

Impact Wrestling – November 8, 2012: TNA's Best Show In Weeks

Impact Wrestling

Date: November 8, 2012

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Taz, Todd Keneley, Jeremy Borash

Last week's big moment was the unmasking of Luke Gallows who doesn't actually have a name at this point. Other than that we had Gut Check and the announcement of a three way for the #1 contendership. Odds are tonight is mostly about Aces and 8's, but that's pretty much all you can expect to get on Impact anymore. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of the announcement of the triple threat. The guy who takes the fall can't get a title shot until BFG next year, which is a nice idea actually. We also hear about Aries vs. Hardy being a ladder match. Aries: "IT WAS JUST A METAPHOR JEFF!" Those things are just about the world title match though, so now let's focus on the important thing: ACES AND 8's! And that guy who we don't have a name for yet but is more famous as Luke Gallows!

Aces and 8's are yelling at Gallows, who is now named Doc (Director of Chaos), because he lost his mask before he was even made a full fledged member of the team. Tonight it's Doc/D-Von vs. Angle/Sting. This sums up the major problem with the reveals so far: how in the world am I supposed to buy D-Von and Luke Gallows as a legitimate threat to beat Sting and Angle, two of the best of all time?

AJ Styles vs. Bobby Roode

Storm is on commentary. They fight for control of a wristlock to start

before heading to the mat. Roode appears to have gotten a haircut. He blocks AJ's drop down/kick sequence but AJ sends him to the floor with ease. Styles sends him into the steps and drops a knee back inside as Storm says he would pin Roode if he had to pick. There are ads on the mat now too, which is fine as it brings in some extra cash.

A big backdrop puts Roode down but Bobby gets in a shot to the back to take over. We take a break and come back with Roode hot shotting AJ on the top rope. A Blockbuster gets two for Roode as does an elbow drop. Storm says he'd work with Roode to beat AJ if necessary. I can see the "BEER MONEY REUNION???" posts already. Roode hooks a chinlock for a bit but AJ fights up and hits an enziguri to put both guys down.

We head to the corner with AJ pounding away but getting guillotined on the top rope to slow him down. The disadvantage lasts about eight seconds as AJ comes back with a top rope rana for two. The Clash is escaped and there's the spinebuster from Roode for no cover. The spear misses though and AJ rolls him up into a Styles Clash position, but Roode kicks him in the head to escape. Pele misses and the fisherman's suplex gets two for Bobby. Really good sequence there.

Bobby goes to the floor for a chair but Storm comes down to take it away from him. Styles hits a BIG springboard dive to take Roode out but stops to yell at Storm. Back in, AJ loads up another springboard but Roode knocks him off the ropes and gets a fast pin at 10:50 shown of 14:20.

Rating: B. Solid match here and for a TV match, this was great stuff. AJ and Roode have good chemistry together and when you can beat AJ Styles clean on TV, you've got something going for you. As for the PPV, you have to think Roode wins, but PLEASE don't let Storm get pinned. There's no reason to keep him out of the title scene for ANOTHER year as he never got a real run with the belt anyway which he's more than capable of doing.

Aries runs into Hogan in the back. Aries complains about the ladder

stipulation so Hulk says that if Aries doesn't give the belt back by the end of the show, Aries loses his title shot.

We run down the remaining card for the show when the feed starts messing up. The screen says "An Ancient Evil Awakes". Abyss maybe?

Angle is talking to Wes Brisco about timing when Sting comes up. Sting wants Brisco watching their back in the main event tonight. Are we really supposed to not get that Brisco is a member of the team? It's obviously him given the hair, but are we supposed to not notice it?

Joseph Park is in the ring and after asking if it's ok for him to talk, he says his body isn't meant to go through tables and he loved the feeling of taking off Doc's mask. His legal partners don't want him to have a match with Aces and 8's but he has to be a man. First though we have to make the pilgrimage to Mt. Hogan to beg for the match though, because if Hogan's ego doesn't get stroked every other segment, that's just not cool brother.

Here's Hogan who says that Park is a great guy but he got lucky last week instead of being good. Before Hogan can say no though, here's Ray with an interruption. Ray says Park isn't a fighter but he has a lot of guts and a lot to prove. The Bully believes in Joseph Park and so do the fans. Bully to Hulk: "Why say no when it feels so good to say yes?" It's that mentality that led to the sex tape issue brother. Hogan says just this one time and shakes Park's hand.

Tara hits on Jesse, who says that he used shooting star presses and a super double tiger driver last week. ODB comes in to yell at the two of them and wants a handicap match next. Jesse: "We're going to need A LOT of hand sanitizer."

AJ rants about Storm when the Cowboy comes in.

ODB vs. Tara/Jesse Godderz

Tara and Jesse actually skip down to the floor. They don't have to tag here so ODB beats up both of them at once. Jesse gets rammed into ODB's cleavage and there's a double noggin knocker. A double elbow puts ODB down before Tara raves over the bicep a bit. ODB slams them both down and avoids a charging Jesse. Tara gets sent into his crotch and it's a double bronco buster. ODB spears Tara down for the pin at 2:40. I smell a tag match Sunday.

ODB gets beaten down with a flask shot post match. Jesse pours the contents on her body.

Post break, ODB is on the phone with Eric's voicemail and says the tag match is on.

Apparently on Thanksgiving, all of the Gut Check winners will be there. Oh joy.

The Gut Check judges have a chat. Taz thinks it's a no brainer but doesn't say which side he's on. This goes on for awhile and Snow's jacket gets made fun of.

Sting/Kurt Angle vs. Doc/D-Von

Before you ask, no I don't be calling him DOC in all caps. Seriously, it makes zero difference so spare me the arguments that I'm saying it wrong. Tenay and Taz take over on commentary. The brawl starts on the floor with Angle destroying D-Von and Sting doing the same to Doc. Sting and Doc start in the corner and Sting hits a quick DDT for two. A D-Von distraction lets Doc hit a clothesline to take over as things get down to normal.

Off to D-Von who drops an elbow for two before bringing Doc back in. A

suplex gets two and it's off to the chinlock. That goes nowhere so D-Von drops a leg for two. Angle gets punched in the face to break up a tag and D-Von pounds Sting down in the corner. A Doc splash gets two as Angle makes the save. Back to D-Von for the spinning elbow for two as Aces and 8's are using REALLY basic stuff so far.

Doc and Sting clothesline each other down and there's the hot tag to Angle. House is cleaned and it's a German for Doc and the Slam for D-Von. Everything breaks down but as Sting puts Doc in the Deathlock, D-Von hits Sting and Angle with the ball bat for the DQ at 5:41.

Rating: D. Nothing to see here as the match existed to get to the end. Like I said earlier, it's really hard to buy these guys as threats to a team like Sting and Kurt Angle. The match wasn't horrible or anything it was absolutely nothing to get excited or interested about at all. If nothing else, Doc has a good look to him with the size and bald head.

Post match here's Bully for the save and he loads up a table. D-Von runs as soon as he sees it so Sting comes back to beat up Doc. More members come in with a hammer to save Doc and Sting gets put through the table. Angle gets knocked to the floor and Doc "hits" Sting with the hammer, clearly missing his hand by a good space. Joe, Chavo and Hernandez make the save. You know, because you should be afraid when you have the high ground AND A HAMMER. Sting gets taken out by medics.

This has nothing to do with what just happened, but apparently that Ancient Evil Awakes is a Halo 4 ad. Silly me for thinking an ad during a wrestling show was about wrestling.

Time for Gut Check, because that transition is fine. Taz says yes without a doubt and Prichard says yes as well, giving York the contract. I can't argue with that one.

Aries is in the back on the phone when he sees Brooke and Ray arguing over something. They see him coming and stop immediately because they

don't want him to hear. We've got intrigue!

We recap Hardy vs. Aries.

We run down the Turning Point card. Unless I'm missing it, does Ray not have a match?

Hogan is on the phone asking for updates on Sting when he runs into Joey Ryan. Ryan says Hulk can congratulate him on winning the X Title which he hasn't gotten a shot at yet. Hogan tells Morgan that Matt isn't allowed at ringside on Sunday. Morgan says Hulk has no idea who he's messing with but he'll find out. I still want Morgan as the Aces and 8's boss. Morgan and Ryan leave and Hogan says he does know.

Samoa Joe/Chavo Guerrero Jr./Hernandez vs. Christopher Daniels/Kazarian/Magnus

It's a big brawl to start with Chavo vs. Daniels finally getting things going. Daniels gets beaten around like a pinball before Chavo suplexes him down for two. Daniels hits a knee and tags Kaz but the beating continues very quickly. SuperMex comes in with a splash for two and it's time for Magnus vs. Joe. The British guy who used to be a gladiator for some reason runs to the floor and upon reentry, the heels gets in a shot to Joe's back to take over.

Everything breaks down again until it's Joe hammering away on Daniels in the corner. Daniels drops a knee and brings in Chavo with a slingshot hilo for two. Hernandez hooks a bearhug into an overhead belly to belly before it's back to Chavo who gets two off a dropkick. Some double teaming FINALLY slows Chavo down and the beatdown begins. A running jumping swinging neckbreaker gets two for Kaz and it's off to Magnus again.

Daniels acts like he's riding a horse for some reason before it's off to

Kaz for a bow and arrow hold. Chavo fights up and hooks a headscissors to take Kaz down and make the tag off to Hernandez. House is cleaned and Daniels gets launched with a shoulder block. The Border Toss is broken up but Daniels/Kaz's double suplex is countered into a suplex on both of them by Hernandez. Off to Joe vs. Magnus with the Samoan taking over. Magnus charges into the Rock Bottom out of the corner.

The two of them head to the floor as does Daniels, so here's a big dive by Hernandez to take them out. Chavo loads up the Frog Splash on Magnus but Kaz breaks it up. Joe loads up the MuscleBuster on Magnus but Daniels makes the save. There's the Clutch on Daniels but it's broken up by a jawbreaker. Daniels and Kaz go High/Low on Joe and a top rope elbow from Magnus gets the pin at 11:00.

Rating: B-. Solid six man tag here with the exactly right ending. This gives you a reason to believe Magnus can in fact win the title from Joe which wasn't really something that was easy to buy into earlier. That's basic booking and that's all you need to do most of the time, yet most companies don't get it.

Roode says his plan is coming together with AJ fighting Storm.

We recap the attack on Sting.

Here's Aries to return the belt. There's a ladder at ringside and another one in the ring. Aries says that Hardy says he's the best wrestler on the planet. Well Aries is the best wrestler in the universe. Either this universe, or any universe. They're going hard with the WWE jabs lately. Austin talks about how Hardy has lived and died by the ladder match. Hardy has fallen a lot, but on Sunday the fall is going to be worse than any he's ever had. The fans keep chanting WHAT so Aries goes off on them a bit.

Aries says he's going to use Hardy's belt as a belt buckle, meaning Hardy's face will be down by his crotch (his words, not mine). If Hardy

wants this belt back, come and get it. Here's Hardy who knocks Aries to the floor and takes the title before climbing up the ladder. He hangs both belts and poses but Aries shoves him off the ladder and stomps him down to end the show.

Overall Rating: B-. Good show overall here and pretty good hype for the PPV, but again, we've got a lawyer fighting a career enforcer and Kurt Angle vs. D-Von which we're supposed to pay for. They need to reveal someone big soon or the interest they've got left in this story is going to die soon. That's a problem because it's ALL OVER the TV shows. The other stuff with the world title related matches is really good though and I'm looking forward to the show. Still though, where is Bully Ray?

Results

Bobby Roode b. AJ Styles – Pin after knocking Styles off the top rope

ODB b. Tara/Jesse Godderz – Spear to Tara

Sting/Kurt Angle b. D-Von/Doc via DQ when D-Von hit Angle with a baseball bat

Magnus/Kazarian/Christopher Daniels b. Samoa Joe/Chavo Guerrero Jr./Hernandez – Top Rope Elbow To Joe

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