alike. As a consummate performer and a master of the art of "worked" wrestling, McManus's legacy is rooted not only in his technical prowess but also in his ability to craft memorable rivalries and entertain audiences across decades. This article delves into the life, career, and enduring influence of Mick McManus, offering a comprehensive exploration of his contribution to the world of professional wrestling.

Early Life and Entry into Wrestling

Origins and Background

Born on July 11, 1920, in Wigan, Lancashire, Mick McManus, whose birth name was Michael Joseph McManus, grew up in an era where wrestling was gaining popularity in Britain. Before entering the world of professional wrestling, McManus worked in various manual labor jobs, including as a coal miner and a factory worker. His athletic build and disciplined nature made him well-suited for the rigors of professional sport.

Transition into Wrestling

McManus's entry into wrestling was motivated by his desire for physical challenge and performance. Initially participating in local amateur bouts, he quickly gained recognition for his tenacity and technical skill. His early years were marked by relentless dedication, and he soon transitioned into the professional arena, where he adopted the ring persona that would make him a household name.

The Rise of Mick McManus: Career Highlights and Key Milestones

Joining the British Wrestling Scene

In the 1950s, Mick McManus began competing regularly in the British wrestling circuit, particularly under the banner of Joint Promotions, which was the dominant organization in Britain at the time. His reputation as a formidable heel (villain) was quickly established through his aggressive style, cunning tactics, and unapologetic character work.

Character and In-Ring Persona

McManus was known for portraying a scheming, unscrupulous villain who would stop at nothing to win. His persona was characterized by:

- A sneaky, calculating demeanor
- A penchant for underhanded tactics
- An ability to generate audience boos and cheers, depending on his role

His persona was so convincing that he became one of the most hated villains in British wrestling, which only endeared him further to fans who loved to see him outwitted or defeated.

Championships and Achievements

Although the British wrestling scene at the time was more focused on entertainment than formal competition, McManus's accolades include:

- Multiple British Heavyweight Championship reigns
- Recognition as one of the top heels of his era
- A legendary status rooted in his longevity and consistency

He competed in countless high-profile matches, often against fellow legends such as Steve Veidor, Jackie Pallo, and Giant Haystacks, cementing his reputation as a mainstay of British wrestling.

In-Ring Style and Technical Prowess

Signature Moves and Tactics

Mick McManus's wrestling style combined technical skill with psychological manipulation. His signature tactics included:

- Biting and illegal holds
- Use of the ropes for leverage
- Deceptive distractions and feints
- Psychological warfare to unnerve opponents

His move set was pragmatic, often emphasizing submission holds, counters, and strategic pinning.

Influence on Wrestling Technique

McManus's approach to storytelling in the ring influenced generations of wrestlers. His mastery of the heel role showcased how psychology and character work could elevate a match beyond mere physicality. His ability to engage the audience—teetering between villainy and charisma—set a template for future performers.

The Cultural Impact of Mick McManus

Popular Culture and Media Presence

Beyond the wrestling ring, Mick McManus became a cultural icon in Britain. He appeared in:

- Television programs, notably in the 1960s and 1970s, bringing wrestling into mainstream consciousness
- Films and commercials, where his persona was used to evoke the archetypal villain
- Public appearances and wrestling reunions, maintaining his popularity well into the later years

His catchphrases, mannerisms, and character traits became ingrained in British pop culture, symbolizing the archetype of the cunning villain.

Legacy and Influence on Future Generations

McManus's influence extends beyond his era. His approach to character-driven storytelling, combined

with technical skill, served as a blueprint for aspiring wrestlers. Many British wrestlers who came after him cite McManus as a significant inspiration, recognizing his role in elevating the craft of professional wrestling in the UK.

Later Years and Retirement

Transition from Active Competition

Mick McManus's in-ring career spanned over four decades, a testament to his durability and dedication. As the sport evolved and wrestling became more sport-oriented, McManus adapted, often serving as a mentor or commentator.

Retirement and Legacy Preservation

He retired from active competition in the 1980s but remained a revered figure in the wrestling community. His contributions were recognized through various honors, including hall of fame inductions and lifetime achievement awards.

Despite retiring from the ring, McManus's influence persisted through:

- Recorded matches and interviews
- The continued popularity of British wrestling's golden era
- The respect and admiration of fans and peers

Controversies and Criticisms

Controversial Style and Ethical Debates

Like many heels of his time, McManus's tactics often involved illegal moves and underhanded tactics, which led to debates about sportsmanship. Critics argued that his villainous persona was excessively ruthless, but supporters saw it as an essential part of the storytelling craft.

Role in the "Worked" Nature of Wrestling

While professional wrestling is scripted, McManus's era was marked by a clear understanding between performers and audiences about the entertainment aspect. His mastery of playing a villain contributed to the craft's legitimacy and appeal, though some purists have debated the ethics of staged conflict.

Enduring Legacy and Recognition

Honors and Memorials

Mick McManus's death on May 22, 2010, marked the end of an era, but his legacy remains alive through:

- Wrestling memorabilia
- Documentaries and retrospectives
- Tributes from current wrestlers and fans

His career is often cited in discussions of British wrestling's history and development.

Impact on Modern Wrestling

Modern British wrestlers and promoters continue to draw inspiration from McManus's persona and style. The importance of character work, storytelling, and audience engagement that he exemplified remains central to professional wrestling today.

Conclusion: A True Icon of British Wrestling

Mick McManus's career is a testament to the power of character-driven performance in professional wrestling. His ability to craft a compelling villain, combined with technical skill and a knack for entertaining, established him as a true icon in British sports entertainment. His influence can be seen in the generations that followed, and his legacy endures as a symbol of the golden age of British wrestling. Whether as a villain or a legend, Mick McManus's contribution to the sport has left an indelible mark that continues to be celebrated and studied decades after his passing.

[Mick Mcmanus The Wrestler](#)

mick mcmanus the wrestler: The Mick McManus Wrestling Book Charles Arnold, Mick McManus, 1970

mick mcmanus the wrestler: The Wrestling Simon Garfield, 2013-03-21 'A brilliant oral history of the golden age of British wrestling and magnificent wider social history.' Richard Osman The classic account of the men and women who used to fight each other for pride and money. Simon Garfield brings them to life in one last glorious bout of jealousy, myth, revenge, passion and deep devotion. When British wrestling was dropped from the ITV schedules in the mid-80s it left the giants of the ring - Big Daddy, Giant Haystacks, Kendo Nagasaki - bereft. This is the true story of the circuit, the big names and their rivalries, told with humour, warmth and affection. This edition features a new afterword by the author.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: *Confessions Of A Wrestler* Martin Gillott, 2014-02-27 Martin Gillott, better known in the wrestling world as Jackie 'Glitterboy' Evans, knew early in his career that

life in the ring would be no walk in the park. Posing as a blond, Lurex-clad gayboy who liked to fight dirty was great for ticket sales, but not so good for his health. He was knocked out five times in his career - always by a furious fan, never by his opponent. Yet Martin loved the game, and wouldn't change a day of his 12-year professional wrestling career. Now he tells all, including hilarious accounts of adventures in and out of the ring, fans violent and amorous, landladies who were scarier than Giant Haystacks and girls who were faster than Mick McManus. And then there were the many well-known names he rubbed shoulders with along the way, from Brian Glover to John Le Mesurier. Confessions Of A Wrestler will have you in stitches - just like 'Glitterboy'.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Barry Hearn: My Life Barry Hearn, 2022-04-28 Out now: the autobiography of the legendary sports promoter, Barry Hearn. THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER 'I am the largest sports promoter in the world. I promote 11 sports to a global audience of billions of people every day of my life' _____ A larger than life working class hero, Romford born and bred - always ready with the perfect soundbite - Barry Hearn was famously described as 'roguish but never a rogue'. Hearn is credited with turning snooker into one of the biggest sports in Britain. He essentially turned a sport in which competitors wear bowties into a massive, globally televised event. Away from the table, his promotions empire casts its net over a dozen sports - from professional boxing to darts, fishing to ten-pin bowling - and his career spans four decades. He also previously owned Leyton Orient football club. Packed with hilarious anecdotes from the golden age of snooker, and behind-the-scenes insight into boxing negotiations and darts bust-ups, Hearn's book is a joy to read from start to finish.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Slamthology: Collected Wrestling Writings 1991-2004 John Lister, 2005-10-26 John Lister is one of Britain's most respected wrestling journalists. Mixing travelogue, humour, fiction, history and opinion, this collection brings together the best of his work from the past fourteen years. The first section of this book features three epic accounts of voyages to see wrestling in the United States, from the ECW Arena to the Dallas Sportatorium by way of WWF pay-per-views and Memphis television. The second section comprises more than 40 articles, some previously unpublished, including histories of British and American wrestling, the statistics behind WCW's collapse, and a disgraceful allegation about Tommy Rich. Note: This is a revised 2nd edition, with a new cover design, new page design, lower page count and a lower retail price. However, the content of the book is unchanged from the first edition.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: The Bomb Hoax Trevor Whitehead, 2019-07-20 The true story of how three teenagers plotted an act of revenge against a nasty neighbour. The book follows the life of the author through often funny, sometimes sad situations and adventures. Culminating to building a hoax bomb that was so realistic, the Essex country village of Cock Clarks residents had to be evacuated. It fooled the police and a bomb disposal expert for some time.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink Deluxe Elvis Costello, 2015-10-13 The deluxe eBook edition of Elvis Costello's Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink features two hundred additional photos and images, including more from Costello's original lyrics notebooks and a selection of his family's most intriguing documents and vintage photographs. Pages from his father's scrapbooks from the early '50s Merseyside jazz scene are contrasted with a ledger of setlists and meager fees from the author's early musical partnership in Rusty on the Liverpool club scene and other mementoes from Costello's musical apprenticeship. There are numerous candid shots of the artist and his collaborators, both on stage and behind the scenes, along with a touching collection of signatures, mostly dedicated to the young Declan MacManus in his autograph book from the 1960s. Over an hour of excerpts from the audio edition are also featured, including several wonderful anecdotes that were ultimately omitted from the book. These additions serve to enrich the story of an incredible life in music, phenomenally well told. Born Declan Patrick MacManus, Elvis Costello was raised in London and Liverpool, grandson of a trumpet player on the White Star Line and son of a jazz musician who became a successful radio dance-band vocalist. Costello went into the family business and before he was twenty-four took the popular music world by storm. Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink, written entirely by Costello, offers his unique view of his unlikely and

sometimes comical rise to international success, with diversions through the previously undocumented emotional foundations of some of his best-known songs and the hits of tomorrow. It features many stories and observations about his renowned cowriters and co-conspirators, though Costello also pauses along the way for considerations of the less appealing side of fame. The memoir provides readers with a master's catalogue of a lifetime of great music. Costello reveals the process behind writing and recording legendary albums like *My Aim Is True*, *This Year's Model*, *Armed Forces*, *Almost Blue*, *Imperial Bedroom*, and *King of America*. He tells the detailed stories, experiences, and emotions behind such beloved songs as "Alison," "Accidents Will Happen," "Watching the Detectives," "Oliver's Army," "Welcome to the Working Week," "Radio Radio," "Shipbuilding," and "Veronica," the last of which is one of a number of songs revealed to connect to the lives of the previous generations of his family. Costello recounts his collaborations with George Jones, Chet Baker, and T Bone Burnett, and writes about Allen Toussaint's inspiring return to work after the disasters following Hurricane Katrina. He describes writing songs with Paul McCartney, the Brodsky Quartet, Burt Bacharach, and The Roots during moments of intense personal crisis and profound sorrow. He shares curious experiences in the company of The Clash, Tony Bennett, The Specials, Van Morrison, and Aretha Franklin; writing songs for Solomon Burke and Johnny Cash; and touring with Bob Dylan; along with his appreciation of the records of Frank Sinatra, David Bowie, David Ackles, and almost everything on the Tamla Motown label. The idiosyncratic memoir of a singular man, *Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink* is destined to be a classic.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Salisbury City Hall - Through The Looking Glass James McCarraher, 2013-02-10 The opening of the New Picture House Cinema in Fisherton Street on 27th September 1937 caused quite a stir in Salisbury. For 24 years, the cinema drew in the crowds and entertained the people of Salisbury until it closed in 1961. On 30th January 1963, the building received a new lease of life when it opened as the City Hall, a multi-purpose community venue. The Hall became the home for the local beat dances, hosting the likes of the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and local boys, Dave Dee Dozy Beaky Mick & Tich. This book charts the history of the building from 1937 to 2013, based upon interviews with staff both past and present.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Jamaica Road Lisa Smith, 2025-07-15 A transformative love story about two best friends who fall for each other, fall apart, and try to find their way back together in their tight-knit British-Jamaican community. South London, 1981: Daphne is the only Black girl in her class. All she wants is to keep her head down, preferably in a book. The easiest way to survive is to go unnoticed. Daphne's attempts at invisibility are upended when a boy named Connie Small arrives from Jamaica. Connie is the opposite of small in every way: lanky, outgoing, and unapologetically himself. Daphne tries to keep her distance, but Connie is magnetic, and they form an intense bond. As they navigate growing up in a volatile, rapidly changing city, their families become close, and their friendship begins to shift into something more complicated. When Connie reveals that he and his mother "nuh land"—meaning they're in England illegally—Daphne realizes that she is dangerously entangled in Connie's fragile home life. Soon, long-buried secrets in both families threaten to tear them apart permanently. Spanning one tumultuous decade, from the industrial docklands of the Thames to the sandy beaches of Calabash Bay, *Jamaica Road* is a deftly plotted and emotionally expansive debut novel about race and class, the family you're born with and the family you choose, and the limits of what true love can really conquer.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: A Companion to Media Fandom and Fan Studies Paul Booth, 2018-02-26 *A Companion to Media Fandom and Fan Studies* offers scholars and fans an accessible and engaging resource for understanding the rapidly expanding field of fan studies. International in scope and written by a team that includes many major scholars, this volume features over thirty especially-commissioned essays on a variety of topics, which together provide an unparalleled overview of this fast-growing field. Separated into five sections—Histories, Genealogies, Methodologies; Fan Practices; Fandom and Cultural Studies; Digital Fandom; and The Future of Fan Studies—the book synthesizes literature surrounding important theories, debates, and issues within the field of fan studies. It also traces and explains the social, historical, political, commercial, ethical,

and creative dimensions of fandom and fan studies. Exploring both the historical and the contemporary fan situation, the volume presents fandom and fan studies as models of 21st century production and consumption, and identifies the emergent trends in this unique field of study.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Wrestling Observer Newsletter , 2004-07

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Get Yer 'Air Cut Alan Clayson, 2024-11-26 My hair is a statement and always will be, even when I no longer have any. The social revolution of the Swinging Sixties led to a renaissance of unchecked hair growth, and long hair, especially on men, was worn as a political or countercultural symbol of protest and as an expression of masculinity. No-one who was affected by one of a turbulent decade's loudest controversies - or anyone who ever wondered what all the fuss was about - will fail to be interested in this personal account of when the 'us and them' divide between youth and elders was most profound. An engaging, accessible mix of popular culture, social history and politics.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink Elvis Costello, 2015-10-13 The perfect gift for music lovers and Elvis Costello fans, telling the story behind Elvis Costello's legendary career and his iconic, beloved songs. Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink provides readers with a master's catalogue of a lifetime of great music. Costello reveals the process behind writing and recording legendary albums like My Aim Is True, This Year's Model, Armed Forces, Almost Blue, Imperial Bedroom, and King of America. He tells the detailed stories, experiences, and emotions behind such beloved songs as "Alison," "Accidents Will Happen," "Watching the Detectives," "Oliver's Army," "Welcome to the Working Week," "Radio Radio," "Shipbuilding," and "Veronica," the last of which is one of a number of songs revealed to connect to the lives of the previous generations of his family. Costello chronicles his musical apprenticeship, a child's view of his father Ross MacManus' career on radio and in the dancehall; his own initial almost comical steps in folk clubs and cellar dive before his first sessions for Stiff Record, the formation of the Attractions, and his frenetic and ultimately notorious third U.S. tour. He takes readers behind the scenes of Top of the Pops and Saturday Night Live, and his own show, Spectacle, on which he hosted artists such as Lou Reed, Elton John, Levon Helm, Jesse Winchester, Bruce Springsteen, and President Bill Clinton. The idiosyncratic memoir of a singular man, Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink is destined to be a classic.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: A 1970s Childhood Derek Tait, 2011-09-30 Do you remember glam rock, flares, cheesecloth shirts and chopper bikes? Then it sounds like you were lucky enough to grow up during the 1970s. Who could forget all the glam rock bands of that era, like Slade, Wizard, Mud and Sweet, or singers like Alvin Stardust, Marc Bolan and David Bowie? What about those wonderful TV shows like Starsky and Hutch, Kojak, Kung Fu and Happy Days? Fashion included platform shoes (we all had a pair), flared trousers, brightly patterned shirts with huge collars and colourful kipper ties. And everyone remembers preparing for power cuts and that long, hot summer of 1976. So dust off your space hopper and join us on this fascinating journey through a childhood during the seventies, with hilarious illustrations and a nostalgic trip down memory lane for all those who grew up in this memorable decade. Derek Tait has written over a dozen books, most of them about his early childhood in Singapore or the area of Plymouth in which he lives. He is now a full-time writer, but previous jobs have included a photographer and a cartoonist.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Women Love Wrestling Jason Norris, 2020-01-10 "Very well written, I am really enjoying it. I have been so impressed by the writers and their passion for the subject" - Mick Foley, wrestling legend and bestselling author Expert contributions that unexpectedly and thoroughly cover a treasure trove of topics. This reader was euphoric over the amount of subject matter jam-packed into this important and long overdue collection - Jamie Hemmings, Book Editor for SlamWrestling.net The quality of writing at its best was really good, a lot to think about. A flat out really good read. - Bruce Mitchell, Senior Columnist - Pro Wrestling Torch 99.9% of professional wrestling books are written by men about male performers in a male-dominated business. This book aims to help correct the balance, giving a voice to women and fans of women's wrestling, showing women in the ring are just as captivating to watch and that

female fans are just as passionate. *Women Love Wrestling* is a collection of writing from women and about women in wrestling, written by fans, wrestlers, podcasters, promoters, journalists, culture critics, PhDs and academics. *Women Love Wrestling* is a mix of wrestling history, personal stories and studies of professional wrestling. We focus on women's wrestling of course, but include stories from the wider world, including lost Victorian legends and reflections on how wrestling can be compared to the masterpieces of Shakespeare. Learn about how to watch joshi, how women train to wrestle, how promoting all-women shows requires a different approach, how wrestling fandom creates gender-bending art and cosplay, the history of GLOW, AJW, Shimmer and EVE, issues with diversity, the slow progress being made with gender equality and more thanks to our diverse team of writers. The profits from this book are donated to RAINN and Women's Aid

mick mcmanus the wrestler: *Hitman* Bret Hart, 2025-05-01 Bret Hart's honest, perceptive, startling account of his life in and out of the pro wrestling ring. Wrestling fans will eat up all the backstage drama. — Publishers Weekly The sixth-born son of the pro wrestling dynasty founded by Stu Hart and his elegant wife, Helen, Bret Hart is a Canadian icon. He achieved superstardom in pink tights, and won multiple wrestling belts in multiple territories, for both the WWF (now the WWE) and WCW. But he also paid the price in betrayals (most famously by Vince McMahon, a man he had served loyally); in tragic deaths, including the loss of his brother Owen, who died when a stunt went terribly wrong; and in his own massive stroke, most likely resulting from a concussion he received in the ring, and from which, with the spirit of a true champion, he has battled back. Widely considered by his peers as one of the business's best technicians and workers, Hart describes pro wrestling as part dancing, part acting, and part dangerous physical pursuit. He is proud that in all his years in the ring he never seriously hurt a single wrestler, yet did his utmost to deliver to his fans an experience as credible as it was exciting. He also records the incredible toll the business takes on its workhorses: he estimates that twenty or more of the wrestlers he was regularly matched with have died young, weakened by their own coping mechanisms, namely drugs, alcohol, and steroids. That toll included his own brother-in-law, Davey Boy Smith. No one has ever written about wrestling like Bret Hart. No one has ever lived a life like Bret Hart's.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: *Designer Politics* Margaret Scammell, 2016-07-27 This is the first book to offer a serious examination of the phenomenon of political marketing in Britain. It presents an analysis of the increasingly influential role of the image-makers and casts a critical eye over the debate concerning the impact of marketing on political conduct and governance. Its primary focus is party and government communications in the Thatcher era and beyond, up to and including the 1992 general election. It argues that Thatcher, despite her image as the resolute politician, pioneered marketing techniques and concepts which have since become standard practice. *Designer Politics* looks at the historical engines of growth of commercial salesmanship in politics. It explores how political culture and conduct have been affected by the phenomenon and to what extent politics and policy have been remoulded to fit the marketing process. The author challenges the prevailing pessimism that Britain is hurtling towards American presidential-style campaigns and that marketing necessarily demeans and undermines democracy. While there are inherent dangers, there also comes new potential for a more genuinely popular democracy.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: *Great Pop Things* Colin B Morton, Chuck Death, 2018-05-29 The comic strips of Colin B. Morton and Chuck Death deliver an irreverent, heartfelt, and devastatingly funny history of rock and roll. Like Monty Python at its best, their version is surreal and ridiculous - yet somehow everything in it rings true. According to Morton and Death, the bass player in Led Zeppelin was Jean-Paul Sartre. And despite having been able to think up brilliant titles for their first three albums, Led Zeppelin were stuck for what to call the fourth one - so they put a load of prunes on the front. In strip after strip, Morton & Death pinpoint the absurdities and oddities of rock history. In the process, they often come closer to its truth than conventional accounts do, as well as being far more entertaining. As for the drawings, their caricatures of rock stars from Mick Jagger to Frank Zappa, Johnny Rotten to Courtney Love, are in themselves worth the price of admission.

mick mcmanus the wrestler: Wrestling in Britain Benjamin Litherland, 2018-03-09 At the intersection of sport, entertainment and performance, wrestling occupies a unique position in British popular culture. This is the first book to offer a detailed historical and cultural analysis of British professional wrestling, exploring the shifting popularity of the sport as well as its wider social significance. Arguing that the history of professional wrestling can help us understand key themes in sport, culture and performance that span the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, it addresses topics such as: attitudes towards violence, representations of masculinity, the media and celebrity culture, consumerism and globalisation. By drawing on a variety of intellectual traditions and disciplines, the book explores the role of power in the development of popular cultural forms, the ways in which history structures the present, and the manner in which audiences construct identity and meaning through sport. *Wrestling in Britain: Sporting Entertainments, Celebrity and Audiences* is fascinating reading for all students and researchers with an interest in media and cultural studies, histories and sociologies of sport, or performance studies.

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