Five By Five: KB's Favorite Matches

We close out the series with this. Click on the link for the review of the show the match is on if applicable. Also remember: favorite does NOT equal best.

Honorable Mention: Undertaker vs. Shawn Michaels (Wrestlemania 25). Any match that hadm e on the edge of my seat like this one did has to be on this list.

Honorable Mention: Doomsday Cage (<u>Uncensored 1996</u>). This is the kind of match that is so bad it's hilarious. It looks cool, but if you think about it for more than 8 seconds, the match goes out the window into the land of WOW THIS IS STUPID. That can be endlessly entertaining and this one is. Check it out, and read my review at the same time to see how many head scratchers you can find in it.

Honorable Mention: TLC II (<u>Wrestlemania X7</u>). Take six guys, have them beat the tar out of each other for fifteen minutes, throw in Lita taking her top off. What more do you need to know here?

Honorable Mention: Cactus Jack vs. HHH (Royal Rumble 2000). This is one of those matches where you didn't know who was going to win until the very end because HHH was in so far over his head. Everything was on Cactus' side and the match is one of the bloodiest affairs you'll ever see in wrestling. this is the match that made HHH into a killer and he stayed there for years.

5. AJ Styles vs. Abyss (<u>Lockdown 2005</u>). I love the David vs. Goliath story and this is a great example of that idea. The opening segment of this match with the two of them outside of the cage is as entertaining a two or three minute stretch as TNA has ever produced, bar none. AJ is all over the place,

- sliding and diving and jumping to try to slow the monster down but Abyss stops him every time. AJ finally goes straight up Superman and dives over about four rows to take Abyss down. I get into this every time and it's a brawl all the way through.
- 4. Hart Foundation vs. Demolition (Summerslam 1990). A friend of mine from WrestleZone has called this the best tag team match ever and I'm not sure he's that far off. This is insanely entertaining as Demolition has held the belts for months now and the Harts have about as much of a chance as I do at winning Miss Nevada 1982. The champions cheat like there's no tomorrow with switches and beating up the referee and whatever else they can pull off. LOD comes out to even things up and stop the cheating and the Harts use the one opening they have to steal the titles. It's great and if you watch it you'll get into it too.
- 3. Sting vs. Cactus Jack (<u>Beach Blast 1992</u>). Two of my three favorite wrestlers in a match that Foley said was his best ever for a long time. I think you can figure this one out.
- 2. Shawn Michaels vs. Shelton Benjamin (Monday Night Raw 5/2/2005). For years and years I had this as my favorite match and it's still very hard to dop. The idea of Shawn fighting himself from ten years ago is brilliant and the match is so incredibly crisp. On top of that the ending is one of the best looking knockouts you'll ever see anywhere. From a personal standpoint, this was a turning point for me as a fan as for the first time ever I could see a story being told in a match and got way into that aspect of it instead of cheering for my favorites.
- 1. Sting vs. Vader (Starrcade 1992). This was always one of my favorites but the more I thought about it the more I realized how much I love it. If I'm ever in the mood to watch something fun, this is what I throw on. It's the David vs. Goliath formula again....if David was 6'3 and 240lbs. The idea here is simple: Vader DESTROYED Sting to win the world title

in July but this is about revenge and some stupid tournament. Sting had always been able to charge head first into whomever he was facing before this and beat them through pure talent, but when he tried to charge at Vader he got his block knocked off. Instead he needs to use his brain, but since Sting is kind of stupid he tries rope a dope instead. Sting lets Vader pound him down until Vader has nothing left and then Sting goes in for the kill. The visuals of Sting getting beaten down more and more before FINALLY making his superhuman comeback are awesome if you can get behind an underdog, which is what Sting was coming into this. Check this one out for sure.