

Impact Wrestling – September 29, 2016: So Close Now

Impact Wrestling

Date: September 29, 2016

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: D'Angelo Dinero, Josh Matthews

It's an interesting show this week for very different reasons. Above all else (at least in theory) this is the go home show for Bound For Glory. However, if the rumors are true, there's also a strong chance that this is one of the, if not the very, last episodes of the show in general. Let's get to it.

Jeremy Borash is in the ring to introduce Ethan Carter III and Lashley as the captains for tonight's Lethal Lockdown. We're going to get something like a live draft with the following teams announced:

Lashley, Drew Galloway, Mike Bennett, Maria Kanellis

Carter, Aron Rex, Moose, Gail Kim

The captains talk a lot of trash and say this is all that matters to them at the pay per view. Lashley isn't like the people Carter has beaten because he can end Ethan's career. Carter has a challenge: the two of them starting Lethal Lockdown one on one. Lashley agrees.

X-Division Title: Eddie Edwards vs. DJZ

DJZ is defending after accepting Edwards' challenge last week. They chop it out to start until DJZ gets in a hurricanrana to send Eddie outside. DJZ's flip dive doesn't work though and it's Eddie sending the champ into the barricade for a suicide dive. A sitout powerbomb gets two for Eddie but he takes too long going for the Boston Knee Party, allowing DJZ to hit a ZDT to retain at 5:34.

Rating: C. Well that happened. This was yet another match that probably should have been at Bound For Glory but instead let's throw it on here

for five minutes with no time to develop. As usual there's nothing significant going on in the X-Division and there's no title match announced three days before the biggest show of the year. I'm sure some multi-man match will be added on because that's how this division works.

Post match the Helms Dynasty comes out and beats up both guys.

Maria yells at Allie some more when Laura comes in. Allie looks like she's about to cry as Maria says this is what a woman should look like.

Mike Bennett and Moose had a sitdown interview earlier with Moose talking about how he's dealt with people like Bennett for his entire football career. Bennett says this isn't football and promises to teach Moose a lesson on Sunday. Moose says after he beats Bennett all around the ring, the fans will be chanting one name.

Madison Rayne vs. Laurel Van Ness

Laurel offers Madison a chance to kiss her hand before the match but Madison forearms her in the face. That means it's time for a trip to the floor so Allie can check Laurel's makeup. Back in and Laurel gets in a few slaps as even Josh is sounding bored with this match. Laurel hits a curb stomp for the pin at 3:56.

Rating: D. We're three days away from the biggest show of the year and TNA is showcasing a newcomer instead of building up the matches they've got coming up. It says a lot when Josh Matthews, who can get hyped over whatever latest stupid sitcom he's shilling for Pop, sounds like he'd rather be anywhere else. Laurel was watchable and the gimmick works but not the right time to debut it.

Allie announces Laurel as the winner, as per Maria's orders.

Lashley offers a title shot to anyone who takes Ethan out.

Drew Galloway is in the ring and calls out Aron Rex for a chat. Galloway talks about how he made this the place to be (for unemployment checks) so you're welcome. Rex: "First of all, get your own catchphrase." Aron promises to beat Drew up like a greasy haired loser so Drew brings up the stuntman. This Sunday there can only be one and that's going to be Drew

Galloway. Security comes out to break up the brawl but both guys get in cheap shots.

Decay promises to destroy the Hardys.

Long recap of Decay vs. House Hardy.

Reby Hardy vs. Rosemary

Reby throws her around to start but gets choked down. Some forearms to the back have Reby in trouble but she grabs a Twist of Fate, only to have Steve get on the apron for a distraction. Reby goes after Steve and it's the mist to Reby's eyes for the DQ at 3:10.

Rating: D-. Yeah this was all you could have expected. Neither of them are regular wrestlers and the "match" was your old school Divas catfight instead of anything resembling wrestling. This feud can't end quickly enough for me as I'm tired of hearing them say the same things for months on end.

Post match the big brawl breaks out and Rosemary gives Reby a Side Effect through a table.

Lashley wins the coin toss for his team.

Back from a break, Decay beats on Matt and Jeff even more. They fight to the back where Matt is electrocuted by a cable and we go to three camera shots at once with Steve shouting DECAY.

Cody Rhodes vignette.

Maria and Gail have another sitdown interview with Maria insisting on being introduced properly. They insult each other a few times and argue over whether the title or the Hall of Fame is more important.

Tyrus is talking about the Bound For Gold match when Eli Drake interrupts. A business partnership is offered but Tyrus isn't interested. Then what's the point of his character?

We run down the Bound For Glory card. The X-Division Title isn't mentioned.

Ethan gives his team a pep talk.

Team Carter vs. Team Lashley

This is Lethal Lockdown, meaning there's a cage with weapons around the ring. Two men will start for five minutes and then Lashley's team sends in a man for a 2-1 advantage for two minutes. After those two minutes are up, Team Carter sends in a second man to even things up. The teams alternate every two minutes until all eight are in. At that point the cage roof lowers and it's one fall to a finish.

Carter is in the ring to start but Lashley sends Bennett out to start instead. They slug it out to start with Carter getting the better of it, only to walk into a spinebuster. A clothesline gets Carter out of trouble and both guys are down until it's Galloway giving Lashley's team their advantage. The beating is on and we take a break.

Back with Rex coming in to even things up and the good guys take over, as is always the case in these things. Lashley gives his team another advantage as the clock is all over the place here. There's nothing to talk about here as they're just hitting each other over and over during these periods. Moose even things up and hits a spinning crossbody but everything evens out until it's Maria coming down the ramp.

Bennett tells her not to get in though so the brawling continue until Gail Kim comes out and throws Maria inside. That lasts all of ten seconds as Maria runs out with Gail chasing her up the ramp. I'm SO glad they were added here and not, say, whoever is in the X-Division Title match. Ah right, WE DON'T HAVE ONE OF THOSE FOR THE PAY PER VIEW.

Back from another break with Lashley's team in full control until Lashley has them stop for a meeting, allowing Rex to come back with a chair shot. Moose and Rex take turns beating Lashley down with various weapons. Bennett gets in a pipe shot on Rex and superkicks a chair into Moose's face.

Moose does the same thing with a dropkick but walks into the Futureshock. It's down to Carter vs. Lashley with Ethan winning a slugout and sending him head first into the cage. The TK3 is no sold so Lashley spears him

down and grabs the head and arms choke. Carter goes for the ropes but it doesn't matter inside the cage. Ethan passes out at 29:03.

Rating: C+. The women being a big waste of time aside, this was a standard Lethal Lockdown with an odd ending as Carter probably shouldn't lose to end the go home show. Lashley continues to look dominant and he probably should drop the title on Sunday. The other people were really just background noise here, which is why this was such a waste of a gimmick. Just do an eight person tag or something.

Lashley's choice for the main event: no holds barred.

Overall Rating: D+. Bound For Glory, assuming it happens, really isn't looking that hot on paper and this show didn't do it many favors. The matches have all been built up well enough but they're still not interesting. The main event being no holds barred doesn't do much for me and the X-Division still not having a match isn't much better. The company certainly isn't heading in on a high note but that's pretty standard anymore.

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up my new book, KB's Complete 2014 Raw and Smackdown Reviews Part I at Amazon for just \$3.99 at:

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01LY6766K#nav-subnav>

And check out my Amazon author page with cheap wrestling books at:

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