



Lines

Qwest Center (Qws) Omaha, Nebraska

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slashwrestling-wienerboard

1. Lita v 2. Victoria v

4 Man Battle Royal

Women's Championship-Grade I

3. Jazz w Theodore Long v 4. Molly Holly

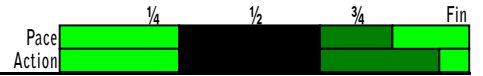
Lita, Jazz, and Victoria see their best figure on the year with this one, with the caveat that Jazz was not in very long so attribute at your own peril. Mostly fair action to be found in this one. Particularly liked when Holly went off on Victoria for the sneak pin early on. Interesting that the champion did not survive too long, but it left the anticipation of a new champion, so that was something to this. Lita did seem off at points (see spinning slam headscissors counter) which concerns, because this is not entirely isolated.

1Raw 9:43¹³ 51 Mx-3-Mx-1↓3→Mx-4-2↓4→*S-Mx-2-Mx-1-2-1-2↓1

Widow'sPeak-Pin; Steady, lightened, some awkward action, good close.
SCommercial Break. → Eliminations: See Page 3 for Details

Title Change See Page 3 For Match Chart

Victoria 4 straight wins
MlyHolly 5 straight losses



1. Randy Orton v 2. Val Venis

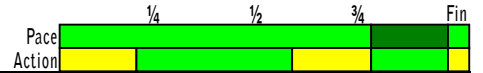
Singles

Match opened nicely with clear control going to Orton and a clean shift to Venis. Some effect from Orton in this one, first reacting to the crowd's "Foley" chant with a confused look, then mocking Foley's "Bang! Bang! Gesture. Some good points of action further bolster from a bow and arrow to a stunted Money Shot which led to the closing RKO. Nothing brilliantly stood out in this one, but the basics were sufficient enough for this to rate well.

2Raw 5:14³⁴ 52 1-2-1-1-Mx-2-E-Mx-1

RKO-Pin; Off clearly and moved fairly, action to form, effect, on 3/4 to good close.

ValVenis 4 straight losses



1. Batista v 2. Chris Benoit

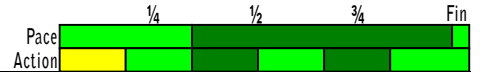
Singles

Action held mostly fair with some a few notable merits. Firstly, liked Benoit's immediate targeting of Batista's leg as a means to disrupt his mobility and lessen the size and power advantage some. Also liked Batista's half Boston crab on Benoit which he turned into a flip slam of sorts. Shining point was the finish which saw Benoit taking a powerbomb attempt and running the Crossface. A little dispelled that these two could not hold the action level midway, but a healthy effort no less.

3Raw 6:18⁰³ 52 ‡-2-1-Mx-1-1-1-Mx-1-E-2-E-2

CripplerCrossface-Submission; Off well, wavering throughout, out well.
‡Match First Sight out of Commercial Break.
Time started at first sight of match.

Best of the Night



1. Rob Van Dam and Booker T v
2. Rene Dupree and Rob Conway

2v2 Tag

Pretty basic as far as tag action goes. Van Dam and Booker T had some good tandem execution in this one such as a lifting clutch with a jumping side kick and a scissors kick followed by the finishing Five Star. Offhand, biggest detractor was the lack of balance of control, and amazed that the balanced favored Van Dam and Booker T rather than Conway and Dupree. Up slightly off their championship win last week, but hoping better is coming if they are to hold on to the titles for any significant duration.

4Raw 4:35⁸³ 49 Mx-1v-1t-2d-2c-E-1v-1v↓2d

FiveStarFrogSplash-Pin; Steadily with kick about 3/4, somewhat unbalanced.



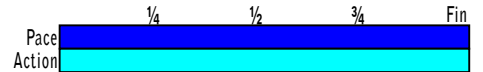
1. Trish Stratus v 2. Christian

Singles Intergender

A wrestling match, this was not but that does not mean some worth could not be found. In fact, worth was automatic as Christian has fully betrayed Stratus and Jericho by proxy. For the light action that was, that clothesline looked particularly painful. Furthermore, for Christian to feign sorrow only to apply the Walls of Jericho only shows his naturally devious form. Increases the anticipation to the coming collision with Jericho, which has the potential for something good.

5Raw 1:27⁸⁴ 05 2-2

WallsOfJericho-Submission; Merits only by character effect.



1. Vince McMahon v 2. Eric Bischoff

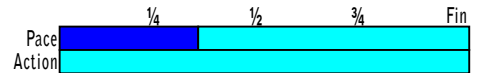
Singles Sp. Guest Ref.

As the Pre-Line short line will denote, the primary source of value is the face off between Bischoff and McMahon in context of the Monday Night Wars. Though Austin did get involved somewhat, liked that it was very limited, and while Lesnar's end inducing F5 was odd on first sight, in context it was arguably well placed. Somewhere in this, Bischoff had a few nicely executed kicks including a missed spin kick, which makes one wonder if Sensei Tajiri is teaching him the ways of the Buzzsaw.

6Raw 2:56⁸¹ 13 ⊗-1-2-1*2-1*

*♦F5toReferee-NoContest; Premise effect mostly, action to very light worth.

Sp.Gst.Ref.St.Cld.Steve Austin



Time called at first contact between Austin and Lesnar.

Breakdowns	Matches	6	Interference	1Raw	*Molly Holly	Title Changes	None.
	No Contests	1		2Raw	—		
	Total Match Time	30:15 ⁹⁸		3Raw	—		
	Pct. Of Show	31.53 (96)		4Raw	—		
Match Types	Singles	4		5Raw	—	Character Notes	Christian's in-ring destruction of Stratus is, by proxy, signals his full betrayal of Jericho. Now cannot wait till Jericho confronts him on this.
	Tag	1		6Raw	*Stone Cold Steve Austin *Brock Lesnar □		
	Battle Royal	1					

Notable Matches

Best of the Night	3Raw	52	Batista v Chris Benoit
Worst of the Night	5Raw	05	Trish Stratus v Christian

Notable Segments

Best of the Night	S-6	+ 1.0	Michaels gets a crossface after he chases off Evolution from the ring.
Worst of the Night	S-11	NR	Evolution beats Foley last week and post-beating images are shown.

Show Scoring

Match Contribution Index	25.28
Segment Contribution Index	54.78
Overall Show Score	80.06

Assessment

A higher contribution from the segments this week, but an overall step down from Raw's last two outings. Four matches were within three points of each other, but nothing was particularly strong. More than fair this time around. Perhaps a bounce. Hoping Raw will return to better form this week.

Segment by Segment

●VINCE MCMAHON arrives in his limousine and tells his driver to bring his wrestling gear to his office.	He didn't yell at his driver? Incredible.	0
●COACHMAN enters BISCHOFF'S office, asking if he knew MCMAHON was there; BISCHOFF suggests he set up a signal fire or a brass band; CHRISTIAN then enters asking the same question as COACHMAN but an exasperated look sends him to another subject; CHRISTIAN says he wanted to see him, saying he was thinking that he and JERICHO should face the tag team champions at WMXX; BISCHOFF says he appreciates friendship, but JERICHO is not his friend, citing JERICHO'S departure from WCW and his current bad-mouthing of him; he then says he hopes JERICHO is watching because CHRISTIAN will be having a match with JERICHO'S other best buddy, TRISH STRATUS.	Ask a stupid question, get a retributive match.	+0.5
●Monday Night War DVD Promo: ERIC BISCHOFF tells VINCE MCMAHON to step into the ring with him in May 1998.	—	NR
●BISCHOFF asks COACHMAN who played that promo; COACHMAN does not know and just as BISCHOFF says someone's head will roll, AUSTIN appears, grinning, and saying it was him; AUSTIN tells BISCHOFF to relax, reminding him that he claimed advantages of age and karate over MCMAHON; AUSTIN says he has that and guts as the only man who has made out with VINCE MCMAHON'S wife and daughter and not only lived to tell about it, but MCMAHON is still signing his paychecks; BISCHOFF agrees with that, saying MCMAHON is being paid to live out his fantasy; at this point MCMAHON enters, unbeknownst to BISCHOFF, who starts to talk about another fantasy in Stamford and involving STEPHANIE MCMAHON, but BISCHOFF then realizes that VINCE MCMAHON is right behind him; MCMAHON says this match between himself and BISCHOFF was only fantasy, but after he makes his WMXX announcement, it will be a reality, then leaves; AUSTIN says BISCHOFF has MCMAHON right where he wants him.	Bischoff your fantasies are none of my business; please keep them that way. Still, I always enjoy the "right behind me" comedy gimmick.	+0.5
●ORTON and FLAIR pump up BATISTA for his match with BENOIT; FLAIR says there is excitement in the air because BENOIT has been a thorn in EVOLUTION'S side, but after tonight, BENOIT will no longer run wild on Raw; BATISTA says BENOIT does not belong and that he will be begging to return to SmackDown, but his biggest mistake was to stand in their way and after tonight, he would be lucky to be standing at all; TRIPLE H enters and says he has something to say in the ring, and he wants EVOLUTION present.	Whose Line reference: I'll bet he is making an announcement to announce the announcement.	0
●EVOLUTION comes out to the ring; TRIPLE H says last week AUSTIN informed all of the triple threat match at WMXX for the title; he says he freaked out but only needed time to think about it, realizing what else should he expect but having odds stacked against him; he says FLAIR reminded him who he was, but that being human sometimes he could forget how great he was; TRIPLE H continues, saying it must be hard for the fans to accept this harder than it is for him because he always comes out on top; TRIPLE H says he is not happy about the triple threat match or that he could lose without being beaten, but it will not be the end of him either because it will be WMXX, the biggest event of them all, the biggest in his life, and the biggest of his career because he will rise to the occasion like never before, beating MICHAELS and BENOIT and standing his place in history by proving that he is what he says he is; BENOIT comes out and says TRIPLE H is the champion, and to be that, he must be the best and respects that; but he also says TRIPLE H likes to call himself a lot, and since he has come to Raw, it has all been talk; BENOIT says he is tired of it and the time for talk is over; TRIPLE H agrees, saying BENOIT comes off as a tough guy and dares him to step into the ring, saying BENOIT is a lot of talk; BENOIT enters the ring with a chair but still is no match EVOLUTION; MICHAELS comes out and clears out EVOLUTION but falls to the crossface by BENOIT; as EVOLUTION is about to reenter the ring, AUSTIN emerges on his ATV; AUSTIN says he is there to enforce the law, that being the match between BATISTA and BENOIT, with the warning that anyone who gets involved in the match will not make it to WMXX.	Come on Michaels; you sneak yourself into the WM main event, and you did not see that one coming? I thought you hurt your back, not your head.	+1.0
●Backstage, AUSTIN tells BISCHOFF to loosen up and tells him to have a beer; BISCHOFF asks AUSTIN if he is happy with what he has done as he is about to be killed; AUSTIN questions this attitude; AUSTIN wants to know where the BISCHOFF was that led WCW Nitro to beat Raw for 83 straight weeks, because that BISCHOFF was a leader, a visionary, and commander of respect; AUSTIN says the man before him is pathetic and that he has three choices: walk out on the fight and get fired; fight, lose, and still get fired; or go out and turn back into the visionary, confident BISCHOFF that went out on Nitro, and beat VINCE MCMAHON; AUSTIN says it is BISCHOFF'S choice, but it is an easy one; AUSTIN concludes with "Eye of the tiger, survive, and kick ass."	I agree. That is a pretty easy choice. Now cue soundtrack from "Rocky."	+0.5
●Last week on Raw: FOLEY was beaten by EVOLUTION. Images of FOLEY'S beaten face shown thereafter.	—	NR
●Backstage STRATUS finds CHRISTIAN regarding their match and what they will do; CHRISTIAN says it was not his idea and that this should not be competitive; he goes on to say this is the last thing he wants so he offers to lay down for the pin; CHRISTIAN says they can do that, leave, and hang out, and since CHRISTIAN is laying down for her, perhaps she could follow suit later; STRATUS is dumbfounded at the statement, but CHRISTIAN says it was merely the CLT: Christian Love Test to make sure STRATUS was not going to two-time JERICHO; CHRISTIAN says he will see her out there.	Quick cover here, but I get the feeling that no such cover will occur in their match.	+0.5
●Last week on Raw: ORTON makes his claim of superiority and draws out FOLEY, who is ambushed and beaten by EVOLUTION.	—	NR
●Video interview: JIM ROSS refers to the beating as disturbing and that FOLEY must be in pain; FOLEY says he has been in some pain for most of his career and has accepted it with the territory but never needed a neurologist to explain his injuries to him; FOLEY says is used to pain, but not used to loss of equilibrium, vomiting, and fear of injury; ROSS wants to know why FOLEY did not stay down; FOLEY said it was all instinct and he was not aware of it all until he watched the tape later, and the prevalent thing in his mind was that there was no one to help him; FOLEY assumed that he was respected and loved, but that none would help him was disheartening but tried to rationalize it as his colleagues have not entirely forgiven him for walking out on ORTON on 15Dec03; ROSS wants to know if FOLEY'S career is over for certain; FOLEY says he has a problem with giving EVOLUTION and ORTON that power to tell him when it is all over; FOLEY says he has a hatred within and longs for the days of COMMISSIONER FOLEY and that he no longer laughs anymore; FOLEY says it is not safe to say his career is over, but it is a safe assumption that FOLEY will head for Atlanta's Raw next week and that there will be hell to pay; FOLEY tells ROSS to let EVOLUTION know that they will get theirs by FOLEY.	Had some of the level of intensity that Foley generally brings, but not nearly to the level he is capable of. But of course, I just might be in the minority on that one.	+0.75
●Post 5Raw CHRISTIAN taunts STRATUS, asking "Where's your damn boyfriend now?" Afterwards, STRATUS was carried out of the arena, still in extreme pain.	Run while you can . . . that is all.	+0.5
●COACHMAN addresses BISCHOFF, asking if he alright and understands if he needs to puke his guts out because if MCMAHON called him out, would be scared; BISCHOFF emerges, saying there is no fear because he has beaten MCMAHON before, but AOL/Time Warner through in the towel; BISCHOFF says he will win the war tonight.	Damn you AOL/TW! Damn you to hell!	+0.5
●MCMAHON comes out but KEIBLER and MISS JACKIE interrupt him asking for a chance to prove they are the hottest divas in the WWE at WMXX; MCMAHON asks for proof here first compelling them to dance for him; MCMAHON makes a match between them and WILSON and SABLE in an evening gown match; KANE emerges now, saying MCMAHON promised UNDERTAKER'S death, but he is back and haunting him day and night and that MCMAHON will be buried alive if he does not do something; MCMAHON grants a match at WMXX, but that someone will be finally resting in peace; MCMAHON says he was out to announce a potential cross-promotional match, citing LESNAR'S pleas for a match against GOLDBERG but MCMAHON says it might not be right given the volatile nature of it all, saying the 82nd Airborne could not maintain order, but before he can dismiss the prospect, AUSTIN emerges on the ATV; AUSTIN says failure to give the people what they want, he will break the law, then polls the audience; AUSTIN says it might be too much for a normal referee, so he requests that he be the referee; MCMAHON wants to know what is in it for him but AUSTIN says it is not his business; MCMAHON makes the match but wants to see what kind of referee he can be in the coming match; MCMAHON then calls out BISCHOFF;	One at . . . people? I SAID ONE AT A TIME! Now then, Keibler and Miss Jackie, well at least this might end at WMXX. On Kane, a believer now are you? On Lesnar and Goldberg, hello!	+1.0
●Post 6Raw LESNAR stands over a fallen AUSTIN after delivering the F5 to him.	I think that was a bad idea Lesnar.	+0.25

Closing Notes

1. Good Lord. When Victoria won that title I thought she was about to burst into an innumerable amount of pieces in an innumerable amount of ways. Odd but good stuff.
2. I stand by my rating for the Foley beatdown last week, but tonight's slow motion replays with distorted sounds just annoyed me. The still images of his face did the same.
3. From bad image to good image, the image of the night was Bischoff and McMahon in a staredown, with referee Austin grinning in the background.
4. From the way Austin charges Bischoff for his confrontations with McMahon recently, you would think they were allies or something.
5. Now that I am used to it because of recent Raws, where are my weather phenomena damn it?!

4 Man Battle Royal-1Raw (23Feb04)

Total Time-9:43¹³

Rating - 51

1. Lita v 2. Victoria v 3. Jazz v 4. Molly Holly

Women's Championship-Grade I

Entry	Pinned	Finishing Maneuver-Means	Momentum Line	Eliminated By
2. Victoria	WINNER			WINNER
3. Jazz	:54 ⁴⁹	DDT-Pin	Mx-3-Mx-1→	Lita (1)
4. Molly Holly	1:30 ⁴⁶	BridgingDoubleLegRollUp-Pin	Mx-4-2→	Victoria (1)
1. Lita	9:43 ¹³	Widow'sPeak-Pin	*\$-Mx-2-Mx-1-2-1-2	Victoria (2)