

Updated: WWE Releases 17 Wrestlers

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/breaking-ww-e-releases-nine-wrestlers-including-former-world-champion/>

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/ww-e-releases-eight-wrestlers/>

Rick Boogs

Aliyah

Mustafa Ali

Emma

Top Dolla

Riddick Moss

Elias

Shelton Benjamin

Dolph Ziggler

Dana Brooke

Mansoor

Mace

Quincy Elliott

Bryson Montana

Yulisa Leon

Dabba Kato

Shanky

Their 90 day no compete clauses would be up on December 20.

Dang. You knew something like this was coming but it is still

hard to fathom that it actually happened. At the end of the day though, most of these names aren't surprising, as a lot of them haven't been on WWE TV or used in any meaningful way in a very long time. That doesn't make it any better for them, but it's also not so much of a surprise.

Daily News Update – September 21, 2023

Make sure you check out a recent review:

[Dynamite – September 20, 2023 \(Grand Slam\)](#)

He's Done: AEW Star Announces Retirement (But Not From Wrestling).

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/hes-done-aew-star-announces-retirement-not-wrestling/>

Boss Out? Vince McMahon May Not Be Allowed To Serve As WWE Chairman Due To Potential Legal Issues.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/boss-vince-mcmahon-may-not-allowed-serve-wwe-chairman-due-legal-issues/>

Countdown Is On: Several Former WWE World Champions' Contracts Reportedly Expiring Next Year.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/countdown-several-former-wwe-world-champions-contracts-reportedly-expiring-next-year/>

The Bosses: Several Additional Details On WWE Employees Meeting, Vince McMahon Being Himself.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/bosses-several-additional-details-wwf-employees-meeting-vince-mcmahon/>

And NEW (x2): Multiple Title Changes Take Place At AEW Grand Slam.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/new-x2-multiple-title-changes-take-place-aew-grand-slam/>

It Was Bad: Jon Moxley Injured During Grand Slam Title Match, Finish Changed.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/bad-top-aew-star-injured-grand-slam-title-match-finish-changed/>

WATCH: Surprise Heel Turn Takes Place At AEW Grand Slam.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-surprise-heel-turn-takes-place-aew-grand-slam/>

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Dynamite – September 20, 2023 (Grand Slam): Maybe A Triple

Dynamite

Date: September 20, 2023

Location: Arthur Ashe Stadium, New York City, New York

Commentators: Excalibur, Tony Schiavone, Taz, Ian Riccaboni

It's time for a(nother) big show with Grand Slam from a big old tennis stadium in New York. This time around we have a major main event as well, with MJF defending the World Title against Samoa Joe. That should make for a heck of a match, with some more title matches sprinkled throughout. Let's get to it.

[Here is Collision if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Ring Of Honor World Title/New Japan Strong Openweight Title:
Claudio Castagnoli vs. Eddie Kingston

Title for title and Wheeler Yuta is here with Castagnoli. They waste no time in exchanging the forearms and going to the floor. Kingston chops away against the barricade before going after the knee back inside. Castagnoli is fine enough to gutwrench him into a powerbomb but the Neutralizer is blocked. Kingston knocks him to the ramp (because there's a ramp) but gets suplexed hard onto said ramp. Back in and Castagnoli goes up for a middle rope double stomp but a Swan Dive misses.

We take a break and come back with Kingston Hulking Up and getting two off a backslide. An enziguri sets up a t-bone suplex and a Saito suplex gets two. The rapid fire chops in the corner wake Castagnoli up but a right hand puts him down. They do the big slow motion chop off until Castagnoli hits a clothesline for two.

A Riccola Bomb is countered into a sunset flip for two but Castagnoli uppercuts the heck out of him for two. The Riccola Bomb connects for two more and the New York fans are VERY pleased. Back up and Kingston hits some spinning backfists into the half and half suplex into the third backfist into the northern lights bomb for a very near fall. Another backfist into a powerbomb gives Kingston the pin and the title at 15:16.

Rating: B+. This was a good back and forth match that was carried that much higher by the crowd. The fans were begging to see Kingston win the thing and he FINALLY does so, which thankfully didn't have to go all the way to Final Battle. I'm not sure I buy Kingston as a long term champion, but they had to do this or Kingston would look like an even bigger choker than before.

Post match Castagnoli begrudgingly shows respect and hands over the title before leaving. Kingston gets the big moment and the fans seem rather pleased.

Earlier this week, the Kingdom was by Roderick Strong's bedside in the hospital, where he has received a card from Olga thanking him for promoting Neck Health Awareness Month. Strong calls out for Adam Cole, who shows up immediately. Cole trades some barbs with the Kingdom before the two of them leave. Cole has to go as well because of MJF's title match at Grand Slam, so Roderick tells him to just freaking go.

Christian Cage is ready to take out Sting and Darby Allin, but he's also ready for Luchasaurus to get a TNT Title shot on Collision, but Sting is barred from ringside. New York baseball jokes are included.

Chris Jericho vs. Sammy Guevara

Guevara has a Jericho style light up vest and gets rapped to the ring by Monteasy. They try the wrestling to start before switching to chopping away. Guevara hits a dropkick but Jericho isn't happy with him trying the Sex Gods pose. Jericho hits a backbreaker to send him outside but misses the triangle dropkick. Guevara's dive is broken up and they both crash out to the floor as we take a break.

Back with Jericho hitting a heck of a clothesline for two but Guevara grabs a Codebreaker. Jericho bails to the floor and gets taken out with a moonsault, only to dropkick Guevara out of the air back inside. Another triangle dropkick doesn't work

as Sammy kicks...the air in the general vicinity of Jericho's head.

A top rope cutter connects but the GTH is countered into the Walls. Guevara breaks that up as well and they both go up top, where Guevara grabs a twisting cutter (cool) for two more. Jericho hits the bulldog but comes back with a knee to the face. The GTH connects this time and Guevara goes up, only to shooting star into the Codebreaker (ok that was awesome) for the pin at 15:09.

Rating: B. Hey look, Jericho wins. I'm not sure what that helps as the whole point was that Jericho was trying to prove he wasn't a follower but the ending was pretty awesome. They were trying to have Jericho wrestle like he did in the old days and he did that well enough, though there were some not so smooth looking sequences. For now though, good match, albeit with an odd ending.

Post match they hug until Guevara kicks him low. Cue Don Callis, who has a new member of the family, because this was getting interesting and we needed Callis to destroy that as quickly as possible.

MJF has been mad at Samoa Joe for eight years and promises to choke him out. Adam Cole is there for the fist bump but answers a call from Roderick Strong instead. Cole goes off to assure Strong that he isn't going to die, leaving MJF to promise victory over Joe.

Don Callis promises answers on Rampage. Daniel Garcia comes in and almost gets in an argument with Sammy Guevara but Callis gets Guevara out of there.

International Title: Rey Fenix vs. Jon Moxley

Fenix, with Alex Abrahantes, is challenging. They fight on the ramp before the bell, with Fenix getting the better of things and sending him inside to officially start. Moxley stomps him

down and they're already back on the floor, with Moxley knocking him over the barricade. Fenix tries a barricade walk but gets pulled into a double arm DDT on the floor instead.

Back in and Fenix hits a rolling cutter into a frog splash for two. Fenix knocks him to the floor and drapes him over the apron for a top rope...I think knee? Either way it sends us to a break and we come back with Moxley sending him to the ramp for the stomp. Back in and Moxley hits a piledriver for two. Fenix comes back with a hard shot and the Black Fire Driver for....two, despite Moxley absolutely not moving. Fenix picks him up and hits another for the pin and the title at 11:34.

Rating: C+. I'm not sure what that was at the end but Moxley looked more than a bit out of it more than once here. He absolutely did not flinch on that first two count and the referee stopped anyway. That was either a really weirdly booked ending or Moxley's bell was rung. Other than that, this was a lot of Fenix doing his big stuff and getting cut off by Moxley. That started to get old after a bit but then everything went wacky at the end.

Samoa Joe is ready to end MJF.

Post break we're told that Jon Moxley left the ring under his own power. That's great to hear.

There's a big multi-team match on Rampage for a Ring Of Honor Tag Team Title shot.

Women's Title: Saraya vs. Toni Storm

Saraya, with Ruby Soho, is defending and slaps away to start. Storm smiles at her (Saraya: "WHY ARE YOU SMILING?") and the brawl is on with Storm taking over. Storm crawls under the ring and comes up with some shoes to beat up Soho. Another shoe to the face gives Storm two on Saraya and we take a break.

Back with Saraya in trouble but Soho steals the spray paint from Storm. Said paint is slipped to Saraya, who blasts Storm in the face and hits the Nightcap for two. Back up and Storm kisses Saraya, setting up Storm Zero for two. The hup attack in the corner misses Saraya (by a lot) but hits exposed buckle. The Nightcap retains the title at 8:49.

Rating: C. Three shoes, an exposed buckle, a kiss and spray paint. That's more than a bit much for a match that didn't last nine minutes and it was a mess almost all around. The Outcasts has been kind of all over the place for the last few weeks but there is a good chance that this is going to continue.

Here's what's coming on various shows.

Video on Samoa Joe vs. MJF.

AEW World Title: Samoa Joe vs. Maxwell Jacob Friedman

Only MJF's AEW World Title is on the line. MJF gets a Bret Hart tribute entrance, with a fan catching MJF in the hallway and saying "go get em champ." MJF gives him his scarf...and tells him he's adopted. MJF's jacket and gear is rather New York sports themed and Joe takes over fast to start. A running big boot into the backplash gets two and we take a break with MJF in trouble.

Back with MJF scoring with a kick to the chest and some clotheslines but Joe won't go down. Instead Joe drops him again and rips off his Mets inspired jersey. That's enough to fire MJF up and he hammers away in the corner, setting up a Hulk Hogan impression and the Kangaroo Kick to send Joe outside. Joe is right back up with a Death Valley Driver on the apron and Joe laughs like a villain. Joe release Rock Bottoms him through a table at ringside for two back inside.

They head outside again with Joe peeling back the floor mat for a piledriver and here are the trainers to check on MJF.

Joe beats up said trainers and gets two back inside (39 seconds after a piledriver on the exposed floor). MJF spits in his face and grabs a sitout powerbomb before throwing on a sleeper. That's countered into the Koquina Clutch in all of a second but MJF kicks him low for the escape.

The diamond ring is loaded up but the referee takes it away, allowing Joe to hit his own low blow. The Muscle Buster gets two (that's a rare kickout) so Joe grabs a sleeper. Cue Adam Cole to cheer MJF on and the third arm drop doesn't go through. MJF gets his own sleeper but the referee gets bumped. Joe slips out and goes after Cole so MJF unravels some tape to choke Joe out and retain at 18:30.

Rating: B. This worked rather well and it felt like a big time main event, which is all you can ask for in something like this. Well maybe not having another piledriver on the (exposed this time) floor only getting two but that's an AEW thing. Other than that, MJF cheating to win fit him well and the match didn't feel long at all. Solid main event here, and MJF is really starting to find himself in this role.

Post match Cole hides the tape and Joe shakes MJF's hand to end the show (with Cole limping, apparently having hurt his ankle running in).

Overall Rating: B. The two International and Women's Title matches weren't great but other than that, this was a pretty strong in-ring show. The opener and main event both went very well and I got more into the Kingston win than I expected. There were some not so great moments though, such as Callis being involved and whatever that mess with the Moxley/Fenix ending was (I'm aware that Moxley looked banged up, but it's hard to believe that was their best way out).

Overall, it was a very good show that mostly lived up to the hype, though having this many special shows in a row took away some of big feeling this would have had otherwise. AEW needs a

change to take a breather from the big events, but with WrestleDream a week and a half away, that isn't happening anytime soon.

Results

Eddie Kingston b. Claudio Castagnoli – Powerbomb

Chris Jericho b. Sammy Guevara – Codebreaker

Rey Fenix b. Jon Moxley – Black Fire Driver

Saraya b. Toni Storm – Nightcap

Maxwell Jacob Friedman b. Samoa Joe – Rear naked choke

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Daily News Update – September 20, 2023

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Pro Wrestling Guerrilla: The Secret Of The Ooze

Can You Blame Them? WWE Morale Reportedly “Devastated” Following Recent Major Changes.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/can-blame-wwe-morale-reportedly-devastated-following-recent-major-changes/>

Getting There: Huge Update On Former AEW Champion Coming To WWE This Week.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/getting-huge-update-former-aew-champion-coming-wwe/>

Ouch: AEW Star Reportedly Suffers Bad Injury At Weekend Television Taping.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/ouch-aew-star-reportedly-suffers-bad-injury-weekend-television-taping/>

All Hands: WWE Holds Meeting With Vince McMahon And Other Top Executives Speaking.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/hands-wwe-holds-meeting-vince-mcmahon-top-executives-speaking/>

Bad Timing: AEW World Champion MJF Injured Before Title Defense At This Week’s Grand Slam.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/bad-timing-aew-world-champion-mjf-injured-title-defense-weeks-grand-slam/>

Another Run: Major Update On Randy Orton Potentially Returning To WWE.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/another-run-major-update-randy-orton-potentially-returning-wwe/>

Weighing In: Jey Uso's Father Rikishi Seemingly Responds To Jey's Major Decision.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/weighing-jey-usos-father-rikishi-seemingly-responds-jeys-major-decision/>

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NXT – September 19, 2023: I Love It When They Do It This Way

NXT

Date: September 19, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Booker T.

The big story around here is Becky Lynch winning the Women's Title over Tiffany Stratton last week. Lynch has already taken the title to Raw and it is feeling like a big deal because of the star power she brings to it. Other than that, we have about a week and a half before No Mercy and it's time to build things up. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a recap of Becky Lynch winning the NXT Women's Title last week.

Here is Lynch to get things going. She is glad to be here and is ready to face everyone in that women's locker room, sending her into a list of most of the locker room, rhyming her way through the whole thing. As for Tiffany Stratton, Tiffy Time is over! The fans chant BECKY TIME (Becky approves) but here is Stratton to interrupt. The rematch is going to happen and she wants it at No Mercy on September 30.

Lynch is cool with that, but the result is going to be the same. Becky has seen people with rockets strapped to her back before but this NXT has the same feel as when she was there in the first place. After ten years, Becky still wants it more than Stratton does. Lynch thinks Stratton wants to go word for word with the Man, but how about the go punch for punch instead. The fight is on with Kiana James running in for the save. Stratton grabs a chair, which Becky takes away and clears the ring.

Tony D'Angelo and Stacks are looking over potential opponents but opt to eat instead.

Ilja Dragunov is ready for Carmelo Hayes for No Mercy and he'll be watching tonight. Becky Lynch comes in and is ready to face Tiffany Stratton and Kiana James 2-1 tonight.

The Meta Four are watching in their lounge and are doing a Matrix impression for some reason.

Dominik Mysterio comes up to Trick Williams and seems to try to put a wedge between Williams and Carmelo Hayes. Williams doesn't seem to fall for it.

Global Heritage Invitational Group A: Tyler Bate vs. Butch

Butch needs a pin or submission to advance while Bate advances on anything else. Butch works on the arm to start but Bate headscissors his way out of trouble. Bop and Bang is broken up with a shot to the face and Bate is rather serious. Bate hammers him into the corner and the referee has to back it up.

A delayed superplex drops Butch again (with a close up camera shot being a rather nice touch) and we take a break.

Back with Butch knocking him down and firing off forearms on the mat. Bate flips away though and hits a running shooting star to the back for some unique offense. The Tyler Driver 97 is pulled into a triangle choke but Bate powers him up into a Death Valley Driver for two. Butch grabs the Tyler Driver 97 for two, followed by Bate's Bitter End for the same. We have less than a minute to go as Bate's Spiral Tap hits raised knees. The Bitter End gives Butch two so he loads it up again, only to piledrive Bate down for the pin instead at 11:48.

Rating: B. These two just work well together and seeing them in the same ring brings back some memories of their classics. This might not have been at that level but it was a rather good TV match and the ending took me by surprise as they were heavily teasing the draw. Heck of a match here and it's nice to see Butch having some success.

Group A Standings

Butch – 2-0-1, 5 points, 0 matches remaining

Tyler Bate – 2-1-0, 4 points, 0 matches remaining

Axiom – 0-1-1, 1 point, 1 match remaining

Charlie Dempsey – 0-2-0, 0 points, 1 match remaining

Earlier this week, Jacy Jayne took Thea Hail shopping for some new clothes. A lot of leather is included and Jayne is impressed. We don't see the final outfit, which is revealed next week.

Global Heritage Invitational Group B: Duke Hudson vs. Joe Coffey

Hudson needs a win to for a three way tie with Coffey and Nathan Frazer while Coffey advances with a win or a draw. Andre Chase and the rest of Gallus are here too. They trade shoulders to start with Hudson getting the better of things, setting up a running hurricanrana. Coffey is back up and runs

him over, setting up a missile dropkick. All The Best For The Bells is loaded up but Hudson rolls him up for the pin at 3:48.

Rating: C. The match didn't have time to go very far but the important thing here is we have a three way tie for the win. Odds are that sets up a triple threat at some point and we'll have someone facing Butch, as this is a rather complicated way to set up a #1 contender for a specialty midcard title. For now though, I'll take Hudson getting a win, which doesn't happen often enough.

Group B Standings

Nathan Frazer – 2-1-0, 4 points, 0 matches remaining

Joe Coffey – 2-1-0, 4 points, 0 matches remaining

Duke Hudson – 2-1-0, 4 points, 0 matches remaining

Akira Tozawa – 0-3-0, 0 points, 0 matches remaining

Nathan Frazer is very happy with the result and can't wait for the triple threat match next week. Actually it's tonight, so he bolts off to get ready.

Mr. Stone has said that Von Wagner is "not good".

Roxanne Perez vs. Lola Vice

Elektra Lopez is here with Vice. They go to the mat to start but Perez chops her in the chest and runs the rope. That's broken up and Perez's arm comes down hard to give Vice a target. Vice pulls her into something like a Yes Lock without the crossface. Perez fights up and hits a running dropkick into the corner, followed by the raining of the forearms. Vice goes for the arm again but Perez stacks her up with a rollup for the pin at 4:13.

Rating: C+. This was better than I was expecting as Vice was working with the submission stuff and made Perez work here. Vice is way too new to be able to beat Perez but she got close enough here and it made for a nice surprise. Now give Vice a

push in the Breakout Tournament and see where it goes.

Eddy Thorpe is mad at Dijak for hurting his sacred tree so we'll have a strap match.

Roxanne Perez, with the bad arm, comes in to see Becky Lynch and talks about not having people walk all over her anymore. Perez offers to be her partner in the main event but Lynch turns her down because of the arm injury. That's cool with Perez.

Carmelo Hayes vs. Dominik Mysterio

Non-title. Ilja Dragunov is on commentary as Hayes sends Mysterio to the floor to start. Hayes blocks being sent into the steps and takes it back inside. The 619 is broken up as Hayes hits a superkick into a spinning faceplant. We take a break and come back with Hayes hitting a suplex cutter to put them both down. Mysterio fights back and puts Hayes down, only to miss the frog splash. They go outside where both are sent into Dragunov, though Mysterio slaps him to make it worse. Dragunov comes in and jumps them both for the double DQ at 8:32.

Rating: C+. They didn't have much time here, especially with almost half of it being spent in the break. What mattered here was getting Dragunov involved, as he and Hayes are getting a lot more personal in a hurry. The match could absolutely deliver, as Hayes and Mysterio did here fairly well.

Post match the brawl is on but Dominik pulls Hayes in the way of the Torpedo Moscow. Dragon Lee comes in to superkick Mysterio and holds up the North American Title.

Trick Williams isn't happy with what happened but here is Schism to talk to him about loneliness. Williams tells them to get out of here, but Joe Gacy asks why Carmelo Hayes doesn't think much of him.

Duke Hudson isn't sure he can win the triple threat but Andre Chase dubs him the Spoiler along with being the MVP in quite the pep talk.

There is a dice game going on outside for a very big stack of cash, with Bronco Nima and Lucien Price (thankfully with name plates) and Scrypts (unfortunately still here) cleaning up.

Hank Walker and Tank Ledger are ready to get into the Tag Team Title picture.

Global Heritage Invitational Group B: Nathan Frazer vs. Joe Coffey vs. Duke Hudson

No time limit. Frazer starts fast and Hudson is knocked down into the corner. Coffey jumps Frazer but gets knocked to the floor, leaving Hudson to faceplant Frazer for two. Frazer sends both of them to the floor for the big dive to take them out again. Back in and Hudson hits a release Rock Bottom out of the corner to plant Frazer but Coffey gives him one heck of a crotching against the post as we take a break.

We come back with Coffey knocking Hudson off the apron but getting rolled up by Frazer for two. Hudson grabs a rollup for two more on Coffey (it worked earlier), followed by the Boss Man Slam for the same. Frazer superkicks Hudson and hits a reverse DDT to Coffey/a regular DDT to Hudson. Coffey's diving headbutt to the chest is cut off by a superkick but Hudson sends Frazer flying with a release German suplex. Hudson boots Coffey down and sends him to the floor but Frazer runs Hudson over. The phoenix splash connects but Coffey breaks it up and hits All The Best For The Bells to finish Hudson at 12:20.

Rating: B-. They kept things moving here, though having Coffey lose in his first match and then come back to win the second more or less made it feel like filler and nothing more. Coffey vs. Butch should be an interesting match, though it feels like it should be for the title itself rather than a title shot a few days later. Frazer got in his flying and Hudson felt like

he was hanging in there, but Coffey was presented as the monster throughout the tournament so having him advance isn't a big shock.

Butch comes in for the staredown.

Mustafa Ali is mad that Dragon Lee is getting a North American Title shot next week. Ali: "HOW DOES ANY OF THIS MAKE SENSE???" He is going to mess things up on Raw.

Tiffany Stratton and Kiana James are ready to work together against Becky Lynch.

Josh Briggs and Brooks Jensen argue with Fallon Henley over Myles Borne's betrayal last week. Baron Corbin comes in to mock them so Briggs stands up to him. Oddly, no match is made.

Carmelo Hayes doesn't like Ilja Dragunov being so cocky. Next week, he'll so Dragunov where he stands.

Here's what's coming next week.

Becky Lynch vs. Tiffany Stratton/Kiana James

Stratton and James jump her from behind in the aisle but cue Lyra Valkyria for the save and we seem to have a new match.

Becky Lynch/Lyra Valkyria vs. Tiffany Stratton/Kiana James

We get the opening bell and Lynch rams James' head into the buckle over and over. Stratton comes in and gets taken down by Valkyria so Lynch can add a running legdrop. Lynch's running faceplant drops James for two and the villains are sent outside for a pair of dropkicks through the ropes as we take a break.

Back with James taking Lynch down and grabbing the chinlock. Stratton comes in but misses a handspring elbow, allowing Valkyria to get the tag and clean house. A bridging northern lights suplex gets two on James, with Stratton making the

save. Everything breaks down and Lynch/Valkyria hit stereo middle rope legdrops as the villains hanging in the ropes.

Stratton breaks up Valkyria's springboard though and James adds a powerbomb. Stratton's Swanton gets two with Lynch making the save and hitting a springboard missile dropkick on James. The same double DDT that Nathan Frazer hit earlier takes James and Stratton down, leaving Valkyria to hit a top rope splash for the pin on James at 11:20.

Rating: B. This took some time to get going but they got to a higher level in the end. Valkyria makes sense as the backup for Lynch as she has been put into some pretty high profile spots in recent weeks. Granted she needs to actually win something to help pay that off, but maybe that comes in the form of taking the title from Lynch.

Post match Stratton chairs Lynch down. Lynch makes their No Mercy match Extreme Rules to end the show.

Overall Rating: B. I've said it many times now but dang I love it when this show knocks out a bunch of stuff they need to cover in one show. That was on full display here, with stuff being made for No Mercy and stuff that was already made being re-enforced. This show knows how to use the time they have, though there were some moments that felt like they were just there to make the show go longer. The good was more than good enough though and it was another positive week on the way to Bakersfield.

Results

Butch b. Tyler Bate – Pumphandle driver

Duke Hudson b. Joe Coffey – Rollup

Roxanne Perez b. Lola Vice – Rollup

Carmelo Hayes vs. Dominik Mysterio went to a double disqualification when Ilja Dragunov interfered

Joe Coffey b. Nathan Frazer and Duke Hudson – All The Best For The Bells to Hudson

Becky Lynch/Lyra Valkyria b. Kiana James/Tiffany Stratton –
Top rope splash to James

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Pro Wrestling Guerrilla – The Secret Of The Ooze: There's No Living Up To That Hype

The Secret Of The Ooze

Date: August 14, 2004

Location: Hollywood Los Feliz JCC

Attendance: 160

Commentators: Excalibur, Disco Machine

It's back to PWG and I don't think you can ask for a cooler title than that. As usual I have no idea what to expect from this show, but this is just over a year into the company's history. That could be hit or miss, though this is far before

the days when PWG became such an indy darling. Let's get to it.

We open with PWG World Champion Frankie Kazarian in the ring, bragging about beating Adam Pearce in a Loser Leaves PWG match. Pearce didn't know his credentials, just like the other stupid fans (he used a different word and it started with an R) here. We hear about his title wins across different promotions but Kazarian stops to yell at a fan in the front row. As for tonight, he's facing Colt Cabana, so we pause for a COLT COLT COLT chant. Kazarian is the future, and the future looks good.

Cue Cabana and he has a list of his own. He is a six time marshmallow eating champion, a three time Illinois state Hungry Hungry Hippos champion, and he can chug Tang faster than anyone around here. He's also a former US, Intercontinental, ECW Mid-Atlantic Coast Champion and a three time 1-2-3 WWF Heavyweight Champion. Cabana tries to go into something about the present being today but gets a bit lost, only to say he'll be champion. Simple hype for the main event here and it went well enough, with Kazarian sounding like a rather good smarmy heel.

Tag Team Gauntlet Match

Supa Badd and Human Tornado are in at #1 and Top Gun Talwar/Charles Mercury are in at #2 with Talwar grabbing a quickly broken headlock on Tornado. A dropkick staggers Tornado and everything breaks down with the fight heading out to the floor. Talwar gets a basketball bounced off his head, followed by a dunk and a hurricanrana from Tornado.

Back in and Badd atomic drops Talwar before Mercury is tossed outside again. Badd clotheslines Talwar and does pushups during the near fall for a bonus. As commentary says tags are encouraged rather than required, Mercury gets a Texas Cloverleaf on Badd and Talwar rolls Tornado up in the corner

for the pin and elimination at 3:27.

Excalibur and Disco Machine are in at #3, with Excalibur (on commentary) credits Talwar's drug use for losing a test of strength. With everyone else on the floor, Talwar goes up top and hits a huge flip dive to take everyone out. Mercury hits his own flip dive onto all three of them, followed by a legdrop for two on Excalibur back inside. Talwar's clothesline gets the same and Mercury...really can't quite manage to slam Talwar onto Excalibur.

Commentary blasts how bad things went as Talwar lands on Excalibur, who is right back up with a clothesline for a breather. It's off to Disco as commentary makes fun of Chris Bosh and Rick Knox. An atomic drop hits Talwar and Mercury's elbow drop for a save hits his partner by mistake. Everything breaks down and Excalibur Tombstones Talwar on the floor. That leaves Disco to chokebreaker Mercury for the elimination at 9:17 total.

Los Rojos Locos (a masked team) come in and deck Excalibur on the floor (Excalibur on commentary: "You can never trust a Mexican."). That leaves Mercury to get beaten down inside, including #1 grabbing a Liontamer as we hear about Excalibur's racist college entrance essay. A backbreaker gives #2 two on Mercury before #1 drops a middle rope elbow.

Mercury fights his way out of trouble and hits a double basement dropkick. Excalibur comes in to clean house as everything breaks down. #2 grabs Excalibur from the apron (Excalibur: "Patented dirty Mexican cheating." HOW DOES HE HAVE A JOB???) but a charge misses. Excalibur and #1 wind up on their opponents' respective shoulders and it's time to play chicken.

With Disco down, Excalibur is dropped into an X Factor for little impact. Instead #1 is tied in the ropes, with #2 making a fast save. Disco gets caught in a Crossface/Boston crab

combination with Excalibur making the save this time. Not that it matters as a half crab makes Disco tap at 16:25 total to give Los Rojos Locos the win.

Rating: C+. Well it was a gauntlet match and it went through three falls. That's about all there is to say here, as the action was nothing great and Excalibur's commentary was as worthless as usual. It opened the show well enough, but I can barely remember the other teams involved a few minutes after the match ended, which should tell you a lot about how well this went.

Here is Joey Ryan (reigning Tag Team Champion) to say Chris Bosh isn't here so get him an opponent out here.

Joey Ryan vs. Quicksilver

Feeling out process to start with Quicksilver armdragging him down by the bad arm. Ryan is right back up with a dropkick into an armdrag into an armbar of his own. It's so strange to see Ryan as a clean cut face but it's quite the staple of early PWG. As commentary talks about Ryan enjoying the company of voluptuous young women, Quicksilver takes him down for a moonsault onto the arm.

The cranking continues as we hear about Ryan's hand signals to an attendant to help him pick up women. The bad arm is sent into buckle but Ryan reverses out and sends him into the buckle as well. They head to the floor with Ryan hitting a big dive to take Quicksilver down again. Various jokes are made on commentary but they're cut off by a phone call, leaving Excalibur to do solo commentary. Back up and they crash out to the floor again, followed by another arm crank from Quicksilver back inside.

We'll make that a Fujiwara armbar until Ryan spinebusters his way to freedom. They're both down so commentary talks about trail mix. Ryan is back up with a Tombstone shoulder breaker and we hit the Rings of Saturn on Quicksilver. That's broken

up as well so Ryan grabs a powerbomb for a rather delayed two. A piledriver doesn't work though and Quicksilver hits him in the arm, setting up a rollup. That's fine with Ryan, who reverses into one of his own for the pin at 13:14.

Rating: B-. As usual, your best move here is to ignore commentary and focus on what was an otherwise nice match. Quicksilver is someone who has been around for a lot of these PWG shows and tends to work well enough. Ryan can wrestle a good match as well, though he doesn't exactly stand out nearly as much as he would with the sleazy stuff.

Post match Commissioner Paul T comes in to say Ryan and Scott Lost have not defended the Tag Team Titles in two months. Therefore, the titles will be held up and Ryan will face Lost. The winner gets the titles and can pick a new partner of his choosing.

Apollo Khan/Brandon Thomaselli vs. First Family

The Family would be Babi Slymm/Brad Bradley. Thomaselli kicks away at the rather large Bradley's leg to start as commentary points out that Thomaselli has no connection to anyone in this match. A big chop rocks Thomaselli again and a running shoulder puts him down. Slymm and Khan come in, shake hands, and circle each other a bit. Slymm powers him down to start but Khan is right back with a hammerlock.

As commentary talks about whether or not they're racist, Slymm grinds away on a headlock. Some dropkicks get Khan out of trouble and it's back to Bradley, who runs into raised boots in the corner. Thomaselli's high crossbody completely misses and Bradley grabs a heck of a German suplex. Slymm comes back in for a dancing elbow drop but Thomaselli slugs away on Bradley. A sunset flip doesn't work as Bradley sits on Thomaselli's chest, setting up an airplane spin of all things.

Slymm grabs the chinlock but Thomaselli is back up with a dropkick to the knee. Khan comes in and gets to clean house,

leaving Thomaselli to hit an Asai moonsault on Bradley. Back up and Bradley is fine enough to low bridge Khan to the floor as the villains take over again. A belly to back neckbreaker drops Khan and a running knee in the corner gets two. Khan suplexes his way to freedom (with Excalibur crediting Khan's people's "strong legs and thighs") and the tag brings in Thomaselli as everything breaks down. Thomaselli's top rope hurricanrana is countered and a lariat finishes for Bradley at 14:21.

Rating: B-. Perfectly watchable match here but it doesn't help when commentary is saying that there is no connection between some of the wrestlers. It was a cold match that worked well enough, but they weren't really hiding the fact that that this was a thrown together match. Bradley looked good for a big man but the rest of the match was just kind of there, though it could have been a lot worse.

Puma vs. Josh Prohibition

They fight over a lockup as Excalibur actually gives us a backstory, talking about how this was originally supposed to be Prohibition vs. Super Dragon last month but things were changed because of a Japan tour (Excalibur: "When Japan calls, you must listen."). It's better than nothing. Puma works on a wristlock but Prohibition pulls him into a hammerlock.

The arm cranking continues until Puma reverses into a suplex for two. Excalibur talks about possibly recording the audio in the PWG locker room as Prohibition fights up and elbows him in the face for two. Commentary goes into his rapid fire calling of the match as Prohibition missile dropkicks Puma and puts on another armbar.

With the wrestling out of the way, Excalibur goes into a long story about Prohibition moving to Salt Lake City. Puma is back up with a Tombstone but a tornado DDT is countered into a double underhook arm crank. The Falcon Arrow and a brainbuster

get two each on Puma but he German suplexes his way to freedom. A half crab makes Prohibition tap at 9:12.

Rating: B-. Good match here, as Prohibition is someone I've heard a lot about over the years but haven't seen much of in the ring. Granted he didn't exactly stand out, but I've seen far worse. At the same time, Puma is someone who was making appearances for Impact Wrestling around this time and was getting a bit of a name for himself before just dropping out of sight. Anyway, nice match, and it even included a reason for taking place.

PWG World Title: Frankie Kazarian vs. Colt Cabana

Kazarian is defending and doesn't take kindly to some fans chanting various insults at him. They go with the technical off to start and grapple away on the mat until it's a standoff. Cabana takes him down and Kazarian is already going for a break in the ropes. The fight goes outside with commentary ignoring everything to talk about Cabana, apparently much like Hollywood, being Jewish.

Back in and Cabana works on an armbar but Kazarian is right out with an elbow to take over. Kazarian sweeps the leg and hits a slingshot legdrop as we hear about Kazarian dropping water bombs on wildfires. Cabana fights up but plays some possum, allowing him to get two off a small package. Back up and Cabana tries the Wave Of The Future (Kazarian's spinning Downward Spiral) but Kazarian breaks it up without much effort.

Cabana scores with a flying forearm (Tito Santana references abound) and Kazarian is sent outside. A dropkick through the ropes hits Kazarian but Cabana chops the post by mistake. Back in and Kazarian hits a Blockbuster for two but Cabana fights up again. That doesn't last long this time though as Kazarian grabs the Wave Of The Future to retain at 13:10.

Rating: B. Commentary was ruining this (tends to be a

tradition around here) but I'm digging Kazarian as this rather cocky heel. He's feeling like someone who is ready to be a breakout star on the bigger stage and that's kind of what he wound up doing. Cabana was being himself, but thankfully it was the more serious version, which did come out often enough in these bigger matches.

Post match the First Family comes in to stomp on Cabana and Cabana's manager C. Edward Van Der Pyle mocks him, apparently siding with Kazarian. The bragging goes on for a long time until Cabana clears the ring with a chair.

CM Punk vs. Donovan Morgan

Before the match Morgan talks about something but Excalibur would rather talk about Steven Richards making Sunday Night Heat into Stevie Night Heat. Punk bails to the floor as Morgan keeps talking, only to be drowned out by Excalibur going on about someone's sexual appetite. The referee brings a woman into the ring and Morgan kisses her, earning a tossed shoe.

With the woman gone, Morgan talks to Punk as Excalibur is STILL GOING ON about Richards. Excalibur says that Punk's response is just meandering so we'll talk about going to Whole Foods instead. The bell finally rings and they go into the corner, where Punk gets forearmed in the face. Punk: "That's great, f*** you!" Morgan gets taken to the mat and keeps trying to sit out even after Punk has let him go. As interesting as that might be, Excalibur keeps talking about Richards instead. We pause for a bit as Morgan goes to the floor, only to come back in and get caught with a backbreaker. Punk starts in on the arm but Morgan snaps off a high collar suplex for a breather.

A figure four neck lock goes on for a bit, though it might be better if his legs were anywhere near Punk's throat. Punk fights up and hits a DDT for a breather as they're both down. Back up and they forearm it out until Punk grabs a crossface.

That's broken up just as fast and Morgan gets up for a middle rope DDT. A fisherman's neckbreaker gets two on Punk but he's right back with a backslide for the pin at 10:05.

Rating: B-. They were having a good match but commentary absolutely ruined almost everything they had going here. This was a great example of commentary putting every bit of the focus on themselves and while I get that's kind of Excalibur's thing, it doesn't do any good for fans trying to watch the match. Incredibly annoying commentary aside, the match itself worked and I'll take old school Punk more often than not.

Samoa Joe vs. Super Dragon

Hold on though as Dragon doesn't like some late streamer throwing and goes outside to yell at the fans. Joe wrestles him down to start as we hear about Joe's Ring Of Honor World Title reign. Back up and they strike it out with Joe firing off knees to the face. The big kick misses though and Dragon is out on the floor again. Back in and Dragon gets in a head fake, setting up a spinning kick to the head.

Joe isn't having that and knocks him outside again, setting up the huge suicide elbow. Dragon is whipped into the chairs and Joe just unloads on him back inside. The kick to the chest sets up the knee drop for two as Dragon is in trouble. Some slaps to the mask have the fans booing Joe but Dragon comes out of the corner with a running enziguri. The sets up a corkscrew dive off the top to the floor, with Dragon's boots hitting Joe and the rest of him hitting the floor/apron hard.

Back in and a tornado DDT gives Dragon another breather, leaving them both down. Joe is back up for the strikes in the corner and plants Dragon down hard. The powerbomb into the STF into the crossface has Dragon in more trouble, at least until a rope is grabbed. Joe sends him shoulder first into the post for the crash out to the floor, meaning it's time to go after the arm back inside.

Dragon actually manages to hit a discus forearm to drop Joe but his arm is too banged up for a slingshot. The top rope spinwheel kick is knocked out of the air to give Joe two but the Island Driver is blocked. The Psycho Driver is countered as well so Dragon settles for a belly to back suplex instead.

Dragon hits a top rope knee to the head (ouch) for two, followed by a hard clothesline for the same. Joe snaps off the powerslam for two more and grabs a cross armbreaker. That doesn't last either and it's Dragon coming up with the chops in the corner. Joe backdrops him out to the floor, which is finally enough for the countout at 21:50.

Rating: B+. The more I think about it, the more I like that ending, as it wasn't so much Joe winning as much as Dragon just couldn't go any longer. It made both of them look like monsters and that is what they seemed to be trying to do here. Joe was on absolute fire at this point and could do no wrong, which probably explains the result. Heck of a match here and by far the best thing on the show.

Post match Excalibur and Disco Machine run out to check on Dragon to end the show.

We'll also throw in the extras.

Los Rojos Locos do some rather high school level Spanish about how great and handsome they are. After speaking English to ask what the next word in Spanish is supposed to be, they ask why the Ballard Brothers aren't being brought back (I bet you can get the joke).

Babi Slymm is ready to take over PWG with the help of his friends.

Colt Cabana is ready to go over the edge, though he does have to ask the director for his lines. For now, he's off to England to craft his hone (that's what he said). Now rewind the DVD and watch him over and over. With popcorn, Pop Tarts

and smores!

Frankie Kazarian is ready to beat anyone ever from Chicago. Even Mike Ditka! He doesn't care if Samoa Joe or Super Dragon is next.

The First Family brags about its high level of awesome. They're great and the fans want them as their screensavers. Now they're out because Van Der Pyle doesn't feel like talking anymore.

Samoa Joe says the fans got what they asked for and he is the one who walked out. Now he wants the World Title.

Overall Rating: B. This show kept getting better as it went, but there were some things holding it back. By that I mean the commentary, which was an absolute nightmare all night long. Old PWG includes Excalibur ignoring the matches or long stretches of time and firing off all kinds of racist, sexist and homophobic jokes. It gets really tiring really fast and made me want to pull my headphones out so I could actually pay attention to the matches. Other than that, it's another rather strong show, even if it was never going to live up to the name.

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Monday Night Raw – September 18, 2023: The Lot Of Stuff Show

Monday Night Raw

Date: September 18, 2023

Location: Delta Center, Salt Lake City, Utah

Commentators: Michael Cole, Wade Barrett

We're less than three weeks out from Fastlane and that means it might be time to start announcing something for the show.

So far there are no matches officially announced, though you should be able to figure out a few of them without much trouble. Other than that, Becky Lynch is the new NXT Women's Champion and we'll likely hear something about that. Let's get to it.

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

Here is Cody Rhodes to get things going. Before he can get very far though, here is Dominik Mysterio (Cody's scheduled opponent) to interrupt. Dominik talks about how Jey Uso is going to join the Judgment Day and mentions that Rhea Ripley is out tonight after the attack at the hands of Nia Jax last week.

Cody asks if the fans heard that and thinks that the Dominik/Rhea relationship has some Steve Urkel/Laura Winslow vibes, because Rhea isn't that into him (he must not have seen the last few seasons). Besides, if you watched last week, it seems that Rhea has eyes for Jey Uso. Cue Finn Balor and Damian Priest to join Dominik before the match.

Cody Rhodes vs. Dominik Mysterio

Non-title. Cody starts fast and suplexes Dominik and grabs a quickly broken Figure Four. Dominik gets in a few shots of his own but walks into the Cody Cutter. Cross Rhodes finishes Dominik at 2:10. That's a fast loss for Dominik, even against Cody.

Post match Judgment Day stares down Cody but Kevin Owens and Sami Zayn run down to even things up. Judgment Day backs off and leaves. Please not another six man main event. Cody goes to leave again but Owens says cut the music. Owens asks him to get back in the ring because they need to talk about something.

Post break Owens says that Jey Uso is back on Raw because of Cody, which Cody says is correct. Owens talks about everything

Jey did to a lot of people, so why is Cody willing to bring him back? Cody says there are people in the back who need to hear this but there are people here who probably already know this. His job is to make these people happy and Jey deserves a second chance. And besides: now the Bloodline is down a member.

Sami tries to play peacekeeper and asks Owens to give Cody and Jey a chance. Owens says he sees where this is going and says sure, he'll pretend Jey didn't cost them all the Universal Title and is just one shade of eye liner away from joining the Judgment Day. He won't trust Jey, but he'll trust them and they better be right. This is getting interesting and I can always go for that.

We look at Rhea Ripley retaining the Women's Title over Raquel Rodriguez but getting crushed by Nia Jax after the match was over.

Ripley has bruised ribs and is day to day, the same as Rodriguez, who has whiplash.

Kofi Kingston vs. Ivar

This was going to be a tag match but Erik is out so we'll do it solo. Kofi can't headlock Ivar (with Valhalla) down to start so Ivar runs him over with a clothesline. Back up and Kofi hits the jumping elbow, only to get crushed with a seated senton out of the corner. Elbows and right hands get Kofi out of the corner and a top rope shot to the head staggers Ivar.

There's a running clothesline but it's too early for the Boom Drop. Instead Kofi kicks him in the head for two but Ivar hits a backdrop to the floor. The big splash off the apron crushes Kofi again and we take a break. Back with Ivar hitting a powerslam and a crossbody drops Kofi for the third time. The top rope splash misses though and Kofi runs the corner for a spinning high crossbody.

The SOS gets two but Ivar tiger bombs him down for the same. Ivar nails a spinwheel kick and hits a Bronco Buster so he goes up top. The top rope splash is loaded up but Valhalla tells him to go bigger, meaning it's a moonsault (not a bad one either) for two. Kofi fights up and hits a sunset bomb out of the corner, setting up Trouble In Paradise for the pin at 13:04.

Rating: B. That was a heck of a match as Kofi is still good for a pretty awesome performance when he is given the chance. Ivar was more than holding his own here though as the power vs. speed was rolling. Sometimes you find two guys who have surprising chemistry and that was absolute the case here. Rather good stuff.

We look back at Shinsuke Nakamura attacking Ricochet.

Ricochet says he's the cheat code for Nakamura and tonight it's game over.

Ricochet vs. Shinsuke Nakamura

Hold o though as here is Seth Rollins to charge at Nakamura and the chase is on, with agents and security breaking it up. Back with the bell ringing and Ricochet backing him into the corner. Nakamura gets in a cheap shot to take over but the kick to the chest is blocked. Instead Nakamura hits a running knee for two and we hit the seated abdominal stretch.

Ricochet fights up but gets kicked back into the corner for a choke. The sliding German suplex is blocked though and Ricochet hits the middle rope moonsault to the floor as we take a break. Back with Ricochet kicking a charging Nakamura down and a handspring elbow does it again. The running shooting star press gets two on Nakamura and a springboard high crossbody does it a second time. Nakamura knocks him outside and Ricochet hits an enziguri before chairing Nakamura down for the DQ at 12:58.

Rating: B-. Well at least Ricochet didn't get pinned, though having him beat Nakamura down like that at the end was a little weird. Either way, Nakamura is all but guaranteed to go to Fastlane for a rematch with Rollins while Ricochet can continue to be the star of the future, as he has been for years now. It's kind of his thing and that isn't likely to change anytime soon.

Post match Ricochet yells at the referee but Nakamura takes his knee out. Ricochet's knee is destroyed with a chair and the post until Rollins runs in for the save. Nakamura backdrops his way out of a Pedigree attempt though and security breaks it up. Well they do for a bit at least as Nakamura gets in another cheap shot to the bad back to leave Rollins laying.

Post break Rollins needs help getting into the trainer's room.

Piper Niven and Chelsea Green are ready for Shayna Baszler and Zoey Stark because they're friends. Niven doesn't buy that, as Green doesn't even know where she's from.

Piper Niven/Chelsea Green vs. Shayna Baszler/Zoey Stark

Non-title. Stark and Green start things off with Stark slugging away and hitting a basement clothesline. A slingshot hilo connects and it's Baszler coming in for a reverse DDT backbreaker. Stark comes back in, though things seem a bit testy between her and Baszler. A missed charge in the corner staggers Stark though and Niven comes in to plant her for two. Stark gets up and hands it back to Baszler, who takes Niven outside. Cue Nia Jax to send Niven into the steps for the DQ at 3:52.

Rating: C. This was short and more about Jax than anything else. That may be here or there, but it is interesting to have her go after a bunch of different women rather than focusing in on just one to start. Other than that, good for not having the champs lose so soon, as they aren't exactly the most

firmly established in the first place.

Jax wrecks everyone post match and puts the division on notice.

Chad Gable comes up to Adam Pearce and asks for one more shot at Gunther but Pearce says he has to earn it. Bronson Reed comes in and says he'll be glad to help. The match is on.

We look back at the Rock and Pat McAfee's surprise cameos on Smackdown.

Damien Priest tries to talk Jey Uso into joining the Judgment Day, which is family instead of relatives. Priest wants an answer tonight.

Chad Gable vs. Bronson Reed

Otis and Maxxine Dupri are here with Gable. Some forearms stagger Reed to start and a missile dropkick does it again. It's too early for the German suplex so Reed is right back with a powerslam. Reed catches him on top for a gorilla press toss onto the turnbuckle. We take a break and come back with Gable going after the knee. Reed blasts him with a clothesline but Gable grabs the cross armbreaker over the top. Reed's backsplash only hits knees though and Gable can't follow up. Gable grabs a sleeper so Reed drops backwards onto him, setting up the Tsunami for the pin at 9:35.

Rating: C+. That's more than a bit surprising as you wouldn't expect Gable to lose again so soon. That being said, it's nice to have Reed get a win, as he is someone who has been in need of that kind of a moment for a good while now. I don't know if he's going to get a big showdown moment with Gunther, but I'll take him getting an important win like this one.

Tommaso Ciampa is done with waiting and is ready to take out Imperium to get what he wants.

Sami Zayn and Kevin Owens still don't see eye to eye about Jey

Uso. Cue Jey, which has Owens walking off but Sami knows he has a big decision to make about Judgment Day.

Here is Becky Lynch to brag about winning the NXT Women's Title. She wants to be champion that matters though and that means it is time to test herself tonight. Therefore the open challenge is on so here is Natalya to answer. This isn't what Becky had in mind but Natalya says she deserves it and shoves her down. Ring the bell.

NXT Women's Title: Natalya vs. Becky Lynch

Lynch is defending and gets sent outside hard to start as we take an early break. Back with Becky hitting a running forearm into the Bexploder for two. Natalya snaps off a release German suplex but the Sharpshooter is countered into a small package. A superplex gives Natalya two more but another Sharpshooter attempt is broken up. Becky hits the missile dropkick, only to have Natalya come back with a discus lariat. The Disarm-Her is countered into a rollup for two but Lynch reverses into a rollup of her own for the pin at 6:14.

Rating: B-. That's about as Natalya of a match as you're going to get: she comes in, she isn't the most thrilling choice, she has a completely fine if not better than that match and then loses again. While she's the perfect choice to guarantee at least a passable match. On the other hand, it doesn't matter all that much as the fans don't seem interested in her no matter what she is able to do in the ring. For a one off match, it high quality, but rather low on the interest levels.

Dragon Lee is in Adam Pearce's office when Dominik Mysterio comes in to yell at both of them. Lee promises to win the North American Title next week.

Giovanni Vinci vs. Tommaso Ciampa

Ludwig Kaiser is here too as Vinci uppercuts Ciampa into the corner. A clothesline puts Ciampa down again as we see Gunther

watching in the back. Vinci gets two off a belly to back suplex but Ciampa strikes away. Ciampa comes back with a Thesz press and a reverse DDT but Kaiser offers a distraction. That doesn't work for Vinci as Ciampa pulls him into the Sicilian Stretch for the tap at 3:28.

Rating: C. As has been the case with LA Knight in weeks past, what mattered here was that Ciampa got another win. That is how you make someone feel like a bigger deal and they are making it work with him. He'll have to move up the ladder sooner than later if he is going to, but at least he has a place to start.

Seth Rollins says he's tired and in a lot of pain but he's trying to keep it together. He's tired of these games though and he's willing to do anything to get Nakamura in the ring. Nakamura can name the time, the place and even the stipulation if he wants. Now Nakamura needs to decide who defines his legacy.

Video on Drew McIntyre vs. Jey Uso.

Drew McIntyre vs. Jey Uso

They talk trash to each other to start until McIntyre shoves him into the corner and asks if this is all he has. Jey ducks a shot in the corner and strikes away but McIntyre is right back with the chops. A snap suplex gives McIntyre two but Jey sends him outside, setting up the dive. Another dive hits McIntyre and here is the Judgment Day as we take a break.

Back with McIntyre hitting the top rope superplex, followed by the Glasgow Kiss. Jey manages a quick Samoan drop for two but the suicide dive is cut off. Back in and McIntyre's spinebuster gets two, only to have Damien Priest offer a distraction on the floor. Jey get in a hard shot of his own for two but kicks all of Judgment Day down. The distraction lets McIntyre hit the Claymore for the pin at 14:12.

Rating: B-. This was all about the angle rather than the match and McIntyre gets a nice rub with a pin in Raw's main event. He hasn't had many such wins for a bit so maybe things are turning around now. On the other hand you have Jey loses, but he should have his hands full with Judgment Day for the time being. Not a great match, but the kind that opens up a lot of doors in a variety of directions.

Post match McIntyre leaves and Uso gets beaten down. McIntyre thinks about making the save but stands still until Cody Rhodes runs in for the real save to end the show.

Overall Rating: B-. This show felt more like the NXT of old and that is a good thing. You could almost feel the list of things that they wanted to accomplish being checked off one by one. There were some things set up for the future, but none of those were set up for Fastlane. They still have two Raw's left before the pay per view, but I'm getting tired of the matches being announced so late in the show's buildup. Either way, good enough show here, as they got a lot done.

Results

Cody Rhodes b. Dominik Mysterio – Cross Rhodes

Kofi Kingston b. Ivar – Trouble In Paradise

Shinsuke Nakamura b. Ricochet via DQ when Ricochet used a chair

Piper Niven/Chelsea Green b. Shayna Baszler/Zoey Stark via DQ when Nia Jax interfered

Bronson Reed b. Chad Gable – Tsunami

Becky Lynch b. Natalya – Rollup

Tommaso Ciampa b. Giovanni Vinci – Sicilian Stretch

Drew McIntyre b. Jey Uso – Claymore

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I Think I Fixed The Scrolling Problem

I'm pretty sure I found the setting that was messing with things. Please let me know if it's working on your end so I can know if I have more to do. Thank you all for your patience as my goodness that would have driven me crazy.

KB

Site Scrolling Issues

So as you might have noticed (but hopefully not), a lot of the reviews aren't scrolling properly. This seems to be a recent issue and I'm trying to see what can be done to fix it. At the end of the day, I'm not a tech guy and really don't know

what I'm doing. One thing that has worked, at least in Firefox, is turning on Reader Mode, which strips away everything else and leaves just the text. That's just a stopgap workaround for now though and I'm still looking to see what it is. I'm sorry for the issues but I'm just now seeing what is wrong in the first place.

KB