

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

As this year's installment of SummerSlam approaches within the WWE Universe, and as The Dark Knight continues to smash box office records, WWE.com takes a look at some of the past Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer. Take a sneak peek at the moments that heated up SummerSlam and WWE rings, and the movies that blazed the big screen.

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'88 – The Mega Powers vs. The Mega Bucks | "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?"

Teaming together as the Mega Powers, Hulk Hogan and Macho Man Randy Savage faced off against the dastardly duo of Ted DiBiase and Andre the Giant, known as The Mega Bucks. Meanwhile, moviegoers everywhere spent the summer of '88 – and more than \$156 million – trying to figure out "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?"

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

89 – Mega Maniacs vs. Randy Savage and Zeus | "Batman"

After losing to Hulk Hogan in the movie "No Holds Barred", Zeus sought his revenge in the main event of SummerSlam, teaming with "Macho Man" Randy Savage against Hogan and his long-time friend Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake. That same summer, "Batman" struck gold at the box office, which is more than Zeus (who, ironically, appeared in The Dark Knight) could say.

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'90 – Hart Foundation wins Tag Titles | "Ghost"

With the three-man advantage on Demolition's side, The Hart Foundation persevered in an uphill battle at SummerSlam, a Two-Out-Of-Three Falls Match against the tag team powerhouses. Equally powerful were Patrick Swayze and Demi Moore, who reminded us that clay was cool in the \$217 million smash hit "Ghost".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'91 – The Match made in Heaven | "Terminator 2: Judgment Day"

One of the most famous WWE couples made this SummerSlam one of the most memorable in history as "Macho Man" Randy Savage and Miss Elizabeth exchanged vows within a WWE ring. Robert Patrick also took the plunge as a household name when he beat the crud out of Arnold Schwarzenegger in "T2".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'92 –Bulldog's Intercontinental win in London | "Sister Act"

Brothers-in-law Bret "Hit Man" Hart and Davey Boy Smith put tremendous strain on their family at SummerSlam, where Smith had the chance to win the Intercontinental Title in his home country at London's Wembley Stadium. Meanwhile, "Sister Act" hit a high note with movie audiences, bringing much needed fame to nuns everywhere.

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'93 – The Lex Express | "Jurassic Park"

After doing the impossible and bodyslamming then-champion Yokozuna aboard the U.S.S. Intrepid, Lex Luger rode across the country on the Lex Express with a Championship Match destination at SummerSlam. Almost as large as Yokozuna was the movies' summer of suspense, courtesy of the \$357 million "Jurassic Park".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'94 – The Battle of Two Undertakers | "The Lion King"

Million Dollar Man claimed to have bought Undertaker until The Deadman's long-time associate Paul Bearer promised to bring back the real Phenom, resulting in one of SummerSlam's most legendary main events to this day. That same summer, Disney's motto became "Hakuna Matata," after "The Lion King" ushered in \$312 million. And that ain't no passin' phrase... "Mufasa".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07

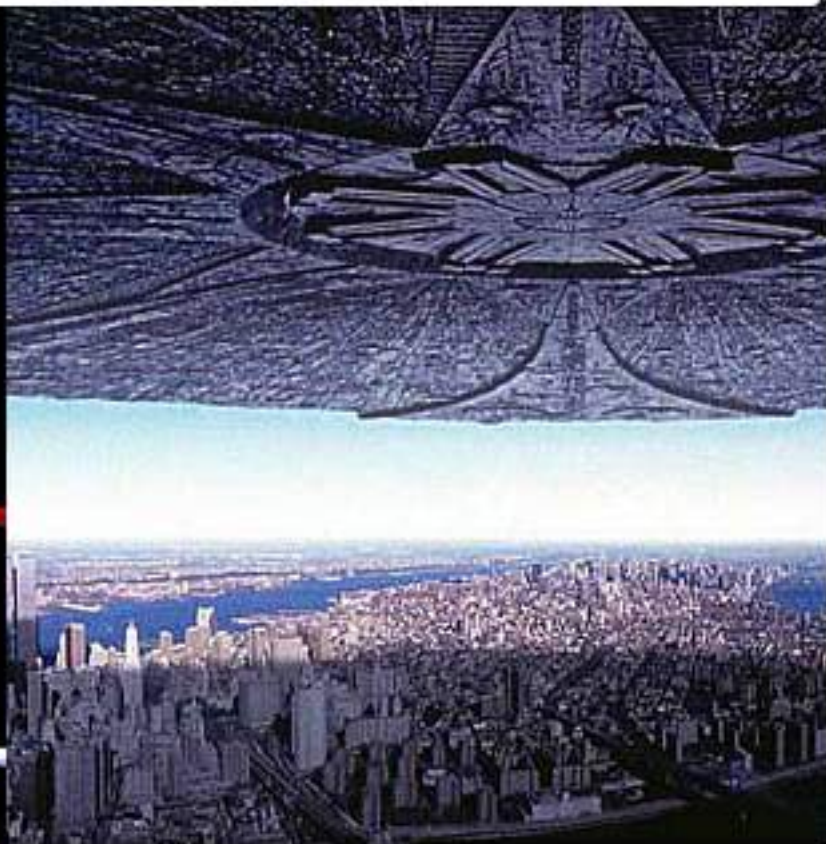


Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'95 – Shawn Michaels retains Intercontinental Title | "Batman Forever"

With their rivalry originally beginning over which person was the real Intercontinental Champion, Shawn Michaels and Razor Ramon faced each other for the title in another Ladder Match, a contest they made famous at 1994's WrestleMania X. Also returning to the top of the box-office heap was the Caped Crusader and Jim Carrey's Riddler, in "Batman Forever".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'96 – Boiler Room Brawl | "Independence Day"

After his debut in WWE, Mankind quickly initiated a rivalry with The Undertaker, and by the time of SummerSlam '96, their hatred boiled over into a match on Mankind's home turf, a Boiler Room Brawl. And Will Smith, Bill Pullman and Jeff Goldblum went head-to-head with aliens in the cinematic force of July, "Independence Day".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'97 – Stone Cold defeats Owen Hart | "Men in Black"

In a match that saw "Stone Cold" Steve Austin break his neck, the Rattlesnake still somehow managed to win the Intercontinental gold from Owen Hart. Meanwhile, Will Smith beat up more aliens – and the box-office competition – with "Men in Black".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07

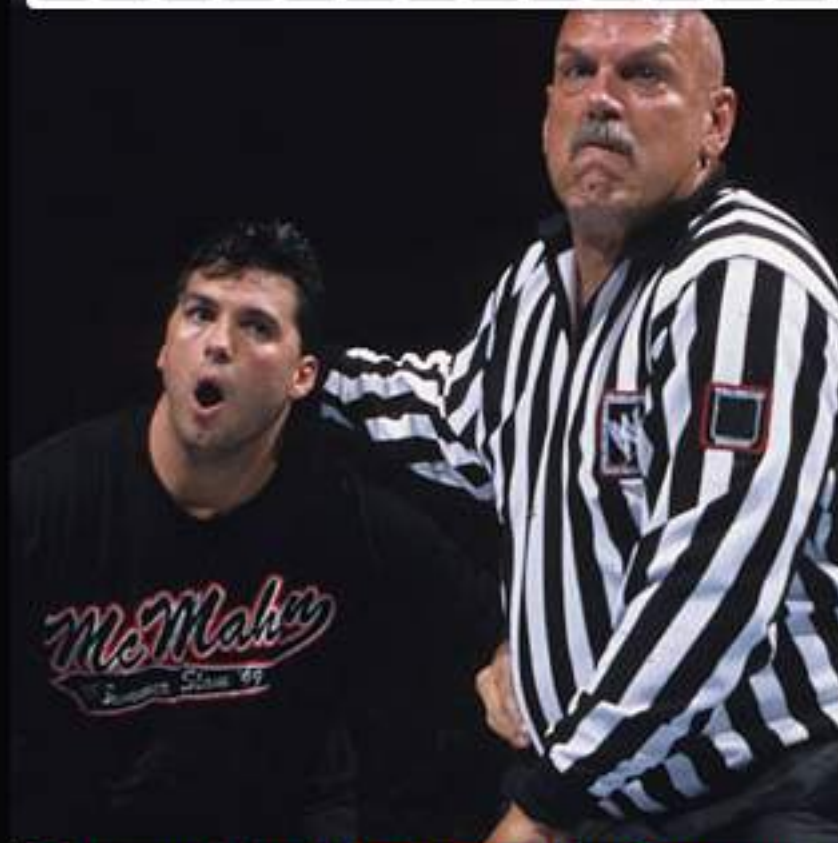


Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'98 – Triple H topples The Rock | "Armageddon"

D-Generation X and The Nation of Domination collided as The Nation's leader, The Rock, faced off against DX's Triple H, with The Great One's International gold hanging high above the ring in a Ladder Match. Hanging high above the Hollywood atmosphere was "Armageddon", in which Bruce Willis and Co. saved Earth and gave us that Aerosmith classic, "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing."

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'99 – Shane learns his place | "The Blair Witch Project"

In the midst of a Triple Threat Title Match, special guest referee Jesse Ventura refused to count Triple H's pin attempt, causing the two to get in each others faces with the Chairman's son, Shane McMahon, attempting to intervene. Meanwhile, the low-budget "Blair Witch Project" scared the hell out of us -- shocked theaters with a \$140 million performance – and persuaded hikers to just stay out of the woods.

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'00 – The first-ever Triple Threat TLC Match | "Gladiator"

World Tag Team Champions Edge and Christian had targets on their backs, at least to both The Hardys and The Dudleyz, resulting in a TLC Match with the tag team gold on the line. That same summer, Russell Crowe brought us all back to ancient Rome and the days of the Coliseum, kicking Oscar butt as Maximus in "Gladiator".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'01 – Rhyno rejected by Lady Luck | "Rush Hour 2"

Chris Jericho had plenty of problems with WWE Chairman Vince McMahon's daughter leading up to SummerSlam 2001, and Stephanie did the only thing she knew to do. She enlisted the services of Rhyno to dispatch of Y2J. However, nothing could get rid of the fast-paced action of Jackie Chan or the fast-tongued comedy of Chris Tucker in "Rush Hour 2".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'02 – Brock vs. Rock | "Spider-Man"

Brock Lesnar's meteoric rise to the top of WWE came to fruition at SummerSlam, when the rising rookie faced The Rock for the Undisputed Championship. On the big screen, Toby Maguire's claim to fame came when he webbed around as a red-and-blue arachnid in the \$403 million blockbuster "Spider-Man".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'03 – Second-ever Elimination Chamber Match | "Finding Nemo"

In WWE's second Elimination Chamber, Goldberg defended his World Heavyweight Title against Kevin Nash, Shawn Michaels, Randy Orton, Chris Jericho and Triple H. Meanwhile, a little fish netted big box-office tuna in the Disney/Pixar classic "Finding Nemo".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'04 – Youngest World Champion | "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban"

After winning a 20-Man Battle Royal to earn a spot in SummerSlam's main event, Evolution's Randy Orton had a chance to make history and become the youngest World Heavyweight Champion ever. And Harry, Hermione and Ron were back to casting out toil and trouble, this time looking for Sirius Black in "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07

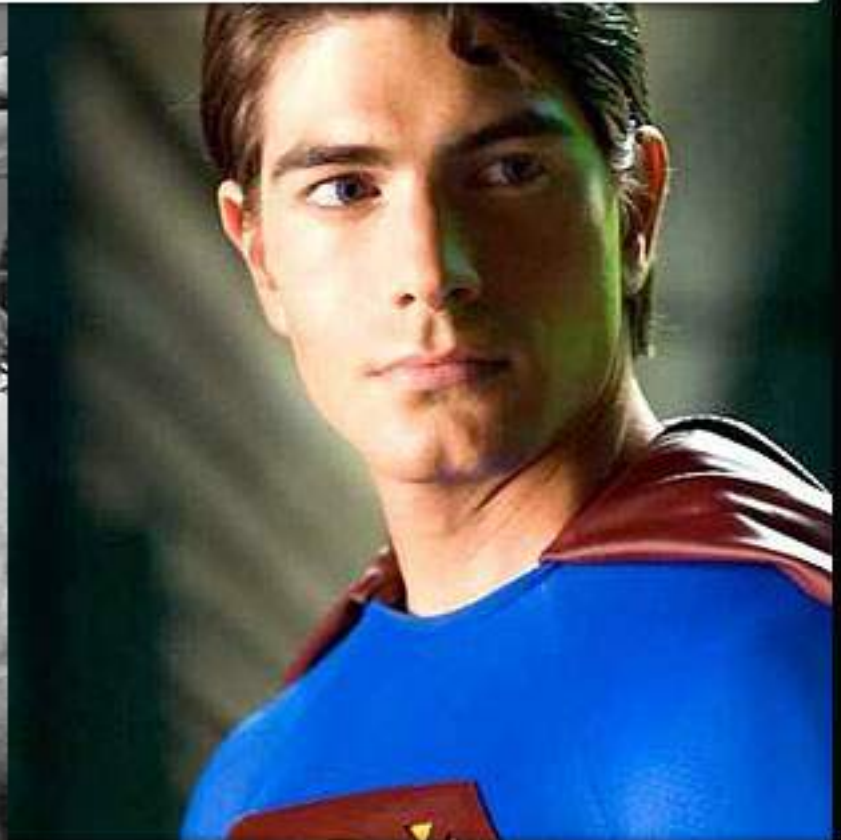


Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'05 – Icon vs. Showstopper | "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith"

Two of sports-entertainment's all-time greats collided for the first time ever at SummerSlam, as the Immortal Hulk Hogan accepted a challenge laid out by The Showstopper, Shawn Michaels. Hayden Christensen, meanwhile, completed Anakin Skywalker's path to the Dark Side of the Force, lightsabering through \$380 in ticket sales with the "third" installment of the "Star Wars" saga.

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'06 – A war of words... those being "I Quit" | "Superman Returns"

Airing their dislike for one another in their own autobiographies, a war of words spilled out from the books to the ring as Mick Foley and Ric Flair battled to make each other scream, "I Quit." And unknown actor Brandon Routh was a Man of Steel soaring among an all-star cast, reprising the role made famous by Christopher Reeve in "Superman Returns".

'88 '89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07



Biggest Blockbusters of the Summer

'07 – The Return of The King... of Kings | "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End"

After a devastating quadriceps tear left him sidelined for eight months, Triple H would make his much-anticipated return to WWE against Raw's reigning monarch, King Booker. Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightly found themselves sailing one more time, this time "At World's End", and fetching an impressive \$309 million booty.