

4 February 2002

Robert Ortega, Jr.

slashwrestling.com

1. Triple H v 2. Booker T

Singles

1RAW 234.47 35 (36.85) 1-2-1*

◆AxeHandle-NoContest; So much expected and only light dividends at most; foreseeable finish also diminishes.

Even for its impromptu nature, I expected much more from this contest. Therefore, suffice to say, with very little to look to beyond Booker's kicks and a few of HHH's signature spots, I was quite disappointed. Sort of difficult to miss Angle's late run-in. Low marks merited here; a relative downer.

1. Rob Van Dam v 2. Bubba Ray Dudley w D-Von Dudley and Stacy Keibler

Singles

2RAW 3:22.30 43 (04.23) 2-2-2-1

FiveStarFrogSplash-Pin; Had a fair share of time and off-moderately paced, but lack of balance apparent.

I simply cannot find much value where a strictly tag competitor switches to the singles ranks. Not a bad display from Dudley here, but needed to see more from Van Dam to give this better marks. Probably only here to set up Goldust's post-match revelation, but there were probably better ways to do it. Watch-able, but not much draw to it.

1. Billy Gunn and Chuck Palumbo v 2. APA v 3. Tazz and Spike Dudley

TriangleEliminationTag

WWF Tag Team Championship-G1

3RAW 4:47.28 48 Mx-1b-1c-E-2f-x-1b→*3s

DudleyDogAcidDrop-Pin; Some fair exchanges within, but some anticlimactic action and finish drop this below par. → denotes first elimination (APA by Billy and Chuck at 4:23.16)

Some problems, offhand. Firstly, not enough action for Tazz who was one of the entering champions. Secondly, placing the pins so close together takes away from any real excitement the finish could have had. Good to see the champions win here, but would have rather had it in straight (no pun intended) 2v2 fashion.

1. Rikishi v 2. William Regal

Singles

WWF Intercontinental Championship-G2

4RAW 4:05.53 50 1-2-2-1*

☐PunchesAndSpear(WilliamRegal)- Regal was better than anticipated but no real reciprocity from Rikishi.

Regal brought something good with his off-style here, which is to say, it seemed more impacting than normal. A few basic momentum moments from Rikishi, but not enough to significantly affect enjoyment. Didn't expect Edge to interfere, and while it seemed warranted based on previous encounters, lack of real finish detracts. Par at best.

1. Trish Stratus v 2. Jazz

Singles

WWF Women's Championship-G1

5RAW 3:39.72 25 (01.41) Mx-1-1-1-1

FishermanBuster-Pin; Overly one sided, especially for title match; title change was a considerable time in coming.

Had to give some respect to Jazz's offensive display, which was sounder than previous efforts. However, the match's one-sided form left almost severe lack of balance. Match rates better only if real offensive given by Stratus. Title change was quite expected, if not imminent based on past outings. Match not more than addition to a repetitive series.

1. Stone Cold Steve Austin and The Rock v 2. Chris Jericho and Undertaker

2v2Tag

6RAW 13:24.75 100 1x-1a-1r-2u-1r-1a-2j-E-2u-2j-Mx-2j-2u-E-1r-1x-2j-E-1r-2j

◆LeadPipeStrike-Pin; Very strong contest, especially relative to previous lacking undercard; pressing, closed well.

Perhaps the lacking matches before this factor in, so note that when looking at the match's performance figure. Still, enough here, if just barely, to get the first TV triple digit rating of the year. Last year's best TV triple digit was HHH/Austin v Jericho/Benoit (21May01) at 115. This not to that level, but fine match. Best of the night here.

BREAKDOWNS: Time: 6 Matches with 1 No contest (3154.05) about 24.54 % of show time.

Types: 4 Singles (2 Title Matches), 2 Tag (1 Title Matches)

3 instances of interference (3 meaningful); ☐ Meaningful interference

1RAW *KurtAngle ☐
3RAW *Bradshaw (post-elimination) ☐
4RAW *Edge ☐

Average Match Rating (6 Matches) 50.16

Extraneous Segment Aggregate 4.00

Overall Show Score 54.16

Title Changes: Jazz New WWFWomen'sChampion

BestOfTheNight: 6RAW StoneCold and TheRock v ChrisJericho and Undertaker 100

WorstOfTheNight: 5RAW TrishStratus v Jazz 25

Turns: None

Show assessment: The last match score inflates, to be sure. Undoubtedly, a level or two down from previous showings. Better is a must in the stretch to No Way Out.

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

- HHHCallsAngle but Gets BookerT interference. (0) Sets 1RAW match and foreseeable
- HHH HuntsAngle (0) Yeah, I would be mad too. (0) Yeah, I would be mad too.
- PosedownChallenge (0) There was a reason this was edited out of last Smackdown.
- Announces Angle v HHH forNoWayOut (+2) Promising match ahead and does throw the absolute certainty of WrestlemaniaX8 out the window.

- GoldustPromo "he" is RobVanDam intriguing. (+2) Have to say that the rivalry is intriguing.
- HHH is mad; Steph is happy. (0) I think we know where this is going.
- Cole/UT Int. Y2J (0) Respect blah blah blah
- McMahon/Flair nWo named as Hogan/Hal/Nash he still manages to ignite.

- BriscoPattersonArm (0) Never thought Arm would say that. "wrong decision"
- DDP at WWFNY (0) Down with the people, but 0 with the points.
- Coach/Rock INT. "VivaRockVegas" (+1) Point for the speech, none for the song.
- SMH WeddingVows (-2) Oh son (or daughter) of a... Steph is pregnant. "Whew"...followed by a "why?"

CLOSING NOTES:

1. If Stephanie is really pregnant, fine. If this is a ruse of any kind, add her and the idiots who decided to use this angle to the universal hit list.
- 1A. So, who disrupts the wedding vows for next Monday? So many possibilities, may of which, unfortunately, are ridiculous. But then, so is this whole deal.
2. That last match was a savior of the night. You got something worthy, if your patience lasted that long.
3. Shot of the women's locker room? Oh, yeah, smart... why not just inject the idiocy fuel into Lawler's veins?
4. Barring any ringside angles, HHH and Angle at No Way Out looks to be a strong triple digit. I look forward a nice buildup in the next three major shows.
5. Almost a throwaway show here; disappointed but not totally disenchanting.