

# Rampage – April 22, 2022: She's Coachable

## Rampage

Date: April 22, 2022

Location: Petersen Events Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Ricky Starks, Taz, Excalibur

We're back on Friday this week as AEW has been trying to ramp this show up a bit more in recent weeks. That means more star power, and this week it means a title match as Jade Cargill is defending the TBS Title against Marina Shafir. We also have a pretty big showdown between Adam Cole and Tomohiro Ishii. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Owen Hart Foundation Qualifying Match: Adam Cole vs. Tomohiro Ishii

We go right to the ring (with Rocky Romero and Orange Cassidy at ringside) with Cole striking away but getting dropped with a chop. They head outside with Ishii hitting the post and getting driven into the barricade. Back in and Cole grabs the chinlock but seems to be favoring his arm. Some forearms don't do much on Ishii, who knocks Cole into the corner with a single shot. Back up and Cole charges into a powerslam but slips out of a powerslam.

The fireman's carry onto the knee drops Ishii and we take a break. We come back with Ishii hitting a superplex and sliding lariat for two each. Cole grabs a brainbuster onto the knee but Ishii shrugs off a superkick. Ishii hits an enziguri and headbutting him, only to have Cole hit a superkick. That still doesn't matter as Ishii hits a hard clothesline, only to have

Jay White run out and send Rocky Romero into the steps. The distraction lets Cole get in a low blow and the Boom finishes Ishii at 11:18.

**Rating:** C+. I'm not sure I'd call that a dream match but Cole going over a bigger name is a good thing for his future. Granted I don't know how good of an idea it is to have him on a show a week after losing in a Texas Death Match to a big finisher, but if he was just fine on Dynamite, he can be just fine here...right?

Earlier today, the Jericho Appreciation Society wasn't allowed in the building. Chris Jericho doesn't like it but backs down from a bunch of security. Daniel Garcia is allowed in because he has a match, though Jericho promises to call human resources on the main guard.

Danhausen eats some of Hook's chips to steal his power, but Hook pins him against the wall and says (I believe for the first time) that if Danhausen wants his attention, he has it. Danhausen knows he's in trouble.

#### Lance Archer vs. Serpentico

Serpentico jumps at Archer to start and can't even knock him down. Shawn Spears is on commentary as Archer starts the destruction, setting up the Blackout for the pin at 29 seconds. Same thing they did with Butcher last week and it's still the right thing to do.

Post match Archer hits some chokeslams.

Video on Tony Nese and Mark Sterling.

#### Eddie Kingston vs. Daniel Garcia

Kingston starts fast by taking it to the floor for some chops. Back in and Garcia gets in a shot of his own, only to have his skin removed with a chop. Kingston fights off an armbar with some knees to the ribs and chops away as commentary compares

Garcia's chest to various cuts of meat.

We take a break and come back with Garcia reversing a dragon sleeper and hitting a suplex to send Kingston into the corner. The Boston crab sends Kingston towards the ropes so Garcia tries a failed Sharpshooter attempt. Back up and Kingston manages an exploder suplex, setting up the Spinning Backfist To The Future for the pin at 12:20.

**Rating:** C+. The long and drawn out build towards their respective teams finally having their big showdown continues, but I'm not sure if they can make it all the way to Double Or Nothing. Kingston getting a win is almost weird to see but he's a bigger star than Garcia and should have gone over. If nothing else, the backfist almost always looks like a knockout shot and Kingston hits it well so it was nice to see.

Keith Lee and Swerve Strickland promise that the war isn't over with Team Taz.

Ricky Starks: "You broke a\*\* Kenan and Kel." Starks promises to finish the job with Lee and Strickland. I had to pause for a second after the Kenan and Kel line because nothing was topping that this week.

Toni Storm and Jamie Hayter are ready to fight each other.

Dax Harwood is ready to fight Cash Wheeler for himself and his family.

Mark Sterling reveals that he is a black belt, having bought it for \$20 on Amazon. As for tonight, he is ready to celebrate Jade Cargill's win over Marina Shafir. That doesn't work for Shafir, because problems don't worry about plans. Time for the main event.

TBS Title: Marina Shafir vs. Jade Cargill

Cargill, with Mark Sterling, is defending. Shafir goes at her but Cargill isn't impressed and hits a fall away slam into the

nip up. A clothesline puts Shafir on the floor, where Cargill follows to get some kisses on the cheek from the Baddies section. Back in and a belly to back suplex gives Cargill two, followed by a powerslam for the same.

We take a break and come back with Shafir fighting out of an armbar and taking her down to work on the leg. With that broken up, they head outside where Sterling's interference earns him a throw of his own. Cargill gets in a pump kick though and chokeslams her onto (not through) the timekeeper's table. Back in and the foot on the chest cover gives Cargill two, with Shafir pulling her into a kneebar. Cargill fights out and hits Jaded (with Shafir having NO emotion on her face as she goes up) to retain at 11:39.

**Rating:** C. All things considered, this could have been FAR worse. They were smart to keep things simple and have them in spots where they could walk around a bit in between moves, as it let them burn some time off the clock and kept things simple. Neither of these two has any significant experience and neither is what I would consider really good in the ring. Cargill has an amazing presence to her and can make the limited stuff work, which is enough to focus on to ignore what wasn't a great match otherwise. While it looked very, very planned out, they got through this rather well and I'd call that a big success.

Balloons fall to celebrate Jade being 30-0 to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C+. The star power was here this week and it continues to serve as a supplement to Dynamite, though it wasn't exactly must see stuff. The best thing about Rampage continues to be that it is still an hour long and it can't have that much time to overstay its welcome. That was the case here as just as it was starting to lose its charm, the show was wrapping up, which is some pretty good timing.

Results

Adam Cole b. Tomohiro Ishii – Boom

Lance Archer b. Serpenticco – Black Out

Eddie Kingston b. Daniel Garcia – Spinning Backfist To The Future

Jade Cargill b. Marina Shafir – Jaded

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# Dynamite – April 20, 2022: The Kind Of Show You Need Sometimes

## Dynamite

Date: April 20, 2022

Location: Petersen Events Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Jim Ross, Tony Schiavone, Excalibur

Battle Of The Belts has come and gone and now we should be on the way to Double Or Nothing in May. That means it should be

time to start getting ready for the bigger pushes as the card hasn't been set up so far. CM Punk gets to face Dustin Rhodes tonight so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

### Dustin Rhodes vs. CM Punk

They shake hands to start and it's a feeling out process to get things going. The fans are split as they go technical, with a headlock not getting either of them very far. Punk takes him to the mat and cranks on the leg a bit but Dustin is right back up with a wristlock. Some armdrags into an armbar slow Punk down but he sends Rhodes outside, where the knee is banged up. Back in and Punk stays on the leg with some elbows and kicks as we take a break.

We come back with Rhodes sending him outside and hitting some clotheslines. Nine right hands in the corner set up a double middle finger and the tenth punch, but Rhodes' knee gives out as he comes back down. Punk misses the running knee in the corner though and Rhodes hits a Code Red for two. Back up and Punk goes to the knee again, setting up a Figure Four.

Some slaps get Rhodes out of trouble though and he turns the hold over to send Punk to the ropes for the break. Punk's springboard clothesline is punched out of the air and the Cross Rhodes drops Punk again. A piledriver gives Rhodes two and they're both down again. Back up and Rhodes hits some Flip, Flop and Fly but Punk kicks him in the head. The GTS is loaded up but Punk can't lift him off the shoulders, instead going with a cradle for the pin at 17:24.

**Rating:** B. You could hear JR's interest in a wrestling match here and that is a good thing. This didn't have anything over the top or gimmicky and that is something that will always work. I don't think there was any serious drama about Punk

losing, but they told a story and had a perfectly enjoyable match as a result. Solid stuff here, which shouldn't be a surprise. I don't care about Dustin that much, but you have to respect what he is doing almost 34 years after debuting.

Post match Punk goes to leave as Hangman Page arrives, meaning a staredown ensues.

Wardlow arrived earlier today when Mark Sterling and some security met him at the door. Said security is going to escort him to the closet, the ring, and then back to the closet. Oh and he has to be handcuffed until his match start. Finally, MJF has left a message for him, calling him a pig. Wardlow: "Oink oink b\*\*\*\*."

### Blackpool Combat Club vs. Brock Anderson/Dante Martin/Lee Moriarty

William Regal does some singing on commentary as Wheeler stomps away to start. We settle down to Martin getting up onto the top to avoid Danielson's running knee in the corner. Some dropkicks stagger the Club and Anderson comes in with a clothesline to Moxley. A half and half suplex drops Anderson though and we take a break.

Back with Danielson and Moriarty exchanging chops until a quick suplex gives Moriarty two. The Border City Stretch has Danielson in trouble but he slips out and brings Martin back in to start the house cleaning. The Nose Dive takes a second too long due to a slip and Moxley pulls him into a choke. Moriarty kicks Moxley in the back for..well nothing actually, as Moxley says kick him again. The Club all strike away at the same time (cool visual) until the Paradigm Shift finishes Martin at 8:07.

**Rating:** C+. The Club dominated here and that is a fine way to go, as it isn't like their opponents had much to lose. The visual of the Club beating on the other three at the same time was great and it showed you just how good they are at the same

time. Other than that, this was your old school Saturday Night/Worldwide main event, with some bigger names beating up some people who are just a step above being squashed.

The Undisputed Elite talk about their recent losses and want to right the ship. Adam Cole likes the idea so next week it's an open challenge ten man tag. Cole has to go take care of something though and leaves the other four there.

Video on Samoa Joe vs. Jay Lethal/Sonjay Dutt/Satnam Singh. Joe is promising violence.

Tony Khan is here to announce the big announcement. He brings out the New Japan Pro Wrestling President but Adam Cole pops up on screen to announce that Forbidden Door, a New Japan/AEW supershow, will take place in Chicago on June 26. This Friday you'll get a special preview with Cole vs. Tomohiro Ishii, but for now, Cole's friend has something to say. Cue Jay White to say that the last time New Japan did something like this, he single handedly sold out Madison Square Garden. This is about the Undisputed Elite and Bullet Club because it's still their era.

Jade Cargill and some of her Baddies (with popcorn) aren't impressed by Marina Shafir, as Cargill is ready to be the Problem Solver to the Problem.

### Butcher vs. Wardlow

Before the match, MJF and Shawn Spears (also eating popcorn, which he throws to the crowd) are in a sky box to insult the crowd and bring out Wardlow (still cuffed), sans music or pyro. The cuffs come off and they collide in the middle before trading shots to the face. Butcher bites his head and they head outside, where Wardlow won't let him grab a chair. Instead Wardlow gets his back driven into the apron and they head back inside where Butcher hits his own powerbomb for one. That fires Wardlow up though and a four movement Powerbomb Symphony finishes Butcher at 4:14.



**Rating:** C+. That's how it should have gone, as Wardlow hung in there and took everything a monster threw at him before winning in the end. It is another step towards Wardlow getting his hands on MJF as another hurdle is cleared, likely on the way to Double Or Nothing. Pretty good hoss fight here, but this was about having two bulls beat each other up and they did it like they should have.

Post match Wardlow is cuffed again and taken out.

Eddie Kingston wants to face Daniel Garcia with all of their friends out of the building. Everything he is going to do to Garcia is going to happen to Chris Jericho too, so be ready.

Owen Hart Foundation Qualifying Match: Kyle O'Reilly vs. Jungle Boy

They go technical to start and head to the mat with O'Reilly holding him down by the hands. Back up and a springboard wristdrag takes Jungle Boy down into the corner but he comes back with some strikes to the face. O'Reilly knees him in the face and rolls his butterfly suplexes into a swinging faceplant.

We take a break and come back with Jungle Boy kicking his way out of the corner. Some running forearms are cut off with a kick to the leg but Jungle Boy hits a springboard tornado DDT. A front chancery goes on but O'Reilly hits a suplex, only to get clotheslined down hard. O'Reilly's charge into the corner is countered into an overhead belly to belly suplex and Jungle Boy unloads with right hands in the corner.

Some stomping in the Tree of Woe has O'Reilly down even more and there's a sliding basement dropkick. They miss some kicks to the chest until Jungle Boy rolls him up for two. The kickout lets O'Reilly grab an ankle lock but Jungle Boy reverses into the Snare Trap, with O'Reilly having to crawl to the rope. O'Reilly is good enough to catch Jungle Boy on top and it's a superplex into a brainbuster to plant Jungle Boy

again. The top rope knee to the back gives O'Reilly the pin at 12:53.

**Rating:** B-. This went longer than I expected and the ending was a bit of a surprise. I would have bet on the Undisputed Elite continuing its slide but Jungle Boy got beat clean. It's not a terrible thing to have a tag team wrestler lose to someone with a lot more singles success, but I'm curious to see where this goes. Good action here though, as they allowed talented wrestlers to take their time and do something.

Post match a somewhat disappointed Christian Cage comes out to walk Jungle Boy to the back.

MJF doesn't want to hear about Butcher losing because he has another plan. He hands Jake Roberts an envelope full of money as he seems to have rented Lance Archer. Roberts goes into a weird rant about how Wardlow needs to lie like he did when he was a kid, but Archer just wants to beat up Wardlow.

#### Hook vs. Anthony Henry

The fans like Hook, who starts fast with the release northern lights suplex. A running clothesline to the back of the head sets up some crossface shots but here is Danhausen to curse Hook again. It matters not as Hook Redrums Henry for the tap at 1:19. Simple and to the point again.

Post match Danhausen gets in the ring because he has had it with Hook embarrassing him. If Hook doesn't want to be cursed by Danhausen, Hook will FIGHT DANHAUSEN! A poke to the chest annoys Hook, who walks past Danhausen without hurting him.

Frankie Kazarian wants to challenge Sammy Guevara but Scorpio Sky comes in. Sky thanks Kazarian for helping him get this far and now he needs one more favor: let Sky face Guevara first. Kazarian says he has always had Sky's back and he always will, so the deal seems to be made. Sky coming in to surprise Kazarian would have been more impactful if Excalibur hadn't

said we were going to the back to Frankie Kazarian and Scorpio Sky.

Thunder Rosa wants the most experienced and best challengers she can find. Now it is time to go double or nothing.

Here are Sammy Guevara and Tay Conti for a chat. Sammy thanks the fans for their support but not the ones who turned their backs on them in the first. Are they mad because his girlfriend is hotter than theirs? Those fans' only option is to, said together, BE MAD. Cue the Men of the Year, with Ethan Page going on a rant about how Dan Lambert isn't allowing the two of them to come to the ring and beat him into a bloody pulp.

Lambert talks about how youth is wasted on the young like Guevara. Now give Sky the rematch he wants or Page and Sky will come to the ring and give Sammy the pounding Conti dreams about. Guevara agrees to the match if they can have the mixed tag match they want (opponents not specified). Sky vs. Guevara is on next week....and it's a ladder match, because we have gone a few weeks since the last one.

The House of Black says people have flown too close to the sun so next week, the sun dies.

Owen Hart Foundation Qualifying Match: Danielle Kamela vs. Britt Baker

Baker comes out with some Pittsburgh Steelers to make JR happy and Kamela is better known as Vanessa Borne from NXT. Baker takes her to the mat to start and seems rather pleased as we take an early break. Back with Kamela waving the Terrible Towel, which doesn't sit well with Baker. Kamela gets hammered down and it's a Stomp into the Lockjaw, complete with a Pittsburgh Steelers glove, to give Baker the win at 6:13.

**Rating:** C. This was about getting Baker out there in front of the Pittsburgh crowd, who loved every single thing she did.

They didn't bother trying to make her anything resembling a villain as there wouldn't have been a point. What we got was a squash (which didn't need the break) and Baker looking like a killer on her way into a likely deep run in the tournament.

Post match Baker grabs the mic and runs down the rest of the women's division, especially Toni Storm and Jade Cargill. As for the Baddies, sit down because she is the baddest b\*\*\*\* on the block and will be winning this tournament. Baker had the crowd in her hand and she knew it.

Video on Hikaru Shida vs. Serena Deeb, which will be taking place in a street fight next week.

Excalibur shows amazing lung capacity by running down upcoming matches, including FTR exploding in an Owen Hart Foundation qualifying match.

#### Andrade El Idolo vs. Darby Allin

Coffin match and the AF0 is here with Andrade. The numbers game doesn't take long to stat as Allin gets stomped down but he manages some skateboard shots. Andrade hits him in the back with the skateboard though and they fight into the crowd. Marq Quen rips up a Sting sign...which is held by a disguised Sting, who helps beat up the rest of the AF0. Good thing they came into that part of the crowd and Quen went after him, or Allin would have been kind of screwed.

They go into the balcony where Sting gets chaired in the back, only to pop up and dive off the balcony onto a pile of people. We take a break and come back with Allin getting suplexed on the floor before being knocked into the open casket. That means we get to see the thumbtacks under the lid (because of course) with Allin sacrificing his own arm to avoid being closed in.

Andrade powers him up with a suplex onto the ramp and looks down at a metal grate. That means a toss suplex onto the grate

and Andrade takes him back to the ring, where the referee tells them 90 seconds. Allin manages a flipping Stunner to send Andrade throat first onto the top, setting up a suicide elbow to drive them both into the coffin. The tacked lid is slammed onto Andrade but here is Jose to stop the lid from being closed. Jose gets backdropped onto the lid and another slam of said lid onto Andrade is enough to give Allin the win at 12:17.

**Rating:** B-. There was a lot going on here and some of it probably could have been cut out to let things flow a bit better. That being said, I'll take Allin winning the feud, hopefully once and for all, as this has gone on long enough. Allin needed a win after not doing much in recent weeks, though I have no idea where he goes from here. Maybe the Owen Hart Tournament, but is that all that interesting for him?

Sting comes out to celebrate and the Hardys appear to do the DELETE pose on the stage to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B. Solid enough show here and they're making me wonder where some of these things are going. Teasing Hangman vs. Punk instantly makes things more interesting, though I'm going to need a lot from Hangman to make me buy into the whole thing. Other than that, you had had some good action here, even if this felt more like the show that sets up the bigger shows. You need those every now and then though and it worked well this week.

### Results

CM Punk b. Dustin Rhodes – Rollup

Blackpool Combat Club b. Lee Moriarty/Dante Martin/Brock Anderson – Paradigm Shift to Martin

Wardlow b. Butcher – Powerbomb Symphony

Kyle O'Reilly b. Jungle Boy – Top rope knee to the back

Hook b. Anthony Henry – Redrum

Britt Baker b. Danielle Kamela – Lockjaw

Darby Allin b. Andrade El Idolo – Allin shut El Idolo in the

coffin

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# AEW Battle Of The Belts II: I Saw No Belts Fighting

## Battle Of The Belts II

Date: April 16, 2022

Location: Curtis Culwell Center, Garland, Texas

Commentators: Excalibur, Taz, Ricky Starks

It's time for another special as AEW is back with a focus on the titles. That could make for a big night, as we are fresh off a World Title match this week on Rampage. This show is another hour long deal, which tends to mean a focus on in ring action. AEW tends to thrive there so let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

TNT Title: Scorpio Sky vs. Sammy Guevara

Sky, with the rest of the Men of the Year is defending while Guevara has Tay Conti with him. Guevara gets knocked back to start and Sky hammers away before things reset a bit. They fight over a suplex attempt before Guevara clotheslines him down. A backflip over Sky sets up a dropkick to the floor, with the fans not being so pleased with Guevara. Sky slams him on the floor and a mostly missed TKO over the top rope sends them both back outside. We take a break and come back with Sky hitting a pair of backbreakers.

The fans want a third so Sky gives them one, and even bends Guevara's back over the knee. Guevara fights up and hits a standing Spanish Fly for a breather before going up for the 630. Ethan Page breaks that up so Conti gets in an argument with Page, allowing Guevara to hit a top rope shooting star onto Page and Sky. Back in and the springboard cutter gets two on Sky, setting up a rollup for the same, even with Conti adding an assist. Cue Paige VanZant to brawl with Conti, which is enough for Guevara to hit Sky low. The GTH gives Guevara the pin and the title at 12:42.

**Rating:** B-. That's the first major step towards Guevara and Conti being full on heels and that is a good idea. They are one of the easiest to dislike pairs in AEW and turning them is going to be a heck of a moment. That being said, Sky's title reign feels pretty lame and I could have gone for more of the Men of the Year bragging about the title. Pretty good match to start the show and it's nice to see a title change, though this is about the future more than anything else.

Ring Of Honor World Title: Dalton Castle vs. Jonathan Gresham

Castle, with the Boys, is challenging. They go technical to start with Castle having to grab the rope to escape an armbar. More grappling goes to Gresham but Castle Peacocks up. A

springboard hurricanrana takes him back down though and Gresham wants him to bring it. There's a dropkick to drop Castle and we take a break.

Back with Gresham missing a dive to the floor before heading back inside where they miss a bunch of chops in the corner. Castle misses the Bang A Rang and they trade rollups for some near falls each. With that not working for Gresham, he pulls Castle into an Octopus on the mat for the tap to retain at 10:30.

**Rating:** C+. More or less just a showcase match for Gresham, but Castle's flamboyance and facials alone are going to get him over if he is around here for that long. It's one of the most unique looking presentations in wrestling and he can do enough in the ring to back it up. Gresham feels like a star though and his size issues are completely forgiven due to how sharp he is in the ring.

Respect is shown post match....but here are Jay Lethal, Sonjay Dutt and Satnam Singh to interrupt. Singh double chokeslams the Boys and there's a Lethal Injection to Gresham. Singh goes after Gresham so here is Lee Moriarty for a failed save attempt. The injured Matt Sydal gets in the ring and is beaten down as well but Samoa Joe makes the real save with a lead pipe. This still feels very, very WWE.

Here's what's coming up on various shows.

Quick video on Nyla Rose challenging Thunder Rosa for the Women's Title.

Women's Title: Nyla Rose vs. Thunder Rosa

Rosa is defending and there is no Vickie Guerrero. They fight on the floor to start with Rose driving her up against the barricade. A bulldog on the floor puts Rose down for a change and there's a ram into the barricade to keep her in trouble. Back in and a missile dropkick gives Rosa two, setting up the



sliding lariat for two.

Rose fights up but gets low bridged to the floor. Rosa's charge is countered into an apron bomb though and we take a break. Back with Rosa firing off some running clotheslines to put Rose into the corner. The running corner clothesline sets up a running dropkick but Rose pulls a high crossbody out of the air. A kick to the face rocks Rosa but she's back with a Code Red for two.

Rose hits a chokeslam (which sends us to a different camera shot) and goes up for...something mistimed, as it seemed that Rosa was supposed to get a boot up but didn't, leaving Rose to try an ax handle to a downed Rosa instead. Rose's middle rope legdrop only hits apron though and Rosa rolls her up for two. A World's Strongest Slam gives Rose the same but Rosa is back with a hurricanrana to retain the title at 14:09.

**Rating:** C+. Rose is starting to feel like AEW's version of Kane or Big Show: you can build her up as the big monster but other than her first title reign, she doesn't win anything of note. There is still something to her because of her size and ability to move, but it's hard to really buy that she is anything more than the next monster for the champion to slay. Rosa isn't as interesting as champion as she was when she was chasing the title, but this worked for a special main event.

**Overall Rating:** B-. This was a better and more interesting show than the first edition, though it is mostly skippable stuff. I like Guevara getting the title back as he and Conti as heels have money written on them, though the other two matches are more "if you have time" situations. All that being said, it's an hour long show with some good action so it is hardly some disaster or complete waste of time.

### Results

Sammy Guevara b. Scorpio Sky – GTH

Jonathan Gresham b. Dalton Castle – Octopus

Thunder Rosa b. Nyla Rose – Hurricanrana

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# Rampage – April 15, 2022: Suddenly, This Matters

## Rampage

Date: April 15, 2022

Location: Curtis Culwell Center, Garland, Texas

Commentators: Excalibur, Ricky Starks, Taz

It's a big show this week as AEW has suddenly started turning this show into something that matters. That means a World Title match this week, as Hangman Page defends the World Title against Adam Cole in a Texas Death Match. That could mean a possible title change and that means a nice feeling. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

### Blackpool Combat Club vs. Gunn Club

William Regal joins commentary as Austin punches Yuta in the face to start. Yuta ties the legs up and hammers away before putting on a leglock. It's off to Danielson to tie up the legs and rip at Colton's face, setting up a surfboard. Billy comes in and elbows Danielson in the face to cut him off as we take a break.

Back with Danielson hitting his way to freedom so Moxley can come in to clean house. Everything breaks down and Yuta hits a high crossbody. Danielson adds the running knee to Colton but Billy's double clothesline breaks up the double dives. A powerslam gives Billy two but Yuta is right back with his bridging rollup for the pin at 9:04.

**Rating:** B-. I'm trying to get into Yuta and it's just not clicking yet. In a similar way to Daniel Garcia, it's kind of hard to get behind the idea of these wrestling machines. The match with Moxley was a great story, but now he's just the third guy out there with Danielson and Moxley. This was a good showcase for the Blackpool guys though and I want to see where they're going next. Yuta can keep being a project, but he isn't quite there yet and I don't know if he's going to get there without some changes.

### Butcher vs. ???

The guy, whose name couldn't be heard over the crowd, hits a missile dropkick at the bell but Butcher doesn't go down. A running clothesline in the corner sets up a powerbomb for the pin at 53 seconds. Shawn Spears, on commentary, approves as he should, because this was a good way to build Butcher up for Wardlow next week.

Dustin Rhodes talks about how he has been on this final run for a long time now and it is time to get one of his bucket list matches. He wants CM Punk next week on Dynamite.

### Owen Hart Foundation Qualifying Match: Ruby Soho vs. Robyn Renegade

Soho hammers away to start but gets sent into the corner for the handstand in the corner. That lets Renegade get in a superkick to take over and the camel clutch goes on. We take a break and come back with Soho hitting a suplex and starting to get fired up. Soho sends her into the corner but gets hit in the eyes, allowing Robyn's twin sister Charlotte to switch places with her.

Excalibur says this is a Killer Bees switch, which isn't exactly the same thing as the Bees used masks. Instead it's more like the Bellas, but Excalibur likes to try and sound smarter than he actually is. Soho's top rope backsplash hits knees and she hits No Future to send Charlotte to the floor, where the twins switch places again. A swinging Downward Spiral finishes Robyn at 8:23.

**Rating:** C-. The switch was a bit of an obstacle for Soho but I don't think there was any doubt about the winners here. Soho is someone who still feels like a star and could make a run in the tournament. That isn't going to be the case for either of the Renegade twins, making this little more than a warmup match for Soho.

Here's what's coming on various upcoming shows.

Hangman Page calls Adam Cole a thorn in his side and promises to end things tonight. Cole says tonight is going to be the worst night of Page's career and it's time for the main event.

### AEW World Title: Hangman Page vs. Adam Cole

Page is defending in a Texas Death Match (Last Man Standing).

Before he even gets in the ring, Page starts throwing in chairs before knocking Cole down and going after his leg. They head outside with Cole being knocked around the ring and sent into the required table. The beating goes into the crowd with Page knocking him around the arena, though he does stop for a beer. Cole gets knocked back into the ring, where Page takes a chair to the top.

After head faking Cole to avoid the superkick out of the air, Page moonsaults down onto him with the chair for a five count. Page knocks him to the floor where Cole is busted open as we take a break. Back with Cole using a chain, which is tied to the top rope, for a clothesline to take over. Some chairs are set up but Page hits a Death Valley Driver/AA onto the tops of said chairs for the big knockdown.

The Deadeye on the pile of chairs sends Page outside, with Cole going up top. The huge moonsault is superkicked out of the air for a seven count, setting up the Panama Sunrise onto the chairs for eight. Page fights back up and they sit down in the chairs for the slugout with Cole getting the better of it. Cole picks now to yell about how Page will never be Kenny Omega, earning himself the Buckshot Lariat.

Page uses a belt to tie Cole to the top rope before pulling out a barbed wire chair. Page can't use it though and Cole gets out for a low blow. That isn't enough for the win so Page wraps some barbed wire around his arm. Cole goes up, only to get knocked back down, with Page wrapping the barbed wire around Cole's head. The Deadeye off the apron through a table at ringside retains the title at 20:05.

**Rating:** B. I don't know what to think about these matches anymore. They have their moments and good spots, but AEW has done these things so often anymore that none of them feel even remotely important. How long will it be before they run another weapons match? Maybe two weeks? Other than that, this feud felt like a solid midcard title feud that became a World

Title feud, which didn't do it any favors. Solid fight, but nothing that is going to have any staying power.

**Overall Rating:** B-. Another good week on the show, though the best part of this was the time slot. I would absolutely love for Rampage to move to seven permanently, just for the sake of the night wrapping up earlier. Much like the third hour of Raw going until 11, there is something draining about a show going that late. This was a better way to start the Friday night wrestling lineup and they had another nice show, especially with an actually important main event for once.

### Results

Blackpool Combat Club b. Gunn Club – Bridging cradle to Billy Butcher b. ??? – Powerbomb

Ruby Soho b. Robyn Renegade – Swinging Downward Spiral

Hangman Page b. Adam Cole – Deadeye through a table

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# Dynamite – April 13, 2022: The Downhill Slide

## Dynamite

Date: April 13, 2022

Location: UNO Lakefront Arena, New Orleans, Louisiana

Commentators: Excalibur, Jim Ross, Tony Schiavone

It's the start of a big week around here as we are on the third of five shows. There are some important matches set up for this card and there is a good chance that we could be in for a fun one. If nothing else, they are coming in off a white hot main event last week so hopefully they can keep up the momentum. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

## CM Punk vs. Penta Obscuro

Alex Abrahantes is here with Penta. Punk isn't overly intimidated by Obscuro's entrance and they stare each other down to start. That goes into the big chop off, with the fans getting right into this as soon as they get going. A superkick staggers Punk but he kicks Penta in the ribs to cut him off. Punk strikes away as commentary runs down tonight's card, including Samoa Joe vs. Minoru Suzuki. The GTS is countered into an ankle lock and Punk gets sent to the floor. Some suicide dives take too long though and Punk takes his place, setting up a dive of his own.

We take a break and come back with both of them going up to the same corner. Punk pulls him down into...something that wasn't clear as his knee seems to give out. Penta takes him into the corner but Punk comes out with a super hurricanrana, setting up the running knee in the corner. The GTS is

countered so Punk tries the Anaconda Vice, sending Penta straight to the rope.

They head to the apron to slug it out but neither can hit a piledriver. Instead Punk hits the running knee in the corner back inside, only to have the GTS blocked. The arm snap is countered into a rollup but that's countered into another rollup to give Penta two. Another superkick rocks Punk but he's fine enough to pull Penta out of the air for the GTS and the pin at 13:33.

**Rating:** B. They worked hard here and the ending was good, though it felt a bit like a match you would see on a big time indy show: no real reason for them to be fighting, but it makes fans go "that sounds AWESOME". It was good while it lasted though and Punk continues his climb up to the top of the rankings. I'm sure the path will be completely scientific and logical as well.

The Jericho Appreciation Society arrived at the airport earlier but Eddie Kingston, Santana and Ortiz were waiting on them. They beat up 3.0 and took their shoes, as good guys tend to do.

### Tag Team Titles: ReDRagon vs. Jurassic Express

Jurassic Express is defending. Jungle Boy gets struck into the corner by Fish, allowing O'Reilly to come in for a headlock. Luchasaurus tags himself in and starts kicking away, only to get caught with some dragon screw legwhips. That's enough to put Luchasaurus in the corner but he strikes his way out of trouble, allowing the tag off to Jungle Boy.

The suicide dives are on (JR: "It's Tope Suicida Night folks! And the kids eat free!"), setting up Luchasaurus hitting his own dive. Jungle Boy goes for a dive but Fish isn't quite ready and has to move over in a hurry (that could have been nasty). Fish twists Jungle Boy off the apron by the arm though and we take a break.



Back with O'Reilly trying a cross armbreaker on Jungle Boy but getting stacked up for two instead. Jungle Boy gets over for the tag off to Luchasaurus to clean house, including the Tail Whip to O'Reilly. There's the double chokeslam into the standing moonsault for two on O'Reilly. A side slam top rope elbow combination (that looked good) gets two on Fish but ReDRagon is back in for a kick off into a German suplex.

O'Reilly grabs a cross armbreaker (while also trapping the leg) but Jungle Boy makes the rope. Back up and O'Reilly grabs a guillotine on Luchasaurus as Fish jumps over them with a super Falcon Arrow to Jungle Boy. Luchasaurus throws O'Reilly onto the two of them for the break and it's time to strike it out again. Fish gets Tail Whipped by Luchasaurus and it's the Throwassic Express for the pin to retain the titles at 13:45.

**Rating:** B. This was back into the "what's tagging" formula for the most part and I can with with that after last week's tag team clinic main event. Jurassic Express getting to add another win to their list is a good idea, but those titles seem destined either for FTR or the Young Bucks to set up the rubber match between the bigger name teams.

Post match O'Reilly chairs the champs down but FTR comes in to scare them off. I think you know where FTR and the Express are going.

The Blackpool Combat Club, now with Wheeler Yuta, are ready to fight the undisputed Gunn Club on Friday. Moxley's idea: break their faces.

Jamie Hayter and Toni Storm are ready to face each other in the first round of the Owen Hart Foundation tournament. Hayter talks about their history together and how it was a lot like Owen's rise to prominent. She isn't going to let Storm slow her down and asks what Storm is going to do about it. Storm smirks and walks away.

Maxwell Jacob Friedman vs. Shawn Dean

Shawn Spears is here with MJF. Hold on though as MJF's scarf gets caught in his jacket, but he jumps Dean from behind anyway. And yes, the scarf is completely fine in case you were wondering. MJF poses but we cut to the back where security has been taken out, with one of them missing a shirt. Back in the arena and MJF takes him to the floor, but Wardlow is behind MJF. The chase is on and security comes out to hold Wardlow back. MJF runs and, despite offering the referee a lot of money, loses by countout at 3:54.

**Rating:** D. This was a match in name only and that is ok. They are building up towards Wardlow vs. MJF even more and it is nice to see Dean getting some wins, even if they don't mean anything. MJF begging at the idea of losing makes sense as he is that obsessed with being the best, so they had the logic going strong here. Not a match for the most part but they weren't trying to make it one.

Post match Wardlow is taken to the back and Spears has to hold MJF back from fighting the referee. We cut to the back where Wardlow beats up security again and says he isn't going to stop until MJF lets him out of his contract. Then he breaks the camera, which will somehow go on MJF's bill.

In a video that is a bit more complicated for its message, Darby Allin challenges Andrade El Idolo to a casket match.

Malakai Black talks about how the House of Black is going to destroy Fuego del Sol.

### Jericho Appreciation Society vs. Eddie Kingston/Santana/Ortiz

Jericho flips Santana off to start and then hits him in the face, only to get himself into a chop off. Everything breaks down and Santana gets to beat on Jericho a bit more inside. It's off to Ortiz, who gets caught in a double flapjack from Jericho and Hager to put him down for a change. Hager drives him into the corner again and it's Garcia getting to come in for some shots of his own. Jericho gets the arrogant cover for

two and we take a break.

Back with Jericho missing the Lionsault and, after getting away from Hager, Ortiz manages the hot tag off to Kingston. House is cleaned without much trouble and Santana comes in with a top rope splash for two on Garcia. Ortiz's middle rope legdrop gets the same and the Street Sweeper is loaded up. Instead, Santana throws Garcia at Jericho to take him out. Cue 3.0 (still missing shoes) but Ortiz hits a big flip dive to take them down. The distraction lets Jericho get in a bat shot to finish Kingston at 11:45.

**Rating:** C+. It's far from a disaster, but I'm really not feeling the Society so far. They feel like a rehash of the Inner Circle but nowhere near as good. It's more of Jericho getting beaten up and then cheating to win, which is a pretty tired style. The match was good enough, but it feels like we've done this before and that isn't great to see.

Post match the big beatdown is on and no one makes the save.

A very angry MJF talks about how he has money and can do whatever he wants. Also, since he owns Wardlow, he's going to put Wardlow into the ring against the Butcher.

### Marina Shafir vs. Skye Blue

This is Shafir's Dynamite debut and Mark Sterling/Jade Cargill are watching in the back (Sterling more than Cargill). Shafir takes her down to start as we see Red Velvet as part of the Baddie Section. Blue's attempt at a choke is countered into a bearhug and a slam down. Shafir pounds away and hits a pumphandle suplex. A palm strike sets up a headscissors choke to make Blue tap at 2:22. Shafir really didn't look good here and they weren't exactly mixing well. I don't know what was wrong, but if this was anything more than an off night, Shafir is in trouble.

Tony Nese and Mark Sterling (third segment in a row after MJF

and Cargill) interrupt Hook's interview. Hook throws a medicine ball over his shoulder, hits an interrupting Danhausen, and leaves. Danhausen continues to be unsure what is going on.

The Men of the Year are ready for Sammy Guevara at Battle of the Belts on Saturday.

### Swerve Strickland/Keith Lee vs. Team Taz

The fans are way into Ricky Starks as the hometown boy. Powerhouse Hobbs shoves Strickland around to start and doesn't seem happy at Swerve trying an armbar. JR uses this time to talk about Mid-South/UWF memories and it's off to Starks to run the ropes into a rope walk. A top rope shot to the shoulder drops Strickland and Starks hits his pose. It's off to Lee, who sends Starks into the corner for the big chop, with Strickland holding the arms back to make it worse.

Everything breaks down and Strickland uses Lee's chest as a springboard for a moonsault down onto Team Taz. We take a break and come back with Lee cleaning house. Swerve takes Hobbs off the apron but springboards into a spear from Starks. A Canadian Destroyer plants Swerve for two but he is right back up to put Starks in a fireman's carry. Swerve goes up and throws Starks into the Pounce from Lee, who is cut off by Hobbs.

Cue Taz at ringside as Starks can't Ro Sham Bo Lee. Swerve gets shoved off the top but manages to post Hobbs. Starks' tornado DDT is blocked so he settles for a middle rope spear. Swerve breaks up the cover with a 450 but gets crushed by a running splash in the corner. Taz trips Lee though and the Last Will And Testament finishes Lee at 11:58.

**Rating:** C+. You build up Starks as the big star and don't have him get the pin in the match? Anyway, they weren't going to be able to get Starks booed here no matter what they tried so they didn't even bother. That's the right call here and Lee

lost to cheating rather than clean. They did things as they should have here and it was a pretty hot match.

Here's what's coming at various upcoming shows.

Thunder Rosa is interrupted by Nyla Rose and Vickie Guerrero. They have a cake to celebrate her short title reign but there is no writing on it because she isn't worth their money. Rosa: "Do you think I'm stupid?" Vickie and Nyla: "YES!" The cake goes in Rosa's face and she's so blind that she hits Vickie by mistake. Rosa gets sent into some boxes, with Rose shouting that the joke is on Rosa because she loves cake! This was pretty great.

Video on Hangman Page vs. Adam Cole in a Texas Deathmatch this week on Rampage.

Ring Of Honor TV Title: Samoa Joe vs. Minoru Suzuki

Suzuki is defending and they go straight to the required strike off. This includes chops and forearms for two minutes plus until Suzuki gets knocked to the apron. The armbar over the ropes slows Joe down and we take a break with Joe looking to be more than a bit spent pretty soon into things.

Back with Suzuki fighting out of a Crossface as Joe's chest is REALLY red. The Gotch Style piledriver is blocked and the chop it out again. Another piledriver attempt is blocked so Suzuki takes him into the corner for some choking. That's countered into the MuscleBuster to knock Suzuki silly and Joe is champion at 11:34.

**Rating:** B-. This is going to be the definition of "your mileage may vary" as the chop/strike off stuff loses its charm pretty quickly (the fact that Penta and Punk did the same thing an hour and a half ago didn't help). They kept this moving and it's hard to believe that it went as long as it did, but Suzuki was the definition of a transitional champion. That isn't a bad thing, but this one felt a lot more like

something that sounded great on paper fifteen years ago rather than here, with both of them likely near the end of their careers.

Post match here are Jay Lethal and Sonjay Dutt with a present for Joe. It's Lethal's middle finger, but the lights go out. Cue a 7'3 monster (identified by Tony as Satnam Singh, an Indian basketball player who was drafted into the NBA) to take Joe down and crush his head in a Khali style vice grip. Lethal and Dutt seem to have a monster enforcer to end the show. I don't know how the STUPENDOUS Khali will do but this wasn't exactly an inspiring debut.

**Overall Rating:** B-. It was a weird week as they started off great and then fell pretty hard before almost limping across the finish line. The Singh debut didn't exactly leave on a high note and the show was a bit of a rollercoaster. It doesn't feel like there is a top story at the moment and the World Title was a complete afterthought this week. Still a perfectly good show, but far from one of their best.

### Results

CM Punk b. Penta Obscuro – GTS

Jurassic Express b. ReDRagon – Throwassic Express to Fish

Shawn Dean b. Maxwell Jacob Friedman via countout

Jericho Appreciation Society b. Eddie Kingston/Santana/Ortiz – Baseball bat shot to Kingston

Marina Shafir b. Skye Blue – Headscissors choke

Team Taz b. Keith Lee/Swerve Strickland – Last Will And Testament to Lee

Samoa Joe b. Minoru Suzuki – MuscleBuster

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# Rampage – April 1, 2022: The Rampage Way

## Rampage

Date: April 1, 2022

Location: Colonial Life Arena, Columbia, South Carolina

Commentators: Excalibur, Chris Jericho, Ricky Starks, Taz, Chris Jericho

Wrestlemania weekend caused me to miss this one so now it's time to catch up. I'm kind of curious to see how this show works without the timing issues and watching it as a stand alone event. The big draw this week is Powerhouse Hobbs vs. Keith Lee, which certainly sounds good on paper. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Young Bucks vs. Top Flight

Nick shoulders Dante down to start so Dante nips up. They head

to the floor and hit stereo dropkicks, setting up a staredown. Matt comes in and gets sent into the corner, setting up a slingshot hilo. A double dropkick takes the illegal Nick down and Darius pulls Matt into something like the Rings of Saturn.

That's broken up so Nick comes back in, only to have his springboard countered into an atomic drop. Back to back dives take the Bucks down but a Cutler distraction lets Matt hit a superkick to drop Darius on the floor. A Cannonball/running kick in the corner has Darius in more trouble and we take a break.

We come back with Dante coming in off the hot tag to clean house, including a superkick to Nick. There's a missile dropkick to Matt and Darius gets to stare at the crowd a bit. A slingshot Flatliner sets up the Broken Arrow (that jumping over your partner to land on someone's back for two on Nick. Darius gets knocked off the top and down into the barricade though and it's Nick vs. Darius in a slugout. Matt comes back in for the save though and it's the BTE Trigger for the pin at 10:48.

**Rating:** B-. It was the entertaining spectacle style match and that is all it needed to do. You have the Bucks against Top Flight in there to do their big choreographed routine and it did exactly what it needed to do. I'm not probably not going to remember it because I've seen the Bucks do this a dozen times, but while it's still in the short term memory, they were doing it pretty well here.

Video on the OTHER SIDE of Kris Statlander, meaning the paint on her face changes side.

Here are the Men of the Year to complain about Tay Conti and Sammy Guevara. Above all else, they don't like the photo shoot with the TNT Title, but they also want to know who was behind the camera. After some jokes about Orange Cassidy, Dan Lambert makes it clear that they will never give Guevara the match.



Guevara pops up on screen from the parking lot, where he and Conti destroy Lambert's car with sledgehammers. This company REALLY likes wrecking cars.

Hook is ready for an interview when Danhausen comes in to curse him. Again, Hook just walks away, leaving Danhausen to panic.

### House of Black vs. Dark Order/Fuego del Sol

Matthews shoulders Grayson down but he's back up with a running forearm. The Order is sent outside, leaving Fuego to get lawn darted into the middle buckle. King tosses Fuego onto the Order on the floor and we take a break. Back with Fuego kicking Buddy away and making the hot tag off to Grayson to clean house.

Everything breaks down and a toss powerbomb gives Uno two. The Order is sent outside for a running flip dive from King, leaving Black vs. Fuego inside. The rest of the House gets back in but the Order makes the save. Fuego manages a poisonrana on Black, who Black Masses Fuego out of the air for the pin at 7:14.

**Rating:** C. This was a bit longer than it needed to be for the House, as they should have smashed people like the Order and Fuego. It wasn't exactly a competitive match but the House has stalled a bit in recent weeks, as we are seemingly STILL waiting on their showdown with Death Triangle. I'm sure the match will be great when it happens, but has Death Triangle ever been together in the first place?

The Young Bucks brag about themselves and are ready for FTR on Dynamite.

### Owen Hart Foundation Qualifying Match: Skye Blue vs. Jamie Hayter

Hayter powers her up against the ropes to start and then hits

an elbow in the face. Blue grabs an armdrag into an armbar and Hayter looks more surprised than anything else. A suplex sends Blue into the corner though and Hayter does it again for a bonus. Blue is back up with some rollups for two each, only to walk into a backbreaker to cut her off. A spinning kick to the head drops Hayter for two but she grabs a backdrop driver. Hayter charges into a superkick but is fine enough to hit a superplex. There's a brainbuster to drop Blue again and a ripcord lariat finishes for Hayter at 5:36.

**Rating:** C-. This tournament feels like it is going to take a long time to set up as we are still waiting to see all of the qualifying matches. Hayter is someone who could be a nice monster to slay in the field without being a favorite and that's a good enough idea. They didn't waste a lot of time here on a match that isn't going to matter so I'll take that as a quick match.

Penta Obscuro and Alex Abrahantes warn the House of Black to be worried about Death Triangle.

Powerhouse Hobbs and Keith Lee are ready to wreck each other, albeit while using a reading/book motif. Well, as much wrecking as Lee can do in his odd way of speaking.

### Keith Lee vs. Powerhouse Hobbs

The fans are behind Lee as he takes his vest off and they stare each other down a bit. The big lockup doesn't go anywhere as they shake the other off. Hobbs hits some running shoulders to no avail but Lee's running shoulder puts Hobbs out on the floor. We take a break and come back with Lee in trouble, allowing Hobbs to hit a running clothesline for two. Back up and a beal is blocked and Hobbs knows he's in trouble.

A hard clothesline gives Lee two but Hobbs backdrops his way out of a Spirit Bomb attempt. Lee hits a running splash in the corner and there's the Uncle Phil Beal. Cue Ricky Starks with a chair but Lee punches it away. Swerve Strickland runs in and

takes out Starks, leaving Hobbs to hit a spinebuster. There's no count because of the distracted referee though, allowing Lee to hit the Big Bang Catastrophe for the pin at 10:45.

**Rating:** C+. There is something fun about a hoss battle, but this hit a certain level and never got past it. They were big men hitting each other with power moves for about ten minutes and then Lee won. It was a fun showdown, but when you have people who wrestle a similar style, there is only so much that you can get out of the thing.

Starks beats down Strickland and puts him through the table at ringside. Hobbs chairs Lee in the back and another table is set up in the corner. Lee goes through said table to wrap it up.

**Overall Rating:** C+. Rampage continues to be a weird show as you have a bunch of matches but they rarely feel like they matter. You're not going to get much of anything significant on this show but it is still fun to watch for about an hour a week. That was certainly the case this week, as I had a good time with the show but it didn't exactly blow the doors off.

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# Rampage – April 8, 2022: Elevation

## Rampage

Date: April 8, 2022

Location: Agganis Arena, Boston, Massachusetts

Commentators: Excalibur, Tazz, Ricky Starks, Chris Jericho

I don't know why, but something tells me they are going to have a hard time following FTR vs. the Bucks from Dynamite. That being said, they are certainly amping up Rampage this week, as Bryan Danielson and Jon Moxley will both be in action on the show. I'm thinking that's enough to carry things so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

## Trent Beretta vs. Bryan Danielson

William Regal is on commentary and it's a feeling out process to start and they go to the mat. A shot to the face drops Danielson, who seems to get how things are going to go here. Danielson gets a boot up in the corner and grabs a guillotine choke, with Beretta suplexing his way to freedom. Beretta sends him outside but the switch places, only to have Danielson's suicide dive pulled out of the air. Danielson sends him into the steps and we take a break.

Back with Danielson suplexing him over and busting out some jumping jacks. A reverse capture suplex gives Danielson two

and it's off to the cravate with knees to the face. Trent slips out and tries Strong Zero but has to settle for two off a sunset flip. Danielson misses the running knee in the corner, allowing Beretta to hit the tornado DDT for two.

Trent goes up top but gets crotched, only to reverse Danielson's belly to back superplex into a crossbody for two more. A half and half suplex into a running lariat gets another two on Danielson, who is right back up with the running knee. The Gotch style piledriver into some stomps to the face set up the LeBell Lock to finish the unconscious Trent at 13:38.

**Rating:** B-. Trent is the most impressive in-ring star of the Best Friends and it was nice to see him on his own and getting to show off his skills like this. Having Regal in there to sound nervous and call the technical side of the match with Taz made the match that much better. Good stuff here, and Danielson broke a heck of a sweat to beat Beretta here.

Hook has nothing to say but Danhausen pops out of a trashcan to curse him again. Hook walks away again, but this time Danhausen eats Hook's chips, thinking they might be the source of his power.

Here are the Men of the Year for a chat. Scorpio Sky says he has dropped the Open Challenge because he wants to do the right thing. No one has beaten him in 394 days but here are Sammy Guevara and Tay Conti to interrupt. They call Lambert a piece of s\*\*\* sexist, which translates to Dan Lambert in Portuguese.

Lambert doesn't like hearing about what the two of them do in their bedroom but Sammy wants a match. Ethan Page doesn't think much of the idea and hopes his daughter doesn't want to be like Tay. Sammy says they're going to do this every week until they get their match and wait to see what they have planned for next week.

Based on his tastes in colognes and BMW's, QT Marshall is Chris Jericho's Sports Entertainer of the Week.

### QT Marshall vs. Swerve Strickland

Marshall shoulders him down to start and does Swerve's pose. Back up and Swerve grabs a headscissors and rolls into a jackknife cover for two. Marshall throws him over the top but Swerve sticks the landing as we take a break. Back with Strickland hitting a running forearm into the middle rope elbow between the shoulders. A pop up right hand rocks Swerve but he blocks the Diamond Cutter and kicks the knee out. The rolling Flatliner sets up the House Call for the pin at 6:05. Not enough shown to rate but Strickland getting a win is a good thing.

Post match Ricky Starks issues the challenge to face Swerve and Keith Lee in New Orleans on Dynamite.

Video on Marina Shafir.

Owen Hart Foundation Women's Tournament Qualifying Match:  
Willow Nightingale vs. Red Velvet

Willow grabs a rollup to start before taking Velvet down with a shoulder. Velvet comes back with some shots to the face in the corner. Nightingale runs her over again but misses a moonsault, allowing Velvet to strike away. Some running knees to the back rock Nightingale and Just Desserts gets two. Back up and Willow hits the Pounce, setting up the Cannonball for two more. Velvet manages to kick her away though and a spinning kick to the head finishes Nightingale at 5:19.

**Rating:** B-. Velvet isn't exactly known for her in-ring abilities and as a result, this was a near miracle. They were getting in some nice near falls and the match looked pretty smooth. Nightingale has some charisma to her and I've been intrigued by what she can do since her debut in Ring of Honor. Put her in AEW where she might develop a bit and she could go

somewhere.

Tony Nese isn't happy with the lack of enthusiasm for his introduction and wants to know when he's getting some respect. Mark Sterling comes in to offer some legal representation and Nese seems intrigued.

Wheeler Yuta talks about getting closer and closer to defeating Jon Moxley and tonight he'll do it. Moxley promises to wreck Yuta because this is a fight instead of Pure Rules.

### Jon Moxley vs. Wheeler Yuta

Yuta's ROH Pure Wrestling Title isn't on the line. Yuta gets smart and dives off the steps to take Moxley down during his entrance for a fast start. They fight into the crowd with Yuta keeping control until Moxley snaps off a suplex back inside. The bell rings and Moxley hits another suplex to put Yuta in trouble. Some chops don't get Moxley very far as Yuta comes back with an atomic drop. Yuta is sent to the floor and into the steps as we take a break.

Back with a bloody Yuta getting to the ropes to escape a Boston crab and striking away. Moxley is sent outside for the big splash through the announcers' table. Back in and Yuta grabs a backslide for two before hitting the Bryan Danielson stomps. Some German suplexes into a top rope splash sets up the Crossface but Moxley slips out. The King Kong lariat gives Moxley two and he bites at the cut. Yuta goes up top but dives into the Paradigm Shift for two, which leaves Moxley absolutely stunned.

The bulldog choke is broken up but Yuta misses the running boot, allowing Yuta to grab his own bulldog choke. Moxley escapes as well so Moxley hits the hard elbows, setting up the Regal running knee. A spike Paradigm Shift gets two more so Moxley grabs a choke and Yuta is out at 12:39.

**Rating:** B. Now THAT worked and was a great example of lifting

someone up to the next level. Moxley looking stunned by his big stuff not working and having to choke Yuta out because he couldn't pin him was an effective way to go. This was a great way to elevate Yuta and there is a good chance that it takes him into the Blackpool Combat Club. Heck of a match and Moxley's selling of the kickouts was awesome.

Post match Moxley looks stunned at Yuta being that tough. Bryan Danielson and William Regal come in, with Yuta saying bring it on. Yuta pulls his fist back but Regal extends a hand. The handshake ends the show.

**Overall Rating:** A-. This was Rampage roaring back to life after a few lackluster weeks (assuming they didn't do it last week as I still need to get to that show). There was nothing close to bad on here and the night belonged to the Combat Club. It was a week built around letting wrestlers hit each other hard and Yuta looked like a star. Very good show here and next week's will be even bigger with the World Title on the line.

### Results

Bryan Danielson b. Trent Beretta – LeBell Lock

Swerve Strickland b. QT Marshall – House Call

Red Velvet b. Willow Nightingale – Spinning kick to the head

Jon Moxley b. Wheeler Yuta – Rear naked choke

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# Dynamite – April 6, 2022: A TV Classic

## Dynamite

Date: April 6, 2022

Location: Agganis Arena, Boston, Massachusetts

Commentators: Tony Schiavone, Jim Ross, Excalibur

It's pretty rare to have a lot of things going on when a company hasn't had a major show, but that is the case this week. Ring of Honor's Supercard of Honor event was basically AEW's Wrestlemania weekend show and included the debut of Samoa Joe. He'll be here tonight, and that means things could get a lot more interesting. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

## Adam Cole vs. Christian Cage

They stare at each other for a bit until Christian grabs a headlock to grind away a bit. Cole breaks that up and sends him into the corner to take over. Christian knocks him outside though and it's a baseball slide out to the floor. That means some chops up against the barricade but Christian's foot gets caught in the ropes, allowing Cole to take over again. A hard whip into the corner rocks Christian and we take a break.

Back with Christian knocking him to the floor again and diving over the top to...I think it connected but it was more grazing Cole's hands/arms. Back in and Christian hits the pendulum kick in the corner, setting up the tornado DDT for two. Cole's Backstabber out of the corner gets two more and the low superkick into the running knee (knee pad still up and to the face instead of the back of the head) is good for the same. The Boom is countered into a rollup for two, followed by Christian hitting a spear for two more. With nothing else working, Cole pokes him in the eye and hits the Boom for the pin at 14:50.

**Rating:** B-. This is where Christian can help a lot, as he has a reputation that means a win over him still means something and can make anyone look good. Cole gets a nice win and Christian has been a made man for a long time so it isn't like he is hurt here. Good choice for an opener and the kind of win that gives Cole an actually important win.

Post match ReDDragon comes out for the beatdown but the Jurassic Express makes the save. Christian walks off to the side of the stage as the other four brawl (After rolling outside pretty fast after the pin. Hopefully nothing is wrong.). With everyone else gone, Hangman Page comes down to get in Cole's face. Page issues the challenge for a Texas Death Match for the title next week on Rampage (not Dynamite), while telling him to get his affairs in order.

We look back at Jay Lethal challenging Jonathan Gresham for the World Title and beating him down, only for Samoa Joe to return and take out Lethal's associate Sonjay Dutt.

Owen Hart Foundation Qualifying Match: Samoa Joe vs. Max Caster

Anthony Bowens is here with Caster, whose rap talks about how Samoa Joe is an overweight X-Division wrestler who was NXT Champion when Dynamite beat NXT in the ratings. Joe starts

fast and hammers away in the corner, even throwing in a dance. Caster gets knocked to the floor for the suicide dive and it's the MuscleBuster for the pin at 2:53. Total and complete destruction, as it should have been.

Post match Jay Lethal and Sonjay Dutt pop up on screen to say they aren't scared of Joe. They had a change of heart last week and now it's about doing what they want. The might not have needed one had Joe just answered his phone in the last four months. Joe clearly has a phone, but he'll only answer calls from billionaires. It's not too late to roll out the red carpet for Joe though, so next week Lethal promises him a present. Next week, Joe is getting a present that he'll never forget. Dutt is quite the odd addition to this story. I know he and Lethal have history together but there was no one else to pair up with Lethal?

William Regal is happy with the Blackpool Combat Club, as Wheeler Yuta will face Jon Moxley on Friday. Regal feels sorry for Yuta, and Moxley promises violence.

#### Shawn Spears vs. Shawn Dean

MJF is on commentary as commentary points out that Dean has beaten him. Spears throws Dean over the top for a big crash, only to stop and point at the security posters for Wardlow. Back in and Spears hits a pumphandle driver onto the knee for two, with Spears pulling him up. We cut to the back where security has been taken out and the fans know what's up. Now we see Wardlow beating up security and coming into the arena, where he beats up even more security. In the melee, Dean rolls Spears up for the pin at 3:48.

**Rating:** C-. The match was a squash with a fluke ending and that's fine as a way to keep pushing Wardlow as a major threat to MJF. The destruction is coming and it is going to be awesome once we get there. Dean could have been anyone here but giving him a pair of wins over Dean and MJF is a nice bit

of continuity.

Wardlow is very happy as security takes him out of the arena.

The Best Friends aren't happy with Wheeler Yuta finding new friends. Chuck Taylor even bought him his tights and Yuta lives on his couch. Trent is less forgiving, calling him a scumbag before leaving.

Earlier tonight, Eddie Kingston/Santana/Ortiz beat down the Jericho Appreciation Society in the back. The Society bailed away in a car.

Here are Kingston/Santana/Ortiz in the arena for a chat. Eddie talks about how he's coming for the Society and threatens to show up at Daniel Garcia's door. Santana and Ortiz say they'll be ready when Jericho stops running, say next week for example.

Here are Jade Cargill and Mark Sterling for a chat. Cargill introduces her Baddie Section, which is what she describes as a bunch of beautiful women with power. She's ready for Marina Shafir to be her 30th victim.

MJF and Shawn Spears aren't happy with Wardlow but MJF promises more security next week. As for Dean, he can face MJF next week, where he'll get a Purple Heart for being injured worse than he ever could have been in the military.

### Hardys vs. Butcher and the Blade

Tables match. It's a brawl to start with Blade clotheslining Jeff down inside. Blade misses a charge through a table in the corner, which doesn't count as it wasn't an offensive move (as made clear by the pre-match announcement of the rules). Butcher and Matt come in, where Butcher can't suplex Matt through a table. A double DDT drops Butcher but Blade breaks up what looked to be the Swanton through the table. That leaves Jeff to get suplexed/high crossbodied through a table

for the elimination.

We take a break and come back with Matt chairing Butcher, setting up a top rope legdrop through the table for the elimination. That leaves Matt vs. Blade but Matt puts himself through a table off the apron. Butcher sticks around to help double team Matt, who is thrown over the barricade.

A double suplex brings him back over but Jeff has moved the table. What looks to be Poetry In Motion into a clothesline against the barricade doesn't look great so Jeff makes up for it with the Twisting Stunner to Blade. Matt hits a Twist of Fate on the floor and the Hardys set up two tables underneath a ladder (you knew it was coming). The Swanton off the top drives Blade through the table to give the Hardys the win at 11:55.

**Rating:** C+. It was pretty good, though I'm trying to get my head around the Hardys being hyped up for their history in tables matches. The Hardys are certainly stars, but it doesn't feel like they are a big deal at the moment. Maybe that's FTR being on another level and the Hardys not being anywhere the title picture, but it feels like they're still waiting to take off. They certainly can do that, though it hasn't happened yet.

Post match here is Andrade, flanked by the AFO, but here is Sting with the baseball bat to beat them down. The AFO didn't do anything, so maybe Sting just broke up the presentation of a lovely bowling trophy.

Christian Cage is ticked off and walks away from Jurassic Express' interview. The Express doesn't think much of ReDDragon's records but they can have a title shot next week anyway.

Thunder Rosa is ready for Nyla Rose at Championship Fight Night on April 16.

Jamie Hayter isn't shaking Toni Storm's hand because she wants to win the Owen Hart tournament.

### Owen Hart Foundation Qualifying Match: Hikaru Shida vs. Julia Hart

Hart still has the eye patch and sends the Varsity Blonds to the back. Hart gets in a shot in the corner which has Shida mad as we take an early break. Back with Shida pounding away and hitting a running knee in the corner. Hart rakes the eyes to get off of Shida's shoulders though and a splits bulldog gets two. What looked to be Twisted Bliss only has Hart's knees hitting the mat though and Shida elbows her down. Shida hits a spinning knee though and the Falcon Arrow is good for the pin at 7:40.

**Rating:** D+. Yozwa this didn't work very well, as they felt like they were on different pages at times. The moves weren't connecting very well, they didn't seem to be communicating and it was just awkward throughout. It's rare to see a match go this badly in AEW but this was a pretty bad showing.

Post match Serena Deeb comes out for a kendo stick/chair showdown with Shida before bailing. This feud MUST CONTINUE you see.

Shane Strickland had a good time at the Grammys but here is Team Taz to jump him. Keith Lee makes the save and drives Powerhouse Hobbs through a wall.

### AAA Tag Team Titles/Ring Of Honor Tag Team Titles: FTR vs. Young Bucks

The Bucks are challenging. Harwood headlocks Matt down to start and it's off to Dax to do the same to Nick. An armdrag into an armbar keeps Nick down but everyone comes in for the big staredown. We settle down to Dax taking Matt down with a headlock, setting up double Sharpshooters from FTR. Nick rakes the Wheeler's eyes for the break and it's Matt hitting a

middle rope elbow on Wheeler.

The Bret Hart pose sets up the tag off to Nick and we take a break. Back with Wheeler suplexing his way out of trouble but Matt cuts off the tag attempt. Harwood Matt outside though and kicks his way over for the tag off to Harwood. House is cleaned with Harwood chopping away in the corner and getting two off a small package. Matt's backslide (with Harwood's shoulder not on the mat) gets two, as does Harwood's piledriver. The PowerPlex is loaded up but Nick cuts off Wheeler with a super hurricanrana.

A dropkick/bulldog combination connects but Harwood brainbusters Nick on the floor. Wheeler Gory Bombs Matt for two but what looks like a low blow takes Wheeler down. The Big Rig gets two on Wheeler and More Bang For Your Buck connects for the same. Nick gets in a belt shot for two more on Wheeler but Harwood dives in for the save.

There's a double superkick to Harwood and the BTE Trigger gets....a Dusty Finish, as Wheeler gets his foot on the ropes just before three, meaning the pin is called off. The Meltzer Driver is loaded up but Harwood makes the save, setting up a slingshot powerbomb to Matt. The Tombstone plants Matt and, after the double kiss, the Big Rig retains the titles at 20:00.

**Rating:** A. This is what you can get when you tone the Bucks down. Two superkicks, one or two flips. It was much, much better than their usual stuff and a high quality match instead of their usual junk food wrestling. The Bucks are very impressive athletes, but there are times where they want to remind you of that a bit too much. Have someone to keep them on more of a leash and you get an instant classic like this.

At the same time, FTR can do absolutely no wrong at the moment. They did this in NXT and they are doing it in AEW. These guys are just great and are becoming must see

television. That isn't something that has been the case in tag wrestling since probably Edge and Christian vs. the Hardys vs. the Dudleyz and that was 20+ years ago. Awesome stuff here and absolutely worth seeing.

**Overall Rating:** B+. The main event absolutely lifted this show up as, aside from maybe the opener, it wasn't exactly great. This was the week where they moved things forward for later though and you can see a lot of what they are going for at the next Battle of the Belts. FTR is an amazing team at the moment though and that's about all you need to remember from this show. Check out that main event for sure.

### Results

Adam Cole b. Christian Cage – Boom

Samoa Joe b. Max Caster – MuscleBuster

Shawn Dean b. Shawn Spears – Rollup

Hardys b. Butcher and the Blade – Swanton Bomb through a table to Blade

Hikaru Shida b. Julia Hart – Falcon Arrow

FTR b. Young Bucks – Big Rig to Matt

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# Dynamite – March 30, 2022: Yeah I'll Take It

## Dynamite

Date: March 30, 2022

Location: Colonial Life Arena, Columbia, South Carolina

Commentators: Excalibur, Jim Ross, Tony Schiavone

We're still on the long road to Double Or Nothing and that means there are some things that need to get ready before then. It seems that we will be seeing Adam Cole vs. Hangman Page II either on the way there or at the show itself, meaning there is a good chance we'll see more of the build here this week. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

## CM Punk vs. Max Caster

Caster's rap goes straight to the Will Smith reference and throws in a Hunter Biden line, plus a reference to Punk's issues with Z-Paks. Anthony Bowens is here with Caster as Punk works on Caster's taped up shoulder to start. Punk takes him down by the arm but it's too early for the Anaconda Vice. Back up and Punk's headlock doesn't last long so he shoulders Caster down and grabs the armbar again. Caster gets in a shot of his own but Punk flips over the corner and runs the apron to set up a top rope ax handle.

Back up and Caster hits him in the neck, setting up a fisherman's buster for two. Punk catches him on top though and it's a super hurricanrana to bring him back down. There's a

running knee into the bulldog out of the corner for two more and they're both down. Caster drops him ribs first across the top rope but the Mic Drop misses. Punk goes big with the piledriver out of nowhere and the Anaconda Vice finishes Caster at 7:09.

**Rating:** C+. I for one could go for more of Punk facing off with these tag wrestlers as he is getting them to much higher levels than they would be reaching on their own. Caster had probably his best singles match ever and hung in there for a bit against Punk before getting caught by the bigger star. Good enough match and Punk broke a sweat to make it look like he put in the work. Nice opener.

Post match Tony Schiavone gets in the ring for a chat with Punk, who asks the fans what motioning for the belt means. There is a lot of gray in his beard and there are scars on his head and there will be a lot more of both before he is done around here. He wants to be World Champion and it doesn't matter who has the gold because he is coming for it.

FTR (in Outsiders inspired vests) and MJF are in the back. Mark Sterling is behind them putting up security photos of Wardlow, because he isn't allowed around here. MJF talks about how the Pinnacle is still around and they're going to be picking up some wins. Dash Harwood isn't sure what is going on with MJF and Wardlow, but MJF says they're family. Everyone's hands go in.

### Jay Lethal vs. Jon Moxley

Moxley is now in a Blackpool Combat Club hoodie to make the team name official. After a handshake to start, Moxley takes him down with a headlock takeover. That's reversed into a failed Figure Four attempt and Moxley sends him outside. That doesn't last long so Moxley comes inside and puts his hands behind his back so Lethal can get in some cheap shots. The forearms off goes to Moxley so he loads up the top rope

superplex, only to get crotched back down. Lethal scores with the suicide dive into the barricade and we take a break.

Back with a double crossbody putting both of them down for a bit. They strike it out until Moxley blasts him with a clothesline for a delayed two. Lethal grabs the Lethal Combination for two but Lethal is able to try the Paradigm Shift. The knee gives out though and Lethal tries the Lethal Injection, which is reversed into a sleeper. A flip over into a cover gives Lethal two and he's back with a brainbuster. Hail To The King gives Lethal two but Moxley small packages him for the save. Back up and Moxley manages a quick Paradigm Shift for the pin at 10:59.

**Rating:** B. They went a bit heavy with the forearms here but this was rolling by the end. Lethal is in that place where him pulling off the upset isn't the craziest thing in the world and that gave the match some additional drama. I could go for more of Lethal in roles like this as he can have a good match with almost anyone, including a game Moxley. Pretty nice stuff here.

Post match an upset Lethal shakes Moxley's hand.

Video on Marina Shafir.

### FTR vs. Gunn Club

Non-title. Billy Gunn is here with the Club and MJF comes out to do commentary, which FTR doesn't seem to like. Harwood puts Austin in a top wristlock to start but gets thrown down. Colton comes in instead so the Club can do their gun sound effects. Austin hammers on Wheeler in the corner but gets armdragged down for his efforts. Some chops set up a running elbow drop from Harwood for two. Everyone winds up outside and Billy Gunn gets in a cheap shot on Wheeler so the Club can take over.

We take a break and come back with Wheeler flipping out of a

sleeper and hitting a belly to back suplex. Wheeler gets sent into the corner though and it's a Stinger Splash followed by a dropkick for two. That's enough for Wheeler, who gets over for the tag off to Harwood to clean house on both Gunns. Austin and Harwood fight over a suplex on the apron until Colton trips the leg.

The Bobby Heenan pin doesn't work but let's cut to Wardlow storming into the arena and beating up security. This includes powerbombing a security guard onto (but not through) a table and coming into the arena. Security manages to hold Wardlow back, much to MJF's relief, and we cut back to the match (Yeah remember that?) where Harwood and Billy get in a staredown. Wheeler jumps over Austin to take Billy down and the Big Rig gives Harwood the pin at 9:08.

**Rating:** C. This was more about Wardlow vs. MJF and FTR getting sick of the whole thing. That has potential for the future and I'm not sure how much longer FTR is going to put up with him. They're practically good guys already and the fans are happy with them, but they still need that big moment. You also had the Club, who have come a long way since I was rolling my eyes at them week after week on Dark.

Post match MJF gets in the ring but FTR really isn't pleased with him. They eventually let him raise their hands and leave without getting violent though.

Video on Keith Lee vs. Powerhouse Hobbs, with Hobbs saying "you can bask in kissing my a\*\*".

Chris Jericho, with the Jericho Appreciation Society, says everyone wants to join the Jericho Appreciation Society but there are only five of them so everyone else can GFY. Matt looks for Santana/Ortiz/Eddie Kingston but can't find them because they're gone. Hager goes to do the same....and there they are behind a curtain! The brawl goes out to the arena with the Society getting beaten down until Hager fights back

and turns the tide. Kingston gets put in a Sharpshooter and Jericho unloads on him with Floyd the baseball bat. Jericho throws in some leather strap shots so the Society can stand tall.

Mark Sterling has picked Leva Bates as Jade Cargill's thirtieth opponent but that's not cool with Cargill. That leaves Sterling to pick Marina Shafir, which works for the unworried Cargill.

### Bryan Danielson vs. Wheeler Yuta

William Regal is on commentary. Danielson grabs a suplex to start and cranks on the arm but can't keep the shoulders on the mat. He can't break Yuta's bridge either so it's off to a cross armbreaker attempt. Yuta makes it over to the rope for the break and that's enough for a standoff. A dropkick puts Danielson down and Yuta grabs a bridging leglock to send Danielson to the ropes (that's a rare one).

We take a break and come back with Danielson taking over and kicking him in the back for some cringing. A dragon suplex gives Danielson two so he fires off the hard elbows to the chest. Yuta slips out and does the same though, setting up an arm trap cradle for two. The not frustrated Danielson is right back with the running knee and Yuta is knocked silly. A large spit in the face sets up the hard stomps on Yuta and there's a Gotch style piledriver. The LeBell Lock finishes the unconscious Yuta at 10:12.

**Rating:** B-. Yeah this worked and that shouldn't be a surprise. Yuta was trying to hang in there for as long as he could and even gave Danielson some problems before getting beaten down by the higher level wrestler (see also the Punk match). I could see Yuta becoming a prospect for the Combat Club, and Regal's reactions seem to be leading in that direction. I'm thinking Regal might be a good choice for this show.

Post match Regal says he is very impressed with Yuta for

taking that kind of a beating and keep fighting.

Video on Andrade El Idolo vs. Darby Allin.

Here is the Undisputed Elite with their stolen titles, now featuring their homemade name plates (just like FTR does on their AAA titles). They're here for a celebration, complete with a PARTY SUPPLIES box. Said box is opened and five balloons fly out, thereby ending the party supplies. Hangman Page and Jurassic Express weren't invited to the party because these titles look better here.

AEW needs a new crew to run the show and now they have the best pro wrestlers on the planet. Kyle O'Reilly talks about how the haters keep saying that they don't have enough wins to get the title shot. Actually O'Reilly has had too much champagne so he sits down, leaving Bobby Fish to brag about how bad the three of them are.

Cue Hangman Page, driving into the arena in a Tesla (complete with longhorns) to clear the ring. Cole is pulled away before the Buckshot Lariat can launch but here is Jurassic Express with Christian Cage for the brawl from behind. The real beatdown is on and the champs all get their titles back. They got to the point with getting the titles back but the title matches are probably coming soon.

Here is Thunder Rosa to say she is here to put women's wrestling back on the map. She has fought and clawed to get here but she doesn't want to be just the face or pillar of this division. Instead, she wants to be the case of all of women's wrestling but there are always bullies who want to bring her down. Pillars get knocked down, but foundations remain standing and she doesn't want to hear from Vickie Guerrero. Instead, she wants to fight the best, like Nyla Rose. Bring it on.

FTR has been told that they take things too seriously and maybe they do. They came here to build a reputation rather

than lose one so now it's time to issue the challenge to the Young Bucks. Let's see who the best team of all time really is.

### Owen Hart Foundation Women's Tournament Qualifying Match: The Bunny vs. Toni Storm

There's your big surprise debut. Storm starts fast and sends her into the corner for some forearm to the face. Bunny chops her way out of trouble and a basement dropkick gets two. That doesn't last long though as Storm is back up with some arm cranking. Bunny knees her outside though and there's a running clothesline to send us to a break.

Back with Bunny kneeing her in the ribs to cut off the comeback bid but getting forearmed in the face. A fisherman's suplex gets two on Bunny but she's right back with a Death Valley Driver for the same. Storm isn't having that and snaps off a German suplex setting up a quick piledriver (now dubbed Storm Zero, the third piledriver of the night) for the pin at 8:40.

**Rating:** C+. Slight obsession with piledrivers aside, this was a fine way to debut Storm. Most of the fans are going to know her so it isn't like she needs some big introduction. Putting her into a tournament that is coming up a few weeks from now isn't a terrible idea and giving her said tournament would be a good start, assuming that is the way they go.

Vickie Guerrero rants about Thunder Rosa, though she isn't quite talking into the microphone. Nyla Rose is the foundation of this division and if Thunder Rosa has a wish, Rose will be her genie. Rose: "Abracadabra b\*\*\*\*."

### Darby Allin vs. Andrade El Idolo

Darby takes too long to skateboard to the ring, allowing Andrade to hit a slingshot dive to the floor. Allin is sent into the barricade and Andrade yells at the camera as we are

waiting on the opening bell. Allin avoids a charge into the steps though and there's a skateboard to the back. They head outside with Andrade picking him up for a suplex, walking him over to the barricade, and then dropping him down. That works so well that Andrade does it again, this time dropping him onto the side of the steps.

Allin gets inside and we have the opening bell, with Andrade sending him hard into the corner. Some running knees in the corner get two, with Allin having to grab the rope. Andrade backdrops him so high that Allin almost lands on his feet and we take a break. Back with Allin hitting a Code Red for two but getting stomped into the corner. They strike it out and lock up (JR: "They did something wrestling!") until it's a double knockdown.

Andrade whips off his belt but it gets taken away, allowing Allin to hit the flipping Stunner for two. Another exchange of strikes lets Andrade take him to the top, where Allin manages a super crucifix bomb. Allin puts on the Fujiwara armbar so here is Jose for a distraction, only to have Sting make the save. Butcher and Blade go after Sting so Allin dives onto both of them to save Steve. Back in and Andrade buckle bombs Allin, setting up El Idolo for the pin at 10:38.

**Rating:** B-. Another hard hitting fight here with Allin trying to hang in there but getting caught by the cheating numbers game again. Allin continues to be kind of floating around at the moment as I don't remember the last time he got a big win. I can go for Andrade winning as he hasn't really gotten his push, but he has to fight a bigger name at some point if it is going to mean anything.

Post match Andrade sends the goons after Sting again, with Private Party coming in to make it worse. The Hardys make the save to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B. It might not have had any classic match but



it covered a lot of ground and had a bunch of pretty awesome matches. I had fun with almost everything going on tonight, but the show still doesn't feel like it has a big story going. Cole vs. Page isn't doing it so far and Jericho N Pals vs. Kingston/Santana/Ortiz isn't exactly great. Still though, what we're getting is good and I can go with this as the "weaker" show.

### Results

CM Punk b. Max Caster – Anaconda Vice  
Jon Moxley b. Jay Lethal – Paradigm Shift  
FTR b. Gunn Club – Big Rig to Colton  
Bryan Danielson b. Wheeler Yuta – LeBell Lock  
Toni Storm b. The Bunny – Storm Zero  
Andrade El Idolo b. Darby Allin – El Idolo

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# **Rampage – March 25, 2022:**

# Nice And Smooth

## Rampage

Date: March 25, 2022

Location: HEB Center, Cedar Park, Texas

Commentators: Taz, Chris Jericho, Excalibur

We are back on Friday and that means we should be in for the heavy wrestling show. There is also a title match this week as Shane Strickland gets to challenge Ricky Starks for the FTW Title. Other than that, hometown boy Dustin Rhodes is facing Lance Archer in a bid for revenge from months ago. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

## Lance Archer vs. Dustin Rhodes

Archer drags one of Rhodes' students to the ring but here is Dustin for the save. Hold on though as Dustin has to beat up Dan Lambert (who is still managing Archer, despite them not being together much lately) but Archer makes the save. They head inside with Archer knocking him around and hitting him in the head. Dustin fights back up and knocks him outside, only to miss the flip dive off the apron.

Back in and Dustin is bleeding from the ear, with the blood on Archer's hands for a good visual. A twisting middle rope splash gives Archer two and we take a break. Back with Jericho pointing out that Archer's hoot is unlaced before Archer bites Dustin's finger. Dustin fights up anyway and hits some clotheslines but the snap powerslam is countered into a belly to belly.

The bulldog gets Dustin out of trouble and the Cross Rhodes connects for two. Archer is back up with a chokeslam for the

same but the Black Out is escaped as Dustin...well just collapses. Back up and Archer tries to send him into the corner but gets sent face first into the exposed buckle (which apparently was exposed earlier), allowing Dustin to grab a jackknife rollup for the pin at 9:32.

**Rating:** C. Ok they got me with the surprise here, though Dustin winning a match over anyone with value is a bit of an odd choice. I'm not sure why Archer needed to lose here, but at least Rhodes didn't lose in his hometown. Granted he could have lost at any other time and it would have been fine, but it did come after a decent enough match. Rather surprising ending though.

Post match Archer hits Rhodes with the steps to bust him open before beating up Dustin's students for daring to try a save. The chokeslam through the table leaves Rhodes laying.

Jay Lethal starts laughing about his loss last week and says he can't get past the two blemishes on his record. He took Adam Cole and Ricky Starks to the limit and they both had to cheat to beat him. That should make him proud, but all he sees are the losses and them getting opportunities. He needs a better way and is off to find it.

Fuego del Sol is here to talk about how close he has gotten to a bunch of big wins. He made these people chant his name because they believed in him. That makes him want the House of Black, so the lights go off and the entire House is in the ring with Fuego. The beatdown doesn't take long but here is the Dark Order to stare down the House of Black. Tensions seem to be boiling.

The Men of the Year say the TNT/Co-TNT Titles are no longer subject to open challenges. Therefore, if you want a title shot, you better bring a good resume. If you want a shot, get it the hard way, because the open door is closed.

ReDRagon vs. Dark Order

5 and 10 for the Order here with O'Reilly kicking 5's leg out to start. Angels slips out of a double suplex and sends Fish outside, setting up the rolling tag to 10. A lifting wristlock takes O'Reilly down and a double middle rope shoulder drops ReDRagon. We take a break and come back with 10 hitting a clothesline out of the corner and making it over for the tag (even as O'Reilly chokes him). The hot tag brings in 5 to clean house but O'Reilly reverses a northern lights suplex into a guillotine. 10 spinebusters Fish onto the two of them for the save, earning himself stereo kicks to the face. Chasing the Dragon finishes 5 at 6:59.

**Rating:** C. This was close to a squash for ReDRagon and that's what it needed to be. The Dark Order may be a fun team but they aren't at ReDRagon's level in any important way. Odds are ReDRagon is going after the titles again soon so they need to win matches like this to build them up after their Revolution loss.

Post match the beatdown stays on but the Jurassic Express makes the save. Cue Adam Cole to steal the Tag Team Titles.

Nyla Rose and Vickie Guerrero say they interrupted Thunder Rosa on Dynamite because they wanted to disrespect Thunder Rosa. Now Rose is going to show how dominant she can be.

Thunder Rosa has plans for Rose and Guerrero.

#### Nyla Rose vs. Madi Wrenkowski

A backslash into the Beast Bomb finishes Madi at 42 seconds. Of note: Madi is a Thunder Rosa student, so Rose is making it personal.

Here are QT Marshall and Aaron Solow to present Hook with the Certificate of Accomplishment. Cue Hook, with Marshall saying that he isn't the kind of trainer to feel jealous when the student surpasses him. We see the award, with Hook sending Solow face first into it. Hook goes to leave but Danhausen

pops up to curse him. That does nothing for Hook, who keeps walking to leave Danhausen confused.

Ricky Starks says the last time Shane Strickland had a house, he got ejected from it. Strickland laughs it off and says this is the same Starks he has always heard. Tonight, Strickland is going to take the FTW Title. Mark Henry doesn't like this getting a bit too personal so he goes to the catchphrase.

#### FTW Title: Ricky Starks vs. Shane Strickland

Starks, with Powerhouse Hobbs, is challenging. Feeling out process to start but Starks takes him down and poses in the corner. Back up and Strickland drops to the mat to avoid a clothesline, nips up, and hits a headscissors into a great dropkick to cap off an awesome sequence. Starks is back up to send him into the corner though and we take a break. We come back with Starks hitting a tornado DDT for two and grabbing a seated abdominal stretch.

Strickland is back to his feet for a jumping knee to the face, setting up the middle rope uppercut to the back. Strickland goes up top but jams his knee coming back down, meaning he has to block the Roshambo attempt. Starks is knocked outside and Strickland follows him out with a running shooting star off the apron. Back in and the Swerve Stomp gets two but the half nelson driver is broken up. A rollup is countered and the kickout sends Strickland to the floor, allowing Hobbs to take him out. Now the Roshambo can retain the title at 11:21.

**Rating:** B-. I know it is his reputation, but my goodness it can be fun to swatch Strickland. He is so smooth in the ring and he makes this look like an art. You don't see someone who can do that very often and it was fun to see again here. Strickland got cheated out of the win, though I really could have gone for him not being pinned here. Starks is a promising star too and it is nice to see him getting back to some longer matches after his injury.

Post match Starks' entourage pull up a Starks banner but Keith Lee pops up behind it and comes in to help Strickland go after Team Taz to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C+. This was an entertaining enough show and some of that was due to the pace slowing down just a hair. There were entrances for the opener and I got more of a feeling that things were given a chance to breathe. Good enough show here, though it didn't have any kind of a standout match this week.

### Results

Dustin Rhodes b. Lance Archer – Jackknife rollup

ReDRagon b. Dark Order – Chasing The Dragon to 5

Nyla Rose b. Madi Wrenkowski – Beast Bomb

Ricky Starks b. Shane Strickland – Roshambo

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