

5 September 2002
Robert Ortega, Jr.
rsortegajr@yahoo.com
slashwrestling.com
1. Rey Mysterio v 2. Billy Gunn w Chuck Palumbo and Rico

Singles

 1SD 5:04.70 **09** (01.09) 2-2-2-2-1*2-1

BodyScissorsRollUp-Pin; Too light early, holding mostly weak, without drive to remedy, unbalanced, abrupt.

Very light merit to speak of here. Match held very weakly for the first 5/8 and Mysterio was contained to marginal offense at best. No drive within concurrent with a quite abrupt finish. Even within the match, there was no pace pickup to draw interest. Points, at best, come for the weak pieces but cannot avoid single digits. Disappointing.

1. Jamie Noble w Nidia v 2. Shannon Moore

Singles

WWE Cruiserweight Championship-G2

 2SD 5:09.96 **76** Mx-1-2*2-1-1-Mx-2-2

TigerDriver-Pin; Off good and mostly quick here, good spacing of key moments, settled finish holds on.

Some good exchanges lined this match amidst a mostly good/quick pace throughout. Good spotting of key moments here including the dive to the outside, chokeslam, and tiger driver counter. Contest settled in the finishing series, but still a good cap. Nidia taunting with the belt outside was actually well placed for good effect. Recommended.

1. Brock Lesnar w Paul Heyman v 2. Randy Orton

Singles

 3SD 5:27.66 **61** (02.09) Mx-1-1-1-1-2-1

F5-Pin; Out strong, slow stride afterward, suited performance and role here, sound close, good package.

Very good opening sequence in this one drew interest and while settling into a somewhat slow speed, a very good array from Lesnar worked well with it, and is most responsible for match's worth. Orton held his role well to suit. Lightest of pickup near the end, but it was enjoyable and finishing combination was nice. Considering, fair/good.

1. Mark Henry v 2. Tajiri

Singles

 4SD 3:07.93 **20** 2-1-1-2-1

Powerslam-Pin; Odd opening, action not enough to counterbalance slow pace, some light merit, not enough.

Fair displays of power by Henry and an OK try by Tajiri with his kick repertoire, but the generally fair action does not compensate for the slow pacing here. A few OK moments like the Tarantula counter and high flapjack, but no late kick and the elements, taken as a whole, really do not have enough to merit even fair remarks. Bad combination here?

1. D-Von v 2. Batista

Singles

 5SD 1:45.06 **13** (01.84) 1-2-1-2

SitOutPowerbomb-Pin; Succinct, light on substance, some good exchange, little else worthy here.

Kept very short and as a consequence, not a lot of room to find good points. At best, some fair/good exchange and an OK display by Batista. That aside, however, not much else worth mentioning. Benefit of the doubt says The Lines will look towards later match to establish opinion on Batista, but much more needed for this one.

1. Matt Hardy v 2. Hardcore Holly

Singles

 6SD 5:00.78 **57** Mx-1-2-2-E-Mx-1-2-1-2

CounterRollUp(HoldingClothing)-Pin; Good early, back and forth mostly, with some late drive about 3/5, held on.

A suitable pace with some good elements. The back and forth structure of this match was a credit here. Some good placement of key moments but lacking in the area of pickup or late drive, and match never gets to achieve added effect. Overall, contest breaks par and gets somewhat good marks. One to take given two recent.

1. Crash v 2. The Hurricane

Singles

 7SD 3:50.68 **52** Mx-2-1-2-2-E-1

PetersonRoll-Pin; Good start and settled well, activity suitable, spotted fair enough, finish abrupt some.

An abrupt finish detracts here (not quite to the extent of 1SD). Pace was not quite as fast as expected, but still suitably above normal. Some good exchanges within this one worth merit but would have preferred just a little more balance. Satisfies the par line, and given the right conditions, expect better from these down the road.

**1. Kurt Angle and Chris Benoit and Eddie Guerrero v
2. Edge and Rikishi and Undertaker**

3v3Tag

 8SD 11:00.79 **89** ⊗-Mx-2u-1b-2r-2e-1g-1a-1b-1g-1a-1a-E-2u-⊗-2x-2u

Chokeslam-Pin; Pace in synchronization with momentum, with good efforts and action, light confusion, strong.

A good speed overall in this one, pace held as necessary, and some near fine exchanges to its credit. Good intra-team conflict placed well to set up finish, which was a little contrite, but worked well enough (Guerrero played it well). Late lapse on the momentum line forgivable as it had action, just not enough with legal men. Held well.

BREAKDOWNS:

Time: 8 Matches with 0 No contests (40:27.56) about 33.72 % of show time.

 Average Match Rating (8 Matches) **47.13**

BestOfTheNight: 8SD KurtAngle/ChrisBenoit/EddieGuerrero v Edge/Rikishi/Undertaker

89

Types: 7 Singles (1 Title Match); 1 Tag (0 Title Matches)

 Extraneous Segment Aggregate **2.00**

WorstOfTheNight: 1SD ReyMysterio v BillyGunn

09

 Overall Show Score **49.13**

 2 instance of interference (0 meaningful); Meaningful interference

1SD *ChuckPalumbo

2SD *Nidia

Title Changes: None

Turns: None.

SHOW ASSESSMENT: A great step down from last week's effort (15 by the Lines measurement) primarily due to some bad matches. Extraneous aggregate did not help out either. Hopefully just a bounce and all will be better next week.

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**

●Post1SDBilly/Chuck (-2) Quoting CRZ (from other incidents) PartnersForLife et al. "That's it, I'm outta here."

●Billy/Chuck promo (0) Not saying anything..

●Heyman/Brock (+1) He better start worrying, he knows on INT, Orton what's coming, so do I. not worried

●Edge/Rikishi on (0) Er...right...moving on. 8SD, Stinkface

●Henry congrats to (0) Yeah, fine, do whatever you have to do. Billy/Chuck

●Steph/Crash SD (+1) Good retort from Steph on contract, D-Von impersonating a man of the cloth objects to That should shut him up. Billy/Chuck (will be next week)

●Steph INT Brock/ (+0.5) Good stuff until Heyman had to bring UT/Heyman on up (a now pregnant) Sara. Unforgiven

●Nidia/Noble on (+0.5) Noble likely dodged a bullet there. marriage

●Matt on (0) Will hold on, hoping for Matt's Moore's potential comeuppance to be that much greater. HCHolly chal Matt

●Guerrero/Angle/ (+1) Dissension now, dissension later? Benoit on 8SD, each other.

●Funaki INT Rico (0) OK, OK, I SAID MOVING ON.. on ceremony

●HCHolly good luck (0) OK, sure, works for me. to Crash

CLOSING NOTES:

1. Knowing what is coming with Billy and Chuck next week, I will tune in for the following reasons; some good matches, sheer morbid curiosity that I am likely to regret later.

2. If "Mattitude" is what he is using, he might want to consider a back up plan.

3. If the Benoit/Angle conflict means a match at Unforgiven, well, in a word, "Hallelujah!"

4. The one point in the first that might have given me hope, and Chuck has the nerve to block the Six-One-Nine.

5. Not up to what I have been used to with SmackDown, but still better than Raw, so for now, I have no major gripe here.