



SMACKDOWN! LINES

CenturyTel Center
Bossier City, Louisiana

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slashwrestling.com

1. Rob Van Dam v 2. William Regal

Singles

1SD 5:05.98 55 Mlx-1-2-2-2-1-2-1-2

FacePunch(BrassKnuckles)-Pin; Slightly slow on pace and some action intermittent, but fair contest overall.

If you were not looking for the brass knuckles throughout the match, you have not been watching recently. The chair, however, was a nice cover for the knuckles. Regal's off-style seemed to noticeable lower Van Dam's pacing and perhaps performance as a consequence. Still fair for what was possible in this match.

1. Billy Gunn v 2. Tajiri

Singles

2SD 2:43.48 45 2-1-2-2-1

FameAssEr-Pin; Efforts and action up to par but nothing really noteworthy; slightly off-balance.

Fair enough despite the size mismatch. Gunn and Tajiri both appeared able to perform to normal standards opposite each other. The Green Mist is always welcome but always more exciting when paired with a win. I was definitely expecting The Hurricane to appear in superhero fashion during the post-match beat down; he no-showed. Par.

1. Diamond Dallas Page v 2. Bossman

Singles

3SD 3:09.57 40 2-1-2-1-2-1

DiamondCutter-Pin; Good return performance by Page; slight improvement by Bossman but still ineffective.

ReInstatement/Royal Rumble Entry for DDP

By no means a bad effort from DDP, which one might expect based on his more recent WWF outings. The argument that Bossman's ring awkwardness hindered him leaves room for better Page performances, but the feasibility of the argument is a judgement call. Truthfully, Bossman seemed a notch above recent performances here.

1. Rikishi v 2. Christian and Lance Storm

2v1 Handicap OverTopRopeChallenge

4SD 1:43.83 10 (00.85) Mlx-2x-1-1

ShoulderToss(OverRope)-Elimination; Short with foreseeable finish; more to be said about post-match.

It seemed almost a foregone conclusion not only that Rikishi would win, but that some post match confrontation was lying in wait. As such, there was no real quality to be found within save for the base marks a match could receive by simply being done. Throw-out match of the night.

1. Edge v Test

Singles

5SD 3:43.53 65 2-1-2-E-1-Mlx-E-Mlx*1

Chairshot(Test); Interference almost a given; still a good and active match with some added-effect.

Past performances show that these two can put on a good showing, and they did just that, at least as far as TV showings go. The match seemed to have a few slight peaks which merit a somewhat above average rating. Could have easily done without the "Edge gone crazy" bit. Good match.

1. Booker T and Kurt Angle v 2. Stone Cold Steve Austin and Triple H

2v2Tag

6SD 9:48.67 90 2a-1a-2a-2h-2a-1t-1a-1t-1a-1t-E-2h-2h-2h

Pedigree-Pin; Strong and driving throughout; game sequences and action; considerable quality.

The speed, action and efforts were all very apparent here and the constant combination gave this an extended extra shine. Strong showing here from HHH and looks to improve as he returns to continuous competition. The Stunner-Pedigree combination was a fine touch to end the match. Very enjoyable. Easily earns match of the night honors.

KEY Competitors/Teams/Accompaniers

Match Type

Stipulation/Title/Etc.

Match Time Rating Momentum Line

Extensive Comments.

Finish and short comment. [D] Disqualification; [M] Move performed by someone other than pinning competitor.

[X] Zero momentum; Mlx Mixed/Trading momentum; E Even momentum; initials denote partner credited with momentum; x-initial denotes momentum is credited to multiple partners; parentheses depict unusual finish like use of brass knuckles.

BREAKDOWNS:	Time: 6 Matches with 0 No contests (26:15.06) about 21.88 % of show time.	Average Match Rating (6 Matches)	50.83	BestOfTheNight: 6SD BookerT and KurtAngle v StoneColdSteveAustin and TripleH	90
	Types: 4 Singles (0 Title Matches), 1 Tag (0 Title Matches); 1 2v1 Handicap	Extraneous Segment Aggregate	12.00	WorstOfTheNight: 4SD Rikishi v Christian and LanceStorm	10
		Overall Show Score	62.83		
	1 instance of interference (1 meaningful); [M] Meaningful interference				
	5SD *WilliamRegal [D]	Title Changes: None		Turns: None	

Show assessment: Good showing; fails to continue the increasing trend, but good nonetheless.

RATINGS: I still continue with the system of using pre-match action and post-match to value a contest while giving the primary emphasis to the match itself which includes basic ring psychology, pace, mechanics and execution of move sets and high spots, the finish and its enjoy-ability, and how much the match advances a story line, if there is one to advance. But another element that I must convey is that I let the opening match or two set a baseline and then perform some degree of comparison of later contests to the baseline.

NON-MATCH SEGMENTS AND SCORES	PreSD Rock/SCSA (+1) Good exchange, what about Jericho? on RR/WM Not another Rock/SCSA WM match.	Rock on RR/ Y2J (+4) Comedy from the Rock; and tension with the Y2J retort.	Angle/BookerT on 6SD (0) Better is possible from these two.
	Rock/Angle on RR/WM (+1) Good like the last, actually quite humorous. Still no thought of Jericho.	Post4SDRumbleShow/ (0) The main reason for even having 4SD. Rikishi/APA/Kane Strength display aside, erase-able.	Steph/HHH on 6SD (+1) For same reason as Austin/Debra 6SD.
	Rock/HHH on RR/WM (+1) Still intriguing, but wearing out as a pattern.	DudleyAssaultSpike (+1) That 3D looked devastating, bordering on criminal assault.	Post6SD HHH/SCSA (+1) The last three standing? UT staredown
	Trish/LillianInt/Jazz (0) Unnecessary.	Austin/Debra on 6SD (+1) For having the sense to leave Debra in the back.	
	Rock/UT on RR/WM (+1) At least UT isn't sure of Rock RR win.		

CLOSING NOTES:

- The Royal Rumble has shaped up quite nicely; the bigger entrants all seem to have strong arguments in their favor for winning the match.
- The 3D was unholy! Will Spike and Tazz get retribution on Sunday? The result may not be as cemented as you think.
- You need to see the Rock/Jericho segment from today, that was, IMHO, a keeper.
- My line for the rumble; TripleH 6/5; Angle 3/2; Austin 4; Undertaker 9/2; Kane 7; BookerT 8.
- As always, these last showings, strong as they are, mean nothing if this PPV doesn't follow through.