



December 2009

No wonder I wasn't having any luck with cocktail waitresses lately ... apparently, Tiger Woods was banging every one of them.

A week or so ago, me and some buddies went to the Kings/Timberwolves game (no, that's not the bit), and during the game the Kings actually had an all white team on the floor ... two different times, the Kings 5 players on the floor were white. (no, that's not the bit)

AND THE KINGS FUCKING WON THE GAME!!! (that's the bit)

And so as I write this last SINacle of the year, and the decade ... I start writing about the 5 white Kings and Tiger putting on a bunch of different greens ... it got me thinking about this decade in SPORTS, MOVIES and TELEVISION ... so I thought I would take a look back on the 2000's ...

The BEST thing I saw in sports in the 2000's:

2008: The New York Giants beat the undefeated Patriots in Super Bowl XLII.

The pretty boy, arrogant Patriots mow thru the season, like Mike Tyson in the 80's, then all of a sudden they got into a fight with someone who would hit back ... The Giants playing the part of Buster Douglas.

A fight they lost ... and the most amazing catch you will ever see, on the biggest stage: David Tyree catching the ball against his helmet with Rodney Harrison draped all over him.

SPORTS: the best reality show on television. It's unscripted, you never know what you're gonna get.

Which brings us to the WORST thing I saw in sports in the 2000's:

2002: Game 6, Sacramento Kings vs Los Angeles Lakers. Game 6 ... GAME FUCKING SIX.

It's hard for me to talk about to this day ... the Lakers shoot 27 free throws in the fourth quarter. I mean if a King fucking looked at a Laker the wrong way the whistle was blown.

I have never been a conspiracy theory guy, but this one was, is, and should be under the fucking microscope. The outcome kept the large market Lakers in the series, forced a game 7 and another huge payday for the networks and the league.

And when rogue NBA referee Tim Donaghy came out with all of his game fixing allegations, the one game he pointed to was GAME SIX. No shit.

Even after eight years ... it's still breaks my sports heart ...

OTHER MEMORABLE MOMENTS (good and bad)

2002: The Tuck Rule Game, Raiders vs Patriots ... apparently the Kings/Lakers Game 6 referees were working this game as well

2002: a TIE in the Major League Baseball All-Star Game

2003: Syracuse, led by freshman Carmelo Anthony, win the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament

2004: Pistons/Pacers - The Malice at the Palace ... unbelievable, I was watching this game at home with my son, when Ron Artest and other Pacers went into the stands in Detroit to fight with Piston fans ... you can't believe what is happening as you watch it ... surreal

2004: Janet Jackson's Tit ... This fucking bitch ... and our lives and programming all of a sudden become overly censored. Big Brother was now watching: Because of one second of saggy tittie.

Speaking of censorship ... let's talk about TV ... and because of Janet Jackson ... most of the best programming for the decade was found on pay for channels like HBO or late night FX dramas where they just didn't really give a shit ...

First, about my list ... A) it had to be a show I actually watched (so if you are a West Wing fan, I hear good things, but it won't be on here cuz I never watched it B) it had to start in the 2000's or at least have the prime years of it's first run take place in the 2000's

So let's get to it ... SINacle's 10 best shows of the decade ...

10. Bret Michaels, Flavor Flav, The Surreal Life, Temptation Island, etc ...

I was going to do only scripted shows, but I was a sucker for any of this train wreck, garbage, reality television ... anything where girls might cry and guys might get sucker punched ... especially if it stars D-List Celebs ... you never know if a midget might piss himself ...(and I didn't have a 10th show for the list)

9, Mad Men (2007)

Terrific show where style, smoking, and drinking at work is just, well ... cool.

8. Entourage (2004)

Adrian Grenier is at times, tough to believe, as the Hollywood 'it' actor, but Jeremy Piven, Kevin Dillon and the rest of the cast MAKE this show.

7. The Shield (2002)

Dark, dirty, the stars are bad cops ... who take money, kill other cops and kill each other ... unlike any other police show I have ever seen.

6. LOST (2004)

If I hadn't watched it from day one ... I am not sure I would be into it ... but I am hooked and am eagerly awaiting the final season.

5. Deadwood (2004)

This HBO western, in my opinion, didn't get enough run and didn't get a proper series finale. It just went off the air, so I feel cheated.

It was written almost like foul mouthed scripture, where I would have to rewind my Tivo a couple times to figure out what the hell they just said. Timothy Olyphant was more than solid in the lead role, but Ian McShane as Al Swearngen was one of the greatest characters of all time ... no one can give a monologue while getting a blow job better than Al Swearngen.

4. Jackass (2000)

Hi, I'm Johnny Knoxville ... welcome to Jackass ...

Turned idiots into stars ... and I laughed at every bit of it.

3. Rescue Me (2004)

Denis Leary's post 911, FDNY drama ... I identify so much with Leary's character, Tommy Gavin, that at times it's hard for me to watch ... but it's just a terrific show.

2. Family Guy (1999)

Might be the funniest show ever, for my generation. Pop culture junkies, people who grew up in the 80's ... Seth MacFarlane is brilliant ... and even my son, who is 16, loves it and I am not sure he even get's have of the 'cut aways'.

1. The Sopranos (1999)

It wasn't even close ... might be the best show of all time.

OK, that's it for the decade in television ... now let's do the 10 best movies of the decade ...

And again, these are the best movies I actually saw, so for all of you who are going to throw Pan's Labyrinth or No Country for Old Men at me ... sorry, haven't seen them yet. And, I just watch Star Trek and really dug it, but it won't be judged for the list because it's too fresh in my mind ... so I wouldn't be able to properly put it into perspective ...

So here we go ... SINacle's 10 best movies of the 2000's ...

10. School of Rock (2003)

Jack Black. Great story, great characters ... totally watchable anytime it's on.

9. Hustle & Flow (2005)

Terrence Howard is terrific in this story about a low rent Memphis pimp who decides to take a shot at getting out via hip-hop. Outstanding cast ... Anthony Anderson, DJ Qualls, Taryn Manning, Ludicris and a nice cameo by Isaac Hayes.

Great soundtrack, Three 6 Mafia won an Oscar for best original song. Howard who was nominated for Best Actor actually rapped on some of the songs and holds his own.

8. Kill Bill: Vol. 1 & 2 (2003,2004)

Yes, two movies, but really one story ... I actually preferred the first part to the second, but everything you want in an over the top Tarantino action, vengeance flick.

7. 300 (2006)

Awesome ... another one that I watch whenever it happens to be on. Cool the way it was filmed/animated ... kind of mesmerizing.

6. Gangs of New York (2002)

Martin Scorsese finally won an Oscar for The Departed (2006) but to me this was a better movie. Daniel Day-Lewis at Bill 'The Butcher' was unbelievably good as well as the rest of the cast: DiCaprio and yes, even Cameron Diaz pulled it.

Scorsese won for Departed and should have won for Gang's of New York, but Goodfellas was better than all of them.

5. Man on Fire (2004)

This may surprise some people, but something about this movie I really dug. Denzel Washington as a down an out, suicidal, alcoholic, ex assassin who doesn't care about anything ... gets hired to protect Dakota Fanning in Mexico City ... she get's kidnapped and supposedly killed and now he needs to extract revenge on the people fucking with the one thing he finally cared about ... good stuff.

Denzel Washington is probably my favorite actor working right now.

4. Old School (2003)

Best movie of this genre since Animal House. A classic.

Funny every time you watch it.

3. Lost in Translation (2003)

Loved this movie ... I still wonder what Bill Murray whispered to Scarlett Johansson at the end.



I even put it on sub-titles and it just says 'inaudible whisper'

Of course, I still want to know what is in the brief case in Pulp Fiction ...

2. The Dark Knight (2008)

Everything a movie like this is supposed to be. Heath Ledger was hauntingly good, and so was everyone in the cast. It was dark and creepy, well written and well acted.

I got to see it at IMAX and it was truly amazing.

All superhero movies will be judged on a whole different scale now, and most of them will come up short.

And NUMBER ONE ... the best movie of the 2000's ...

Almost Famous (2000)

Cameron Crowe is just amazing. He can take these pieces of time ... tell you a story, introduce you to characters ... you like them and care about them. You become emotionally invested in his films.

And Crowe always gets great performances out of people like Kate Hudson. (see: Cuba Gooding Jr., Jerry Maguire)

Frances McDormand, Jason Lee, newcomer Patrick Fugit and Billy Crudup who just nails it as lead guitarist Russell Hammond.

Great quotes, great scenes, great music ...

I love this movie ...

just missed: Gladiator (2000), 8 Mile (2002), Anchorman (2004), Million Dollar Baby (2004), Casino Royale (2006)

So that's it ... that's it for the longest SINacle I have written to date ... that's it for the year and that's it for the decade ...

Thanks to anyone who has read, commented, written, or turned other people on to the column ... I appreciate it ...

Please let me know what you think of the decade lists ... feel free to put your own lists together and put them in the guest book ...

K, that's it ... really ... it's 2:31 A.M. on December 31, 2009 ...

Look for a new look to the site in 2010 ...

Have a happy and safe New Year ...

- Until Next Time - SEM



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