

12 September 2002
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1. Brock Lesnar w Paul Heyman v 2. Hardcore Holly

Singles

 1SD 6:10.98 **37** (03.60) 1-1-1-1-1-2-1

F5-Pin; Some good spots here amidst a display showing, but formulaic aside from that, served purpose.

Structured very similarly to last weeks match with Orton (5Sep02, 3SD). What makes this one considerably less than that one is perhaps the fact that it was just done recently, but more importantly, Orton's offensive last week was more drawing and the finishing series was better then. Merits here for the attempt and purpose, which held OK.

1. Eddie Guerrero and Chavo Guerrero v 2. John Cena and Edge

2v2Tag

 2SD 7:00.93 **84** (02.22) Mx-2c-1e-1x-1c-1e-E-2e-1c-1e-1c-E-2c-1e

FrogSplash-Pin; Swift, good opening melee, upward steadily and held well, sound action, but unbalanced some.

This contest went well from the start with steadily good exchanges and an above average speed. Speaking of which, match contained two light driving points which were effective here. The Guerrero's had some efficient team action. While it was prudent to give them most of the match control, would have liked a little more from Edge/Cena.

1. Kurt Angle v 2. Rey Mysterio

Singles

 3SD 8:25.41 **101** 1-2-2-1-1-1-E-2-2-2-1

AngleSlamOffTumblekick-Pin; Broke slow, settled nicely, very effortful and structured strongly, closed very gamely.

Shorter than their SummerSlam match (1SmS, 87) but more effective this time around. The slow open served well and lead into some very well done action here. Also besting the SummerSlam match, was the steady pickup throughout, a stronger close, and some incredible moments coupled with strong efforts. See this one. Triple digits warranted.

1. Chris Benoit v 2. Rikishi

Singles

 4SD 3:01.60 **27** (02.11) 2-1-1-1*

PushOffTumblekick(ChrisBenoit); Went off OK but seemed off afterwards, some OK spots, held lightly fair.

Match consistency seemed odd after a good exchange to open this one. A semi-good showing from Benoit and an OK effort out of Rikishi. Holding interest here was a nice electric chair drop and cutter. That aside, match did not move well enough to merit better. However, this served well enough to set up the post match bit with Angle.

1. Torrie Wilson v 2. Nidia

Singles

 5SD 1:33.98 **16** (08.28) Mx-2-1

SwingingNeckbreaker-Pin; Held up, but with some sound action, better than expectations but long way to go.

Held to a short frame with good cause. Previous pointed to nothing more than empty time, but these two did overcome that label in this outing. The start seemed held up a little too much, but some OK exchange did follow. Wilson seemed to go down sharply at one point, light merit for the effort there. Controlled, OK. Improvement to continue?

1. Matt Hardy w Brock Lesnar and Paul Heyman v 2. Undertaker

Singles

 6SD 4:18.35 [T] **25** ⊗-2-1**1-2-2

LeftRing-CountOut(MattHardy); Repelling start caused by outside presence, some action OK, confounded otherwise.

[T] No bell sounded to signify decision; originally called no contest, changed to count out (confirmed 19Sep02 SD!)

Offhand, Heyman's presence would have served OK here, but he did overstep his bounds here and damaged this somewhat early on. Afterwards, match had some fair action to its credit but not much else, which is understandable in context as it set up the closing segment backstage. Worth keeping in mind that better is possible from these.

BREAKDOWNS:	Time: 6 Matches with 1 No contest (30:21:25) about 25.30 % of show time.	Average Match Rating (6 Matches) 48.33	BestOfTheNight: 3SD KurtAngle v ReyMysterio	101
	Types: 5 Singles (0 Title Matches), 1 Tag (0 Title Matches)	Extraneous Segment Aggregate 10.00	WorstOfTheNight: 5SD TorrieWilson v Nidia	16
		Overall Show Score 58.33		
	3 instance of interference (1 meaningful); [] Meaningful interference			
	4SD *KurtAngle []	Title Changes: None		
	6SD *BrockLesnar (2)		Turns: Rico assisted Eric Bischoff from within Billy and Chuck (faces)?	

SHOW ASSESSMENT: Overall, a good step upwards from last week's effort, with the non match pieces contributing well (esp. the ceremony scheme). Interestingly enough, however, only two matches succeeded in exceeding par, but they ruled!

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	●UT/Sara arrive (0) Wasn't she blond last time?	●Angle on Benoit, (+0.5) It's been done before, but it will do.	●Ceremony: (+2.5) Some hilarious comments to start from
	●Post2SD failed retribution, Eddie pays for it (+0.5) They should have known better than to steal someone else's gimmick.	●Limo arrives for ceremonial bit (0) Mystery guest maybe?	Godfather's train chimes in, is sent away; minister is Bischoff! Steph gets 3 min. warning, locker room rescues Rico was in on it.
	●Guerrerros argue over post 2SD (0) And that's enough of that.	●Post 4SD Angle gets retribution on Benoit. (+1) And we may have something going here.	Rico. The minister was hilarious and until he said "three minutes," I had no clue it was him. Not what the masses may have been expecting but pretty well done piece. The question is, what happens now? Intrigued to see Raw more so now.
	●Lloyd INT UT (+1) Matt may very well have overstepped a little here, but that was just wrong on UT's part.	●Ceremony setup (0) Yeah, we know the drill.	●UT to ring, Matt brings Heyman/Brock (+0.5) That must be that guarantee he ordered.
	●Rico on ceremony gets Steph involved (+0.5) Something unsettling about Steph's comment, but true nonetheless.	●Benoit wants Angle in a match, gets it for SS, Matt faces UT tonight (+3) YES! to the SummerSlam match. Intrigued to see how the Hardy/UT match plays out, but guaranteed victory?	●Post6SD Heyman Brock taunt Sara UT ambushed (+0.5) That was dark, and effective some.

CLOSING NOTES:

1. You would think Stephanie would have better sense than that, especially after acknowledging her run of luck at weddings of sorts. Stephanie ends up paying for it again.
2. Speaking of the ceremony bit, it went down quite well, and it was interesting to see the unified locker room (a good piece of it) jump in to the scene.
3. And to close out on that deal (hopefully), I must say that Rico actually had an entertaining role in that whole scenario.
4. Have to rejoice that Unforgiven will now have Angle vs. Benoit; you know what they can do.
5. I had been tentative on this "Mattitude" deal, but now I am more interested in seeing where, and how far, they take this.