



Lines

Von Braun Civic Center (VB)
Huntsville, Alabama

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slashwrestling-wienerboard

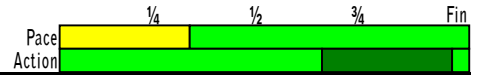
1. Chris Benoit v 2. F.B.I.

3v1 Handicap Mini Royal Rumble 2Min

Liked the form to this one. It did not get too out of reach for Benoit as he never had to take on all three opponent simultaneously. It was also nice that the double teaming was kept relatively light. Furthermore, liked the way Benoit used a submission link to incapacitate one opponent as another was about to enter the ring. Effect among good elements makes for an enjoyable contest here.

1SD 6:20³⁴ 66 1-2s-1-2p-E-Mx-2p-1→2p-1-2x-1→2p-E-2p-1
Backdrop-Elimination; Broke well, into stride, with effect.
→ Eliminations: JStamboli 3:09⁷¹; Nunzio 5:15³³; CPalumbo 6:19⁷⁴

See Page 3 For Match Chart



1. Basham Brothers w Shaniqua v 2. Los Guerreros

2v2 Tag

WWE Tag Team Championship-Grade I

Nothing stands out too much in the grids, so one might wonder how this picked up the year's first triple digit rating. Merits derived from the fact that this held to a steady standard over an extended duration, and that was compounded by a lot of added effect. Some examples include quick early tags from Los Guerreros, intercepting Basham's attempted reprieve, Basham's prevention of Eddie reaching the ropes, and the twin planchas at the end. Earned its keep.

2SD 16:23²¹ 101 1dn-2e-2c-2e-2c-2e-2e-E-§-1dg-1dn-1dg-1dg*E-1dg-1dn-E-2c-1dg-2c*1dg
*♦AssistedKneelingPin-PinUsingRopes; Gd early sequences, settled, went on 3/4.
§ Commercial Break.

Best of the Night

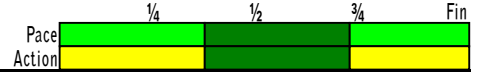


1. A-Train v 2. John Cena

Singles

Pretty standard structure in this one, but such is to be expected for the limited time this was given. The lapse in elements after the quarter mark detracted some, but that notwithstanding, the action and speed were quite acceptable. Furthermore, unlike many a match with a size discrepancy, both sides got a reasonable share of the offense. Not the finest ever, but has its relative worth.

3SD 2:50⁸⁷ 31 Mx-1-1-2
FU-Pin; Out well, with midway slide, up to form to close.

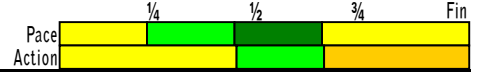


1. Rey Mysterio v 2. Akio w Sakoda

Singles

Good speed from these two which was expected, especially with Mysterio involved. Match had its share of good transitional points, but the standout was a nice jumping spin kick from Akio to counter Mysterio who was leaping off the turnbuckle. The quality of action increased quite well towards the close. Difficult to find fault, save to say that there should have been more of this, duration-wise.

4SD 4:36³⁸ 55 (159) Mx-2-1-2*2-E-1-2-1
WestCoastPop-Pin; Solid start, with speed, some lapse, kicked well 5/8.

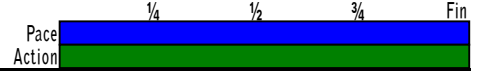


1. Tajiri v 2. Nidia

Singles Intergender

Have to wonder how this would merit anything based on the sheer ludicrous nature of the matchup. Hard to take seriously when someone is flailing their arms for dear life as a matter of defense. Would normally cite the one-sided nature of this as a detractor, but would not have been sound otherwise. That said, match served to maintain both Heyman and Tajiri on the dark side of the spectrum, and truth be told, there has been worse to see.

5SD 1:05⁶⁶ 04 1-1
RussianLegSweep-Pin; Merits only by character effect.

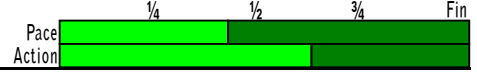


1. Big Show v 2. Hardcore Holly

Singles Street Fight

Best asset here was that there was some good work with the weapons. Furthermore, liked that, instead of a simple weapon into pin combination, there was a somewhat surprising submission with Holly choking out Show with a chair. Not at all anticipated that a street fight between these would end in such a manner. Also nice that Lesnar remained out of this, save for Holly's rushing assault early on in the match.

6SD 4:56⁰⁵ 43 (203) Mx-1-2-1-1-E-2-1-2
ChairChoke-Submission; Some effective action, settled without rebound.



Breakdowns	Matches	6
	No Contests	0
	Total Match Time	36:12 ³¹
	Pct. Of Show	39.14 (92.5)

Interference	1SD	—
	2SD	*Shaniqua (2, 2nd ◻)
	3SD	—
	4SD	*Sakoda
	5SD	—
	6SD	—

Title Changes None.

Match Types	Singles	4
	Tag	1 (1 Title)
	Handicap	1

Character Notes Chavo's gradual turn against Eddie appears complete.

Notable Matches

Best of the Night	2SD	101	Basham Brothers v Los Guerreros
Worst of the Night	5SD	04	Tajiri v Nidia

Notable Segments

Best of the Night	S-5	+2.5	After refusing to stop the Basham assault, Chavo attacks Eddie.
Worst of the Night	S-12	-0.5	Pre 5SD Heyman threatens Noble's job if Nidia does not compete.

Show Scoring	Match Contribution Index	49.25
	Segment Contribution Index	40.57
	Overall Show Score	89.82

Assessment Compared to last week, the matches gave a little more, the segments gave a little less; but still, all in all another nice outing for SmackDown!

Segment by Segment

● Angle out to ring, says last week was supposed to be a perfect beginning to a new year, coming back and promising to win Rumble for troops, and though he knows it is not his business, he will not let Los Guerreros destruct so he calls out Chavo; Angle says he said last week it was Eddie's fault but asks Chavo if slapping Eddie crossed the line, then asks if Chavo wants to put it all behind him and if he owes Eddie a public apology; Chavo thinks he has nothing to apologize for because he showed Eddie tough love and won't apologize, then says he would slap Eddie again, and is thinking of slapping Angle; Angle says he is giving Chavo an opportunity; Eddie comes out and Angle must hold him back; Angle says Eddie can go after him but first remind him that they are blood and are tearing their family apart; Angle says if Chavo has the "huevos" to face Eddie inside the ring; Angle goes on to say that both don't want this and wants to know who is going to be the better man and extend their hand, so Chavo does but Eddie is reluctant; Angle reminds Eddie than Chavo helped him when Eddie was at his lowest and implores Eddie to do what is right; Los Guerreros uneasily shake hands.	Something tells me something sinister will come from this.	+2.0
● Josh INT Show about requesting the match to be a street right; Show cites Holly's chair attack on Show as a reason; Show says he will take Holly out.	Sure you will... Show... sure...	0
● Pre 1SD Heyman comes out and admits Benoit pulled on over on him by earning the right to enter the Rumble, but is entrant number 1, then lays out the terms of 1SD.	The ceiling is pressing down...	0
● Pre 2SD Bashams attack their original opponents, Rikishi and Scotty 2 Hotty, incapacitating them; Angle comes out and says Heyman and Angle have agreed that when you advertise a tag title match, there should be one, hence, he says it will be the Bashams again Los Guerreros for the titles.	Is it imminent now?	0
● Post 2SD Bashams attack Eddie, but Chavo, after getting a chair, sits outside the ring and watches the assault; the Bashams leave the ring and Chavo enters and appears to have finally come to Eddie's aid, but attacks him instead, making Eddie seriously bleed; Chavo then leaves with the low-rider.	Darth Chavito's turn to the dark side has come. Bring on the war I say!	+2.5
● During the break: Chavo leaves the arena altogether with the low-rider.	—	NR
● Pre 3SD Cena says he is the franchise, and raps that he is about to give the FU to "Chewbacca." makes a remark about Coach Price, and how he will bust him up faster than Britney Spears' marriage.	The Spears reference was apropos.	+0.5
● Backstage Eddie is getting treated; Angle goes to tell him he is sorry and feels responsible; Angle goes on to say he cannot believe he misjudged Chavo, should not have gotten involved, should have let Eddie take on Chavo, and that he is sorry; Eddie remains silent with rage and intensity.	Rage leads to the dark side, but also to some prospectively killer matches.	+0.5
● Video: Best of Billy Gunn Countdown: Gunn says he has had an incredible career and will show the three greatest moments of his career over the next three weeks en route to the Rumble. Moment No. 3: First Tag Team Title win as part of the Smoking Gunns.	How many comebacks does this make?	NR
● Josh INT Holly; Holly says if Show wants a street fight, he will get one, but that Show is not too smart for playing Holly's game in his own backyard.	He has a point Show. Listening?	0
● Nidia tries to call Noble, who is not at the arena and has a match coming up; Heyman enters and reminds her of the match, and says if Noble does not show he will be replaced by Nidia, and that the match is next.	Say good night Nidia...	0
● Pre 5SD Heyman leads Nidia to the ring, saying if she does not compete, Noble is fired, then takes away her cane.	The cane was too far, Heyman!	-0.5
● Post 5SD Mysterio saves Nidia from a Buzzsaw Kick, but as he leads her back to the back, Noble surfaces, attacks Mysterio, and leads Nidia away.	He won't get away with this...	0
● Pre 6SD Lesnar comes out to the announcer's table to get a ringside seat to see Show take out Holly.	Just that, Lesnar? Oh come now!	0
● Post 6SD Holly and Lesnar have a staring match; Holly emerges with a chair, but Lesnar flees.	Enjoy it now, Holly.	0

Closing Notes

1. Chavo Guerrero – "They don't call it tough love because it's easy." The brilliance is mind-boggling.
2. Not quite Cole. Angle is better than Kofi Annan because Angle, unlike Annan, knows the value of fighting when necessary.
3. Tazz did seem a little more in antagonistic mode tonight than normal. Should we read anything into that?
4. Regarding Heyman, it never would have occurred to me that "Your match is next!" or some variation would be a quote to associate with anyone.
5. So Holly thinks Josh is a smart guy? Those compliments are few and far between aren't they? What a thankless job it can be.

3v1 Handicap Mini Royal Rumble at 2 Minute Intervals-1SD (8Jan04)

Total Time-6:20³⁴

Rating - 66

1. Chris Benoit v 2. F.B.I.

Entry	Ring-In	Ring-Out	Finishing Maneuver-Means	Momentum Line	Eliminated By
1. Chris Benoit	START	FINISH			WINNER
2s. Johnny Stamboli	START	3:09 ⁷¹	BaseballSlideKick-Elimination	1-2s-1	Chris Benoit (1)
2p. Chuck Palumbo	2:07 ⁷²	6:19 ⁷⁴	Backdrop-Elimination	2p-E-Mx-2p-1→2p-1	Chris Benoit (3)
2n. Nunzio	4:11 ²³	5:15 ²³	CarryOverTopRope-Elimination	2x-1→2p-E-2p-1	Chris Benoit (2)