

NXT Heatwave 2025: Planning Ahead

Heatwave 2025

Date: August 24, 2025

Location: Lowell Memorial Auditorium, Lowell, Massachusetts

Commentators: Booker T., Vic Joseph

It's another special event and in this case we have quite the David vs. Goliath main event, as Je'Von Evans challenges Oba Femi for the NXT Title. Other than that, TNA is around again and has some fairly prominent matches, including the Knockouts Title on the line. This show has been fairly big over the years so hopefully the live up to the reputation here. Let's get to it.

The opening video focuses on the idea of a spark turning into a big fire and how anything can make it start. This gives us a look at the card.

Jaida Parker vs. Kelani Jordan vs. Lola Vice

For a future Women's Title shot and Jordan's parents are in the crowd. Parker gets double superkicked to the floor to start and a flipping forearm knocks her off the apron. That doesn't last long as Parker comes back in to knock them both down to quite the reaction, as Parker seems to be the crowd favorite. The double stack tear drop connects for Parker in the corner but Jordan knocks her to the floor again.

That leaves Vice to get caught in the ropes for a spinning legdrop, with Parker having to make a save. Back in and Vice pulls Parker into a triangle choke, only for Jordan to dive off the top for a save. Jordan superkicks Parker to the floor and hits a slingshot dive but Vice is back in with her bouncing kicks back inside. The running hip attacks connect in the corner but Parker is back up to run them over for two

each.

Vice is sent outside but comes back in to catch Parker on top for a Tower Of Doom. Jordan gets up and kicks Parker down but One Of A Kind hits raised knees. Hipnotique is cut off by Vice but Jordan gives Vice a spinning Angle Slam. Jordan's 450 is left short and Vice guillotine chokes her, only to avoid Parker's Hipnotique. With Jordan knocked silly, Vice gets a rollup to pin Parker at 11:52.

Rating: B-. This had some issues but they gave three up and coming women a chance to show what they could do and the match wound up being pretty good. I'm not sure it got to the point of being some big career making match for the three of them as Vice has been close to the title before, but this was a good opener and showed what we might be seeing in the future of the women's division. Nice work from everyone involved, though Parker needs to win something soon.

The Culling is ok with recent losses and focus on going after the No Quarter Catch Crew.

Tag Team Titles: Darkstate vs. Hank & Tank

Darkstate (Osiris Griffin and Dion Lennox in this case, with the other members at ringside) is challenging. Hank slugs away at Lennox to start and shrugs off a clothesline, which has Lennox a bit surprised. Griffin comes in to slam Tank but everything breaks down and the champs hit some running dives to the floor to drop all of Darkstate. Back in and Hank gets crotched on top, allowing Lennox to hammer away outside.

Lennox whips him into the corner back inside as Booker doesn't think it would be too bad if Darkstate wins. Booker: "Other teams will have to step up." Kind of yeah, but wrestlers have weird logic. Hank manages to avoid a charge and brings Tank back in, with Darkstate quickly double powerbombing him for two.

Tank breaks up a superplex attempt and throws Lennox off the top onto Griffin, setting up a Swanton onto both of them. Hank takes out the rest of the team and gets up for the tag, followed by a dive off the top to drop them again. The double standing splash looks to set up the powerbomb/neckbreaker combination but a distraction lets Tank get crotched on the post. A Doomsday Device gives us new champions at 10:06.

Rating: C+. There was almost no reason to believe that Hank & Tank were going to retain here as Darkstate needed to win something and Hank & Tank felt like underdog champions for their entire reign. Darkstate feels like it could be something with the titles and that's a good idea. Now just find some good teams to come after the belts.

Ava isn't happy with Lexis King for attacking Myles Borne. The solution: a blindfold match next week.

TNA Knockouts Title: Ash By Elegance vs. Jacy Jayne vs. Masha Slamovich

Jayne (with the rest of Fatal Influence) is defending and Ash has the rest of the Elegance Brand with her. Ash and Slamovich punch Jayne down to start but Jayne is back up for a quick rollup. Jayne sends Ash to the apron and hits a flip dive off the apron. Slamovich is right there with a dive of her own, followed by a running kick for two on Ash.

Jayne gets back in and is sent down just as fast, leaving Slamovich to clothesline Ash for two. The Personal Concierge offers a distraction so Slamovich can be knocked outside, leaving Ash to get two off a flipping neckbreaker. A sitout powerbomb gives Jayne two and it's Slamovich coming back in to clean house. Jayne cuts Slamovich off with a running knee to the face and a swinging neckbreaker gets two.

Slamovich sends Jayne into the corner but Ash is right back with a top rope Meteora for two of his own. The other groups get in a big argument on the floor, with Jazmyn Nyx getting in

a cheap shot, and that's an over the top ejection for Fatal Influence. Slamovich and Jayne crash out to the floor and Ash dives onto both of them for probably the biggest spot of her career. Back in and the Rolling Encore connects on Slamovich but the Elegance brand pulls Jayne out, leaving Ash to hit Rarefied Air to pin Slamovich at 12:22.

Rating: B-. What we got here wasn't a great match, but what mattered the most was getting the title back to TNA. At some point they had to win something or things were going to get even worse. The match featured a bunch of high spots, but it was the second match of a similar style of the night, which isn't the easiest thing to overcome. Either way, the result is what matters most.

Je'Von Evans is getting warmed up when Ricky Saints comes in to give him a pep talk. Evans has sore ribs but he's ready to go.

Blake Monroe vs. Jordynne Grace

No recap here but they were friends for about five minutes before splitting up and Monroe mocked Grace for not being a star, while Grace needs to win the big one to prove herself. Monroe slaps her in the face to start and runs away from a charging Grace, who chases her behind commentary. Back in and Grace hits a kind of spinning Big Ending, followed by a suplex out to the floor.

A fall away slam sends Monroe crashing on the outside but she gets in a shot of her own to take over. Monroe pulls her shoulder first into the post and it's off to a seated full nelson. That's broken up so Monroe goes with a Sling Blade for two. Monroe's seated armbars doesn't work as Grace fights up and slingshots her into the ropes for the break. Some clothesline drop Monroe again and a spinebuster into a Jackhammer gets two.

Grace loads up a reverse Alabama Slam and throws Monroe down,

with a turnbuckle pad being ripped off in the process. Back up and a not so great Skull Crushing Finale has Grace in trouble and Monroe flips over for an armbar. That's broken up and Grace gets fired up but a headbutt cuts her off. Monroe's suplex gets two and Grace's arm seems to be banged up from the armbar. Grace is able to reverse a superplex attempt into a super sitout powerbomb for two and they're both down. Back up and Monroe manages to stomp her Grace head first into the exposed buckle, setting up a double arm DDT for the pin at 12:45.

Rating: B. Rather good, hard hitting fight here, with Monroe looking like she survived for a big win here. That's something that should serve as a nice upgrade for her, which she needs so soon after her debut. That being said, is Grace just not allowed to win anything important? She was the biggest deal ever when she came into NXT and has proceeded to do just about nothing. They might want to work on that.

Jaida Parker is mad about her loss when Lash Legend comes in to mock her. They're quickly held apart.

Jacy Jayne isn't happy with her loss and blames her teammates when Lola Vice comes in. Jayne says there's no problem here, but Vice thinks there will be a problem at No Mercy when she gets her title shot. Zaria and Sol Ruca come in to mock Fatal Influence (Jayne wants to know how they always manage to show up) and the villains leave.

Tavion Heights/Tyra Mae Steele vs. Chelsea Green/Ethan Page

USA vs. Canada, the Secret Hervice is with Green/Page and the fans are VERY pro-Green and don't approve as Steele takes her to the mat for a roll around. Heights comes in for a fireman's carry on Page and the Canadians are sent crashing out to the floor. Page grabs the mic and shouts that Canada will NOT give your citizenship before taking Heights down for some elbows.

The chinlock goes on for a bit before Green comes in to

dropkick Steele off the apron. A running Downward Spiral gets two on Heights, who is back up to block Green's chop. Steele comes back in with a spear and swings Green into Page, which might have been a bit low. The women trade crossbodies for a double down, allowing the tag off to Heights to clean house. Green offers a distraction though and stereo big boots leave Heights and Page down.

Steele comes in to suplex Page and tries to do it again, only for Alba Fyre to try to make the save. That's fine with Steele, who suplexes both of them but the referee won't stand for her ankle locking Page. The distraction lets Fyre come in for the superkick and Green grabs the Unpretty Her for the pin at 9:31.

Rating: C. Heights and Steele are still fairly new, or at least rather untested, and it was clear that they needed some help to get them through the match. At the same time, it's nice to see them getting the chance to go out there as you have to bring in the fresh blood at some point. The match wasn't the best, but it's nice to see someone new being presented in a bigger spot.

Josh Briggs comes in to see Oba Femi, who is clearly being worn down by being champion. Femi wants him out of here but Briggs says he's next in line to come for the title.

Ava announces that the Speed Titles will be defended on NXT, with Sol Ruca defending at No Mercy. A tournament is coming to crown a new opponent. You know, it is ok to just drop some concepts occasionally. The Speed Titles would be a good choice for that status.

NXT Title: Je'Von Evans vs. Oba Femi

Femi is defending after Evans won a #1 contenders match. Evans goes after him to start and is sent flying into the corner, further banging up his bad ribs. Instead Evans tries to pick up the pace and goes for the springboard cutter, which is

pulled out of the air as well. With that not working either, Evans lands a quick superkick and Femi is stunned by the knockdown.

A basement superkick looks to set up the frog splash but Evans bails out at the last second. Femi gets back up so Evans dropkicks him to the floor, only for the dive to be cut off as Femi grabs him by the throat. Back in and a gutbuster has Evans in more trouble and a big spinebuster makes it worse. Evans somehow fights up again but walks into a backbreaker. A chokeslam gets two and Femi isn't sure what to do now.

Evans manages to get in a few shots of his own and some spinning kicks to the head get two. The top rope splash connects, though Evans lands a bit too early and the referee has to check on him. The second attempt lands a lot better for two but a strike off goes to Femi (that forearm was LOUD). Somehow Evans manages a German suplex but Femi pops up with a hard clothesline. The springboard cutter gets Evans out of trouble so he tries it again, only to get uppercutted out of the air for a rather near fall.

Femi goes up (up oh) but Evans is shoved down and into the referee, only to come back with a super hurricanrana. A pop up cutter hits Femi and the top rope cutter connects as another referee comes in to count three...but the first referee points out that Femi's foot was underneath the rope. Back up and Femi picks Evans up and THROWS HIM OVER THE TOP AND ONTO THE ANNOUNCERS' TABLE for one of the nastiest landings I've seen in a long time. Back in and what used to be Evans is planted with the Fall From Grace for the pin to retain at 17:42.

Rating: B. This started out slowly but I was getting it it by the end, with Evans doing everything he could to make you believe that the impossible could happen. The visual pinfall at the end was a nice touch, but that crash at the end was the really big spot of the match and OUCH. Hopefully Evans gets that he doesn't have to do that very often, or he's going to

have a very short career.

Post match Femi celebrates but Ricky Saints comes out for the staredown to end the show. There are worse choices for a next challenger.

Overall Rating: B-. I'm not sure how much this needed to be its own stand alone special, as it felt more like getting things ready for the future rather than doing much here. The biggest things were setting up Saints as the next challenger and the two title changes, one of which doesn't even involve an NXT title. That being said, the focus here seemed to be on bringing up some fresh names, which is a good idea. It might not be the stuff that matters at the moment, but it's planting some seeds for the future.

Results

Lola Vice b. Jaida Parker and Kelani Jordan – Rollup to Parker

Darkstate b. Hank & Tank – Doomsday Device to Hank

Ash By Elegance b. Jacy Jayne and Masha Slamovich – Rarefied Air to Slamovich

Blake Monroe b. Jordynne Grace – Double arm DDT

Chelsea Green/Ethan Page b. Tyra Mae Steele/Tavion Heights – Unpretty Her to Steele

Oba Femi b. Je'Von Evans – Fall From Grace

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