

On This Day: March 21, 2010 – Destination X 2010: When You Reach Slapstick, Just Give Up

Destination X 2010

Date: March 21, 2010

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Taz

So the focus is back on the X Division here as we have Ultimate X and a tag team ladder match to take a look at this time. I watched this show live and I liked what I saw for the most part. We have AJ vs. Abyss in the main event which if it's anything like their cage match about 5 years ago it will be great. Anyway, let's get to it.

The opening video is thankfully about the X Division with Daniels talking about how awesome he is. And now we're done with that and talking about the rest of the card. Of course it's over the top since this is a TNA video.

Kazarian vs. Brian Kendrick vs. Amazing Red vs. Christopher Daniels

Winner is #1 contender to the X Division Title. Oh and it's a ladder match. This was when Daniels had some weird thing on where it wrapped around his neck and then down to his arms. It just looked weird. Make your own Antonio Banderas jokes. We get going and Kendrick hits the floor. Smart. Red launches himself off the ropes to hit everyone not named Kendrick. There's your first ladder.

Everyone goes for the contract in a row but no one gets it. I love that ST0 Daniels does. Taz knowing the real name of it might be the only thing worth a thing from him. The ladder has an ad for TNAwrestling.com. There's something amusing about

that. TNA gets the idea here at least: have a spot fest. That's what a match like this is supposed to be and that's what they're giving us.

Red hits a SWEET hurricanrana to the floor. In a spot that I thought was stupid Kazarian has Red in position for the Flux Capactor on the ladder. The setup is like a Rock Bottom. His left arm is free. WHY DIDN'T HE GRAB THE FREAKING PAPER??? He makes up for it a bit with a slingshot Fameasser to a ladder on Daniels. Nice. Kendrick gets his fingers slammed in a ladder. FREAKING OW!

Daniels and Kaz are the only ones left in there. And there's Kendrick so never mind. Crowd is totally behind Kendrick here in case you're wondering. That five clap sequence the audience does needs to freaking die. It truly does. In a nice spot, Red goes for a springboard something but jumps into a Diamond Cutter from Kazarian. I like it.

Ladder number two is in and Red and Daniels have a race. Kazarian does the Shelton Spider-Man spot to get onto the ladders and knocks Daniels off to win the thing.

Rating: B+. It was a spot fest and that's all it had to be. This was a great way to open the show and the match was solid. Even in a TNA crowd you have to get them fired up and what better way than this? Kaz will win the title soon and after this he deserves it. Fun match.

We talk about A.J. vs. Abyss for no apparent reason. I can't get over this ring thing. It's just idiotic to say the least. And here's Ric Flair for no reason at all. Chelsea brings him out in a wheelchair. To the shock of no one, Flair is ticked off. I know some people love this, but it's saddening to see him look like this much of a joke anymore.

He was so great and now he's just a blithering old man. The ask your mother jokes are still kind of funny though. Seriously though, he's just a crazy man that won't let go of

the past now.

We cut to Hogan and Abyss and Hogan likes him a lot. Shocking isn't it? It continues to confuse me that he's a former world champion here and all of a sudden he's never accomplished a thing. The ring is just stupid. Is it supposed to make him super powered or something? He looks like someone attacked him with ketchup and mustard. Bischoff comes in and he has limited hair now. If nothing else the jokes Abyss and Hogan make are kind of funny.

Knockouts Title: Tara vs. Daffney

Tara is just made of hotness. Apparently Daffney is the "challengemer". Sure why not Tenay. The zombie hot thing is hit or miss for me with her. She does the splits for her entrance which is unique apparently. I guess if Melina is hurt that makes it unique. Tara goes straight for her and we're off and running early. Tara's shirt comes off and I start smiling. At least she didn't do the dance for the moonsault this time.

It's ok when she's dominating but not when she's ticked off. Tara busts out a Tarantula which at least fits really well. Daffney hooks a screwed up submission hold which is very unique. This is a bit sloppy but it's very nice to see women having a match where it looks like they know what they're doing and you have a legitimate flow to the match rather than just moving from spot to spot, most of which would be blown.

Daffney doesn't get to wrestle much but she's not bad when she does. Widow's Peak ends it. Daffney steals the spider afterwards so the feud continues.

Rating: C+. Not bad at all here. It's nothing great, but it was perfectly watchable. Daffney surprised me in there and Tara of course is dependable so that works out fine. I wish they didn't do the spider thing as there's no real point to continuing this since Tara got a clean pin but whatever.

Brutus Magnus is changing his name to just Magnus. This turns into a discussion of Frankenstein. Sure why not.

Global Title: Magnus vs. Rob Terry

Terry is getting the Goldberg push which is fine I guess. It keeps his matches short if nothing else. It never ceases to amaze me that people talk about what an alternative to WWE TNA is supposed to be and here we have a not incredibly talented musclehead guy getting a mega push. A spinebuster ends this in like a minute and a half.

Rating: N/A. The Goldberg push continues, which I can't say I have many problems with. This was a total non-threat so that's all fine and good.

We get a highlight package on Ultimate X with a bunch of people talking about how dangerous it is. We'll ignore that none of them have ever been in one of these matches.

The Machine Guns talk about how great they are and say Generation Me need their Hardy Boys Starter Kit. That's rather amusing and the crowd laughed hard at it.

Taz says he was looking at the structure earlier when he was hanging in the rafters. Do I even need to make fun of that?

Ultimate X: Motor City Machine Guns vs. Generation Me

You think this could be awesome? Yeah me too. Penzer screws up a bit on his opening line. Ok one is Max and one is Jeremy. I'll never remember that but whatever. BIG pop for the Guns. Seriously, how have these two never been tag champions? This is Sabin's 13th Ultimate X match out of 20 that have happened. That's INSANE. The Guns immediately hit the corners which is rather stupid but whatever.

Don't expect a ton of play by play or criticism over psychology here. It's just not going to happen. In a painful looking spot, One of the Bucks gets their hair pulled around

the structure. FREAKING OW MAN! Ok Max has the headband. Got it. I think we got a Team 3D chant in there. Why? What the freaking heck? Who cares as Shelley hits a sweet looking dive to shut the fans up.

There is little more fun to see than precision double teaming. That's what the golden age of tag wrestling was predicated on and these guys bring that back. Jeremy is freaking entertaining. He hits a springboard modified X-Factor and immediately hits a moonsault to the floor. Sweetness. They do something smart and say no replays until the match is over. That's a good idea.

Jeremy gets up on the X but Sabin makes the stop. Shelley actually tickles Jeremy to knock him down. Well whatever works I guess. The fans think this is awesome. Now if only they were paying to see it. Everyone goes on one part of the X and they all do the leg hook thing but everyone falls. Kick-o-rama begins and it's sweet. The speed of these guys is epic.

In a SWEET spot, Max is in the Tree of Woe and Jeremy takes a belly to belly into him. And in a STUPID move, the Guns unhook Max. Seriously, why in the world would you do that? It makes NO sense. One guy is on the floor and the other is stuck in the corner. One guy plays guard and the other goes up. Whatever though as we got a cool double team out of it. Sabin and Jeremy go up but down comes Jeremy and the Guns win it!

Rating: A-. Just a sweet match here. Much like the TLC matches, this wasn't about wrestling but about high flying spectacles which is just fine. These are designed to have the guys showcase themselves and that's what they did here. Very fun match and worth finding a copy of for sure.

The highlight package is great of course.

We recap the Band vs. Nash and Young. Seriously, could they make Nash's heel turn more obvious? I certainly don't think so. Oddly enough Nash throws a left handed punch in the video.

That's rather odd.

Hall and Nash say they're ready and use the term Wolfpack a lot. Is this a Hangover commercial? WOW that was weak. Hall is in passable shape here which is shocking. Waltman steals my Crosby and Stills joke so I hate him even more now.

Scott Hall/Sean Waltman vs. Kevin Nash/Eric Young

The heels get no music. Ok then. Waltman is named Syxx-Pac here but that's just not being written. Hall has a partner yet he's a lone wolf. Figure that one out. I mean why would he be channeling Barry Windham? There's a sign all night that says PG Sucks. That line and theory just amuses me. The Survey says the fans want Hall and Waltman to have contracts.

Why does that not surprise me? Young is just billed from Canada. Is that the best they can do? Pac and Young start us out so Pac will be bearable here. He's always been better against small guys. I just have no reason to believe he's this giant killer that everyone swears he is. Hall comes in and does all his old stuff. Seriously I'm sitting here calling every move he's going to do down to the second.

Young and Pac botch the heck out of a backdrop. Waltman hits a decent over the top rope dive. No Nash at all yet as they have the whole thing so telegraphed it's pathetic. Seriously, this is boring simply because we know what's coming. Waltman sprays paint in Young's eyes. Yeah I'm sure the referee sees nothing odd about that at all since he was with Nash the whole time. Nash gets the tag and there it is.

Even Taz sounds bored with it. All three finishers hit and it's over. They do the paint outline of Young on the mat which makes the whole thing look stupid. We even get the Wolfpack theme song minus the lyrics. We'll ignore the Young push being crushed for three old guys that were a unit 12 years ago.

Rating: D. Seriously, this was boring stuff. There was no

point to the match as it was all about the turn that we all knew was coming. When a TNA crowd sounds bored out of their mind, you know you screwed up something bad. Also, it was so much of a swerve that they had the Wolfpack music not only ready but remixed without the lyrics. That's a REAL swerve.

Angle burns a picture of Anderson. Ok then.

X-Division Title: Shannon Moore vs. Doug Williams

So on a show where the X-Division is being highlighted, the X Title match is going on about halfway through the show? Sure why not. Why is Moore getting PPV time when Hardy and Van Dam and Pope and Sting aren't again? Has Moore ever won anything? Also, why do we need both him and Jesse Neal? I seriously couldn't tell them apart if I had to. Moore apparently reads from the book of DILLIGAF.

Wow that's idiotic but at least it's something minor. We get a Cravate so I'm happy. It's a weird kind of side headlock that Chris Hero uses a lot in case you're wondering. It looks like you're setting for a snapmare but you never flip the guy over. Williams is a good striker if nothing else. The crowd finally wakes up a bit. Williams reaches under the ring and gets a brick which gets the win. There needs to be an official Under the Ring Checker.

Seriously, people just throw EVERYTHING under there. Moore is allegedly bleeding but it doesn't look like much blood to me. Post match we get a semi-shoot promo from Williams where he complains about how the division isn't about wrestling anymore but high fliers so he's going to change that. He goes and steals a woman's purse to put lipstick on Moore. Ok then. The fans chant for RVD and no one comes of course. I would argue Hogan and his booking are what's wrong with the division but that's just me.

Rating: D. Weak stuff here as not only did no one care but the match wasn't that good. Seriously, what in the world is the

appeal of Shannon Moore? I seriously don't get it. He never wins anything, his look is stupid and he's nothing special in the ring. Total filler match.

We recap Morgan and Hernandez vs. Beer Money. This was just after Beer Money turned heel on television while whining about not being on television. I flat out do not like this angle at all as it's making the tag titles look stupid kind of. If you insist on turning Morgn heel, at least wait awhile first.

Tag Titles: Matt Morgan/Hernandez vs. Beer Money

Sweet goodness have the champions fallen far. I like the opening of Beer Money's theme song if nothing else. DAng that outline looks stupid. At least Morgan is wearing somewhat white tights so that's a perk. Morgan and Roode start us out. And so much for that as Hernandez is tagged in maybe 10 seconds into the match. Did they miss the boat with Hernandez.

So basically the champions can't be hurt and the challengers have zero chance here. Ah ok that's better as Hernandez gets beaten down. Hernandez holds Storm up in a suplex for about 25 seconds. That's very scary. So basically Morgan is cocky and comes in when Hernandez has beaten the other guys down.

Morgan blocks a big dive from Hernandez and then the Supermex gets hit with an enziguri, Once he remembers to sell it, Roode goes way up in my eyes with a Blockbuster. I love that move. After more arguing, the size and power are too much and a modified Dominator ends this. Morgan kicks Hernandez afterwards.

Rating: D+. This was all angle and not much about the match at all. That's ok I guess as it set up a bigger one the next night. This was ok but nothing great at all. Beer Money isn't as good as people say they are but they're ok. I still don't like the champions being together but that's neither here nor there I guess. Decent but I wanted it to end.

We recap Angle vs. Anderson and their game of pass the medal. The promos have been good but it's been repetitive with the medal being the focus of the thing over and over again.

Mr. Anderson vs. Kurt Angle

We have 53 minutes left so this is going to be LONG. We start off slow which is odd as they've fought before but that's fine. The crowd is clearly not as hot as they were during the ladder or Ultimate X match. That's not particularly a good thing but to be fair it means they put on a good match earlier. Much like he did with Shane at KOTR 2001, Angle does the volunteering to let Anderson get a free hold on him.

Naturally, Angle wins here. Angle is outwrestling him here which is what you would expect of him obviously. Dang the bald one can throw a punch when he wants to. Anderson works on the arm but that doesn't work very well. Ok maybe it does. It's so hard to tell at times. This has slowed down a lot and it's not helping much at all. If nothing else Angle can still do a decent belly to belly. Naturally the Angle Slam gets two.

When was the last time that actually worked? Mic Check and tights get two. Angle busts out a frog splash and it wasn't bad at all. There goes the referee as Anderson hits a belly to back suplex. Oh ok he spun about two inches so it's an Angle Slam. Got it. Angle gets his medal back. Yeah I don't care at this point either. He then does the same thing that he criticized Anderson for over the last few months.

Oh him being a face makes it ok though right? That's the Hulk Hogan principle I believe. Ankle Lock ends it a few seconds later. Anderson was more or less worthless here. He was ok looking but this was very one sided. Anderson blasts the crowd afterwards. He says his name about ten times so this has to be a good promo right?

Rating: C-. Not bad, but really Anderson never had any real chance to win. Like I said, he looked ok but there was zero

drama here. That's never a good thing, especially in a long match like this. Either way, not bad or anything, just not that exciting.

We recap the Abyss/AJ match, which is perhaps the weakest main event I could think of. I mean really, did ANYONE buy Abyss possibly winning the title here? I never once did as they're going to likely give it to Pope at Lockdown. Basically Hogan gave up his HOF ring and it's made Abyss powerful or something. Oh and he chokeslammed Flair through the ramp.

AJ says he's not afraid and Abyss is stupid.

Abyss says he has a ring and thanks Hogan. Remember: Abyss was nothing without Hogan. This goes on way too long and ends with Hogan catchphrases.

TNA World Title: A.J. Styles vs. Abyss

Seriously, the Hogan worship needs to END. This is idiotic to say the least. Oh look: let's take someone not like Hogan at all and turn him into someone that does Hogan things. It's just stupid. He's a monster. Let him be a freaking monster! Flair and Chelsea are here too. Even big match intros aren't helping this much. Yeah the red and yellow spots on his shirt are just idiotic looking.

Abyss does something SMART and jumps AJ during the intros. That's a good and simple idea that works. We're on the ramp now and Flair goes after Abyss. Seriously, what is he going to do? Remember, he's in a wheelchair. See this is what makes AJ's heel turn stupid: he can work great matches ON HIS OWN. AJ is a great wrestler and was world champion. WHY WOULD HE NEED A MENTOR???

That's never been explained I don't think. He's the best in the world. What can Flair help him do? Become the best on Venus too? I mean if you factor Flair completely out of this, it's a solid match based on AJ's abilities alone. I just do

not see what Flair adds to this at all. The other issue: Styles' offense is based on face style moves. Seriously, he fights like a face does with the high flying stuff and all the kicks.

That's what makes little sense to me. AJ works on the leg which makes perfect sense at least. The springboard forearm is caught. I love how AJ is outside in position for a springboard and Taz says he thinks he's going for a springboard. Wow indeed. Pele brings AJ back into control. Question: WHERE IN THE WORLD IS JOE??? Seriously, we haven't heard about him in like 2 months now and everyone is just not talking about him?

That makes no sense but whatever. It's TNA so there we are. AJ hits Spiral Tap. CAN'T YOU SEE HOW EVIL HE IS??? The fans chant for the move and I shake my head at how they messed this up. Black Hole Slam gets two with almost no heat. And Flair maces the referee. A belt shot puts AJ down but it's HOGAN FOR THE SAVE BABY!!! He brings Hebner with him so there's your new referee I guess.

AJ continues to fail as a heel as he hits a springboard 450 splash but Abyss GIMMICK INFRINGEMENTS UP! Abyss chokeslams him through the ring and Hebner throws the match out. So let me get this straight. Abyss just crushed AJ after Hardy beat AJ on Impact and Pope gets AJ at the next PPV. Why is AJ being bought as champion again? Flair gets mace from Hogan.

Yeah the old men wandered out here looking for the Country Kitchen Buffet and wind up in the ring. And we get the idiotic ending to the show as they mace and punch Wolfe who also ran down and he stumbles over Flair who is on all fours to fall into the hole in the ring. WOW. Hogan leads Abyss around the ring like a canine and that's it.

Rating: C-. The match itself was good, but the ending is straight up stupid. Seriously, they did a comedy sketch to end the PPV. Also, if AJ is more or less dead, why isn't Abyss

champion? Why does that make it a no contest? The whole thing just made limited sense to me. Also, AJ wrestles like a face, period. There is no reason for him to act like a heel at all. The ending here is the main issue though.

That and the lack of drama to it. Not once in the buildup or in the match did I expect Abyss to win, period. I think Pope gets the title at Lockdown. So what if his hype is mostly gone now due to the long delay? Since when does a champion need people to care about him right? Anyway enough of a tangent. This was an ok match with a flat out stupid ending. Don't do this again TNA.

Overall Rating: D+. This is a show in two parts. The first half or hour and a half or so is great stuff. The second half, as in everything after Ultimate X, is just weak. There is not a single match on there that got me going or was really that good. The crowd is noticeably weaker too and for a TNA crowd, that's saying a lot. After this show, I realized the issue: nothing of note happened here.

No titles changed hands, a lot of the feuds are unresolved, we knew MCMG and Kazarian would be winning their matches and AJ looks weak. Tell me, what was settled here? If we're supposed to wait for Lockdown to do that, why have this show at all? It's not a bad show by any means. It's just uneventful. There are two GREAT matches on it which is why this is a good show.

There are passable matches here, no doubt. But like I said, nothing definitive happened here. Anderson and Daffney are going to keep feuding with the respective faces, Abyss deserves another shot, and the tag champions still don't get along. What came from this show? Oh wait: Nash joined the Band in the most predictable segment this year.

That's the big thing from this show right? Again, what came out of this show at all, because I'm missing it. Check out the X Division gimmick matches, but other than that, you'll miss

nothing off this show at all.

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