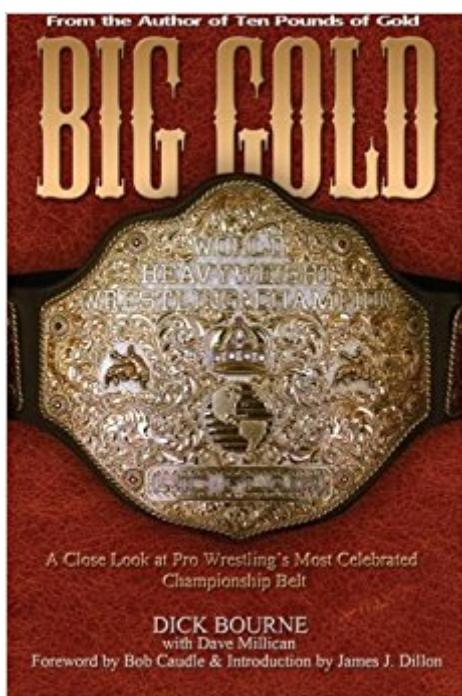


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# Big Gold: A Close Look At Pro Wrestling's Most Celebrated Championship Belt



## Synopsis

"The definitive history of the most famous championship wrestling belt in the world." - Bruce Mitchell, Pro Wrestling Torch "Dick Bourne is the Indiana Jones of title belt archeology." - Mike Johnson, PWInsider.com "Like the famous belts Bourne writes about, this book shines with a luster worthy of its own championship crown." - Mike Mooneyham, Charleston Post & Courier Wrestling's most celebrated championship belt is examined as never before: its origins, its secrets, its amazing story. It is commonly known as the "Big Gold belt" and it has been photographed up-close in amazing detail, on both the original 1986 brown leather and the black leather that replaced it. Plus, for the first time since 1991, the original 1986 "Ric Flair" nameplate is back on the belt. The book includes a special interview with Ric Flair about the earliest days of the Big Gold belt. Plus, special photographs with the "Nature Boy" taken earlier this year as he was reunited with the belt for the first time in over 14 years. From 1986-2000, the Big Gold belt represented the NWA, WCW, and WCW International world titles. And don't forget the "Real World Championship" in the WWF in 1991! Twenty-six different champions held the belt throughout those years. Complete, detailed background on the companies and craftsmen that were involved in making the belt, both the plates and the leather. Plus the real story of who had the belt made, why it was made, and how it was delivered. Dozens of details, large and small, never known or published before. The book includes a complete title history of the belt including all three different championships it represented over 14 years. Plus rare archival documents and concept art from Crumrine Jewelers, amazingly detailed photographs, related memorabilia, and much more. From North Carolina to Nevada to the sunshine state of Florida, follow along the amazing journey of the creation of the Big Gold belt. Also included is a brief foreword by the voice of Mid-Atlantic Wrestling for four decades, broadcaster Bob Caudle and a special introduction by legendary wrestler and manager James J. Dillon. Dillon managed Ric Flair and the Four Horsemen when Flair defended the Big Gold belt around the world. Over 200 pages of Big Gold history, over 120 color photographs, and dozens of rare documents and illustrations. It's the Big Gold belt as you've never seen it before. "...expecting nothing but top-notch research and insight into one of wrestling's most notable belts. I wasn't disappointed. This is a great book." - Tim Hornbaker on WrestlingClassics.com, author of "National Wrestling Alliance" "The Big Gold is a diamond among wrestling belts. And as "Nature Boy" Ric Flair has often proclaimed, "Diamonds are forever!" - James J. Dillon, from the foreword to the book "Big Gold"

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

I love this book, it's absolutely fantastic. It details the circumstances surrounding the original idea for a new NWA championship belt, the actual crafting of the plates, the leather, the nameplates... And also the entire history of the belt: in the ring, in the court room, replacing the strap... You name it, it's here. It answers every question you could ever think to ask.... except one. And unfortunately, it's a biggie: Where has the belt been all these years? As mentioned in the book, the original belt disappeared in 2000, and was finally located in 2013. Unfortunately.... that's it. The book provides no information about what happened to the belt or where's it's been all these years. I understand the current owner's desire for privacy, of course, and do not blame the author for this lapse. But it's still a very major flaw in the book. Don't let this scare you off, though! The photos alone are worth the price of admission, they are absolutely spectacular. And the details of the restoration are extremely interesting. If you're a fan of the Big Gold belt... Buy this book. You will devour it.

This is a great look into the history of one of the greatest Wrestling belt ever. The pictures and stories are amazing. A must have for any belt collected as the author really does his homework. Any unanswered questions (as to where the belt has been for the last 15 years) is no fault of the author as the current owner wishes to remain anonymous. I assume to prevent the WWE from attempting to claim it as their property?

Deal was nothing special. Could be bought anywhere for this price. was only used because I had a gift card given to me.

Been reading it and am amazed at the details in this book. Before i spent 35 on it i debated that being too much but any fan of this belt and the history in wrestling should buy this book. You'll thank me later.

Awesome read. If you're a wrestling fan this is a must read.

Great history lesson on the big gold. Details which I'm guessing a lot of people didn't know

Great book with tons of history and pictures!

Historical masterpiece

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