

EVOLVE 5: Danielson vs. Sawa

EVOLVE

evolvewrestling.com

\$15.00

Reviewed by Joe Babinsack

I slid this DVD in the player with a little concern. I had already heard the results, and

There's a funny thing about expectations, though.

EVOLVE's fifth edition was more of the same. That is, it was more of a wrestling pro

Because finishes are important, that makes the losses meaningful. Because of the

What impressed me greatly about EVOLVE was seeing what happens when the pro

Because of that, the matches are conclusive, satisfying and even more so, enjoyable.

This isn't your typical indy wrestling promotion: more interested in keeping the roster

But I digress.

I can review EVOLVE #5 and provide the nuances and the details, but there's an aspect

No, there's no podium, but there is an utmost respect for the announcing and the match

The specific case in point is the Mercedes Martinez/Amazing Kong match.

Sure, we can be disappointed that the match ended in a DQ win for Mercedes Martinez

Well, more than just well.

Mercedes Martinez is a talented wrestler that I cannot possibly speak more highly of

In EVOLVE, she has run through opponents and challenged the biggest, baddest

That match was anticipated, built up and now it has happened.

But this isn't about a win and a loss. This is about how it played out and how it impacted

There are simple formulas for success, and Martinez and EVOLVE have tapped in

Here, they clash and the power of Kong is on display, and suddenly the Champion

Yes, Amazing Kong got frustrated, got DQ'd and it was not a satisfying finish.

But let's look at a few points. For one, take a look at that finish. This wasn't a foolish

The other point, equally significant, is that Mercedes Martinez was not at all happy

Later, she's unhappy about the match and gets cheered up by Homicide. She's the

You can trace what EVOLVE is all about in the Martinez/Kong match.

But that's not everything involved in EVOLVE. Bryan Danielson

Because what they're saying is what we expect them to say.

And that's the key to EVOLVE. Again, it's all about the talent and pro

And it's all about unleashing the talent.

At the same time, we've got a main event that was satisfying and not

Just like everything else, there's depth in the details.

And what about Homicide?

Homicide makes a mark in EVOLVE 5 in several scenes, interacting

It's funny to see Homicide struggle with avoiding profanity, but it's se

Another fixture in EVOLVE is Jimmy Jacobs, who continues to stir th

See also what happens when Up In Smoke takes on Aeroform. The t

As much as the multiple man matches can be annoying, there's som

Rich Swann is amazing in the ring. There's something about the mix

You may think Kyle O'Reilly vs Ricochet second from the top isn't rig

Because impressions are lasting with EVOLVE 5. I hated to see Chud

I remain impressed by EVOLVE and what's most important is that I lo

Joe Babinsack can be reached at chaosninja@yahoo.com . I've got several Iron Shei