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1. Kurt Angle (SD) v 2. Rey Mysterio (SD)

Singles

1SmS 9:21:91 **87** (03.66) Mx-1-1-1-1-E-2-2-2-1

Anklelock-Submission; Quick out and settled with good pickup late, action and efforts complimentary, strong open.

Nice to see each competitor hold true to his form, each doing well here. The counters were a nice plus here especially the match ending anklelock. Splitting the match with each getting his share of control worked nicely here. Match with some drive yet not enough to hit the 90 mark. Still a fine way to open, and good as standalone match.

1. Chris Jericho (Raw) v 2. Ric Flair (Raw)

Singles

2SmS 10:23:43 **72** Mx-1-2-1-1-1-E-2-1-1-2

FigureFourLegLock-Submission; Slow start yet OK, some semi-strong exchange but somewhat one-sided, still good.

While mostly sound here, some awkward spots did stand out to detract, namely Flair's half boston crab and Jericho's bulldog. Still some good merits here. The extended figure four by Jericho was a nice touch. Would liked to have seen more control for Flair, however, this match held up well, and as a whole, was quite good. Mostly enjoyable.

1. Eddie Guerrero (SD) v 2. Edge (SD)

Singles

3SmS 11:48:09 **95** 2-1-2-1-1-1-1-E-2-2-2-2-1-1-2

Spear-Pin; Paced well and active throughout, strategic nature of match draws well cleared to finish strong.

A very sound match here, complete with strong pace and fine exchanges. Nice efforts from both. Greatest merit to the match was Eddie's continued assault on Edge's shoulder which proved very compelling. Some fine spots worth mentioning like the armbar drop from the top turnbuckle. Match closed out very well. Strong package.

1. Booker T and Goldust (Raw) v 2. Lance Storm and Christian (Raw)

2v2Tag

WWE Tag Team Championship-G1

4SmS 9:38:04 **74** 1g-1b-2s-2c-E-2c-2s-1g-E-E-1b-1b*2c

BigBoot-Pin; Started and progressed above par, picked up about 3/4, interference foreseeable yet good overall.

Most detracting element is the predictable interference from Test, however, it serves to maintain the UnAmerican faction. Storm and Christian isolated Goldust well which gave some added effect for when Booker T finally entered late. The double axe kick to the champions was a good mark. Sound and with some late drive. Good overall.

1. Chris Benoit (SD) v 2. Rob Van Dam (Raw)

Singles

WWE Intercontinental Championship-G2

5SmS 16:31:12 **92** 2-1-2-1-1-2-1-E-1-1-1-1-1-1-2-1-2

FiveStarFrogSplash-Pin; Pointed well with strong exchange, efforts apparent, match seemed to ease at times.

Standing out the most is the excellent showing from Benoit with his highly methodical style. Would have liked Van Dam to have contributed more rapid offense throughout but he still fared mostly well here. Pace was consistent but it did seem to abruptly drop at a few points, else triple digits here would have been likely. Still another strong one here.

1. Test (Raw) v 2. Undertaker (Raw)

Singles

6SmS 8:18:92 **55** Mx-Mx-1-1-1-2-2-1-2

TombstonePiledriver-Pin; Subpar pace with fair to good action, little pickup but with some balance to merit.

Outright, if Storm and Christian were going to try and get involved, would have at least liked them to get a few shots in. That aside, both sides had their share of offense here, but it was under a below average speed and there was no real pickup near the end. Some points for the rare Tombstone. Above par overall, but comparatively lacking.

1. Shawn Michaels (Raw) v 2. Triple H (Raw)

SinglesNonSanctioned

7SmS 27:20:76 **113** (02.97) 1-1-2-1-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-Mx-2-2-E-E-1-1-1-1-1-2-1-1-1-1

RollUpWithBridge-Pin; Consistent progress, key spots spaced well, balanced overall, with late kick, very drawing.

With possibilities of a triple digit deal or a single digit nightmare, it is refreshing to see the former here. Match developed highly well over nearly half an hour and marked moments were spread well throughout. Could not help but be compelled by each competitor's attempt to control and close the match. Gamely in the close, high merits.

1. Brock Lesnar w Paul Heyman (SD) v 2. The Rock (SD)

Singles

WWE Undisputed Championship-G1

8SmS 16:01:55 **95** (01.94) *1-1**1-2-2-2-1-1-1-2-1-2-2-2-E-2-1

F5-Pin; Some strong exchange and moved well, finish series was good, expected more late drive for title match.

Well done match here with momentum trading back and forth in small blocks. Heyman does his part with early interference and nice to see him get what was coming to him. Late flurry of signature move attempts was a fine way to close out but expected a more lengthy drive given the hype. Regardless, a fine close to a PPV and opening to an era.

BREAKDOWNS:	Time: 8 Matches with 0 No contests (149:23:82) about 65.90 % of show time.	Average Match Rating (8 Matches) 85.34	BestOfTheNight: 7SmS Shawn Michaels v TripleH	113
	Types: 7 Singles (2 Title Matches, 1 NonSanctioned); 1 Tag (1 Title Match)	Extraneous Segment Aggregate 3.00	WorstOfTheNight: 6SmS Test v Undertaker	55
		Overall Show Score 88.34		

4 instance of interference (1 meaningful); Meaningful interference
 4SmS *Test
 8SmS *PaulHeyman (3)

Title Changes: RobVanDam NewWWEIntercontinentalChampion
 BrockLesnar NewWWEUndisputedChampion

Turns: None

Show assessment: With only one match below 70, a triple digit, and three in the 90s, a superb showing by the WWE here.

RATINGS: I still continue with the system of using pre-match action and post-match to value a contest while giving the primary emphasis to the match itself which includes basic ring psychology, pace, mechanics and execution of move sets and high spots, the finish and its enjoy-ability, and how much the match advances a story line, if there is one to advance. But another element that I must convey is that I let the opening match or two set a baseline and then perform some degree of comparison of later contests to the baseline.

NON-MATCH SEGMENTS AND SCORES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Steph/Bischoff Share an office ●Brock/Heyman on Rock/Hogan ●Coach INT The UnAmericans ●Nidia makeout contest at The World 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (0) Perfect for torturing each other, and possibly me, for 3 hours. (+0.5) Interesting rationale there, but it works. (0) Blah, blah, no value, blah, blah, etc. (+0.5) At least she keeps the character consistent with this. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Steph/Bischoff on WWE women and IC Title ●Bischoff on RVD win; Steph reacts ●Post6SmS UT Flag waving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (0) Something tells me that this will not bode well for Stephanie. (+1) That is one HAUNTING laugh, but I am intrigued no less. (0) Token win for Americans but not the one for the gold, oh well, this will have to do I suppose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Post7SmS HHH Assaults Michael's back with sledge ●Howard Finkel on Nassau, Trish/Garcia get retribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (+1) Evil retribution at its finest, but payback will soon come, and it shall be good, sayeth I (0) Unnecessary segment.
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CLOSING NOTES:

- Poor Kurt Angle, no pyro for him. Oh well at least he finally showed that "twelve year old" who is boss.
- Table, Ladder, and Chair, and Sledgehammer, (see 7SmS a.k.a T.L.C. minus match).
- Stephanie's laugh after the IC Title match would honestly make a good sound byte for a horror movie.
- Whoever started the conflict between Garcia and Finkel, one question, why must you torture me/ us so?
- So the Brock reign has begun, if you give it nothing else, it is a novel plan. Should make for some good TV, IMHO.