

A warm, inviting living room decorated for Christmas. A large, decorated Christmas tree stands in the center, adorned with lights, red and gold ornaments, and a silver star on top. Several wrapped gifts are placed at its base. To the left, a stone fireplace contains a crackling fire. A framed picture hangs on the wall above the fireplace. To the right, a large window or glass door looks out onto a balcony with a green armchair. The scene is lit with warm indoor lights and the glow from the fireplace and tree lights.

ULW

MAGAZINE



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TOP 10 of the Industry (As of Now)

By Jeff Esiason

Welp, the time has come to wrap up the year with a fitting review of the top ten in this industry as of right now!

Let's look at who makes the cut:

TEN. Jay White

Perhaps it is recency bias, but I came away from the past few weeks feeling like Jay is on the brink of a major breakout. 2026 might end up belonging to Mr. White and his Bullet Club. I know that my colleagues here in ULW have been kind of hard on Jay since his debut, but to be fair: AEW wasn't doing much with him for a while.

Now that they are, it is proving to be well worth the wait!

NINE. John Cena

While his reign came to an end, it wasn't for naught. The man carried the flame for the still-new World Heavyweight title for much of 2025, and passed that torch with this absolutely prestigious prize to its new holder...who we will be discussing later.

Look, Cena has had a rough 21 year career. He began on a hot streak in LWF, but then flamed out for almost two decades until he arrived in the PWI-HCW and helped make the brand something to pay attention to. The guy has come a long way from his rap-battle ways. What will 2026 hold for the good doctor of thuganomics?

EIGHT. Sasha Banks

It was not going to be possible for me to leave Sasha off of this list. The past few years have seen Miss Banks take over women's wrestling wherever she goes and gets a long enough chance to shine. Once she was no longer exempt last year, she was absolutely a prime target for ULW, and AEW knew that from the get go.

Now, with her settling in quite well here in ULW, Sasha has unified the singles women's titles and declared herself the one true "Undisputed Champion". Yes, Lenny revealed that the title is officially the "Universal Women's Champion", but that won't stop Sasha from recognizing her own perceived greatness.

Heading into the new year, Sasha has a set of hurdles to survive as a champion, but if anyone can pull it off...it's her!

SEVEN. Bron Breakker

From the inaugural Providence Champion to now being the first man to solely hold tag gold since Ventura held and retired the USWA Number Two Tag Gold in 1999, Bron is a force of nature...or rather, supernature!

The son of Rick Steiner practically has a god complex, seeing himself as invincible and infallible. His group – Built For Success – is built around him with his father and Uncle flanking him. He did suffer a bit of a setback, though, when he was eliminated from tournament contention.

That moment was panned by the critics, but to count this young man out because of a few setbacks would be a tremendous mistake!

SIX. Chad Gable

The man unified the United States and Intercontinental Titles (temporarily), and now he heads into 2026 with as much momentum as he entered 2025. With or without Doc Brown, Chad has one mission in mind: to be the best!

Gable just needs to break free of the mid-card, and I have faith that he can get it done. Now, I do believe that the breakup with Doc Brown was a tad reckless, but it hasn't really hurt either. It just suddenly ended, or so it felt.

Chad doesn't need a team, he doesn't need a manager. He just needs a chance to break free, and I think 2026 will be the year that it finally happens!

FIVE. Becky Lynch and Jade Cargill

I have only designated one tie before in this ranking, and that was for number one. However, this installment features two people in the fifth slot, because I see no better place for either of them. Truth be told, Becky and Jade are on the same trajectory in AEW right now, especially after Becky's fire promo on Violent Night!

Jade's story has been told to death this year, but her bright future can not be overstated. Becky may not reach the Knockouts gold, but Jade is destined to rule again. I still don't see Toni losing the strap just yet, but that doesn't hurt the ranking for either woman here.

Keep an eye on these ladies heading into January!

FOUR. Toni Storm

I have lost track of the consecutive ranking placements for Toni, but I know for sure that she more than deserves it! Every damn time she is on screen, she steals the show. It is without fail!

The primary reason that I feel confident in saying that she will retain her strap in two weeks is that the division is currently in good hands with her. Hell, the company itself is in her hands at the moment; and it is doing quite well.

We don't have any reason or sign to think her momentum is slowing whatsoever. If anyone will ever challenge Asuka's historic reign...it is Toni!

THREE. Brodie Lee

The leader of the Guilty Remnant makes this list because he has managed to both take a fringe group to the mainstream in a short period of time, as well as span the year leading the charge regarding the Mouse Saga on two different fronts. Brodie, actually, has been at or near the heart of the biggest news and stories in this business in 2025, and we can't ignore that!

Going forward, being the TV champion is only a little footnote in the big picture. Brodie will have a tremendous year next year, and I wouldn't be surprised to see him raise a world championship before it is all said and done.

First, though, he has to survive this insurgency from Splinter, Shocker, and Zayn!

TWO. Will Ospreay

Will's rise throughout 2025 has tested the doubters in ways that few have been able to test them over the eras of this industry's history. He has bested so many great talents since his debut, and main evented the biggest show of the year!

Even as we consider the facts that Adam Page is presently out of the picture, Logan is hurt, MJF is distracted, and Olson and Lee are tearing each other apart, it is still accurate to say that Will is one step away from being the greatest star of the era right now.

I will be the first non-AEW source to say this: Will could be the next Dragonfly. He really could.

ONE. Seth Rollins/Rock

Wait! What's this? Another tie??? Yes, it absolutely is, because I could not justify putting either man below the other. Seth became the new WOW Undisputed Champion, took the ULW Title with him to WWE, and then captured the World Heavyweight Title in WWE (unifying it with the WOW Undisputed Title), and Rock stands on the cusp of breaking the record as the longest reigning world champion in history!

2025, at least the latter half of it, has been defined by these two men. Seth changed the game in ULW before kidnapping the strap and taking it to the waiting arms of Hurricane Helms for his many misadventures.

In 2026, Rock will break that record, but that will lead to the sunset of his career while Seth's journey has only begun. It will be a grand old time!

Now we await the new year. Who will make this list next year? Time will tell.





The Interview
Bron Breakker
By Lawrence Mason

The following interview took place on Christmas Day 2025, via the phone.

Bron Breakker is an interesting and valuable young member of the ULW roster. After debuting last season on a rampage against the legends of wrestling, many critics started to say that this man had all of the potential to being the new top guy in the business. Now, despite losing his Providence Championship to Raphael at the Great Gobblefest, Bron remains one of the top stars in the company, especially as the leader of Built for Success and the sole World Tag Team Champion in ULW. Join me as I ask Bron a few questions about his career, his group, the TWO, the Triumvirate, the Tournament, and how he thinks he will do in 2026!

[LM: Lawrence Mason, BB: Bron Breakker]

LM: Bron, thank you for joining me here tonight.

BB: No problem, Lawrence, it's not like this is a holiday or anything.

LM:...Um, look, I apologize, we can do this some other time.

BB: Nah! Who cares, it's only Christmas. Who cares about hanging out with dumb family when we can just chat it up here on the phone? Holidays are for losers! I'd much rather answer some questions for the fat asses reading this at home!

LM: I am sorry, look, I will hang up now and leave this for another day...

BB: If you hang up that phone before we are done, then our next interview will be conducted from your hospital bed. You hear me?

LM:...I...I...do.

BB: Good! Now ask away, ol' Lawrence, my boy!

LM: Very well. Let's get this first thing out of the way by asking what your thoughts are on the recent and brief Providence reign of Raphael.

BB: *Loud crashing and breaking noise* Fuck!!! Shit! I stepped on a goddamn lego!

LM: Are you ok?

BB:: Yeah! Just losing my train of thought walking around here and listening to a stupid ass question like that! You're seriously paid to ask people what they feel about someone hold their title? Seriously???

LM: I suppose so...

BB: Well, you shouldn't be! I will just say that! You want to know my thoughts on Raphael? On the Turtle World Order? I will say this; I am fed up with these washed up punk bitches running around acting like this isn't my yard! They and their idiotic overgrown cousins who wish they were Stevie and Booker can go straight to hell! When I get my chance, I am going to exact revenge on all of them, and I am going to wrap up the deserving beat down with a very violent introduction of Casey's head to their assholes!

LM: That was graphic...

BB: GRAPHIC???? Graphic isn't what I just said! Graphic is the crime, the fucking CRIME of what those moronic shell-having bastards did to me at Great Gobblefest! And don't even get me started on the "Triumvirate"!

LM: That was my next que...

BB: I said DON'T GET ME STARTED! Arn's little bitch boy is going to get a lesson or two in respect, and I am going to teach Brock the moment I get a one-on-one! That's when I get my title back where it belongs!

LM: What about the two titles you hold right now?

BB: The Tag Titles?

LM: Yeah?

BB: *Laughs out loud* I don't give two shits about the tag division! Throw however many assholes you want at me, and I will plow through them all!

LM: Um...

BB: So don't even think about second guessing my ability to reign supreme here! Send any and all challengers, because I can take it!

LM: Why not just relinquish the gold, or at least have the Steiners defend them?

BB: Because they never earned it! My father and my Uncle are only here for one reason, and that is to flank me whenever I call. They are not here to be tag champions, nor reign with any other title.

LM: But wait...Scott is in the tournament, and you're not. How does that make sense for your plan?

BB: It doesn't to an idiot, I'm sure!

LM: Is Scott in the tournament to bow to you in the end?

BB: Scott will do whatever the hell I tell him to do.

LM: And he knows this?

BB: Damn right he does!

LM: Ok, shifting gears then, how do you see yourself doing in 2026?

BB: I don't do New Years Resolutions, Lawrence, but what I can do is promise that by 2027, I will be world champion! Bank on it! *Hangs up the phone*

Bron



I Know What You're Thinking

A Different Perspective on WIN

By Sunfire

Last month, Jim Ross sort of poured water on the dreams of Jeff Murrey's latest venture: the Wrestling International Network. This month, I am pushing back on what Ross sees as some kind of lost cause.

If you want to know what I think – and let's face it, you do if you haven't elected to skip to the next article by now -, I have come to the conclusion that everyone who is critiquing WIN has been looking at it the wrong way. Hell, Murrey himself may actually be looking at this the wrong way.

Yes, Jeff's creation here is sort of a product of his years of bitching and moaning about the complexities and inadequacies of the WOW organization, but the framing of WIN as an alternative to WOW is mistaken. It's intentional by Murrey, but it is not a competitor to the WOW, because the WOW and WIN operate on two different planes. That is to say that they don't exist for the same reasons.

Think of it this way: comparing WIN to the WOW is very much like comparing the European Union to the United Nations, or even the E.U. to NATO. I know this analogy will fly right over the heads of the idiots who paid no attention to history class, but bear with me for a second as I pivot back to the wrestling industry.

To help explain my point a little better, I want to first provide a brief chronicling as to why WOW and WIN exist.

For starters, let's focus on WOW. Prior to the establishment of WOW in late 2003 amidst the Third Era, the World of Wrestling was essentially the Wild West. At the time, Nielsen still provided the ratings for each of the competing wrestling programs, but there was absolutely no effort to coordinate amongst the warring brands, and there was most certainly no inkling of regulation.

To further understand this, consider how the WWF stood alone for most of the so-called First Era. Born the moment that Murrey purchased WWF from Vince and launched it into the mainstream, the First Era saw Murrey build a form of entertainment in accordance with his own vision.

Then, in the last 18 months of the era, WWF's supremacy was gradually chipped away by the arrival of WPW and then ECW. Once WPW invaded WWF on television without an invitation in early 1997, a new era was born. This is when the proverbial Wild West analogy becomes more prescient, as WPW emergence and transformation to what would become USWA triggered a chain reaction wherein numerous other companies jumped into the fray. WWF's unquestioned rule was over, and the ratings chaos which ensued soon produced a new leader, but not before changing the business forever.

Now, if it wasn't for the USWA asserting itself as the new leader of the industry atop an industry with a very healthy independent circuit and competitive slate of secondary promotions, there may have been a need for an organization to emerge for the purpose of regulating the industry. But, one of the consequences of universal hegemony via a virtual superpower standing alone is that no regulation or coordination is necessitated since the rest of the industry effectively follows the lead of the premier brand anyways.

Believe me, I know what it was like. I was among the talent who was first part of a wrestling promotion chasing the USWA before I eventually went to USWA and saw what it was like working for the top brand. Night and day, I tell you.

All of that changed once the USWA collapsed in late-2002. With ECW rebranding as UWF and the Murrey/Mickey alliance creating the UWA, there was now a new paradigm

wherein there were two formidable brands – and briefly even three with the birth of the LWF – with no clear superior company. It was out of these conditions with actual competition and no clear dominant force that the war for ratings supremacy in addition to the underhanded tactics employed by the Mouse brothers necessitated the birth of the WOW to help bring stability and order to the industry.

At first, the World of Wrestling was merely an organization necessary for coordinating joint events such as the annual award show and “Epicenter of Mayhem”. In fact, this was the initial arrangement throughout the rest of the Third Era. Then, Benny reached out to the organization in late-2007 to pitch his idea for the inaugural “From Dusk Til Dawn”. THAT was the moment that the World of Wrestling evolved more into the organization that it is now.

The manpower and resources required to piece together such a supercard led the organization to grow its staff, arrange a permanent and solid leadership structure, and eventually be positioned to regulate the business as a whole. “From Dusk Til Dawn” then crowned the first ever Undisputed Champion of the industry – Master Splinter – following a massive interpromotional tournament sanctioned by BWM Inc., Mmouse Enterprises, and Brown Inc., and then we had the next and final key step to solidifying the new powers of this organization: the inaugural WOW Draft, which preceded the launch of the Fourth Era’s ratings war.

Yes, HCW went on to dominate the Fourth Era, but that dominance never truly took on the form of the hegemony we saw in the First and Second Eras under the WWF or USWA. This is because EWA was highly competitive with HCW from June 2008 until at least November of that year, and UWA managed to be truly competitive the following spring. Still, the WOW had officially been established as the governing body of the industry with this completed evolution from late-2003 through mid-2008.

But, we will come back to that, because now I need to talk about why WIN exists. First and foremost, I want it to be clear that I am NOT a hater of Mr. Murrey. Jeff was always good to me both during his time in Mmouse Enterprises and when I worked with him during the Second Era. Murrey is a visionary who can not be overstated as the brains behind why we are even involved in this business to begin with. Yet, while his genius remains apparent (especially in terms of comedy), he has lost a little of his touch with reality over time.

I don’t mean that as an insult, though. I am speaking bluntly. I mean, come on, this same guy was seen one year practically holding Miss Elizabeth hostage as his temporary face of WWE, and then the next year he was drafting Nikki Bella to become his bride...though he later married her off to his son...Pete. These are not the actions of a sane man, but I digress.

Rather, peaking into his loss of sanity is essential to understanding the birth of WIN. This whole journey to the latest venture started with Murrey’s deep resentment with regards to the organization that is WOW. Given that Murrey’s genius gave rise to the industry as it

is, and birthed the foundational era, he often fondly and openly recalls the glory days of old when regulations were nonexistent.

All the brief chatter about his bitterness towards WOW for the failed effort to have him lead the organization is sort of a red herring. This isn't about him leading the organization. This is about him being annoyed with the regulations borne out of the mere existence of WOW. Murrey has spent the better part of the last three years picking apart everything that he hates about the regulations – especially the available talent list -, and now he has introduced WIN as a supposed alternative.

But, an alternative to WOW, WIN is not.

While the member companies of WIN has changed since its inception (we are now down to WWE and TNA, the rights to the latter of which were purchased by Murrey via trade from BWM Inc.), but what we now know is that WIN purports to offer a complete anthology of the libraries of the brands associated with it alongside a quasi-competitive state between WWE and TNA.

The confusion at WOW over all of this alongside a busy holiday season has led to delayed website updates since this was all revealed, but one thing that has been made clear to me in my attempts to reach out to Mr. Bunny over at WOW is that WIN is recognized as part of the industry, with even the WWE World Heavyweight Championship now recognized as inheriting the WOW Undisputed Championship lineage via Seth Rollins capturing the former title.

If you are not following my meaning, I will try to be a little more succinct here: WOW is still regulating the industry and the birth of WIN changes nothing. Case in point? The upcoming WOW Week.

There is no reality in which WWE or “WIN” skips the Draft in large part because no promotion can, since the contracts of all nonexempt talent are temporary. Also, WOW has conducted the ratings reports since inheriting said responsibility during the Fourth Era. Honestly, I will be blunt: it is NOT possible to abandon WOW, because WOW is essentially the industry, but with an official name.

What WIN is, though, is a new umbrella organization with member sub-promotions. WIN is more like the original UWA (with Murrey's North Division and Mickey's South Division) than it is the WOW. And, honestly, that is the lens through which we need to observe and analyze WIN.

In this respect, I have to assess WIN as a great new creation concocted by Murrey. It has no chance of replacing WOW, but it does offer a creative approach to competing against ULW and AEW in the year to come. Now, that way of looking at WIN makes it less laughable and more formidable for AEW and ULW to anticipate.

So, yeah, if you seriously believe that Murrey is competing with WOW, yes you can laugh your ass off. But, if you see WIN as I do, the WIN is a threat to the current order of AEW v. ULW for the top spot.

This could become the shot in the arm that WWE has needed all along, but we will see.





At Each Other's Throats (An Analysis of the Top Feud at the Moment)

Doc Brown versus Paul Heyman

By Anthony with that Whale Penis

Yo! Listen up! I hate to bury this here plot, but I have to straight up say something here before I get to crackin with this here analysis: there are a lot of incredible feuds behind the scenes and up on yo screens, but I had to pitch this idea just so Blaster's dipshit ass didn't get my fuckin spot in yet anothe magazine installment. The peeps need to hear from the conquerer of kitties – and I don mean the cats on yo streets -, the dick maximus with the snake hiding in green tights...yeah, I am talkin bout yo boy: A to the N to the T to the...fuck, this is takin forever to type out! You know my mutha fuckin name!

Other than tryna ease my way on to this magazine, why else would I suggest these two balding geriatrics? It's simple, cuz! I be straight up dyin ova here every time they on my screen!

You got all these ignant mutha fuckas out here talkin bout how the ol' Doc has taken the bidness by storm, and everybody up in the club done forgot bout my boy, the seal offspring of a walrus and a groundhog, Mr. Hey-Man!

On a serious note, I never made the connection before that Paul's name was literally a hidden greeting. COMPLETELY BLEW MY MUTHA FUCKIN MIND!

But, now, the Doc is steppin all ova Paul's street cred, and that shit don fly here, my boy! Nah! We keep it 100 round here, and the real facts be tellin those of us with enuff brain cells to see for ourselves that Doc would be nuthin without Paul! Paul done laid the foundation for Doc to walk and shit all ova! This is some bullshit!

You get that Doc Walrus Man! You get em and beat his ass til all the jelly shoot out his ears! Do for us OGs!

Back to what is happenin right now and we see Doc all disrespectful and shit, tryna get back in the science game as Paul is actually bein serious! Doc's wastin all our time with stupid experiments while Paul is breedin champs with the sex between his genius and his mouth. I have to keep it real, NO FUCKIN CAP! Paul is the man, and Doc is the fake, like fo real! DOC ain't even his real first name!! Google it, bitch!

If you mutha fuckas keep doubtin the pasty bitch tits of the man who always be hollerin his own name to the heavens, Imma have to impregnate Stacy when she finally calls me and name that baby Fuck Outta Here, because you all can just get the fuck outta here wit dat shit!!

Doc may have a few second rate mid champs under his belt, but Paul is collectin world champs like lint in his pockets on a dusty afternoon. Maybe when you grow up, Doc, and find yo real ass identity again, we can talk bout you being Paul protégé, but for now, he rides solo both in his ride – that Penguin mobile in Batman Returns – and in life, cuz no one can touch em!

Well, I'm gettin kinda tired typin out all of this award winnin shit. Maybe they should nominate me for a Pulitzer or somethin. I eat Cam and Chrissy's lunch, ol fake ass wannabe authors! Fuck outta here!

Peace!



A graphic featuring the text "ULW Talent Bio" in a dark blue, sans-serif font. The letters "ULW" are larger and positioned above "Talent Bio". The entire text is enclosed within a thin, dark blue rectangular border. The background is a light gray gradient with a subtle wavy line across the middle.

ULW Talent Bio

ULW Talent Bio

Iyo Sky

By The Superstar

What is my finisher? The Over-The-Moonsault

Who is my favorite wrestler (past or present)? Master Splinter

Who is my most hated wrestler (past or present)? Sasha Banks

Highest Accolade? PWI Women's Championship

Big Break Happened Where? PWI

What regrets do I have for my career so far? Not making a bigger mark on the industry through now. People like to overlook me when they are talking about the best in the business. No more!

Plans for 2026? To reclaim the top spot in women's wrestling! As of now, I am no longer going to be known as "Io Shirai". Instead, the people will call me "TYO SKY"! I am entering the new year as a woman with renewed purpose and no one will deny me my destiny!





Historic Spotlight (Highlight of a Moment at this point in wrestling history)

December 2003: The First Total Anarchy Match

By Johnny Quest

December 28th, 2003 was a very important day both in the history of Mmouse Enterprises as well as the history of the wrestling world. That was the night of UWA's Second Annual "Motivation" extravaganza. It was marking a year since the first-ever UWA Heavyweight Champion's crowning at the conclusion of a massive tournament which saw Dragonfly become the inaugural holder over Rhyno.

It was also a night wherein one of UWA's cornerstone annual PPVs (with the other being "Oblivion") was in direct competition with UWF's "No Boundaries" PPV.

Lastly, this was the night slated to see the introduction of one of professional wrestling's most dangerous matches: the Total Anarchy Match!

Earlier in the fall, Mickey had dreamed up the concept of this match. He envisioned a match wherein 7 match stipulations would combine to put the participants in this bout would endure hell for the right to be called champion.

The idea behind the special stipulations was that it was to combine the seven most brutal matches in imagination. For starters and secondly, there were to be four participants, and they were to battle it out under iron man rules, with the winner of the most falls at the end of the allotted time getting the victory. Thirdly, falls were to count anywhere, including the entire arena, if the stars managed to get out there.

Fourthly and fifthly, while pinfalls and submissions would earn the participants one fall a piece, there would be special falls awarded for a number of reasons, and these reasons consisted of the first-blood rule and the recently-introduced stipulation of "bone break rules". For the participant drawing first blood, they would be granted two additional falls, while the participant who injured another would earn five additional falls. This special falls component was especially important to the vision of truly creating "anarchy". The "bone break rules" stipulation was to be replaced in later iterations with the more dangerous "bruised and bloody rule"

Sixthly, the top rope would be covered in barbwire, and finally, the ring would be surrounded by the hell in a cell. These stipulations when announced were truly groundbreaking. Often seen as the pinnacle of Mickey's creative genius.

Dragonfly was a tad tied up at the moment as UWA was looking to add a true second top tier standard bearer with FRED being just a couple of months into his initial world title reign, but before we get to the champion defending here, I want to examine the other participants:

The Soultaker

Almost 6 years removed from his incredible first world title win over Slammu at USWA's second Wrestlemania, which took place in Bombai, India in front of an estimated two million in the crowd, the Soultaker was entering this match as a member of Mickey's so-called "Ministry of Enforcement". Mickey had created this group despite banning stables in UWA in the wake of the Allegiance War. Soultaker was essentially seen by Mickey as his leader of the group, charged with ensuring that Blaster and others were kept in line.

In other words, Soultaker was kind of recognized as being in the twilight of his full-time career. His prime was fading fast, and his days atop the company were long gone. He got into the match after tying with Brandon Lee in a qualification match. His role was that of a veteran who would bring some legitimacy to the bout.

Brandon Lee

Lee was the new face, in a way, as the previous year saw Lee paired with his brother Sean Olson as they became the inaugural Tag Team champions. The year since had seen Lee and Olson split up and pursue their own dreams in the aftermath of their history-making inaugural Aerial Assault Match at “Abominable Actions” in June. In 2001 and 2002, they managed to impress the world for the first time with their involvement in the Allegiance War when HCW jumped into the mix.

Yet, despite coming out short in June, Lee actually did a better job seizing the moment in the immediate aftermath. Lee had an underdog run in the intervening months which produced his opportunity to have a qualification match in the first place! Lee’s performance in this historic bout led to a grand conversation amongst wrestling fans and critics alike. Despite coming up short in the end, just as with the Aerial Assault Match, Lee stole the show and was catapulted even further. In fact, this match made him THE star of his family until Sean Olson was signed by LWF the following Spring.

Frank Shamrock

Around the time that Ken Shamrock debuted, Frank Shamrock emerged, displaying for the world that he was actually more unhinged than his brother Ken. Frank became a borderline comedy act due to how he would lose his mind in the ring. Then, he became a darkhorse act in the fall of 2003 en route to the second “Motivation”. Fans started seeing him as a believable contender, and then he had a great reaction from the crowd to his qualification.

For a major portion of the match, Shamrock became the crowd favorite. The audience was drawn in by Frank’s energy, and were riveted by the fight he brought to the table. Brandon Lee may have had the talks about his future generated by this bout, but it was Frank who won the moral victory. The people were awakened to what he brings to the table, and were loudest when he was on a run!

FRED

Late-2002 through mid-2003 was the age of Dragonfly’s emergence, but Dragonfly’s initial reign ended in injury and a botched proxy title defense. The same night that Dragonfly was forced to lose his title was the night that Maniac introduced us to the most celebrated monster in wrestling history: FRED!

Initially billed as Maniac’s imaginary friend who would tell him to do stupid things, FRED soon became the most feared star in the business, and his swift rise to the top was sealed when he almost murdered Rhyno in a hellacious bout at “Dead Bodies Everywhere” to become the new Heavyweight Champion.

There was speedy recognition that FRED didn’t have many believable threats, so his reign prompted the creation of the match in question. FRED entered this match as a

statistical underdog for the first time in his career, and while there were close calls for him, he ultimately came out on top to solidify his legacy as the new dominant face of the company!

Aftermath

The Total Anarchy Match came on the same night that Kane Two was revealed to have been Agramon all along as well as the crowning of the inaugural Immunity Champion, but it remained as THE moment that this event is best remembered for. In fact, it is the BEST remembered moment across the industry for that night!

This match transformed the careers of each participant. Soultaker's torch had effectively been passed to the new monster as Soultaker entered into a trajectory to feud with his returning brother Agramon. Soultaker never led a company again after this moment.

Frank Shamrock's stock rose as a legitimate contender, but he tragically has since never reclaimed the level he enjoyed on this night. It is broadly seen as the peak of his career, even if it felt like we were getting to know him for the first time.

Brandon Lee's career is arguably the one that was the most impacted by the bout. Lee had been viewed as a permanent midcarder in training before this night, but he rose above the expectations and shined brighter than anybody else when it was all said and done. This match is directly responsible for the initial world title reign he would enjoy 5 years later, as it told the world that he was a serious star!

Finally, FRED survived his first real challenge and still looked monstrous while doing it. This bout capped a hellacious year for FRED where he went from an imaginary friend to being the top talent in the company in the span of a year. He would go on to hold the title until he dropped it to Maniac three months later at the Second Oblivion.

All in all, the Total Anarchy Match remains today as a standard bearer for innovation in the business. The only other match creation to truly compare with it in influence and success is BWM Inc.'s Massacre Six Match.

Mickey was never able to top this innovation, and the match has remarkably been seen seldom over the span of the industry's now-7 eras. The world saw magic that night...amidst a design of chaos, as crafted by a madman hell-bent on industry domination.





Love Bites: A Loner's Bitter Analysis

Where are the Murreys (Pete and Nikki)?

By Ric Venom

Call me old fashioned, but in my day, when you married the love of your life in the world of professional wrestling it either meant shenanigans or that you at least put your marriage on display every chance you got in front of the cameras!

But, NOOOOOOOO, we haven't gotten so much as a peep out of the supposed happy couple of Nikki Bella and Pete the Ref since we last saw them complete with their unconventional marriage counselor, the Rattlesnake himself!

Look, I don't mean to be Mr. Grumpy pants over here – outside of the fact that the LOVE of my life was nearly murdered in front of the world by those cowards...

...sorry, got a little personal there...

Where was I? Oh yeah! Nikki and Pete need to kiss, make up, and have some referees with daddy issues already! Like, WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE??? Come on!

I hope WIN lights a fire under this couple's collective asses so we can see more of their misadventures. Quit taking yourselves too seriously, already. WWE was killing it with the shit that we all love: which is to say the moments where we can barely breathe from laughing so damn hard!

I feel like I've been ghosted by a girl who I was coerced into dating in the first place, but found her oddly cute all along. This is some bullshit and I insist on you calling me ba...wait, wrong grudge...apologies!

When WWE comes back after the first of the year, the first order of business needs to be a new reality show with Pete and Nikki trying to save the world from bad marital situations. Call it "Don't Count Love Out"...or something like that.

Seriously, though, if WWE uses this idea name, you BETTER pay me in free WIN subscriptions for life, you hear me??????

Now, will they take my advice? Doubtful, but a guy can dream, right? Just give us something. There's currently only one active love story going on in the industry right now, and I am sick to death of seeing Saguna and Nyla creating water fountains of love in my peripheral vision...

...I SWEAR I WASN'T TRYING TO SPY ON YOU!! MY HAND WASN'T WHERE YOU THOUGHT IT WAS!! AHHHH!!

Ok, I will be back next time to bitch some more about the lack of my LOVEly LADY!



LEGENDARY TALES

Legendary Tales

The Moment Slammu Came To Town

By Iron Claw

It was Independence Day 1996, and the boys were growing restless. WPW had been on fire for several months by this point, tearing it up on the independent scene. Mickey's investment was starting to seriously pay off and the word was getting out. I was one of the latest signings to an independent promotion that Mickey had contracted with to develop his stars for what he internally dubbed "Mission 1997". I, Ballistic, Lieutenant Stone, my brother Steel, Blaster, and Metalhead were all getting some great training in for our impending debut at a Christmas house show just five months down the line.

Those were the days of our innocence. We had not yet burst onto the mainstream. Hell, WPW hadn't even made itself known to the WWF yet. Still, we were hungry, and we were more than ready to prove to the industry that we could make it big in this business.

Heading into the locker room that day was something else. I was introduced to a slew of great talent who had been firing up the crowds at the WPW special cards since the previous fall. Yes, you had Garz and his brother Beast. There was also Raza, a man who had become kind of a cult favorite in the company. There were the Eliminators: a gang of smaller former hockey players who were somehow allowed to use their hockey sticks in their matches with no consequences.

On top of the card, though, were the warring clans of the Adams, the Hadjis, and the Quests. The Quests, specifically, stole the show each and every night, with Cool Quest becoming THE most popular star both among these clans and among the entire roster. The charisma on that guy was something special, and we were still almost two years removed from his then-upcoming storied run atop USWA's ground-breaking Light Heavyweight division; the success of which has never been replicated, by the way.

Metalhead and I looked at this group of talent and we were in awe. Sure, they weren't exactly top guy material that would break the stranglehold that the WWF held at the time, but the fight we saw in these guys represented a solid alternative to what the industry had become under Murrey's watch.

Sure, Cool Quest was amazing. Garz was a good world champion. Raza was fun to watch. Hell, even David Homeland was an entertaining guy. But, none of these guys could hold a candle to the likes of Krusader, Jesse Ventura, Arn Anderson, nor the pinnacle of professional wrestling: Master Splinter.

Murrey was the gatekeeper of the business, and none of the talented folk that us newcomers saw were going to change that: though, I definitely had a feeling early on about Metalhead's potential, just to make it known.

Either way, we were happy to join our little revolution to build a solid number two company. We met with our new colleagues and shared stories of how we got into the business. It was a lot of fun meeting those boys, and we could have had this gathering last for hours upon hours.

Then, Mickey interrupted our chatter with his signature high pitch raspy voice. Mickey wanted us to pay attention to what he had to say, and it turned out that he was quietly listening to us discuss the health of WPW and its apparent lack of top brand potential.

Our new boss stood there with a quasi laid back demeanor, yet very stern in his tone. He insisted on taking a quick poll, asking "is there anyone among you who is ready to take up the mantle and tear down the Murrey Empire?" Predictably, no one said a word in response; not even the multi-time WPW World Champion, Garz Gargoyale.

This lack of a response seemingly came as no surprise to Mickey, though, as he quipped “I thought not”, but then immediately followed it up by reminding us of why we all joined him in WPW in the first place. Mickey laid out his vision to bring an end to the then-current order of Murrey on top of the world that he brought into the mainstream. It was going to start from an independent revolution, and then it would steal the show sometime early in 1997...by hijacking an episode of WWF Raw!

There was an audible gasp in the room. The talent had no idea what to think of this mad vision. Mickey wasn't content with leaving this thought in our minds, though, as he continued to describe how he envisioned the arrival of WPW changing the game. In his mind, WPW would emerge as the talk of the town with superior wrestling, and better/younger talent.

He then pivoted to addressing the elephant in the room: the lack of a true main event star to carry our banner to a moral victory. This was the moment that Mickey revealed his purchase and re-launching of a boxing league called the “World Boxing Federation”, which he planned to use as a tool to package and deliver up a new leader of the industry.

At this second, Mickey proceeded to introduce us to the star of the new coming era, the man who he planned to have lead the charge in taking down the old empire, the reigning WBF champion...Slammu.

None of us had ever heard the name before this moment, so you can probably imagine the pure shock we all experienced when the light piercing through the doorway was suddenly darkened by the emergence of this new beast! More audible gasps could be heard as Slammu entered the room. There was pure fright in there!

Of course, Slammu attempted to politely introduce himself, only to have one unfortunate soul mock his voice for being too high pitched. Slammu promptly knocked that guy out...and we honestly never saw him in the locker room again!

Mickey revealed to us in the locker room that Slammu would arrive in WPW by the fall, but that he would first be showcased as the star attraction in WBF whilst secretly training with Splinter to hone in on his wrestling skills. Ultimately, he was going to be THE guy, and I think it is safe to say that the locker room quickly agreed with this plan!

While none of us realized at the time that Slammu would go on to become one of the greatest of all time, we certainly understood that his arrival meant that things were truly prepared to change in a major way! The big shark was our ticket to glory, and he remains perhaps the greatest original talent in the history of Mmouse Enterprises!

I have more stories with Slammu to share over time, but for now I will leave this as it is. Those are tales for another day. See you then!





Mickey's Family Secrets

When Mickey met Abby

By The Crock

Welcome, welcome, welcome! Woody Woodstrum the Third here, otherwise popularly known as THE CROCK! Well, the magazines Gods have spoken and smiled upon thee for the most popular segment of my award-winning (in my own mind) show has now become a semi-regular part of this magazine series!

Hoo-ray

Anyways, on to what you are all waiting for: the debut. Before I begin, you may ask yourself how it is that I was able to come about this information that will be shared with you shortly, and all I can say is that I am quite the resourceful man! People like to talk to

me, what can I say? No, but really, I have legitimate sources who always swear me to secrecy and I am not about to risk my hard work getting these people to trust me all to spoil who it is that tells me shit all for the cheap pop.

No, I'm a gentleman. I don't kiss and tell...

...

...

...Not that I kissed the sources or anything like that!

Alright, now we have to get to the good stuff here! We've all seen the footage of Mickey informing Abby that he was wanting to take her under his wing. He was feeding her the information about her true origins and claiming that Benny wanted her hidden from the world, but the truth is that there is sooooo much more to than what we saw on screen!

For starters, the moment that we all saw featuring a young Abigail Mouse sitting with Mickey, Dr. Evil, and Mike Rotunda, was what happened the evening of October 30th, 2017.

Mickey had known the whereabouts of Abby for a few years by this point, but he had no yet made a solid plan of action until he was certain that Benny was prepared to try and test Mmouse Enterprises again.

Record Scratch!!!

Correct, you heard me right. Mickey was only concerned with Benny trying to start another ratings war after the Fifth Era fell apart. At this phase, Mickey was comfortably retired from promoting, and even enjoyed a brief stint atop the WOW watching some smaller independent companies rebuild the old territories which used to reign prior to Vince McMahon, but that is another story for another time.

Mickey had long reveled in knowing that PWI not only showed up in the Fifth Era, but that they were effectively the only brand to do so, save for a handful of events by BWM Inc. "NEW". There were no ratings battles in the era – the first such era since the First Era -, and Mmouse Enterprises entered the post-era phase in a healthy financial position. So, when Mickey came across an internet rumor from a reliable source, he jumped up and prepared to go to war.

The rumor? Whispers that Benny had been reaching out to networks and sponsors in the summer of 2017 in preparation for an eventual re-launch of BWM Inc.'s wrestling department. This was troubling news for Mickey's bottom line, as PWI had been seen previously as kind of a true Last Wrestling Federation, if you will, and there was no chance in hell that he was going to let Benny steal that legacy from him.

So, where does Abby figure in here? Well, Mickey had found out about Abby a few months after the Fifth Era ended. She was nearing her 12th birthday, and there was someone close to Benny - who was also on Mickey's payroll - who spotted Benny traveling to see this mysterious girl about the same age as Megan. Mickey thought this was very strange, and that it could somehow gain him leverage in the event that Benny tested him once more. So, Mickey ordered some in his team to keep tabs on the young girl and find out everything they could about how she was connected to Benny.

A few months later, near Christmas of 2015, Mickey discovered that this young girl might have been Benny's bastard daughter or something, due to how frequent his visits were getting. The twist, though, came later as Mickey learned that Dr. Evil - the longtime family confidante - had facilitated Abby's adoption by the Rotundas in late 2003, and that they were paid a large sum of money to move out to the Bayou.

Mickey was reportedly incensed that Evil had kept this from him, but he wanted direct access to Abby. This was why Mickey - instead of choosing to dispense with Evil for the betrayal - directed Dr. Evil to reach out to the Rotundas and arrange a meeting. Due to the remote location and the paranoia of the Rotundas, Mickey had to work on making this meeting happen for almost two years before it finally transpired.

With Evil finally fessing up to what went down, Mickey was made fully aware of who Abby was, complete with some unexplained anomalies surrounding her early life. From mysterious neonatal nurse deaths and illnesses to even some accidents which happened along the road when she was riding in the back of the Rotunda family car, Abby was something special, and that meant that she was more than leverage for the power hungry Mickey.

She was a potential weapon to vanquish Mickey's enemies!

At this point we need to fast forward to the end of Abby's conversation with Mickey. Mickey had manipulated the young lady into thinking that she was a burden to her family and some cursed creature unwanted by her birth parents. She angrily stormed off into the woods once Mickey left...meeting Azazel. The conversation between them at that moment is still a mystery, but what we do know is that Abby ran off screaming through the woods, but stopped suddenly when she was confronted by Bo and Bray, whom had followed her.

Bray reportedly tried telling Abby that she was their family regardless of what she was told and that everything was going to be ok, but she wasn't having it! She "threw" Bo and Bray out of her way and stormed off deep into the dark forest. She was missing for three days after this (a detail that you likely didn't know before now, as even Mickey and his minions were unsure of the timeline), but her absence and the search for her abruptly came to an end when a family cabin was set ablaze, alongside a nearby barn. As Mike, Bray, and Bo rushed to the scene to calm the inferno, they noticed their house on fire as well!

Screams haunted to scene just as much as the flames until said screams were snuffed out. When the fire finally calmed down, Bray and Bo rummaged through the ashes and tried to recover any signs of life, but their search bore no fruit...until they found charred remains of whom they thought was Abigail.

For this reason, Bray, Bo, and Mike insisted for years that Abby had perished that night as Bray sought vengeance and comfort in the arms of Azazel; the man he had introduced his brother and Abby to a few years earlier. It was during this meeting that Bray deduced that Azazel was an enemy of the family and needed to be stopped in his tracks!

Azazel, though, was soon gone and out of reach by the family for good. For years until last spring, Bray and Bo thought that Abby had died, but she was under Mickey's thumb the whole time, and Mickey had prepped her for his evil intentions by assigning her care to Azazel – a.k.a., Evil Taker – in the interim years until his grand plot could be revealed.

That part of the story, though, will have to be saved for another time. Until then, see you later.





Announcement of the ULW Undisputed Title Tournament Seeding

Setting up the 40-Man Tournament Extravaganza

By Blaster Bladwick

Alright, ladies and gentleman, the seeding for the ULW Undisputed Championship tournament has finally been unveiled, and it is incumbent upon me to share the details with you all! So, let's get right to it!

Third Tier Seeding (13-20)

Here is where the first round participants lie. The seeding is as follows:

TWENTY-Seed – Premier (Earthquake) and Extreme (Mojo Rawley)

NINETEEN-Seed – Premier (Jake Hagar) and Extreme (Magog)

EIGHTEEN-Seed – Premier (Owen Hart) and Extreme (Penta)
SEVENTEEN-Seed – Premier (Pac) and Extreme (Aiden English)
SIXTEEN-Seed – Premier (Scott Steiner) and Extreme (Keith Lee)
FIFTEEN-Seed – Premier (Roderick Strong) and Extreme (Yokozuna)
FOURTEEN-Seed – Premier (Saguna) and Extreme (Giant Gonzales)
THIRTEEN-Seed – Premier (Dragonfly) and Extreme (Slammu)

These are the men who qualified via triple threat matches, and you can probably deduce why the stars placed where they did in the tournament seeding. For example, Slammu and Dragonfly sit atop the Third Tier as they have 35 world titles between them, and eras of the past were literally defined by them!

There are also some serious underdog players in here from Pac and Owen Hart to Keith Lee and Penta, and so many in between. I wouldn't count anyone out here, but only 8 men in the Third Tier will make it to the second round to face the well-rested First Tier stars, but more on that later.

Second Tier Seeding (5-12)

Here is where most of the second round participants lie. The seeding is as follows:

TWELVE-Seed – Premier (Ghost Rider) and Extreme (Umaga)
ELEVEN-Seed – Premier (Shawn Spears) and Extreme (Jerry Lawler)
TEN-Seed – Premier (Tyler Bate) and Extreme (Edge)
NINE-Seed – Premier (Kevin Owens) and Extreme (Frank Shamrock)
EIGHT-Seed – Premier (Krusader) and Extreme (Leonardo)
SEVEN-Seed – Premier (Jungle Boy) and Extreme (Granddaddy Duxen)
SIX-Seed – Premier (AJ Styles) and Extreme (Drew McIntyre)
FIVE-Seed – Premier (Ted Dibiase Jr.) and Extreme (Lexis King)

These are the men who qualified via singles matches, and – just as was the case with the preview tier – you can extrapolate from this list to understand why each star placed the way they did. In case you are confused, though, I am here to help!

Ted Dibiase Jr.'s placement over AJ Styles may be a little confusing given Styles's numerous – and more recent - world titles, but Dibiase has one stat that Styles doesn't: he defeated Dragonfly, and that actually holds a significant amount of sway for Dibiase. Ultimately, that doesn't matter, though, as Styles and Dibiase will face each other in the second round.

The second tier faces each other like the third tier does in the first round. So, these men don't really get a bye in the way that the first tier does. Either way, there is a plethora of incredible world-title caliber talent here, so be ready for some incredible bouts to come!

First Tier Seeding (1-4)

Here is where the League Members lie. The seeding is as follows:

FOUR-Seed – Premier (Ron Killings) and Extreme (Lance Archer)

THREE-Seed – Premier (Brock Anderson) and Extreme (Darby Allin)

TWO-Seed – Premier (Bray Wyatt) and Extreme (Sammy Guevara)

ONE-Seed – Premier (Brock Lesnar) and Extreme (Jacob Fatu)

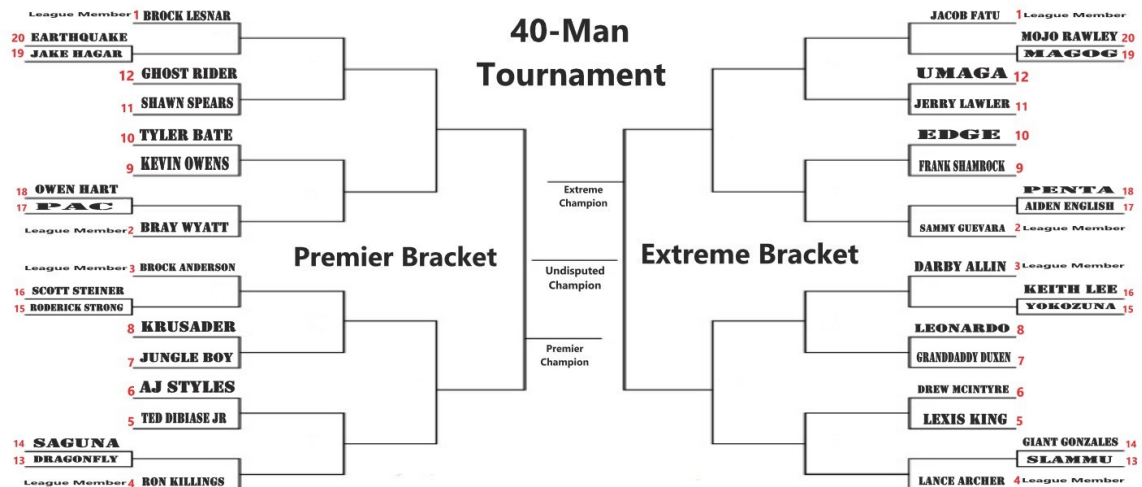
These are the men who secured their status as a League member before or immediately after Hallow-Travaganza, and it is a list of predominantly world title-class talent. There are a few surprises here as well (such as Killings and Archer), but then we look at the just – in my assessment – placement of Lesnar and Fatu atop their respective brackets.

The First Tier earns a bye in the first round, and then they take on the winners of the Third Tier battles in the second round while the Second Tier battles amongst themselves. The tournament – like numerous other sports – is designed in such a way to give the top seeds the clearest path to victory, but such is FAR from guaranteed.

There is plenty of room for upsets, and I anticipate that we may see plenty of upsets!

So, there you have it! The tournament is ready for launch, and we are about to see the fun begin starting Monday, January 12th!

Best of luck to the participants!





Annual ULW AWARDS

ULW Magazine Awards

Industry Awards for 2025

By Jeff Esiason

Best Special Non-WOW Event of 2025: Sympathy for the Devil

The top card of the year was a difficult choice for many reasons, but the reason that I feel it takes the top spot is that it represented the perfect culmination of stories for AEW. As of now, this year's variation of the Halloween special holds the record for the highest rating of all time, and who could honestly look at the show and deny that it was well-deserved? Obviously, the highlights were the costume contest for High-Minded (with Doc Brown's arrival) and the reveal that Bo Wyatt/Uncle Howdy finally arrived to join sides with Megan Mouse to disrupt the incredible main event between Zayn and Danhausen.

Let's not forget the added bonus of what was being concealed about Benny's reactions to Danhausen being attacked in the ring. Overall, an incredible show with a deserving award!

Best Rivalry of 2025: Vince Russo versus the Non-Bros

The year was complete with amazing feuds across all three companies, and I know that I am going to get a lot of hate for my choice here, but I see no better feud than the ongoing war between Russo and those who aren't his "Bros". This war of the Bro has triggered Russo being drafted to ULW, his rise to lead ULW, and even his reveal of "Bro Theory".

I am being told that Vince Russo fully intends to address the world at the 2026 draft, and it is likely to be a doozy. But first, he, Mike O'Malley, and the Bro Commission need to find Keibler, Perry, Rusev, and English. What a ride!

Love Affair of 2025: Saguna and Nyla Rose

A few months ago, this would have undoubtedly belonged to Nikki Bella and Pete the Ref, but then WWE up and scrapped that whole story. Meanwhile, Saguna's blind pursuit of love took him on a journey into the hairy bosom of Nyla at Starrcade this year. Despite it creating many toilets and paper bags getting filled with up-chuck, this Love story promises to carry over into 2026 with authority, especially as Saguna prepares to enter into this ULW title tournament!

Best Match of 2025: Lights Out Match – Brock Lesnar versus Slammu

So many great matches this year deserved to be mentioned here; from the Rock/Brock encounter, Rock/Jesse match, Olson/Lee, and even the hellacious White versus Ospreay bout that I watched last week, there are sooooo many candidates for best match! I just needed to put that out here, but I think it would be wrong for me to undersell the amazing battle between Slammu and Lesnar at Hallow-Travaganza.

It was a bloody and pretty damn brutal affair, but it was incredibly entertaining and kept you on the edge of your seat! With the fact in mind that the two monsters had battled to a no contest almost 2 months prior, we were all watching this with anticipation that it could happen again. Now, both monsters are in the tournament for the Undisputed Title. They would both have to make the finals to have a part three. We'll see.

Best Comedy Act of 2025: Doc Brown

Whether it was with his insane role as Chad Gable's partner in crime and the escapades in Mexico and with ICE earlier in the year in WWE or it is with his current AEW run wherein Brown has finally interacted with Paul Heyman and promises to reveal something at Elite Warfare in two weeks, Doc Brown is a gem without whom the industry may be very dull.

Comedy has long played a role in this business, but Brown has mastered it in such a way that it has almost been reinvented. You literally never know what he is doing next, and to top it off, he has an impressive record as a manager. In fact, he is the fastest rising manager in business history. Keep up the great work, man!

Best Tag Team of 2025: Briscoe Brothers

Not since the anticipated arrival of the Young Bucks in 2020 has a team so captivated the world like Mark and Jay. Dem Boyz have yet to win gold, but the fact that EVERY time they are on the screen they create INSTANT GOLD is a testament to what they bring to the table! They will be champions very soon, but for now I am a superfan of this team and saw no alternative as a proper choice for this award!

Best Superstar of 2025: Seth Rollins

Controversial as it may be, especially with Will Ospreay tearing it up in AEW and the Rock nearing history in WWE, I feel it would be nonsensical to choose anyone not named Seth Freaking Rollins!

The currently recognized WOW Undisputed Champion, the former and last ULW Champion, and the current WWE World Heavyweight Champion rose like a phoenix shot out of a black hole jet from wrestling purgatory straight to glory! A year ago, this guy was written off by critics across the board, and now he is prepared to help WWE build its so-called "Apex Era".

In my opinion, becoming the best superstar is the most prestigious award, as the superstars are what make this business function.

Congratulations to all! See you next time!

**BEST
SUPERSTAR
OF THE YEAR**

The image is a magazine cover for 'ULW The Magazine'. It features a central circular frame composed of bright, flowing orange and yellow flames. The background is a deep blue space filled with numerous small, distant stars and several larger, more prominent starbursts or nebulae. The text 'ULW' is centered within the flame circle in a large, bold, gold-colored serif font. Below it, the words 'The Magazine' are written in a smaller, white, serif font.

ULW

The Magazine