

# Smackdown – July 4, 2025: Tales From The Taped

## Smackdown

Date: July 4, 2025

Location: PPG Paints Arena, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Joe Tessitore, Wade Barrett

It's a holiday show, but more importantly we're back to the two hour editions every week. That's a nice plus as the three hour versions just felt too long more often than not. We're also finishing up the build towards Saturday Night's Main Event and Evolution next weekend so it's time to set things up. Let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Jacob Fatu jumps Solo Sikoa and company in the parking lot but it gets broken up.

Here is Cody Rhodes to get things going. He has the King Of The Ring crown in his hand, but first of all he wants to hear it for a kid named Cam battling leukemia. That gets a nice reaction (as it should) before Rhodes talks about what winning the tournament means. It means that we have the main event of Summerslam set...and here is Randy Orton to interrupt.

Orton talks about how he had Rhodes dead to rites at Night Of Champions but he couldn't go that far. Rhodes was able to pull the trigger and Orton can respect that. Now he wants Rhodes to go on to Summerslam and take Cena out...and here is Drew McIntyre to interrupt. McIntyre says this sounds like people on the phone saying "you hang up, no you hang up" and he's sick of it.

Rhodes has been buttering Orton up for months and then he put a knife in Orton's back. That same back that Orton tweaked and

Rhodes worked it over. The legend of Randy Orton is dead, and McIntyre wants Rhodes to win at Summerslam. That way he can take the title from Rhodes, because he won't hesitate, like somebody. McIntyre turns to Orton, who drops him with the RKO. This felt like a way to set up Orton vs. McIntyre while reminding us that Rhodes won the tournament. In other words, it was fine.

Earlier today, Charlotte was put in a #1 contenders tag match with Alexa Bliss, who got the match set up. Charlotte isn't happy, but Nick Aldis says let him handle this.

Drew McIntyre wants Randy Orton and gets him at Saturday Night's Main Event. With McIntyre gone, Jacob Fatu is told to find a partner and he can face two of Solo Sikoa's team tonight. Jimmy Uso pops up and we have a team.

#### Secret Hervice vs. Michin/B-Fab vs. Charlotte/Alexa Bliss

Chelsea Green is here with the Hervice. Michin, Bliss and Niven start things off but Charlotte tags herself in before anything else happens. Charlotte chops Niven away but gets jumped by Michin. Niven and Michin knock Charlotte outside, where Niven flip dives onto Michin and B-Fab.

Fyre flip dives onto all of them and we take a break. We come back with Niven's backsplash getting two on Charlotte, allowing B-Fab to come in and strike away. Bliss gets her own tag and house is quickly cleaned for a parade of finishers. Charlotte hits a spear on Niven and pats Bliss on the head, which counts as a tag, so Twisted Bliss can finish Fyre at 9:12.

**Rating:** C+. Another qualifying match for another more important match later on, because we have to have something like that almost every single week these days. Bliss and Charlotte are fine for a team who don't get along but work well together, though Charlotte could start to turn to the good side. It's something that can be a success, and at the

very least it would be something different for her for once.

Post match Charlotte hugs Bliss and then gives her a friendly shove.

Nick Aldis yells at the tag division and makes Andrade/Rey Fenix vs. Axiom. Other than that, one member of each team can face the Wyatt Sicks in an eight man tag. Johnny Gargano tries to get a SMACKDOWN TAG DIVISION chant going and it fails miserably.

### Wyatt Sicks vs. Montez Ford/Chris Sabin/Johnny Gargano/Berto

Gacy and Berto start things off with Berto taking him into the corner for a corner clothesline. A springboard elbow drops Gacy and it's off to Lumis, who shrugs off a kick to the head. Gargano comes in and gets caught with a swinging Side Effect for two and everything breaks down for the brawl. Lumis superkicks Ford down on the floor and we take a break.

We come back with Ford still in trouble, including Gacy powerbombing Lumis onto him for two. The neck crank goes on for a bit but Ford is up for the tag to Sabin. Everything breaks down and Ford hits a big running flip dive but Howdy comes in to plant Sabin. Rowan comes back in, only for Sabin to catch him with a DDT. Gargano drops tot eh floor rather than come in to face Rowan though and the claw slam finishes Sabin at 10:36.

**Rating:** C+. This was a way to set up the Wyatt Sicks against the rest of the division without having one of the regular teams lose. At the end of the day, the Wyatts feel like the monsters who are going to take over the division. That makes for an interesting future as everyone tries to fight them off. This was at least different from what we usually get and I'll absolutely take that.

Giulia wants everyone to come after her title because the blue flame will destroy them.

Video on the 4th of July.

Here is Tiffany Stratton to brag about her win over Nia Jax last week in the Last Woman Standing match. Now though, she's ready to face Jade Cargill at Summerslam and then she's going to get to choose her opponent at Evolution. Cue Cargill to interrupt, who respects what Stratton did against Jax. She wants Stratton to make a good choice...and here is Trish Stratus to interrupt (Wade Barrett is VERY happy).

Stratton gets right to the point and offers Stratus the title shot at Evolution. Works for Cargill, and Stratus talks about how great it is to see an all women's show. Stratus wants her kids to see her as a champion, but Stratton says WWE runs on Tiffy Time. This was a very, very fast way to set up a title match and that's all you can do with just over a week before the show.

Solo Sikoa and company are in the back, where he welcomes Tala Tonga to the team. They're ready to take out Jimmy Uso and Jacob Fatu tonight, because the family is complete.

Jade Cargill tells Trish Stratus that she'll see her at Evolution. Naomi decks Cargill with the briefcase, prompting Cargill to tell Nick Aldis that she wants Naomi once and for all. Deal.

#### Andrade/Rey Fenix vs. Fraxiom

Andrade and Frazer start things off with the latter taking over on the arm for some cranking. Axiom comes in for some running forearms but Fenix flips out of a tornado DDT. Fraxiom clears the ring for some stereo dives and we take a break. We come back with Fenix trying to fight out of trouble but getting launched into Chasing The Dragon for two.

Back up and Fenix grabs a running DDT, which is enough for the tag to Andrade. Frazer is quickly taken down for Fenix's frog splash and a near fall. Back up and another Chasing The Dragon

gets two with Frazer making the save as we take another break. We come back again with Frazer missing his phoenix splash, allowing Fenix to send him flying with a release German suplex.

Andrade's running knees in the corner get two and the double moonsault gets two. The super Spanish Fly into the phoenix splash gets two more on Andrade, with Fenix making the save. Fenix is back up with the big running flip dive to take out Axiom, leaving Andrade to give Frazer the Message for the pin at 15:38.

**Rating:** B. This was about two teams getting to do nuts and do their thing, which is all it needed to be. Andrade and Fenix are another makeshift team, but at the same time, I'm not wild on seeing Fraxiom losing clean like this. They were red hot there for a bit and have already cooled off, which isn't a good sign for their futures.

Damian Priest runs into Aleister Black, who will be facing R-Truth next week. Black says Priest is the good guy right now but violence begets violence. Priest doesn't think he's the good guy and thinks R-Truth might take care of Black next week.

Here's what's coming next week.

### Jacob Fatu/Jimmy Uso vs. JC Mateo/Solo Sikoa

Sikoa immediately tags Mateo, who gets to face Fatu. They waste no time in going outside to start the brawl, with Fatu sending him into the barricade. Back in and Mateo takes over on Uso, meaning Sikoa is willing to come in for a change. The Spinning Solo plants Uso and we take an early break.

We come back with Sikoa hitting a running Umaga attack to Uso, who manages to send Mateo into the corner. The diving tag brings Fatu in to clean house, including ten headbutts to Sikoa. Back to back running Umaga attacks get two and Uso is

back in with a superkick. Fatu's implant DDT hits Sikoa and the triple jump moonsault finishes him off at 8:51.

**Rating:** B-. Another strong showing for Fatu, as he beats Sikoa when he gets his hands on him. That makes all the sense in the world, as Sikoa himself has never been the force but rather the people he has around him. That's all we were seeing here and it went well, with Fatu showing that he's someone who can run through anyone on his own.

Post match the announcers' table is loaded up but Tonga Loa and Tala Tonga are in to lay out Uso and Fatu. The villains powerbomb him through the table to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B-. Sweet goodness the two hour time frame makes this show so much easier to watch. It isn't that it's so much better, but rather that it doesn't overstay its welcome. That is nice to see after so many months of the longer form and it's nice to see it staying. Good show, with the build towards both Saturday Night's Main Event and Evolution at the same time, with Summerslam waiting in the not so far distance.

### Results

Charlotte/Alexa Bliss b. Secret Hervice and Michin/B-Fab – Twisted Bliss to Fyre

Wyatt Sicks b. Montez Ford/Chris Sabin/Johnny Gargano/Berto – Claw slam to Sabin

Andrade/Rey Fenix b. Fraxiom – The Message to Frazer

Jacob Fatu/Jimmy Uso b. Solo Sikoa/JC Mateo – Moonsault to Sikoa

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