



"Prepare to get Miracle-Whipped!" Kaiju Big Battle's Club Sandwich is the coolest thing since... well, sliced bread. Below, Kaiju combatants Uchu Chu and Silver Potato tussle.

## ANIME INSTINCTS

Enjoy comical wrestling troupe for super happy fun enjoyment!



### SPORT

"At first, it had nothing at all to do with wrestling," says David Borden, the brains—if that's the right word—behind the satirical sensation *Kaiju Big Battle*. "We called it Foxy Boxing, and it was mostly about breaking shit." Seven years and more than two hundred matches later, *Kaiju* (which means "mystery beast" in Japanese) has become an elaborate and athletic celebration of silliness. Part *WWE SmackDown!*, part *Saturday Night Live* sketch, the bouts feature characters in getups ranging from underwear to \$3,000 foam space suits tossing one another around a steel cage; they're all portrayed by *Kaiju* operatives who prefer to keep their identities secret. The league doesn't even bother to hide the fact that all its fights are staged—choreographed body-slams and food fights give way to the pointless but entertaining demolition of cardboard cityscapes. Despite obvious Eastern influences, *Kaiju* sprung from the imaginations of Borden, 27, and his brother Rand, 32, and their obsession with Japanese cult flicks like *Ultraman* and *Godzilla*. It's now morphed from a Boston phenomenon into a traveling show that's preparing a national tour. A recent event at the 800-capacity Warsaw nightclub in Brooklyn ended with the "fatal" wounding of veteran fighter Club Sandwich at the hands of up-and-comer Kung-Fu Chicken Noodle, who brandished a three-foot toothpick. "As pop culture gets more predictable and absurd," says David, "so do we." ALEX RAFAEL

## Anime Instincts

by Alex Rafael

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