# Thought of the Day the Sequel: Cena's (Kayfabe) Priorities

Anyone that follows my stuff knows I'm relatively neutral on Cena. I respect his work and think he's one of the greatest superstars ever, However lately his character has had some continuity issues. Note that this is all in kayfabe of course. 1. Over the summer, Cena says that Big Show winning the title would be disastrous. Well Big Show won the Smackdown Title two months ago and Cena doesn't seem to be running through the streets saying the sky is falling.

2. Last night Cena says how much he respects Flair, but he's perfectly fine with Shield beating him up. However, when Ziggler, a guy that beat him clean the night before (no rules means interference is clean) tries to legally cash in a MITB case, Cena runs to the rescue. Was he in a rousing game of pinball earlier?

# Thought of the Day: Be Patient (Steve Austin In 1997)

I was watching the 1997 Rumble and I realized something. Austin was without a doubt capable of being world champion in April of 1997. He was a beast in the Rumble and pushed harder than probably anyone ever had been in that match. Yet he wasn't world champion in 1997 and wouldn't be for over 15 months. This decision might have been what kept WWF in business.

Instead of being world champion, Austin got to spend a year in the main event Border War with Bret and the Harts, which was his real seasoning. Austin lost the feud, but by the end of it he was ready. There was no question that Austin was the top star in the company and ready for the championship.

The key difference is that today, someone is handed a title almost immediately (see Sheamus for an example) and is thrown into the main event with it. This rarely works and is a horrible idea, as once they can't handle it, they have to spend the better part of a year building themselves up again. In the worst business year the company ever had, they held off on Austin before riding him to heights never before or since seen a year later. Now when they have ZERO competition, they throw everyone into the main event as soon as they arrive and business is steadily going downhill. I'm sure it's just a coincidence right?

## **BIG E FREAKING LANGSTON!!!!!**

He debuted on Raw tonight after tearing NXT apart for months now. If you've never seen this guy and you're a fan of unstoppable monsters, you're in for a treat.

# Monday Night Raw — December 17, 2012: Raw FINALLY Stops Taking Itself So Seriously. Oh And He's Back!

### Monday Night Raw

Date: December 17, 2012 Location: Wells Fargo Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Commentators: Michael Cole, John Bradshaw Layfield, Jerry Lawler

It's the Slammys! The catch this year is the voting is all done on the WWE App, which is supposed to be interesting or mean something or other. This is the night after TLC and the main change is that AJ has turned on Cena, possibly to join Ziggler but that hasn't been confirmed. This is a three hour show instead of a three hour special, because that's how Raw works anymore. Let's get to it.

We open with a long recap of the PPV last night as expected.

### Rey Mysterio vs. Damien Sandow

Sandow takes over to start and sends Rey out to the floor with Rey's signature chest first bump. Back in and the Wind-Up Elbow gets two and let's hit that chinlock. Rey comes back with a headscisors and a seated dropkick for two of his own. It's Scholars vs. HELL NO on Wednesday at Main Event. If that's not enough of a clue as to what's coming, I don't know what is. Indeed there it is, as Rey hits the 619 and top rope splash for the pin at 3:14.

**Rating:** D+. What in the world was the point of this? They already say that the Scholars are getting the title shot in two days, so what in the world is the point here? The match wasn't even any good and Sandow

looked like a jobber, which is the last thing he needs to be right now. No idea what they were going for here.

Here's Booker to present the Tell Me I Did NOT Just See That Award for Biggest Surprise. After explaining that we have to download the WWE App for the 1000th time, we're ready to go. The nominees are:

Brad Maddox's Low Blow on Ryback (Hell in a Cell)

18 Seconds (Wrestlemania 28)

Kofi's Miracle Save (Royal Rumble)

The Rock Gets Punked (Raw 1000)

Before the winner is announced, here's the FREAKING BOOGEYMAN. He's got the clock and the worms and apparently we're taking a break before the award is announced. Well sure why not. Post break, Brad Maddox comes out to stand next to Booker, but Kofi wins. Nothing of note in the acceptance speech.

### Kaitlyn vs. Eve Torres

Kaitlyn jumps her to start and pounds away and we head to the floor. The champion (this is non-title) gets pounded on even more and freaks out because Kaitlyn hits her in the face. Back in and Eve pounds away on Kaitlyn, but Kaitlyn comes out of the corner with a gutbuster for the pin at 2:08. Back to the old formula for the Divas I guess.

To present the Comeback of the Year Award, here are the New Age Outlaws, complete with the PG version of their entrance. Billy has to read his line off his hand in a funny bit. The nominees are:

Brock Lesnar

Chris Jericho

DX

Jerry Lawler

We take a break before the awards which I think is going to be a trend tonight. Lawler wins to the shock of no one. He jogs up the ramp and says nothing of note.

Kofi Kingston vs. Tensai

Tensai hits the Vader Bomb in the corner and walks into Trouble in Paradise for the pin at 1:10. Fire him. Please.

Post match Wade Barrett lays out Kofi with the Bull Hammer.

Here's hot to vote! AGAIN!

Here's Vickie to present Kiss of the Year. The nominees are:

AJ and Daniel Bryan

AJ and Kane

AJ and CM Punk

AJ and John Cena

Vickie has something to say before the winner is announced. She'd NEVER be nominated for this award because she wouldn't abuse her position like this. The winner with AJ is Cena. This exists to have AJ come out and explain herself, but she says she doesn't owe anyone anything and she shoves Vickie away. Ziggler comes out and separates them, so AJ kisses Dolph. He's into it as Vickie EXPLODES. AJ skips away and Ziggler chases after him. It's about freaking time.

### <u>Great Khali vs. David Otunga</u>

Khali forearms him down and chops him in the corner. A second one is even LOUDER but he misses a big boot in the corner. David stomps away on the leg in the corner but it's shrugged off and the big chop gets the pin at 1:57.

Ric Freaking Flair is here to read the nominees for Superstar of the Year. There's a surprise. Since this is Philadelphia, it might as well be God walking onto the stage. This would have been a bigger shock if they didn't play WOO and have his voice saying the names before the break.

Sheamus

John Cena

Big Show

CM Punk

Cena wins and is of course booed out of the building. For some reason he gives the Slammy to Flair...but here's Punk with something to say. Heyman of course gets an ERUPTION. Punk goes on a big rant about how he should be Superstar of the Year because Cena keeps losing and hasn't done anything all year. Flair looks at his Rolex and makes fun of Punk but Punk says Flair can't talk about baggage. Flair asks if he means his two Hall of Fame rings or his four ex-wives. Naturally Ric wants to fight and we take a break.

Back with Punk limping into the ring to face Flair and he blasts Flair in the ribs. Flair pokes him in the eye and hits Punk with the crutch before throwing Heyman in the Figure Four. Naturally Flair has something to say, so he says welcome back Jerry Lawler. If he's going to die in a ring, he wants it to be in a WWE ring or with a woman from Philadelphia. He sucks up to Philly a bit more but here's the Shield.

Post break, Ambrose is laying out Flair before heading back to the floor to fight HELL NO who apparently came out during the break. They load up Flair for the SuperBomb, but here's Ryback to a BIG pop for the save. No Cena for no apparent reason. Rollins gets dropped on the announce table and the Shield is beaten down. Flair shakes all of their hands and the good guys stand tall. Well Bryan stands medium height but you get the idea.

Post break again, Flair and HELL NO celebrate in the back and Flair gets into the YES/NO thing. Ron Simmons comes up and you know where this is going.

Brodus Clay vs. JTG

It's an old school Brodus squash with JTG only hitting a decent looking Blockbuster. Total domination with Brodus hitting his usual stuff and winning with the splash at 1:52.

Here are Santino and Tensai to presents LOL Moment of the Year. Tensai falls down coming through the entrance and has a big bandage and ice pack on his head. Santino cracks up looking at Tensai. He calls him Albert and makes fun of him for a bit. Apparently Tensai means Fat Albert. Tensai grabs him and speaks in that thick Boston accent of his.

The Rock throws Cena merchandise into the Boston Harbor

HELL NO at Anger Management

Randy Orton beats up Ricardo and Striker with food

### Vickie Guerrero dances

Rock wins because the WWE Universe has no taste. Naturally he's not here so Santino accepts on his behalf. Bryan comes out to say NO because this should be his Slammy. PREACH IT BROTHER!!! Kane drags him away.

#### Sin Cara vs. Cody Rhodes

Cara's knee is still messed up from last night. Cody takes over quickly as we've got the dark lighting. Cody hits the delayed release gordbuster for two and cranks on Cara's arm. He pounds away for a bit but gets caught by a springboard missile dropkick. There's a rana to put Cody down but he catches Cara in the Cross Rhodes out of nowhere for the pin at 4:15.

**Rating:** D+. Stupid psychology aside, this wasn't anything of note. What's the deal with the lighting anymore anyway? It's been done for months now, so why bring it back every now and then? Was there really a demand for that stupid thing? Nice to see Cody actually winning a match before his title shot in two days.

Here are Zack Ryder and Layla to present the award for Trending Now Hashtag of the Year. I swear this is a real thing.

Feedmemore

Peoplepower

LittleJimmy

#### WWWYKI

Ryback wins and that's about it.

Here's Big Show with that massive chair of his. He's not surprised that he got the shaft for losing Superstar of the Year. He's still World Champion though and the fans can't handle that. The fans chant boring but Show threatens to sit in the chair all night. Cue Sheamus because three straight losses aren't enough. Sheamus says that he doesn't want to fight tonight and he has no regrets about last night. Last night, Show was the better man.

Show of course rubs it in but Sheamus says there's nothing more to it than that: Show deserves to be champion. He offers Show a handshake and Show of course isn't sure. The champion shakes his hand but Show says go to the back of the line "you potato eating Irishman." Show keeps running his mouth and the brawl is on. Sheamus gets the big chair and pounds away with the huge chair before laying Show out with a Brogue Kick.

Show is out cold......AND HERE COMES ZIGGLER!!!

## Smackdown World Title: Dolph Ziggler vs. Big Show

Cena sneaks in from behind and beats up Dolph so I don't think there's an official cash in. The bell never rang and Show is getting up. Ziggler gets beaten up badly and it's officially not a cash in. Why not? The bell should have rung.

### <u>3MB vs. Alberto Del Rio/The Miz/Tommy Dreamer</u>

Before the match we take a break and when we come back, Ziggler is looking for Vickie. Eventually she yells at him for the stuff with AJ but Ziggler says it's over with Vickie. He tired of her jealously and says she's getting old and ugly. She makes Ziggler/AJ vs. Vickie/Cena. Oh geez.

As for the match, we still have to have a third partner announced for Miz/Del Rio, which you've already seen by now. The reaction for Dreamer is great of course. Del Rio and McIntyre start things off with Alberto pounding away. Off to Dreamer for some bad dancing and a flapjack. Everything breaks down and the Band is sent to the floor. Del Rio dives onto all three, as does Dreamer. For reasons I can't comprehend, we take a break.

Back with Dreamer suplexing Mahal down and it's off to Miz. The fans in Philly are actually into him as he hits the corner clothesline on Slater. McIntyre breaks it up though and the Band takes over. Mahal comes in to drop a knee and hook a chinlock. Back to Slater who hooks a front facelock for a few moments before it's back to Drew. Miz grabs a rollup for two but can't make a tag.

Drew puts Miz in a fireman's carry and does a little strut before dropping Miz down on his face. Slater breaks up the tag again but Alberto makes the tag and cleans house. A big kick to Slater's head gets two and Del Rio clears the ring out. The armbreaker is broken up but he hits the corner enziguri to Slater anyway. He loads up the armbreaker again but instead tags Dreamer in. Dreamer comes in for the pin at FOURTEEN MINUTES AND THIRTEEN SECONDS.

**Rating:** D+. WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD THIS FREAKING MATCH GET FIFTEEN MINUTES??? I mean dude, come on. We couldn't get ANYBODY else out there to fill in this kind of time? The match was nothing special, and it's still hard to buy Miz and Del Rio as faces because they never really had a big moment to turn. Del Rio's turn last night was really quick and didn't have a chance to sink in. That's a problem that it's going to take time to get over.

Sheamus comes out to present Newcomer of the Year.

Antonio Cesaro

Brodus Clay

Damien Sandow

Ryback

If you're not sure who wins here, I can't help you. The fans actually cheer for Ryback pretty well. He starts a FEED ME MORE chant and that's about it.

### Ryback vs. Antonio Cesaro

This should be good. Non-title of course. Cesaro pounds away to start and let the Goldberg chants begin. Ryback counters a suplex into a delayed one of his own for one. Cesaro comes back with a spinebuster but Ryback backdrops out of the Neutralizer. There's a spinebuster from the good guy but Cesaro rolls away from the Meat Hook. He gets his belt but Ryback gorilla presses him back into the ring. Cesaro tries to run again and it's a countout win for Ryback at 2:08. That's the smartest thing they could have done.

Here are Gene Okerlund, Ricky Steamboat and JR to present the Match of the Year Award.

Undertaker vs. HHH (Wrestlemania 28)

Brock Lesnar vs. John Cena (Extreme Rules)

Sheamus vs. Big Show (Hell in a Cell)

The Rock vs. John Cena (Wrestlemania 28)

There are three VERY strong contenders here and it goes to Taker vs. HHH. I have no issue with that winning at all. HHH makes fun of his short hair but is immediately drowned out by a WE WANT TAKER chant. He sucks up to the crowd for a bit and the fans say thank you. We haven't seen the last of the Undertaker apparently.

In the back the Shield is destroying Tommy Dreamer. Ricardo of all people tries to stop them and is beaten down as well. Referees eventually chase them off.

Here's AJ for the main event but she asks for a ladder to be set up for

her. Post break AJ is on top of the ladder and says everyone has been asking her why she did it. She's about to explain when Vickie interrupts her.

### Dolph Ziggler/AJ vs. Vickie Guerrero/John Cena

It's after 11pm already so this isn't going to last long. The guys start things off with Cena escaping a hammerlock. Off to AJ which means Cena has to tag Vickie. I think Vickie is supposed to be a face here. She pounds AJ down and AJ walks out, making it a handicap match. Now Vickie leaves and Ziggler escapes the AA. The jumping DDT gets two on Cena but John ducks a superkick and puts on the STF. AJ and BIG FREAKING E LANGSTON come in for the DQ at 4:29. If you don't know who Langston is, I feel sorry for you.

**Rating:** N/A. I rarely use this but seriously, there's nothing to talk about here.

**Overall Rating:** B+. I dug this show WAY more than any Raw in probably six months or so. They had a fast paced show tonight where they mixed things up and didn't keep anything (aside from the six man tag) out there longer than it should have been. This was a much more laid back show that didn't take itself too seriously, which has been one of Raw's biggest problems tonight. Good show and one of the best wrestling TV shows in months.

#### <u>Results</u>

Rey Mysterio b. Damien Sandow — Top Rope Splash Kaitlyn b. Eve Torres — Gutbuster Kofi Kingston b. Tensai — Trouble in Paradise Great Khali b. David Otunga — Chop to the head Brodus Clay b. JTG — Splash Cody Rhodes b. Sin Cara — Cross Rhodes Alberto Del Rio/The Miz/Tommy Dreamer b. 3MB — DDT to Slater Ryback b. Antonio Cesaro via countout

Vickie Guerrero/John Cena b. Dolph Ziggler/AJ via DQ when Big E. Langston interfered

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# Other Slammy Award Categories And Winners

These were announced last night during the TLC preshow.

Best Dancer of the Year – Brodus Clay

Top Social Media Ambassador – Charlie Sheen

- WWE.com Video of the Year - Jerry Lawler

-Crowd Chant of the Year - "Feed Me More!"

 Upset of the Year - Daniel Bryan (retaining World Heavyweight Championship at Royal Rumble)

- Diva of the Year AJ Lee
- Insult of the Year John Cena
- Tweet of the Year Daniel Bryan
- YouTube Show of the Year Z! True Long Island Story
- Facial Hair of the Year Daniel Bryan

 Feat of Strength Award — Sheamus (for hitting White Noise on Big Show)

## A Legend Returns On Raw

He's baaaaaaaaaaaaaaaak......great. Ric Flair is back and presented Superstar of the Year. No word on if this is permanent or not.

## **Slammy Categories And Winners**

I'm going to keep this thread updated throughout Raw with all of the Slammy categories, nominations and winners. Keep refreshing this throughout Raw. Let's get to it. <u>Tell Me I Did Not Just See That Award (Surprise of the Year)</u>

Presented by Booker T.

Brad Maddox's Low Blow on Ryback (Hell in a Cell)

18 Seconds (Wrestlemania 28)

Kofi's Miracle Save (Royal Rumble)

The Rock Gets Punked (Raw 1000)

Winner: Kofi Kingston

## Comeback of the Year Award

Presented by the New Age Outlaws

Brock Lesnar

Chris Jericho

DX

Jerry Lawler

Winner: Jerry Lawler

Kiss of the Year Award

Presented by Vickie Guerrero

- AJ and Daniel Bryan
- AJ and Kane
- AJ and CM Punk
- AJ and John Cena

Winner: AJ and John Cena

## Superstar of the Year

Presented by Ric Flair

Sheamus

John Cena

Big Show

CM Punk

Winner: John Cena

## LOL Moment of the Year

Presented by Santino Marella and Tensai

The Rock throws Cena merchandise into the Boston Harbor

HELL NO at Anger Management

Randy Orton beats up Ricardo and Striker with food

Vickie Guerrero dances

Winner: The Rock

## Hashtag of the Year

## Presented by Zack Ryder and Layla

Feedmemore

Peoplepower

LittleJimmy

WWWYKI

Winner: Feedmemore

## Newcomer of the Year

Presented by Sheamus

Antonio Cesaro

Brodus Clay

Damien Sandow

Ryback

Winner: Ryback

Match of the Year

Presented by Jim Ross, Gene Okerlund and Ricky Steamboat

Undertaker vs. HHH (Wrestlemania 28)

Brock Lesnar vs. John Cena (Extreme Rules)

Sheamus vs. Big Show (Hell in a Cell)

The Rock vs. John Cena (Wrestlemania 28)

Winner: Undertaker vs. HHH

# Thought Of The Day Again: Self-Fulfilling Prophecy

So apparently WWE is worried about Ryback for not getting a big reaction last night in Brooklyn. Gee, could that be because.... He hasn't won a major match since he moved up to the main event? He lost at HIAC, he lost at Survivor Series, he lost at TLC. Yeah there were circumstances on the side every time, but at the end of the day he lost. Every time. But hey, it must be his fault because everyone loves to cheer for losers right? On top of that, IT WAS FREAKING BROOKLYN. You know, the place that boos Cena out of the building every night and thinks Daniel Bryan is the greatest thing since free refills. Also they can ignore the Ryder chants, because his reactions don't count right?

## Thought of the Day: They Never Learn

WWE is horrible about this and you can see it in their TV schedule for the end of the year. December 24: 3 hour Raw

December 31: 3 hour Raw

Who in the world (besides me of course) is going to sit through three hours of Cena and AJ segments ON CHRISTMAS EVE and the night before the new year? This is the kind of a night a "Best Of" show is for. If nothing else, why would you do this when most of your alleged target audience will be going to bed so Santa can deliver them presents? Oh well, I'm sure it'll be Ryback's fault when they get a 1.7 or so, because clearly airing a three hour show ON CHRISTMAS EVE is a perfectly logical idea.

# Monday Night Raw – January 25, 1999: Talk About Gimmick Overkill

## Monday Night Raw

Date: January 25, 1999 Location: America West Arena, Phoenix, Arizona Attendance: 15,538 Commentators: Jerry Lawler, Michael Cole It was a good night for the Corporation last night as Vince won the Rumble and Rock won the title back from Mankind in one of the most brutal matches you'll ever see. This is kind of like a go home show in an odd way as we have Halftime Heat on Sunday. Anyway tonight we have Rock defending his newly won title against HHH in another I Quit match. I've also already done the next week's show and the link is below as usual. Let's get to it.

We open with stills and audio from last night where Rock cost Austin the Rumble and gave the win to Vince.

Cole's voice is gone as he shouted a lot last night.

Shane brings out Vince to start the show. The Corporation comes out with the boss and carries him on their shoulders. Oh and Vince finally has his signature theme music now. Vince: "I'M GOING TO WRESTLEMANIA!!!" Well I'd hope so. Things usually fell apart when he wasn't around. Vince talks about how Rock also won last night and says that since Rock was at ringside (distracting Austin), he gets the \$100,000 bounty.

Apparently Rock didn't get much sleep last night. He was out partying all night, but once he got home he broke into a cold sweat because he's facing Vince at Wrestlemania. However, that's not a problem because Vince has filed paperwork to say that he's no longer the #1 contender. He gets to pick the challenger though. Vince says that Austin will never get another title shot, nor will he get another match with Vince.

This brings Austin to the Titantron, live from Texas (remember that we're in Arizona). Austin says that he's going to Wrestlemania, which Vince says is because Austin is buying a ticket. You know, because Austin couldn't get any match on the card. Austin says he'll be in the main event, and the Commissioner says so. We go to a wider shot to show Shawn Michaels next to Austin. Did I forget to mention that we were in San Antonio, Texas? Shawn says that he's giving Austin protection from himself. If Austin was in the arena tonight, he would destroy Vince and that's not good. Apparently Shawn has taken a look at the WWF Rule Book (oh I'd LOVE to get my hands on a copy of that) and it says that if the winner of the Rumble steps aside, the person that comes in second gets the title shot. Vince looks like he's about to be sick.

Austin says he'd love to have the title back but he'd rather beat up Vince more. Therefore on Valentine's Day, he'll put up the title shot if Vince will face him in a match. If Vince wins, Austin loses the title shot. However, Austin doesn't want Vince to be able to run, so let's make it a cage match. Austin sweetens the offer, saying he'll NEVER get another title shot. That's enough for Vince, so Austin guarantees victory. This came off as really serious, which is why Shawn smiling in the background was so annoying. Good stuff though.

An armored truck, presumably with Rock's money, arrives.

#### Billy Gunn vs. Goldust

Gunn's ankle is still messed up from last night. HHH says no catchphrase tonight, because he wants Rocky right here. He doesn't think Rock made Mankind say I Quit and he knows Rock can't make him say I Quit. HHH remembers the last time they fought for a title when HHH took the IC Title off Rock, but for once, be a man and accept the challenge.

Oh yeah we have a match here. Goldust jumps Billy from behind and tries for Shattered Dreams about a minute in. Billy counters by mooning Goldie, making him miss a cross body. Now Goldust's music and pyro go off, and the Blue Freaking Meanie comes out dressed as Blue Dust. Billy gets two off a rollup and three off a piledriver after Blue Dust hit Goldie with the Head. Angle advancement here.

Mankind is here.

Here are the Oddities for a match but Rock interrupts. Rock tells them to get out of the ring and accepts HHH's challenge for later tonight. Rock is done, but we cut to Mankind in the back as he hijacks the armored truck. He takes a bag of money out of it and heads to the arena. Mankind comes to the arena and says that Rock has his title, but Mankind has Rock's money. He starts throwing the money away and tells Rock to stay back.

Mankind says he remembers getting hit in the head by a chair a bunch of times, but he does not remember saying that he quit. Instead he remembers being unconscious. However, with the help of the production team, he thinks he's solved the mystery. We get a clip from Heat of Mankind screaming at Shane that he'll never say the words I Quit. He says them in a very specific way, and interestingly enough, the time when he said the words in the match were in the exact same tone and speech pattern. Also, he doesn't appear to move when he gave up, which makes Rock angry. Cole: "I KNEW IT!"

Therefore, Rock has no legitimate claim to that title. Mankind wants his rematch, and he wants it during Halftime Heat, in an empty arena match. This was actually a very clever way to make sure very few spoilers got out. As for the money, Socko is going on a shopping spree. Rock says deal, so Mankind says Have A Nice Day!

### Droz vs. George Steele

Wait, because here's Mideon to ask Lawler and Cole if they can see it. Whatever it is, it's going to cover the place. For no apparent reason, George is in sunglasses. He immediately bites Droz's arm and hits Drozdov in the arm with some kind of spike. The turnbuckle is bitten open, but Droz rams him into the buckle for the pin.

The Oddities save Steele from the beating.

The Stooges give the tag champs advice and also some salt peter to drink.

For those of you unfamiliar, it's stuff used in the military to tone down male sex drives.

Debra says no one can resist her. Mark Henry comes up to hit on her and Debra seems interested.

## Tag Titles: Owen Hart/Jeff Jarrett vs. Big Boss Man/Ken Shamrock

Boss Man vs. Jarrett to start with Boss Man cleaning house. The baseball slide into the right hand has Jeff in trouble (he and Owen are challenging) but he avoids a charging Boss Man in the corner. Owen comes in and stomps away, drawing a nugget chant. A big clothesline from Shamrock puts Owen down as Debra tries to blow kisses at Shamrock. An enziguri puts Ken down as does a powerslam, which gets two.

There's the spinwheel kick to Shamrock's jaw but a top rope dropkick misses. Debra gets on the apron and opens her jacket to reveal her bra, but Shamrock suplexes Owen anyway. Debra takes off her top entirely and there's the ankle lock to Owen. Everything breaks down and cue the Blue Blazer with a guitar shot to Shamrock, giving Owen and Jeff the titles.

**Rating:** C-. Most of that is for Debra, which says a lot about this match. Nothing to see here for the most part as Owen and Jarrett weren't that interesting as champions, but they would hold the belts until after Wrestlemania. Tag team wrestling was getting desperate for a new team to take the division by storm, but it would be another seven months before that happened.

Owen says he's vindicated because he's not the Blazer.

Here are Shane with the Stooges and some REALLY bad music. Shane has an issue with Kane, as he's screwed Vince over lately. Last night after the Rumble, Kane came up to the McMahon suite and apologized. Shane invites Kane down to the ring and here's the Big Fried Freak. Shane asks Kane to

repeat the apology, but in public. Kane uses the voicebox to talk but Shane wants Kane on his knees. Surprisingly enough Kane does it, but that's STILL not good enough, because Kane was only on one knee.

This brings out X-Pac who says that the Corporation needs to back off. Kane is too big and tough to take this kind of nonsense. He offers Kane a spot in DX and challenges Shane to a fight right now. This earns him a chokeslam from Kane, who apparently wants to stay in the Corporation because they have good dental. Shane gives Pac a Bronco Buster.

Earlier today, PMS took D'Lo Brown shopping. They want him to get them feminine hygiene products. Egads Terri acting is not a pretty sight. Nothing about Jackie is a pretty sight. He has to get a price check and the clerk recognizes him.

Here's Val Venis' latest video: Saving Ryan's Privates/Sister Act. Naturally it's focused on him and Shamrock's siter Ryan, setting up Shamrock's next title defense. It's Val getting into the shower with Ryan, likely much to Shamrock's chagrin.

### Val Venis vs. Test

Nothing of note happens until Ken comes out and blasts Billy with a chair, sending him into the pumphandle slam for the pin.

Billy Gunn comes out for the save but Val thinks Billy hit him with the chair. Val takes out the bad ankle and we've got a threeway feud.

### Road Dogg/Al Snow vs. Gangrel/Edge

This is a hardcore tag match and the non-vampires jump the fang dudes as they come up through their ring of fire. They brawl up on the stage before going down onto the concrete. Make that into the back as we can barely keep track of what's going on. Gangrel crushes both of the opponents with a dumpster before Edge beats on Dogg some more. They fight into the back as Gangrel has silverware thrown at him.

Roadie gets hit in the back by a chair and put on the catering table. Snow and Edge slam chairs together before they fight into the women's room. The Ho's are chased out of there and Snow walks out with a toilet seat around his neck. All four guys go on top of something too dark to see before crashing through a table. Blue Dust was involved in there somewhere, giving Snow Head back. Dogg pins Gangrel.

**Rating:** D+. The problem here was that you couldn't see a thing for the most part. It was one of those "let's walk around and find whatever we can to throw each other into" matches which aren't the easiest things in the world to talk about. The Brood would be switched up to give us Edge and Christian soon after this.

Taker says the evil begins tonight.

Snow wants another shot at the Hardcore Title, but wants 2/3 falls. Dogg says it's a deal, but here's the Ministry to beat all of them down. Mabel was brought into the team last night.

Taker is watching from his throne and says this will be a holy war.

Buy the PPV replay even though we've told you all the results!

### WWF World Title: HHH vs. The Rock

I Quit match. HHH takes over to start with a bunch of punches both in the middle of the ring as well as in the corner. Just in case one of the areas got lonely I'm assuming. Rock gets sent to the floor and there's a baseball slide. The champ starts to walk away so they fight up to the stage. HHH is rammed into the set but he comes back with a clothesline to take over. Rock won't say it so HHH rams his head into the stage.

Back to ringside where HHH is sent into the timekeeper's table. It's time for some Rock commentary with Rock saying HHH is half gay anyway. There's a line you wouldn't hear ever after the 90s. That fires HHH up enough to take it back into the crowd where he chokes Rock with a cord. Back into the ring we go but HHH gets the bell and hammer. Rock comes back with a spinebuster and drops the Elbow onto HHH with the bell. All that gets is HHH telling Rock what he can suck.

HHH pops up and hits a Pedigree out of nowhere but it doesn't do much good here. We head back to the floor where HHH hits a second Pedigree. He loads up a third on the announce table but here's the Corporation with Kane holding Chyna by the hair. Either HHH quits or Chyna gets drilled. HHH quits to end the match when Rock was dead to rites.

**Rating:** C+. It's Rock vs. HHH, meaning it's automatically worth a look. The ending kept HHH looking strong which is good as he was about to get pushed further up the card. Rock looked good here as well and the ending was ambiguous because he might not have given up. Things would be changing very soon for HHH and for the better.

Here are the beginning of those changes, as Chyna hits HHH low and joins the Corporation. A big HHH beatdown ends the show.

**Overall Rating:** C. You can see the screwiness coming already. The good thing about these shows is they go by so fast that you can't really tell if they're bad or not. Austin vs. Vince would of course be huge but it would be overtaken by Undertaker's insanity for the next few months. The main problem continues to be the midcard, which ranges from just ok to horrible. Not a bad show here, but 1999 just isn't a good year from a quality standpoint.

Here's Halftime Heat if you're interested:

http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2012/12/16/halftime-heat-the-stupidest-came
ra-angle-of-all-time/

Here's the February 1<sup>st</sup> if you're interested:

http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2012/02/15/monday-night-raw-february-1-1999
-300th-episode/

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