## Impact Wrestling – October 13, 2022: Great. They're Back.

#### Impact Wrestling

Date: October 13, 2022 Location: Albany Armory, Albany, New York Commentators: Matthew Rehwoldt, Tom Hannifan

It's the Bound For Glory fallout show, as the biggest pay per view of the year ended with Bully Ray as the next challenger to Josh Alexander. Since there was no way to have him show up on Impact and make a challenge, Ray won a twenty man match by pinning Steve Maclin to get the shot. I'm sure nothing but good will come from this. Let's get to it.

<u>Here is Bound For Glory if you need a recap.</u>

We open with a long recap of Bound For Glory.

Here is Josh Alexander to get things going. The fans are rather glad to see Alexander, who talks about how Eddie Edwards said their match was going to be a war. That is what it was, but now the war is over because here he stands, still the World Champion. He is the champion but he has made mistakes. Now he knows that the next challenger is waiting so Bully Ray, get out here right now.

Cue Bully, who Alexander welcomes back to the company, but wants to know why Ray helped him at Bound For Glory. Bully talks about how he could have stabbed Alexander in the back but didn't. He has been here longer than he has any other company he has ever worked for, just like he did to Sting, Hulk Hogan, Brooke and his own brother. Ray says he has done it all, but now he needs to do it right. He knows that no one has a good thing to say about him and he wants to change that. Ray isn't cashing in his title shot like Moose did last year, so Alexander is going to see him coming.

Cue Steve Maclin to interrupt because he doesn't trust Ray. How exactly did Ray get into Call Your Shot anyway? Maclin talks about how he has done things the right way but now he wants to know what it takes for him to get his title shot. Cue Moose to say Maclin is in the presence of World Champions so step aside. As for Ray, he is a scumbag, but that's ok, because Moose likes scumbags. Moose learned his bad ways from Ray, just like how he won the title last year.

He would go after Alexander again...but here is Bobby Fish to interrupt as well. Fish agrees that Moose has turned into quite the scumbag himself and Maclin is becoming quite the locker room politician. Sure Ray is a scumbag, but he didn't scumbag Alexander at Bound For Glory. For tonight though, Fish wants his own match against the champ, with Alexander saying it's on. This was a good bit longer than it needed to be and hopefully it isn't the start of a new style.

The Motor City Machine Guns are happy with their win on Before The Impact and they want another Tag Team Title shot. They walk off and run into Heath and Rhino, who are getting a title shot next week. Rhino wants revenge on Honor No More so they'll get it next week. Don't worry though, as the Guns can have a title match when they win the belts.

#### <u>Killer Kelly vs. Tasha Steelz</u>

No DQ and Savannah Evans is here with Steelz. Evans doesn't waste time by jumping Kelly before the bell to start fast. Kelly gets dropped face first onto the apron but sits up to glare at Steelz for a cool visual. A basement dropkick drops Kelly and it's time for a chain. With that taking too long, Steelz has to counter an attempt at the Killer Klutch. Kelly gets two off an Alabama Slam and grabs a chair but settles for two off a Death Valley Driver. Evans comes in to grab Kelly but she fights both of them off. Steelz gets in a superkick and grabs the chain, only to get choked into the Killer Klutch for the tap at 6:52.

**Rating**: C. Kelly winning in what should be the last match of the feud is a good thing but I was expecting a bit more out of a No DQ match. I did like Evans not bothering to just stand around as she got involved from the beginning, but Steelz and Evans are pretty clearly on the downside of their run. Kelly has a charisma that makes me want to watch her and that is a major step towards being a star.

Zicky Dice and Johnny Swinger are bragging when Dirty Dango comes in to say he should cuff them for being stupid. Swinger invites him to Swinger's Dungeon.

Sami Callihan jumps two guys in yellow because they part of Violent By Design. Good. Get rid of all of them.

Scott D'Amore praises Josh Alexander for his recent efforts but tells him to keep an eye out for Bully Ray.

<u>Black Taurus vs. Trey Miguel vs. Kenny King vs. Alex Zayne vs.</u> <u>Yuya Uemura vs. Laredo Kid</u>

It's a brawl to start with no one actually getting an entrance. Taurus is sent outside into a pile of people, leaving Zayne to work on King's wrist. Zayne's dive is broken up and it's a series of dives to send us to a break. Back with a bunch of reverse DDTs into King's Blockbuster, setting up a spinebuster for two on Miguel. Uemura comes in with a high crossbody to King and a super hurricanrana brings Taurus off the top. Back in and Miguel grabs something like a reverse Angle Slam for the pin on Zayne at 5:20.

**Rating**: B-. The match was the usual insanity that comes with this kind of a scramble match, meaning that it was only going to be so good. You can't put together any kind of a serious story in something like this as it's all about flying around

and getting in whatever you can. Miguel winning is nice, but it only means so much in a match with this format.

Mike Bailey gives Frankie Kazarian a very respectful congratulation. Trey Miguel comes in to say he's coming for the title but Kazarian says we'll see what happens. Bailey continues to be quite less than interesting.

#### VXT/Gisele Shaw vs. Death Dollz

Jessicka slugs away at Shaw to start and takes her into the wrong corner for the running knees from Taya. Purrazzo comes in and gets caught in Rosemary's Upside Down, sending Rehwoldt into a frenzy. A Green distraction lets Purrazzo hit a Backstabber on Taya though and the villains take over with the stomping in the corner.

Taya and Green go down off a double clothesline though and it's back to Rosemary for the house cleaning. Green catches Rosemary with a Bully Bomb into a faceplant but Rosemary is right back up with a spear for two. Everything breaks down and Rosemary hits a spear on Purrazzo, only to get kneed in the head to give Shaw the pin at 5:38.

**Rating**: C. Another match that didn't have much time to do anything and it hut things a lot. What mattered was giving Shaw and VXT a win to give them some momentum back. The Dollz having success without Rosemary continues as well and that should make for an interesting story down the road.

Tommy Dreamer begs Bully Ray to not lie to everyone about his intentions. Ray says he's telling the truth and they'll team together.

Maria Kanellis gives Honor No More a pep talk but they think the company is trying to kill them off again. They're not sure where Eddie Edwards is but next week, they'll retain the Tag Team Titles.

#### Matt Cardona vs. Bhupinder Gujjar

Cardona's headlock doesn't get him very far as Gujjar hits a dropkick into a slingshot elbow for an early two. They head to the floor with Cardona knocking him down for a change, setting up a hangman's neckbreaker for two back inside. The middle rope missile dropkick misses though and Gujjar strikes away but here is Brian Myers for a distraction. Radio silence finishes Gujjar at 4:22.

**Rating**: C. Not much to see here but Cardona and Myers being back together is a good thing. Cardona being back in general is nice to see as he really is good at his heel stuff, though Myers does add a nice bonus to the mix. Gujjar continues to seem like he has potential and he's starting to feel more like one of the regular guys around here, but please give him something else to make him interesting.

Video on Jordynne Grace vs. Masha Slamovich.

Mickie James would love to face Grace if she gets to the top of the mountain. VXT and Gisele Shaw interrupt, saying Mickie should respect them instead of losers like Mia Yim. Chelsea Green mocks James for beating her but James challenges Deonna Purrazzo instead.

Bullet Club would love to face Tommy Dreamer/Bully Ray next week.

Here's what's coming up next week.

### Impact Wrestling World Title: Bobby Fish vs. Josh Alexander

Alexander is defending. Feeling out process to start as they grapple up against the ropes. Some headlock takeovers work well for Alexander but Fish is back up with some knees to the ribs. Alexander is right back with an overhead belly to belly but the crossbody to the back doesn't get to launch.

Fish is fine enough to drop him with a dragon screw legwhip on

the ramp and we take a break. Back with Fish hitting a slingshot elbow and kicking away in the corner. Neither of them can hit a suplex so Alexander goes with a clothesline and then drops Fish with a hard right hand.

The C4 Spike is blocked and Fish kicks him in the head, setting up a Saito suplex for two. The ankle lock is broken up as well though and Fish catches him on top. Alexander knocks him down and hits a moonsault, only to have the ankle lock pulled into a triangle choke. That's countered into a backbreaker and now the C4 Spike can retain at 16:18.

**Rating**: B-. This was another match that had no story and was a showdown between two technicians, meaning it was only going to be so good. They had no reason to be mad at each other and it was hard to imagine that Fish was going to be a real threat to the title. The action carried it to pretty good, but they had a firm ceiling above them.

Post match Frankie Kazarian comes out to congratulate Alexander for being a great champion. For now though, he is cashing in his X-Division Title, using Option C, to get a World Title shot.

**Overall Rating**: C+. I don't know if it's the focus being on Bully Ray or the X-Division Title being vacated but there was a lack of interesting stuff going on this week. Hopefully things pick up again as we get back to normal next week, but this show didn't feel like it was coming off the biggest night of the year. Granted any show with an announcement of Ray and Tommy Dreamer getting a featured match the next week isn't going to do me much good, but the rest wasn't exactly great.

#### <u>Results</u>

Killer Kelly b. Tasha Steelz – Killer Klutch Trey Miguel b. Black Taurus, Kenny King, Alex Zayne, Yuya Uemura and Laredo Kid – Snap neckbreaker to Zayne VXT/Gisele Shaw b. Death Dollz – Running knee to Rosemary Matt Cardona b. Bhupinder Gujjar – Radio Silence Josh Alexander b. Bobby Fish – C4 Spike

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# ECW On Sci Fi – February 5, 2008: It's All Wet

ECW On Sci Fi Date: February 5, 2008 Location: American Bank Center, Corpus Christi, Texas Attendance: 3,500 Commentators: Joey Styles, Tazz

We're in the Chavo Guerrero era and last week saw a rather obvious mariachi reveal (there's a weird statement) as CM Punk is still trying to get his title back. Other than that, we have Tommy Dreamer standing up to help the eternally injured Colin Delaney, which could go in a few directions. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

Opening sequence.

Here is CM Punk to get things going. Punk talks about Chavo Guerrero's fiesta last week and we see a clip of Mariachi Punk hitting him with a guitar. Back in the arena, Punk says he is invoking his rematch clause right now and wants Chavo out here in this ring. Cue Chavo, who doesn't think that rematch is happening tonight. Punk can have his rematch, but it's going to be at No Way Out.

Last week, Punk embarrassed him so tonight, he is embarrassing Punk. We cut to Armando Alejandro Estrada, who is outside the arena, next to the Gulf of Mexico. Tonight, it's Chavo vs. Punk in the first ever Gulf of Mexico match, where anything goes and you win by throwing your opponent into the Gulf. Well that's unique.

## <u>Victoria/Layla vs. Michelle McCool/Kelly Kelly</u>

Lena Yada is here with Victoria/Layla. Kelly flips out of Layla's wristlock to start before pretty badly mistiming a handspring elbow in the corner. Michelle comes in for a Hennig necksnap so it's off to Victoria, who gets forearmed in the face. A shot in the corner slows Michelle down though and Victoria takes out her knee. That doesn't last long as Michelle gets over to Kelly, who high crossbodies Victoria down. There's a headscissors to make it worse but as everything breaks down, Lena grabs Kelly's leg so the Widow's Peak can give Victoria the pin.

**Rating**: C-. Kelly is trying to get better but you can only get so far with her timing issues. That can come with work and time but it isn't there yet. Michelle is getting better as her size and athleticism helps, but you can only get so far wrestling Victoria so many times. Not a terrible match, though keeping the match this short was the only way to go.

We look back at Shelton Benjamin walking out on a match with Kane last week. Their rematch is on Smackdown.

Wrestlemania video, set to the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Weird that this is included here but was missing on Raw.

#### John Morrison vs. Tommy Dreamer

Miz and Colin Delaney are here too. Dreamer hits a shoulder block to start and armdrags him into an armbar. Back up and Morrison gets in a shot of his own and chokes on the apron to send Dreamer outside. Dreamer has to save the heavily bandaged Delaney, allowing Morrison to get in another shot to take over again.

The chinlock goes on before something close to Miz's old Mizard of Oz gets two. Morrison misses a corkscrew moonsault though and the comeback is on, including a flapjack to give Dreamer two. There's the reverse DDT to drop Morrison but Delaney has to cut off an invading Miz. That's enough of a distraction that Morrison can neckbreaker Dreamer for the pin.

**Rating:** C. Dreamer is still fine in this role and it isn't like he is going to be in any major story for the time being. Having him act as Delaney's protector makes sense and could turn into something down the line. Miz and Morrison need some challengers anyway so let someone be built up for a change.

We get a sitdown interview with Stevie Richards, who talks about his latest throat surgery. His neck was hurt back in 1997 when Terry Funk dropped a barricade on him (and yes we see a clip), which somehow hurt his vocal chords. He has had nine throat surgeries since then but he'll be back in the ring next week. Richards has been a heck of a surprise in this ECW and I'm glad to see him back.

Kofi Kingston vs. James Curtis

Kofi takes him down into an armbar to start and then twists Curtis down by the wrist. Curtis is back up with his own armbar and works on his own wristlock as the fans do not sound overly interested. Thankfully they pick up the pace a bit with some chops and a jumping elbow dropping Curtis. There's the jumping double leg and the spinning kick to the face gives Kofi the pin.

**Rating**: C-. Kofi is one of the more unique looking stars in a good while and it is cool to watch him do his stuff, but spending more than half of the match working on the arms is only going to get you so far. I still wonder if Curtis could have been something, as he had a decent look and could wrestle a competent enough match.

No Way Out rundown.

#### Chavo Guerrero vs. CM Punk

Non-title Gulf of Mexico match, meaning you win by throwing the other person into the Gulf. They're both in jeans (and their respective t-shirts of course) to start before the brawl goes outside rather quickly. Chavo knocks him over the barricade and into some chairs but Punk is back with some strikes of his own. Punk gets dropped ribs first onto a wall but fight back and they fight out into the concourse. It's time to go outside where Punk punches in him the face, earning himself a whip onto the hood of a well timed car.

We take a break and come back with Punk slamming him onto the hood of another car. A backdrop sends Chavo into the windshield but he's right back with some kicks to the ribs. They go over towards the water, where they scare off some very confused fishermen. Chavo chucks the fishermen's cooler at Punk but can't manage to throw him into the Gulf. An attempt at a suplex into the Gulf is blocked and Punk GTS's him into the water for the win.

Rating: C+. This worked in a weird way, partially due to the

lack of commentary when they came back from the break and partially due to letting them have a unique fight. Punk vs. Chavo has been done to death in the ring so let them get out of the ring and mix it up a bit. The next title match is already set up and Punk getting to pose against the night sky after throwing Chavo into the Gulf of Mexico is certainly a way to make things more interesting.

**Overall Rating**: C. The main event was the best part of the show but it wasn't enough to carry the rest. There were too many things on here that just weren't very good and it dragged things down a bit. ECW is still a one to two story show at best and while it is only an hour a week, it isn't the most interesting hour as the dull parts are really hurting the good pieces.

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# Daily News Update – October 14, 2022

Make sure you check out some recent reviews.

<u>Monday Night Raw – October 10, 2022</u>

<u>NXT – October 11, 2022</u>

Dynamite - October 12, 2022

Monday Night Raw - February 4, 2022

Ronda Rousey Praises Monday Night Raw Star, Calls Him "Amazingly Talented".

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/ronda-rousey-praises-mon
day-night-raw-star-calls-amazingly-talented/

Two More Champions Reportedly Returning To WWE This Month.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/two-champions-reportedly
\_returning-wwe-month/

BREAKING: Reigning New Japan Champion Returns To WWE.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/breaking-reigning-new-ja
pan-champion-returns-wwe-partner/

BREAKING: Brock Lesnar Returns To WWE And Finds A New Target.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/breaking-brock-lesnar-re
turns-wwe-new-target/

Huge Title Change Takes Place On Monday Night Raw.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/breaking-title-change-ta
kes-place-monday-night-raw-3/

More Details On Jon Moxley's New AEW Deal, Surprise Appearances Possible.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/details-jon-moxleys-newaew-deal-surprise-appearances-possible/

WWE Brags About Extreme Rules Success.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-brags-extreme-rulessuccess/

WWE Confirms Return Of Missing Superstar.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-confirms-return-miss ing-star-next-week/

WATCH: D-Generation X Celebration Continues After Monday Night Raw.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-d-generation-x-cel
ebration-continues-monday-night-raw/

WWE Interested In Former World Champion, Ring Of Honor Stars Backstage (Contains Mild SPOILERS).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-interested-former-wo
rld-champion-ring-honor-stars-backstage-contains-mildspoilers/

Injured WWE Star Explains Her Condition, How She Was Hurt.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/injured-wwe-star-explain
s-condition-hurt/

WATCH: Undertaker Slaps Michelle McCool With A Tortilla.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-undertaker-slaps-m ichelle-mccool-tortilla/ Monday Night Raw, SmackDown And NXT Stars Changing Places Next Week.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/monday-night-raw-smackdo
wn-nxt-stars-changing-places-next-week/

Update On WWE's Plans To Bring Up New Superstars.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/update-wwes-plans-bringnew-stars/

Two Reasons Why Some AEW Wrestlers Reportedly Want To Head To WWE.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/two-reasons-aew-wrestler
s-reportedly-want-head-wwe/

Update On The Statuses Of Three Returning WWE Stars.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/update-statuses-three-re
turning-wwe-stars/

WRESTLING RUMORS: WWE Interested In Bringing Back This Former Star.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wrestling-rumors-wwe-int
erested-bringing-back-former-star/

Renee Paquette (Young) Makes AEW Debut In Familiar Role.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/renee-paquette-young-mak
es-aew-debut-familiar-role/

Surprise Title Change Takes Place On AEW Dynamite.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/surprise-title-change-ta
kes-place-aew-dynamite-2/

Wrestling Legend Hints At Changes Coming In His In-Ring Career.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wrestling-legend-hints-c

hanges.coming.ring.career/

Special Reunion Takes Place After AEW Dynamite.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/special-reunion-takes-pl
ace-aew-dynamite/

WRESTLING RUMOR: How WWE And USA Currently View Monday Night Raw.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wrestling-rumor-wwe-usaview-current-state-monday-night-raw/

AEW's Paige VanZant's Trainer Claims She Has Stopped Wrestling Training.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aews-paige-vanzants-trai ner-claims-stopped-wrestling-training/

WATCH: Mustafa Ali Says "I'm Done".

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-mustafa-ali-says-i
m-done/

AEW Star Makes Surprise Return After Four Month Absence.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aew-star-makes-surprisereturn-four-month-absence/

Daniel Cormier Forgot The Ending To WWE Extreme Rules Main Event.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/daniel-cormier-forgot-en
ding-extreme-rules-main-event/

Warner Brothers Discovery Executive On More AEW Programming (Minus A Ring).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/warner-brothers-discover
y-executive-aew-programming-minus-ring/

NXT Star Announces She Needs Surgery.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/nxt-star-announces-needs
-surgery/

Wrestling Legend: "I Lost All Respect For Shawn Michaels".

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wrestling-legend-lost-re
spect-shawn-michaels/

Latest On Adam Cole's Injury Status, Said To Be "Really Bad".

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/latest-adam-coles-injury
\_status-said-really-bad/

WRESTLING RUMORS: WWE Considers Adding A Woman To Current Stable.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wrestling-rumors-wwe-may
\_add-woman-current-stable/

Edge Lands New Acting Role In Upcoming Disney Project.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/edge-lands-new-acting-ro le-upcoming-disney-project/

WATCH: The Rock Says He Is The Head Of The Table.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-rock-says-head-tab
le/

Matt Cardona On Possible WWE Return: "Always Ready For Any Opportunity".

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/matt-cardona-possible-ww
e-return-always-ready-opportunity/

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## Monday Night Raw – February 4, 2008: Needs More Filler

## <u>Monday Night Raw</u>

Date: February 4, 2008 Location: Frank Irwin Center, Austin, Texas Attendance: 13,552 Commentators: Jim Ross, Jerry Lawler

So we are firmly into the build for No Way Out, which will feature John Cena challenging Randy Orton for the Raw World Title, plus an Elimination Chamber match for the Raw World Title shot at Wrestlemania. Thankfully we're only getting the build toward one Elimination Chamber match, which should fill in most of this week. Let's get to it.

<u>Here are last week's results if you need a recap.</u>

Opening sequence.

Randy Orton is in the ring to start things off and it looks like we've got a contract signing. Orton recaps the setup of his title match with John Cena at No Way Out, which is Cena's Royal Rumble title shot. That's not good enough for Orton though, which is why he wants a contract signed so Cena has no way out. Orton's lawyers have already signed the contract and he has signed it, so get Cena out here to sign it too.

After a quick walk through the back, here is Cena to quite the ovation. Cena wastes no time in signing and Orton is rather pleased, because the match is on no matter what happens to Cena, including in his arm wrestling match with Mark Henry tonight. Cue Henry for a distraction so the RKO can lay Cena out. They certainly didn't waste time here.

Post break, Henry and Orton deny planning anything in advance. Violence is promised for later tonight.

#### Kelly Kelly/Mickie James vs. Beth Phoenix/Victoria

Kelly goes after Victoria to start and manages a backslide, which has commentary far too impressed. Mickie comes in to go after Beth but gets pulled off the top, which might be a knee injury. A guillotine works a bit better for Mickie but Beth powers her into the corner. Everything breaks down and Mickie hits a tornado DDT to finish Victoria.

Mickie wants the title.

William Regal tells Hornswoggle to get ready to join Vince McMahon's special club. Regal: "I'm in it!"

Here is Shawn Michaels, with JR saying HHH isn't here tonight due to a family emergency. Shawn talks about how close he got to winning the WWE Title last year at Wrestlemania but he doesn't want to be second place. He is ready to go back this year so everyone in the Elimination Chamber is on notice. Shawn: "Friend, family and Umaga....whatever he is, he's on notice too!"

Cue Chris Jericho to interrupt to say he respects Shawn and how much he loved their Wrestlemania match. But then Shawn suggested he is going to win the Elimination Chamber and that's too far. Jericho has been inside the Chamber three times and knows what it takes to make it to the main event of Wrestlemania. Cue Jeff Hardy to interrupt to say that he'll be going to the main event of Wrestlemania for the first time.

Now it's JBL interrupting to say he gets what he wants. He has bought Umaga to get him to the main event of Wrestlemania….so here is Umaga to interrupt. After staring down the good guys, Umaga turns to JBL and backs him into the corner, which brings out Snitsky, to say the other five have had their chances. Fans: "BRUSH YOUR TEETH!" Shawn doesn't care for threats and mocks Snitsky's teeth before hitting him in the face. The brawl is on and we probably have a six man for later. Indeed as William Regal comes out to make the six man tag. This took a long time to get to the point and was mainly there to get all six of the Elimination Chamber participants out there.

#### Mr. Kennedy vs. Super Crazy

Kennedy dropkicks the knee out to start and hammers away at the leg. The knee is twisted back and then around the post but Crazy uses the free leg to kick Kennedy in the head. That's broken up and Kennedy grabs...kind of an inverted Figure Four for the fast tap. At least the hold was different than just a copy of Flair's Figure Four.

Post match Kennedy shows us a clip of MVP taking out Ric Flair's knee last week on Smackdown. Therefore, Kennedy is giving Flair a chance to come here next week and forfeit the No Way Out match and save his leg. They're taking a different path to Kennedy vs. Flair and it's more interesting than I would have thought.

Mike Adamle hypes up the Raw Elimination Chamber.

Video on the Chamber itself.

## <u>Carlito/Santino Marella vs. Paul London/Brian Kendrick</u>

Maria is here with Carlito and Marella. Kendrick dropkicks Carlito for a fast two but Marella low bridges him to the floor. London chases Marella around the ring, leaving Carlito to hit a Backstabber to finish Kendrick. Remember when London and Kendrick were one of the best teams in the company?

Vince McMahon is preparing for Hornswoggle to join his, ahem, special club. This involves a, quote, "Professional a\*\* buffer" and "a\*\* cream". Vince: "Mr. McMahon's a\*\* in HD!"

Here's Vince to humiliate Hornswoggle again. He talks about

how you can't reason with a child, so you have to discipline them. After ranting about children in the audience, Vince says you have to literally make them kiss your a\*\*. Cue Hornswoggle, who Vince blames for the whole thing and it's going to hurt Vince more than him.

Vince drops his pants and asks for a pardon of the tan lines. Hornswoggle goes to kiss it but Vince demands that he kiss it (that felt like a missed cue). Cue Finlay to ask what is wrong with Vince, who threatens a firing. Actually, Finlay can kiss it instead, but Hornswoggle gives it a bite. That doesn't work for Vince, who makes himself vs. Hornswoggle next week, No DQ, and if Finlay interferes, he's fired. This was WAY longer than any segment involving Vince not wearing pants should have been.

## <u>Cody Rhodes/Hardcore Holly vs. Trevor Murdoch/Lance Cade</u>

Non-title. Holly elbows Murdoch down to start so it's off to Cade to run Holly over right back. That doesn't last long and Cody comes in with a top rope ax handle, setting up a bulldog. Everything breaks down and Cody DDTs Murdoch for the pin.

Post match Carlito and Santino Marella come out to challenge for the titles. Egads that's a rough time for the belts.

No Way Out rundown.

## <u>Shawn Michaels/Jeff Hardy/Chris Jericho vs. John Bradshaw</u> <u>Layfield/Snitsky/Umaga</u>

Shawn and Umaga start things off with Shawn's chops having no effect. Umaga misses a sitdown splash so Jericho comes in and gets headbutted down without much trouble. It's off to Snitsky to miss a big boot, allowing Jericho to triangle dropkick him out to the floor. Hardy comes in (big reaction for that) and gets slammed by Snitsky, allowing JBL to pound away.

A hard shoulder drops Hardy but Snitsky comes in and allows

the tag off to Shawn. Something like an Indian Deathlock has Snitsky in trouble but everything breaks down. The good guys hit triple dives and we take a break with the fans sounding rather enthusiastic. Back with Jericho in trouble and getting caught in the wrong corner.

Umaga grabs a bearhug before hitting the Samoan drop for two. Jericho tries to fight out but gets kicked in the back to cut him right back down. An enziguri gives Jericho a breather though and the hot tag brings in Hardy to clean house. Everything breaks down and the Twist of Fate into the Swanton finishes Snitsky.

**Rating**: C+. Pretty standard, long form six man here with Hardy winning for the feel good moment. Hardy is going to be the fan favorite in the Chamber and giving him some momentum on the way there is the right thing to do. The fans wanted to see him do anything here and it's not like Jericho and Shawn need to pin Snitsky. Basic six man formula here and it worked just fine.

And now, arm wrestling between John Cena and Mark Henry. As expected, Henry takes forever to start and gets in a cheap shot on Cena's recently injured chest. They go, Henry is about to win, Cena is about to win, Randy Orton runs in to jump Cena. The RKO and AA are blocked and Orton runs, leaving Cena to AA Henry to end the show.

**Overall Rating**: C. This was a weird show as they had two stories, with the Elimination Chamber stuff and John Cena vs. Randy Orton. That filled in part of the show, but there wasn't much else to fill in time other than those two stories. Unfortunately the other big story was Vince/Hornswoggle and....yeah that was as Vince of a segment as you could have had. No Way Out is all but set and that has me wondering how bad things are going to go next week when they don't have much to say. For now though, it was just an ok show without much to fill in the gaps between the big stuff.

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# Dynamite – October 12, 2022: Happily Familiar

## **Dynamite**

Date: October 12, 2022 Location: Coca-Cola Coliseum, Toronto, Ontario, Canada Commentators: Excalibur, Taz, Tony Schiavone

We're up north this week and out of the United States (at least on land) for the first time. The main events feature a grand total of one American as we have Bryan Danielson challenging Chris Jericho for the Ring Of Honor World Title and Pac defending the All-Atlantic Title against Orange Cassidy. Let's get to it.

<u>Here are last week's results if you need a recap.</u>

We start hings off with the debut of the newest member of the

broadcast team: Renee Paquette (Young). That's a good addition to the team, as long as she stays out of the broadcast booth. She brings out Christian Cage, who insults Toronto and then brings in Luchasaurus.

#### Jungle Boy vs. Luchasaurus

Christian Cage is on commentary. Jungle Boy goes after him to start but gets powered into the corner. The uppercut off the top sends Luchasaurus to the floor and it's already time for a table. Jungle Boy is in big trouble as the table is set up outside and we take a break. Back with Luchasaurus missing a charge and going into the post, meaning he staggers up to the apron. The running sunset bomb sends Luchasaurus through the table, which is enough for Christian to come down to the ring.

Jungle Boy works on the arm some more, including wrapping it around the ropes. That's fine with Luchasaurus, who hits a left handed chokeslam for two. Some shots to the head get Jungle Boy out of trouble and a crucifix bomb gets two more. A Killswitch gives Jungle Boy another near fall but the Snare Trap is broken up. Jungle Boy goes to the top but a Christian distraction lets Luchasaurus get slammed off the top. The Cutthroat Driver finishes Jungle Boy at 14:04.

**Rating**: C+. It was a hard hitting fight and Jungle Boy losing is questionable, but there is one thing that caught my attention here. What was the point of the table spot? It was in the middle of the match, Luchasaurus barely sold it and it changed almost nothing. If that's all you're going to do with it, why even include it? If you need a table spot to pop the crowd, work out a better match.

The Firm and Matt hardy/Private Party get into it in the back. The Hardy vs. Ethan Page match is set for Rampage, with Private Party's freedom on the line. If Matt wins they're gone, but if Matt loses, Private Party and Matt are in the Firm. Why would you want Matt Hardy on your team?

## Samoa Joe/Wardlow vs. The Factory

It's a brawl to start until we settle down to Joe walking away from Solo's dive. Wardlow slams Comoroto down and it's a Swanton to make it worse. Joe chokes Comoroto out at 2:24.

Post match QT Marshall gets a Powerbomb Symphony but here is the Embassy to surround the ring. Brian Cage mocks FTR for not being here but here is FTR to interrupt. They would like a six man tag on Rampage and bring out Toronto's own Shawn Spears as their partner.

The Jericho Appreciation Society is ready for Bryan Danielson for what he made them do to Daniel Garcia.

#### Billy Gunn vs. Swerve Strickland

The Acclaimed is here with Gunn and Castor's rap makes a variety of Canadian references. Billy takes him down to start and teases the old lowering of the trunks, only to get kicked down to the floor. We take a break and come back with Billy making a comeback but Swerve takes him down and goes up top, where he mocks the scissoring. The Swerve Stomp gets two before Swerve grabs a rollup (with ropes) for the pin at 8:47.

**Rating**: C. It was a decent match with Swerve getting the win like he should have. Gunn is part of a popular act but even AEW is smart enough to not have him get a win over someone like Swerve at this point. The match was short enough due to the break, but they got the ending right (save for maybe Swerve getting two off them Stomp, which probably should have been the pin).

Post match Mark Sterling comes out to announce that he has trademarked the SCISSOR ME catchphrase so anytime they use it, he gets the money. Oh and he'll sue if they do the gesture too.

MJF is asked about almost shaking hands with Wheeler Yuta last

week but gets interrupted by Stokely Hathaway. That's not cool with MJF, who calls it strike two. With Stokely gone, MJF says he isn't sure if he was going to shake Yuta's hand or not because he learned a long time ago that the nice guys finish last.

No one knows what it is like to be him because he is expected to be the bad guy. He has broken his hand several times punching his reflection but make no mistake about it: he will be World Champion because he is a generational talent, a man with the chip and the man with a plan. This was a money promo, almost as always from MJF.

Here is Jon Moxley for a chat. He has been World Champion for a big chunk of AEW's history and that means a lot is expect of him. Some people become World Champion and crumble under the pressure, some faster than others (that sounded like a shot at Punk). That brings him to Hangman Page, so here he is for a chat. They get in each other's face and Moxley doesn't think Page has it anymore. It's not the same Page that shoved him off a 20 foot ladder last year.

Page says he's right because a lot of things has changed, including his old friends disappearing (cut to MJF in the sky box saying "serves them right". He has been beaten down and he has been choked blue and beaten while he is unconscious. He is also a former World Champion and doesn't care who is there next week, but Page is going to come for the title. Next week, he's proving that he's a man. The fact that Page punched himself to the point of bleeding made that a bit better. Heck of a promo here from Page, even if there is little chance that he's winning next week.

Video on Bryan Danielson vs. Chris Jericho.

#### Ring Of Honor World Title: Chris Jericho vs. Bryan Danielson

Jericho is defending and it's Lionheart again this week, so Judas is cut off. They strike it off to start and the fans sing Judas anyway. Danielson chops away but Jericho is right back with a hurricanrana, meaning the posing can take us to a break. Back with Jericho dropkicking him to the floor and hitting a slingshot dive to drop Danielson again.

Jericho shrugs that off and comes back with the LeBell Lock. That's broken up so Jericho tries the Walls, only to get broken up without much trouble. Danielson gets his own Walls but Jericho reverses into a small package for two. With that broken up, Danielson fires off hammer and anvil elbows but Jericho is back up with an AA of all things for two.

Back up and they miss shots to the head but the referee gets bumped. A double clothesline puts them both down and it's Daniel Garcia coming down. Danielson hits the running knee but Garcia belts him down (to a rather strong positive reaction) to give Jericho the retain pin at 14:31.

**Rating**: B. The ending was rather WWE and of course it's more As The Garcia Turns drama but Danielson vs. Jericho in a nearly fifteen minute match is going to be rather good no matter what. Danielson losing another big match is a bit much to take, but he has shown time and time again that he can bounce back like no others. Good match, which shouldn't be any kind of a surprise.

Jericho and Garcia leave in peace.

The Vicious Vixens are happy with Nyla Rose having stolen the TNT Title. Anna Jay comes in and gets a match with Rose on Rampage.

#### Britt Baker/Jamie Hayter vs. Hikaru Shida/Toni Storm

Rebel is here with the villains. Toni kicks Hayter down to start but gets taken into the wrong corner. The arm is sent into the post and we take a break. Back with Shida hitting a top rope Meteora for two on Baker as everything breaks down. Storm hits a tornado DDT and Storm Zero drops Baker. Hayter drives Storm into the cover for the save so Shida suplexes Baker and rolls her up for the pin at 8:15.

**Rating**: C+. This was another fast paced women's tag match and Shida seems to be getting at least something of a renewed push. I don't know how far that is going to take her but at least she is getting to do something. I'm not sure what that means for Storm who is still just kind of there, but at least the match was pretty good.

Butcher and the Blade are ready for Claudio Castagnoli and Jon Moxley on Rampage.

#### <u>All-Atlantic Title: Orange Cassidy vs. Pac</u>

Pac is defending and kicks Cassidy down to start. Then Pac mocks the lazy kick, earning him a hard dropkick from Cassidy. That's enough to send Pac outside, where he counters the suicide dive into a brainbuster on the floor. We take a break and come back with Cassidy diving back under the ropes after a Tombstone on the ramp during the break. Back in the Brutalizer goes on, sending Cassidy's feet into the ropes.

Cassidy hits a running DDT and the Orange Punch gets two. Pac grabs a quick suplex though and the Brutalizer goes on again. This time Cassidy rolls over and makes the rope again so Pac goes outside to grab the title belt. Cue Danhausen to stop him though, meaning IT'S TIME FOR A CURSE! Pac drops him with a right hand and grabs the ring hammer bell. Cassidy knocks it out of his hand and hits the Orange Punch, followed by a second for the pin and the title at 11:08.

**Rating**: B. This was a good fight, but above all else, it was a well built moment. The All-Atlantic Title doesn't mean much of anything and is mainly there to represent AEW outside of the United States. That doesn't make much of a difference in the grand scheme of things, but it means a lot for Cassidy to win it. This was his big moment and in that sense, it was a heck of a success.

**Overall Rating**: B+. Good action, they hyped up next week's title match, gave us a big moment in the end and had nothing bad all night. This was a rather strong Dynamite and it absolutely flew by, with Renee being a great bonus to kick things off. I'm looking forward to where a lot of this is is going and it felt like a return to the formula that made AEW work in the first place. Nice job and I'd like to see more of this.

<u>Results</u> Luchasaurus b. Jungle Boy – Cutthroat Driver Samoa Joe/Wardlow b. The Factory – Koquina Clutch to Comorato Swerve Strickland b. Billy Gunn – Rollup while grabbing the rope Chris Jericho b. Bryan Danielson – Belt shot from Daniel Garcia Hikaru Shida/Toni Storm b. Britt Baker/Jamie Hatyer – Rollup to Baker Orange Cassidy b. Pac – Orange Punch

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# NXT — October 11, 2022: It's Not Looking So Scary

## <u>NXT</u>

Date: October 11, 2022 Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida Commentators: Vic Joseph, Booker T.

We're rapidly approaching Halloween Havoc and that means we might need some more matches added to the show. The main event is already set and tonight we get another name added to the North American Title match as Axiom and Nathan Frazer wrap up their best of three series. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

## Javier Bernal vs. Bron Breakker

Non-title and here is JD McDonagh to join commentary. Breakker wrestles him down with ease to start and grabs an armbar. A belly to belly drops Bernal but he's back up with a shot of his own. A shove to the face annoys Breakker though and he throws Bernal down. The gorilla press powerslam finishes Bernal at 3:18.

**Rating:** C-. This was just a step above a squash as Bernal got in just as much offense as you would expect him to get in such a match. There is no reason to have it be anything else and it's fun to see Bernal get beaten up. Breakker continues to learn in the ring so keeping it short against lesser proven names is a good idea.

Post match McDonagh gets in the ring for the showdown and Ilja Dragunov comes in to join them. The brawl is on and Dragunov's Torpedo hits Breakker, despite looking like he was aiming at McDonagh.

## <u>NXT North American Title Match Qualifying Match: Axiom vs.</u> <u>Nathan Frazer</u>

In addition to being a qualifying match, this is the rubber match in a best of three series. Feeling out process to start with Frazer taking him down and smirking a bit. Axiom gets in his own takedown and....well I'm assuming smirks back. They go with some grappling and Axiom takes him down with a headlock to slow things down a bit. Back up and Frazer pulls him out of the corner as we take a break.

We come back with the fight heading outside, where Frazer hits a Nightmare on Helm Street to put them both down for a bit. Frazer takes him down back inside and goes up top but dives into a triangle choke. That's broken up so Axiom switches to a rear naked choke. Frazer escapes again and they trade kicks to the face. A double clothesline leaves both of them down and the fans applaud. Back up and Axiom knees him in the head and they go to a pinfall reversal sequence. Frazer finally gets the better of it and cradles him for the pin at 12:50.

**Rating:** B-. These two work well together and it was nice to see them getting to do their thing for a third time. I was expecting some kind of a draw to put them both in the ladder match so it was a bit refreshing to have a twist. Frazer winning is probably the better choice, though Axiom came out of the series looking good as well.

Post match, respect is show.

Ilja Dragunov is leaving but gets cut off by Grayson Waller. After Waller is a bit annoying, Dragunov mocks Waller's sunglasses and a match seems to be made for later.

Valentina Feroz wants Sanga in her corner tonight and of course he'll be there. Indi Hartwell comes in to suggest that Feroz is in trouble.

Apollo Crews writes in his journal about how changing one

detail can make a huge difference. He is ready to get his hands on Grayson Waller at Halloween Havoc. The vision seems to be a bunch of clips of Halloween Havocs past, plus Chuckie from Child's Play. He promises to leave Waller in the dark.

#### Indi Hartwell vs. Valentina Feroz

Sanga is here with Feroz. The much bigger Hartwell powers her up against the ropes to start and slams her down a few times for two. Hartwell grabs the chinlock and here is Veer to take Sanga to the back with him. Feroz doesn't notice at first as she grabs a short armscissors. That's broken up so she puts it on again, only to realize that Sanga is gone. The distraction lets Hartwell grab a superplex for the pin at 3:32.

**Rating**: C-. Hartwell is at least starting to put something back together but she has still fallen a long way. Other than that you have Feroz, who seems to be more of a pawn in the Indus Sher reunion. That's a shame as I like Sanga, but I guess we need an evil foreign menace team instead, because that's what we have been missing.

Post match Pretty Deadly pops up on the platform in an overly large cowboy hat and one of those hats with two beer cans on the side. They mock fans cheering for sports teams and the idea of anyone being a real challenge to them.

Cora Jade is annoyed at her lack of respect and it gets even worse when she finds out that Roxanne Perez is going to be on Smackdown this week.

#### Malik Blade/Edris Enofe vs. Josh Briggs/Brooks Jensen vs. Dyad

For the Halloween Havoc Tag Team Title shot. The Dyad takes over on Jensen to start but he punches his way to freedom and brings in Briggs to run the Dyad over. Enofe gets punched into the ropes, setting up the slides underneath the ropes and stereo right hands. The Dyad gets knocked to the floor for a meeting with Joe Gacy, allowing Fowler to come back in for a suplex on Enofe.

Briggs comes in to clean house and cuts off Reed despite a blind tag. Reed is thrown over the top and onto the pile at ringside, followed by Jensen hitting a big flip dive off the top for a wipeout. We take a break and come back with a Tower of Doom taking Blade down further than anyone else.

Briggs comes in and gets to clean house, including going to the floor, picking Enofe up, throwing him off the ropes, and clotheslining him out of the air (that was cool). Blade gets the tag and starts to clean house as everything breaks down. We hit a long string of strikes to the face until Enofe and Blade clear the ring. The back to back running dives take down the other four but Gacy drops Enofe with a discus lariat. Cue Cameron Grimes to take Gacy out and Enofe pins Reed at 12:29.

**Rating**: C+. This was all action and they didn't try to do anything else. It makes sense to have something like this on a show just to spice things up a bit and the winner makes for an interesting setup. If nothing else, Blade and Enofe needed a win to get them somewhere and why not let them have a title shot? It isn't like they have anything to lose.

Toxic Attraction want their Women's Tag Team Title match and promise violence.

Kiana James wants to shut down Chase U because the land it's on is really valuable.

#### <u>Alba Fyre vs. Jacy Jayne</u>

Gigi Dolin is here with Jayne and offers a distraction to start. Jayne knocks Fyre into the corner and looks a bit too cocky early on. Fyre fights back up and slugs away but can't hit a Gory Bomb. A fireman's carry slam gives Fyre two and some frustration is setting in. Instead it's another Dolin distraction to annoy Fyre, meaning she hits a running dive to take both of them out at ringside. Back in and the Gory Bomb finishes Jayne at 3:32.

**Rating**: C. This is one of those stories that you know by heart as soon as the match is announced and that isn't a bad thing. What matters is keeping Alba warmed up before her title match and so far, that is working well. You can pencil in the Gigi Dolin match from here and it should go rather well with the story they are telling.

Post match a fan jumps Fyre and it's....Sonya Deville. The beating is on with Fyre getting triple powerbombed through the announcers' table.

Joe Gacy promises to end Cameron Grimes 3-1 because Grimes has no one to help him. Their follower in the red hoodie pops up behind the team as they leave.

Zoey Stark and Nikkita Lyons are ready to win the Women's Tag Team Titles.

Quincy Elliott and Hank Walker are ready for a match next week. Walker gives him a quick spank and Elliott thanks him.

#### Wes Lee vs. Stacks

Stacks takes him down by the leg to start but Lee is right back up with a shot to the face. Back up and Stacks goes for the leg and grabs a leglock. A torture rack neckbreaker gets two on Lee so Stacks goes up, only to get pulled back down. The Spiral Tap gives Lee the pin at 3:58.

**Rating**: C. Well you can see why Stacks is the lackey to Tony D'Angelo rather than the other way around. Stacks is one of the more generic stars that you will see in NXT as he just didn't have anything to make him stand out. He did everything fine, but the crowd didn't seem interested and Lee's Spiral Tap was about the only interesting part. Not bad, but dull.

Post match Trick Williams and Carmelo Hayes come in to beat Lee down but Oro Mensah makes the save. Sonya Deville likes Toxic Attraction and doesn't like Alba Fyre. Next week, Deville will be waiting in the ring for her.

Roderick Strong, in a neck brace, is wheeled in to see the Creed Brothers and wants Julius to take out Damon Kemp at Halloween Havoc. Strong apologizes for ruining everything by bringing Kemp in and is forgiven. If you can't see how this is going at Halloween Havoc, you aren't paying enough attention.

#### <u>Thea Hail vs. Kiana James</u>

The bell rings and Mr. Stone runs in to say he can't enjoy Von Wagner's win last week because Thea Hail slapped him. Stone charges at him and gets backdropped but James hits a reverse Sling Blade (401K) to finish Hail at 1:18. Sounds like a teachable moment.

Tony D'Angelo on crutches comes in to say he's disappointed in Stacks for losing and for not listening to him. Stacks has another match next week, but D'Angelo won't say against who.

Von Wagner tells Mr. Strong that he needs to be serious for two weeks.

Cameron Grimes seems to have some friends for next week.

Cora Jade has an invitation from Rhea Ripley to come to Raw, so HA Roxanne Perez.

#### <u>Ilja Dragunov vs. Grayson Waller</u>

Dragunov takes him down to start and works on the armbar. A jumping backsplash and running knee in the corner put Waller down again as this is one sided so far. Back up and Waller gets in a shot to the face to take over and even mocks his conducting. Oh and he mocks the Spinarooni, which has Booker annoyed as well.

We take a break and come back with Dragunov hitting some shots to the back, setting up a jumping enziguri. Waller knocks him right back down though and hits the middle rope elbow for two. Dragunov comes back with the 6 1 Line but a takedown sets up Waller's choke. A neck snap across the top has Dragunov down so he goes to the floor....where the Spin The Wheel Make The Deal wheel appears and starts spinning (on its own). Back in and Dragunov rolls some suplexes, setting up the Torpedo for the pin at 11:05.

**Rating**: C+. The wheel thing was a little weird but Apollo Crews is doing a lot of weird things as of late. Dragunov winning here helps establish him a bit more in NXT, where he is still brand new. This should give him a small boost on the way to Halloween Havoc and I'd like to see what happens to him in what could be a wild triple threat.

Post match Bron Breakker runs in and spears Dragunov down. JD McDonagh applauds to end the show.

**Overall Rating**: C. Not exactly a strong week from NXT here as they don't have anything that has me overly interested for Halloween Havoc. The NXT Title match should be good, but it doesn't feel like a story that is head and shoulders above everything else. The problem is that nothing else on the show does either and I'm not exactly interested in what they're doing so far. Maybe they can change that next week, and at this point, they need to. Decent enough action this week and it wasn't bad, but it didn't make me more interested in their big show and that's not good.

#### <u>Results</u>

Bron Breakker b. Javier Bernal – Gorilla press powerslam Nathan Frazer b. Axiom – Rollup Indi Hartwell b. Valentina Feroz – Superplex Malik Blade/Edris Enofe b. Dyad and Josh Briggs/Brooks Jensen – Rollup to Reed Alba Fyre b. Jacy Jayne – Gory Bomb Wes Lee b. Stacks – Spiral Tap Kiana James b. Thea Hail – 401K Ilja Dragunov b. Grayson Waller – Torpedo

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# Monday Night Raw – October 10, 2022: Chock Full

Monday Night Raw

Date: October 10, 2022 Location: Barclays Center, New York City, New York Commentators: Corey Graves, Kevin Patrick

It's the season premiere and that means we should have a stacked show. WWE has a tendency to make these shows huge and that is the case again this week. We have a D-Generation X reunion, plus Bobby Lashley defending the United States Title against Seth Rollins. Let's get to it.

<u>Here is Extreme Rules if you need a recap.</u>

Shawn Michaels, Road Dogg and X-Pac are in the back and talk to HHH, wearing a headset at the Gorilla position. HHH tells them to be nice so a bunch of swearing and penis jokes, complete with rubber chickens, ensues. This was perfectly amusing given the situation.

Opening sequence.

Kevin Patrick is introduced as the new lead play by play commentator.

Here's the Bloodline to get things going. After we look at the Logan Paul/Bloodline Smackdown segment, Reigns talks about how he likes to move forward. This time though, he can't move past last Friday, which has him thinking about something his dad once told him. His dad said the loudest in the room is also the weakest in the room, so he thinks that if you're loud and in the Bloodline, you're a fool. Reigns: "Jey! Are you a fool?"

Sami cuts him off (Heyman goes BALLISTIC for Sami daring to interrupt) and says that Reigns made Jey Sami's responsibility so he has this. With the fans VERY behind him, Sami talks about how close he and Roman have gotten before talking about how great Solo Sikoa is. Jey asks if Reigns really believes this....and here is Matt Riddle to interrupt. Riddle wants one more shot at Reigns, who polls the audience. Reigns: "....nah."

Riddle asks if someone wants to step up to the plate and Jey volunteers Sami. Riddle says "yeet" (I think?), which Sami says is a Bloodline thing. Riddle: "Yeet." Jey tells Sami to handle his business so the match is set for tonight. Sami's pops continue to be insane and the eventual face turn, however it goes, is going to be incredible.

Long recap of Extreme Rules.

# Austin Theory vs. Johnny Gargano

Gargano rather approves of the JOHNNY WRESTLING chants as he takes over to start, including the rolling kick to the head. The slingshot DDT to the apron is blocked though and Theory hits a suplex on said apron as we take a break. Back with Gargano hitting a slingshot spear for two but Theory drops him for the same.

A-Town Down is broken up so Theory puts him into the Gargano Escape. That's broken up and Gargano's Gargano Escape goes on instead. With that broken up as well, Theory hits a superkick for two and says it's his time. The rolling something is cut off by Gargano's suplex and a running diving DDT to the floor knocks Theory silly. One Final Beat gives Gargano the pin at 8:44.

**Rating:** C+. Theory's downward spiral continues and that is still more than a little confusing. Theory has a long time to do something with the briefcase but it is hard to imagine that any kind of a successful cash-in means much for him at this point. I'm not sure why Theory is losing so often but that is what WWE continues to do for some reason. Gargano getting a win is nice, though I'm not sure about the cost.

# Rey Mysterio vs. Chad Gable

Otis is in Gable's corner. Gable goes after the arm to start but is easily taken to the mat and into an armbar. A headscissors puts Gable on the floor and a sliding sunset bomb sends him into the barricade....and here are Rhea Ripley and Dominik Mysterio. We take a break and come back with Gable hitting a German suplex for two before grabbing the ankle lock. With that broken up, Rey hits a 619 and a slingshot splash for the fast pin at 7:45.

**Rating:** C. Well at least it wasn't a distraction into the finish, which could have been a really annoying way to go. Rey getting the pin makes sense as he needs to rebuild himself and

it isn't like Gable can fall much further than he has already gone. In theory this is setting up Rey vs. Dominik in the near future, though I'm not sure how well such a match would actually go.

Post match Rey gets surrounded by Dominik and Rhea. Dominik demands Rey hit him until Dominik gets in a slap of his own. The rest of Judgment Day comes in so Rey fights them off, until Dominik saves Finn Balor from the 619. Dominik still demands Rey hit him but Rey goes to walk away. As a result, Rhea holds Rey's hands and Dominik hits his own 619. They're trying everything they can to make Rey vs. Dominik work and while it is doing better than it was before, it's still hard to get into Dominik doing anything.

Post break, Judgment Day is still in the ring to brag about how great they are right now, with Finn Balor bragging quite a bit about making Edge say he quits. Balor on the other hand is "too legit to quit." We see a recap of the I Quit match and Rhea Ripley is rather pleased with the Conchairto to Beth Phoenix. Dominik says the Conchairto did it for him, which brings Balor to AJ Styles. Tonight, it is an ultimatum, but here is Styles to cut him off.

Styles says he needs some friends to help him here, if not even family. He drops to a knee in front of Balor and shakes his hand....but that isn't the family Styles meant. Cue the returning OC (Good Brothers, Karl Anderson/Luke Gallows, the former of which is the reigning New Japan Never Openweight Champion) for the brawl, with Judgment Day being cleared out.

Damage Ctrl is upset about Bianca Belair beating Bayley at Extreme Rules and promise that punishment is coming for Belair. Tonight, Bayley is going to beat up Candice LeRae.

Roman Reigns, Paul Heyman and Solo Sikoa are ready to hit the town in New York City (Heyman has set it up) but Jey Uso needs to talk. Reigns tells him to stay and make sure Sami Zayn wins, which gives Jey the reaction you might expect.

# Bayley vs. Candice LeRae

Candice wisely goes after Bayley's banged up ribs to start and a missile dropkick puts Bayley on the floor as we take a break. Back with Candice favoring her knee and Bayley staying right on it. The DDT to the knee keeps Candice down but the Rose Plant is countered into a cradle to give Candice the pin at 6:02. Not enough shown to rate but Bayley's spiral continues while Candice gets a bit win.

Post match the rest of Damage Ctrl runs out to beat on LeRae so here is Bianca Belair for the save. That doesn't quite work though and Damage Ctrl gets to stand tall.

Miz runs into Maryse in the back but he is worried about Dexter Lumis ruining it. She has a gift for him which is....a baseball bat.

It's time for Miz's birthday celebration, complete with balloons, gifts and an ice sculpture. Maryse introduces Miz and starts with the presents, including the bat signed by the best long ball hitter today: the Cleveland Guardians' (who play the New York Yankees in the playoffs starting this week) Jose Ramirez (as a lifelong Cleveland fan, I have never been a bigger Miz fan)!

Maryse also gives him some massive red balls to go with the bat before having him open one more present. This one is still on the table and is rather heavy, so Miz pulls the box away to reveal....Dexter Lumis' head. Miz puts the box back on and beats it with the bat but Lumis pops out and chokes Miz. That's enough for Miz to leave so Lumis is left alone with Maryse, who runs too. Then Lumis pulls out a knife, pops the balls, and eats cake.

DX gives two guys a pep talk as they are about to face Omos. Miz and Maryse come in and demand something be done about Dexter Lumis. Shawn Michaels thinks Miz did something to Lumis but Miz says he'll do anything to get rid of Lumis. Therefore, Road Dogg suggests a match between them next week. If Miz wins, Lumis is gone, but if Lumis wins, he gets Miz's stabbed balls and a WWE contract.

#### <u>Omos vs. Robert Adams/Joseph Torres</u>

Beating, throws, double chokeslam, Omos wins at 1:17.

We look at the full Bray Wyatt return from Extreme Rules.

Here is Bobby Lashley for a chat before his US Title defense against Seth Rollins. Lashley lists off some of the people he has defeated, including Drew McIntyre, Brock Lesnar...and here is Lesnar to interrupt. Lesnar walks around the ring, gets inside, says hi to Lashley, and gives him the F5. A German suplex, another F5 and the Kimura leave Lashley laying, with Lesnar putting his cowboy hat (with feather) back on.

Post break, Lashley is being checked on by referees and medics but here is Seth Rollins, with taped ribs, to say he wants his title match right now. Lashley doesn't seem sure but Rollins says Lashley calls himself a soldier while he's really a disgrace to his country. Those are fighting words.

### <u>US Title: Seth Rollins vs. Bobby Lashley</u>

Lashley is defending and they're both very banged up. An early spear attempt is countered into the Pedigree to give Rollins two and a frog splash gets the same. Lashley is back with a spear but Rollins hits a superkick. A kick to the bad arm sets up the stomp, with a second one giving Rollins the pin and the title at 2:38. They had to get the title off of Lashley somehow.

Post break, Lashley swears vengeance and wants Brock Lesnar here next week.

Bray Wyatt's mask hacks the feed and tells us to revel in what

we are.

Elias is back next week.

<u>Matt Riddle vs. Sami Zayn</u>

The Usos are here with Sami. Riddle kicks him in the chest to start and hits a running forearm for two. Sami is right back with a right hand and some rope choking where Jey is able to get in a boot to the face. That doesn't work for Sami, who says he has this. That lets Riddle send Sami to the floor, where Sami switches places and hits an Arabian moonsault as we take a break.

Back with Riddle kicking him down and hitting the Broton for two. Zayn's Michinoku Driver gets the same but Riddle is fine enough to knee him out of the air. Riddle knocks Zayn outside and hits the springboard Floating Bro as we take another break. Back again with Riddle hitting a jumping knee, followed by the rapid fire kicks to the chest. The RKO finishes Zayn at 15:55.

**Rating**: B-. The breaks hurt this one a bit but the match is going to be more about Jey not being able to do what Reigns ordered him to do. It continues to be the best story in wrestling too so this should be some fun fall out on Smackdown. Riddle continues his roll and now the question becomes where he can go from here. Good main event here, though I could have gone with seeing the rest of it minus the breaks.

As Riddle leaves, here is D-Generation X (on the tank/Jeep) for their big reunion appearance. X-Pac is glad to be here and gets in a quick shout out to Chyna (amen). Road Dogg does the New Age Outlaws intro and lets the fans do the Billy Gunn part (in a related story, commentary made a scissors joke).

HHH says it was 25 years ago when DX debuted and asks how many people were watching back then. HHH: "You all aren't that

old!" Shawn: "I feel better now!" We get the catchphrase before Shawn asks if the fans will put them out of their misery if they're out here again in another 25 years....and that's that. So yeah this was just "hey we're still alive" and that's it.

**Overall Rating**: B-. The wrestling wasn't the greatest here but the best thing was that it felt like stuff happened. There were moments that made me interested in the future and that is one of the major differences between HHH and Vince McMahon. HHH feels more like he has planned these things out a bit further in advance and now that makes Raw feel a lot more important. Good show here, and for a special night, they did well enough.

# <u>Results</u>

Johnny Gargano b. Austin Theory — One Final Beat Rey Mysterio b. Chad Gable — Slingshot splash Candice LeRae b. Bayley — Rollup Omos b. Robert Adams/Joseph Torres — Chokeslam to Adams Seth Rollins b. Bobby Lashley — Stomp Matt Riddle b. Sami Zayn — RKO

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# Daily News Update – October 10, 2022

Make sure you check out some recent reviews:

<u>Impact Wrestling – October 6, 2022</u>

NXT LVL Up - September 30, 2022

<u>Smackdown – October 7, 2022</u>

Rampage - October 7, 2022

NXT LVL Up - October 7, 2022

Battle Of The Belts IV

Bound For Glory 2022

Extreme Rules 2022

<u>Classic All-Star Wrestling – October 9, 2022</u>

Another Name Returns To AEW Following Suspension (Contains Mild Spoiler).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/another-name-returns-aew
\_following-suspension/

Popular Name Gone From WWE After Six Years With The Company.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/another-popular-name-gon
e-wwe/

Former AEW Star Returning To Company After Hiatus.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/former-aew-star-returnin
g-company-hiatus/

NXT Stable Debuts On SmackDown, New Member Added.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/nxt-stable-debuts-smackd
own-new-member-added/

Update On AEW All Out Backstage Brawl, Legal Action Reportedly Threatened.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/update-aew-backstage-bra
wl-legal-action-threatened/

Another Former WWE Star Returns To WWE As New Character.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/another-former-wwe-starreturns-wwe-new-character/

Multiple Title Changes Take Place In One Night.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/multiple-title-changes-t
ake-place-one-night/

Important Update On Becky Lynch's WWE Status.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/important-update-becky-l
ynchs-wwe-status/

Former WWE Writer Explains What Made Vince McMahon Snap During A Promo.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/former-wwe-writer-explai
ns-make-vince-mcmahon-ignore-promo/

WATCH: Bray Wyatt's Epic Return At WWE Extreme Rules.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-bray-wyatts-epic-r
eturn-wwe-extreme-rules/

Major Update On Charlotte's WWE Return.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-confirms-charlottesupcoming-return/

LOOK: WWE Unveils WrestleMania 40 Logo (And It Has Something Special).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/look-wwe-unveils-wrestle
mania-40-logo-something-special/

NXT Star Makes Surprise Cameo At WWE Extreme Rules.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/nxt-star-makes-surprisecameo-wwe-extreme-rules/

Jon Moxley Gets Several Responsibilities With New AEW Deal.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/jon-moxley-getting-sever
al-responsibilities-new-aew-deal/

Former Champion Expected To Return To WWE.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/former-champion-expected
\_return-wwe/

WWE's Reaction To Bray Wyatt's Extreme Rules Return.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwes-reaction-bray-wyatt
s-extreme-rules-return/

Kayla Braxton Shuts Down Sami Zayn's Trolling With Awesome Response.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/kayla-braxton-shuts-sami
-zayn-trollins-awesome-response/

Brock Lesnar Passed On Fighting Another World Champion.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/brock-lesnar-passed-figh
ting-another-world-champion/

Four Wrestling Stars Are Once Again Free Agents (CONTAINS SPOILERS).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/four-wrestling-stars-fre
e-agents/

WATCH: The Bloodline Has A New Problem On Their Hands.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-bloodline-new-prob
lem-hands/

As always, hit up the comments section to chat about what is going on and <u>get on the Wrestling</u> <u>Rumors Facebook page.</u>

# Classic All Star Wrestling – October 9, 2022: I Have No Idea What This Is (Local TV Is FUN)

<u>Classic All Star Wrestling</u> Date: October 9, 2022 Host: Adam Parsons

I have absolutely no idea what this is but it aired on a local station on a Sunday afternoon so I had to check it out. This is a weird situation as there is no promotion or stars listed so not only do I not know where it is coming from but I'm completely lost going in. That's a new way to go so let's get to it.

Opening sequence featuring clips of Andre the Giant, an old Bam Bam Bigelow, Jeff Jarrett and Jerry Lawler, so I'm guessing this is some Memphis deal....and then there's a ring skirt that says HAWAII. What in the world is this?

Adam Parsons (who looks like he's in a tiny room for a studio) welcomes us to the show and says we're going to Portland to start. Parsons explains that this isn't the famous Destroyer (Dick Beyer) but rather Fidel Sierra under a mask. Seriously I am totally lost as to what this is but it's kind of great.

### Brett Sawyer/Buzz Wayne Sawyer vs. Destroyer/Igor Volkoff

From what I can find, this is from April 11, 1981 at the Sports Arena in Portland, Oregon. Buzz and Destroyer start things off with Buzz picking up the pace, setting up a crisscross. Buzz slams him down for two but Volkoff makes a rather fast save. It's Volkoff coming in and dropping Buzz with a knee to the ribs as we're told there are four minutes left. There was either some slick editing in there or this has a five and a half minute time limit.

Destroyer comes back in to drop a knee as we hear about how Destroyer and Rip Oliver are the Tag Team Champions. The beating on Buzz continues as we're down to three minutes. Buzz dives through the ropes for the hot tag to Brett though and house is quickly cleaned. A running forearm drops Volkoff and a knee drop gets two. Buzz....seems to fall off the top in an attempt to take out Volkoff so instead it's a small package to give Buzz the pin at 3:31.

**Rating**: C. The time didn't help things but they did what they could with what they had. The Sawyers were a regular tag team all over the place so it was natural that they had some chemistry together. I'm not sure why Volkoff was here instead of Destroyer's regular partner but they worked fine as a pair of villains. Brett was good enough in the ring, despite being one of the most horrible people in wrestling outside of it.

We're off to Memphis, probably around 1986/1987.

## MOD Squad vs. David Haskin/Ken Johnson

The Squad (Spike/Basher) are probably best known as being a low level team in Jim Crockett Promotions. But hang on as commentary says that this is the MOD Squad against….David Johnson and Thunderbolt (Larry) Hamilton? I have no idea what is going on here but I'll trust Lance Russell over Adam Parsons.

# MOD Squad vs. David Johnson/Thunderbolt Hamilton

We're joined in progress with Hamilton taking Spike down and working on the arm. Spike gets up without much trouble and hands it off to Basher, who brings Johnson in to beat on him instead. The Squad's manager is walking around ringside with a book called MOD RULES as Basher grabs a chinlock. A suplex drops Johnson again and Basher drops Spike onto him with a legdrop for two, with Spike pulling up from the cover. Something like a hart Attack from the top finishes Johnson at 5:21 shown...and apparently this is a 2/3 falls match (normal in Memphis)...and we're not going to see the second or third fall. Ok then.

**Rating:** C-. Kind of a dull match, but the Squad was never exactly known as a great team. This was pretty much a squash as Hamilton got in some offense before Johnson got crushed. I'm not sure what the deal was with the wrong names, but this doesn't exactly seem to be the most detail oriented setup in the first place.

From the Cobb County Civic Center in Marietta, Georgia, October 2, 1988. This seems to be from Southern Championship Wrestling, a Georgia promotion.

# AWA World Title: Jerry Lawler vs. Tommy Rich

Lawler is defending and Parsons seems to say they aired the

setup to this match last week. We're joined in progress with Lawler in trouble as Rich hits a bulldog for two. A second bulldog is broken up though and Rich takes out a camera man in the corner by mistake. Rich cuts off a comeback attempt and hits a clothesline into a piledriver but doesn't cover. Instead, Rich snaps him throat first across the top and takes it outside.

A right hand only hits post though and Lawler is able to take down the strap. They get back inside with Lawler hitting a backdrop as the ring announcer sounds like he said we're eight minutes in. Lawler hits a suplex and drops a fist for two but the middle rope fist misses. Rich loads up the foreign object to knock Lawler silly for the pin at 6:02 shown, despite Lawler's foot being on the rope.

**Rating**: C. Given that rich was never AWA World Champion, I don't think this is going to count. They trimmed off a lot here and this seemed to be much more about setting up something for a rematch later on. What we got was pretty standard Lawler, but having it in Georgia didn't quite fit as well as in Memphis. Fine enough match, even if it was so clipped.

Parsons tells us that the result was overturned so no worries. We hear about Rich's heel run in the south in the late 80s and we get a preview for next week's show.

Roll credits, featuring multiple Parsons (no Iceman) as part of the production crew.

**Overall Rating**: C. I'm assuming that Parson and the Wrestling Legends Network (seems to be a parent company/distribution label) has bought up a bunch of old territory footage and is airing it on local television, half an hour a week. Well if you insist I guess, as I'll certainly be doing this every week. This was a short collection but this is going to be a show where it's a question of what do we have on any given

show. I'm absolutely sold and this was a GREAT surprise treat.

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# Extreme Rules 2022: Say His Name And He Appears

### Extreme Rules 2022

Date: October 8, 2022 Location: Wells Fargo Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Commentators: Michael Cole, Corey Graves

We're back with the violent pay per view and in this case the card might be able to live up to that hype. There is a different, or mostly different, gimmick to every match on the card and some of them could get rather violent. In addition, we find out who the White Rabbit is tonight and that could be a huge moment. Let's get to it.

The opening video is narrated by Paul Heyman (of course) and features a boy in a spelling bee, trying to spell EXTREME. He

asks for the definitions, with Heyman talking about what it means for tonight.

#### Imperium vs. Brawling Brutes

This is a Good Old Fashioned Donnybrook, meaning street fight with some props at ringside. It's a brawl to start, as it should be, with everyone pairing off in and around the ring. Kaiser is tied in the Tree of Woe for a running dropkick but the rest of Imperium comes over for the save. Everyone goes for the weapons and Sheamus is sent into various things at ringside.

With Kaiser and Vinci holding Sheamus over a bar, Gunther chops away and hits the big boot before dropping him onto said bar. Back in and it's Butch and Holland getting beaten up, including the double running dropkick to Butch in the corner. As Imperium poses, Sheamus fights up and it's time to wreck Gunther's minions.

Gunther tells Sheamus to bring it and the slugout is on. A release German suplex drops Sheamus but he's right back up with a clothesline. Holland and Butch are back up to help with the beating until everyone knocks each other down. The teams get up and fight to the floor, with Butch hitting a heck of a moonsault off some barrels.

Gunther is back up and hits the shillelagh shot for two Sheamus. The rest of the Brutes get back in and beat down Gunther, allowing Sheamus to hit a heck of a shillelagh shot to knock Gunther silly. Gunther gets powerbombed through the announcers' table, leaving Kaiser to get Brogue Kicked for the pin at 17:42.

**Rating**: A-. The good old fashioned part was right as these guys didn't bother with anything more than what was advertised. They beat each other up for about eighteen minutes and you could feel a lot of the pain and violence they were showing off here. Sheamus getting the win was the right way to go and he can probably have a final showdown with Gunther. This was what I was looking for from this match and they delivered hard.

Miz isn't happy about the idea of Dexter Lumis ruining his birthday tomorrow night. He'll even talk about it with HHH....but something catches his eye. That would be Philadelphia Flyers mascot Gritty, who offers him a shirt. Miz throws it down and stomps on it, become the most despised man in the arena.

We recap Ronda Rousey vs. Liv Morgan for the Smackdown Women's Women's Title. Morgan escaped with the title over Rousey at Summerslam so tonight it's Extreme Rules so Morgan can prove she can hang with Rousey with no rules.

### Smackdown Women's Title: Ronda Rousey vs. Liv Morgan

Morgan is defending and it's Extreme Rules, meaning Morgan brings a baseball bat. That works fine for Rousey, who starts the brawl and takes it outside, with Morgan being knocked down. Rousey picks up the bat but takes too long, allowing Liv to blast her with a fire extinguisher. That's not enough though as Rousey hits a Piper's Pit on the floor, followed by a baseball bat to the ribs (with Rousey looking to the crowd to see how far that shot went for some good heeling).

Some more shots to the knee put Morgan down but she's fine enough to hit an enziguri for a breather. Back up and Rousey gets in some shots with a bat to the knee but Morgan sends her into the steps. A table is set up in the corner inside but Rousey sends her face first into it a few times. The running knee sets up an armbar over the ropes but Morgan slips out and grabs a chair.

Said chair is wedged in the corner....and then falls out, meaning there is nothing for Rousey to hit when Morgan kicks her into the corner. Back in and Morgan hits some awful chair shots, followed by a Codebreaker to drive the chair into Rousey's face for two. Rousey is put on the table for the top rope backsplash for two, followed by a pretty awful powerbomb onto the broken table. That's enough for Rousey to pull her into some kind of a leg choke for the knockout win (with Liv smiling for some reason) at 12:17.

**Rating**: D+. I'm trying to be nice with this one because they were absolutely trying, but this just didn't work. I don't think there was any reason to believe that Morgan had a chance to win a fight against Rousey, weapons or no weapons, and there was no way around that. Now that being said, Rousey unloading on Morgan's knee with a bat and having it do nothing is inexcusable and had me wondering who put this match together because they need to be fired. They were in a bad situation that didn't suit them and then it was all downhill from there. Bad match, but they put the effort in and it got better by the end.

We recap Karrion Kross vs. Drew McIntyre. Kross debuted about a month and a half ago, saying he wants to reset the timeline, meaning taking McIntyre out. McIntyre isn't down for that and is tired of Kross disappearing, so they've having a strap match.

### Karrion Kross vs. Drew McIntyre

Strap match and Scarlet is here with Kross. Hold on though as Kross jumps him before the strap is tied, meaning the fight goes into the crowd. They fight through the arena and make it back down to ringside, where Kross can't suplexes him onto the steps. They get back inside with McIntyre in control and tying the strap to Kross' wrist to officially start the match.

Some LOUD whips have Kross in trouble but Scarlet offers a distraction so Kross can manage a posting. McIntyre's bad shoulder is banged up again but he wants to keep going, even as Kross hammers away. A Downward Spiral onto the announcers' table (which isn't like a Futureshock Cole) knocks McIntyre

silly and the Doomsday Saito gives Kross two back inside.

McIntyre gets fired up by the whipping and a jumping neckbreaker drops Kross. Back up and the whip the heck out of each other until Kross finally gets staggered. The Futureshock drops McIntyre so he loads up the Claymore, only to have Scarlet get in the way. Some pepper spray blinds McIntyre and the Krosshammer (running forearm to the back of the head) finishes for Kross at 10:19.

**Rating**: B. Much like the opener, you went into this one expecting violence and that is exactly what you got. This was about two big, strong men beating each other senseless with a weapon that was going to make people cringe and they did exactly that. The ending was one of the ways they could go and McIntyre keeps face, but Kross needed to go over here after a brutal match and that is what happened.

Miz is on the phone about his birthday again when Gritty interrupts. More yelling ensues.

We recap Bayley vs. Bianca Belair for the Raw Women's Title. Bayley returned at Summerslam and wanted to take over the division, including with her Damage Ctrl teammates. That means she needs a title and by pinning Belair at Clash At The Castle, she earned the shot here in a ladder match.

### Raw Women's Title: Bianca Belair vs. Bayley

Belair is defending in a ladder match. After the Big Match Intros, they waste no time in going outside to grab a ladder each. Belair gets the better of things and goes up, only to have Bayley break it up without much trouble. After explaining to a fan that she is winning and therefore cannot suck, Bayley sends her into a ladder, with Belair using it for a quickly broken climb attempt.

Belair takes her down and hits the handspring moonsault onto Bayley onto the ladder but Belair is banged up too. A ladder is set up in the corner and a running sunset bomb sends Belair into the ladder for a big crash. Belair has to make another save so Bayley sends her outside and bridges a ladder between the steps and the barricade. The running elbow off the apron hits Belair on the ladder but Belair is back up with a ladder shot of her own.

Back in and Bayley knocks her down again, meaning it's time to....break off a piece of her knee brace. The charge misses though and Belair grabs a KOD. Belair goes up but the rest of Damage Ctrl take her down, including a big shove off the ladder. That's broken up with Belair hitting a double KOD (geez) but Bayley is back up to Roseplant Belair.

Bayley loads up the ladder over Belair....who presses it up to shove Bayley off for the insane power display save. It's Bayley going up but Belair uses the braid to bring her back down. Bayley picks up a ladder but Belair picks up Bayley (and the ladder) and KODs them both, allowing Belair to pull the title down and retain at 16:38.

**Rating**: B-. I'm not sure on this one and a lot of that is due to how the ending of the match went. They did a good job of making Belair look like a monster, but this was Damage Ctrl slamming into a brick wall, as Bayley had worn her down and then the other two couldn't finish it off. It made Belair look great but for the rest of the team, not so much. Other than that, this was a good ladder match with some creative enough spots, but there are so many of them these days that it's hard to get overly excited about them anymore.

We recap Edge vs. Finn Balor. Edge formed Judgment day after Wrestlemania and then Balor turned on the team to take Edge's place. Edge has since tried to destroy the team but can't get rid of them no matter what he does. Tonight is his chance in an I Quit match.

Finn Balor vs. Edge

I Quit match and Edge starts fast with a neckbreaker. Edge drives him face first into the corner but Balor gets in a shot to the face to take over, including stomping Edge in the corner. It's time to work on Edge's knee and a leglock sets up a figure four. Edge isn't about to quit but he can't turn it over, meaning Balor can crank on it even more. With that not working, Balor takes it outside and ties Edge up in the ring skirt to keep up the beating.

Edge fights up and knocks him over the announcers' table so they can fight into the crowd. They brawl around the arena and over by the Kickoff Show set, but Balor still won't quit. Now it's off to the concourse, where Balor is launched face first into the concrete overhead. The spear only results in Edge low blowing himself on a barricade though, with Balor bending Edge's neck around said barricade.

They get back to ringside, where Balor can't get Edge to quit so he wedges a chair in the corner instead. A Crossface has Edge in more trouble but he fights out and grabs the Edgecator for a bit of a flashback. Cue Damian Priest (Cole: "I was wondering when this idiot was going to show up.") for the save, with Dominik Mysterio following, so Edge spears Balor through the ropes to take them all down. Back in and Rhea Ripley pops in to handcuff Edge to the top.

The three men of Judgment Day beat Edge down and Balor unloads with kendo stick shots to the back. Rey Mysterio FINALLY comes in with a chair (where the heck was he five minutes ago) and makes most of the save but Dominik knocks Rey off the apron. Cue Beth Phoenix to make the real save and beat the fire out of Balor with the kendo stick. Ripley gets up for the staredown so Beth beats her down as well and gets the key.

Edge is freed and spears down Priest, followed by three spears to Balor. Beth grabs the chair for Edge, who loads up the crossface but Ripley comes back in to blast Beth with brass knuckles. Judgment Day beats Edge down, including a bunch of Coup de Graces. Edge still won't quit, so Beth is loaded into a Conchairto. That's enough to make Edge quit at 29:53.

**Rating:** B. This did work and it did feel extreme, but they probably needed about five to seven minutes cut out to make it that much better. The ending was about the only way that they could go as you don't want Edge quitting clean and it also makes him look like a hero for trying to save his wife. Balor and the team absolutely needed this win though and having them be all evil towards Beth made them look even better.

That being said, the Rey/Dominik stuff still isn't working and still isn't as interesting as WWE thinks it is. It's also not as evil as Michael Cole would have you believe, as he was REALLY annoying on commentary, screaming like Dominik was blowing up a bus full of orphans when he hit Rey. Cole was going so far over the deep end that I wanted Rey to hit him instead of Dominik and I don't think that's the right idea. Other than that though, good, violent brawl.

They Conchairto her anyway. Panic ensues, because this time Beth is some helpless creature instead of the time when she's a Hall of Famer and unstoppable force.

Charlotte is coming back at some point in the future.

Gritty gives Miz another shirt so Miz beats him up....but Dexter Lumis is behind Miz. The choke out ensues, followed by Lumis helping Gritty up. Gritty kicks Miz in the ribs and leaves with Lumis.

We recap Matt Riddle vs. Seth Rollins. They have been fighting for months and making it very personal, with both insulting the other's family. Rollins beat Riddle at Clash At The Castle when Riddle let his anger get the better of him, so now it's a match in the Fight Pit, which is Riddle's style.

Seth Rollins vs. Matt Riddle

This is in the Fight Pit, which is a cage with no ropes and a platform around the top of the ring that they can walk on. You can only win by knockout or submission and UFC legend Daniel Cormier is referee for some extra flavor. The bell rings and the fans immediately want Bray Wyatt, but have to settle for Riddle walking the cage wall for a kick to the head.

Riddle hammers at the head and Cormier pulls him off, even accidentally sending Riddle into the cage. Rollins is back up to hammer away but Riddle flips out of a German suplex. More shots put Riddle down but Rollins shoves Cormier a bit, earning him a stiff lecture. A hard forearm to the back of the head drops Riddle and Rollins is getting cocky. A twisting frog splash rocks Riddle and a Stomp makes it worse, but Riddle beats the count.

Rollins isn't exactly keen on fighting a ticked off Riddle so he climbs the cage and makes it to the platform. Riddle follows up and they fight near the edge, with Riddle grabbing a choke while holding onto a chain to avoid falling back to the ring. Rollins gets in a few more shots but Riddle catches him with an RKO, which is enough to send Rollins back down to the mat (not much of a fall when he grabs the edge and hangs from the platform before dropping).

Since he's a bit nuts, Riddle drops a Broton from the platform to the mat (that looked good) for the huge crash. After taking some time to learn to breathe again, Riddle grabs a triangle choke so Rollins drives him into the cage over and over. That and a powerbomb aren't enough to break it though and Rollins taps at 16:42.

**Rating**: C. What you have here is an idea that sounded good on paper but didn't work out so well in execution. It was basically a cage match with room for some big bumps, but all that did was make me wonder why they didn't just have a cage match. Yeah Riddle gets the big win, but he gets it in a match tailor made for him, which isn't that impressive. The Broton looked excellent with the camera looking up, but other than that, this wasn't the most memorable match and it didn't exactly draw me in. I wouldn't call it bad, though it's nothing I need to see again.

Riddle goes to leave...and the lights go out, with the Fireflies coming up and Bray Wyatt's voice singing He's Got The Whole World In His Hands. We see real life versions of the Firefly Fun House creatures in the crowd, plus a Fiend mask on the stage. Then the Fiend pops up near the barricade and we cut to the stage, where there is a real life Firefly Fun House. A TV comes on with a monster saying something I can't quite make out. Light comes from behind the door to the Fun House and it bursts open....with someone holding a lantern coming out and wearing the mask from the TV.

The mask comes off and it's Bray Wyatt. The lantern is blown out and a logo that looks like an upside down mutated butterfly comes up on screen to take us out. To say the place went coconuts for this would be an understatement as they lost it for every bit, but Bray has a long way to go to make up for the mess that was his last run with the company. I'm not saying he can't, but he needs to be on a really, really short leash.

**Overall Rating**: B. As cliched as it sounds, this was a show where what was good was good but what was weak was weak. The best thing about this show was the fact that it had a variety of stuff and I was never bored watching it. The ending is the part that is going to have people talking, as it should, but the Donnybrook stole the night with one heck of a brawl. It's a good show, even if it was a bunch of rematches with stories that need to be wrapped up already.

# <u>Results</u>

Brawling Brutes b. Imperium – Brogue Kick to Vinci Ronda Rousey b. Liv Morgan via referee stoppage Karrion Kross b. Drew McIntyre – Krosshammer Bianca Belair b. Bayley — Belair pulled down the title Finn Balor b. Edge when Edge quit Matt Riddle b. Seth Rollins — Triangle choke

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