

= Backlash (2006) =

Backlash (2006) was a professional wrestling pay @-@ per @-@ view event produced by World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) , which took place on April 30 , 2006 , at the Rupp Arena in Lexington , Kentucky . It was presented by Topps . It was the eighth event under the Backlash name and featured wrestlers and other talent that performed on the Raw brand .

Seven professional wrestling matches were scheduled on the event 's card , which saw two main matches . The first main event was Shawn Michaels versus Vince and Shane McMahon in a Handicap match . The second main event was a " Triple Threat match " that pitted WWE Champion John Cena against Triple H and Edge , with his title on the line .

The event received 273 @,@ 000 pay @-@ per @-@ view buys , which was more than the previous year 's event received . This contributed to WWE 's pay @-@ per @-@ view revenue increasing by \$ 4 @.@ 3 million from the previous year . When the event was released on DVD , it peaked at second on Billboard 's DVD sales chart for recreational sports .

= = Background = =

Backlash featured professional wrestling matches that involved different wrestlers from pre @-@ existing scripted feuds , plots , and storylines that were played out on Raw . Wrestlers portrayed a villain or a hero as they followed a series of events that built tension , and culminated into a wrestling match or series of matches . All wrestlers were from World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) ' s Raw brand ? a storyline division in which WWE employees are assigned to a television program of the same name .

The main event at Backlash was a triple threat match , a match involving three wrestlers , for the WWE Championship between John Cena , Triple H , and Edge . The buildup to the match began when Triple H lost the Royal Rumble match , a multi @-@ competitor match type in which wrestlers are eliminated until one is left and declared winner but participated in the 2006 Road to WrestleMania Tournament , where the winner would become the number @-@ one contender to the WWE Championship at WrestleMania . Triple H won the tournament . Cena defeated Triple H at WrestleMania to retain the title after forcing him to submit to the STFU , a move in which the wrestler wraps his arm around the neck of the opponent in a sleeper hold instead of pulling back on the head of the opponent . The next night on Raw , one of WWE 's primary television programs , Triple H demanded another shot at the WWE Championship , but Edge and Lita (Edge 's girlfriend) interrupted Triple H 's segment . Edge said that he became WWE Champion at New Year 's Revolution when he cashed in his Money in the Bank title shot , that he won at WrestleMania 21 , and defeating Cena at the event , after Cena had defeated five other men in an Elimination Chamber , a match featuring wrestlers fighting in a ring surrounded by a steel structure of chain and girders . Cena , however , reclaimed the Championship at the 2006 Royal Rumble , when he defeated Edge . Edge claimed that it was time for a new opponent for the WWE Championship , after stating that at WrestleMania , Triple H lost his opportunity when he lost to Cena . All three men had a series of Handicap matches , a match consisting of one team of wrestlers facing off against a team of wrestlers with numerical superiority such as three against two , or two against one leading up to Backlash with Triple H pinning Cena after tucking Cena 's head between his knees and jumping up to slam his head to the mat , a move that Triple H calls the Pedigree , Cena forcing Edge to submit to the STFU , and Edge executing a shoulder block takedown on Triple H and pinning him . It was then announced that Cena would defend the WWE Championship in a Triple Threat match against Triple H and Edge at Backlash .

Another rivalry heading into the event was Vince McMahon and Shane McMahon versus Shawn Michaels and God . This feud started on December 26 , 2005 , when Vince McMahon made note of Bret Hart 's DVD , claiming that he " tricked " Hart in the hours of his match at Survivor Series 1997 , where Hart lost the WWE Championship to Shawn Michaels . At the event , Michaels applied Hart 's own finisher , the Sharpshooter , and McMahon called for the bell , in an event known as the " Montreal Screwjob " . Michaels interrupted McMahon and told him to " let it go " and " move on "

from the events of Survivor Series . In reply McMahon told Michaels that he indeed screwed Bret Hart and added , " Shawn , do not make me screw you . " At the Royal Rumble , Shane McMahon made a surprising appearance when he eliminated Michaels from the Rumble match , though Shane was not a participant . McMahon informed Michaels that he would face his son Shane on the March 18 , 2006 , edition of Saturday Night 's Main Event in a No Holds Barred match . At the event , Vince interfered throughout the match on his son 's behalf , by stopping the referee 's count , after Michaels performed Sweet Chin Music , a move which sees the wrestler use the sole of the foot to strike an opponent 's head or chin on Shane , an enraged Michaels grabbed McMahon but before he could do anything , Shane hit Michaels with a low blow . McMahon ordered Shane to apply the Sharpshooter on Michaels , and , after he executed the submission move , McMahon called for the bell , similar to the 1997 Survivor Series match . Mr. McMahon booked himself and Michaels in a No Holds Barred match at WrestleMania 22 . At WrestleMania , the Spirit Squad and Shane McMahon interfered on McMahon 's behalf , but Michaels defeated Vince McMahon after he performed Sweet Chin Music and captured the pinfall victory . The next night on Raw , The McMahons confronted Michaels and informed him that his win at WrestleMania was " an act of God , " therefore setting up the tag team match at Backlash that would have The McMahons facing Michaels and God .

The Divas rivalry between Mickie James and Trish Stratus over the WWE Women 's Championship continued entering the event . Stratus and James first fought over the title at New Year 's Revolution , with Stratus retaining . In the months that followed , James ' obsession with Stratus grew to the point that she confessed to Stratus that she was in love with her ; making Stratus uncomfortable . James made one final attempt to kiss Stratus at Saturday Night 's Main Event on March 18 , after the duo defeated Candice Michelle and Victoria . After she was rebuffed , James attacked Stratus and later vowed to destroy her , turning James into a villainess . At WrestleMania 22 , the evil James defeated Stratus to capture the Women 's Championship for the first time in her career . In the following weeks , James continued her mind games by dressing like Stratus and claiming to be her . Stratus eventually confronted James by dressing like her and mocking her personality . It was later announced that a Women 's Championship rematch between James and Stratus would take place at Backlash .

= = Event = =

Before the event aired live on pay @-@ per @-@ view , Goldust defeated Rob Conway in a match that aired on Heat . Goldust won the match after a powerslam , a move where the wrestler performing the slam falls face @-@ down on top of his opponent .

The first match of the event was between Carlito and Chris Masters . In the beginning of the match , Carlito had the advantage over Masters , as he jumped from the ring to the outside and impacts his chest against Masters ' chest , and performed a Springboard Back elbow . Masters , however , gained the advantage and executed a Powerbomb , a move which is executed by the attacking wrestler slamming the opponent after lifting them on their shoulders on Carlito into the turnbuckle . Carlito performed a Back Cracker , a move where the wrestlers goes behind the opponent and jumps up to place both his knees against the opponent 's back , forcing the wrestler 's knees to push up into the back of the opponent . Carlito then pinned Masters while using the ropes for leverage to win the match .

Next was a match between Umaga and Ric Flair . Umaga had the advantage throughout the match , as Umaga hit Flair with a knee to his head . Umaga defeated Flair after hitting Flair in the throat with his thumb . The third match was between Mickie James and Trish Stratus for the WWE Women 's Championship . The match had escalated outside the ring . When Stratus delivered punches to Mickie , who was on the second turnbuckle , Mickie threw her over the top rope , causing Stratus to land on her right arm . Afterwards , Mickie choked Stratus with a wristband she was wearing that fell off during the match , therefore giving the win to Stratus by disqualification , but per WWE regulations , a title can only change hands via pinfall or submission therefore Mickie retained the Championship .

The next match was for the WWE Intercontinental Championship between Rob Van Dam and

Shelton Benjamin . Both Van Dam and Benjamin started the match with high spots as Benjamin performed a Sunset Flip Powerbomb , a move in which a wrestler will roll / flip over an elevated opponent facing them in a reverse body scissors and use the momentum to pull the opponent down to the floor . The match went back and forth with action , but in the end Van Dam performed a body splash , known in wrestling as a frog splash , from the top turnbuckle on Benjamin and pinned him to win the match and retain his Money in the Bank briefcase and win the Intercontinental Championship .

The next match was The Big Show versus Kane , which ended in a no contest after a red hue covered the ring and voices from the speakers in the arena began taunting Kane with " May 19 " . Big Show who seemed to have enough , hit Kane with a folding chair and walked away .

The sixth match was Vince and Shane McMahon versus Shawn Michaels and God in a No Holds Barred match . As soon as The McMahons made their way to the ring , Vince informed the referee to " check " God for any hidden objects , as God was being " portrayed " by the stage spotlight . The match started with Shawn Michaels executing a crossbody on both Vince and Shane McMahon on the outside of the ring . Afterwards , Michaels crossbodied Vince down through a part of the Backlash staging area . Shane then hit Michaels with a folding chair and caused him to bleed . After Vince and Shane took turns assaulting Michaels , Vince grabbed a microphone and informed Michaels that " God " had left the building and used a Superkick , Michaels ' own signature finisher , against him . Michaels battled back and grabbed two tables and put both Vince and Shane on them . Michaels then grabbed a ladder and stood on top of it . The Spirit Squad (Kenny , Johnny , Mitch , Nicky , and Mikey) interfered and attacked Michaels , which was followed by the Spirit Squad putting Michaels through a table with a Sky lift slam , a move in which the two attacking wrestlers standing either side of an opponent ; the wrestlers then force the opponent upwards , throwing them up while releasing the hold to allow the opponent slam to the mat back @-@ first . Vince then pinned Michaels for the win .

The main event was the Triple Threat match for the WWE Championship between champion John Cena , Edge , and Triple H . As the match began , Edge chose to stand outside the ring , hoping that Cena and Triple H would simply fight the match themselves . Cena and Triple H , however , teamed up and turned against Edge . One spot in the match saw Edge catapult Triple H into the steel ringpost , which made Triple H bleed as a result . Afterwards , Edge drove Triple H 's head through a table and then focused on Cena . Cena , however , locked Edge in the STFU , but was broken when Triple H hit Cena in the head with a microphone . Triple H then went after Edge and hit him with a chair , sending him over the security wall and into the audience . Lita , who accompanied Edge , entered the ring with a chair to hit Triple H , but Triple H reversed it into a Spinebuster , a move where the wrestler lifts the opponent , turning 180 ° , and then tosses her forward onto her back . Near the end of the match , Cena had Edge on his shoulders for an FU , Triple H then delivered a low blow to Cena , which made Cena drop Edge out of the ring and attempted to execute a Pedigree . Cena , however , countered it into a jackknife roll @-@ up , a hold that has the attacking wrestler lift the opponent 's legs from behind the knees . Still gripping the opponent 's legs , the attacking wrestler then flips forward , over the opponent , and plants their feet on the mat while bridging the back to add leverage . Cena won the match and successfully retained the WWE Championship . After the match , Triple H hit Cena , Edge , and the referee with a sledgehammer , and performed his signature taunt until performing his signature DX cross chops , receiving a standing ovation from the audience , closing the show .

= = Aftermath = =

On the May 15 episode of Raw , Rob Van Dam lost the WWE Intercontinental Championship to Shelton Benjamin in a rematch . The following week , after John Cena defeated Chris Masters in a singles match , Rob Van Dam came out and informed Cena that he would be cashing in his Money in the Bank contract , that he won at WrestleMania at ECW One Night Stand . On the May 29 episode of Raw , Van Dam was selected by ECW Representative Paul Heyman to be drafted from Raw to WWE 's new ECW brand . At One Night Stand , Cena lost the WWE Championship to Van

Dam in an Extreme Rules match .

Following the aftermath from Backlash , Kane was confronted by an Imposter Kane , who was wearing Kane 's old mask and ring attire . The Imposter executed a chokeslam on Kane during his match against Shelton Benjamin for the Intercontinental Championship . This rivalry lead to a match between the two at Vengeance , in which the real Kane lost to the Imposter .

The McMahons , along with The Spirit Squad , continued their feud with Shawn Michaels . In the weeks that followed , Michaels would get revenge on both the McMahons and the Spirit Squad . On the May 22 episode of Raw , however , Michaels was in a 5 @-@ on @-@ 1 handicap match , and the Spirit Squad members , in storyline , injured Michaels ' left knee . Triple H , who was included during the rivalry , was ordered by Vince McMahon to " break Michaels ' skull " , with his signature sledgehammer . Triple H failed to do what Mr. McMahon ordered , turned into a crowd favorite and attacked the Spirit Squad . Weeks followed in which Triple H was supposed to become a member of Mr. McMahon 's " Kiss My Ass Club " . Triple H , however , backfired when trying to become a member , when he gave a Pedigree to McMahon and laid him and Shane out in the ring . On the June 12 episode of Raw , McMahon booked Triple H in a Handicap Gauntlet match against the Spirit Squad . The match saw Michaels return from his storyline injury , which led to Triple H and Michaels reforming their previous wrestling stable D @-@ Generation X. At Vengeance , DX met the Spirit Squad in a 5 @-@ on @-@ 2 handicap match , which DX won .

= = = Reception = = =

The event received 273 @,@ 000 pay @-@ per @-@ view buys , which was more buys than the previous year 's event received , however , the event made \$ 19 @.@ 9 million in revenue , which was less than the previous year 's revenue of \$ 21 @.@ 6 million .

The event was released on DVD on May 30 , 2006 , by Sony Music Entertainment and reached second on Billboard 's DVD Sales Chart for recreational sports during the week of June 24 , 2006 .

= = Results = =