

"So Bad, It's Good?" Review: Ultimate Death Match

By David Voigt, Toronto Independent Film Examiner April 10th, 2011 3:35 pm ET

Occasionally as a critic a movie crosses my desk which brings up the simple question, is this movie going to be so bad, that it is actually good? In a new segment that will come up here from time to time, we will take a look at Ultimate Death Match.

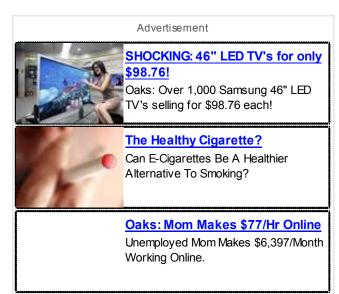
After a death in the ring of one of their superstars, the FOPW (Federation of Pro Wrestling) lose their licenses. Promoter Jake Reed is forced to hold his illegal matches on the internet with one big catch . . . all matches are to the death! Someone will die in front of millions of rabid, bloodthirsty fans. Not since the bloody days of the Roman Gladiators has there been such a public exhibition of savage combat! LET THE BLOODY GAMES BEGIN!

Starring: Al Snow, Chuck Williams, Barry Ratcliffe and Mike Ricker.

Now to be perfectly honest, I am a wrestling fan so you would think that I might be able to play along with it all, I could not. To call this a movie, is actually a bit of an insult as after the first 10 minutes of setting up the story the rest of this feature actually plays out like a Pay-Per-View wrestling event, occasionally cutting back to the worst FBI office ever as they watch the Pay-Per-View online to investigate if the "Death Match" will actually happen. To make an attempt to comment on acting and directing would be a waste of the words themselves. This movie was never intended to be any good.

I recognize that ultra-low budget movies like this do have a certain market, Ultimate Death Match did have not one but TWO sequels after all, but this critic and admitted wrestling fan recommends avoiding this for one simple reason. If you look at this as a wrestling show or as a movie, you end up with the same result, none of it was any good...but it could be a prime candidate for the gang at Mystery Science Theater 3000 to make fun of it.

At the end of the day, I can't give this an actual rating but if you want to watch this with a few friends while having a few drinks making fun of it, go right ahead. You can try your local Toronto video stores here to see if it's available, or try an online retailer like seeofsound.com



and buy it, but as an actual movie, I'd recommend running as far away from this "movie" as you can.

Tags: movie review, Ultimate Death Match, MSTK3000, Pro Wrestling

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