

In Your House #3: Everybody, All Together Now!



IMG Credit: WWE

In Your House 3: Triple Header

Date: September 24, 1995

Location: Saginaw Civic Center, Saginaw, Michigan

Attendance: 5,146

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Jerry Lawler, Jim Ross

The title of this show refers to the main event, which is only one match. It's Michaels/Diesel vs. Yokozuna/Owen Hart will all titles on the line. In other words if Diesel and Shawn win then they're the tag champions but if Owen or Yokozuna beat Shawn or Diesel, the person with the pin gets the respective singles title. In other words, practically everything is on the line in one match so it better deliver. Let's get to it.

The opening video talks about the Triple Header match and refers to Owen and Yokozuna as perhaps the greatest tag team in company history. To say that's a stretch is the understatement of the year. Also keep in mind that Shawn and Diesel are former tag team champions.

The theme song talks about going home and being In Your House. Well you can't say they're being subtle at least.

Jim Ross' prediction for the main event is Yokozuna winning the

Intercontinental Title.

Savio Vega vs. Waylon Mercy

Waylon Mercy is.....interesting. He's based on Max Cady from the movie Cape Fear, but if you've never seen that, basically he's a 6'7 man (probably more famous as Dan Spivey) who dresses like a very laid back southern gentleman but turns into a psycho when the bell rings. After the match is over, he's right back to being the kindest man you'll ever meet. The character had some staying power to him but a bunch of injuries forced him to retire just a few months after debuting the character.

Mercy offers a handshake to start so Savio dances a bit. Vega avoids a charge in the corner and cranks on the arm to start. Mercy is taken to the mat by the arm but comes back with a clothesline. We head to the floor with Mercy firing off chops and slamming Savio down before choking away back inside. A hot shot gets two for Mercy and he sends Savio into the corner but we cut over to Doc Hendrix in the back, saying that tag team champion Owen Hart hasn't arrived yet.

Savio comes back with a hiptoss and some forearms but gets caught in Waylon's sleeper. Vega is in big trouble but manages to send Waylon face first into the buckle to escape. A belly to back suplex puts Mercy down before Vega takes over with some right hands. Vega kicks Mercy in the face and bulldogs him down for two. A side roll gets another near fall but Mercy comes back with a brainbuster for two of his own. Savio gets a quick German suplex for two before hitting a spinwheel kick for the upset pin.

Rating: D+. The match wasn't too horrible but what in the world was the point of having Mercy lose here? Mercy was about to start feuding with the WWF Champion but you have him lose to Savio Vega in the opener of a pay per view here? My guess is that Mercy was about to leave due to the injuries so get the value you can out of him beforehand.

Cornette, Fuji, Yokozuna and British Bulldog are panicking in the back because WWF President Gorilla Monsoon is saying the tag titles might have to be forfeited. Gorilla says the title match is happening tonight.

Sycho Sid vs. Henry Godwinn

Henry turned down an official spot on the Million Dollar Team and got beaten down, turning him face as a result. Godwinn even slopped DiBiase for good measure, but got powerbombed on the floor. Henry pounds away to start and slams Sid face first into the mat as JR drops the term slobberknocker, blowing Vince's mind. Sid gets suplexed back in from the apron but Henry hurts his back in the process. He can't pick Sid up for a slam and the Sycho takes over.

They head to the floor with Sid jumping off the apron with an ax handle to Henry's bad back. Back in and some kicks in the corner have Henry in even more trouble and we hit the camel clutch. Sid jumps down onto the back to slow Henry down again before ripping at his face. There's another camel clutch but Sid isn't even pulling back, making this look ridiculous. Back up and Sid misses a charge into the corner and Henry starts pounding away. A boot to the chest sets up the Slop Drop (reverse DDT) for two but DiBiase makes the save. DiBiase trips Henry again and Sid powerbombs him for the pin.

Rating: D. Nothing to see here again but the fans were at least getting behind Henry a bit here. Sid was just worthless in the ring as he couldn't even perform a rest hold properly. Then again when you're that size you can do almost anything you want and the fans are going to buy it. Still though, not a good match here as the bad start to the show continues.

Post match Kama Mustafa comes out to help Sid and DiBiase try to slop Henry but Bam Bam Bigelow makes the save and pours the slop on DiBiase again.

Monsoon says that Cornette can find a substitute for Owen Hart and he'll have a chance at the Intercontinental or World Title in the main event just like Owen would have. The tag titles would still be on the line.

British Bulldog vs. Bam Bam Bigelow

Bulldog has a match on Raw tomorrow night against Undertaker so the announcers spend most of the match ignoring Bigelow to talk about

tomorrow's match. Bigelow runs over Smith to start and then does it again for good measure. Bulldog bails to the floor and we go to a split screen to see Cornette recruiting Sid for the main event. Back in and Bigelow misses an elbow drop before being put in a quick chinlock.

Bigelow fights up but misses a headbutt, allowing Bulldog to hit a nice suplex. Bam Bam comes back with some clotheslines, only to miss a charge and fall out to the floor. Davey can't suplex Bigelow back inside so Bigelow lifts him up for a crotching on the top rope. Smith goes after the knee and Bigelow is down again, giving Davey a nice target. Bulldog kicks away at the knee as the announcers speculate over who could be Yokozuna's partner.

We get a leg lock on the mat as the fans try to get Bigelow back in this. Back up and Bigelow is sent into the buckle but comes back with an enziguri. He can't follow up though due to the knee and Smith goes right back to the leg. We hit the half crab for a bit before a knee to the ribs gets two for the Bulldog. Off to the chinlock for a bit before Smith fails at a slam attempt, giving Bigelow a two count. Bigelow sits down to block a sunset flip attempt but the moonsault misses. Smith avoids a charge in the corner and hits a quick powerslam (standing instead of running) for the pin.

Rating: D+. Still nothing good here but it was WAY better than the previous match. Smith wasn't much by this point but he was fine for beating up guys on a lower level than he was. Bigelow was pretty worthless here and would be gone in just a few months, which is probably the best result for everyone.

Here's Bob Backlund who is thinking about running for President of the United States. He insults the fans for having a poor lexicon before talking about little victories in life, such as learning to read and write. Backlund introduces Dean Douglas for his match while praising him using words most fans don't understand.

Dean Douglas vs. Razor Ramon

This is a result of Dean insulting Razor for losing the Intercontinental Title match at Summerslam and Ramon has bad ribs coming in. Razor goes

right for him to start and clotheslines Douglas out to the floor. Back in and they take each other to the mat a few times with no one being able to get an advantage. Dean fires off some right hands but gets hiptossed over the top and out to the floor. We cut to the split screen again with Mabel looking at Yokozuna and Cornette looking thrilled. Nothing is official though.

Back in again and Douglas cranks on the arm, only to have Razor counter into a top wristlock. Dean flips out of a hammerlock but gets caught in the fallaway slam for two. Razor snaps Dean's arm over the top rope before putting on an armbar. Back up and Dean's sunset flip out of the corner gets two before Ramon clotheslines him down for the same. It's a back and forth match so far and we hit the armbar again. Dean gets back up and avoids a charge to send Razor out to the floor.

Razor gets slammed on the floor and they barely break the ten count. A knee to the back sends Razor into the steps before Dean rams him back first into the post. Back in again and a top rope ax handle gets two for Douglas. Dean's major flaw is really showing here: he's a pretty generic in ring worker and doesn't do anything particularly better than anyone else. He's much better on the mic but it doesn't help him in the ring.

Dean stays on Razor's back before cranking on the arms for a bit. Some right hands to Razor's bad ribs keep him in trouble and a gutbuster gets two. Off to a reverse chinlock but Razor eventually gets to his feet with Dean on his shoulders for an electric chair drop. Ramon pounds away and rolls through Dean's middle rope cross body for two. Dean sends Razor into the referee to knock both guys down but Ramon comes back with a quick Razor's Edge. No referee though and here's the soon to be heel 1-2-3 Kid to count the pin behind Razor's back. Ramon thinks he's won and Dean rolls him up for a quick pin.

Rating: C-. The ending was more clever than a lot of others I've seen but it still wasn't anything special. As I said, Douglas was a much better character than wrestler which makes these fifteen minute matches fairly dull to sit through. Razor continues to be at about the same level he's been at for years while never really moving further up the card at all. He's still very popular though so it's not the worst thing in the world.

Shawn Michaels and Diesel talk about what it's like with being in love with a girl when you're younger but having it pulled away from you. That's how they feel with Owen backing out tonight.

Jean Pierre LaFitte vs. Bret Hart

LaFitte is a 275lb pirate, more famous as one half of the Quebecers tag team, who has been stealing the sunglasses that Bret gives to fans and then stole Bret's trademark leather jacket. Seriously that's the whole story. Bret dives through the ropes to take out LaFitte to start and the brawl is on in a hurry. Jean comes back with right hands and takes it into the ring, sending Bret into the corner over and over. Hart avoids a charge and takes the pirate down by the arm.

Bret hooks the armbars but gets clotheslined down, sending Lawler into fits of glee. LaFitte stomps away as this is still in first or second gear. Bret gets pounded down in the corner before missing a charge into the post to damage his own shoulder. We get the required Bret chest first into the buckle bump as things speed up a little bit. Bret manages to backdrop Jean over the top to the floor but gets sent into the steps for his troubles.

Back in and Bret's comeback is stopped via a spinebuster for two and we hit the chinlock. Bret fights up for about the fifth time and gets two off a sunset flip, only to be caught in a side slam. Jean gets two off a guillotine legdrop before loading up his Cannonball (Swanton) finisher. Hart rolls away at the last second and both guys are down as the fans are getting into this. The Sharpshooter is countered with Bret being kicked through the ropes, only to avoid a dive over the top from LaFitte.

Bret sends Jean into the steps before whipping him chest first into the buckle in a nice callback from earlier. A Russian legsweep gets two on Jean but he gets the boot up to block Bret's middle rope elbow. Bret's crucifix is countered into a rolling fireman's carry senton but Hart gets a quick two off a rollup.

A bulldog is countered with Bret being sent chest first into the buckle again as Lawler is losing his mind on these kickouts. Jean's top rope splash misses and a double clothesline puts both guys down. With both

guys on the mat we get one of Bret's favorites as he puts on the Sharpshooter from his back and turns it over for the submission.

Rating: B. This started slow but got much better by the middle. Bret continues to be able to have good matches with anyone he's put in there with, which explains why he had such odd choices of opponents around this time. LaFitte was pretty much done after this match but it was a dead end character anyway.

Bret gets his jacket back post match.

British Bulldog will be Owen Hart's partner. Gorilla approves this move, saying that Bulldog can win or lose the tag titles as well as win either singles title.

Tag Titles/WWF World Title/Intercontinental Title: Yokozuna/British Bulldog vs. Shawn Michaels/Diesel

All titles are on the line here with the person getting the fall winning the belt of whomever they pin. Smith and Shawn get things going by trading some weak hammerlocks. A backdrop puts Smith down and a clothesline sends him to the floor with Shawn skinning the cat to get back in. Yokozuna comes in sans tag but Diesel punches him out to the floor, leaving the good guys to rule the ring.

Yokozuna comes in legally now and Shawn gets down in a sumo stance in a funny bit. Shawn of course moves from a charging Yokozuna but runs into a back elbow to put him down. A big fat elbow misses and there's the tag off to the world champion Diesel. Yokozuna gets dropped by a running clothesline but Bulldog gets in a cheap shot to slow Diesel down. Smith actually gets Diesel up for his trademark delayed vertical suplex for a two count but Diesel is right back up.

Bulldog can't hit the powerslam and Diesel comes back with a corner clothesline to drop Smith. Back to Shawn who climbs onto Diesel's shoulders for a huge splash, getting two. Smith pops back up and gorilla presses Shawn before crotching him on the top rope to send him to the floor. They head inside again for a BIG backdrop for two on Shawn and we hit the chinlock.

Shawn scores with a cross body but gets slammed down again, drawing in Diesel and allowing Yokozuna to come in for a nerve hold. Jim Ross (JR) asks a good question: why would Bulldog tag out? If Yokozuna gets the fall then Bulldog comes out with nothing. Shawn avoids the Banzai Drop and there's the hot tag to Diesel.

The big man runs over the Bulldog and puts him down with the side slam. Everything breaks down with Smith being sent into Yokozuna with the fat man falling down onto him. Yokozuna breaks up a Jackknife attempt but Shawn superkicks him to the floor. Shawn breaks up a pin attempt by Davey but here's Owen Hart who is immediately Jackknifed by Diesel for the pin and the titles. You read that right.

Rating: C+. This was a decent match until the stupid ending. Naturally this didn't last and was overturned the next night, as it should have been. The fans popped for the finish but it was clear this wasn't going to last at all. At least Diesel had someone he could work with here as both tag champions could hang in a power match with him. Shawn was his usual good self.

Jim Ross points out how ridiculous this is to end the show.

Overall Rating: D. This makes three straight bad shows to start this series. I promise things will get better but it's going to take a little while to get there. This wasn't anything special and only a few decent matches aren't enough to make it worthwhile. Diesel just wasn't working as champion as he didn't have enough to carry the entire company. Shawn was popular but he was still several months away from a world title push. Things will get better though, I assure you.

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