

# Ultimate Idol Smack Down

In a single-elimination battle royale to decide Asia's most killer pop icon, the sequins will fly and the mousse will flow. But in the end, only one star would be left standing

## FIRST ROUND



(1) **TAKUYA KIMURA** *Japan* Fighting style: Praying mantis Strengths: Singing and dancing ability makes him suspiciously close to being talented Weaknesses: He's old enough to actually remember the '70s

(16) **SALMAN AHMAD** *Pakistan* Fighting style: Pankration Strengths: Killer guitar chops inspired by visions of Jimmy Page Weaknesses: In Pakistan, being a guitar hero ranks behind, say, being dictator

(8) **AISHWARYA RAI** *India* Fighting style: Range fighting Strengths: Histrionic acting skills will have competitors crying out for mercy Weaknesses: Despite what TIME sometimes says, Bollywood fare is not always that enjoyable

(9) **HIDEAKI TAKIZAWA** *Japan* Fighting style: Freestyle Strengths: Beefed up his physique to play a boxer in a TV drama Weaknesses: He beefed all the way up to 50 kilos—or the size of Hrithik Roshan's lunch

(4) **NICHOLAS TSE** *Hong Kong* Fighting style: Slapping Strengths: He's a photographer-slammer, Ferrari-crashing, girlfriend-dissing "bad boy" Weaknesses: Bad boys generally don't run away to Vancouver

(13) **COGIE DOMINGO** *Philippines* Fighting style: Filipino jujitsu Strengths: In the Philippines, he's popular, tremendous, spectacular, the biggest star in the firmament Weaknesses: See above



(5) **MORNING MUSUME** *Japan* Fighting style: Rhythmic gymnastics Strengths: They could lose eight members and still outnumber 'N Sync Weaknesses: All those restraining orders against 60-year-old "fans" takes a financial toll

(12) **FAYE WONG** *Hong Kong* Fighting style: Listlessness Strengths: As the girlfriend of Nicholas Tse, she can take abuse and keep on ticking Weaknesses: One bad haircut away from being replaced by Cecilia Cheung

(2) **F4** *Taiwan* Fighting style: Shooto hair flick Strengths: Can raise frenzied girl army with a toss of a single, well-manicured follicle Weaknesses: Paralyzing fear of male pattern baldness and mainland censorship

(15) **PREAP SOVATH** *Cambodia* Fighting style: Wajutsu Strengths: Preap is prolific—he has recorded more than 10,000 songs Weaknesses: Unfortunately, they're available mainly on 8-track



(7) **KELLY CHAN** *Hong Kong* Fighting style: Kung fu Strengths: Overseas education gives her a cross-cultural edge Weaknesses: Given the economic state of Hong Kong, she will soon be replaced by a cheaper, mainland import

(10) **KANG TA** *Korea* Fighting style: Thai kickboxing Strengths: Known to actually write his own songs, plus he has a name like a Star Trek villain Weaknesses: Easily distracted by reflective surfaces of any kind

(3) **HRITHIK ROSHAN** *India* Fighting style: Kalari Strengths: Muscles gives him the girth of 50 Nicholas Tses. Weaknesses: Can't finish a fight in less than four hours and 12 musical numbers

(14) **KRIS AQUINO** *Philippines* Fighting style: Submission boxing Strengths: As daughter of ex-President Cory Aquino, she has killer connections Weaknesses: Wants to be Oprah of the Philippines.



(6) **BoA** *Korea* Fighting style: Oddly mesmerizing hip gyration Strengths: She's currently considered the Britney Spears of Asian pop. Weaknesses: Did you see Crossroads?

(11) **STEFANIE SUN** *Singapore* Fighting style: Deadly smile Strengths: Kilogram for kilogram, this ex-intern is the cutest idol Weaknesses: Kilogram for kilogram, if she were any smaller she could qualify as carry-on luggage



## SECOND ROUND

**TAKUYA** beats the Pakistani without lifting a well-manicured finger

That famed Bollywood endurance carries **AISHWARYA** to the second round

## FINAL FOUR

The Bollywood diva huffs and puffs and preens, but **TAKUYA** just puts the S.M.A.P. down

Nicholas makes the fatal mistake of having his "chauffeur" take his place in the fight, and **MUSUME** wins

**NICHOLAS** pounds his Filipino opponent like he's a wayward paparazzo

Weighing in at a combined 624 kilos, **MUSUME** gives Faye the boot. 26 boots, actually

## CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

In the semis, **HRITHIK** stomps all over the sissy boys of F4, while the 13 little girls of **MUSUME** send Takuya into ex-Prime Minister land

In an epic throwdown, the pelvic-thrusting prepubescent of **MUSUME** send Hrithik back to Bollywood and claim the idol championship



It's Killing Fields II as a primping **F4** romp over their Khmer opponent

Kelly Chan wilts before the wrath (and undeniably catchy melodies) of **KANG**



After pushing his prettiness to the max, H.O.T. Kang is O.U.T. and **F4** wins

BoA gives the musical performance of her life. Then **HRITHIK** eats her

Once again, an Aquino totally disappoints the Philippines as **HRITHIK** wins

In an ultralight-fly-featherweight throwdown, cute Korean **BoA** outshines the Sun

