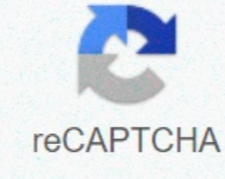




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## Cowboy bob ellis wiki

© 2013 Rob. All rights reserved. 5 October '13 Acrylic on 24 x 24 Wood Cowboy Bob Ellis is one of the most famous cowboy wrestlers in the history of the sport, and probably the first successful cowboy wrestler ever. Ellis was born in Texas to a father who was on a wrestling commission in the San Angelo area. As a youth his passion was with football, excelling in high school and college, and even played some pro games for the Philadelphia Eagles. He served three years as a paratrooper during the Korean War, and played in the Army football team during that time as well. He was one of the first owners of a gym in Texas, bringing the art of bodybuilding to the state, of which he himself was a remarkable doctor. The National Football League would pay him just \$5,000 a season back then, so he soon drew to the world for a match where he would go on to earn so much in one night. He was a graduate of sandor szaba's elite wrestling school and later made his debut in New Mexico as Bob Elliott. After working a year under that name, the promoter gave him a Cowboy trick, and Ellis quickly became the top draw on every card. His finishing move with the trick was bulldog, a maneuver Ellis created based on how he would capture the chers from his youthful days in the rodeo. Bulldog is a maneuver still used to this day, especially currently CM Punk. As a top babyface, he had notable feuds with Dick Bruiser, Destroyer, Buddy Rogers and Fritz Von Erich, among others. He also had a remarkable tag team run with Johnny Valentine, with whom they had a long time against the Fabulous Kangaroos. Ellis was a three-time world heavyweight champion, beating the Destroyer in 1964 for the Los Angeles version, and then beating Baron von Raschke in 1972 and later Jimmy Valiant in 1974 for the Indianapolis version of WWA. He also wrestled throughout the National Wrestling Alliance territories, having battles with the likes of Bob Geigel, Sonny Myers, and Bulldog Bob Brown, in the American Wrestling Alliance against Mike DiBiase, Bobby Heenan, and Ox Baker, and in the World Wrestling Council against Ali Baba and Carlos Colon. Cowboy Bob Ellis made his world debut for the match in 1955 and retired from it in the early 1980s and during that time reportedly had more than 5,000 matches. He's never seen his species before, and maybe never again. About the piece: I wanted to continue experimenting with the approach I used for my Pat O'Connor portrait with this because they were similar at a time when they wrestled in and the importance of their careers. First I laid the blacks with a brush, then he soothed the acrylic paints and applied them with a sponge brush, letting the paint drip wherever he wanted. I had a stroke accidentally splash some paint up over the piece and I liked it so I do it a few more times! Because I had a figure so defined with black people, I didn't have to be so presentable with splashes of color, mostly meaning tone instead of actually displaying form. This leads to many happy accidents, which is always fun. Note: I have a lot of biographical information for this post from this excellent interview with Ellis conducted by Rick Rockwell. Cowboy Bob Ellis is otherwise known as the inventor of the bulldog headlock and the first man to reverse the figure-four leglock. He was from Kerrville, Texas, near San Antonio. Ellis was a former WWA world champion and also held the United States title on several occasions. During his run as a pre-wrestler, Ellis was one of the sport's most popular men. During the Korean War, he served as a paratrooper in the United States army. Ellis originally entered the sport pre-wrestling under the name Bob Elliott. As a young man he appeared in Denver, Colorado and was billed as a protégé of the former world champion, Ed Strangler Lewis. He drew with Jerry Woods on August 8, 1957 in 40-minutes. Elliott took advantage of a sleeper to intercept a second fall from Woods during a rematch on the 5th at 4:27. He won last fall at 1:55 p.m. Woods won the first with a backbreaker at 6:57 p.m. With Lewis behind him in his corner, Elliott used throttle-holds and headlocks in Denver on October 3rd to win in a two-straight fall over his opponent. Promoting morale has obviously helped. Mike London, feeling the growing skills of Elliott, decided to match a young wrestler against one of the sport's proven villains, Dick Bruiser. The match has seen an advanced billing. On November 7, Elliott was ready. He lost his first fall through a backbreaker at 3:17 p.m. Elliott won the second in 40 seconds. Riding an emotional high, Elliott jumped on Dick Bruiser during the final fall, injuring his back and forcing him to concede a match. There is no doubt that this was the biggest win of his short career. The win immediately propelled Elliott for a shot at the regional Rocky Mountain Heavyweight Title, a championship that launched many wrestlers into the national title picture and then the World Heavyweight spotlight. Among them were Everette Marshall, Gorgeous George and Pat O'Connor. His opponent was Bulldog Danny Plechas, another proven competitor. Also in Denver, Elliott has been billed as the most popular to compete in the city since Marshall ruled the rings in the 1930s. Incidentally, Plechas was injured in Albuquerque and could not appear in Denver December 5. Elliott instead beat Hans Schnabel in two of three falls in front of 3,210. He beat Bob Langevin in straight falls in Denver on January 16, 1958. On February 13, he again settled a game with Denver, but again there was talk that it could be given to him. does not appear due to a leg injury in Albuquerque. Elliott beat Jim Wright in three falls, losing the first at 15:48. He lost his first game in Denver on April 10, 1958, against Hans Schmidt. During the summer of '58, he changed his name from Elliott to Ellis and continued to amaze fans and officials everywhere he traveled. Ellis was named 1959 Wrestler of the Year. He traveled to Kansas City and won the Central States Heavyweight Title and continued to tour many of the best wrestling hotspots. Ellis returned to Kansas City and won the Central States title from Kenji Shibuya on March 10, 1960, but dropped a belt to Lee Henning in April. He ventured to Detroit to work for Jim Barnett and Johnny Doyla. He won the United States title in Ontario over Dick Bruiser. He seemed to have Bruiser's number. Ellis lost the rematch in Detroit. He wrestled Killer Kowalski to a twenty-minute draw on May 10, 1961 in Denver. The sheikh met in a three-jump game in Denver at the Coliseo on June 7 in front of 5,000 fans. It was a fierce contest, drawing the most heat from fans and the strongest on a card full of top-notch performers. The sheikh was up to his no-good best when he took the stick and beat Ellis with it, leading to the first fall at 9:37. Although the gun put him down, Ellis rebounded to win the second with a bulldog headlock at 4:38 and then a third at 4:28. On July 19, 1961, at the Coliseu, in front of 4,500 fans, he wrestled with Bruiser in a U.S. title fight. The astul referee, Leo Bahl, decided to reverse his decision to give Bruiser the match, and handed the title to Ellis. Bahl realized that Killer Kowalski helped the champion win the third fall. It wasn't going to cost and Bob was the new title holder. It was his second. On August 10, Ellis teamed up with Pat O'Connor in a special Texas Death Match in Denver against Kowalski and Bruiser. After a total of ten downs, Ellis and O'Connor took seven and the latter won the last at 3:10. Promoter Johnny Doyle signed a rematch between Ellis and Bruiser in the singles format at the U.S. open on August 31 in Denver. A knee fall from Bruiser ensured the opening fall at 2:34, but the bulldog snatched the match. The champion lost his third at 13:44 pinfall and his title along with him. He decided to take on two wrestlers after his partner suffered a leg injury in Denver on September 15, 1961. Ellis teamed up with Yukon Eric against Bruiser and Kowalski in front of 4,147 fans. Eric was injured in the second crash and couldn't continue. Ellis went forward alone and lost the game. Ellis formed a tag team with Eddie Graham in Florida. On April 17, 1962 in Tampa, the duo stopped by the U.S. Tag Team Champions, assassins in a non-title bout. A rematch was scheduled for April 26 at the Fort Homer Hestery Armory in Tampa, and Graham took two-of-three falls off the champs and left with the US Tag Belts. He nearly captured the NWA world title from Buddy Rogers on Friday, June 22, 1962 at Madison Square Garden. Ellis turned number-four in front of a cheering audience. He struggled on October 5, 1962 in St. Louis against Pat O'Connor. Ellis and the former NWA champion went into the 45-minute draw, tied for one-down apiece. He returned to Denver and won the American heavyweight title on February 23, 1963 from Dick Bruiser in two-of-three-falls at the Coliseu. It was his third title victory. The official stopped the fight because of Bruiser's blood loss. Ellis lost his belt back to Bruiser in Denver on March 9th. The match was a special Australian blood match. He ventured to Florida and in March '64, took the NWA Southern heavyweight title from Bob Orton in Tampa. He also gave big O out of commission using his bulldog headlock. Orton was injured and out of action for two months. Ellis wrestled The Destroyer at the Olympic Auditorium in Los Angeles on September 10, 1964 and took the WWA World Heavyweight Title.Two of the most popular wrestlers in the American Wrestling Association teamed up on November 26, 1965 at the Denver Auditorium Arena. Ellis and Verne Gagne were scheduled to meet the World Tag Champions, Larry Hennig and Harley Race, both coming off a 30-day local suspension. The match was a 1-1 draw when the favourites were disqualified. There was no name change, as many had hoped. Ellis and Race fought each other in a special singles match and the Cowboy took it in a one-fall. In mid-1969, he travelled around Australia and had an argument with killer Karl Cox. Ellis drew with Hans Schmidt and Bill Miller on March 22. In 1973, he won the WWA world champion title from Baron Von Raschke in the Midwest. Ellis also competed in Puerto Rico during the 1970s. When it was time to leave the business, Ellis left for his ranch. Title History:-Co-Holder wwwf United States Tag Team Title (1962) w/ Johnny Valentine-Co-Holder NWA United States Tag Team Title (1962) w/ Eddie Graham-NWA Southern Heavyweight Title (1964) defeated Bob Orton Sr.-Co-Holder WWA World Tag Team Title (1964) w/Edouard Carpentier-WWA World Heavyweight Title (1964) (CA) defeated Destroyer-A two-time WWA world heavyweight champion (IN) -Defeated Baron Von Raschke (1973) -Defeated Jimmy Valiant (1974)-WWC North American heavyweight title (1976) defeated Carlos ColonResearch Tim Hornbaker Hornbaker

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