

# Smackdown – April 13, 2007: Can't We All Just Beat Someone Up?

## Smackdown

Date: April 13, 2007

Location: Dunkin' Donuts Center, Providence, Rhode Island

Attendance: 8,000

Commentators: John Bradshaw Layfield, Michael Cole

We're on the way to whatever the next Smackdown pay per view is and Batista wants his rematch with Undertaker for the World Title. That's fine with Undertaker, but he isn't cool with King Booker jumping him to end last week's show. It sounds like something he is going to deal with sooner than later and that isn't likely to go well for Booker. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Teddy Long is in the ring to get things going. He isn't wasting time tonight and announces Batista vs. Undertaker for the Smackdown World Title at Backlash in a Last Man Standing match. That's a big upgrade but a violent match like that makes sense for guys who are going to beat on each other than hard.

## Finlay/Hornswoggle vs. Mr. Kennedy

Fallout from Kennedy attacking Hornswoggle at Wrestlemania. That being said, there is no Hornswoggle to start, meaning this isn't much of a handicap match. Before the match, Kennedy gets quite the positive reception and tells Finlay that they don't have to do this. Things got out of hand in Money in the Bank at Wrestlemania and tension was high.

Kennedy apologizes but Finlay says he has never met anyone who whimpers and grovels like Kennedy does. He'll give Kennedy the benefit of the doubt though so apology accepted. Just don't touch Hornswoggle again. Hold on though as that isn't cool with Teddy Long, who wants these two to wrestle tonight. They can do it as a team...against Batista and Undertaker. Anger ensues, possibly because Hornswoggle never appeared.

Michelle McCool is in the back and hears a suspicious sound (from like five rooms away). It's Jillian Hall attacking Ashley because she wants to be in the Timbaland video instead of her. Michelle chases Jillian off as Paul London and Brian Kendrick come in too late.

Tag Team Titles: Deuce N Domino vs. Paul London/Brian Kendrick

Deuce N Domino, with Cherry are challenging. London's waistlock doesn't get very far on Deuce but a small package gets two. London kicks at Deuce's leg to get on his nerves so Domino comes in. Kendrick joins him for an armdrag and then another one into an armbar. It's back to London and the champs clear the ring in a hurry, setting up London's big dive onto Domino.

We take a break and come back with Kendrick armbarring Deuce but a distraction lets Domino get in a cheap shot. A suplex gives Domino two and it's off to the chinlock. Back up and some choking on the ropes ensues, as the camera angles show you how small the building really is. The slow beating continues until Kendrick rolls away and dives over to London for the hot tag. House is cleaned in a hurry, including a top rope double stomp to the back for two on Domino. Deuce comes back in and sends Kendrick outside, setting up Crack Em In Da Mouth...but the referee DQ's them for being in the ring too long.

**Rating:** C+. These teams have chemistry but I'm sick of seeing them fight. Either change the titles already or move on to

something else because this is getting really repetitive. The ending leaves the door open for another rematch and I'm sure we'll get that sooner than later, but they need to get somewhere with this already.

Teddy Long tells Kristal about how awesome next week's 400th show will be in Milan, Italy. Deuce N Domino and Cherry come in and aren't happy with the result. They get tossed out anyway.

The Condemned.

### MVP vs. Chris Benoit

Non-title. MVP drives Benoit into the corner to start to show off a bit of power. An armdrag sends MVP into another corner though and it's time for a standoff. That's fine with Benoit, who takes him to the mat for an armbar without much trouble. The threat of the Crossface sends MVP bailing to the floor but he's right back in with some forearms to the face. A running boot in the corner gives MVP two but Benoit snaps off a suplex.

Benoit hits a backbreaker and kicks away but MVP gets in a shot of his own to take back over. We hit the chinlock for a bit but Benoit gets to the apron and teases the German suplex to the floor. That's broken up as expected and MVP posts him to send us to a break. Back with Benoit fighting out of another chinlock but charging into a belly to belly. A hard whip sends Benoit into the corner and MVP starts in on Benoit's banged up arm.

Three straight elbows give MVP two but a snap northern lights suplex gives Benoit the same. The Crossface goes on, with MVP getting his foot on the ropes in a hurry. Some rolling German suplexes have MVP in trouble but he avoids the Swan Dive. MVP hammers away and kicks Benoit in the head but can't German suplex him to the floor. Instead Benoit tries a rollup but MVP grabs the rope for the pin.

**Rating:** C+. These guys work well together and the cheating pin moves MVP back into the title match while also protecting Benoit. I'm sure they'll be set up for Backlash as a result and that should be another good one. MVP has been ready to win the title for a long time now so Benoit dropping it is the right move in the near future.

Post break, MVP says he told us so and promises to win the title.

We recap King Booker attacking Undertaker last week and being slaughtered. He has suffered neck, knee and elbow injuries, meaning he's out of action indefinitely. That's a heck of at Tombstone to injure his knee.

Raw Rebound.

#### Kane vs. Daivari

Kane unloads on him to start like he's Kane unloading on Daivari, including a hard shot to the face in the corner. There's the side slam into the top rope clothesline, followed by Daivari's ribs being bent around the post. The chokeslam finishes Daivari in a hurry.

Post match here are William Regal and Dave Taylor to go after Kane but they can't even get him off his feet. Eventually they give up and run off.

Mark Henry is coming back.

#### Undertaker/Batista vs. Mr. Kennedy/Finlay

Finlay ducks away from Undertaker to start and hands it off to Kennedy, who gets taken into the corner for the pummeling. Undertaker charges into a boot though and the villains take over as Batista looks like he's trying to remember where he parked. That's broken up and Undertaker launches Kennedy into the corner to start throwing more right hands. Snake Eyes has Finlay in trouble but Batista tags himself in, allowing

Kennedy to jump Undertaker. Batista tosses Finlay and spinebusters Kennedy but this time it's Undertaker tagging himself in.

We take a break and come back with Undertaker rather forcibly tagging Batista. Kennedy gets stomped down and this time it's Batista slapping Undertaker in the chest for the next tag. A Finlay distraction breaks up Old School but Undertaker shrugs off anything Kennedy throws at him. Batista comes back in for two off a suplex with Finlay making the save. Finlay comes in and is thrown right back into the corner for some right hands to the face.

There's a heck of a clothesline to give Batista two and it's back to Undertaker to keep pounding. This has been almost completely one sided so far as Undertaker drops the apron leg to Finlay. Old School is broken up by another blind tag and that's not cool with Undertaker. The distraction lets Finlay jump Batista, with Undertaker just glaring instead of helping. Kennedy comes back in to start on Batista's knee and a chop block cuts him down again. Finlay grabs the leg part of an STF and Kennedy sits down on the bad leg.

A Shillelagh shot to the leg makes it worse and Kennedy drives Batista's back into the apron. The Indian Deathlock doesn't work for Kennedy so he goes with some right hands to the face instead. It's back to Finlay to pull on the leg a bit more, including a half crab. That's finally enough to turn Undertaker into an unenthusiastic cheerleader, which seems to work as Batista is back with a spinebuster. Undertaker comes back in to clean house but Batista tags himself in again. As Undertaker beats on Finlay on the floor, the Batista Bomb finishes Kennedy.

**Rating:** B-. This was a different kind of match as it was much more about the storytelling than the action itself. Undertaker and Batista toyed with the two of them here and it was an effective way to build things up. They don't like each other

but they had to work together here. Granted it wasn't the best teamwork, but the story was advanced and that's what they were shooting for here. Nicely done, in a different way.

The staredown and title gesturing finishes the show.

**Overall Rating:** B-. I'm not sure what to think of this show but I liked enough of it. Backlash is already starting to take shape, though you can tell that they're still in a bit of the post Wrestlemania zone. That can fade away even more next week, but for now it is just a good show instead of anything great. WWE continues to be on a roll though, and that is getting more impressive the further they are removed from Wrestlemania.

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**ECW On Sci Fi – April 10,**

# 2007: Decisions, Decisions

## ECW on Sci Fi

Date: April 10, 2007

Location: Dunkin' Donuts Center, Providence, Rhode Island

Attendance: 8,000

Commentators: Joey Styles, Tazz

Things have picked up again around here as the New Breed beat the ECW Originals in a heck of an Extreme Rules match last week to even the series. I'm sure a third match is coming and CM Punk is lurking around the story as well. On the higher end, Bobby Lashley is going to have to defend the ECW World Title against Vince and Shane McMahon and Umaga in what I'm sure will be a technical masterpiece. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Here is Vince McMahon, again in a snappy hat, to open things up. Vince talks about how humiliating Wrestlemania was for him and we get a quick recap of his newfound bald. Now it is time for revenge and since Steve Austin and Donald Trump are gone, Bobby Lashley is all that is left. Vince wants revenge, so Lashley is suspended from the arena tonight. Granted it wouldn't have mattered, as Lashley suffered a severe concussion last night.

We see how said concussion took place, with the McMahons and Umaga destroying Lashley on Raw. Vince promises to take the ECW World Title at Backlash because he could make a rather nice champion himself. Before we get there though, Vince is going to ruin Lashley's life, but he is going to do the same thing to the fans for laughing at him. Details coming later.

CM Punk is warming up when Rob Van Dam comes in to say that Punk should be an ECW Original. As I wonder if Van Dam knows what "original" means, Elijah Burke comes in to say Punk is joining the New Breed next week. Punk is sick of this and he's making his decision tonight.

## Tommy Dreamer vs. Kevin Thorn

Ariel is here with Thorn. Dreamer hammers away to start but gets knocked down, only to avoid a legdrop. They head outside with Dreamer sending him into the steps but getting pulled down off the apron. Back in and Thorn grabs his sitout spinebuster for two but Dreamer grabs a neckbreaker, which Tazz thinks could hurt Thorn's neck. Dreamer's spinebuster gets two but an Ariel distraction lets Thorn crotch him on top. The Dark Kiss finishes Dreamer in a hurry.

**Rating:** D+. Short match here with Dreamer getting in his usual assortment of right hands with a few moves thrown in as well. The New Breed continues to win more often than not and Dreamer is the kind of person to make them look better. Dreamer doesn't need to ever win another match and he is going to stay over so let him keep doing his thing like this.

Snitsky interrupts Extreme Expose getting ready. The women run.

The Condemned is still a thing.

Hardcore Holly needs surgery after Snitsky wrecked his arm last week.

## CM Punk vs. Stevie Richards

Rematch from last week where Punk beat him up pretty badly. Matt Striker comes out to watch for a bonus, so here is Sandman to even things out. We're joined in progress with Punk hitting a butterfly backbreaker for two as Sandman and Striker both seem pleased. Punk misses a springboard crossbody though and Richards knees him in the ribs for two. That doesn't last long as Punk kicks him in the face and hits the running knee in the corner. The ensuing bulldog gets two but Sandman's Singapore cane shot hits Striker by mistake. Richards' rollup gets two but Punk reverses into one of his own for the fast pin.

Post match Sandman tries to make peace but Punk doesn't seem impressed. Punk? Holding a grudge?

Extreme Expose, but Snitsky interrupts again. This time Layla can't run away and covers against the ropes. Balls Mahoney tries to make the save and it goes as you would expect.



We recap CM Punk saying he would make his decision tonight. This comes after commentary said Punk would be making his decision tonight, turning this into one of the most pointless videos you'll see in WWE in recent memory.

### Rob Van Dam vs. Marcus Cor Von

Sabu, in a neck brace, is here with Van Dam and Elijah Burke (no neck brace) is here with Cor Von. Feeling out process to start with Van Dam trying to figure out how to deal with Cor Von's power. Cor Von hammers him down in the corner and hits some knees to the ribs. We hit something like a seated abdominal stretch, setting up a Regal Cutter for two on Van Dam. A belly to back suplex drops Van Dam again as this is one sided so far.

The chinlock with a knee in the back makes things worse for Van Dam and there's a release German suplex for two. We hit the regular chinlock until Van Dam fights up but Cor Von cuts off the kicks. The chinlock goes on again but this time the comeback works a lot better. A kick to the face puts Cor Von down and a running...double leg takedown (Huh?) sets up the spinning legdrop. The top rope kick to the face drops Cor Von but Burke goes after Sabu. That's enough of a distraction for Cor Von to Pounce Van Dam for the pin.

**Rating:** C-. Pretty dull match here as it was mainly Cor Von grinding Van Dam down but the ending was what mattered here. Cor Von continues to look like a beast and having him beat Van Dam is a good sign for his future. The New Breed has all of the momentum right now and ultimately that is going to be the right move. The Originals were a way to hook in fans at the beginning, but why would fans want to see most of them now?

Post match here is CM Punk...to join the New Breed. The big celebration ends the show.

**Overall Rating:** D+. This week mostly focused on the ECW Originals vs. the New Breed and that wasn't the most thrilling story. The bad guys are way ahead at this point and while that is going to change, it isn't the most exciting part. I can't imagine Punk sticks around with Striker and Thorn, but at least they gave us some drama on the way to what should be a

twist. The rest of the show was pretty much nothing though and that didn't make for the best show.

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# Daily News Update – September 11, 2021

That's A Rough Anniversary.

FULL VIDEO: WWE Releases Documentary On Post-9/11 SmackDown.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/full-video-wwe-releases-documentary-post-9-11-smackdown/>

VIDEO: AEW Star's Wife Unhappy With How He Is Being Used.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-aww-stars-wife-unhappy-used/>

Important Detail On Bryan Danielson's AEW Contract.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/important-detail-bryan-danielsons-aew-contract/>

That's A Real Hero: Former WWE Star Al Snow Saves Young Boy's Life.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/former-wwe-star-saves-young-boys-life-beach/>

CM Punk Might Literally Cause A Fan To Eat His Shoes (With Salt)

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/cm-punk-might-literally-cause-fan-eat-shoes/>

VIDEO: Top SmackDown Star Written Off Television After Attack.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-top-smackdown-star-written-off-television-attack/>

VIDEO: Roman Reigns Has Two New Challengers (And He Might Be In Trouble).

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-roman-reigns-two-new-challengers-might-trouble/>

He's In Too: Surprise Guest Star Gets Physical On SmackDown.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/hes-surprise-guest-star-gets-physical-smackdown/>

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# Rampage – September 10, 2021: It's Just What I've Always Wanted

## Rampage

Date: September 10, 2021

Location: Fifth Third Arena, Cincinnati, Ohio

Commentators: Jim Ross, Mark Henry, Taz, Tony Schiavone

The biggest week in AEW history wraps up here with a pay per view quality match. This week's feature match will see Pac vs. Andrade El Idolo in a match that was supposed to take place at All Out. Instead it is happening here, along with hometown boy Brian Pillman Jr. facing the rather rude Max Caster. Let's get to it.

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

I was in the arena for this show, sitting in the lower section looking straight at the entrance.

Opening sequence.

## Pac vs. Andrade El Idolo

Chavo Guerrero is here with Idolo. They stare each other down to start before going at it in a hurry. Andrade catches him with a basement dropkick and we hit the Tranquilo pose. Some kicks in the ribs just wake Pac up and he hurricanranas Andrade outside for the big running flip dive. Pac whips him hard into the barricade and we hit the chinlock back inside. Andrade snaps off a running boot to the face and a hanging DDT onto the apron sends Pac hard to the floor.

That means Andrade can hit his own big dive but it's only good for one back inside. Pac gets up top but gets caught on the ropes, setting up the Alberto double stomp (which looked

horribly violent) to put them both down on the floor as we take a break. Back with Andrade hitting a top rope split legged moonsault for two. With that not working, Pac is taken to the top but manages a super hurricanrana to bring Andrade right back down.

The running boot in the face rocks Andrade again to put him on the apron. Pac can't hit a running sunset bomb to the floor so it's a superkick to stagger Andrade instead. A huge moonsault to the floor has Andrade down again, though Pac might have hit his head on the barricade. Back in and a 450 connects for Pac but the Black Arrow is broken up. A running Pele kick rocks Pac again but he drives Andrade into the corner to block the hammerlock DDT.

Andrade charges into an overhead belly to belly into the corner but he catches Pac in the fireman's carry. That's countered into a crucifix bomb into the Brutalizer, which draws Andrade's translator onto the apron with a stun gun to distract Pac. The Lucha Bros run out to take care of him but Chavo gets in a cheap shot to knock Pac silly. Andrade steals the pin at 15:42.

**Rating:** B. Sometimes you need to just let people beat each other up really well for awhile. That's what we got here, as these two had a physical, hard hitting match. It was entertaining and I wanted to see it go to a better ending, but Pac looked like his usual self and Andrade felt like a star for the first time around here. Good stuff and I would have loved to see what they could have done on pay per view.

Post match Chavo and Andrade go to leave but Andrade turns on Chavo and slams his head into the ramp. With Andrade gone, the Lucha Bros superkick Chavo so Pac can grab the Brutalizer. Referees come down and finally break it up so Death Triangle can pose. Andrade might need a new manager now. Say one who managed him in Mexico recently?

Here are Darby Allin and Sting to answer Tully Blanchard's challenge from Dynamite. Allin calls Shawn Spears a generic piece of s\*\*\* who has ridden Blanchard's coattails. After a loud...whatever you call Sting's scream, Sting calls out Blanchard for riding Ric Flair and Arn Anderson's coattails for years. We can do it right now, so here is Tully to talk about the numbers game. Sting is distracted and doesn't notice Spears running in to plant Allin with the C4 on the floor. No matter how old he is, Sting will never escape being an imbecile.

Adam Cole talks about what it means to be in the Elite because they are the best. Fans respect Bryan Danielson and Christian Cage because their body of work is so special. Cole isn't even in his prime yet and he would mop the floor with Bryan Danielson.

Bryan Danielson says that the Elite feels and looks insecure and he is going after one specific member of the team. He would love to face Kenny Omega in his first match but if he isn't stepping up, someone else will. Everyone is hungry around here so let's go.

Britt Baker/Rebel/Jamie Hayter vs. Riho/Kris Statlander/Ruby Soho

Riho takes Baker down to start so it's time to rethink things. Statlander comes in to muscle Baker over with a powerslam and picks Riho up to kick Rebel in the chest for a funny spot. Tony: "What do you call that Excalibur?" Taz: "Well he's not here." Hayter comes in but Rebel hits a cheap shot from the apron as we take a break.

Back with Riho fighting out of a chinlock so Hayter goes over to knock Statlander off the apron. She doesn't knock Soho down though, meaning Riho can kick Hayter away and make the tag. A running kick to the face rocks Hayter and an ST0 gets two. Everything breaks down and Statlander rolls Rebel up until

Baker breaks it up for the save. Statlander is back up with a twisting Falcon Arrow to Baker, with Riho getting on Statlander's shoulders. Riho covers Baker up so Riho double stomps her instead. Soho comes back in for the former Riott Kick and the pin on Rebel at 9:27.

**Rating:** C. This was a way to get Soho some more air time and there is nothing wrong with that. AEW knows they have something with her and putting her in a six woman tag is a good way to have her out there without hurting anyone. Rebel is there to take losses for Baker so this went as well as it could have. Maybe not an all time classic, but it did what it was designed to do.

We get the face to face interview between Max Caster and Brian Pillman Jr. Caster is sick of Pillman having so many fake friends but they won't be here tonight. Anthony Bowens says Caster is going to beat up Pillman's Saved By The Bell reunion looking face. Pillman is going to prove if Caster can back up his talk because they're in Cincinnati and Pillman is coming at him 100mph. Pillman hasn't inherited his dad's speaking abilities.

#### Max Caster vs. Brian Pillman Jr.

Caster's rap insults Cincinnati, but Bowens grabs the mic before he can say what a bowl of Skyline Chili looks like. Bowens: "YOU'RE ON THIN ICE!" Pillman takes him down and rains down right hands to start. Caster is sent outside for the dropkick through the ropes but Bowens breaks up Air Pillman back inside. That's enough for Caster to get in some right hands in the corner and a knee drop gets two.

Caster sends him outside so Bowens can get in some stomping, followed by Caster's dropkick to the back for two. The chinlock doesn't last long as Pillman makes the comeback and pounds away with the right hands in the corner. Bowens' interference lets Caster score with a right hand on top but

Pillman shoves him away. A dive takes Bowens out so Caster can get in a shot of his own. The Mic Drop misses though and Air Pillman finishes Caster at 6:41.

**Rating:** C. This was 100% for the live audience and there is nothing wrong with that. Pillman was over huge in his hometown and it was great to see him get a win over someone who isn't going to be hurt by the loss. That's how something like this should go and AEW made it work out very well. Not a great match, but a nice moment.

Post match Bowens comes in to jump Pillman and the double team is on. Cue fellow Cincinnati native Jon Moxley for the save and thoroughly please the live crowd to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B-. Now this is what I wanted to see from Rampage. They had a featured match and then some more showcase matches. The opener was excellent and then the other two matches did their jobs well enough. What mattered here was allowing some people to get some extra time without the breakneck pace of Dynamite and it was rather fun for a change.

### Results

Andrade b. Pac – Pin after Chavo Guerrero interfered

Ruby Soho/Riho/Kris Statlander b. Britt Baker/Rebel/Jamie Hayter – Riott Kick to Rebel

Brian Pillman Jr. b. Max Caster – Air Pillman

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# Smackdown – September 10, 2021: Welcome Home

## Smackdown

Date: September 10, 2021

Location: Madison Square Garden, New York City, New York

Commentators: Pat McAfee, Michael Cole

This is going to be a special one as WWE is not only back in the Garden but it is twenty years since the September 11 attacks minus one day. They have a stacked show too with the return of Brock Lesnar, Seth Rollins vs. Edge and more. I'm curious to see how this goes so let's get to it.

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

We open with a video on the September 11 attacks, including how everyone has tried to rebuild. This includes some clips from the September 13, 2001 Smackdown, though thankfully some other stuff is included.

Here is the Bloodline to get things going. Roman says WWE runs sports entertainment in New York. He runs WWE, so therefore, he runs New York City and Madison Square Garden. Therefore, MSG should acknowledge him. That leads to quite the cheering...and here is Brock Lesnar to interrupt. The Usos immediately get between Reigns and Lesnar, as Paul Heyman asks why Lesnar needs to go after the Universal Title. He could

do...and then Lesnar grabs the mic.

Lesnar asks why Heyman didn't tell Reigns he would be at Summerslam and the crowd's YOU F'D UP chant has to be censored. Reigns glares at Heyman, takes the title and leaves with the Usos. Lesnar does his bouncing dance and Heyman does the old Lesnar introduction. Lesnar says that was great, but wants Heyman to accept his challenge to Reigns before Lesnar kills him.

That would be the challenge for the Universal Title, and Lesnar gives him five seconds. The F5 is loaded up but Reigns makes the save with the Superman Punch. Superkicks from the Usos don't do much good and the Usos are destroyed as Reigns leaves with Heyman. This was another amazing segment and I was eating up every second of it.

Post break, the Bloodline goes into Reigns' dressing room but Heyman is cut off and asked about Lesnar's challenge. Heyman doesn't like the question at this time and says Reigns will answer the challenge when he deems fit.

King Nakamura/Rick Boogs/Big E./Rey Mysterio/Dominick Mysterio vs. Sami Zayn/Apollo Crews/Bobby Roode/Dolph Ziggler/Otis

Before the match, Sami Zayn, in a New York Knicks jersey, brings out someone who actually knows how to win in Madison Square Garden: Trae Young of the Atlanta Hawks (who is NOT popular around here). Nakamura clears the ring to start and nearly goes after Young as Otis runs over Nakamura inside. The corner splash crushes Nakamura and we take a break. Back with the parade of secondary finishers until Young gets in some choking on Rey from the floor. That's enough for an ejection and it's a double 619 to Zayn. The Big Ending finishes Zayn at 7:24.

**Rating:** C-. It was energetic while it lasted but we barely got to see half of it due to the break. That being said, this was about getting a bunch of people on the show at once and there

is nothing wrong with that plan. Young was a great bonus heel moment and the whole thing was entertaining while it lasted.

Post match Big E. talks about how great the team was, just like the New York Knicks. You know what is next for him, and he holds up the briefcase. It doesn't matter who it is, because if you have what he needs, he's coming for your neck. It might be tonight or it might be when he shows up on Raw next week. You'll feel his power. This was serious Big E. and that's a good thing.

Some charities who have helped with the fallout of September 11 are here.

It's time for a contract signing for Bianca Belair vs. Becky Lynch (not here yet) at Extreme Rules. Belair looks at the contract, but first talks about how she can't believe she is here. She respects Lynch for being a new mom and a champion but she can't believe Lynch ran from a fight. Lynch keeps talking about that 26 seconds at Summerslam because Lynch knows what happens when they're in the ring in a real match. We'll find that out at Extreme Rules and Belair signs.

Cue Becky, in a big red coat and sunglasses to amp up the heel look. Becky says she knew she had Esther's number at Summerslam when she saw Belair's face as her music hit. Belair can be the Man or she can be a fan and there is nothing wrong with sitting out there with the regular people. She's going to give Belair a rematch and maybe she would have beaten her in twenty seconds here in MSG. So what if she doesn't sign the contract. Adam Pearce: "What do you mean if you don't sign it?" Belair: "SIGN THE D\*\*\* CONTRACT!"

The fans chant SIGN IT and Becky is confused. She sat at home and heard them chant WE WANT BECKY and she came back at the last second but this is how you treat her? She left her baby girl at home and now they're picking a flash in the pan over her? Well if you can't join them, beat them, and there's the

signing. Becky throws the contract at Belair and leaves. Becky is getting the heel stuff to work, but the "Belair gets a fair match" stuff isn't exactly accurate. She had one at Summerslam and lost. Stop acting like she was some kind of a victim.

Video on Edge vs. Seth Rollins.

Paul Heyman is on the phone with someone when he passes Shotzi and Nox, who offer him a ride on the tank. They leave and Kayla Braxton pops up (Heyman: "WHAT???" ) to ask if there is an update on Brock Lesnar's challenge. Reigns will watch the Usos vs. the Street Profits and then answer the challenge. Heyman goes to leave and bumps into Big E. with the briefcase. Heyman and Braxton are gold together.

### Edge vs. Seth Rollins

McAfee gets in a good line by saying "this is a Sunday fight on a Friday." Edge headlocks him over to start but Rollins is back up with a dropkick to the knee. That makes Edge think twice about things but he's fine enough to block the Downward Spiral into the corner. Rollins sends him into the post though and then snaps the throat across the top to send Edge outside. A big flip dive connects for Rollins as we take a break.

Back with Rollins punching Edge against the barricade and taking him back inside to work on the knee again. Rollins busts out the Glam Slam and then does it again for two. That's not enough so Rollins tries the Edgecution but Edge slips out. The Pedigree is blocked as well so Edge hits Rollins with it instead. Edge sends him outside and hits a dive to take us to a break. Back with Edge getting two off a full nelson slam and going up top.

Rollins runs the corner but the superplex is countered with a shove back down. The Edgecator goes on but Rollins rolls him into the corner for the break. Rollins pulls him into a Crossface attempt but Edge reverses into one of his own. The smashing of the head into the mat (how he won at Summerslam)

sends Rollins to the rope and Edge is getting frustrated.

The spear is countered into a swinging neckbreaker but Rollins' Stomp is countered into a sitout powerbomb for two. Rollins is back up with a buckle bomb but Edge hits a desperation spear for a very close two. Edge takes him into the corner, allowing Rollins to in a low blow. A superkick puts Edge down on his knees and a basement superkick knocks him sillier. Rollins asks why Edge won't die and then hits another superkick, setting up the Stomp for the pin at 24:32.

**Rating:** B+. This was definitely the big match feel and the way to write Edge off of TV, likely for the rest of the year. Rollins getting his win back is a good thing and I'm glad they didn't wait for months to let it happen. They had some great drama here as I don't think Edge was expected to win again. That left the question of how do you get to Rollins' win and it worked out well. I rather liked this and it felt like it belonged on an important stage.

Post match Edge is taken out on a stretcher and after a break, we see him taken to the ambulance with Rey Mysterio walking next to him. Commentary talks about what just happened and how serious the neck injury is until we see the ambulance leave. Rollins is standing nearby but doesn't know how he feels. His arm hurts, but other than that is is very stoic and doesn't really answer anything.

Roman Reigns gives the Usos a pep talk before they go out to defend their titles. Reigns tells Paul Heyman that he saved him and wants to know how Heyman didn't tell him about Brock Lesnar at Summerslam.

### Tag Team Titles: Usos vs. Street Profits

The Usos are defending and they start fast by sending the Profits outside. The big dive drops Dawkins and we take a very early break. Back with Dawkins shouldering Jimmy down for two but getting hit in the face. Jimmy knocks Dawkins down for two

more but misses a jumping legdrop. That's enough to bring Ford back in for a huge no hands dive onto both Usos. Cue Roman Reigns and Paul Heyman to watch as we take another break.

Back again with Dawkins grabbing a swinging neckbreaker and handing it back to Ford for the house cleaning. Ford loses a shoe and throws it out but hits a one shoed running Blockbuster for two. A Doomsday Blockbuster gets two and Dawkins is stunned at the kickout. Back up and Dawkins' running leapfrog over Jey lands in a superkick from Jimmy. Ford pulls Jey outside, leaving Jimmy to get rolled up for two. The kickout sends Dawkins into a superkick though and the Superfly Splash connects for two more. Dawkins is back up to plant Jimmy and Ford adds the twisting frog splash, which draws in Reigns for the DQ at 15:20.

**Rating:** B-. This was another high energy match but the two commercials didn't exactly make this much better. What we got was good enough though, even with the screwy ending. Reigns getting so frustrated that he comes in for the save worked out well enough, as he has a lot going on. I'm just not sure who else is around to challenge the Usos at the moment and that's a problem.

Post match Reigns says he'll take Brock Lesnar on once he gets done with Finn Balor. Cue Balor...meaning the Demon. Thankfully Michael Cole is right there to walk us through the idea of the Demon because it's that complicated to understand. The Demon stares Reigns down to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B. I love it when WWE is in the Garden because the arena itself becomes a huge part of the show. You can tell that they are trying for something special in this building and it worked out again here. Edge vs. Rollins was great, the Heyman stuff was greater, and they threw in a surprise (kind of) at the end it the Demon's appearance. Extreme Rules is shaping up nicely, assuming you don't mind a lack of anything extreme so far. Good show this week, as Smackdown tends to be

most of the time.

### Results

King Nakamura/Big E./Rick Boogs/Rey Mysterio/Dominick Mysterio  
b. Otis/Bobby Roode/Dolph Ziggler/Sami Zayn/Apollo Crews – Big  
Ending to Zayn

Seth Rollins b. Edge – Stomp

Street Profits b. Usos via DQ when Roman Reigns interfered

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# **Impact Wrestling – September 9, 2021: The Numbers Game**

## **Impact Wrestling**

Date: September 9, 2021

Location: Skyway Studios, Nashville, Tennessee

Commentators: D'Lo Brown, Matt Striker

We are almost up to Victory Road and that means Bound For

Glory is not too far away. Victory Road should be good on its own, but there are a few other things to get to first. The shows have been good enough as of late and if they can keep that going, or even improve on it, we could get some where. Let's get to it.

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

Opening recap.

Opening sequence.

Tasha Steelz vs. Rosemary

Savannah Evans and Havok are here too. Steelz grabs a rollup to start so Rosemary bites her in the face to even things up. There's the Upside Down to put Steelz in more trouble but she avoids a top rope dropkick. Some running shots in the corner set up a running kick to the chest to give Steelz two and we hit the chinlock. As tends to be the case with chinlocks, Rosemary is back up in a hurry so Steelz drops her with a jumping knee. Stratusfaction gets two and Steelz dodges a desperation spear. Not that it matters as Rosemary is right back up with the spear for the pin at 4:40.

**Rating:** C-. This was mostly a squash until Rosemary hit the spear. That's a bit of a weird way to go with an established name like Rosemary but it isn't like Steelz is some unknown loser. Steelz got to show off some different offense here as she is rarely in the ring by herself in a featured spot like this one.

Post match Evans gets in the ring but Steelz steals the Knockouts Tag Team Titles. The distraction lets Evans nail Rosemary and Havok from behind so the villains can run off.

Here's what's coming tonight.

Ace Austin is ready to win the World Title but walks off to talk to Scott D'Amore. Ace has an idea for next week:



Christian Cage vs. Madman Fulton. D'Amore thinks it needs to be bigger and we have a ten man tag.

Post break, Ace and Fulton recruit Brian Myers to their team, who agrees without a second thought.

Rhino is still in prison with Violent By Design as Eric Young tries to cleanse him. Young pours water over Rhino's head and declares him new.

### Rich Swann vs. Karl Anderson

Bunkhouse Brawl, meaning street fight, so there are some plywood boards set up in the corner and weapons at ringside. Swann starts fast by flip diving onto Luke Gallows and then sending Anderson through one of the boards in the corner. There's a kick to Anderson's head on the ramp and Swann whips him hard into the apron. A low blow cuts Gallows off again and Anderson gets one of his own. Swann takes a bit too much time though and Anderson unloads on him with a trashcan lid. There's a suplex onto the ramp to keep Swann in trouble and we take a break.

Back with Anderson wedging a chair in the corner but getting thrown face first into it instead. Not that it matters as Anderson throws him through a board in the corner because the Elite doesn't sell their head hitting a chair. Anderson misses a running trashcan lid shot and crotches himself though, allowing Swann to make the comeback. Gallows offers a distraction though and a spinebuster cuts Swann down again.

The Gun Stun is blocked with a handstand so Anderson blasts him with a clothesline. A table is loaded up but Swann kicks Anderson in the face and goes up top. That's broken up thanks to a distraction though and they switch places, with Anderson coming off the top with a Gun Stun (not) through the table to finish Swann at 13:38.

**Rating:** B-. Anderson's selling issues aside, this was a hard

hitting brawl with Swann fighting for revenge for his friend. The numbers game caught up with him in the end though as we continue the build to the big Tag Team Title match (and likely change). This is an easy story but it is working out well, assuming you can ignore Anderson shrugging off being sent head first into a chair.

We get a sitdown interview with Mickie James, who didn't like Deonna Purrazzo attacking her at NWA 73. She's bringing back Hardcore Country to go after Purrazzo.

Matthew Rehwoldt talks about how this is art and he is coming for Trey Miguel.

Flashback Moment of the Week: Chris Sabin wins the X-Division Title at Bound For Glory 2013 in Ultimate X (with the help of a ladder).

Josh Alexander doesn't think as much of Chris Sabin being an eight time X-Division Champion because it means he's an eight time loser. Christian Cage comes up to introduce himself and gets Alexander on his team for next week. Alexander seems interested in the World Title.

Rohit Raju says Chelsea Green wanted to be kneed in the face last week because she wanted a real man to take control. Well that was disturbing.

### Chris Bey vs. David Finlay

Rematch from two weeks ago where Bey cheated to win. Bey hides in the corner to start and then goes to the floor to hide again. It's kind of easy to see a professional wrestler outside of the ring though and Finlay goes outside to chop away. Bey flips out of a belly to back suplex and runs back inside, only to get elbowed in the face. A backsplash gives Finlay two but Bey is back with an elbow to the back of the head. Bey hits a corner enziguri into a top rope clothesline for two but the Art of Finesse is blocked.

Now the belly to back suplex can connect and a Rock Bottom backbreaker gives Finlay two more. An STF has Bey in big trouble and we'll switch that to a Crossface like the cool kids do these days. Make that the Rings of Saturn, with Bey finally making it over to the ropes. Bey jumps over him in the corner though and grabs a spinebuster for two. Some YES (or BEY in this case) kicks rock Finlay but here is Juice Robinson to break up Bey's cheating pins. The distraction lets Finlay get his own pin at 8:43.

**Rating:** B. I liked this one a good bit and that shouldn't be a surprise. Bey has been a consistently solid star and Finlay is rather talented as well. They got some time on their own and the ending was the right way to go as it tied into what they did before. Good match here, as the story continues without much in the way of ridiculous moments.

Post match the beatdown seems imminent but Hikuelo, the giant Bullet Club member, comes in for the save. Robinson's leg gets Pillmanized to make it worse.

We go backstage for the Chris Sabin/Josh Alexander contract signing for the X-Division Title match at Victory Road. Sabin respects Alexander and signs. Alexander points out the eight losses and says Sabin isn't winning again before signing as well. Scott D'Amore says they're both great and gets a handshake as Alexander leaves without incident. Christian Cage comes in and gets Sabin on his team as well.

TJP, Fallah Bahh and No Way come in to Swinger's Palace and don't like the odds on Steve Maclin vs. Petey Williams. It's time to fix that.

### Steve Maclin vs. Petey Williams

Maclin doesn't waste time and counters a crossbody into a suplex. A butterfly backbreaker has Williams in more trouble but he chokes back up with chops and right hands. Williams German suplexes him out of the corner into the spinning

Russian legsweep. There's the dropkick through the ropes into a dive onto Maclin, setting up the slingshot Codebreaker. The Canadian Destroyer is loaded up but here are No Way, Fallah Bahh and TJP, and the Conga Line, to interrupt. Maclin's reverse inverted DDT driver is enough to finish the distracted Williams at 3:29.

**Rating:** D+. Not much of a match as it didn't exactly have time to go anywhere before the distraction finish, but Maclin winning in the end is the right call. They might have a little something here with Maclin and that is a good thing for Impact. The company needs some stars who haven't had a big run yet and Maclin could fit that bill. That being said, a second straight distraction finish might not be the best way, especially when he needed a save against Petey Williams.

Williams glares at TJP, who doesn't seem to think much of it.

We look at W. Morrissey and Moose taking out Eddie Edwards last week.

Eddie Edwards doesn't care about the odds but Sami Callihan comes in to interrupt. Christian Cage comes in to break that up and gets them on his team as well. Sami is in, but Eddie says it's one or the other.

W. Morrissey and Moose interrupt Ace Austin's interview to say they're in for next week. That's cool for Austin.

Victory Road rundown.

### Moose vs. Eddie Edwards

Moose runs Eddie over to start and sends him straight into the corner. Eddie chops his way out of the corner and snaps off the rapid fire chops to get a breather. That's too much for Moose, who runs him over again. They head outside with Eddie getting posted as we take an early break.

Back with Eddie catching him with an enziguri on top, setting

up a super hurricanrana. They chop it out until Eddie manages to turn him inside out with a clothesline. A missed charge in the corner lets Eddie hit the Boston Knee Party but Morrissey puts Moose's foot on the ropes. Back up and Moose hits the spear for the pin at 10:26.

**Rating:** C. This was shorter than I was expecting but at least they let Moose get a win. You don't see that enough anymore and again, the numbers game plays a factor. They are definitely focusing on that idea more and more lately and it is a different way to go around here. At least there seems to be a focus, and that is a good thing.

Post match the beating is on but Chris Sabin runs in for the save, setting off a rapid fire series of people involved in next week's ten man tag. Alisha Edwards comes in to try and save Eddie but gets caught by Morrissey. Cue Sami Callihan with a bat each for himself and Eddie and the ring is cleared again. The bats are clinked together and Christian's team is complete to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B-. This started to go downhill a bit near the end but at least they had a good enough first hour to carry the show. What we got here was a lot of stuff to set up future shows but there was enough here to make it work on its own. It's a solid show, which has become the norm around here more often than not.

### Results

Rosemary b. Tasha Steelz – Spear

Karl Anderson b. Rich Swann – Gun Stun onto a table

David Finlay b. Chris Bey – Rollup

Steve Maclin b. Petey Williams – Reverse inverted DDT driver

Moose b. Eddie Edwards – Spear

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# Daily News Update – September 10, 2021

Make Sure To Watch Rampage Tonight.

RUMOR: Dates Set For Upcoming Special WWE Events.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/rumor-dates-set-upcoming-special-wwe-events/>

WWE Had Interesting Plans For Adam Cole On The Main Roster.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-interesting-plans-adam-cole-main-roster/>

WWE Adds Main Event Title Match To Extreme Rules.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-adds-main-event-title-match-extreme-rules/>

MJF's Promo On AEW Dynamite Sent A Woman Into Labor (And It Gets Better).

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/mjfs-promo-aw-dynamite-sent-woman-labor-gets-better/>

AEW May Be Planning A Special Gimmick Match.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aw-may-planning-special-gimmick-match/>

WWE Has Given Kevin Owens Some Special Privileges.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-given-kevin-owens-special-privileges/>

AEW Dynamite Defeats Monday Night Raw In Important Category.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aw-dynamite-defeats-monday-night-raw-important-category/>

WWE Officially Signs Gold Medal Winning Wrestler To Unique Contract.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-officially-signs-gold-medal-winning-wrestler-unique-contract/>

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# **NXT UK – September 9, 2021: Run It Back**

## **NXT UK**

Date: September 9, 2021

Location: BT Studios, London, England

Commentators: Nigel McGuinness, Andy Shepherd

Believe it or not we have a bit of a special episode here, which will feature the Walter vs. Ilja Dragunov rematch from Takeover, albeit with some additional insight, which sounds like talking heads throughout. Other than that, the tournament to crown a new #1 contender to the Heritage Cup continues. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a quick preview for the show.

Opening sequence.

Heritage Cup #1 Contenders Tournament First Round: Sam Gradwell vs. Wolfgang

Gradwell doesn't think Wolfgang is much about heritage and calls him a deep fried yogurt. Round one begins with both of them taking their time, including Wolfgang scaring him into the corner. A test of strength goes to Wolfgang and he takes Gradwell down by the wrist. Wolfgang shoulders him out to the floor but they switch places and Gradwell nails a running elbow off the apron to put Wolfgang down. The count is beaten though and the round ends.

Round two begins with Wolfgang kneeing him in the ribs and uppercutting away with the second one getting two. Gradwell drives some shoulders into Wolfgang's shoulder and puts on an armbar. That's broken up as well with Wolfgang hitting a backdrop to bang up Gradwell's ribs. Hold on though as Wolfgang just stands there, allowing Gradwell to bail outside to end the round safely. Round three begins with Wolfgang unloading in the corner but Gradwell gets in a shot with the knee brace. A running STO gives Gradwell the first fall at 24 seconds of the round (7:25 total) to put him up 1-0.

Round four begins with Wolfgang favoring his shoulder so Gradwell goes straight after the arm and cranks away. That's broken up so Wolfgang can hammer away on the ribs in the



corner. Wolfgang grabs a weird suplex swung into a cutter (that's a new one) for the pin at 1:49 (9:52 total) to tie it up. Round five begins with Gradwell going after the arm and dropping Wolfgang with a discus forearm for two. The ribs give out on a fireman's carry attempt though and Wolfgang spears him down for the win at 1:19 of the round (11:47 total).

**Rating:** C+. They told a story here with the arm vs. the ribs, though I could go with Gradwell doing something other than losing all of the time. Wolfgang is the bigger name though and it makes sense to have Gallus represented going forward. Good match here, as the Heritage Cup rules continue to work.

Here are the semifinals:

Noam Dar

Kenny Williams

Wolfgang

Teoman

We look back at Blair Davenport attacking Nina Samuels last week.

Sid Scala announces that Davenport has been indefinitely suspended.

Video on Noam Dar vs. Kenny Williams in the Heritage Cup tournament.

Pretty Deadly defends the Tag Team Titles against the Coffey Brothers next week.

Gallus is excited and scare Jordan Devlin to make it better.

Ashton Smith/Oliver Carter/Saxon Huxley vs. Symbiosis

Primate hammers on Huxley to start so Huxley screams a lot and knocks him outside. Back in and it's off to T-Bone, who gets caught in the wrong corner for some alternating beating. A

belly to belly suplex sends Smith flying though and it's Primate coming in to hammer away. Dennis' swinging Rock Bottom is blocked though and it's back to Carter to clean house. The numbers eventually get the better of him though and Primate sends him outside for a crash.

Back in and Dennis gets two, setting up T-Bone's back to back backbreakers. A double stomp gets two but Carter comes out of the corner with a superkick. Huxley comes back in to wreck Dennis, including a top rope clothesline for two. Smith comes back in and gets sent face first into Dennis' boots. Everything breaks down until we're down to Carter vs. Primate. A missed charge into the corner sets up a doomsday cutter to finish Primate at 9:03.

**Rating:** C+. I can always go for a good six man tag and that's what we got here, with two sides doing their thing for a little while. What matters here is giving everyone something to do and it isn't like Symbiosis has that much to lose. It wasn't a masterpiece or anything, but it was a good use of TV time on a random TV show.

Stevie Turner is ready to beat Meiko Satomura for the Women's Title but Emilia McKenzie comes in to say she'll be facing Turner first.

Pretty Deadly remembers when no one thought they could beat Gallus, until they did. Now it's time to do it again.

With all that out of the way, here's the UK Title match between Ilja Dragunov and Walter from Takeover 36. The match features some talking heads in kind of a mini commentary, but they are about ten seconds long each and talk about how hard they are hitting each other.

United Kingdom Title: Walter vs. Ilja Dragunov

Walter is defending. They start a bit slowly until Dragunov takes him up against the rope for the chops. Walter isn't

happy and chases him into the corner but Dragunov ducks away again to increase the frustration. They go to the mat with Walter taking over off the power. Back up and Dragunov hits a running shoulder, followed by something like a World's Strongest Slam to pull Walter out of the air. Another headlock takeover puts Walter down and Dragunov rips the bandage off his own stitched head.

Back up and Dragunov forearms away before catching Walter's chop. Dragunov starts cranking on the arm until Walter lifts him up onto the top. The BIG chop finally connects to put Dragunov on the floor and the apron powerbomb puts Dragunov in real trouble for the first time. Back in and Walter sends him flying with a suplex, setting up the Boston crab. Walter switches into an STF and then something like a bully choke. That's broken up so they chop it out until a sleeper from Walter.

Dragunov slips out and manages a backdrop, followed by the running clotheslines. The Constantine Special is countered into a swinging Rock Bottom to give Walter two. Another big chop drops Dragunov and the referee has to check on him. The big boot rocks Dragunov again but he manages to get back up for the slugout. Knees to the chest and backfists to the head rock Walter but he manages to lift him up into a fireman's carry. That's broken up as well and Dragunov knees him in the head.

Dragunov tries something but Walter knocks him out of the air and scores with the lariat for two. Back up again and Walter's chop to the back makes me cringe. It fires Dragunov to his feet though and a clothesline drops Walter. The German suplex puts Walter down again but he's back up with a chop to Dragunov's destroyed chest. A kick to the head staggers Walter and something like a t-bone suplex gets two. Dragunov goes up and Walter begs off, but Dragunov shakes his head no and hits a top rope seated dropkick.

The backslash sets up Torpedo Moscow but Walter reverses into a sleeper and a sleeper suplex drops Dragunov onto his head. He's right back up with Torpedo Moscow to the back of the head and they're both down. Torpedo Moscow connects again for two and they chop it out. A chop to the leg staggers Walter, who is back up with a big chop for two. Walter goes up and gets superplexed back down, setting up a missile dropkick to leave them both down again.

Walter hits his own dropkick into the powerbomb and the stacked up cover gets two. Another chop off goes to Walter, who smashes him with a running knee. Another powerbomb sets up the top rope splash for the next near fall and they're both down again. Walter's sleeper is countered again so he kicks Dragunov in the face. Dragunov staggers to the corner and hits a middle rope headbutt to drop Walter.

The hard elbows to the back of the head set up a sleeper on Walter, who climbs to the middle rope and...well they kind of fall backwards for the break. Dragunov elbows away even more and grabs another sleeper as Walter can't get rid of him. Walter dropping back can't break the hold and he's in trouble. The hold is broken but Dragunov hammers away at the back and grabs another sleeper for the tap and the title at 22:08.

**Rating:** A. This was about two things. First of all, they beat the heck out of each other and you could feel the physicality. That's what the match was built up as being, but it also told an amazing story. The idea of the match was that Dragunov would not give up and was not going to stop. Ultimately he wanted it more than Walter and survived until the end, which is how this story should have gone. Excellent match and I loved every bit of it. I have no idea what is next for Walter, but hopefully it is a lot of ice.

**Overall Rating:** B. It was an odd show this week as about forty percent of the show was spent on one replay with some less than insightful commentary. It's an excellent match, but it's

an excellent match I saw about two weeks ago. The rest of the show was decent enough, but you would be better off just watching Takeover again instead.

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# Ring Of Honor TV – September 8, 2021: Two More

## Ring of Honor

Date: September 8, 2021

Location: UMBC Event Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Lenny Leonard

It's time to set up the finals of the Women's Title tournament, which has gone from rather interesting to lacking star power outside of Angelina Love. Ring of Honor is going to need to do something special to make this work and they might be able to pull it off. At the same time, Death Before

Dishonor could use some serious building. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Quinn McKay welcomes us to the show and runs down the card.

Trish Adora is ready to beat Miranda Alize.

Miranda Alize is ready to beat Trish Adora.

### Women's Title Tournament Semifinals: Trish Adora vs. Miranda Alize

Adora shoves her down to start and Alize bails to the floor for a quick breather. Back in and Adora grabs a quick Cattle Mutilation to crank on both arms at once. That doesn't last long as Alize flips out and kicks her in the ribs to take over. Some rights and lefts have Adora in more trouble and the strikes have Adora rocked in the corner. A Backstabber gives Alize two but Adora kicks her in the face out of the corner. Alize is fine enough to hit a DDT for two but she gets tossed outside in a heap. That's fine with Alize, who sends Adora into the barricade as we take a break.

Back with the two of them diving in to beat the count and Adora taking her to the mat with a twisting wristlock. The rear naked choke has Alize in trouble until her feet make the ropes. The Miranda Rights (Crossface) have Adora in trouble but she slips out and kicks Alize in the face. Adora's Samoan drop sets up the Cattle Mutilation but Alize escapes again. The knee to the face sets up Miranda Rights for the tap at 12:16.

**Rating:** B. This got a lot better near the end and I was wondering who was going to win. That's exactly the point, which is quite impressive as neither of them have exactly made a huge impression so far. Adora is someone who will likely be around in the future as she showcased herself well, but Alize

seemed like a better prospect.

Respect is shown post match.

Angelina Love thinks Maria Kanellis set her up for failure in the tournament but here she is anyway. She has been wrestling longer than Rok-C has been alive and it is time to win her eighth World Title.

Rok-C, who sounds even younger than she is, can't believe she has made it this far and now it is time to face Angelina Love. Did you know Love has been wrestling longer than she has been alive? Rok-C has to win though.

### Women's Title Tournament Semifinals: Rok-C vs. Angelina Love

Love is banged up from Max the Impaler's beating last week. No Code of Honor before the match so Love wastes no time in kicking her into the corner. A side slam gives Love one but Rok-C takes her down and hits some flipping knees to the ribs. Love shouts that she is injured and sends Rok-C outside. Some shots to the ribs and trash talk have Rok-C in trouble but she spins around into a Russian legsweep back inside.

We take a break and come back with both of them pulling themselves up for a slugout. Love goes to the eye to cut Rok-C down but misses the Botox Injection. Rok-C is back with a Thesz press and right hands but Love plants her with a DDT for two. A Crossface puts Love in trouble until she reverses into a cradle. That's reversed right back into a flip over armbar to make Love tap at 6:44.

**Rating:** C. Rok-C is still looking very young and has a long way to go, but at least she is getting a heck of a push here. I'm not sure what Love is going to do in the future, but she has had a weird tournament. She got a bye, then yelled at Maria Kanellis, then got beaten up in what seemed to be designed to build sympathy, then talked a bunch of trash here. I don't quite get it, but at least they are pushing someone

fresh here, which is probably the best idea.

Post match Miranda Alize comes out for the staredown.

Death Before Dishonor rundown.

La Faccion Ingovernable is ready to prove they're better than Shane Taylor Promotions.

### La Faccion Ingovernable vs. Shane Taylor Promotions

That would be Kenny King, Rush, Dragon Lee, Bestia del Rey vs. Shane Taylor, the Soldiers of Savagery and O'Shea Edwards under lucha rules. During the entrances, Edwards says he is sick of these La Faccion censoreds. It's a big brawl on the floor before the bell with security breaking it up as we take a break.

Back with things settled down but another fight nearly breaks out before we get started. Moses and King officially start things off with Moses powering him into the corner without much effort. King strikes away to get himself out of trouble but Moses punches him in the ribs. That's enough to send King outside, so Lee is allowed to come in to face Khan.

Some shoulders put Lee down and Khan wins a forearm off without much effort. An exchange of kicks to the face goes to Khan but Lee low bridges him to the floor. That nearly sets off another brawl but Edwards comes in to run Lee over for a change. Everyone else has to be held apart on the floor again until Bestia comes in to suplex Edwards for two. That earns him a powerslam from Edwards and it's off to Shane vs. Rush for the big hoss fight.

Rush manages a German suplex and a running knee to the face sends Taylor outside. Everything breaks down again and Moses...falls off the apron, which I think was supposed to be a dive. Back in and Shane trades knees to the face with Lee until the Marcus Garvey Driver gets two. King comes back in



with a low blow to pin Shane at 7:26.

**Rating:** B-. Pretty insane match at times here and that's what they were going for with this. They had a bunch of people flying all over the place and doing whatever they could to each other, which made for a rather entertaining match. I'm not sure what kind of lifespan these stable wars have, but this was a fun one.

La Faccion poses to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B-. This was more like it, though I'm rather glad that the Women's Title tournament is wrapping up. Things have been hit or miss at worst, but the tournament has dominated the show for a good long while now. Let things move forward and get us away from this thing already, because this is really long. The show was good, but it is time to get ready for Death Before Dishonor, meaning more than just the tournament stuff.

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# HIDDEN GEM: When Steve Austin Met Rico

It was a special event (and a good one too).

From January 31, 2001 in Ohio Valley Wrestling.

Jim Ross brings out Steve Austin, fresh off winning the Royal Rumble, for a chat. The place (the Louisville Gardens as this is a special show) goes coconuts of course and Austin hits all four buckles as only he can. JR thinks Austin is going to beat whoever is the WWF Champion at Wrestlemania and Austin talks about the Mexican food he has been having today. Austin wants to know if the fans are ready to see him at Wrestlemania and that would be an affirmative.

Beer is consumed and Austin badmouths Vince McMahon a bit. Cue Kenny Bolin and Rico Constantino (his ace) with Austin telling them to get out. Rico gets in Austin's face and Austin isn't impressed. Rico says he's coming to the WWF to go after Austin because he's a role model here in Louisville. Austin thinks that's a threat and goes to have more beer but Rico says "don't you turn your back on me son." Stunning and drinking ensue. I still want to see what Rico could have done with a serious gimmick.