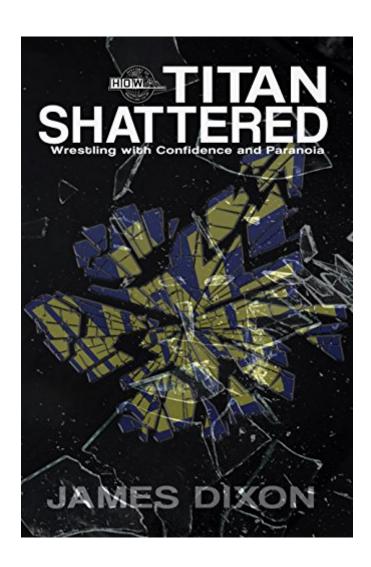
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Titan Shattered: Wrestling With Confidence And Paranoia





Synopsis

The highly anticipated sequel to best-selling Titan SinkingAfter enduring a turbulent year in 1995, Vince McMahon was looking to rebuild his sinking empire in 1996. He had high hopes for a new World Wrestling Federation flag bearer, Shawn Michaels - the man he was looking to as the leader of the WWFâ ™s 'New Generation'. With Michaels supported by a strong cast of established characters, some old faces, and an influx of new blood, McMahon fully expected the WWF to dominate rivals WCW in the burgeoning Monday Night War. It did not work out that way. Titan Shattered tells the behind-the-scenes story of the WWFâ ™s tribulations in 1996. It was a year where paranoia threatened to destroy the WWF, where decades-old industry traditions were broken, and where Vince McMahon fully abandoned his wrestling principles in pursuit of the almighty dollar.

Book Information

File Size: 1410 KB

Print Length: 266 pages

Publisher: History of Wrestling (July 20, 2015)

Publication Date: July 20, 2015

Sold by: A Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0117TSB2G

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #74,166 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #10 in Kindle

Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Sports > Individual Sports > Wrestling #36 in Books >

Sports & Outdoors > Individual Sports > Wrestling

Customer Reviews

James Dixon has done it again and produced an engaging and informative look at a key period in wrestling history. Just as he did with his book Titan Sinking: The Decline of the WWF in 1995 where he explored what was arguably the World Wrestling Federationâ ™s (WWF) most woeful year, he examines 1996 in his new book Titan Shattered: Wrestling with Confidence and Paranoia. As the title suggests, it focuses on the WWF but it also looks at its archrival World Championship Wrestling

(WCW) as well as Paul Heymanâ ™s upstart promotion, Extreme Championship Wrestling (ECW). 1996 was one of the most pivotal years in professional wrestling. As I noted in my book Wrestlingâ ™s Greatest Moments, 1995 marked the beginning of the Monday Night War. While opening shots were fired when WCW launched its own Monday night wrestling program to compete directly against the WWFâ ™s Monday Night RAW, it was in 1996 that WCW began a seemingly unstoppable blitz against the WWF. The acquisition of key WWF players Scott â œRazor Ramonâ • Hall and Kevin â œDieselâ • Nash was bad enough for the WWF but when Eric Bischoff teamed them with Hulk Hogan to form the New World Order (nWo), things got even worse. The book does a great job of documenting Vince McMahonâ ™s stumbles and fumbles at taking the lead in the Monday Night War. Failures included the loss of key players such as Scott Hall and Kevin Nash, an inability to market new talent, as well as a surprising case of sticker shock after signing Bret Hart to a high priced contract to keep him from going to WCW that eventually led to him leaving. Despite some stumbles, 1996 offered glimmers of hope. Vince McMahon hired several WCW castoffs two of which would end up being two of the promotionâ ™s greatest stars.

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