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ADCC 2022 was full of upsets, crazy submissions, and breakthrough athletes, one of which being Owen O'Flanagan. And if you're subscribed to the channel, Owen was already on your radar because we broke down his ADCC trials performance after Jared referred to him in the comments section as one of the best nogi grapplers in Europe. And I'm not a betting man, but if I was, Owen was a plus 500 underdog in his first match against the legend, Shonji Hiebero. And I understand Shonji's a veteran and has been doing this for years, but plus 500 is hurtful to my man Owen, and if I were a betting man, which I'm not, I would have bet the house on that match. And that is the perfect segue into talking about how I was dead wrong in my prediction between Gordon Ryan and Andre Galvao. I predicted that Gordon was going to try to prove that he's the better wrestler and not resort to leg locks, both of which did not happen within the first minute of the match. But hopefully you still trust me enough to stick around while we talk about how Gordon Ryan was so dominant in all of his five matches and then ended it with a very heartwarming speech. I respect Andre. I don't have half the titles he does, and I'm happy to be part of his story, part of his legacy, and just happy to be here for his last fight. So thank you, Andre. Resulting in a lot of angry haters and a lot of confused girlfriends. But in this video, we're going to shed some light on what makes Gordon so dominant. So while everyone's still riding the high from ADCC, I think a lot of people might be looking for ways to stay engaged with professional jujitsu. So I thought this was a great opportunity to remind you of the events on the horizon. We have a stacked EBI event with tons of ADCC competitors on October 23rd. We have Mikey competing in one championship on September 30th. We have the Twisted Church event on October 22nd. And we also have season four of PGF starting on October 23rd, where athletes compete in six minute submission only matches, leading to a lot of good jujitsu where athletes are rewarded six points for a choke, three points for a break, and zero points for a draw. And PGF partnered with Fantasizer to make the first ever jujitsu league, where you go on the app, pick your players, and the team with the most points at the end of the season wins. So there are a few ways to keep watching high level jujitsu over the next couple months. And if you want to take your own jujitsu to the next level, consider checking out Brandon's BJJ 365 subscription and use code Jake for 25% off your first month to get a look inside Brandon's school and let him help you take your jujitsu to the next level. So now let's talk about Gordon's historic ADCC performance. Leading into the event, we were talking a lot about Gordon's wrestling and how he's been weighing heavy on his opponent's head. Now in his first match, he pulled guard, but you can see he's still taking heavy collar ties, switching hands, heisting, just putting a lot of weight on his opponent's head. And this is something I noticed Cole Abate doing a lot as well. So the upside to this is that it's a good way to wear down your opponent. But the downside is that it leaves you vulnerable to things like a body lock pass. Now if you're feeling yourself a little bit, maybe you keep your elbows flared and bait your opponent into that body lock pass and go for a sumigeshi. But it looks to me like the safest time to harass your opponent's head is when they go to this weave position. And you can see Cole going right away to his opponent's head and using that to harass his opponent's head and mess up his hair. And Felipe Pena did the same thing to Andre, where Andre takes that weave, Felipe takes a heavy collar tie, and JT Torres tells Andre. So despite pulling guard, Gordon's strategy is relatively similar to what we've seen recently from him. But then Gordon starts to set up this arm drag on the far side arm and uses it to work his way to the back. And Gordon loves this arm drag. He's used it for many years to threaten his opponent's back, but also to threaten sumigeshis. And if his opponent does nothing, they just fall over. So naturally they're going to want to prevent themselves from falling. And if they use their leg for base, it often results in an inside senkaku entry. And if they use their arm for base, that leads to the famous shoulder crunch sumigeshi. But in this case, Gordon's able to use it to successfully take the back. And then Gordon decides to chair sit to take his opponent's back. And I was thinking about diving into why the chair sit

isn't my first option from this position, but we've already spent a good deal of time on this match. So if that's something you're interested in seeing, let me know in the comments below and we'll put it in a future video. But Gordon chair sits and opportunistically traps his opponent's arm. And this happened quite a bit throughout ADCC. Because as you're trying to prevent their hook from coming in, you often leave yourself vulnerable to your arm being trapped. And Gordon was able to take advantage of this. And when you have Gordon Ryan on your back with your arm trapped. Now moving right along to match two, which is Gordon's second and final match of Saturday. I think Gordon wanted to get a little work in. That's why he came out wrestling. And it's actually his opponent that decides to pull guard. And now we get to see some beautiful guard passing where Gordon's opponent kind of looks like he's going for a K guard entry almost. And Gordon uses it as an opportunity to take a deep scoop grip and start to turn the corner. But his opponent does a good job of high legging over and threading his foot into Gordon's armpit. And then Gordon does that classic pass that we've all probably drilled before where he switches sides. But then as Gordon's turning the corner, his opponent does a great job of Granby rolling to recover their guard. And because Gordon is passing to his left, it makes sense that the Granby roll is going to be going to the left. And then Gordon basically says, okay, you go left, I'm going back right. And now Gordon finds himself past his opponent's legs. But just because we're past our opponent's legs does not mean we've passed their guard. Gordon found himself in a very similar situation, but he was on bottom against Felipe Pena. And things were starting to get a little intense. And Gary Tonin was like, dude, I'm not even wearing my future kimonos rash guard right now I'm out. Gordon was able to not only recover his guard, but end up on top. And when we go back to ADCC, you can see Gordon making sure his knee stays connected to his opponent's hip while he steps over into the mount, flattens his opponent out, gets an underhook and walks it up to a single chest wrap. But Gordon's opponent does a really good job of denying the figure four grip and recovering his guard. But then Gordon uses some nice footwork to get past his opponent's guard and back to the mounted position where Gordon starts to set up the armbar. But as his opponent is slowly escaping, he tries to shoot more of an opportunistic style triangle like he did against Kyle and Josh Barnett. But this time his opponent is able to escape and get back to their feet. And I believe this happened because one, people without rash guards are very slippery and a lot of people seem to be complaining about that throughout ADCC. But secondly, and more importantly, I think for Gordon's ideal armbar, he needed to be higher up with his left knee, which allows him to control his opponent more and get to his more desired grip. But you can see in ADCC, his left knee is sliding down his opponent's back and he does not have that desired grip on his opponent's arm, leading to a more chaotic situation, which a slippery person is more likely to escape from. And that was pretty much the end of that match. Gordon ended up winning on points and was done for the day competing. So he signed some autographs, went to bed and got ready for his third match the following day. And in that third match, Gordon definitely didn't play with his food and went out and finished the match right away. And when talking about this outside heel hook finish, the detail that I wanted to emphasize is how Gordon is constantly threatening the sweep to the outside and the reap to the inside. If we look at his ADCC match against Pedro, you can see he starts by off-balancing to the left. And when Pedro brings his head forward to prevent the off-balance, Gordon threatens the reap. And then when the head comes up to defend the reap, Gordon threatens the off-balance. And then as Pedro is turning hard to Gordon's right, that makes it very easy for Gordon to throw in his reap and ultimately get the finish. So it's a little subtle, but when Gordon enters into the legs, his first thing is to off-balance to the outside. And then as his opponent is recovering their balance, that allows for an easy reap to the inside. Now, I think a lot of us wanted to see a Gordon Ryan Felipe Pena rematch in the finals, but I know everyone was so stoked and if not more excited to see Nicky Rod and Gordon Ryan going at it in the finals. Now, it's no secret that Nicky Rod loves the body lock pass. A lot of times what this

means is grip fighting with this arm here and waiting for an opportunity to shoot in on the body lock. And you can see Fionn doing this as well, where she grip fights to set up that hand coming through to lock her hands around the body. But the question is, can Nicky do this against Gordon? And you can see him using that weave position and Gordon taking a heavy collar tie, forcing Nicky to push away. And you can see as Nicky's looking for those body lock passes, Gordon's hand is always on the inside. And he uses that hand to start setting up that far side arm drag that he loves so much. And as Nicky pulls out of that arm drag, Gordon takes a two-on-one grip on the opposite arm. And as Nicky goes to run, Gordon is so sticky and starts to invert from reverse de la jiva. Now, as he pops out the other side, Gordon's reverse de la jiva hook chops down on Nicky's near leg. The other option would be to put that reverse de la jiva hook on the far hip, entering into what's called ushiro reverse x guard. And if your opponent has their weight more centered, it can be a great opportunity to enter into inside senkaku. Can you imagine the reaction of 12,000 people if Gordon pulled that off? It would have been absolutely insane. But Nicky was really trying to run away, giving Gordon a lot of space to throw his foot over and enter into inside senkaku. But Nicky does a good job of using his foot to expose Gordon's hamstring. And I imagine he's trying to use that to push away and disengage. But Baby Shark had a very similar entry, and Gabriel almost countered it by threading his secondary leg all the way through and attempting a baron bolo. But Nicky ends up pummeling his foot all the way inside, almost as if he's going to counter Gordon with a heel hook of his own. And in the meantime, Gordon was transferring the foot across to put himself in inside ashi and get the outside heel hook finish. Now match 5 is a super fight with Andre Galvao, and Gordon enters into the legs right away and begins to off balance to his left. Then he throws his reap leg in and attacks an outside heel hook. But Andre is able to free his knee from Gordon's knee line and start to pass the guard. But Andre found out that Gordon's grips are very, very sticky. And in the past, he got away with disengaging from not so sticky hooks. And with Andre forced to engage, Gordon's able to enter into the legs a second time. But this time, he's using a different entry, which I'm not going to go into too much detail because we made an entire video about it. But the basic idea is Gordon would like to backstep into inside senkaku on the far leg. And Andre does a good job by high stepping and keeping that leg away from Gordon. But Gordon's able to secure that leg with his hand, making it very easy for Gordon to follow Andre as he's running away and find himself in a rear body lock, where Gordon loves to use foot sweeps. And that's exactly what he uses against Andre to put him down. And now Gordon's on top where he wants to be passing the guard and selling his instructionals. And I think this is exactly what makes Gordon Ryan so good. Because if you listen to John Donahue talk about the success of George St. Pierre, he talks about how George was the best in the world at shootboxing. And he had the ability to either take the fight to the ground or keep it standing depending on his opponent or the situation. Too often when we're talking about jiu-jitsu athletes, we either say they're good at jiu-jitsu or they're good at playing the game. When in reality, the best people in the world are the people in the middle. They're the people that have so many skills that when you go to the drawing board and try and figure out what tactics to implement, the possibilities are nearly endless. Which is why someone like Gordon Ryan can be so confident that he's going to win under any rule set. Your ability to embody tactics is dependent upon the skills you have to manifest them in the first place. If you don't have skills, you talk all day about tactics, you're never going to be able to actually enact them. Gordon Ryan has so many skills that he's able to determine where the fight takes place and implement almost an endless amount of tactics, which gives him the confidence to beat anyone under any rule set. And Andre found himself on the bottom trying to fend off the passing pressure of Gordon Ryan. And Gordon took this overback grip a lot. And initially Andre was able to very easily off balance him and recover. But as the match went on, that recovery became more and more difficult. And soon Andre was finding himself recovering into body locks. But Gordon's goal was to force Andre to half guard. And I just watched recently his

match with Hodger, and once Hodger flattened out in half guard, he was done. And props to Andre here. It looks like he almost tries a triangle, but after the dust settles, they end up in half guard. And you can see Andre immediately going for that lockdown and Gordon immediately pummeling his foot free. But then Gordon looks at the clock and he's like, oh, there's still two minutes until points. You can have the lockdown back and Andre used it to recover his upper body position. But when Gordon wanted to, he was very easily able to free himself from this lockdown and begin to pass. But as Gordon tries to pass to north south, Andre does a great job of recovering. But again, when the dust settles, he's in half guard. Chest to chest flattened out, but he has an underhook, which is his lifeline. And he starts to use the lockdown to try and use that underhook. But Gordon says, okay, fun's over. I'm going to start walking to my right to one, free myself from your lockdown and to make your underhook useless. And just as points start, Gordon mounts. So again, I think it's important to note that Gordon is not only really good, he's very tactical as well. And you can see this reflected through his coaching where Placido is having a hard time getting anything going from mount. And Gordon reminds him, in case you weren't able to hear that, Gordon reminds him that points are right around the corner. So if he's able to get an underhook, he can put himself back in half guard and then work past the guard to score his points. And that's exactly what Placido did. But going back to ADCC, Gordon finds himself using that damn chair sit again to take the back, where he then uses a pretty straightforward grip fighting sequence to get that cross grip and trap the arm. Now, I think most of the arm traps in ADCC were opportunistic, like we talked about earlier, but I thought this one from Giancarlo was pretty cool, where he starts with that standard straight grip from the underhook side. And then as they're switching to the overhook side, Giancarlo converts it to the underhook side and just uses that straight grip to pass to his cross grip, which is now on the underhook side. And he uses that cross grip to trap the arm. Now, when Gordon Ryan traps your arm, he likes to take this deep lat grip and transition to the other side, putting your trapped arm on the bottom now, making it very difficult for you to free that arm. Against Andre, Gordon uses this cross grip to assist him to the other side, putting Andre in pretty much the worst possible position to be in. And from here, it's only a matter of time before Gordon's able to find his way to the little neck that Andre has and get the tap. Now this video is already long enough, but I think the one key takeaway is that you should subscribe to this YouTube channel where we break down the skills that are used at the highest level of competition so you can start to develop those skills. And once you have skills, the tactics are endless. A lot of times styles make matches, but I can adapt and conquer any style by just changing my game plan and my tactics.