



Lines

U.S. Bank Arena (UsB)
Cincinnati, Ohio, United States

14 February 2005

Robert Ortega Jr.

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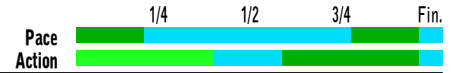
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1. Chris Jericho v. 2. Muhammad Hassan w Khosrow Daivari

Singles

Quite reasonable on the elements. Ran very steadily with a light kick at about the three quarter mark with the best action in the early half. Jericho takes the highlights of this with a nice vertical suplex and a springboard over the top rope shoulder block to the outside. Could have definitely done without three instances of Daivari, but did not detract as much as it could have. Good opening contest.

1Rw 5:30⁸⁴ 55 1-1*2*-E-1-1-2
VariantSTO-Pin; Good start, execution held, tailed.



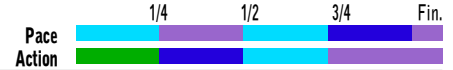
1. Shelton Benjamin v. 2. Gene Snitsky

Singles

Intercontinental Championship-Grade I

Some speed outright, but didn't really hold. Picked up a bit midway as Benjamin reassumed control, but Snitsky's control debilitated the pace too often for Benjamin to counteract the effects of the slowdown. Also, cannot merit the last quarter decline heading for the DQ finish. Cannot recommend confidently.

2Rw 4:33⁹⁰ 21 1-2-E-Mx-1-2-2-1
Chairshot(SBenjamin); In swift, wavering, too settled at times.



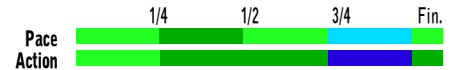
1. La Resistance v. 2. William Regal and Tajiri

2 v 2 Tag

World Tag Team Championship-Grade I

Hard to fault the elements unless you become too nitpicky about the even momentum turning point late, but that being as well placed as it was for this contest, even hard to make a case against that. Swift tags at both corners held this together nicely and though the late kick was slight and the finish abrupt, can readily ignore both of those facts for what was given here.

3Rw 4:17²⁸ 51 1c-1g-2t-1g-2t-1c-1g-1c-E-2r ↓ 1c
RunningKnee-Pin; Good speed, active, held on toward finish.



1. Randy Orton v. 2. Christian w Tyson Tomko

Singles

Can probably forgive the slow pacing overall given how long this went, but somewhat arguable that the extended length was a detriment here. A bit of a drive at about the three quarter mark, but almost negligible. Finest point came at the close with Orton reversing an Unprettier, leap-frogging Christian, and executing a fine RKO. Regarding Christian's tantrum late, haven't we seen that somewhere before?

4Rw 15:38⁸⁷ 78 (:0349) 1-1-2-1-1-2*-2-2-E-Mx-1-1-2*Mx-1
R.K.O.-Pin; Formed up early, striding pace, suitable execution.
\$ Commercial Break.

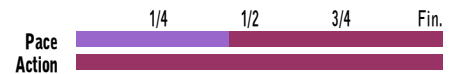


1. Simon Dean v. 2. Kane

Singles

Had to know that this wouldn't be much when the match was preceded by a speech where the message was essentially "I'm afraid and face 206 broken bones in the next two minutes." Just about an automatic minus when that "Simon System" comes into play and hard to find any real merit here. Any surprise that last week's SmackDown kimono match rated better?

5Rw 2:32²² -0 (:3069) 1-2-2
Chokeslam-Pin; Inane early, not enough to recover.

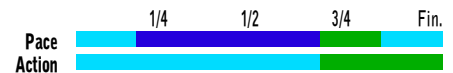


1. Batista w Triple H v. 2. Edge

Singles

Really hard to appreciate the DQ finish, but able to see it coming well enough that the effect was diluted, albeit not by a lot. Match didn't have a lot of speed for the majority but it made do with what it had and actually moved along pretty well. Liked the blocked spinebuster into the Edgecution and the spear being countered into the Batista Bomb near the close of this one. Can take this.

6Rw 5:46⁹⁸ 45 1-1-2-2-1-2-1*
RefereeShove(Edge); Broke easily, held steadily to the close.



Breakdowns	Matches	6	Interference	1Rw	*KhosrowDaivari (2)	Title Changes	None.
	No Contests	0		2Rw	-		
	Total Match Time	38:20 ⁰⁹		3Rw	-		
	Pct. of Show	39.73 (96.50)		4Rw	*TysonTomko (2)		
Match Types	Singles	5 (1 Title)		5Rw	-	Character Notes	None.
	Tag	1 (1 Title)		6Rw	*TripleH ¹		

Notable Matches

Best of the Night	4Rw	78	Randy Orton v. Christian
Worst of the Night	5Rw	-0	Simon Dean v. Kane

Notable Segments

Best of the Night	S17	.75	Evolution confronts JBL; JBL's limo confronts Batista.
Worst of the Night	S11	-1.0	Simon Dean fears Kane and whines about it all.

Show Scoring	Match Contribution Index	27.60	Assessment	Arguably a better show than the overall score might suggest. Match array was pretty reasonable with half of the six running over 50 in terms of performance figures. Only one really bad segment. Definitely viewable.
	Segment Contribution Index	10.64		
	Overall Show Score	38.24		

Segment By Segment

● CHRIS JERICHO begins the night with the Highlight Reel with Super Bowl certified diva CANDANCE MICHELLE. JERICHO runs over the media she has garnered with the commercial (GoDaddy.com) then shows it on the Jeritron 5000, then asks about her reaction to all the fuss. She says Cincinnati wouldn't mind a few dance moves or a wardrobe malfunction from her. JERICHO mocks the FCC's reactions to recent media in fun but MUHAMMAD HASSAN and KHOSROW DAIVARI interrupt from the ramp. HASSAN says this is an example of American hypocrisy with MICHELLE disgracing herself on TV and being praised for it while he defeated SGT. SLAUGHTER and getting no accolades for it. He says it is not surprising, this "dumbing down of America" and that JERICHO is the poster-child for stupidity, and demands the end of this female exploitation. JERICHO says they are the poster boys for "jackasses" but questions their hostility with what they have in common. They are Arab-Americans and he is the "Ayatolla of Rock and Rolla." He questions the manhood of both. JERICHO mocks DAIVARI'S rants as being on "that side of the fence" then says they are each other's Valentines. HASSAN says everything is a big joke to JERICHO and he should go wipe the smile off his face. JERICHO challenges them both. DAIVARI tries to restrain HASSAN, who heads for the ring.	Only thing that might have completed the insult: Jericho breaking into a mocking rendition of "My Funny Valentine."	+0.50
● Backstage, RIC FLAIR looks at something on his cell phone. TRIPLE H enters, readying himself, saying there is going to be a fight because JOHN BRADSHAW LAYFIELD is coming to confront BATISTA. FLAIR thinks JBL does not have the guts and asks if BATISTA knows. TRIPLE H says this is a spit in the face of EVOLUTION. FLAIR is instructed to tell BATISTA to focus on his match and that if JBL shows, TRIPLE H will handle him.	That's right JBL, go ahead, feed the beast, and see what happens.	0
● ROWDY RODDY PIPER announced as the next inductee into the WWE Hall of Fame, joining ORNDORFF, SHIEK, VOLKOFF, BOB ORTON, and JIMMY HART in the class.	—	NR
● Backstage, RANDY ORTON talks to STACY KEIBLER about the Hall of Fame and its inductees ORTON and PIPER being trouble. KEIBLER asks if ORTON wants to go out after his match. ORTON says, since it's Valentine's Day and all, she's on.	Awww...how cute....moving right along now...	0
● Backstage, BATISTA is talking to MARIA when FLAIR comes in to tell BATISTA about JBL coming to Raw. BATISTA doesn't seem worried but FLAIR is compelled to tell him to focus on the match and BATISTA is content to do so anyway. FLAIR also talks about TRIPLE H taking care of the JBL problem and if it gets to be too big of a problem, he can just beat him at Wrestlemania. BATISTA says he told BISCHOFF that he will make his decision after No Way Out and tells FLAIR to tell TRIPLE H that if JBL shows, to stay out of it, because the issue is between JBL and BATISTA.	Batista seemed calm, too calm, especially too calm for him, but what do I know?	+0.25
● <u>Wrestlemania 21 Promo: "Forrest Gump" with EUGENE in Tom Hanks' role and WILLIAM REGAL telling him to "run, Eugene, run."</u>	I'm loving these promos.	NR
● Backstage, ERIC BISCHOFF is on the phone with THEODORE LONG, saying BATISTA was clear about making the decision next week and that sending JBL to Raw is a cheap ploy. He also says that if he wants to play games, he can send BATISTA to SmackDown to beat their best, then hangs up. EDGE enters, saying everyone is talking about BATISTA, "surprise, surprise" and how he cost him the title last week. He says BISCHOFF is encouraging him instead of punishing him. BISCHOFF tells him to handle his problem in the ring, that being the point of tonight's match. EDGE paints a picture to BISCHOFF, that if BATISTA goes to face JBL for the WWE title, which BISCHOFF calls unlikely, EDGE says TRIPLE H will need an opponent for Wrestlemania and that EDGE will prove tonight that it should be him in that case.	Blah, blah, blah, he's screwed...	+0.50
● Video: WWE Raw in Japan.	—	NR
● TRISH STRATUS comes out to the ring, noting that between MICHELLE'S commercial, and last week's fashion show, the Raw Divas are trying to steal her spotlight. She then tells them that no one will do that to her, even if they are "Britney Frickin' Spears." She then decides to address CHRISTIE HEMME and calls her out to the ring for a "chat-chit." HEMME obliges. STRATUS immediately mocks her mannerisms. She thanks her for assuming the responsibility of the "slut" chant that crowds have bestowed upon STRATUS, which the crowd did again tonight. She justifies this with HEMME agreeing to pose in Playboy Magazine. HEMME says that she is proud to pose for Playboy and that people might want to see it, and that posing in Playboy does not a slut make, but sleeping with half of the locker room does. STRATUS then slaps her to the ground and leaves in a fit.	Passing on the torch? Not so fast there, Stratus...	0
● <u>Wrestlemania 21 Promo: "Basic Instinct" with STACY KEIBLER in the Sharon Stone role and CHRISTIAN, CHRIS BENOIT, and CHRIS JERICHO as the investigators.</u>	"My eyes!" Says it all.	NR
● Pre 5Rw SIMON DEAN admits that he is afraid of KANE, but he knows all would be upset if his wrestling career ended tonight, but if it did, he would somehow continue his Simon System because he believes in everyone. He says for those who do not believe in him, they will be condemned to a life of "corpulence." He then equates Hell to "Cinci-fatty."	Enough, enough I say!	-1.0
● Video Recap: Raw, two weeks ago, JBL prevents BATISTA from saying what he thinks of TRIPLE H, calling himself a wrestling God in the process.	Should I start laughing now?	NR
● WWE Rewind: KURT ANGLE goes berserk on SHAWN MICHAELS at the Royal Rumble.	—	NR
● Earlier Tonight: JONATHAN COACHMAN finds SHAWN MICHAELS backstage, saying in Japan, he found a magazine with ANGLE bragging about what he did to MICHAELS at the Rumble. MICHAELS says he is aware of that and that everyone is. He says he won't question the motives of an Olympic Gold Medalist, but if he were to, he should focus on No Way Out, but that he does not blame ANGLE focusing on a man with "talent on loan from God." MICHAELS says he is very aware.	Oh dear Lord, Michaels just channeled Rush Limbaugh.	+0.25
● TRIPLE H finds BATISTA preparing backstage and says it is great he will decide next week and that he will make the right decision, but with JBL, questions him wanting to handle it alone. BATISTA confirms this. TRIPLE H says JBL is not only coming for BATISTA, but is spitting in EVOLUTION'S face. He says BATISTA should concentrate on EDGE and TRIPLE H should handle JBL. But BATISTA says JBL has not been talking about EVOLUTION, but just him, and he will handle JBL. TRIPLE H tells him not to worry and that he has BATISTA'S back.	We users of the English language might have classified that backup as "unnecessary"...	+0.25
● <u>WWE Superstar Debut Promo: Chris Masters - "The Masterpiece."</u>	—	NR
● Post 6Rw JBL'S limo appears on the Titantron. After FLAIR calls for TRIPLE H and BATISTA to cut the match short, EVOLUTION goes to take on JBL. TRIPLE H says this will be finished tonight. TRIPLE H emphasizes "we" but BATISTA tells him to stay out of it and goes it alone, calling for JBL outside the arena, daring him to come after him. The limo appears behind BATISTA and nearly runs him over, but TRIPLE H pushes him out of the way. BATISTA is irate, saying he will head for SmackDown on Thursday, alone.	...except of course, then, a giant three ton piece of metal that almost hit Batista proved such a classification untrue.	+0.75

Closing Notes

- Wow, JR, I didn't know Oklahoma was a country. When did you guys secede from the union?
- Maybe I misheard this, but did JR say Lita was out of action and had "ACLU" surgery? That must be quite the litigious three hours under the knife.
- From the producers of "Who Ran Over Stone Cold?" ... "Who Almost Ran Over Batista?" Yeah, so we already have our answer. Or do we. With this company, you never know.
- All Regal needs now is a brass knee brace to complete his repertoire.
- "Braveheart" "Forrest Gump" and "Basic Instinct" promos already out there. What's next? Any thoughts?