

# Impact Wrestling – December 2, 2015: Bore Me No Further

## Impact Wrestling

Date: December 2, 2015

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: D'Angelo Dinero, Josh Matthews

We're in week nine of the World Title tournament and it's finally time to get to the round of sixteen, meaning single elimination matches. The brackets were revealed last week and we've been promised to have this round done tonight. In theory the finals will be held at the live Impact on January 5 but that hasn't been confirmed. Let's get to it.

Quick preview of the round of sixteen starts things off.

### TNA World Title Tournament First Round: DJZ vs. Ethan Carter III

DJZ goes right after him with some rollups for early near falls but DJZ knees him in the ribs to stop that cold. Carter gets sent to the floor for a suicide dive though with Tyrus not giving him much of a heads up. Back in and DJZ gets sent outside as well, allowing Tyrus to run him over with a headbutt to the chest. Dinero: "Josh I don't know if you've ever been hit in the head with a coconut before." A chinlock doesn't get Carter very far so DJZ comes back with his fast paced offense, capped off by the tornado DDT for two. DJZ's hurricanrana is countered into a sitout powerbomb, followed by the 1%er to give Carter the pin at 6:28.

**Rating:** D+. Watchable match here with the ending never in doubt. It's nice to finally get through some of these matches so we can get rid of the lower level names and get down to the bigger matches. I'm glad they kept this one short as the match wasn't good enough to make me care about seeing it go any longer but it didn't overstay its welcome.

Gail Kim is ready for Tigre Uno because she's so proud to be one of the sixteen WRESTLERS in this tournament. Gail, you're great in the ring, beautiful and very talented, but SWEET GOODNESS you are so boring.

### TNA World Title Tournament First Round: Gail Kim vs. Tigre Uno

Tigre isn't sure what to do to start so Gail kicks him in the ribs. Thankfully Pope mentions that these two are both champions, even though there are no belts in sight. Tigre goes with some basic wrestling including a front facelock but Gail comes right back with a spinning cross body. Eat Defeat is broken up so Gail settles for a Black Widow. Tigre powers her out to the floor for a plancha but Gail snaps off a hurricanrana back inside. Gail's normal offense including the Figure Four around the post has him in trouble, only to have Tigre sit down on a sunset flip for the pin at 5:32.

**Rating:** C-. Well that happened. Gail was built up as a potential star throughout the last two months but then she just loses here in five minutes. I'm glad that Tigre won because he's been a solid X-Division Champion and it would suck to see him lose really early on, but did they really need to build Gail up as something only to have her lose that easily?

### TNA World Title Tournament First Round: Bram vs. Davey Richards

The winner gets Carter. Bram shoves him down to start and Davey might need to change strategy. With the arm work not getting him anywhere, Davey takes it to the floor for some kicks to the chest. They look good but don't seem to have a lot of effect as Bram takes him up into a fireman's carry to drop him face first onto the steps. Davey comes back with a drop toehold to send Bram into the steps as most of this match has been on the floor.

A double stomp from the steps keeps Bram in trouble and Davey takes him back inside for a northern lights suplex. Josh thinks Davey winning would be an upset as the top rope double stomp gets two on Bram. An F5 plants Davey and Bram yells a lot. The Brighter Side of Suffering is countered into a small package to give Davey the pin at 7:00.

**Rating:** C. This wasn't too bad but Richards still doesn't do anything for me as a singles guy. His passive aggressive promos probably have a lot to do with it as he seems like he's going out of his way to be nice, which really makes him more boring than anything else. The same problem that

the tournament has had throughout is still here though: these guys are just doing moves to each other and there's no personal issue, making it a lot harder to get invested.

Eli Drake isn't worried about Mahabali Shera.

Video on Shera's success so far.

#### TNA World Title Tournament First Round: Mahabali Shera vs. Eli Drake

Josh talks about Shera wanting to make it to the semifinals but the part where he says "in Mumbai, India" is edited out. An early clothesline puts Drake on the floor and it's time to dance. Back in and Shera shrugs off some kicks to the chest and scores with more clotheslines. Sky High eliminates Drake at 3:12.

**Rating:** D. Well that was quick and thankfully they kept the dancing to a minimum, but good night I'm not getting behind this dancing schnook. He's gotten better but at the end of the day he's a guy who pops his shoulders and does one good move. For some reason that makes him one of the top eight wrestlers in the company? Really? It's clear that they were putting him in this spot because of the India tour but like so many other things TNA plans, they couldn't get it to work. Oh wait there were "security concerns". Right. Maybe they can get the Los Angeles Coliseum. I hear Wrestlemania VII is over now.

Matt Hardy says he'll win.

Pope and Josh pick the remaining matches.

#### TNA World Title Tournament First Round: Bobby Roode vs. Matt Hardy

Feeling out process to start with both guys getting in some low level offense. They head outside with Matt clotheslining the post to give Roode a target back inside. Roode cranks on the arm and grabs a Hennig necksnap but stops to yell at the fans. Is he a heel again? The Crossface doesn't stay on long and Matt comes back with a Side Effect for two. It's back to the Crossface but Matt is up again, setting up the Twist of Fate to advance at 6:36.

**Rating:** C. How am I supposed to feel anything about this? Roode worked on the arm for a few minutes and then Matt did his finisher to advance. That's this tournament in a nutshell: two people have a match and one of them wins. There's nothing more or less than that because we don't have time to fit in any emotion or stories so this is what you're getting, like it or not.

Drew Galloway is ready.

#### TNA World Title Tournament First Round: Awesome Kong vs. Jesse Godderz

The winner gets Matt Hardy. Before the match, Jesse implies that Kong wants to do a different kind of wrestling with him. As stupid as this is, it's the first time all night where we've had anything more than "I want the title and I'll win." Jesse puckers up and gets punched in the mouth as Kong starts in a hurry.

A splash in the corner crushes Jesse and three straight slams send him to the floor. Godderz says Kong's one night in Heaven is off so Kong throws him into the steps. Josh isn't sure if this would be an upset as Kong throws Jesse back inside. Kong misses a splash though and gets rolled up with a handful of trunks for the pin at 3:12.

**Rating:** D. You knew this was coming didn't you? I mean, the Knockouts advancing might have been interesting and something worth seeing so that had to be crushed in the first round at the hands of Tigre Uno (not as bad) and a comedy goof in Jesse Godderz. To be fair though, Kong wasn't going to be able to do much due to all her injuries anyway but this was another option that could have been interesting going nowhere in this way too long tournament.

The announcers recap the night so far.

#### TNA World Title Tournament First Round: Kenny King vs. Eric Young

The winner gets Tigre Uno. King grabs the arm to start before grabbing a headlock to keep Young in trouble. Back up and Eric sends him to the floor for an attempt at a countout, only to have King do a handstand into a kick to the head from the apron. That earns him a forearm to put him

outside again. King realizes that going toe to toe isn't working so he comes back in with a springboard clothesline and a bad looking spinebuster for two. Not that it matters as the piledriver sends Young to the next round at 6:22.

**Rating:** D. Well they didn't have much of a choice here as Young is the only one that actually still works for the company. Run of the mill match for the night so far with the limited action and almost nothing interesting until the ending. Young winning was the obvious ending and he's got a good looking piledriver but this was another predictable match, which wasn't what this show needed.

Videos on Lashley and Galloway to set up the main event.

Eric Young yells about being on a crazy tidal wave.

#### TNA World Title Tournament First Round: Drew Galloway vs. Lashley

The winner gets Shera. Lashley powers him into the corner to start and chokes with his boot as we take an early break. Back with Lashley missing a charge in the corner and getting dropped with a top rope clothesline. Drew sends him shoulder first into the post to weaken the spear, which is the most common strategy used against a power wrestler, even though it almost never works. Back in and Lashley rolls some Germans before a powerslam gets two. Galloway comes back with White Noise and loads up the Claymore, only to run into the spear for the pin at 13:53.

**Rating:** C-. Well that happened. Galloway could have been an interesting way to go here but instead let's go one step closer to being right back where we were a year ago. Lashley still has a lot in him and is a good option on top, but I was pulling for Galloway here to give us something fresh instead.

Here are the updated brackets:

Ethan Carter III

Davey Richards

Lashley

Mahabali Shera

Tigre Uno

Eric Young

Jesse Godderz

Matt Hardy

A long preview of next week's round of eight takes us out.

**Overall Rating:** D+. I'm not going to bother re-listing all the issues I have with this show and tournament as I managed to squeeze them in during all the short matches that were just like the first eight weeks of short matches this tournament has offered. This was a step forward for the show but they're dragging this out as long as they possibly can and it's just not working. Want proof that it's not working? The Impact after Bound For Glory 2011 drew just over two million fans. Last week drew 234,000 fans, which was up over the previous week. That's a loss of 88% of the audience in four years.

Let me repeat that: in four years, nearly nine out of every ten people that had been watching TNA have stopped. A big reason why would probably be the same people in the main events over and over. Of the people still in this tournament with a realistic chance of winning (Lashley, Hardy, Carter and maybe Young and Shera), four of them are former World Champions. Galloway was a good option for something fresh but let's make sure to get rid of him in the first round before he makes a splash in this thing. As I've said so many times over the years: they never learn.

### Results

Ethan Carter III b. DJZ – 1%er

Tigre Uno b. Gail Kim – Rollup

Davey Richards b. Bram – Small package

Mahabali Shera b. Eli Drake – Sky High

Matt Hardy b. Bobby Roode – Twist of Fate

Jesse Godderz b. Awesome Kong – Rollup with a handful of trunks

Eric Young b. Kenny King – Piledriver

Lashley b. Drew Galloway – Spear

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## **New Column: What I've Been Waiting For**

The WWE Network has given us our Christmas present.

<http://www.wrestlingrumors.net/kbs-review-what-ive-been-waiting-for/46072/>

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# NXT – December 2, 2015: I Believe In A Thing Called Joe

## NXT

Date: December 2, 2015

Location: Full Sail University, Winter Park, Florida

Commentators: Corey Graves, Byron Saxton, Rich Brennan

Takeover: London is in two weeks and the card is mostly set. That leaves us with two shows to firm up the build, which means we could be in for some entertaining nights leading up to the next big show. The cliffhanger from last week saw Nia Jax throw her head in to the ring for the Women's Title shot and Bayley doesn't have an opponent for London yet. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

### Baron Corbin vs. Tye Dillinger

Some chops earn Dillinger a throw across the ring and Corbin chokes on the mat. Corbin is in his full slow mode here and it's working as always. Dillinger comes back with a clothesline and a superkick for two, only to come off the middle rope and right into the End of Days for the pin at 2:52.

Apollo Crews is ready for Corbin at Takeover and is ready to team up with Finn Balor to face Corbin and Samoa Joe next week.

Tommaso Ciampa says Joe is dangerous, but Ciampa is even more dangerous because he has nothing to lose. When he pins Joe tonight, everything changes.

### Nia Jax vs. Blue Pants

Pants has a modified version of the Price is Right theme. Jax takes her down by the arm to start and stomps on the hand. A toss by the head keeps Blue in trouble and her kicks have no effect. Some elbow drops and a Samoan drop set up the big leg to squash Pants for the pin at 2:10.



Dash and Dawson don't want to talk about Enzo and Cass because they'd rather just hurt people. If the consequences of hurting people are the Tag Team Titles, they don't have much to worry about. Last week Enzo and Cass jumped them because those two can just talk the talk instead of walking the way. Dash really doesn't get why Enzo and Cass are getting the title shot in London when they haven't beaten anyone. That's fine with them because Cass has a good leg that they haven't broken yet.

#### Adam Rose vs. James Storm

Rose orders his music cut off because this is serious business. Storm starts with a shoulder but Rose gets in some shots to the back to take over. A chinlock doesn't get Adam anywhere as Storm comes back with his forearms and running neckbreaker, followed by the Last Call for the quick pin at 2:38.

The Vaudevillains are disappointed that they lost last week but they're going to win here tonight. Cue Jason Jordan and Chad Gable to disagree. Really quick and to the point promos here.

Video on Sami Zayn winning the NXT Title last year at Takeover: R-Evolution.

#### Vaudevillains vs. Jason Jordan/Chad Gable

Gable takes Gotch to the mat to start but Simon grabs the arm, only to have Chad easily flip out. It's off to Jordan to take English to the mat with ease and Aiden's leapfrog is countered into an atomic drop. The fans say this is wrestling as English counters an Irish whip into the corner by standing on the middle rope and posing. Gable comes back in and goes after English's bad leg but gets backdropped out to the floor for a big crash. Not that it matters as Chad slides over and makes the tag off to Jason for a bunch of dropkicks. The Grand Amplitude puts Gotch away at 5:28.

**Rating:** C. This was just a step ahead of a squash as Gable was barely in trouble for a minute before making the comeback for the hot tag. Those two could be something special in the future as Gable is getting quicker every week. Jordan has come out of his shell by bouncing off Gable, which

has been the big trick they've needed for over a year now.

Gable and Jordan offer a handshake but the Vaudevillains walk away. Well it fits their name a lot better.

Emma and Dana Brooke are ready for Asuka in London.

We get another song from what seems to be Elias Sampson.

#### Liv Morgan vs. Emma

Morgan is formerly known as Marley and Gionna Daddio. Emma doesn't seem impressed and grabs the Dilemma followed by the Emma Sandwich. Morgan comes back with a quick guillotine choke and a dropkick. That's it for the jobber offense as Emma drops her again and gets the win with the Emma Lock at 3:48.

**Rating:** D+. Morgan has some good charisma and the fans like her but she's still in the early stages of her NXT run, meaning these losses don't mean much. This was clearly just a warmup for Emma before she gets ripped into 14 evenly divided pieces by Asuka in London. At least it wasn't a total squash.

Emma is in the ring when Asuka pops up on screen, beating the fire out of a punching bag. She'll see Emma in London.

Bayley says she's ready for all challengers, including Nia Jax. This brings up Nia, who stares at the title. Bayley says she'll accept anyone who comes at her, so Jax knocks her through a door.

#### Tommaso Ciampa vs. Samoa Joe

Ciampa isn't scared as Joe drives him into the corner and works on a wristlock before not selling a chop. Joe stays on the arm until Ciampa tries another chop. That just ticks Joe off so he forearm smashes Ciampa's head half off. They start slapping the taste out of each others' mouths with Joe getting the better of it until Ciampa grabs a rollup and stomps on Joe's arm.

More hard strikes stagger Joe and a guillotine choke has him in even more

trouble. Make that a Kimura but Joe drives him into the corner again for the break. The enziguri knocks Ciampa half cold and a scoop powerslam makes it even worse. Joe Facewashes him in the corner and the release Rock Bottom drops Ciampa again. The fans are behind Joe until the Muscle Buster and Koquina Clutch end Ciampa at 6:37.

**Rating:** B. That might be a bit high but dang these two were beating the tar out of each other. Those were some incredibly hard strikes with Joe absorbing everything Ciampa threw at him and looking like a real killer for the first time with London looming. This has me even more ready for the title match and was a really, really fun surprise. Good stuff.

**Overall Rating:** B+. NXT is getting in six matches an hour. Can you imagine most other wrestling shows pulling that off? This is straight out of the old school WCW shows as they're flying through squash matches to set up the big show with the showdowns you want to see. Awesome show this week and one of the best they've done in a while.

### Results

Baron Corbin b. Tye Dillinger – End of Days

Nia Jax b. Blue Pants – Legdrop

James Storm b. Adam Rose – Last Call

Jason Jordan/Chad Gable b. Vaudevillains – Grand Amplitude to Gotch

Emma b. Liv Morgan – Emma Lock

Samoa Joe b. Tommaso Ciampa – Koquina Clutch

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# Monday Nitro – July 10, 2000: We Don't Talk About That Around Here

## Monday Nitro #248

Date: July 10, 2000

Location: Jacksonville Coliseum, Jacksonville, Florida

Attendance: 5,257

Commentators: Scott Hudson, Mark Madden, Tony Schiavone

We're done with Bash at the Beach and that means a lot has changed in WCW. First of all, Booker T. is World Champion after a surprise change in last night's title match. This change came about due to what seemed to be an overly complicated work/shoot which also saw the return of Vince Russo. We're back to that old Russo style after a few weeks of false hope that the company might be getting better. Let's get to it.

The opening video talks about Booker becoming the new champion and gives us a quick history of Booker's career in WCW. This was a really good way to make Booker look like a star but there was no mention of Hogan whatsoever. It really is Halloween Havoc 1999 all over again.

Tony recaps things as well and only mentions Russo making an impromptu title match due to some circumstances.

Here's Booker for his first appearance as champion but the announcers are busy talking about things that they legally can't talk about. The fans chant for Booker and it's one of the few genuinely emotional moments in

years around here. Booker says this is him speaking from the heart but above all else, he wishes his mom was here to see him win the title. Well that's already a better moment than almost anything we've had in a long time.

Booker thanks the fans for being behind him every night and he's always tried to give everything he can every single week. He thanks all the fans in Dayton Beach last night (silence from the Jacksonville fans for that one) and to all the people in the back who doubt him, don't hate the player, hate the game. Above all though, Booker wants to talk about Goldberg.

Booker says Goldberg has been out with an arm injury but has spent months complaining about everything. Goldberg is nothing but a mark for the business and himself (more terms the fans don't get). Booker has one more thing to say and brings his wife (not Sharmell) into the ring to thank her for her patience when he was gone all those times. Before Booker leaves, here's Stevie Ray to interrupt.

Stevie remembers growing up with Booker and everything he did for him over the years. Then one day Scott Casey (the wrestler that trained them) saying Booker had what it took to go to the top. Now his brother is on top of the world and Stevie is so proud. They hug but here's Midajah to interrupt as well. She yells at Booker's wife about Scott Steiner being the only real man here and here's Scott with a ball bat to take out Booker and Stevie. Booker is already a more interesting champion than we've had this whole year.

Jeff Jarrett blames the Cat for the title loss because he wasn't ready to defend, though I believe Russo booked the match. Jarrett wants his rematch tonight but Booker already has a match thanks to the Cat. Cue Scott Steiner again to lay out Jarrett and wreck the interview set.

#### Shane Douglas vs. Crowbar

Before the match, Shane brags about how gorgeous Torrie is. Well you can't argue that one. Torrie says Bagwell was in the wrong place at the wrong time and calls Kidman Little Billy. Crowbar hits the ring and gets an early two off a sunset flip before sending Shane to the floor for a

plancha. Torrie is nice enough to step between them, allowing Shane to take over.

Back in and Shane gets Two Amigos of all things until Crowbar spins out, only to have Torrie trip him up so Shane can get in another shot. Cue Daffney for some screaming and it's time for a quick catfight. Crowbar throws him back in for a slingshot legdrop and a Lionsault for two. Shane pops right back up and grabs the Franchiser for the pin.

**Rating:** D. Well you can't complain about Torrie in a skin tight green dress and Daffney in jeans but the match was your usual Shane Douglas affair. He's good at making you want to punch him in the face but the matches really aren't the most interesting things you're going to see. Crowbar continues to be totally fine in the ring but getting stuck either jobbing or having nothing better to do than mess around with David Flair.

Post match Buff Bagwell comes in and beats up Shane.

Kidman, in a Bash at the Beach shirt, says Torrie is a dime a dozen but he's more interested in his career anyway. This brings in Jarrett to shove Kidman away, triggering a brawl.

Smooth shows up carrying a gold record. Tank Abbott, in the top half of a tuxedo and shorts, and 3 Count (in full tuxedos) are in his limo.

Cat gives Jarrett Kidman instead of a title match.

Here are 3 Count and Tank with the gold record and a ladder for some reason. Tank tells them to hang the record and who are they to argue with him. This brings in the Jung Dragons to shove the ladder over and beat up 3 Count, only to have Tank clean house. Cue the Great Muta of all people to spray mist at Tank, allowing the Dragons to make off with the gold record.

Kanyon thinks he should be #1 contender after beating Booker last night. Since Cat won't do it though, he's getting BANGED.

### Jeff Jarrett vs. Kidman

Jeff tries to get in some shots to start but Kidman snaps off a

headscissors. That earns him a hiptoss out to the floor and Jeff sends him into the steps for good measure. Back in and Kidman's high cross body is rolled through for two but Kidman clotheslines him back to the floor. I'm not sure how to handle this back and forth wrestling so here's Torrie for a distraction.

Torrie's slap is blocked but Shane comes out, allowing Torrie to kick Kidman low. That's only good for two so Jarrett tries a powerbomb (as is his custom), setting up the facebuster because that's still a thing for Kidman. A Bodog is countered though and the Stroke gives Jeff the pin.

**Rating:** C. As usual, Kidman could have been a lot more than just a guy in the midcard but instead they just have him job to every major name they can find and put him in a feud with Shane Douglas. The Torrie stuff would be fine but sweet goodness Shane really isn't doing it for me and is dragging Kidman down with him.

Scott Steiner beats up Canyon.

Cat gives Mike Awesome the US Title but he wants to earn it instead. He turns around and hits on an overweight woman. Well we had to get here eventually.

WCW World Title: Mike Awesome vs. Booker T.

Booker is defending and slaps Mike in the face to start. Awesome's right hands have Booker in trouble so it's a spinwheel kick to put Mike out on the floor. Back in and some more right hands have Awesome in trouble in the corner but he runs Booker over with a clothesline. Since this is a Russo company, Awesome is allowed to use a chair to take over again. An Alabama Slam sets up the Awesome Splash for two. That's enough wrestling for Mike so he sets up a table, only to be knocked through it instead. Back in and the ax kick and missile dropkick get two for Booker before the Book End retains the title.

**Rating:** B-. That might be high due to the level of awful I'm used to but I liked this match more than I was expecting to. Booker gets to look good over an athletic opponent and Awesome loses (again) to someone he shouldn't be beating anyway. This was a good debut as champion for

Booker, made much better due to the lack of interference. I could have done without the chair and table, but you have to expect that anymore in WCW. It's really just part of the standard package these days.

Post match Steiner runs in to attack Booker but Awesome makes the save.

Here's the Cat to yell about Steiner going on a rampage tonight and calls him out face to face. Steiner wants a title shot and swears a lot until Cat hits him. Scott fights back until Booker comes in for the save. This brings in Canyon to attack Booker, which really doesn't make a lot of sense. Jarrett comes in and goes after both of them until Booker fights them off. Cat makes a three way for the #1 contendership later tonight. We're not done though as Goldberg comes out and wants to make it a fourway, which is quickly approved.

And now, a package on Ralphus/Norman Smiley vs. Big Vito. This really deserved time?

Norman has Ralphus in training, which has potential to be funny but I'd rather see Norman in a regular match.

#### Hardcore Title: Big Vito vs. Norman Smiley/Ralphus

Son of a Russo. Vito, defending here, goes after Norman to start as Ralphus stays in the ring. The other two fight into the back with Norman getting the better of it and blasting the champ with a fire extinguisher. They get back into the arena with Ralphus hiding behind a table in the ring. Vito pounds away and puts a traffic cone between Ralphus' legs for a crutch shot. A top rope splash puts Ralphus through the table but Norman hits Vito in the back....knocking him onto Ralphus for the pin to retain while Smiley dances.

**Rating:** F. So now he's not just losing, but he's losing because he can't pay attention to something as simple as where his fat partner in a red shirt is laying. This division is dead but I've ranted enough about it already. Vito isn't going anywhere but at least he's not in his 50s or 60s.

The Cat beats up the Jung Dragons again because this is still a thing.



Paisley needs to get Artist's shirt ready and asks a guy in the back if he can clean it. The guy, named Kiwi, is in neon pink and covers every stereotype of a gay model you can imagine. Paisley instantly swoons.

Lenny Lane is in the crowd with a sign that says USE ME.

### Lance Storm vs. The Artist

Before the match, the fans chant USA at Storm. Lance responds by saying he's not here for sports entertainment because he's a wrestler from Calgary, Alberta, Canada. As you might expect, this is his heel turn promo. We get 0 Canada (full version) as the announcers bicker over whether we should give Storm silence. Paisley joins commentary as Storm hammers away to start.

A dropkick gets two for Lance as Paisley talks about Kiwi being a potential "purple passion fruit" in the future and calls Storm a Power Ranger reject. Artist gets two off a superkick but the middle rope DDT is countered with a northern lights suplex. Storm's sitout powerbomb gets two and a springboard missile dropkick gets the same. Artist's Angle Slam gets two more but the half crab makes him tap.

**Rating:** C+. Well there's your surprise of the night. This was actually really entertaining with Paisley making me chuckle on commentary. Storm was on a roll at this point and I'm not sure why they turned him heel here when his style is far better suited as a good guy. Then again he's foreign and I'm sure that screams bad in Russo's thinking.

Vampiro is here and my eyes roll.

### Tag Team Titles: Kronik vs. Corporal Cajun/General Rection

Kronik is defending and Juventud Guerrera/Rey Mysterio are on commentary. Adams and Rection start things off with Brian hitting a quick full nelson slam (don't bother trying to fight out of the hold or anything). Off to Cajun who is launched off a cover so it's back to Rection. Cue Jindrak and O'Haire to brawl with Juvy and Rey as Rection misses a top rope elbow. It's off to Clark to clean house as everything breaks down.

A spinwheel kick to Clark sets up No Laughing Matter but Adams makes the

save. Things settle down again until High Time plants Cajun with Rection having to make a save. Kronik completely botches the powerbomb/top rope clothesline to Cajun (Adams fell backwards and Clark came off the top too fast, leaving him to collide with Cajun in the air) but it's enough to retain anyway.

**Rating:** D+. So Kronik is big, strong, and 58% more likely to cause severe head trauma to people from the Louisiana Bayou. I like the fact that we had the #1 contender match last week and they actually gave us the match here, but the Misfits really weren't the best option. The division is getting more traffic, though that doesn't mean the quality is going up at the same time.

Post match Perfect Event runs in to lay out Kronik.

Here's Vampiro with a coffin and something to say. He's been through everything and will survive in the darkness where everyone here fails. The Demon pops out of the coffin and gets in Vampiro's face. Vampiro goes on about Asya not understanding the difference between good and evil so he wants Demon to beat her down. The lights get even weaker and Sting's music comes on. Cue a guy we can't see with a ski mask on, nearly guaranteeing that it's not really Sting.

Jeff Jarrett vs. Positively Kanyon vs. Scott Steiner vs. Goldberg

Winner gets the title shot vs. Booker at New Blood Rising. One fall to a finish here and Kanyon starts with Steiner. Scott drops to the floor to yell at some fans before kneeing Kanyon in the face. The bicep elbow gets no cover so Steiner hits him with a chair. Goldberg breaks up the Recliner, allowing Kanyon to get two off a sitout Alabama Slam.

Jeff tags Kanyon but Scott suplexes Kanyon down anyway. There's a Kanyon Cutter to Jarrett but Goldberg tagged himself in and speared Kanyon in half (to one of the pops of the night). Steiner makes a save to set up the staredown with Goldberg, only to have Jeff cover Kanyon for the pin.

**Rating:** D. This didn't have the time to go anywhere but it started the build to Goldberg vs. Steiner. Kanyon was just there as a fall guy to set up Jarrett's rematch which is a rare good idea from this company. Jarrett

is a good option to give Booker another title defense on the big stage, though the promos are going to be a chore to sit through.

**Overall Rating:** C. Again, the less Russo on a show, the better they're doing. There was no mention of Hogan's name tonight and the whole thing last night seems to be a big waste. The ratings were indeed up by .3 over last week, good for about half of the increase Raw had. The wrestling was much better this week as some of the matches got more time but it still wasn't anything I'm going to remember in about ten minutes, which is yet another major problem for this company right now.

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<http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6>

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# Wrestling Wars Podcast

## Episode 30

In which KB and NorCal talk about the builds to Takeover: London and TLC.

<http://mightynorcal.podbean.com/e/wwpwhoa-30-our-30th-is-myself-and-kb-doing-short-thoughts-on-survivor-series-and->

[discussing-the-divergent-nxt-and-tlc-builds/](#)