

= Survivor Series (2007) =

Survivor Series (2007) was a professional wrestling pay @-@ per @-@ view (PPV) event produced by World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) , which took place on November 18 , 2007 , at the American Airlines Arena in Miami , Florida . It was presented by THQ 's WWE SmackDown vs. Raw 2008 . It was the 21st annual Survivor Series and starred wrestlers from the Raw , SmackDown ! , and ECW brands .

The show 's seven matches showcased prominent WWE wrestlers , who acted out the franchise 's stories in and out of the ring . The main event featured SmackDown wrestlers in a Hell in a Cell match , in which the ring was surrounded by a roofed steel structure . In this match , World Heavyweight Champion Batista defeated The Undertaker to retain his title . In Raw 's main match , Randy Orton defeated Shawn Michaels in a singles match , while in ECW 's prime match , ECW Champion CM Punk defeated John Morrison and The Miz in a Triple Threat match to retain the title . Two matches were on the undercard . The first was a singles match , in which The Great Khali defeated Hornswoggle . The other featured Team Triple H (Triple H , Jeff Hardy , Rey Mysterio and Kane) defeating Team Umaga (Umaga , Mr. Kennedy , Montel Vontavious Porter , Finlay and Big Daddy V) in an inter @-@ brand five @-@ on @-@ four Survivor Series elimination tag team match .

Survivor Series helped WWE increase its pay @-@ per @-@ view revenue by \$ 1 @.@ 2 million , through ticket sales and pay @-@ per @-@ view buys . It received mixed critical reviews by various independent sources , including Canadian Online Explorer and the Pro Wrestling Torch . After its release on DVD , the event peaked at number five on Billboard 's Video Sales chart , before it fell off the chart after ten weeks .

= = Background = =

Survivor Series was the culmination of various scripted plots and storylines . For three months before the event , several professional wrestling matches and scripted plots were played out on WWE programming (Raw , Friday Night SmackDown ! , and ECW on Sci Fi) to create feuds between various wrestlers , casting them as villains and heroes . Raw , SmackDown ! , and ECW were also the names of WWE 's televised brands ? a storyline division in which WWE assigned its employees to a specific program , thus each brand promoted distinct matches .

The main narrative for Survivor Series from the SmackDown brand continues the events that unfolded at WrestleMania 23 , WWE 's April pay @-@ per @-@ view , in which The Undertaker defeated Batista for the World Heavyweight Championship . Over the course of several months , the two wrestlers fought in various matches over the title , which eventually involved Edge . The Undertaker was billed as having been injured in one of these matches in May , in which Edge had won the title . During The Undertaker 's absence , Edge was legitimately injured , and The Great Khali won the championship in a Battle Royal , in which wrestlers were eliminated until one remained as the winner . At Unforgiven , WWE 's September pay @-@ per @-@ view event , The Undertaker returned to WWE , while Batista won the World Heavyweight Title from The Great Khali . Afterwards , the original feud between the two wrestlers was restarted and culminated into a standard wrestling match , known in professional wrestling as a singles match , at WWE 's October pay @-@ per @-@ view event Cyber Sunday ; Batista won this match and retained his title . On the November 2 , 2007 episode of Friday Night SmackDown ! , a rematch was advertised in a Hell in a Cell match , in which both wrestlers would fight in a ring surrounded by a roofed steel structure at Survivor Series .

The prime rivalry scripted from the Raw brand continued a storyline that extended from Cyber Sunday , between WWE Champion Randy Orton and Shawn Michaels over Orton 's title . At Cyber Sunday , Michaels was chosen by the WWE fans , via online voting , to face Orton for the title , though , Orton retained his title via disqualification . A rematch was promoted for Survivor Series on the October 29 , 2007 edition of Raw , in which Michaels would face Orton for his title . Afterwards , Michaels and Orton fought in different match types over the weeks leading to Survivor Series . On

the episode of Raw before Survivor Series , Michaels and Orton met " Face to Face " in a scripted confrontation , in which Orton attacked Michaels .

The prime storyline on the ECW brand featured ECW Champion CM Punk , John Morrison , and The Miz . Morrison and Punk 's rivalry revolved over the outcome of their match at Vengeance : Night of Champions , WWE 's June pay @-@ per @-@ view event , in which Morrison defeated Punk to win the ECW Title . Punk sought revenge , but Morrison defeated Punk in two championship matches ; however , Punk won the title from Morrison on the September 4 , 2007 episode of ECW on Sci fi . At Cyber Sunday , The Miz was voted online by fans to challenge Punk for the ECW Title , though , Punk defeated Miz to retain his title . A Triple Threat match was announced for Survivor Series on the November 13 , 2007 episode of ECW on Sci @-@ Fi , in which Punk would defend his title against Morrison and Miz , and the first wrestler to gain a pinfall or submission would win the match and the title .

In a narrative extending to the September 10 , 2007 episode of Raw , in which Hornswoggle , a dwarf , was announced as Vince McMahon 's illegitimate son . In this storyline , McMahon did not like the fact that Hornswoggle was his son , and as a result , he promoted matches in which Hornswoggle faced much larger opponents . As part of this storyline , McMahon announced that The Great Khali , who was billed as standing at 7 feet 4 inches (2 @.@ 24 m) , would face Hornswoggle at Survivor Series . In a promotional in @-@ ring segment on the episode of Friday Night SmackDown ! before the pay @-@ per @-@ view event , Khali and Hornswoggle weighed in for their match , in which Khali weighed double the weight of Hornswoggle ; this was a segment created by McMahon to humiliate his son . As a Survivor Series tradition , every event features an inter @-@ brand 5 @-@ on @-@ 5 Survivor Series elimination tag team match . Announced via WWE.com , WWE 's official website , Team Triple H (Triple H , The Hardy Boyz (Matt and Jeff) , Rey Mysterio , and Kane would face Team Umaga (Umaga , Montel Vontavious Porter (MVP) , Finlay , Big Daddy V , and Mr. Kennedy) .

= = Event = =

= = = Preliminary matches = = =

The pay @-@ per @-@ view began with the ECW Championship Triple Threat match , in which CM Punk defended his title against John Morrison and The Miz . Throughout the match , The Miz and Morrison double @-@ teamed Punk , however , Miz turned his back on Morrison by attacking him . After Miz tossed Morrison over the top ring ropes onto ringside , Punk lifted Miz onto his shoulders and hit the Go To Sleep . He then pinned Miz to retain his ECW Title . The next scheduled match was an inter @-@ brand 10 @-@ Diva tag team match , in which the team of Kelly Kelly , Torrie Wilson , Mickie James , Maria , and Michelle McCool faced Victoria , Beth Phoenix , Melina , Layla , and Jillian Hall . Phoenix 's team had the advantage over James ' team , until James was tagged into the match . She attacked Melina with her forearm and kissed her before kicking her in the head . James then pinned her to earn the victory for her team . Next was a tag team match for the World Tag Team Championship , in which the champions , Lance Cade and Trevor Murdoch defended against Hardcore Holly and Cody Rhodes . At one point , Holly hit Cade with his forearm , and sent Cade and himself onto ringside . In the ring , Murdoch flipped over Rhodes ' back and pulled him down to the mat to perform the " Ace of Spades " . Successfully pinning Rhodes , Murdoch retained the World Tag Team Championship for his team .

The fourth match was the five @-@ on @-@ five Survivor Series Elimination Tag team match between Team Triple H and Team Umaga . Before the event , it was announced that Matt Hardy would be unable to compete in the match due to a scripted injury . Kane was the first wrestler eliminated off of Team Triple H , after a Big Daddy V elbow drop . Umaga then pinned Rey Mysterio after the " Samoan Spike " . Only Jeff and Triple H remained for their team , while MVP was Team Umaga 's first elimination ; Jeff Hardy eliminated him after a " Twist of Fate " . Team Umaga 's second elimination occurred after Big Daddy V accidentally dropped an elbow on Mr. Kennedy ,

which led to a pinfall by Triple H. Big Daddy V was Team Umaga 's third elimination , which occurred after Hardy and Triple H hit a Double DDT . Finlay and Umaga were then eliminated via pinfall , after a " Pedigree " to Finlay , and a " Swanton " to Umaga . As a result , Team Triple H won . The Great Khali versus Hornswoggle was the next scheduled match . At one point , Hornswoggle tried to hit Khali with a shillelagh , but Khali slapped Hornswoggle down to the mat . The match ended via disqualification , after Finlay , Hornswoggle original caretaker , entered the ring and hit Khali in the head with his own shillelagh .

= = = Main event matches = = =

The sixth match was Raw 's main match , in which Randy Orton faced Shawn Michaels for Orton 's WWE Championship . In this stipulated match , Michaels was banned from using his signature move , " Sweet Chin Music " , while Orton was unable to get disqualified , and if either man broke those stipulations he would have lost the WWE Championship match . Because Michaels was banned from using the superkick , his signature maneuver , Michaels attempted various submission moves , such as the Sharpshooter , Crossface , and ankle lock . Eventually , Michaels , attempted to perform his superkick , but to prevent himself from losing the match , he stopped , which then allowed Orton to hit an RKO . Successfully pinning Michaels , Orton retained his WWE Title .

The main event from SmackDown was the event 's final match , in which World Heavyweight Champion Batista defended his title against The Undertaker in a Hell in a Cell match . At one point , Batista hit the The Undertaker with a Batista Bomb through a table . Batista then attempted to pin The Undertaker but he only got a two count . The Undertaker then hit Batista with a Tombstone Piledriver . He pinned Batista but Batista kicked out at two . The Undertaker then hit another Tombstone Piledriver on top of the steel ring steps . The Undertaker pinned Batista , and as the referee counted the pin , Edge , dressed as a cameraman , pulled the referee out of the ring , and hit The Undertaker with the camera he was holding and then positioned Undertaker 's head on top of the steel steps . Edge then slammed a folding chair across the back of The Undertaker 's head . While the referee re @-@ entered the ring , Edge dragged Batista onto The Undertaker , and as a result , Batista pinned The Undertaker and retained his World Heavyweight Title . After the match Edge came back into the ring and struck The Undertaker in the head as he was sitting up .

= = Aftermath = =

After Survivor Series , Randy Orton was scripted into a feud with Chris Jericho , who made his return to WWE after a two @-@ year hiatus . The following night on Raw , the evolving feud culminated into a match being promoted for Armageddon , WWE 's December pay @-@ per @-@ view . At Armageddon , Orton retained his WWE Title . After Batista retained his World Heavyweight Championship , Edge was scripted into a rivalry with him over his title . Eventually , The Undertaker was also placed in feud , which led to the advertising of a Triple Threat match at Armageddon for the title . At Armageddon , Edge won the World Heavyweight Championship . Due to the events that occurred at Survivor Series , a match was announced between Finlay and The Great Khali for Armageddon . Finlay prevailed at Armageddon via pinning The Great Khali . After surviving their Elimination tag team match , Triple H and Jeff Hardy were promoted into a match for Armageddon , in which the winner would win the opportunity to challenge for the WWE Championship . At Armageddon , Hardy defeated Triple H. Because Beth Phoenix and Mickie James were the leaders of their teams at Survivor Series , a feud evolved from this , which culminated into a match at Armageddon over Phoenix 's WWE Women 's Championship . Phoenix retained her title at Armageddon .

= = = Reception = = =

The American Airlines Arena usually has a capacity of 19 @, @ 600 , which was reduced for Survivor Series due to production purposes . From an approximate attendance of 12 @, @ 000 and

341 @, @ 000 pay @-@ per @-@ view buys , Survivor Series helped WWE earn \$ 19 @. @ 9 million in pay @-@ per @-@ view revenue versus \$ 18 @. @ 7 million the previous year ; this was confirmed by WWE in its 2007 fourth quarter financial report . Although Survivor Series helped WWE 's revenue , it earned 42 @, @ 000 less buys than the previous year 's Survivor Series .

In addition , the pay @-@ per @-@ view received mixed reviews . Dale Plummer and Nick Tylwalk of Canadian Online Explorer 's SLAM ! Sports ? Wrestling rated the entire event 7 @. @ 5 out of 10 points . They also rated Raw and SmackDown 's main event an 8 out of 10 points . J.D. Dunn of 411Mania stated that the event was " The best WWE PPV since Backlash . " Wade Keller of the Pro Wrestling Torch , a professional wrestling newsletter operated since 1987 , reported that the main event was " disappointing " and that " WWE set expectations too high for the Cell . " He rated the Raw main event 3 out of 5 points , while rating the SmackDown main event 2 @. @ 25 out of 5 points . Survivor Series was released on DVD on December 26 , 2007 by WWE Home Video , and it was distributed by Genius Products . The DVD debuted on Billboard 's Video Sales chart on January 19 , 2008 at number five . It spent nine more weeks on the chart , before it fell off the chart at number 20 .

= = Results = =

Survivor Series elimination match