

= Unforgiven ( 2006 ) =

Unforgiven ( 2006 ) was a professional wrestling pay @-@ per @-@ view event produced by World Wrestling Entertainment ( WWE ) , which took place on September 17 , 2006 , at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto , Ontario . It was the eighth annual Unforgiven event . The show 's seven matches showcased prominent WWE wrestlers , who acted out the franchise 's stories in and out of the ring . The event starred talent from the Raw brand .

The main event was a Tables , Ladders , and Chairs match for the WWE Championship between Edge and John Cena , which Cena won after retrieving the belt suspended above the ring . One of the predominant matches on the card was D @-@ Generation X ( Triple H and Shawn Michaels ) versus The Big Show , Vince and Shane McMahon in a Handicap Hell in a Cell match . Triple H and Michaels won the match after Triple H pinned Vince following a sledgehammer shot to his back . Another primary match on the undercard was Lita versus Trish Stratus for the WWE Women 's Championship in what was Stratus ' final match of her full @-@ time wrestling career . Stratus won the match after forcing Lita to submit to the sharpshooter , thus becoming a record setting seven time WWE Women 's Champion .

As many of the existing feuds ended following the event , some did not . Notably , Jeff Hardy continued to feud with Johnny Nitro , facing off against him for the WWE Intercontinental Championship throughout September . The feud between D @-@ Generation X ( DX ) and The McMahons ended after the event , as DX began an angle with Edge and Randy Orton . Following his win against Edge , Cena began an angle with Kevin Federline , which started the proceeding month at Cyber Sunday and lasted throughout the year .

= = Background = =

The event featured seven professional wrestling matches with different wrestlers involved in pre @-@ existing scripted feuds , plots and storylines . Wrestlers were portrayed as either villains or fan favorites as they followed a series of tension @-@ building events , which culminated in a wrestling match or series of matches . All wrestlers belonged to the Raw brand ? a storyline division in which WWE assigned its employees to a different program , the other being SmackDown ! .

The main feud heading into Unforgiven was between Edge and John Cena over the WWE Championship . The two were evenly matched , with one victory each . Cena defeated Edge by disqualification at Saturday Night 's Main Event , and Edge had beaten Cena at SummerSlam to retain his championship . On the edition of August 21 , 2006 of Raw , Lita , Edge 's girlfriend , threw Cena 's customized belt , which had a spinning center plate of the WWE logo , into the Long Island Sound . Afterwards , Edge proclaimed that it was the end of the " Cena era " in his life . Edge went on to unveil a new version of the belt , which had a spinning center plate of his " Rated @-@ R Superstar " logo . Later in the evening , Edge had a match with the returning Jeff Hardy ; however , the match ended in a no @-@ contest after Cena interfered and attacked Edge . After the match , the two fought outside the arena , and Cena tossed Edge into the Long Island Sound . On the edition of August 28 , 2006 of Raw , Edge demanded that Shane McMahon , who was in charge of Raw that night , fire Cena for his actions the week before . Cena , however , interrupted and told Edge that if he got another WWE Championship match and lost , he would sign a contract with SmackDown ! and leave Edge 's life . Edge agreed , but on the condition that he decided when , where , and what type of match it would be . After Cena defeated Chris Masters later that night , Edge hit Cena with a chair , a ladder , and later put him through a table . Following his attack , Edge told Cena that the match was going to be a Tables , Ladders , and Chairs match at Unforgiven in his hometown of Toronto .

The other main match on the card was D @-@ Generation X ( DX ) ( Triple H and Shawn Michaels ) versus The McMahons ( Vince and Shane ) and The Big Show in a Hell in a Cell match . At SummerSlam , DX defeated The McMahons in a tag team match . On the edition of August 21 , 2006 of Raw , as part of the storyline , DX vandalized the WWE headquarters and Vince McMahon 's personal jet plane and limousine . On the edition of August 28 of Raw , The McMahons viciously

attacked DX after their 3 @-@ on @-@ 2 handicap match with their SummerSlam opponents , Mr. Kennedy , Finlay and William Regal . But before Vince and Shane proceeded to attack DX , Big Show attacked DX , giving the advantage to The McMahons . Moments after the assault , Vince booked a match at Unforgiven , where he teamed up with Shane and Big Show to take on DX in a 3 @-@ on @-@ 2 handicap Hell in a Cell match .

One of the main undercard matches was between Lita and Trish Stratus for the WWE Women 's Championship . Lita engaged herself in a feud with Trish Stratus , after Lita and Edge interrupted Stratus ' title match with Mickie James . Lita and Edge then went on to attack Stratus ' , only to involve Carlito , who was in an on @-@ screen relationship with Stratus , to brawl with Lita and Edge . A scheduled tag team match between Lita and Edge versus Stratus and Carlito occurred , in which Edge and Lita were the winners . On the edition of August 28 , 2006 of Raw , Lita revealed that Stratus would retire following Unforgiven , which was later confirmed by Stratus . On the edition of September 4 of Raw , Stratus challenged Lita to a match at Unforgiven for the WWE Women 's title , for her retirement match , in which Lita accepted .

= = Event = =

The event unofficially began with a dark match between Super Crazy and Shelton Benjamin . Crazy pinned Benjamin for the win .

= = = Preliminary matches = = =

The first match was between Jeff Hardy and Johnny Nitro for the Intercontinental Championship . In the start of the match , Hardy gained the advantage over Nitro by countering his attacks . Hardy performed the Swanton Bomb , but Nitro put his foot on the rope to break a pinfall attempt by Hardy . Melina , however , hit Hardy with her boot , giving the upper hand to Nitro as he pinned Hardy and retained the title .

The match that followed was between Kane and Umaga . The match was taken to the outside of the ring . Kane performed a clothesline on Umaga into the crowd for a double countout called by the referee . The third match was for the World Tag Team Championship between the Spirit Squad ( Kenny and Mikey ) and The Highlanders. back and forth action was seen by both teams . The members of the Squad , who were at ringside , interfered in the match and gave the upper hand to their teammates , as Mikey was able to pin Rory after a Facebuster , thus able to retain the World Tag Team Championship .

= = = Main event matches = = =

The Hell in a Cell match between Shane , Vince McMahon , and the Big Show versus Triple H and Shawn Michaels ( DX ) was next . At first , DX was able to get the upper hand over the McMahons and Big Show . Back and forth action took place between the teams . During the match , Triple H wrapped a chair around Shane 's neck , which followed with Michaels hitting an elbow drop onto the chair , which resulted in Shane being injured . Michaels proceeded to perform Sweet Chin Music on Big Show . DX then pulled Big Show 's trunks down and shoved Vince 's head up Big Show 's buttocks . DX won the match , after Michaels performed Sweet Chin Music , which was followed by Triple H hitting McMahon over the back with a sledgehammer and covering him for the win .

The next singles match was between Trish Stratus and Lita for the WWE Women 's Championship . Stratus gained control early in the match , but Lita took it from her after she threw Stratus from the top rope . Stratus won the match after she locked in the Sharpshooter on Lita , who submitted to the move , and Stratus became Women 's Champion for the last time in her career . The sixth match was between Randy Orton and Carlito . As the match came to a start , Carlito spat on Orton and momentarily was followed by a dropkick . Mid @-@ way in the match , Carlito springboard moonsaulted from each side of the ring . His elbow caught Orton in the mouth on the second moonsault causing Orton to bleed from the mouth . After back and forth action , Carlito attempted an

aerial maneuver , only to be countered into a mid @-@ air RKO . Orton then pinned Carlito for the win .

The final match of the night was for the WWE Championship between Edge and John Cena in a TLC match . At the start of the match , Cena took the advantage over Edge . Edge , however , countered Cena 's moves with a neckbreaker . The match saw Cena sandwich Edge in a ladder , as he applied the STFU hold on Edge , to which Edge tapped out . At one point , Cena began to climb the ladder , as he was moments away from retrieving the title , Lita , who interfered on behalf of Edge , tipped the ladder over , making Cena fall off the ladder and crash through a table at ringside . Lita 's interference was short , as Cena would later recover , and as Edge was climbing the ladder , Lita hits Cena with a steel chair to the back , only for him to inadvertently fall towards and push the ladder , making Edge fall off the ladder and crash through a table at ringside . Lita was then promptly dispatched by Cena , who performed an FU on her . Cena then began to make his way up the ladder , as did Edge when he re @-@ entered the ring . The two exchanged right @-@ hands , until Cena lifted Edge for the FU and dropped Edge through two tables that were stacked together by Cena . Cena then grabbed the belt down from the loop and became champion for the third time .

= = Aftermath = =

On the edition of October 2 , 2006 of Raw , John Cena was scheduled to defend the WWE Championship against Edge in a Steel Cage match , after Edge invoked his rematch clause for the title . Cena defeated Edge to retain the title , as he was able to perform an FU for the win , and thus ended the feud between the two . Edge , however , would begin a feud with DX , after Edge blamed DX for costing him the title match against Cena , due to interference from DX the previous week . The following week , Edge used an edition of The Cutting Edge to join forces with Randy Orton to form a team and began a feud against DX . Edge cited Randy Orton 's lack of success after being kicked out of Evolution by Triple H and DX 's " stale " antics " taking up TV time " as reasons to join forces . The duo dubbed themselves Rated @-@ RKO . At Cyber Sunday , Edge and Orton became the first team to finally defeat DX since their reunion in June .

Kane and Umaga continued their feud , as both individuals interfered in one another 's matches . On the edition of October 9 , 2006 of Raw , Kane and Umaga were scheduled in a " Loser Leaves Raw match " ; Umaga defeated Kane and sent him to the SmackDown ! brand . Despite their separation into different brands , Umaga and Kane had one final match at Cyber Sunday . Umaga won again , after fans selected him to be Umaga 's opponent instead of Chris Benoit and The Sandman . The angle between Johnny Nitro and Jeff Hardy continued , as the two were involved in another Intercontinental Championship match where Nitro retained the title . Nitro , however , lost the title to Hardy , on the edition of October 2 of Raw .

The WWE Women 's Championship was vacated on September 18 , 2006 , following Trish Stratus ' win at Unforgiven . On the edition of September 25 of Raw , a Women 's title tournament began , and the first match was won by Lita , after she defeated Candice Michelle . The second tournament match was a Lingerie match between Mickie James and Victoria , which James won . On the edition of October 9 of Raw , Melina defeated Torrie Wilson in a Lumberjill match to advance in the tournament match . The following week , Maria won a Fatal Four @-@ Way Bra and Panties match against Victoria , Candice Michelle , and Torrie Wilson to advance to the semi @-@ finals . On the edition of October 23 of Raw , James defeated Melina to advance in the semi @-@ finals . The following week on Raw , Lita advanced in the tournament , after she defeated Maria . At Cyber Sunday , Lita and Mickie James advanced to the seventh match of the tournament . Lita won the vacant Women 's title , after she pinned James with a Swinging snap DDT .

John Cena was placed in an inter @-@ brand angle to determine the " Champion of Champions " ? or who was the most dominant champion in WWE 's three brands . Cena , King Booker ( SmackDown ! ' s World Heavyweight Champion ) , and Big Show ( ECW 's World Champion ) engaged in a feud leading to a triple threat match at Cyber Sunday in November ; viewers chose which championship would be placed on the line . At the same time , Cena became involved in a storyline with non @-@ wrestler Kevin Federline when he began appearing on Raw with Johnny

Nitro and Melina . After getting into a worked physical altercation with Federline on Raw , Federline helped King Booker retain his title at Cyber Sunday in the Triple Threat match by hitting Cena with the World Heavyweight Title belt .

= = Reception = =

The event received mostly positive reviews from critics . Writing for Canadian Online Explorer , Brian Elliott stated that the event was " a card of averages , with nothing excellent and little poor " . He rated the overall event 7 out 10 stars . The main event between Edge and John Cena for the WWE Championship was rated 9 out of 10 stars , the Hell in a Cell match was rated 9 and a half out of 10 with the Sun saying it was an extreme bloodbath that lived up to its hype , the World Tag Team Championship between the Spirit Squad and the Highlanders was rated a 5 out of 10 stars , and the Intercontinental Championship match between Johnny Nitro and Jeff Hardy was rated a 7 out of 10 stars .

= = Results = =