

Smackdown – 2/25/11: Remember when this show used to be awesome?

Smackdown

Date: February 25, 2011

Location: ARCO Arena, Sacramento, California

Commentators: Michael Cole, Josh Matthews, Booker T

It's time for the Road to Wrestlemania and thankfully this is the last time I have to say that. Alberto vs. Edge is the official main event contribution from the blue show. This could be altered though with the return of Christian on Sunday. Also we have Teddy Long back now so who knows what's in store for Vickie. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of last week's events regarding the world title. Edge came in as champion, the title was stripped and given to Dolph as Edge was fired. Teddy Long, the real GM returned, rehired Edge and gave him a rematch for the title. Edge won and Zigler was fired to end the show. And people say nothing happens on Smackdown?

Teddy says Vickie gets to fight for her job tonight in the form of Vickie/Drew McIntyre vs. Kelly Kelly/Edge. If Vickie's team loses then she's fired.

Do you know your enemy? Mine are people that actually believed 2-21-11 was Sting.

Rey Mysterio vs. Kane

Kane does the fire corners thing before the match. Those things are incredible live as they're incredibly loud and you

can actually feel the heat on your face. Kane gets a quick cover for two. He lowers his head though and Rey fires off some kicks. Rey tries to go to the air and is caught in a powerslam position. A shot into the corner gets two and Kane adds a body scissors.

Cody Rhodes is going to be here tonight but is apparently out of Mania. Rey fights up but gets caught in a backbreaker for two. He needs to stop this flying stuff as it doesn't seem to be working for him here. Another rana attempt is blocked but Rey puts Kane into the 619 position. Kane avoids it and hits the floor and Rey goes after him only to run into a big boot as we take a break.

Back with Kane working on the back of Rey as the masked man is in trouble. Kane drops some elbows for two again. He seems a bit off here for some reason. Bearhug goes on while Cole goes off on Josh about being afraid of powerful women or something like that. Rey escapes but is put right back into the hold and then rammed into the corner. Kane puts Rey on the top rope but gets caught by a seated senton. Big swinging kick to a seated Kane gets two.

Rey goes up and is caught by a big uppercut which is dreaded according to Booker but it only gets two. Top rope clothesline misses so Rey, ever the genius, runs right at Kane as he's up and not hurt. Chokeslam is countered into the 619. Kane catches a seated senton into a powerbomb position but Rey climbs down the back into a sunset flip but can't hook it so he settles for a rollup for the pin at 7:30 shown of 11:00.

Rating: C. Totally average match here. I've never been a fan of this pairing but this was ok. Kane's title reign is long over so he's back to being a main event jobber now which is fine. He has a lot more credibility now and can go back to doing what he does best. This was nothing special but it wasn't too bad at all. Right in the middle sounds about

right.

Rey stays in the ring to celebrate but is interrupted by...Dusty Rhodes? Dusty hugs him and we take a break. Back with the fat man himself saying they're friends and that he's disappointed in his son's actions and what Cody has been saying. Dusty wants Cody out here now to apologize to Rey.

Here's Cody in a clear mask that almost looks skin colored from a distance. He says that he's been through a lot and Dusty wants him to apologize to Rey? Because of Rey Cody wasn't in the Rumble or the Chamber and he won't be at Wrestlemania. Dusty looks ancient. He says that when Cody came to WWE there were some things they talked about, such as Wrestlemania and being a champion. Was this the wrestling version of the birds and the bees?

Dusty says that somewhere along the line Cody lost focus. With the Divas saying he's handsome and being in commercials and being on Syfy and agents from Hollywood calling him, he lost focus. While Cody was being Dashing, Miz took the WWE Title in Cody's spot and Edge came in and took the world title off an injury. Then there's the situation with Rey where Cody is the one to blame. Right now though, Cody needs to apologize.

Cody apologizes to Dusty and says to Rey that he's sorry too. They shake hands as do Rey and Dusty but it's a Dusty Finish to the segment as Dusty doesn't let go of Rey's hand and Cody jumps him. The beatdown is on Cody sends Rey into various things on the floor. He rubs Rey's face into the steel at the top of the stage and then into the mirror that Cody looks into during his entrance. Cody pulls the mask off and kicks Rey in the face, leaving him laying. That added a lot to this.

Back from a break with the Rhodes men hugging and Dusty saying he'd do anything for his son.

Layla vs. Rosa Mendes

Michelle is on commentary again. Rosa starts with a Thesz Press. Is Michelle supposed to be like Paris Hilton or something? Cole of course sucks up to her as Rosa is being all feisty and aggressive. She goes after Michelle when Michelle gets in her face and a shot from the blonde (Michelle if you're not familiar with the other girls' hair) ends this in a DQ at 1:27.

Laycool argues post match.

Jack Swagger vs. Kofi Kingston

I guess we're back to this feud. No entrance for Swagger this week. We get a quick clip of Alberto jumping Kofi on Raw to injure his arm. Josh says these two feuded over the IC Title over the past year. You mean the title Ziggler held for like five and a half months and the Jack Swagger that was world champion for part of the summer and the Kofi that was on Raw until April and then feuded with McIntyre and Ziggler until the fall/winter? I don't say this often but Josh...you're an idiot.

I'm pretty sure this is non-title. Kofi gets a boot up and hammers away on Swagger with a ton of strikes. Superman clothesline sets up the Boom Drop for no cover. Swagger goes off on Kofi again and works on the leg by wrapping it around the post. Back in the ring and the ankle lock ends this clean at 2:52. That's rather surprising indeed. Too short to get anything going but this was nothing bad at all.

Vickie tries to talk to Teddy, saying this is so unfair. She goes into his office despite him not answering.

We recap, and by that I mean reair, the Cena promo. It's still hilarious, especially the pinwheel thing. I'm hoping

this leads to Cena vs. Rock but I can live with it if it doesn't. The crowd ate this up too which is a great sign.

Vickie is still looking for help and asks Chavo who says her asking for help almost makes him forget about all the times she had him get her coffee and be her gopher. Very true indeed.

Wade Barrett vs. Big Show

Corre is barred from ringside. Show throws his jacket on Cole while Cole and Booker argue over whether or not Booker should be on commentary. Show dominates to start but runs into a big boot. Barrett chokes away while on Show's back and Show is in some trouble. Show gets to the ropes and Barrett pounds away more as we take a break.

Back with more Barrett domination including a big boot to the jaw from during the break. Show fights back from one knee with big chops. Barrett gets a low dropkick to the knee and down goes Show. DDT gets two. We hit the floor and it's all Show after that kickout. Barrett manages to send him into the post but Show pulls him back out to the floor and beats the count to win at 4:00 shown of 7:30.

Rating: C-. This was your basic giant vs. heel with the work on the legs going nowhere for the most part. I'm getting tired of these relatively short matches though. Also I'd like to see Show vs. a member of the Corre that means something in a match that gets a bit of time and has an ending that isn't a count out or DQ. Not bad though.

Corre comes out but Show wisely grabs a chair and Corre runs. Gabriel takes a shot with it though and Show stands tall.

Long recap video of Taker and HHH from Monday. I liked it despite what a lot of people seem to think of it. Aww it

wasn't Sting. Get over it already.

Edge/Kelly Kelly vs. Vickie Guerrero/Drew McIntyre

If Vickie's team loses, she's fired. The genders have to match here. Edge starts but immediately tags in Kelly to make this girl on girl. Vickie gets beaten down and it's off to Drew in less than a minute. He yells at Kelly, saying he was the only one to stand up for her. Edge hammers away but Drew takes over rather quickly. Off to an armbar to the champion while the announcers bicker about what Vickie would do if she kept her job.

Edge takes him down and adds a forearm and some clotheslines for two. The champion charges into the corner but pauses when Drew moves. Vickie slaps him and Edge walks into a big boot from McIntyre. Futureshock is countered into the Edgecution and it's spear time. Vickie comes in to beg Edge not to do it so Kelly takes her down. Spear to Drew and Vickie is gone at 5:36. What is with these short matches tonight???

Rating: C-. Vickie being gone is a nice touch but a five minute main event? What happened to the days when Smackdown regularly had 15 minute matches? The problem is that the ratings have been going up lately so they'll likely stick with the Raw formula of quick matches. Blast it all.

Teddy comes out to dance and we take a break. Vickie cries and apologizes, even throwing in some solid begging. Teddy fires her anyway. Vickie begs the referee to reverse the decision to no avail. Booker won't help her either. Cole doesn't know what to do. The cameraman won't help.

Finally she begs Edge, holding onto his legs and crying. Edge says he can help her but instead he'd rather sing. You know the song I think and Vickie heads up the ramp. She shouts you just wait and Alberto jumps Edge from behind, going after his

arm. Edge is left laying and I really hope Vickie doesn't come back as Alberto's employee.

Overall Rating: D+. This was one of the weakest shows from Smackdown that I've seen in a very long time. None of the matches were very good, the main event is five minutes long followed by a seven minute segment with Vickie trying to get someone to help her. The stories didn't really go anywhere but it's not like there were any in the first place. Nothing show for the most part with nothing other than Vickie going on.

Results

Rey Mysterio b. Kane – Rollup

Rosa Mendes b. Layla via DQ when Michelle McCool interfered

Jack Swagger b. Kofi Kingston – Ankle Lock

Big Show b. Wade Barrett via countout

Edge/Kelly Kelly b. Drew McIntyre/Vickie Guerrero – Spear to McIntyre