

# Bad Blood 2024: Thank You Cell

## Bad Blood 2024

Date: October 5, 2024

Location: State Farm Arena, Atlanta, Georgia

Commentators: Michael Cole, Corey Graves

For reasons I'm still not clear on, Bad Blood is back after a twenty year hiatus. In this case it's once again about the Cell, with Drew McIntyre and CM Punk being locked inside to presumably wrap up their feud for good. Other than that, Cody Rhodes and Roman Reigns are teaming up to face the Bloodline. Let's get to it.

The opening video is a mini movie with HHH and Cody Rhodes in a parking lot talking about their plans for the evening, with HHH saying text Roman Reigns if you get in trouble. Then Rhodes and someone named Metro are sitting in a car watching the arena, apparently for the last several weeks. After a look at the bigger matches, Rhodes and Metro agree that it's time and go inside. This was...certainly a thing.

Rhodes and Metro (last name Boomin) arrive in a banged up Ford.

Here are your hosts for the evening: Bianca Belair, Jade Cargill and Naomi. Their offering at the moment: announcing that the Cell is lowering.

## Drew McIntyre vs. CM Punk

Inside the Cell. They take their time staring at each other until McIntyre knocks him into the corner and hammers away. McIntyre sends him outside but gets whipped into the Cell to give Punk a breather. A table is pulled out but McIntyre knocks him down and grabs a wrench from a toolbox. The big

shot only hits post though so McIntyre rips the legs off a table. Punk takes them away and chokes before sending McIntyre back first onto the bottom of the table.

They head back outside where McIntyre hits a quick Claymore for a needed breather. Punk is busted open and McIntyre certainly seems to like that. The steps to the head have Punk in more trouble and McIntyre says Punk's wife is going to leave him. Back in and the wrench is dug into the cut on Punk's head before another table is pulled in. Punk manages a running knee in the corner though and goes up top for an ax handle to the head.

A top rope wrench to the head is countered into a suplex to send Punk flying as the fans approve. The threat of a Claymore sends Punk outside, where he finds a toolbox to bash McIntyre in the head (the blood is gushing, with Graves making a Muta Scale reference). Two more toolbox shots to the head have McIntyre rocked and the GTS...sends him rolling out to the floor. Back in and Punk grabs a not exactly great Sharpshooter but McIntyre gets in a wrench shot.

We actually pause for the referee to wipe the blood off of McIntyre's face and they slug it out again. McIntyre gets the better of things and suplexes Punk off the apron and through a table. It's McIntyre up first but he has a lot of trouble getting the steps inside the ring. The delay lets Punk hit a quick GTS for two and they're both down again. McIntyre is able to come back with White Noise onto the steps for two and another double down.

Punk manages a quick Anaconda Vice but McIntyre grabs the wrench...which Punk takes away and smashes onto McIntyre's head. McIntyre begs off and catches Punk with a low blow to put them down again. Back up and McIntyre pours a bag of beads, like in the bracelet, onto Punk's head. The Claymore is loaded up but McIntyre misses and lands BACK FIRST ONTO THE EDGE OF THE STEPS for the terrifying crash (I'm hoping he accidentally

left it short because if that was the plan that man needs help.). Punk pours the beads into McIntyre's mouth and hits the GTS (with a chain around his knee) for the win at 31:15.

**Rating:** A. Sweet goodness that was a war and Punk survived rather than won. After that, you almost have to imagine Punk gets into the World Title scene sooner than later, as there isn't much else for him to do at the moment. As for the match, they did some good stuff with the wrenches to make it feel all the more violent and bloodthirsty. What matters here though is they wrapped up the feud with a fight befitting the Cell, which hasn't always been the case for a long time.

Post match Punk slams the door and walks out but collapses in the aisle, with the medics coming out to give him oxygen. Punk pulls that off and walks out again.

We recap Bayley challenging Nia Jax for the Smackdown Women's Title. Jax beat her for the title at Summerslam and Bayley wants the title back. Tiffany Stratton is lurking around with the Money In The Bank briefcase.

We go to the VIP suite where the hosts talk about various legends who are in the background and awkwardly talk about the rest of the show.

#### Smackdown Women's Title: Bayley vs. Nia Jax

Jax is defending and they run around a bit first, only for Jax to hit a hard clothesline. The running hip attack in the corner sets up a leglock of all things and even commentary isn't sure what to make of that. Bayley gets up and slides between legs before sending Jax outside. A slingshot legdrop hits Jax but it's too early for a suicide dive. Instead Bayley hits a baseball slide dropkick and hammers away on the floor but the suicide dive only kind of bounces off of Jax.

Back in and Jax runs her over, only for Bayley to break up the Annihilator. Bayley's powerbomb out of the corner is countered

into something like a hurricanrana (ok more like Jax pulled her forward but that could have been worse). A Bayley To Belly plants Bayley for two but Bayley is back with a sunset bomb, with Jax landing on Bayley's leg in the process. The top rope elbow his Jax, who bails out to the floor for a breather.

Back in and Jax runs her over again, only to charge into a Samoan drop of all things to give Bayley two. Jax crushes the referee though...and it's Tiffy Time. Stratton drops Bayley with the briefcase and wakes up the referee, but Jax does an Undertaker situp. That's enough for Stratton to bail, only for her to throw the briefcase at Bayley for a distraction. Jax plants Bayley and hits the Annihilator for the pin at 14:12.

**Rating:** C-. This really didn't work as Jax was trying some different things but couldn't make them go well. It didn't help that Bayley felt like a lame duck challenger throughout and the cash-in tease was treated as a bigger deal. They both need to move on, though I'm not sure who is supposed to be next to come after Jax's title.

Xavier Woods gets to play a Dragon Ball game early.

We recap Finn Balor vs. Damian Priest. Balor turned on Priest at Summerslam and kicked him out of Judgment Day so Priest has been on a path of revenge, leading up to tonight.

### Finn Balor vs. Damian Priest

Priest chops him hard into the corner and then punches him in another as the beating is on in a hurry. Balor gets in a shot of his own though and fires off the Kawada kicks, followed by some jumping stomps. Priest pops right back up for the big staredown, only for Balor to elbow him back down. Back up and a right hand rocks Balor so hard that commentary is nearly cringing, but Balor is able to grab a spinning Russian legsweep for a near fall.

Priest hits some more loud right hands, setting up a spinning

kick to the head and a clothesline for two. The Pele kick gives Balor a breather but Priest is right back with a Razor's Edge to send Balor outside. Something close to a Pounce sends Balor onto the announcers' table and Priest drops him onto the apron.

Cue Carlito for a distraction though, allowing JD McDonagh to come in for a cheap shot. The Coup de Grace gets two and Priest takes out the rest of the team. South Of Heaven is countered into a rollup for two and Balor hits a top rope double stomp to the back. That doesn't work either though and Priest hits South Of Heaven for the pin at 12:50.

**Rating:** C+. This was ok enough but not exactly great, with Priest just shrugging off the interference and winning. That's the way the ending should have gone, but it was never exactly a dramatic match on the way there. I'm not sure what is next for Priest, though it's hard to imagine Judgment Day being big time players that much longer from this point.

Here is HHH for a big announcement, complete with a pedestal labeled Crown Jewel and something covered up. HHH talks about his time in WCW when he was "terra ryzing" WCW and here are are with 16,092 in attendance. In four weeks, WWE will be returning to Saudi Arabia for Crown Jewel in the beginning of a new era.

There will be an annual event at Crown Jewel, where the two World Champions (both men and women) will face off in non-title matches. However, there will be a definitive winner for both, with the winner being named the Crown Jewel Champion, which is the title underneath the sheet (and is gigantic).

Cue Gunther to interrupt, saying he's looking forward to winning the title in four weeks. Gunther laughs off the idea of Sami Zayn taking the title from him on Monday before moving on to the legends who are already here. This would mean Goldberg, who really isn't one of Gunther's childhood heroes.

How could anyone be impressed with a one trick pony like Goldberg? Gunther looks over at Goldberg's son and says he hopes Goldberg is a better father than he is a wrestler. Goldberg comes over the barricade and security breaks it up, only for Sami Zayn to run in and brawl with Gunther to the back. HHH and Goldberg pose.

There was a lot here and neither of it is overly positive. This is the same thing they did with the Battle For Brand Supremacy for years and all that does is make one champion look weak. I'm sure the Saudis requested something like this so WWE is stuck but that doesn't make it much better. Other than that...sweet goodness can we just move on from Goldberg against these big stars? Have him beat up some midcard goof (Finn Balor or someone) and get his nostalgia pop so we can not have to sit through another wasted World Title match.

Various legends are here.

Back to the VIP suite where Chelsea Green shows up and smells bad. Piper Niven is willing to stay though.

#### Raw Women's Title: Rhea Ripley vs. Liv Morgan

Ripley is challenging and Dominik Mysterio is locked in a shark cage. Hold on though as Ripley says Dominik is scared of heights too so raise that cage! Ripley knocks her to the floor to start but gets sent into the steps after looking up at Dominik for a bit too long. A dragon screw legwhip over the ropes keeps Ripley in trouble and it's a half crab to make it worse.

That's broken up and Ripley slugs away, only to have her leg taken out again. The leg is rammed into the apron and a spinning kick to the head staggers Ripley. Morgan hits a sunset bomb into the barricade and a middle rope Codebreaker connects back inside. Oblivion is broken up with a roll through (would have been better without the bad leg), only for Morgan to snap off a crucifix bomb for two more.

Ripley is back up with a toss powerbomb but Dominik has managed to open the shark cage door. The frog splash sets up the Prism Trap but Morgan rolls out to the floor. Morgan gets sent into the barricade, followed by the Riptide on the outside. Dominik teases climbing down...but winds up hanging upside down by his foot. Rather than finishing Morgan, Ripley grabs a kendo stick and, after wishing herself a happy birthday, beats on him with the stick. Cue Raquel Rodriguez of all people to jump Ripley for the DQ at 14:30.

**Rating:** C-. That ending was all kinds of messy and it hurt things badly, though they weren't doing well in the first place. At the end of the day, it's just not that easy to buy Morgan as a threat against Ripley, even if Ripley is hurt. Rodriguez should be a lot better as she can match up physically with Morgan, but they need to let Ripley get the win, crush Dominik, and move WAY on because this feud is running out of steam in a hurry.

Post match Rodriguez puts Morgan on top of Ripley, presumably for a pin, which makes me wonder if the DQ wasn't the planned finish.

We recap Roman Reigns/Cody Rhodes vs. the Bloodline. Reigns and Rhodes are sick of them and are teaming up to get rid of them, with Reigns saying he's coming for the title after it's over.

### Bloodline vs. Cody Rhodes/Roman Reigns

Rhodes is played to the ring by the Arkansas Pine Bluff marching band, who played his song during a college football game a few weeks back. Not to be outdone, Reigns has his own band playing him out. Cody and Fatu start things off with the early Disaster Kick being shrugged off. It's (slowly) off to Reigns vs. Sikoa, with Reigns hammering away in the corner.

Sikoa headbutts him down but gets clotheslined outside, meaning Fatu comes in to glare at Reigns. That's enough of a

distraction for Sikoa to deck Reigns and start the headbutting. Sikoa hits the running Umaga Attack, followed by Fatu hitting his own. Fatu misses a charge and goes head first into the post though and it's back to Rhodes for the Flip Flop and Fly. The Cody Cutter puts Fatu down but a Sikoa distraction lets him come back with a pop up Samoan drop.

Things slow back down with Fatu getting to hammer away, including a double wishbone with Sikoa. Fatu grabs a nerve hold to keep Rhodes in trouble and then does it again for a bonus. Rhodes fights up and manages to drop Fatu, which is enough for the tag back to Reigns for the house cleaning. The Samoan Spike is countered into a crucifix of all things to give Reigns two, followed by a Superman Punch of the same.

Rhodes whips Fatu into the steps before avoiding a charge, sending Fatu through the barricade. Some superkicks put Fatu onto the announcers' table and a splash off the post puts him through it. Now it's Reigns getting to clean house but cue the Tonga's, allowing Sikoa to hit a spear for two. Cue a guy in a hoodie to superkick the Tongas because Jimmy Uso is back. That's enough for Reigns to spear Sikoa down for the pin at 25:43.

**Rating:** B-. This match felt like a car that kept stalling before finally turning on just enough to get you where you needed to go. It desperately needed about eight minutes cut off as the heat segments on Rhodes weren't working. Fatu feels like a beast but Sikoa just isn't quite living up to the same hype. The Uso reveal was good and it was a nice moment, but this was a long main event at the end of a not so great show and it felt like that the whole way.

Post match Reigns and Jimmy hug and reigns has a brief staredown with Cody before leaving. The Bloodline is back up and jumps Cody though, with Jimmy saying they should go back for the save. Reigns thinks about it before going back in and cleaning house. With the Bloodline gone, Reigns picks up the

title and hands it back to Rhodes for some applause. Rhodes holds up the title...and the Rock is here (with the People's Champion belt and someone from his team reaching their arm around the edge of the screen to film it from behind). The Rock glares at Reigns, seems to count to three (I'm guessing because he pinned Cody at Wrestlemania) and walks out to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C+. The opener is an instant classic (partially because it was the ONLY Cell match on the card rather than one of two or three) and the main event is enough to get by, but this was a two match show and the rest of the card falls off a cliff outside of those two. Balor vs. Priest was acceptable enough, but sweet goodness those Women's Title matches did not work, with the Crown Jewel announcement being about on the same level. It's not a terrible show, but the Cell match is the only thing worth seeing in the slightest.

### Results

CM Punk b. Drew McIntyre – GTS with a chain

Nia Jax b. Bayley – Annihilator

Damian Priest b. Finn Balor – South Of Heaven

Rhea Ripley b. Liv Morgan via DQ when Raquel Rodriguez interfered

Roman Reigns/Cody Rhodes b. Bloodline – Spear to Siko

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# Rampage – October 4, 2024: Yes They're Doing That

## Rampage

Date: October 4, 2024

Location: Petersen Events Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Excalibur, Tony Schiavone, Matt Menard

We're closing in on WrestleDream and there are still some spots on the card that need to be filled in. Some of those spots could be filled in tonight, as there are some things to cover coming off of a pretty big Dynamite. Odds are the action should be good here as well so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Young Bucks/Jack Perry vs. Private Party/Katsuyori Shibata

Shibata and Perry start things off with Shibata easily taking him down for two. Back up and Perry runs away from him, which is enough to bring in Matt for a cheap shot. Shibata forearm Nick in the face and Private Party comes in for an atomic drop into an enziguri. Perry tries to interfere and gets kicked in the face for his efforts before Cassidy gets to hammer on Nick. Matt pulls him to the floor though and everything breaks down, with Shibata being sent into the barricade.

We take a break and come back with Cassidy fighting out of a

chinlock but Perry pulls Shibata off the apron to block a tag. The assisted Sliced Bread gets two on Cassidy but he fights out of trouble again and hands it back to Quen. A big Swanton takes out the villains on the floor and a high crossbody gets two on Matt back inside. Matt grabs a Falcon Arrow for two before it's back to Perry for a dropkick on Shibata.

Poetry In Motion staggers Perry and Shibata kicks him in the face for two, followed by the PK for the same. The double superkick drops Shibata though and another one puts Quen down, only for Cassidy to break up Perry's running knee. Gin & Juice gets two on Perry with the Bucks making the save. Shibata gets knocked to the floor and Matt blocks the Silly String. The TK Driver is broken up though and a victory roll pins Nick at 15:08.

**Rating:** B-. They are actually running Private Party and Shibata as pay per view challengers aren't they? Shibata feels like they're just trying to give Perry another win over an established name, but Private Party is based on a match they won FIVE YEARS AGO. They've done pretty much nothing since but they're being heated up here, as apparently there are no better options available. That says a heck of a lot about the tag division.

Kris Statlander says the street fight against Willow Nightingale was the end of an era for her and now she's on her own again. She's the tallest and the strongest...but Kamille and Mercedes Mone come in to disagree.

Harley Cameron says Saraya is incapacitated after her match against Jamie Hayter and no more questions. Queen Aminata is in trouble tonight.

### Kamille vs. Zoey Lynn

Mercedes Mone is here with Kamille. A spear and something like a reverse Cross Rhodes finish for Kamille at 19 seconds.

Anna Jay has been working hard and Will Ospreay seems to agree. If you don't think she's gotten better, come try her.

Deonna Purrazzo and Taya Valkyrie talk about their code. Valkyrie had an early misstep but she understands she still has a lot to learn.

### Harley Cameron vs. Queen Aminata

Aminata grabs a waistlock to start and we get an early standoff. Cameron is back up with an enziguri, only to get taken down for a PK. We take an early break and come back with Cameron hitting a running knee for two. Cameron kicks her to the floor, where Aminata manages a drive into the apron. Back in and Cameron fires off some shoulders in the corner before a rollup gets two. A backbreaker and the Queen's Crown (headbutt) finish for Aminata at 8:01.

**Rating:** C. Cameron is still much better on the microphone with her rather wacky style but she's gotten better in the ring. She did well enough here, but Aminata is pretty clearly a project for AEW. She isn't bad at all, but I got a bit burned out on her with how many times she was featured when she showed up and that's taking time to get over.

Post match Serena Deeb jumps Aminata as payback for Dynamite but Britt Baker makes the save.

The Acclaimed and Billy Gunn can't believe the MxM Collection got fooled on Dynamite and aren't done with them.

### Conglomeration vs. Learning Tree

Chris Jericho is on commentary. Cassidy and Bill start things off with Cassidy putting his hands in the pockets and running the ropes before going out to the floor. Back in and another slide to the floor allows O'Reilly to come in as Bill is getting frustrated. Keith comes in and is quickly wrestled to the mat before they go outside as well. A running knee off the

apron takes Keith down and Cassidy dives onto Bill as we take a break.

Back with Keith suplexing Cassidy and Bill coming in for some alternating splashes in the corners. Diamond Dust is broken up though and an assisted tornado DDT takes Bill down. Keith cuts off Cassidy on the top and slugs it out with O'Reilly. The ankle lock has Keith in trouble so Jericho comes to the ring for a distraction, which is broken up as well. Cassidy dives onto Bill and a high/low finishes Keith at 12:30.

**Rating:** B-. Pretty nice main event here with the feud continuing, even though Jericho and Mark Briscoe are the focal point at WrestleDream. The fans are always going to react to Cassidy and Bill looks more and more like a star every time he's in the ring. Perfectly good main event here, even if it didn't feel that important.

**Overall Rating:** B-. The matches were good enough and while it didn't really add anything to WrestleDream, it kept my interest for an hour and never dragged at all. That's a nice way to go for a show like this and has become the norm for Rampage most of the time. WrestleDream still needs some work, but that can come on Dynamite and Collision.

### Results

Private Party/Katsuyori Shibata b. Young Bucks/Jack Perry – Victory roll to Nick

Kamille b. Zoey Lynn – Twisting neckbreaker

Queen Aminata b. Harley Cameron – Queen's Crown

Conglomeration b. Learning Tree – High/low to Keith

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## Bad Blood 2024 Preview

For some reason, WWE has decided to bring this one back and I'm really not sure why. Bad Blood was never anything more than one of those shows that you mostly forgot ever existed and it hasn't been around in over twenty years. Now we're getting a fresh version with a pretty big card and that could make for a rather nice show. It almost has to be better than the last time they brought this thing back. Let's get to it.

Raw Women's Title: Liv Morgan(c) vs. Rhea Ripley

The catch here is that Dominik Mysterio will be suspended above the ring in a shark cage. That could open up a few options, as the question isn't so much will he cheat but rather how, along with will he have someone helping him. That has to be done though, as otherwise Ripley would destroy Morgan in all of eight seconds. This is still one of the biggest feuds on Raw at the moment, but I'm not sure where it goes next.

As much as I want to say Ripley gets the title back here, I'm not sure if it's a big enough stage. Therefore, we'll say Morgan escapes again, even if it feels completely wrong to say that. At some point, Ripley is going to absolutely crush

Morgan and get the title back, though it almost has to take place soon. I'm thinking they squeeze one more match out of it though, with Morgan retaining here through some kind of screwiness.

### Smackdown Women's Title: Nia Jax(c) vs. Bayley

This is the only other title match on the show and it's a rematch from about two months ago at Summerslam when Jax took the title from Bayley. Just like last time, Tiffany Stratton and the Money In The Bank briefcase are hanging around but that is still a get out of title reign free card. Bayley isn't feeling like a big challenger, but there aren't many other options at the moment.

I can't imagine Jax losing the title so soon and Bayley isn't feeling like a strong challenger in the first place, so yeah Jax retains here. Maybe they do something ridiculous like having Naomi turn on Bayley, but there is no reason to change the title here. Stratton can cash-in later, with or without success, but that isn't something I can imagine happening here. Teases of course, though not an actual title change.

### Finn Balor vs. Damian Priest

Here we have a grudge match as Judgment Day and the Terror Twins explode. Priest has been wanting to get his hands on Balor for a good while now and there are going to be more than a few lackeys there to help save Balor. While Balor isn't quite as vulnerable as Morgan, he loses if Priest can even the odds enough, which very well could end this feud once and for all.

I'm thinking that's exactly what happens, as Priest beats Balor and finally gets to move on. Priest is already a former World Champion and could easily be moved back into the main event picture with a nice win here. Judgment Day is already losing steam and I'm not sure how much longer it needs to stay around. Priest should win here and hopefully be done with the

whole thing.

### CM Punk vs. Drew McIntyre

This is the Cell match and somehow reportedly not the main event. That would seem to be the kind of match that would headline the show, but in this case there is a good chance that it opens the show for the sake of saving some time. Punk vs. McIntyre has been the runaway Feud Of The Year so far and if they can stick the landing here, the whole thing goes even higher up the all time list. But who wins?

I keep going back and forth on this one, but I think I'll go with Punk winning. It's the good guy (ok the better of the two rather than the good) winning in the end and McIntyre can come back later to do something else. Punk can take a bit of a hiatus and move on to something else as he only has a limited time in the ring to go. I could be wrong here, but I'll take Punk going over here.

### Cody Rhodes/Roman Reigns vs. Bloodline

This is the main event and that makes me think something big is going to happen here. Reigns vs. Rhodes III almost has to be in the cards sooner than later but I don't think that's a WrestleMania match again. We can get there later though, as this is about the forces combining to face their shared enemy. That makes me wonder how we get through the match, though one result seems more likely than anything else.

Barring some big interference, I can't imagine Reigns or Rhodes taking a fall here. That leaves either some kind of a double DQ finish or some kind of major return, perhaps the Rock, who has to be back sooner or later. That being said, I'll go with Rhodes pinning Siko and then...whatever happening next. Rhodes vs. Reigns III certainly seems possible though and we might be seeing that as a result, but for now, the new Mega Powers win.

## Overall Thoughts

This is the definition of a one two punch on top, as there is a heck of a drop between the top two matches and the three underneath. If those two matches deliver then we are going to be in for a huge show, though it's likely to take its sweet time as well. I'm interested enough in the show, but it's going to depend on what happens during/after that tag match, because it almost has to be the big moment on the show, which is looking pretty nice.

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# Smackdown – October 4, 2024: In And Out Again

## Smackdown

Date: October 4, 2024

Location: Bridgestone Arena, Nashville, Tennessee

Commentators: Michael Cole, Corey Graves

It's the night before Bad Blood and we have a pretty stacked

show. In this case it means we have a triple threat ladder match for the Tag Team Titles as the Bloodline is defending against the Street Profits and DIY. Other than that, we have a dumpster match between Michin and Chelsea Green, plus the return of AJ Styles. Let's get to it.

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

Here is country music artist Hardy, who introduces the returning AJ Styles. After a rather positive reception, Styles talks about how this is the place where he started. He's done some things the people might not forgive him for over the last few months, but this is still the house that he built. Cue Carmelo Hayes to interrupt, saying he isn't surprised there aren't a lot of people wanting to welcome him back. Hayes says there is no need to introduce himself but does so anyway before saying he loves old timers like Styles.

Hayes says he should be the US Champion instead of LA Knight, which has Styles saying Knight is a bit different. That doesn't work for Hayes, who doesn't take advice from quitters (which even Styles has to own up to), but Styles is ready to fight right now. Hayes: "Nah, I'm good." Cue Knight to mock Hayes before saying Hayes should face Styles. If Hayes can win, Knight will put in a good word about a US Title shot. Either way, Knight is hitting the streets for some drinks. I have no idea what Hardy added to this.

We get a vignette of a car driving rather fast and a shot of...Detroit. As in the Motor City. Coming soon.

### Carmelo Hayes vs. AJ Styles

LA Knight is at ringside as Styles chops away in the corner to start. The drop down into the dropkick has Hayes in trouble as we hear about Styles' time in TNA in this city (which will never feel right on a WWE show). Styles misses a moonsault and gets caught with the First 48 for two before being sent outside as we hear about Styles' time in Japan.

Hayes sends him into the announcers' table and we come back with Hayes working on a half crab. Apparently Styles suffered a possible sprained ankle during the break but he's fine enough to break out and hit a running forearm. The fireman's carry onto the knee connects but Styles' leg is so banged up that the referee calls the match at 8:33.

**Rating:** C+. It was good while it lasted but about half of it was in the break before the referee stoppage. This definitely feels like a storyline situation as Styles' body is giving out on him and might make him question how much more he has. Other than that, he could be put into the title picture because Hayes didn't pin him/make him give up, which even ties back into his feud with Knight.

Commentary talks about how Styles' body is giving out on him as he limps away. Knight comes in and gives Hayes a BFT.

We get a long video on Roman Reigns/Cody Rhodes vs. the Bloodline tomorrow at Bad Blood.

### Michin vs. Chelsea Green

Dumpster match and Green has sanitation worker themed gear. Michin strikes away with a kendo stick to start and it's already time for the table. A missile dropkick sends Green outside, where she sends Michin face first into the side of the dumpster as we take a break. Back with Michin fighting her way back inside, where Green drops her with a Canadian Destroyer.

It's too early to close the lid though and Michin hits a quick Eat Defeat. Green is put into a trashcan for a middle rope backsplash, allowing Michin to put a table over the dumpster. Cue Piper Niven to jump Michin from behind, only for Michin to fight her off as well. A powerbomb puts Green through the table and into the dumpster to give Michin the win at 10:23.

**Rating:** B-. This was about getting Michin a win and that's all

it needed to be. I'm still not sure why it needed to be a dumpster match, but the idea of Green trying to get the smell of the trash off of her has comedic potential. Now if WWE actually does something with Michin, we could actually be getting somewhere, but I'll believe that when I see it.

AJ Styles was checked out by the trainer but went to the hospital.

Jade Cargill and Bianca Belair come up to Naomi. They're going to be hosting Bad Blood together but here is Bayley to interrupt. With Cargill and Belair gone, Bayley says she's going to call out Nia Jax and Naomi gets the first title shot after Bayley wins at Bad Blood.

Here is Bayley for a chat and she wastes no time in calling out Nia Jax. Cue Jax, with Tiffany Stratton, who tells Bayley to get to it. Bayley talks about how important the title is to the company's history and brings up names like Molly Holly, Victoria and Beth Phoenix, who are nothing like Jax. The difference is they never had a dominant reign like Jax, but two people can take the title from her.

One is Bayley and the other is Stratton, who very well could cash in the briefcase on Jax at any time. Stratton doesn't like the idea that she could only beat Jax with the briefcase, which doesn't sit well with Jax. Bayley doesn't respect either of them and calls Stratton a stupid b\*\*\*\*, meaning the fight is on. Bayley beats Jax down with the briefcase and leaves, with Stratton teasing the cash-in. Jax bails, but here is Naomi for her scheduled match with Stratton.

Chelsea Green is messy and distraught. She runs into Pretty Deadly, who can't stand the smell. Neither can A-Town Down Under or Legado del Fantasma. She keeps walking and runs into Nick Aldis, who makes puns about the bad smell and Green storms off. Carmelo Hayes comes in and says he wants his US Title shot. Aldis can't believe Hayes is calling that a win

and is off to check on AJ Styles.

### Tiffany Stratton vs. Naomi

Naomi takes her down to start and hits a sliding...chinlock of all things. Back up and a suplex gives Naomi two but Stratton snaps her throat first across the top rope. A springboard flipping splash gives Stratton two of her own but Naomi hits the splits splash on the apron.

We take a break and come back with Naomi hitting a backpack Stunner and kicking Stratton in the face. A sliding slap into the headscissors driver gives Naomi two more but Stratton handstands her way out of an X-Factor (that was cool). Naomi gets dropped with a basement dropkick but she kicks Stratton in the head out of the corner. Stratton's handspring though and Naomi gets a rollup for the pin at 10:05.

**Rating:** C+. This felt like one of the matches that the briefcase holder loses to put her down a bit before she wins the title via cash-in. That doesn't make for the most original storytelling, but at least it could mean getting rid of the briefcase. Stratton still feels like she has lost a lot of momentum in the last few months though and this didn't help.

We look back at Kevin Owens' recent issues with Cody Rhodes over Rhodes teaming with Roman Reigns at Bad Blood.

The Bloodline is on the way to the ring for the main event and Jacob Fatu goes on a heck of a rant about how people need to respect Solo Sikoa.

Tiffany Stratton runs into Nia Jax, who isn't happy with the tease of the cash-in. Jax demands Stratton vow she will never betray her, which Jax does...but looks at the briefcase.

Bad Blood rundown.

### Tag Team Titles: Bloodline vs. DIY vs. Street Profits

The Bloodline is defending in a ladder match. The challengers double team the champions to start and knock them to the floor before dropping them out there as well. We take an early break and come back with the challengers all going up but having to knock the champions off. Ford climbs a ladder but gets pulled down and hit in the face with it instead. A snap suplex puts Dawkins on the ladder and a slingshot hilo onto him onto the ladder makes it even worse.

The champs to the floor with the ladder but Dawkins takes them out with a big flip dive. Gargano hits his own dive, only for Ford to hit a big running flip dive (with a superhero pose) for the wipe out crash. Ford grabs a table and we take a break, coming back with DIY pulling Tama off the ladder and into a Shatter Machine. Meet In The Middle lets Gargano go up but Dawkins makes the save this time. A Doomsday Blockbuster off the ladder takes Ciampa down but Dawkins' ladder gets shoved down.

Tama grabs a chair, which is taken away by B-Fab, allowing DIY to take the champs out again. Ford frog splashes Loa through a table at ringside and Tama is powerbombed through the announcers' table for the big crash. Back in and Ciampa goes up but Ford springboards onto the same ladder, only for Loa to come back in and shove them down. Loa retrieves the titles to retain at 20:00.

**Rating:** B. For an almost random ladder match which is pretty much the Bad Blood pre-pre-show match, I had a good time. It was a bunch of wild spots and people getting taken out one at a time, which is how these matches tend to go. It wasn't a classic and it wasn't something I'll remember for very long, but it was a good way to close out a show on a Friday night.

**Overall Rating:** B-. The main event helped a good bit, but this show was in a tough spot. The point of the last show before a pay per view is often to build up the bigger show, but there was very little building left to do. Everything, at least from

the Smackdown side, was pretty much done before we got here, with only Bayley vs. Jax getting a bit of attention. What we got was good, but other than the main event, there wasn't much that you would need to see.

### Results

Carmelo Hayes b. AJ Styles via referee stoppage

Michin b. Chelsea Green when Green was shut in a dumpster

Naomi b. Tiffany Stratton – Rollup

Bloodline b. DIY and Street Profits – Loa pulled down the titles

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# **Impact Wrestling – September 26, 2024: Time To Believe**

**Impact Wrestling**

Date: September 26, 2024

Location: Boeing Center At Tech Point, San Antonio, Texas

Commentators: Matthew Rehwoldt, Tom Hannifan

We are about a month away from Bound For Glory and this week will see the announcement of the show's main event. Frankie Kazarian and Joe Hendry will face off in a #1 contenders match for the pay per view title shot against Nic Nemeth. Other than that, we'll need to find out what else is happening at the show and the build should start here. Let's get to it.

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

Opening recap.

Opening sequence.

Jordynne Grace/??? vs. Wendy Choo/Rosemary

The mystery partner is...NXT's Sol Ruca, a surfer with an insane finisher. It's a brawl before the bell to start and the villains are sent into each other, setting up a pair of dives to the floor. Back in and Rosemary takes Ruca down to choke away on the ropes before stomping away in the corner.

Ruca reverses a double suplex into a double neckbreaker though and it's Grace coming in to clean house. Everything breaks down and the Sol Snatcher (Ruca runs the corner and does an inverted flip into a cutter. You kind of have to see it to see how impressive it is.) sets up the Juggernaut Driver but Tasha Steelz runs in to jump Grace for the DQ at 4:20.

**Rating:** C. The match was pretty much nothing but a way to get Ruca in the ring and show the fans her awesome finisher. Other than that, it would seem that Steelz is the next challenger to Grace, which is better than nothing as Grace is so far ahead of almost everyone else in the division. There wasn't much time for action here but it did check two boxes in that short of a match.

Post match the beatdown stays on but Masha Slamovich runs in

for the save.

Frankie Kazarian is ready for Joe Hendry tonight.

### Laredo Kid vs. Jonathan Gresham

Gresham powers him into the corner to start and armdrags him back out of the corner. Another armdrag into a rollup gets two before they flip up into a standoff. Gresham actually goes for the mask but gets knocked outside for an ankle scissors. Kid takes him down again and hits a running forearm in the corner back inside.

The middle rope moonsault hits raised knees though and Gresham grabs a Boston crab. For some reason Gresham switches that to a half crab but Kid makes the rope for a break. Kid's back is good enough for Two Amigos into a brainbuster but Gresham is back up with a springboard moonsault. Gresham stomps on the leg and drives it into the mat until Kid taps at 6:58.

**Rating:** C+. In recent weeks, Gresham has been getting some wins in surprise ways and that's a good way to go. It sets up the idea that Gresham can win with something other than a signature move and that makes things all the more interesting. As usual, Kid looked good in defeat, which is about all you can expect from him at this point.

Mike Santana storms the System's locker room and noise is heard.

### ABC/Zachary Wentz vs. Kushida/Leon Slater/Mike Bailey

Bailey and Wentz start things off but everything breaks down and we get the big six way staredown. We take a break and come back with Slater fighting out of a chinlock, allowing the tag to Kushida. The double tag brings in Bailey and Wentz for the face to face staredown. Wentz hits a dropkick and everything breaks down again with all six brawling. Slater hits a high crossbody to take out the ABC, setting up the big lip dive

over the corner. Back in and the Swanton 450 misses, allowing Wentz to hit the UFO to pin Slater at 8:29.

**Rating:** B-. The more I see from Bailey, the less I understand why he is the champion again. Wentz was at least something fresh in the title picture but he just lost it back to Bailey a few weeks later. Odds are we get some kind of a showdown for the title at Bound For Glory, but it's kind of hard to take Wentz seriously as a challenger when he lost clean in his first major title defense.

Cody Deaner interrupts Jake Something's workout and tells him to not listen to Hammerstone, who is here too. Hammerstone offers to shut Deaner up.

Mike Santana wants Moose.

### Lei Ying Lee vs. Hyan

Lee is better known as Xia Li. Hyan gets knocked down to start but rolls outside before Lee can dive off the top. Back in and Hyan fires off some kicks but Lee isn't pleased. A spinning torture rack faceplant sets up a running spinning kick (Thunderstruck) to finish Hyan at 4:04.

**Rating:** C. This was your get to know you match for Lee, who looked fine enough in her debut. The striking and the kicking will always be worth at least a look as she knows how to do them, with the big spinning kick working fine as a finisher. Another short match, but it did what it needed to do.

Leon Slater apologizes to Mike Bailey for the loss but Bailey gives him a pep talk.

ABC wants the Tag Team Titles back. The Hardys come in and say they want the titles as well. Finger gestures and noises ensue.

Here is Josh Alexander for a chat. Alexander admits he deserves to be booed but now he believes in Joe Hendry.

Alexander gave him the toughest fight he could and then went out on his shield. When Alexander was saying some stupid things, Eric Young tried to talk some sense into him so he would like Young to come out here right now.

Cue Young to say this is the real Walking Weapon, which Young seems to appreciate. Young is glad to have the real one back and he is glad that Alexander can admit that Hendry was the better man. Everything seems ok...and then Alexander suplexes him. Steve Maclin runs in for the save but Sinner & Saint helps beat the good guys down.

Santino Marella talks to Steph de Lander when Matt Cardona interrupts. Santino doesn't care for this and puts Cardona in a Monster's Ball match against PCO at Bound For Glory.

#### Heather Reckless vs. Xia Brookside

Brookside has a cowgirl theme this week. Reckless starts fast and chokes on the ropes as here is Ash By Elegance, also in cowgirl attire, to watch. Brookside fights out of a double arm crank and makes the clothesline comeback for two. The running knees connect in the corner so Reckless bails out to the floor. A snap suplex on the floor has Reckless in more trouble and they head back inside, where Reckless gets in a neck snap over the ropes. Rarefied Air finishes Brookside at 6:02.

**Rating:** C+. Reckless is someone who is becoming a bigger deal in a hurry and that is a good thing for the division. She is still relatively brand new and is already feeling like someone who could wind up becoming something. At the same time, Brookside losing again isn't a great sign, as she hasn't felt important in a good while.

Post break Reckless comes in to see Ash, whose concierge wants to give Reckless elegance.

#### Joe Hendry vs. Frankie Kazarian

For the Bound For Glory shot against Nic Nemeth, who is on commentary. Before the match, Hendry says Kazarian looks like the dad from Spy Kids and the brawl is on. Hendry fights out of the early beating and we take an early break. Back with Hendry slamming him down, setting up a springboard spinning legdrop for two.

Kazarian grabs a mic and shouts about how he DOES NOT believe in Joe Hendry while stomping away. Hendry is right back up with the fall away slam but the Standing Ovation is blocked. Kazarian's chickenwing is broken up so Hendry grabs the ankle lock. That's broken up as well, with Kazarian's Fade To Black not working either. Hendry goes to the ankle lock, with Kazarian making the rope.

Back up and Kazarian hits the slingshot DDT, only to be sent outside in a heap. A suplex on the floor hits Kazarian but he gets in a cheap shot with...something for the quick pin at 9:50. Hold on though as Nemeth protests and Santino Marella comes out to say restart it. Kazarian knocks him down again but walks into a quick Standing Ovation to give Hendry the pin and the title shot at 12:43.

**Rating:** B-. Despite the fact that Kazarian has been pushed, it was hard to believe that Hendry was in any real danger of losing here, even when he did. Hendry has been the hottest thing in TNA for a long time now and it makes all the sense in the world for him to get the World Title shot. That's the money match and this wasn't so much about would he get here, but rather how he got there.

Nemeth applauds Hendry to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C+. This show was all about setting up the main event of Bound For Glory and it worked out well enough. The rest of the show was perfectly acceptable but there was almost nothing that you needed to see. It was a rather run of the mill show, but what matters is setting things up for next

month and this show took care of the biggest piece of that puzzle.

### Results

Jordynne Grace/Sol Ruca b. Rosemary/Wendy Choo via DQ when Tasha Steelz interfered

Jonathan Gresham b. Laredo Kid – Gresham rammed Kid's knee into the mat

ABC/Zachary Wentz b. Kushida/Leon Slater/Mike Bailey – UFO to Slater

Lei Ying Lee b. Hyan – Thunderstruck

Heather Reckless b. Xia Brookside – Rarefied Air

Joe Hendry b. Frankie Kazarian – Standing Ovation

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# **NXT LVL Up – September 20,**

# 2024: The New Ones Are Better

## NXT LVL Up

Date: September 20, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're coming up on the move over to the CW, with only two shows left before the change. While it isn't likely, there is always the chance that this show could undergo some changes of its own. Last week's show was different enough and maybe now we can see things getting better around here. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

## Lash Legend vs. Lainey Reid

Jakara Jackson is here with Legend. Reid works on the arm to start but Legend powers out and does the same. Legend sends her into the buckle over and over before dropping Reid with a suplex. They head outside with Legend getting posted, setting up the chinlock back inside. That doesn't work for Legend who powers up and plants her down, setting up a fall away slam. A chokeslam gets two on Reid, who snaps off a middle rope hurricanrana for two. Reid goes up but gets kicked out of the air, setting up the back to back faceplant to finish for Legend at 5:57.

**Rating:** C+. Reid is starting to make some more appearances around here and that's going to help her out in the long run. She didn't show much in the way of the whole southern belle here but it was her best in-ring effort, which could be a positive sign for her. Legend continues to look smooth in the ring, which is hard to fathom given where she was just a year or so ago.

Kali Armstrong is ready to bring speed and aggression against Brinley Reece. Believe it or not, she's a former NCAA athlete who is trying wrestling.

### Kali Armstrong vs. Brinley Reece

Armstrong powers her down to start and chokes in the corner but Reece isn't having any of that. A drop toehold brings Armstrong down and she cranks away on Armstrong's arm. Reece goes up but gets pulled down for a face first crash. Armstrong clotheslines her down and grabs something like a seated crossface chickenwing. That's broken up so Armstrong hits a powerslam, only for Reece to come up with a not great TKO for the pin (ignore her shoulders being down too) at 4:44.

**Rating:** C. This is a weird one as Armstrong was coming off as the better of the two, with her power stuff working well. On the other hand, Reece just didn't do anything special here and it's a bit surprising as long as she has been around. There's nothing to make her stand out and this wasn't exactly an impressive performance.

Cutler James gives Shiloh Hill a pep talk before the main event. This was as awkward and badly executed as you would have expected.

### Shiloh Hill vs. Mark Coffey

Coffey grabs a headlock to start but Hill powers out and drives him into the corner. Hill works on an armbar and then a headlock but Coffey hits an elbow to the face. The chinlock goes on to keep Hill down, only to have him suplex his way to freedom. A double underhook slam gives Hill two but Coffey hits him in the face for the pin at 5:56.

**Rating:** C. Hill has impressed in recent appearances and it is a good sign that he is getting this kind of a spot. I could go for seeing him getting another chance, as he is one of the better stars in the new crop of NXT rookies. Losing to Coffey

isn't going to hurt him so this was as logical of a main event as you could have gotten.

Hill lost a tooth on that shot to the face.

**Overall Rating:** C. Hill and Armstrong showed some promise here, which made for something of an odd night as the two bigger names didn't do anything special this week. The show went by quickly though and nothing was too bad, but they need to do something a bit more interesting. If nothing else, it's nice to see some fresh faces on the show and hopefully that keeps up going forward.

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# **Dynamite – October 2, 2024: There Should Be Cake**

## **Dynamite**

Date: October 2, 2024

Location: Petersen Events Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Nigel McGuinness, Excalibur, Tony Schiavone

It's the fifth anniversary of Dynamite and the big story is a new broadcast rights deal was announced earlier today, with the show staying on TBS/TNT as well as being simulcast on Max. That is going to lead to some changes in the future, but for now, we are ten days away from WrestleDream and Jon Moxley vs. Bryan Danielson for the World Title. Let's get to it.

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

Jon Moxley and company talk about how they have plans for Wheeler Yuta, with Moxley promising to take out Bryan Danielson and take the World Title. War and casualties are promised.

Apparently Taz has been attacked and is out for tonight, with Nigel McGuinness taking his place.

International Title: Ricochet vs. Will Ospreay

Ricochet is challenging and in the back, Kyle Fletcher (in a WHITE SOX jersey, which isn't a great look right now) and Don Callis wish him luck before leaving. Feeling out process to start before they go into their signature stereo backflips exchange into the double pose. Ricochet sends him outside, where Ospreay takes too long going onto the barricade and gets taken down with a snap hurricanrana.

Back in and Ricochet hits a springboard flip splash for two but Ospreay kicks him down. The Phenomenal Forearm gets two on Ricochet but he's back with a kick to the head. Ospreay's Spanish Fly gets two more but the Oscutter is broken up. They go to the apron to trade strikes to the head until Ospreay hits a superkick. The Oscutter connects this time and they crash out to the floor as we take a break.

Back with Ricochet kicking him down again but missing the 450. The Hidden Blade is countered into a backslide bomb (that was

cool) and a piledriver gets two. Ospreay is back with another Hidden Blade attempt but has to roll through, setting up a Styles Clash for two on Ricochet. Now the Osscutter connects for two more but the Hidden Blade is blocked again.

Ricochet's shooting star press gets two, only for Ospreay to counter vertigo into a poisonrana. Ricochet hits one of his own but Ospreay hits the Hidden Blade...for a double pin with all four shoulders down at 15:55. Hold on though as both of them want five more minutes and Tony Khan approves the match continuing. They trade kicks to the head until Ospreay hits the Hidden Blade...and Konosuke Takeshita runs in and decks Ospreay for the DQ at 18:59.

**Rating:** B. I'm guessing that's to set up either a three way or Ospreay vs. Takeshita at WrestleDream, but it's not exactly an exciting way to wrap up the big opener. I do get the idea of not wanting either of them to lose here, but the ending still felt flat. For now, I can go for a match with two guys doing a bunch of big moves to each other, though a better ending would have been nice.

Takeshita wipes both of them out and poses with the title.

Mercedes Mone, with Kamille, is excited over the fifth anniversary and we get a package on her time on Dynamite. Mone brags about her success and MVP comes in to offer his business card. There appears to be some interest.

The Gunns are ready to see Juice Robinson vs. Hangman Page when Page runs in to take them out with a chair.

Here is the Learning Tree for TV Time with Chris Jericho. Big Bill hypes up how much Jericho has done for him before giving him the introduction. Jericho takes credit for the new TV deal and the Learning Tree demands a THANK YOU CHRIS chant. In addition to five years of Dynamite, it is also 34 years since his debut as a pro wrestler. He went from a small town in Canada to right here in Philad...Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania!

Last week he pinned Mark Briscoe and this week he's challenging Briscoe for the Ring Of Honor World Title at WrestleDream. Briscoe, with the Conglomeration, comes to the ring and everyone stays on the floor because this is between the two of them. Papa Briscoe taught him to not make excuses, so while Big Bill helped Jericho beat Briscoe last week, he isn't going to make that excuse because it was a tornado tag team match.

Briscoe would love to face Jericho, because the word of the day is consequentially, because he...is cut off by Jericho, who doesn't think Briscoe can beat him. Jericho: "Maybe your brother Jay could have." Everyone knows Mark will never be as good as Jay, which earns Jericho a shot to the face. Mark tells Jericho to keep his brother's name out of his mouth and accepts the challenge. Briscoe sold his part really strong, but Jericho getting another title shot and everything that happens on Ring Of Honor meaning nothing when it comes to the World Title isn't helping.

Darby Allin is in what looks to be a park and talks about riding a bus in Washington. One day three guys took turns spitting at the back of his head. Allin tried to keep calm but eventually he got in their faces and wasn't scared of the knife the guy was holding. It was broken up, but that's what he was thinking about when Jon Moxley said Allin wasn't ready to be the face of AEW. Now he needs to fight back, so at WrestleDream, it's an open challenge. That could go in a lot of directions.

### Hangman Page vs. Juice Robinson

They brawl on the stage to start with Robinson sending him off the stage, only to get punched out of the air. Page whips him with a belt and they fight into the crowd, with Page being hit with a beer and a bucket of popcorn. The fight actually goes into the ring for the opening bell, with Robinson choking with the bell for a four count. Page fights back up and takes over

as we take an early break.

Back with Robinson's top rope superplex leaving them both down again. Robinson punches him out to the floor but gets sent into the barricade. A spinebuster sends Page into the apron and a running shot sends Page through the barricade. They get back in with Robinson hitting a powerbomb for two and being shocked at the kickout. The Juice Is Loose is blocked though and Page kicks him low. The Buckshot Lariat finishes for Page at 9:56.

**Rating:** B-. This is another good example of "it shouldn't take this long for the star to win". Page took nearly ten minutes (not counting the brawl before the bell) to beat a guy who is mainly known as part of a six man team. They could have easily done this, even with the same cheating finish, in less than half the time. Robinson can look good in defeat and get cheated out of a win without having Page take this long to beat him. That's been an issue for AEW for a long time and it's continuing here.

Post match Page goes for the choking with the belt but the returning Jay White runs in for the save. White spears him through a well placed table in the crowd.

Jack Perry arrives and Katsuyori Shibata pops in to challenge him for the TNT Title at WrestleDream. Perry says he'll think about it and jumps him before accepting. Maybe, I don't know, show the clip from Collision that set that up so it's not so out of nowhere?

Bryan Danielson can't get the phrase "F\*\*\* JON MOXLEY" out of his head because this is the AEW World Title, not Moxley's. That's why he's challenged Kazuchika Okada tonight, title for title, because they're 1-1 and need to break the tie. This is for AEW.

Serena Deeb vs. Britt Baker

Baker is the hometown girl. They go with the grappling to start with Deeb going for the arm but having to escape a Lockjaw attempt. Mariah May is watching as they fight over a headlock/headscissors. Back up and Deeb hits a hard clothesline, followed by a hammerlock lariat as we take an early break.

We come back with Baker hitting some clotheslines of her own, setting up a discus forearm. Baker hits a Sling Blade into a fisherman's neckbreaker for two, giving us a frustrated look. They trade shots to the face until an Air Raid Crash gives Baker two. Baker catches her up top with a super Air Raid Crash for two, setting up the Lockjaw for the tap at 11:12.

**Rating:** C. This was similar to the Page vs. Robinson match in that Baker could have put her away a lot faster and gotten the same result. Instead, the match dragged on with Deeb going move for move with Baker. That's fine on one hand as Deeb is far more polished in the ring, but if the end game is Baker vs. May, it didn't exactly make Baker look like a star.

Post match Deeb jumps her again until Queen Aminata makes the save.

Hook swears revenge on whomever attacked Taz.

Christian Cage promises to be the next World Champion.

Mariah May doesn't think much of Willow Nightingale, who storms in to start the fight, which is quickly broken up.

### Private Party vs. Iron Savages

It's a brawl to start with a double dropkick...kind of connecting to put Boulder down. Bronson is sent to the floor and a messy Gin & Juice finishes at 1:13. I don't think Private Party hit one move clean in that whole match.

Post match Private Party say they want the Tag Team Titles and call out the Young Bucks. Cue the Bucks, who say they're not

wasting their limited dates on this kind of town so it's not happening. Jack Perry runs in to beat Private Party down but Katsuyori Shibata makes the save. Christopher Daniels comes in to make a six man tag for Rampage. The fact that Private Party has nothing else to talk about in the five years since they beat the Bucks tells you a lot about what is wrong with AEW.

MVP is about to make an announcement but Prince Nana interrupts. Nana threatens to beat up MVP, who says he doesn't handle complaints. Instead, he introduces the head of the complaint department: Shelton Benjamin, who gets a big reaction and takes Nana's coffee. I've heard worse ideas.

AEW World Title/Continental Title: Bryan Danielson vs. Kazuchika Okada

This is title for title but the Continental Title is only on the line for the first twenty minutes and this was announced on two days' notice because AEW. They fight over a lockup to start and Danielson backs him into the ropes for an early break, both for them and us. Back with Okada hitting some clotheslines but Danielson fires off some uppercuts. Danielson goes up and knocks Okada down, setting up a missed Swan Dive.

The cobra clutch has Danielson in more trouble as the neck cranking ensues. Danielson fights to his feet but misses a charge, allowing Okada to dropkick him out to the floor. Back in and Danielson knocks him to the floor for a suicide dive, followed by the YES Kicks. The big one is countered into a rollup for two but Danielson pulls him into a triangle choke with elbows to the head. The LeBell Lock goes on and Danielson cranks back, only for Okada to make the ropes. Danielson hits the running knee to send Okada outside as we hit the 20:00 mark, meaning the match continues, but ONLY Danielson's title is on the line.

AEW World Title: Bryan Danielson vs. Kazuchika Okada

Danielson is defending and hits a top rope flip dive to hit

Okada on the floor. A running charge is cut off though and Okada hits a Tombstone onto a chair on the floor as we take another break. Back again with Danielson (who was on his feet 1:42 after the Tombstone, with a hanging DDT onto the floor in between) getting dropkicked before they grab hands to trade strikes.

Danielson gets the better of it and loads up the running knee, only to charge into the Rainmaker for the double knockdown. They strike it out again until Danielson takes over, only to get caught with a running knee for two. Danielson hits his own Rainmaker for two and it's time to fire off the elbows. Okada strikes away but here are Claudio Castagnoli and Pac to glare menacingly. Danielson gets a backslide for the pin out of nowhere at 31:42.

**Rating:** B. I guess the thinking was Okada wanted to burn the clock in the first twenty minutes to protect his own title and then get to the second half where he had nothing to lose. That makes sense from a planning standpoint but it made for a pretty dry first...is the term match or fall? Either way, it picked up in the second half and you knew this was going to be at least good based on the people involved. I still could have gone for building this up more than two days in advance, but that's another issue entirely.

Post match Okada Rainmakers Danielson and leaves, with Castagnoli and Pac coming in to pick the pieces. Jon Moxley gets in the ring (with Marina Shafir choking Danielson) and talks about how this isn't about him because no one will fight for AEW like he will. If this was about Danielson, he would have done this a long time ago.

Wheeler Yuta runs in with a hammer for the save. Moxley dares Yuta to hit him with the hammer but Danielson is up to go after Moxley. The fight is on with Yuta and Danielson clearing the ring. Yuta says if Pac and Castagnoli want Danielson, they'll have to go through Yuta too. Danielson issues the

challenge for the tag match (Yuta might have slipped up with the wording and Danielson had to save it), which is officially on to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B. I liked the show, but I'm not sure how well it came off as a major milestone event. There was nothing on here that really felt big or majorly important (remember that the TV deal was announced before the show went on the air). The big matches went well enough, but it was coming after Grand Slam (which felt bigger) and is right before WrestleDream (which will feel bigger) and comes just before Title Tuesday and eventually Battle Of The Belts. AEW might want to cool it on the big shows and just have some regular stuff, but this did still work well enough.

### Results

Will Ospreay b. Ricochet via DQ when Konosuke Takeshita interfered

Hangman Page b. Juice Robinson – Buckshot Lariat

Britt Baker b. Serena Deeb – Lockjaw

Private Party b. Iron Savages – Gin & Juice to Boulder

Bryan Danielson b. Kazuchika Okada – Backslide

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# NXT LVL Up – September 13, 2024: New Faces

## NXT LVL Up

Date: September 13, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're getting closer to the move to the CW, which isn't likely to have much of an impact on this show. That's what commentary will be talking about though, as it is certainly the biggest thing to take place in NXT in a good while. Hopefully we get some better action to go with the excitement so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

## Shiloh Hill/Cutler James vs. Uriah Connors/Kale Dixon

Dixon gets elbowed in the face to start and James starts cranking on his ankle. Connors comes in but Dixon gets a blind tag for a cheap shot on Hill and the villains take over. A slingshot hilo gives Dixon two and Hill's backsplash gets the same. Dixon grabs a chinlock with a knee in the back before switching to the regular chinlock. Hill fights up and a double clothesline gives us a double breather, followed by the tag off to James. A wheelbarrow faceplant gets two on Connors with Dixon making the save. Back up and James hits a spinebuster to finish Connors at 5:15.

**Rating:** C+. This was a perfectly fine tag match but the best part was not knowing who was winning. Both teams are pretty

much thrown together but that gave it a bit of mystery, as neither was the obvious pick. You don't get that very often and it made what should have been a run of the mill match a bit better.

Kendal Grey and Carlee Bright are ready for Grey's match with Tyra Mae Steele'.

### Kendal Grey vs. Tyra Mae Steele

Steele wrestles her down to start (as you would expect) and Grey can't sit out. Instead Grey rolls her into a quickly broken cross armbreaker as Steele muscles her up for something like a powerbomb. A snap suplex gives Steele two and she grabs something like an STF. Grey suplexes her way to freedom but walks into something like a Pounce for two. Steele grabs a dragon sleeper but Grey flips out of it and hooks a small package for the pin at 6:02.

**Rating:** C. Steele continue to feel like a star in the making and more of a matter of time rather than anything else. Getting her some kind of experience is only going to help her and I could go for seeing her do even more. On the other hand you have Grey, who is still desperately in need of something to set her apart.

Niko Vance, speaking very quietly, is ready to prove himself against Luca Crusifino.

### Niko Vance vs. Luca Crusifino

Vance is a former football player and rather large. Crusifino can't power out of a headlock to start and Vance grinds away for a bit. An armbar slows Vance down until he fights up and fires off some knees to the ribs. The neck crank keeps Crusifino in trouble as we hear about Vance's football resume. A jawbreaker gives Crusifino a breather though and a running clothesline takes Vance down. Crusifino makes the clothesline comeback and finishes with the Codebreaker at 5:48.

**Rating:** C. This was much more about giving Vance his first exposure on television and it worked well enough. Vance is the latest in the line of athletes from other sports who look good but need polish in the ring. That's something that can come with time, but for now, he looked passable enough for his first time in front of a camera.

**Overall Rating:** C+. This was a bit more of what LVL Up felt like it was supposed to be. The biggest thing here was that it seemed to be more about presenting younger, up and coming stars and that is a good thing to do. The opener had four relatively new names, while Steele and Vance are still pretty much unknowns around here. I can go for that kind of show and it worked well enough this week.

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## Daily News Update – October

# 2, 2024

Make sure you check out some recent reviews:

[Dynamite – September 25, 2024 \(Grand Slam\)](#)

[NXT LVL Up – August 30, 2024](#)

[Ring Of Honor – September 26, 2024](#)

[Smackdown – September 27, 2024](#)

[Rampage – September 27, 2024](#)

[Collision – September 28, 2024 \(Grand Slam\)](#)

[NXT LVL Up – September 6, 2024](#)

[Monday Night Raw – September 30, 2024](#)

[NWA House Show – February 1, 1987](#)

[NXT – October 1, 2024 \(Debut On CW\)](#)

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WATCH: WWE Takes A Special Look Back At NXT On The USA Network.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-wwe-takes-a-special-look-back-at-nxt-on-the-usa-network/>

Almost Done? Former WWE Champion's Contract Believed To Expire Later This Year.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/almost-done-former-wwe-champions-contract-believed-to-expire-later-this-year/>

Another Way? Interesting Update On Plans For Upcoming WWE Debut.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/another-way-interesting->

[update-on-plans-for-upcoming-wwe-debut/](#)

One Down: Title Officially Retired On AEW Dynamite.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/one-down-title-officially-retired-on-aew-dynamite/>

Next Stop: Former WWE Superstar Makes Surprise AEW Debut On Dynamite.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/next-stop-former-wwe-superstar-makes-surprise-aew-debut-on-dynamite/>

More OTC: You Will Be Seeing A Lot More From Roman Reigns In The Coming Weeks.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/more-otc-you-will-be-seeing-a-lot-more-from-roman-reigns-in-the-coming-weeks/>

Working On It: Update On SmackDown Possibly Expanding To Three Hours.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/working-on-it-update-on-smackdown-possibly-expanding-to-three-hours/>

Not His Taste: The Rock Reportedly Had A Bizarre Request To Appear On Popular TV Show.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/not-his-taste-the-rock-reportedly-had-a-bizarre-request-to-appear-on-popular-tv-show/>

Twice As Nice: WWE Announces Details For Summerslam 2025, Expanding To Two Nights.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/twice-as-nice-wwe-announces-details-for-summerslam-2025-expanding-to-two-nights/>

To The Other Side? WWE Superstar May Be Turning Babyface Following Big Setback.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/to-the-other-side-wwe-su>

[perstar-may-be-turning-babyface-following-big-setback/](#)

Hang On: Update On Alexa Bliss' Return To WWE TV.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/hang-on-update-on-alexa-bliss-return-to-wwe-tv/>

Man Down: Missing AEW Star Reportedly Dealing With A Knee Injury.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/man-down-missing-aew-star-reportedly-dealing-with-a-knee-injury/>

Working On It? Update On Shinsuke Nakamura's WWE Status, Why He Isn't Being Used On TV.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/working-on-it-update-on-shinsuke-nakamuras-wwe-status-why-he-isnt-being-used-on-tv/>

And It's Gone: WWE Content Officially Removed From Hulu As Agreement Comes To An End.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/and-its-gone-wwe-content-officially-removed-from-hulu-as-agreement-comes-to-an-end/>

Double Back? WWE Reportedly Interested In Signing Former Star Who Currently Works For AEW.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/double-back-wwe-reportedly-interested-in-signing-former-star-who-currently-works-for-aww/>

Hold On? Update On The Lucha Bros' AEW Contract Status.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/hold-on-update-on-the-lucha-bros-aww-contract-status/>

Back At It: WWE Announces The Return Of AJ Styles.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/back-at-it-wwe-announces-the-return-of-aj-styles/>

On The Card: New Title Match Officially Set For WWE Bad Blood.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/on-the-card-new-title-match-officially-set-for-wwe-bad-blood/>

LOOK: Injured Star Makes Surprise Return To The Ring Friday Night.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/look-injured-star-makes-surprise-return-to-the-ring-friday-night/>

Run It Back: Monday Night Raw And SmackDown To Hold Double Television Tapings Next Month.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/run-it-back-monday-night-raw-and-smackdown-to-hold-double-television-tapings-next-month/>

The Famous One: Interesting Update On WWE's Planning For Annual Post-Christmas MSG Show.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/the-famous-one-interesting-update-on-wwes-planning-for-annual-post-christmas-msg-show/>

There It Is: Important Update On The Future Of NXT Content Online.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/there-it-is-important-update-on-the-future-of-nxt-content-online/>

He's In: Top AEW Star Earns Prominent Film Role.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/hes-in-top-aew-star-earns-prominent-film-role/>

WRESTLING RUMORS: Former WWE World Champion Heading To AEW Next Month.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wrestling-rumors-former-wwe-world-champion-heading-to-aew-next-month/>

WRESTLING RUMORS: Big Change Coming To NXT For CW Debut.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wrestling-rumors-big-change-coming-to-nxt-for-cw-debut/>

Uh Oh: How Hurricane Helene Has Canceled Important Wrestling TV Tapings.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/uh-oh-how-hurricane-helene-has-canceled-important-wrestling-tv-tapings/>

One More Run? Former WWE Superstar Reportedly Has "The Itch" To Return To The Ring After Hiatus.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/one-more-run-former-wwe-superstar-reportedly-has-the-itch-to-return-to-the-ring-after-hiatus/>

Two For One: Pair Of WWE Stars Get Married Over The Weekend.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/two-for-one-pair-of-wwe-stars-get-married-over-the-weekend/>

Back At It: WWE Star Returns To The Ring For First Match In Over A Year.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/back-at-it-wwe-star-returns-to-the-ring-for-first-match-in-over-a-year/>

Just Made It: Why Last Week's NXT Was Almost Cut Off Before The Finish.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/just-made-it-why-last-weeks-nxt-was-almost-cut-off-before-the-finish/>

New Coat Of Paint: WWE Performance Center Set To Undergo Changes In Coming Weeks.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/new-coat-of-paint-wwe-performance-center-set-to-undergo-changes-in-coming-weeks/>

Welcome! Logan Paul Announces The Birth Of His Daughter.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/welcome-logan-paul-announces-the-birth-of-his-daughter/>

They Got There: The Wyatt Sicks Make WWE Live Event Debut.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/they-got-there-the-wyatt-sicks-make-wwe-live-event-debut/>

Down The Line: Big E. Offers Update On His Health Status, When He Could Know His Wrestling Future.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/down-the-line-big-e-offers-update-on-his-health-status-when-he-could-know-his-wrestling-future/>

WATCH: WWE Superstar Receives Standing Ovation Following Title Shot At Live Event.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-wwe-superstar-receives-standing-ovation-following-title-shot-at-live-event/>

Him? CM Punk Reveals Interesting Reason For Wanting To Face Damian Priest.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/him-cm-punk-reveals-interesting-reason-for-wanting-to-face-damian-priest/>

Keep Going? Interesting Update On Footage Shot For Vince McMahon Netflix Documentary.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/keep-going-interesting-update-on-footage-shot-for-vince-mcmahon-netflix-documentary/>

Tell The People: Drew McIntyre And Liv Morgan Appear At NFL Game For Major Royal Rumble Announcement.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/tell-the-people-drew-mcintyre-and-liv-morgan-appear-at-nfl-game-for-major-royal-rumble-announcement/>

Double Work: NXT Star Reveals He Is Also Working Behind The Scenes.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/double-work-nxt-star-reveals-he-is-also-working-behind-the-scenes/>

Bring Her Back? WWE Reached Out To Former Champion For Special Royal Rumble Appearance.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/bring-her-back-wwe-reached-out-to-former-champion-for-special-royal-rumble-appearance/>

WWE Now Selling Dominik Mysterio Toilet Paper.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-now-selling-dominik-mysterio-toilet-paper/>

Over And Out? Speculation That Weekly WWE Show May Be Gone For Good.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/over-and-out-speculation-that-weekly-wwe-show-may-be-gone-for-good/>

For The Gold: World Heavyweight Title Match Set For Next Week's Monday Night Raw. October 1, 2024.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/for-the-gold-world-heavyweight-title-match-set-for-next-weeks-monday-night-raw/>

Down Time: WWE Superstar Suffers Torn ACL, Out 6-9 Months.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/down-time-wwe-superstar-suffers-torn-acl-out-6-9-months/>

WATCH: Bron Breaker Teases Babyface Turn, Eyes World Heavyweight Championship On Monday Night Raw.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-bron-breaker-teases-babyface-turn-eyes-world-heavyweight-championship-on-monday-night-raw/>

WATCH: Seth Rollins Returns On Monday Night Raw After Ring Collapses.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-seth-rollins-returns-on-monday-night-raw-after-ring-collapses/>

WATCH: Surprise Heel Turn Takes Place On Monday Night Raw As Tag Team Comes To An End.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-surprise-heel-turn-takes-place-on-monday-night-raw-as-tag-team-comes-to-an-end/>

RUMOR KILLER On Vince McMahon Responding To Netflix Documentary.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/rumor-killer-on-vince-mcmahon-responding-to-netflix-documentary/>

Old School? Attitude Era WWE Star Claims He Is Working With Shotzi For Special Return.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/old-school-attitude-era-we-star-claims-he-is-working-with-shotzi-for-special-return/>

WATCH: New Champion Crowned This Week On NXT.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-new-champion-crowned-this-week-on-nxt/>

WATCH: Injured NXT Star Returns After Nearly Nine Month Injury Absence, Makes Immediate Impact.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-injured-nxt-star-returns-after-nearly-nine-month-injury-absence-makes-immediate-impact/>

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# **NXT – October 1, 2024: Arrival (Debut On CW)**

NXT

Date: October 1, 2024

Location: Allstate Arena, Rosemont, Illinois

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Booker T.

We're officially on the CW and it is an absolutely packed show with two title matches and CM Punk as a special guest referee. That's more than enough for this show but the question is what other surprises we might be seeing. This show has some serious potential and now we get to see just how it goes. Let's get to it.

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

We get a new opening sequence with a silver logo. That's not bad.

Here is Shawn Michaels to get things going and he gets right to the point by unveiling some new NXT Men's and Women's Titles...and HHH is here as well.

Women's Title: Roxanne Perez vs. Giulia

Giulia is challenging. They fight over wrist control to start

with Giulia taking her down but missing some elbows. An exchange of rollups gets two each until Giulia hits a dropkick. Perez slips out of a hammerlock slam but it's too early for Pop Rox. Another exchange of rollups gets two each (and someone loses a buckle) as we take an early break.

Back with Perez working on the arm until Giulia fights up and hits some headbutts. Giulia plants her down with a hammerlock northern lights suplex for two but Perez knocks it outside. The dive connects but Giulia kicks her in the face on the way back in. A butterfly superplex with a bridge gives Giulia two but she can't get what looked to be the Rings Of Saturn. Instead Perez pulls her into a crossface and uses the Bayley/Sasha Banks kick off the apron to get it back to the middle.

Giulia reverses that into an STF and Perez makes the rope. Back up and a quick Pop Rox connects, with Giulia rolling outside to leave Perez frustrated. Perez follows her outside and it's a northern lights bomb to plant Perez on the floor. They both beat the clock back in so Perez goes out and grabs the title. The distraction lets another woman in a hood run in and hit a double arm DDT on the floor. Back in and Pop Rox retains the title at 13:06.

**Rating:** B-. Oh I'm not sure on that finish, as ending the first match on the new show with a screwy result is a bit of a stretch. Perez winning is one thing as Stephanie Vaquer is waiting on her,

And it's Cora Jade.

Axiom and Nathan Frazier play WWE2K to train for A-Town Down Under, who win the titles.

Ava and CM Punk are sure that things are going to be down the middle in the main event when Lexis King interrupts. He isn't sure if he should do what he wants to do or try to win. Punk tells him to figure out his own path.

We recap Wes Lee turning on the Rascalz, meaning it's time for a street fight for revenge.

Jaida Parker and Lola Vice argue over who is running the team tonight. Kelani Jordan comes in to tell them to chill.

### Wes Lee vs. Zachary Wentz

Street fight. Lee misses a big flip dive to start and gets a shopping cart rammed into him for crash into the steps. Wentz pulls out a board but Lee dives into it for the big crash. It's time to throw in a bunch of weapons but Wentz scores with a superkick and some chair shots. They go to the apron and crash through a table at ringside as we take a break.

Back with Wentz hitting a Coast To Coast but Lee dropkicks him into a chair in the corner. Wentz slams him onto a chair and pus a trashcan over Lee, setting up a Swanton for another near fall. Back up and Wentz tries a UFO (springboard cutter) but gets shoved over the top and mostly past the table for a nasty crash. Back in and a double stomp onto the back onto a chair gives Lee two. Wentz fights up and grabs a chair, only to get low blowed. Lee puts him in a chair, wraps a chain around his legs, and hits a middle rope Meteora for the pin at 13:24.

**Rating:** B-. It was a violent match but it's still hard to get into the whole crossover feud. Wentz won a quick X-Division Title and lost it two weeks later, thereby ending his career singles accomplishments. Just having a history with Lee doesn't make for an interesting match and the fans only seemed so invested here.

Here is the freshly heel Miz for MizTV, featuring Oba Femi and Tony D'Angelo, who are facing off for Femi's North American Title next week. D'Angelo talks about how he's going to win the title next week after training even harder. Femi says Miz should know when someone doesn't mean a word that they are saying and that is the case with D'Angelo.

That sends D'Angelo on a rant about growing up on the streets of Chicago and how his family are here. Femi says they can't fight for D'Angelo, who knows he can't win. They stand up and D'Angelo says Femi is just a man, with Femi saying he is inevitable. Miz hits the catchphrase to wrap it up. Miz added absolutely nothing here, though he wasn't given the chance to.

We look back at Cora Jade's return earlier tonight.

Jade says everyone had forgotten about her when Roxanne Perez comes in. Maybe a common enemy can drive them back together.

### Jaida Parker/Lola Vice vs. Fatal Influence

It's Jacy Jayne/Fallon Henley for the team here, with Kelani Jordan on commentary. Henley and Parker start things off, with Parker hitting her in the face and scoring with a running shoulder. Vice comes in for a front facelock before punching the villains in the ribs. Parker stacks them up on the middle rope for the running sitdown splash, followed by Vince's running hip attack. Henley fights out of the wrong corner as Jordan can barely get a word in. Parker and Vice get in an argument though, allowing Henley to get in a cheap shot.

We take a break and come back with Jayne holding Vice in a bodyscissors, setting up a cannonball for two. Henley's running elbow gets two but Vice fights up, only for Jazmyn Nyx to distract Parker. Vice is sent into her and you know that isn't going to go well. The comeback doesn't last long for Vice as stereo running knees finish her off at 10:57.

**Rating:** C+. This was all about the team exploding and I'll take that just breaking down rather than waiting around for weeks to get to the obvious. Vice and Parker could both be stars if given the chance, which makes it all the better that they seem to have something to do. Fatal Influence isn't a great team, but they're good enough for what they're doing.

Post match Fatal Influence calls in Kelani Jordan, who brings

out Bianca Belair and Jade Cargill to clean house.

Video on Je'Von Evans, who is ready to face Randy Orton. This is to set up a huge RKO isn't it?

Video on Ethan Page vs. Trick Williams for the NXT Title. Page won the title, pretty much by accident, at Heatwave in July and now it's time for Williams to get the title back, with CM Punk as special referee.

We get a vignette of a woman walking down a road with the signs saying 10/27, or the date of Halloween Havoc.

### NXT Title: Trick Williams vs. Ethan Page

Page is defending and CM Punk is guest referee. Page takes him into the corner to start and Punk breaks it up at four before doing the same thing to Williams. Back up and Williams takes him to the ropes, where Punk blocks a right hand. That lets Page grab a rollup with feet on the ropes, meaning Punk won't count. Williams knocks him outside but Page's whip sends Williams through the barricade (they really need to fix those) as we take a break.

Back with Page hammering away and grabbing a DDT to cut off a comeback attempt. Williams' jumping neckbreaker lets him strike away but Page sends him face first into the steps. A not great Ego's Edge sends Williams through the announcers' table but Punk isn't going to count. Instead it's a quick Trick Shot to Page, who falls onto Williams (ala Heatwave) for two and Williams is ready to fight. Another Trick Shot misses so Page hits his own knee for two. Page glares at Punk and hits a GTS for two but Williams slips out of another Ego's Edge. The Trick Shot gives Williams the title back at 12:28.

**Rating:** C+. I'm not sure what it was but this never came close to taking off. Maybe they ran out of time or something or there was just no drama over who was winning (like there was any chance Page was retaining), but I never got into this one.

Williams gets the big feel good moment and the unofficial Punk endorsement, which is all fine and good. It's not a bad match, but I was expecting a bit more than what we got here.

Post match Punk gives Page the GTS and confetti falls to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B-. This show was good but didn't feel like some big blow away show. Given the card that they had and some of the guest stars, I was expecting something huge and got an ok show for the most part. The biggest issue is other than the main event, nothing on here felt like it was a special moment. I came in thinking this would be some major show and instead I just got a pretty good edition of NXT. That's an acceptable way to go, but it felt like it should have been more.

### Results

Roxanne Perez b. Giulia – Pop Rox

Wes Lee b. Zachary Wentz – Middle rope Meteora with a chain

Fatal Influence b. Jaida Parker/Lola Vice – Running knees to Vice

Trick Williams b. Ethan Page – Trick Shot

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