

= Crash Holly =

Michael John " Mike " Lockwood ( August 25 , 1971 ? November 6 , 2003 ) was an American professional wrestler . He was best known for his appearances with the World Wrestling Federation / World Wrestling Entertainment from 1999 to 2003 under the ring names Crash Holly or simply Crash .

Lockwood debuted in 1989 and spent a decade wrestling on the independent circuit before joining the World Wrestling Federation in 1999 as Crash Holly . He formed a tag team with his kayfabe cousin Hardcore Holly , with whom he won the WWF World Tag Team Championship . The Holly Cousins was expanded into a stable with the addition of Molly Holly in 2000 . During his WWF / WWE career , Lockwood held the WWF / WWE Hardcore Championship on 22 occasions , with many of his reigns coming during a period when the title was defended " 24 / 7 " . After being released from WWE in June 2003 , Lockwood joined NWA Total Nonstop Action as Mad Mikey , where he remained until his death later that year .

In addition to his 22 reigns as WWF / WWE Hardcore Champion and single reign as WWF World Tag Team Champion , Lockwood was a one @-@ time WWF European Champion , and one @-@ time WWF Light Heavyweight Champion .

= = Professional wrestling career = =

= = = Early career ( 1989 @-@ 1999 ) = = =

Lockwood debuted in 1989 , as Johnny Pearson in Bay Area Wrestling , where he wrestled until 1994 . He dislocated his shoulder about five times , and took 18 months off to recover . He then wrestled on the independent circuit as " Irish " Erin O 'Grady . In 1996 , he joined All Pro Wrestling ( APW ) , where he became known as " The Leprechaun " Erin O 'Grady and had several matches with Vic Grimes .

After viewing a tape of a match between O 'Grady and Michael Modest , Extreme Championship Wrestling ( ECW ) wrestler Taz referred Lockwood to ECW owner , Paul Heyman . Erin O 'Grady lost four untelevised matches in November 1997 , including a dark match at November to Remember .

O 'Grady wrestled Grimes in a try @-@ out match for the World Wrestling Federation ( WWF ) on January 20 , 1998 , and both were signed to contracts . They were sent to Power Pro Wrestling , the WWF 's developmental promotion , to train . Here , they won the PPW Tag Team Championship together and O 'Grady won the PPW Young Guns Championship .

WWF Talent Coordinator Bruce Prichard sent Lockwood to Mexico , to prepare him for the style of the WWF 's lucha libre show , WWF Super Astros . He wrestled in Monterrey for three months , under a mask , as The Green Ghost ( a play on the word " gringo " ) .

= = = World Wrestling Federation / Entertainment ( 1999 @-@ 2003 ) = = =

Lockwood debuted as Crash Holly , the storyline cousin of Bob " Hardcore " Holly , on the August 16 , 1999 episode of Raw is War They became known as The Holly Cousins . Their relationship was a strained one , and Hardcore frequently threatened Crash . When they took the gimmick of claiming to be " super heavyweights " , over 400 lb each , Crash would carry a scale to ringside to " weigh in " before matches .

Crash made his pay @-@ per @-@ view debut at SummerSlam in August , where The Holly Cousins wrestled in a Tag Team Turmoil match , won by the Acolytes Protection Agency .

On October 17 , at No Mercy , The Holly Cousins defeated The New Age Outlaws by disqualification . The next night on Raw is War , they defeated The Rock ' n ' Sock Connection for the Tag Team Championship . They held the title until the November 4 SmackDown ! , when they lost it to Mankind and his new partner , Al Snow .

In early 2000 , Crash Holly joined the hardcore division . On the February 24 episode of SmackDown ! , he defeated Test to begin his first of 22 Hardcore Championship reigns . He decreed that he must defend the championship twenty four hours a day , seven days a week , which later became known as the " 24 / 7 Rule " . This meant that the title was permanently contested , not just in sanctioned matches , and could change hands anywhere , anytime anyone pinned the champion , so long as a WWF referee counted the fall . Holly was frequently attacked by other wrestlers in unlikely locations , including an airport , a funhouse , a circus , and his hotel room . Though he was often pinned , he usually immediately regained the title . His most common tactic was to sneak a pin , often after the champion had been beaten down by someone else , and quickly run backstage , away from possible challengers . This turned him into a crowd favorite and earned him the nickname " The Houdini of Hardcore " . He frequently defended the championship against non @-@ wrestlers , including referees and road agents , like Gerald Brisco and Pat Patterson . He had a long feud with The Mean Street Posse ( Pete Gas , Rodney and Joey Abs ) over the title . He even lost , and quickly regained , the title against one of the Godfather 's hos . At Rebellion , Crash defeated William Regal to win the WWF European Championship . He re @-@ lost the title to Regal two days later .

In late 2000 , another of Crash 's storyline cousins , Molly Holly , was introduced . In 2001 , The Holly Cousins feuded with The Dudley Boyz . In the course of this feud , Molly began a romantic relationship with Spike Dudley , leading to internal disputes within each family , as well as a Romeo and Juliet @-@ style angle between the six of them .

On the March 18 , 2001 episode of Heat , Crash defeated Dean Malenko to win the Light Heavyweight Championship . He defended it on two episodes of Heat , against Funaki and Grandmaster Sexay , before dropping it to the debuting Jerry Lynn on the April 29 episode . In May 2001 , Holly and Hardcore briefly reunited as a lower card team .

When the WWF was renamed World Wrestling Entertainment and divided into two Raw and SmackDown brands , Holly was assigned to the Raw roster , where he had little success . He jumped ship to SmackDown ! on the September 2 , 2002 episode of Raw during a match with Jeff Hardy . Earlier , Raw General Manager Eric Bischoff was informed that a Raw wrestler would leave to reunite with a relative on SmackDown ! , and ordered a beatdown on Hardy , who he wrongly suspected of planning to join his brother , Matt Hardy .

In his first SmackDown ! match , on September 5 , he defeated The Hurricane . He then feuded with Cruiserweight Champion Jamie Noble . On the October 3 SmackDown ! , Noble defeated Holly to retain the title .

On the December 19 SmackDown ! , Holly teamed with Bill DeMott to defeat Noble and Nunzio . After the match , DeMott turned on Holly and attacked him . This led to a match on the next SmackDown ! , which DeMott won .

After being sidelined for four months , Holly returned on the April 24 , 2003 episode of SmackDown ! . He soon joined Matt Hardy and Shannon Moore in the Mattitude Followers ( abbreviated " MF 'er " ) stable . As Crash was Moore 's alleged apprentice , Hardy also referred to him as a " Moore @-@ on " . His last several matches with the company were tag matches with Moore , as well as house show matches against newcomer Orlando Jordan .

On June 30 , 2003 , Lockwood was released from WWE .

= = = NWA Total Nonstop Action and independent circuit ( 2003 ) = = =

Lockwood signed a contract with NWA Total Non @-@ Stop Action ( later known as Total Nonstop Action Wrestling ) in July 2003 and debuted as Mad Mikey on July 23 , accepting an open challenge from Elix Skipper and losing the match . Mad Mikey was angry at many things , on which he elaborated in promos . He wrestled on nine NWA @-@ TNA weekly PPVs , lastly on October 1 .

He briefly wrestled for Pro Wrestling Iron in Hayward , California . In late 2003 , Mad Mikey and Rory Fox defeated Quiten Lee and The Human Time Bomb for the Heartland Wrestling Association in what turned out to be Lockwood 's final match .

= = Personal life = =

Lockwood was born in Anaheim , California , and raised in Pacifica , California , where he graduated from Terra Nova High School . He became interested in professional wrestling in the eighth grade , inspired by Brady Boone . While training as a wrestler and working on the independent circuit , he worked a second job at Safeway .

Lockwood met his wife , N 'keigh Wheeler , when she escorted Mark Henry to the ring at Unforgiven 1999 , in Charlotte , North Carolina . They married on New Year 's Eve , 1999 . In 2002 , he opened " Crash Holly 's School of Professional Wrestling " in Salisbury , North Carolina , where N 'keigh grew up .

= = = Death = = =

Lockwood died on November 6 , 2003 , at his friend and fellow wrestler Stevie Richards ' house in Florida . He was found partially clothed with a pool of vomit around his face . Empty bottles of the prescription drug Carisoprodol and a partially consumed bottle of alcohol were found nearby . He had recently received divorce papers from his wife . His death , caused by choking on his own vomit , was officially ruled a suicide . He was buried in China Grove in Rowan County , North Carolina .

In August 2005 , Nora Greenwald , who performed alongside Lockwood as Molly Holly , released an autobiographical DVD titled " Nora Greenwald : Shootin ' the Shi Crap " , and a portion of the profits from the sale of the DVD went to Lockwood 's daughter 's education fund . In March 2005 , the New Breed Wrestling Association held the " Mike Lockwood Memorial Tournament " , which was won by Michael Modest . At ECW One Night Stand in 2005 , Lockwood was one of the deceased former ECW wrestlers honored in a video package .

= = In wrestling = =

Finishing moves

As Mad Mikey

CST ? Crash Stole This ( Lifting double underhook DDT ) ? parodied from Stevie Richards

As Crash Holly

Crash Course ( Over the shoulder back to belly piledriver )

Crash Landing / Bottom Feeder ( Belly to back inverted mat slam )

Corner springboard bulldog

Flowing DDT

As Erin O 'Grady

Hop Splash ( Dives off the top rope before landing on his feet and performing a standing splash )

Irishcanrana ( Hurricanrana ) ? Independent circuit ; used as a signature move in WWF / E

Signature moves

Dropkick

Preschool ( Bottom rope arm twist ropewalk chop ) ? TNA ; parodied from The Undertaker

Roll @-@ up

Running one @-@ handed bulldog

Tornado DDT

Nicknames

" Elroy "

" The Houdini of Hardcore "

" Irish "

" The Leprechaun "

" The Super @-@ Heavyweight "

Entrance music

" Slow Death " by Zack Tempest

" System Clash " by Jim Johnston ( While along with Matt Hardy )

= = Championships and accomplishments = =

All Pro Wrestling

APW Junior Heavyweight Championship ( 1 time )

International Wrestling Association

IWA Hardcore Championship ( 1 time )

IWA World Junior Heavyweight Championship ( 1 time )

Mid @-@ Eastern Wrestling Federation

MEWF Cruiserweight Championship ( 1 time )

Power Pro Wrestling

PPW Tag Team Championship ( 1 time ) ? with Vic Grimes

PPW Young Guns Championship ( 1 time )

Pro Wrestling Illustrated

PWI ranked him # 36 in the PWI 500 in 2000

Supreme Pro Wrestling

SPW Tag Team Championship ( 1 time ) ? with Hook Bomberry

World Wrestling Federation / World Wrestling Entertainment

WWF European Championship ( 1 time )

WWF / E Hardcore Championship ( 22 times )

WWF Light Heavyweight Championship ( 1 time )

WWF Tag Team Championship ( 1 time ) ? with Hardcore Holly