

Impact Wrestling – May 15, 2014: Again. They're Doing It AGAIN.

Impact Wrestling

Date: May 15, 2014

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Tazz

Another week has passed and the main story is, say it with me, a heel authority figure corrupted by power. Last week MVP turned heel and announced himself as the #1 contender to the World Title. Other than that we've got Bully Ray heading to Texas to go after Dixie Carter. Why he would wait a week to do so is beyond me but maybe they'll show us footage from the previous week. Let's get to it.

Eric Young is waiting for MVP to arrive but security pulls him away from the boss' limo.

Video on MVP turning on Young last week.

Here's Young (minus the belt) in the arena to open things up. Eric rants about how he thought MVP was something different that's why he fought so hard for him. Anything would have been better than Dixie Carter but this isn't good at all. Eric says if MVP wants a fight he can come out here right now. MVP pops up on screen and says he did this for the money and the power. He's going to do Eric a favor though: Young can keep the title until Slammiversary when MVP takes it away.

Dixie is in Nashville driving around with Spud. They go to her house and see a bunch of tables spray painted with Dixie Fears Bully.

Recap of Bram trying to make Magnus into his old self by

sending him after Willow.

Willow is ready for revenge but wants it in his realm.

Bram/Magnus vs. Willow

They start in the dark rafters but are down on the floor in about ten seconds. Tagging is required here and it's Bram whipping Willow into the corner to start. Bram hammers Willow in the corner and brings in Magnus for some stomping of his own. Back to Bram but he gets reversed into the corner for forearms and the slingshot dropkick. Willow decks Magnus off the apron but can't hit the Twist. Magnus trips Willow up, allowing Bram to suplex him down. Back to Magnus with Bram sliding in a metal object. Magnus won't go insane like Bram wants though, allowing Willow to small package Magnus for the pin at 4:22.

Rating: D+. This was more storytelling than a match and there's nothing wrong with that. Bram wanting Magnus to be all violent and evil again is a good idea for Magnus as his time on the top just didn't work for the most part. He's boring as a proper Englishman and all that jazz, so have him be evil instead and get something interesting going instead. Bram looked good.

Young trashes MVP's office.

Bully Ray calls Dixie and tells her and Spud to come inside.

Gail Kim comes to the ring and says she's not here to wear an evening gown or to get a makeover. She calls out the Beautiful People and gets what she wants. Angelina says the Beautiful People are what everyone should aspire to be. Velvet jumps Gail from behind and it's time for a match.

Velvet Sky vs. Gail Kim

Gail is in trouble to start but jumps over Velvet in the corner to get a breather. She hits the running cross body in

the corner but misses a charge and falls out to the floor. Angelina gets in a few shots and throws Gail back inside for a DDT and two. Gail comes back with Eat Defeat out of nowhere for the pin at 3:43.

Rating: D. It's the same story with the same ideas and the same people we've seen doing this FOREVER now and I don't care anymore. I'm assuming Gail gets a title shot at Slammiversary, but who cares if she wins? What difference does it make as they've all been champion like a million times anyway. Match was nothing.

Gail gets laid out post match.

Ethan Carter brags about injuring Kurt Angle last week and says this is his world now.

Crazy Steve vs. Kazarian

Steve is the Menagerie's clown. Kaz sends him to the floor to start as we have carnival music and weird lighting. Kaz trips over Steve on the floor as the Freak stares him down. Steve low bridges Kaz to the floor as we're in full on comedy match mode. The balloons are brought in and Steve breaks them with a top rope splash. Now he's running around with a horn as Freak poses on the apron. Rebel is in the ring as well, hanging upside down on the ropes. The referee gets pantsed and it's thrown out at 2:34 with Kaz winning by DQ.

The Menagerie doesn't seem to mind losing.

Aries tries to get into MVP's office but security stops him. MVP comes out and gets some cheap shots but Young shows up to jump the boss as we take a break. Back with the two still fighting and MVP in control. He tries to hang Eric with his tie but the champion fights back as they head to the ramp. Young seems to be favoring his arm so MVP hammers away on it back in the ring. Security comes down to break it up but MVP gets in more shots on the arm, including a flying armbar. MVP

makes the title match tonight with him getting the title shot.

Spud tries to sneak up on Ray in Dixie's house but the cameraman gives him away. Spud is captured but Ray tells the camera guys to stay there.

Mr. Anderson vs. James Storm

The opening bell is after a break and the brawl is already on the floor. Anderson takes him into the barricade but Anderson's hand is slammed into the steps to give Storm control. Back inside with Storm working over the arm but getting caught in the swinging neckbreaker. Storm tries to run from the Mic Check, allowing him to hit a quick low blow for two, as the referee catches Storm's feet on the ropes. A running DDT gets two on Anderson and it's beer bottle time. The referee takes the bottle away but Storm spits in Anderson's face, setting up the Last Call for the pin at 5:00.

Rating: D+. These matches are starting to get repetitive. The arm work went nowhere here and the match was only ok if you stretch a lot. It's nice to see Storm FINALLY get a win though. That's his first singles win on TV in over a year. That simply should not happen to a former World Champion.

Samuel Shaw is in an institution and can only say Christy.

Video on Sanada training and what the X Title means to him.

X-Division Title: Sanada vs. Tigre Uno vs. DJZ

DJZ is coming in with bad ribs. Sanada is defending and he teams up with Tigre to take Ion down to start. Tigre tries a quick rollup for two on the champ. There's a bunch of confetti in the ring from Sanada's entrance and it's all over everyone's back. Sanada misses a standing moonsault on Tigre but snaps up with a dropkick to the back. DJZ comes back in but gets caught in a rolling cradle for two for the champ.

Tigre stays on the floor for a bit as DJZ nails some forearms

to Sanada in the corner. Sanada comes back with some chops as Tigre is still on the floor. Tigre finally comes back in with a dropkick to both guys, followed by a spinning Asai Moonsault to the floor. He throws DJZ back inside but Ion breaks up a moonsault. Sanada springboards back in with a chop to DJZ's head and hits a tiger suplex for the pin to retain at 5:33.

Rating: C. Sanada is still good but these guys are pretty much the entire division right now. It's the same problem the division has had for years now: you can find one guy that does well for awhile but the division is dead save for the month before Destination X. Nothing much to see here but it wasn't bad.

Ray calls Dixie from Spud's phone and tells her she's all alone.

Gunner comes to see Samuel Shaw in the institution because Shaw needs someone to talk to.

We recap Ethan injuring Angle's knee last week.

Dixie goes into her house and finds Spud tied up. Bully shuts the door and asks Dixie if she ever thought it would come to this. He's doing it because of what she did at Sacrifice and wants to know if she believes he's afraid of her. Ray asks if she wants this to end. She does of course but he wants her to say she fears him. She's about to say it when Ethan jumps Ray from behind. Dixie says she fears no one.

We recap Roode and MVP brawling last week, leading to MVP suspending Roode from Impact for the foreseeable future.

TNA World Title: Eric Young vs. MVP

Young attacks before the bell but is sent bad arm first into the steps. MVP works it over even more as the match hasn't actually started yet. Back from a break with the opening bell and MVP staying on the bad arm. Eric fights up and hits some

of his usual stuff before loading up the top rope elbow, only to have Kenny King of all people come down and shove Eric off the top for the DQ at 3:10.

Rating: D. I don't have a rating in me for this one. Most of it was just arm work anyway.

MVP tells the referee to restart the match or he's fired. The referee won't do it so King decks him. King and MVP beat up Eric until Bobby Lashley comes out for the save...before joining up with them to destroy Young. Eric is slammed through some chairs by Lashley and taunted with the belt. The new heel faction stands tall to end the show. Taz: "This is bad Mike." Preach it brother.

Overall Rating: D. TNA is entering it's summer lull and they're diving in head first. There was some watchable stuff tonight but the stories are just killing everything else. As I've complained about probably a dozen times before, it feels like we've seen every bit of this before. The Beautiful People are dominant and calling people ugly, the heel authority figure(s) are receiving far more TV time than anyone else, and the title picture is about the plucky champion fighting to keep the main evil authority figure from gaining ultimate power.

It's the same stuff this company has run with for YEARS now and it's just not working here. We're coming up on one of the biggest shows of the year and looking at Eric Young vs. MVP for the World Title. I could picture that being a midcard title match, but TNA doesn't have time for a midcard title. Maybe if Dixie didn't have to have five segments a show we could, but Heaven forbid she's not one of the focal points of the show. The more I think about it the more it seems like they want her to turn face, which would be about the dumbest thing they could do. In other words, look for face Dixie to send her guy in to face MVP at BFG.

Results

Willow b. Bram/Willow – Small package to Magnus

Gail Kim b. Velvet Sky – Eat Defeat

Kazarian b. Crazy Steve via DQ when Menagerie interfered

Sanada b. DJZ and Tigre Uno – Tiger suplex to DJZ

Eric Young b. MVP via DQ when Kenny King interfered

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