

# Monday Night Raw – January 11, 1993 (Debut, 2021 Redo): A Whole New World

## Monday Night Raw

Date: January 11, 1993

Location: Manhattan Center, Manhattan, New York

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Rob Bartlett, Randy Savage

Since the random months deal isn't working whatsoever, let's just go with doing them straight through. I have twenty months left in the first four years so we might as well start off with the first year. It's a shorter month because the show started in the second week. Oh and it's also the show's debut so let's get to it.

Sean Mooney is on the streets of Manhattan and welcomes us to the first ever show but has to stop one Bobby Heenan from going inside. He has been replaced by Rob Bartlett and since Mooney is security, Heenan stops to bicker.

Opening sequence.

Commentary welcomes us to the show and Bartlett is already getting annoying.

## Yokozuna vs. Koko B. Ware

So here's your first trivia of the night as we have the first ever match in the history of the show. Bartlett: "This guy has his own no fly zone!" Savage: "He doesn't even have a zipper." We also get some Japanese/fat jokes from Bartlett until Ware is shoved across the ring. It works a second time but Koko is back up with a dropkick. A big charge misses though and Ware is sent HARD into the top rope. The big legdrop sets up the corner splash and the Banzai Drop finishes Ware in a hurry.

**Rating:** D+. Total squash and a good example of the Yokozuna who was that scary of a monster. He looked great and could still move around out there, with the running splash coming off as athletic. This is the Yokozuna who could be the top heel for a long time, and it's easy to see why he was pushed so hard.

Bobby Heenan talks about Narcissus, who has Mr. Perfect scared. Yes, Narcissus is beyond perfect and comparing the two of them is like comparing ice cream to horse manure. Narcissus will be unveiled at the Royal Rumble and Perfect will think he is from another world.

### Steiner Brothers vs. Executioners

Scott isn't playing around and tilt-a-whirl slams #1 as Doink the Clown is playing around a bit in the audience. Rick comes in and whips #2 into the ropes so hard that #2 falls down. #2 is driven ribs first upside down into the corner and it's a double noggin knocker from Scott on the floor. Back in and the referee has to get out of the way of a Scott belly to belly and there's the tiger driver to make it worse. The Steiner Bulldog ends the masked goons.

**Rating:** C-. I could watch the Steiners beat up goofs forever and this was a good example of how effective it can be. Those suplexes and the bulldog had the Executioners flying all over the place and it was absolutely glorious. They were brand new at this point and even 1993 WWF couldn't screw them up.

Bobby Heenan, this time in drag, still can't get into the building. He thought he was getting into the building normally, so he just had that in his bag?

Here is Razor Ramon for a chat with Vince McMahon. He is happy to have a WWF Title shot at the Royal Rumble because it has his name written all over it. Vince says it took Bret eight and a half years to get his title shot but now Razor is happy with getting his shot after eight and a half months. That's

not good enough for Vince, who wants to know why Razor jumped Owen Hart over the weekend. Razor says it was fun and there is nothing Bret can do about it. You know what else Bret can't do anything about? Razor winning the WWF Title. Good interview here, as Razor was still in serious mode.

There will be a Headlock On Hunger show later this month, with Randy Savage not exactly knowing what is on the card ("Shawn Michaels vs. Bob Backlund for another title. The Intercontinental Title!").

Tatanka wants us to put a headlock on hunger.

### Intercontinental Title: Shawn Michaels vs. Max Moon

Shawn is defending. Moon flips around a bit as Bartlett does a bit about the WWF version of the Amy Fisher story and Savage...thinks Heenan looked good in drag? Shawn gets thrown into the corner and can't figure out what to do here, so Moon armdrags him down. We take a break and come back with Shawn dropping him throat first across the middle rope as commentary gets in "uncooked, uncut and uncensored" as many times as they can.

Shawn hits...something as Doink comes out to watch again and Bartlett "calls in" with a bad Mike Tyson impression. This gag keeps going as Shawn sends him face first into the buckle as Bartlett (still as Tyson) makes up matches for the Royal Rumble. Moon grabs a small package for a quick two and gets punched in the face some more. The chinlock goes on and Tyson wants to know what it's called.

Back up and Moon catapults Shawn over the top and out to the floor (Bartlett: "He disappeared!") for the crash. Moon scores with a spinwheel kick in the corner and a cradle gets two. Shawn is back up with the superkick, which isn't his finisher yet so here it's just a thing. Instead it's the tear drop suplex (kind of a cross between a belly to back suplex/Angle Slam) to retain Shawn's title.

**Rating:** C. The wrestling was fine but the commentary was one of the dumbest, most annoying things I can imagine. The bit itself, a confused Mike Tyson calling in, is fine enough but it JUST KEPT GOING and wasn't all that funny in the first place. It's not the kind of comedy that fits in on a wrestling show and that's why Bartlett never fit. He was funny in a different format, but here it feels so forced and it never worked.

WATCH WWF MANIA! I liked that show.

It's time for the Royal Rumble Control Center. This week we're talking about the Intercontinental Title match between Shawn Michaels and Marty Jannetty. The question is whose corner Sensational Sherri will be in, with both guys saying she's going with them. Marty and Sherri were never a thing so this always felt a bit weird.

Moving on, Gene Okerlund runs down the Royal Rumble lineup, with Mr. Perfect saying he isn't worried because no one else in the match is perfect. On the other hand, Mr. Fuji says no one can get Yokozuna over the top so he'll win. Oh and Jim Duggan thinks he'll...fight. He might not win, but he'll fight. Of note: this segment went on so long that Tito Santana beat the Brooklyn Brawler in a dark match as it aired.

Bobby Heenan, now as Rob Bartlett's uncle Morty, still can't get in. The stereotypes here are rather strong.

We look at Kamala's face turn, as he leaves Kim Chee and Harvey Wippleman and joins up with Reverend Slick. That pairing could bowl some people over.

### Undertaker vs. Damien Demento

Demento is a weird guy and billed "from the Outer Reaches Of Your Mind". Vince and Bartlett go into a bit about Paul Bearer being from a famous family and needing an iron supplement. Demento's right hands have no effect and the very Young School

connects, with Vince ignoring it to talk about the Royal Rumble. Demento gets in a few shots out of the corner but Undertaker sits up and hits the jumping clothesline. The Tombstone finishes without much trouble.

Doink talks about enjoying making kids cry but Crush comes out and threatens him with that Hawaiian accent. If Doink keeps it up, his bad arm will have another arm and both legs for company in that cast. Doink squirts him with water and the chase is on.

Bobby Heenan is allowed in now that the show is over.

**Overall Rating:** C-. I don't think I'm breaking any new ground by saying that this first show is not very good. The wrestling was more miss than hit and Bartlett was a nightmare, but what mattered here was that they had to start somewhere. It's the first episode of the most famous wrestling series ever and it took place live from New York City. The content isn't important here, but rather the fact that the show happened. Not a terrible show, but it's all about the history instead of the content.

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# Ring Of Honor TV- October 13, 2021: The Confusing Times

## Ring of Honor

Date: October 13, 2021

Location: 2300 Arena, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Jay Briscoe, Mark Briscoe

It's time to start the build towards Final Battle and I'm not sure what that is going to mean. Ring of Honor has a weird fascination with waiting as long as they can to announce a card and I'm not sure how much we're going to be getting before this show. That being said, this show has been pretty great lately so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Here's what's coming tonight.

## Soldiers of Savagery vs. Dalton Castle/Dak Draper

The Soldiers are ready to hurt people while Castle and Draper, with the Baby Chickens, promise to show how good they are. Castle wrestles Khan down to start and we actually get a clean break. The technical stuff doesn't work for Khan so he shoulders Castle down with straight power. That works for Castle, who suplexes him down and hands it off to Draper, who gets caught by the arm. Moses comes in and knees Draper in the ribs so Khan can hit a running basement clothesline. It's already back to Castle to run the Soldiers over and we take a break.

Back with Draper gutwrenching Khan and handing him off to Castle for the suplex in a nice power display. Hold on though as Castle needs to take a lap on the floor with the Baby

Chickens, as tends to be his case. Draper gutwrench tosses Khan around, allowing Castle to grab the camera for a chat. Khan gets over to Moses for the hot tag though and it's time to slug away. A backdrop puts Castle on the floor and Moses runs Draper over. Everything breaks down and it's the elevated double DDT to finish Draper at 9:16.

**Rating:** C+. Draper is someone who could go somewhere with a little more tinkering, as his size and look will be good enough to get him somewhere. Castle is an established name and the Soldiers are your big monsters who can hurt people. They had an easy idea here and it worked well, so it was pretty much a layup that connected just fine.

Post match Kenny King and Dragon Lee come in to beat down the Soldiers, complete with a selfie. Moses gets up though and issues the challenge for the Tag Team Titles, complete with a promise for some complimentary body bags.

#### Willow vs. Miranda Alize vs. Angelina Love

The winner goes on to a #1 contenders match for a future Women's Title match. Willow thinks this is like a Christmas present, Alize doesn't know why she has to be in this match and Love brags about how awesome she is. Willow gets double teamed to start but fights her way to freedom, only to get knocked back into the corner. Both of them hit running splashes in the corner to crush Willow and we take a break.

Back with Willow fighting both of them off but getting sent to the floor for a crash. Love uses the distraction to grab a Code of Silence on Alize until Willow comes back in for the save. Willow sends them both outside for the split legged dropkick off the apron. That's good for two on Alize back inside but she sends Willow back to the floor for a double suicide dive. Love comes back in and Botox Injections Alize to the floor, allowing Willow to grab a rollup pin at 8:32.

**Rating:** C. The action was slightly better than usual, but I'm

still not exactly familiar with Willow or Alize. Love not being involved in the fall makes enough sense as she is the veteran star, but you're only going to get so much out of something like this. The division needs to develop a lot more, and this is only slightly better than the tournament matches.

### OGK vs. Rey Horus/Bandido

Both teams are fired up here. Horus and Bennett get things going with Horus working on the arm. Bennett manages to pull him down into a crucifix for a near fall though and things reset a bit. Bandido and Taven come in with Bennett dropkicking Bandido to the mat and us to a break. Back with Bandido charging into a superkick from Taven for a spear from Bennett, setting up a brainbuster for two.

It's time to start working on Bandido's leg with Taven crunching it and Bennett cranking away. An enziguri into the Purple Thunder Bomb gets two on Bandido and we hit the chinlock. Bennett hits a spinebuster but Taven misses a Lionsault, allowing the hot tag off to Horus. Everything breaks down and Bennett goes shoulder first into the post. The Spanish Fly plants Bennett and we take a break with OGK in trouble.

Back with Bandido limping but being fine enough to sweep Taven's leg and hit a running shooting star press for two. Bennett makes the save though and the Hail Mary gets two on Bandido. Horus and Bennett get up for the big slugout but everyone hits something to another jaw for the four way knockdown. Back up and Taven hits Bandido with the Flight of the Conqueror but Bennett has to break up Horus' Octopus. The Backpack Stunner/running kick to the face finishes Horus at 12:07.

**Rating:** B-. This was a pair of good teams having a nice match with some time. OGK winning makes sense as they didn't pin the champ and still looked like they were in trouble throughout.



Solid main event here, and that's how it should have been for a one off match like this one.

**Overall Rating:** C+. We seem to be in the post pay per view stretch, meaning things have not quite reset just yet. Then again with no fans it can be kind of hard to tell, as Ring of Honor tends to have one stand alone show after another. That was the case again here, but at least this show was pretty good (again). Just...get fans back already. It really shouldn't be that hard at this point, right?

### Results

Soldiers of Savagery b. Dalton Castle/Dak Draper – Elevated double DDT to Draper

Willow b. Angelina Love and Miranda Alize – Rollup to Love

OGK b. Bandido/Rey Horus – Backpack Stunner/running boot to the face combination to Horus

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## Daily News Update – October

# 18, 2021

VIDEO: Buddy Murphy Has Found A New Home.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-former-wwe-star-announced-new-japan-strong/>

WWE Star Loses Title (And More) Over The Weekend.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-star-loses-title-weekend/>

Miro Is NOT Happy With Being Left Out Of AEW's #1 Contenders Tournament.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/miro-not-happy-left-aews-1-contenders-tournament/>

Former WWE World Champion Seen Meeting With Impact Wrestling Boss.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/former-wwe-world-champion-meets-impact-wrestling/>

Drew McIntyre Does Not Seem Happy With WWE Booking.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/drew-mcintyre-not-seem-happy-wwe-booking/>

WWE May Be Going Head To Head With AEW Again.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-may-going-head-head-aew/>

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# WWF WrestleFest 1990: The Who's Who

## WrestleFest 1990

Host: Sean Mooney

Commentators: Sean Mooney, Lord Alfred Hayes, Gorilla Monsoon, Hillbilly Jim, Tony Schiavone

This is the kind of thing that I love to watch: a compilation video featuring a bunch of stuff from television tapings which is cobbled together with almost nothing in the way of a theme. There might be a wrestler getting a few matches in a row, but this is kind of a sampler platter of the company at this point in time. Let's get to it.

Sean Mooney welcomes us to the show and runs down the lineup, including a profile of the Hart Foundation. Mooney promising that the Harts will "calmly" discuss their recent matches and then seeing a clip of Jim Neidhart talking a mile a minute was funny.

From Miami on January 22, 1990.

### Randy Savage vs. Roddy Piper

Yeah this should work. Savage yells a lot to start while Piper stands in the middle of the ring. Sherri offers a distraction and tries to look up Piper's kilt, earning herself a spank. An attempted kick to Piper sees her leg swatted away, sending both her and her shoes flying. That's finally enough to get Savage to come off the top with an ax handle to get things going but Piper clotheslines him right back down.

A sunset flip gives Piper two and a not great looking small

package is good for the same. Savage tries to bail but gets pulled back inside, only to have a Sherri distraction let him jump Piper from behind. Now the top rope ax handle works far better and a second one connects on the floor to put Piper down again. Sherri even gets in a high kick to the back of Piper's head (impressive when she's in a dress and high heels) so Savage can choke away back inside.

Piper catches him on top though and gets Savage in the yet to be named Tree of Woe for some...well something involving Savage's face. We go old school with an airplane spin to drop Savage for two, who is right back with an airplane spin of his own (and even faster, because Savage is very competitive). Savage is so dizzy that he falls out of the ring, with Piper following him out and hammering away even more. Sherri tries the save and it's a double countout at 9:29.

**Rating:** C. The match wasn't great but the people involved alone was more than enough to make this work. What really stood out though was Savage turning an airplane spin into a contest, which is so totally appropriate for him. It wasn't a classic or anything, but this is a pairing between two all time masters and that's worth seeing.

Post match Piper grabs the sleeper on Savage and then another on Sherri. That's broken up (with the camera getting a rather long/gratuitous shot of Sherri's dress coming up, which is rather risque in 1990) and Piper grabs a belt to clean house.

We have a fan requested match, with Dino Bravo and Ultimate Warrior both promising to win.

From Tuscon, Arizona (that's what Mooney says, though everything else I see says Phoenix) on February 13.

Intercontinental Title: Dino Bravo vs. Ultimate Warrior

Bravo is challenging and has Jimmy Hart and Earthquake (in that hideous brown gear) with him. They start fast with

Warrior snapping off a powerslam and adds a top rope ax handle to make it worse. Back up and Bravo can't get anywhere off a shoulder block so Warrior sends him into the corner again. Earthquake offers a distraction though and Bravo clotheslines Warrior out to the floor. That's fine with Warrior, who chases Hart underneath the ring and....yeah Hart comes out missing his pants.

Back in and Warrior hits a suplex but the Warrior Splash hits knees. The test of strength puts Warrior down and a bearhug makes it even worse. Warrior reverses into one of his own but gets broken up in a hurry. Bravo misses an elbow so Warrior hits a slam, only to come up holding his back. Mooney isn't sure what's wrong, apparently forgetting the last three minutes. Some ax handles to the back trigger the Warrior Up and there is the clothesline comeback. The Warrior Splash connects and draws in Earthquake for the DQ at 8:12.

**Rating:** D. You mean to tell me that DINO BRAVO can't take a pin from the Intercontinental Champion and the guy who would be WWF Champion in less than two months? In something you don't get to say very often, Warrior deserves better than that, as it's not like Bravo has ever meant anything, whether he is in or outside of Canada.

Post match the beatdown is on until Earthquake loads up the middle rope Earthquake, drawing out Hulk Hogan for the save. This was shown during the hype video at Wrestlemania.

It's time for the Manager's Profile, this time on Mr. Fuji, who likes his wrestlers to hurt people. We see some clips of Fuji N Pals beating up wrestlers, plus Fuji himself cheating to run a 5K race over Wrestlemania V weekend. This seems to be it, as there isn't much to say about Fuji most of the time.

Brutus Beefcake is ready for Rick Martel, who won't leave as pretty as he came in.

Rick Martel knows he is better looking than Brutus Beefcake

and has what it takes to back it up.

From New York City on December 28, 1989.

### Brutus Beefcake vs. Rick Martel

Martel hits the stall button to start, allowing Beefcake to take his gear off. We get into a mini pose off with Martel not being happy that the fans aren't impressed with his (better) physique. Beefcake slowly strips his shirt off and Martel finally charges, right into a hiptoss for the first contact about two and a half minutes in. The threat of a right hand sends Martel bailing to the floor though and it's time for more stalling.

Back in and they circle each other some more until Martel offers a handshake. Note that we've had a hiptoss and slam in the four minutes of the match so far, which has felt rather fine as they have kept it entertaining. That is such a lost art today and they are making it work well here. They do shake hands but Beefcake kicks him in the ribs and hammers away in the corner as we finally get out of pre-gear.

Martel's monkey flip attempt is countered with a kick to the face and there's a head knocker to make it worse. An atomic drop gets Martel out of trouble and Martel slowly starts stomping away. The chinlock goes on as they don't exactly seem interested in doing much in the way of physicality tonight.

Beefcake fights up and gets two off a small package but Martel hits a backbreaker. For some reason Martel goes up, allowing Beefcake to shake the rope for the (always hilarious from Martel) crotching. The atomic drop does it again but Beefcake is sent to the apron. Beefcake tries a sunset but Martel drops down and grabs the ropes for the cheating pin at 12:38.

**Rating:** C-. This wasn't exactly thrilling with neither of them being that interested in trying. You can stall a lot and get a good amount out of very little, but they weren't exactly doing

that here. That being said, this was about as late 80s of a WWF match as you could get, with two guys in great shape not really doing much. I can always go for that, and the match could have been a lot worse.

Post match Beefcake keeps hammering away and grabs the sleeper. The scissors are loaded up but Bobby Heenan runs in to save Martel from a haircut.

Now it's time for a profile on the Hart Foundation, which should bring things up a bit.

The Hart Foundation isn't sure if they're happy with being profiled, as Bret Hart thinks it is cool but Jim Neidhart loses it over the idea of not being Tag Team Titles. To our first match!

From Miami, Florida on January 23.

#### Hart Foundation vs. Powers of Pain

We pause for Bret to give his sunglasses to an older lady at ringside before Neidhart and Barbarian get things going. They shove each other around until Barbarian kicks him in the ribs. An exchange of shoulders doesn't go anywhere but Neidhart manages to knock him down to take over. Bret comes in to pick up the pace and it's quickly back to Neidhart for an armbar. Barbarian knocks him down though and brings in Warlord, who misses an elbow drop.

The Harts take turns on Warlord's arm but Bret gets pulled into the wrong corner. Warlord hits an elbow to the back, setting up Barbarian's jumping headbutt to keep Bret in trouble. Some choking on the ropes makes it worse and Barbarian forearms away at the back. Bret gets his feet up in the corner though and the tag brings in Neidhart to clean house. A air of shoulders put Warlord down and Barbarian elbows him by mistake in a save attempt. Everything breaks down with Mr. Fuji hitting Warlord with his cane by mistake,

though it's a countout to give the Harts the win at 10:36 anyway.

**Rating:** C. It's a little weird to see a featured team winning via countout but it's better than a loss. The Powers of Pain weren't exactly the most versatile team in the world but they were big and strong enough to be rather good villains for something like this. The Harts made this work and Neidhart could match power with the two of them, though it was only going to be so good.

The Harts don't think much of their next opponents, who are just lacking experience.

From Oakland, California on August 8, 1989.

#### Hart Foundation vs. Honky Tonk Man/Dino Bravo

Honky Tonk Man and Bravo have Jimmy Hart in their corner. Bret and Bravo start things off with a hard shoulder giving Bravo the good opening. Back up and Bret sends him into the ropes for a clothesline from Neidhart, setting up a crossbody for two. It's off to Honky Tonk Man so Neidhart comes in for the shoulders to the ribs. We hit the bearhug, which is broken up in a hurry thanks to a rake to the eyes.

Bravo comes back in for an atomic drop and draws Bret (who was looking at the crowd for no apparent reason) so some double teaming can put Neidhart in more trouble. The reverse chinlock doesn't last long so Honky Tonk Man elbows him down instead. A fist drop misses though for Honky Tonk Man though (I wonder if his cousin could teach him better) and Bret gets the tag to clean house. Bret scores with the middle rope elbow for two and everything breaks down. The megaphone is tossed in and Neidhart steals it to knock out the villains for the DQ at 8:57.

**Rating:** C-. What is with this selection of matches for the Harts? I know they have had some better stretches but you



can't show them getting a pin over a couple of Jimmy Hart's guys? Bravo and Honky Tonk Man were about as lame a pair of opponents as you could have found and I didn't quite buy the idea that they were going to win. Granted the Harts didn't get pinned, but Bravo can't take a fall in a tag match?

The Harts aren't overly impressed by the Rockers.

From Springfield, Massachusetts on August 29, 1989.

### Hart Foundation vs. Rockers

Well ok. Bret and Marty (that could have been a heck of a singles match) start things off but don't make any contact just yet. We get the lockup with Bret driving him into the ropes and of course giving us a clean break. Hayes thinks these guys have watched tapes, probably Coliseum Video tapes of course, to know what to expect, which in this case would be Jannetty hitting a crossbody. Shawn comes in and starts working on Bret's arm, with the referee asking if Bret wants to submit. Mooney: "That is something I don't think we will ever see." Especially against Shawn Michaels.

Bret gets over to Neidhart, who plants Shawn for a fast two and grabs a chinlock. That's broken up and Shawn manages to flip away from Bret, who gets slammed down. Neidhart comes back in for a heck of a dropkick and a near fall. Michaels avoids a splash but charges into Bret's knee in the corner, only to have Bret miss a middle rope elbow. That's enough for the hot tag to Jannetty and the pace picks up all over again.

Jannetty powerslams Bret for two and the double dropkick gets the same with Neidhart making the save. A clothesline gets Bret out of trouble and it's back to Neidhart to run Shawn over. In the melee, Bret gets knocked hard into the barricade...and here are the Rougeaus to jump the Rockers for the DQ at 11:17.

**Rating:** B-. The ending was a little annoying but I get the

idea of not wanting either of these two to take a loss. The Rockers were rapidly rising the card and the Harts were almost done with their road to redemption. When in a pinch, have the annoying heels come in to be a nuisance.

Post match the big brawl is on with the Rougeaus being cleared out.

We get a pretty cool look at all of the production trucks that take everything from one arena to another. I remember being fascinated by this when I was a kid.

From New York, New York on January 15, 1990.

WWF Title: Hulk Hogan vs. Mr. Perfect

Perfect, with the Genius, is challenging and we're in the Garden. Hogan powers him into the corner to start and then slams Perfect down in a hurry. Genius comes in and gets crushed by a flying Perfect, followed by the atomic drop for the rather funny sell. Hogan knocks Perfect into the ropes, with his head getting caught in between. More right hands send Perfect flying outside before Hogan tosses him back inside for the huge bump off the turnbuckle.

Perfect finally gets in a kick to the face for a breather before sending Hogan outside. The threat of a posting takes too long though and Hogan whips him in instead, allowing Perfect to continue his pinball impression. Like any good villain, Perfect goes to the eyes and we hit the sleeper. Perfect lets him go though and heads up for some questionable posing, allowing Hogan to shake the ropes for a crotching. Bouncing ensues to make things work and there's a kick to the leg to send Perfect flying.

Hogan misses an elbow and gets caught in the PerfectPlex, which means it's time for the Hulk Up. The big boot sends Perfect outside with Hogan following, where he has to avoid a big chair shot. Perfect gets thrown back in and pulls out a

foreign object to knock Hogan off the apron and out cold for...not the countout. Instead, Hogan comes back in and takes the object from Perfect to knock him out. The legdrop connects but the referee DQ's Hogan at 13:39.

**Rating:** C+. These two always worked well together, with a lot of that being based on Perfect bouncing around like crazy for Hogan every time. I'm not sure how much of a real threat Perfect was looking back, but he was as good of a challenger as Hogan had at this point. They even left the door open for a rematch here, which I'm sure took up some nice space on the marquee.

Hogan being stunned at the DQ while he still has the object on his fist is as Hogan as it gets. The villains escape the threat of another beating so posing can ensue.

From Sacramento, California on March 6, 1990.

#### Ultimate Warrior/Jake Roberts vs. Akeem/Ted DiBiase

Now this is the Coliseum Video kind of match I've been waiting on. Big Boss Man is guest referee to boost the star power a bit more, with the announcement being treated as a big deal. Mooney points out that Akeem and Boss Man are former partners to keep up the tension. Roberts can't get far on DiBiase's arm to start so he goes with punching DiBiase in the face.

The threat of the DDT sends DiBiase bailing out to the floor as we're already on a breather. Back in and DiBiase gets sent shoulder first into the buckle, meaning that the arm cranking works that much better. Another DDT attempt sends DiBiase outside and now it's off to Akeem for a change. Some shots to the arm slow Akeem down in a hurry, allowing Warrior to come in for a jumping shoulder.

That's not enough to set up the DDT though as Akeem backdrops him down. Akeem chokes away in the corner but gets yelled at by Boss Man, meaning DiBiase can come in and stomp away

instead. The running crotch attack to the back on the ropes crushes Roberts again but he jawbreakers DiBiase away. The short arm clothesline drops DiBiase and there's the hot tag to Warrior. House is cleaned and the Warrior Splash finishes DiBiase at 6:47.

**Rating:** D+. I'm not sure if I can call this disappointing as it's not like a match like this is going to have very high expectations. It's a good example of how to send the fans home happy on a video release, especially after the heroes have not had the best time with this one. Warrior barely did anything here, but at least we got the DDT to finish things off.

Post match the brawl is on with Roberts DDTing Virgil and whipping out Damien for a bonus.

Mooney wraps us up.

**Overall Rating:** C. The wrestling was pretty typical for this era but what matters the most here is the star power. This was a near who's who of this time for the WWF and I had a good time with the whole thing. I had a good time with it and that's the idea, as this was the Coliseum Video formula: put out a pretty random collection of wrestling with some star power and watch the money come in every month. Nice enough here, but as was the case most of the time, don't expect to be blown away.

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## Daily News Update – October 17, 2021

WWE Ignored A Crown Jewel Match And One Wrestler Isn't Happy.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-ignored-crown-jewel-match-one-wrestler-isnt-happy/>

AEW Officially Signs New Star To Full Time Deal.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aew-officially-signs-new-star-full-time-deal/>

Surprising Title Change Takes Place On AEW Dynamite.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/surprising-title-change-takes-place-aew-dynamite/>

AEW Announces Full Details On World Title Eliminator Tournament, Big Names Involved.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aew-announces-full-details-world-title-eliminator-tournament-big-names-involved/>

VIDEO: AEW Star Takes Shots At NXT And SmackDown After Dynamite.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-aew-star-takes-shots-nxt-smackdown-dynamite/>

VIDEO: WWE Stars Take A Squid Game Challenge.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-wwe-stars-take-squid-game-challenge/>

As always, please check out all of the videos if you can, hit up the comments section and [get on the Wrestling Rumors Facebook page.](#)

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## Dynamite – October 16, 2021: Act Two

### Dynamite

Date: October 16, 2021

Location: James L. Knight Center, Miami, Florida

Commentators: Excalibur, Jim Ross, Tony Schiavone, CM Punk

We're on a rare Saturday night due to the MLB playoffs and they are going to have a hard time topping what they did last night with Rampage. Tonight we see the brackets for the #1 contenders tournament, as Full Gear is less than a month away. Add in a AAA Tag Team Titles match and we should be good to go. Let's get to it.

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

Guest commentator CM Punk gets his big entrance.

Here's what's coming tonight.

Malakai Black vs. Dante Martin

Lio Rush is here with Black. Some armdrags put Martin down to

start but he sends Black outside. It's too early for a dive though as Black comes back in and elbows him in the face. A powerbomb sets up a half crab to put Martin in trouble but he slips out in a hurry. That earns Martin and STO and shinbreaker, setting up a kneebar. Martin makes the ropes to escape and goes up top, only to have his springboard blocked. A sunset flip gives Martin two and a poisonrana out of the corner staggers Black.

With Black out on the ramp, Martin hits a springboard flip dive (with a bit of a slip) to drop him again. Back in and a double springboard moonsault misses for Martin, setting up a slugout. Black kicks him down and scores with a top rope double stomp, setting up a kick to the head. There's a hard German suplex to drop Martin hard so he heads up top. That's broken up with a super hurricanrana but Black is right back with a half crab. Martin escapes again and tries to go up again, only to get caught with Black Mass (Rush is NOT pleased) for the pin at 9:37.

**Rating:** B. They pulled me into this one as I wasn't exactly thinking that it was great at the start. That was all changed by the end as these guys were beating the heck out of each other, with one big spot after another. I didn't buy Martin as possibly winning, but it would have been too much of a stretch to have that take place anyway. Rather good match here as Black continues to prove that WWE was totally wrong about him every single week.

Post match Black goes to leave but stops to nod at Martin in respect.

The Jurassic Express talks about being banged up but the Elite comes in to beat them down. Kenny Omega manages to powerbomb Luchasaurus through the table to show that he can do it.

Here is the Inner Circle, fresh off their loss last night, to quite the reception. Santana isn't happy about American Top

Team, which brings them out with Dan Lambert to brag about their MMA success. Jericho tells us to welcome the “fat faced dip\*\*\*\*” and yes the fans chant the name. Jericho accuses Paige Vanzant of having a thing for him, but he wouldn’t touch her with her husband’s genitalia. Punk: “I don’t believe him. I think he would.”

The challenge is on for the ten man tag but Lambert insults the team, including talking about the size of Jake Hager’s head. Lambert is down if the Inner Circle will accept their challenge, but he’ll give them the terms next week. Scorpio Sky says he has pinned Chris Jericho twice, but the fans think he still sucks. Sammy Guevara is ready to fight right now and he’ll see them next week. Vanzant continues to look like a star every time she’s on camera.

#### AAA Tag Team Titles: Lucha Bros vs. Las Super Ranas

The Ranas (the Super Frogs) are two guys in green suits with masks and challenging. Punk: “I don’t know if the Lucha Bros care, but that’s clearly FTR.” We’ll say #1 starts with Fenix, who spins the arm around to start until #1 takes him down and goes for the mask. A victory roll faceplant takes #1 down and everything breaks down, with the Bros going for the masks. Commentary confirms that it’s FTR, mainly due to the lack of flips. The masks come off and FTR clotheslines the Bros down to take over as we go to a break.

Back with Fenix getting dropped ribs first on top but Penta is back in for the brawl. Fenix gets a running start to springboard onto both of them, setting up the Lucha version of What’s Up. Everything breaks down and FTR tries to bring in the belts, only to get kicked down in a hurry. Cue Tully Blanchard (in matching green) for a distraction though, allowing Harwood to belt Fenix out of the air. A brainbuster gives Harwood the pin and the titles at 8:14.

**Rating:** C+. The frogs deal was weird but points for a surprise



title change. FTR getting some gold is certainly a nice thing to see and I could go for another match between these two. The AAA Tag Team Titles have enough meaning for this to be an important win so nice job in a surprise, even if it doesn't last long. It was also nice for commentary to sound smart, as they weren't exactly fooled by the disguises.

Lio Rush says Dante Martin failed because he screwed up but Martin can be successful if he just listens. From this point forward, they're tag partners, though Martin doesn't seem convinced.

Andrade and FTR celebrate the win. MJF comes in to celebrate with them and gets paid by Andrade, seemingly to rent FTR for the night. MJF's horrible Spanish is that much better.

#### Wheeler Yuta vs. Jon Moxley

Moxley jumps him to start, puts Yuta down, and finishes with the Paradigm Shift at 1:11. Well that worked, though Orange Cassidy staring down at Moxley as Yuta is checked on by the medics seems to give us a future.

Serena Deeb beat Hikaru Shida last week but she's not happy with how the division has been since she went on sabbatical. It was time to drag the division back up but here is Shida to jump her from behind.

#### Dark Order vs. Superkliq

It's Evil Uno, Alex Reynolds and John Silver for the team here but the Superkliq jump them before the bell. Silver escapes the TripleBomb (because the Elite is the Shield these days) on the ramp with Reynolds coming in to help out. They get back inside for the opening bell and Cole gets triple dropkicked to the floor. We settle down to Silver having to kick all three of them away but a Don Callis distraction lets Matt kick him down.

Cole cuts off Reynolds' dive with an enziguri and it's a double superkick into a brainbuster onto the knee on the floor to drop him again. JR: "You might want to bother counting." More kicks and shots to the face have Silver in trouble and we take a break. Back with Nick losing a shoe as Silver makes the comeback, allowing the tag to Uno. That means a full on Mr. Socko return, because AEW doesn't like to put together the most unique stuff. Uno runs wild for a bit until a few more shots cut him (and the crowd) off.

Cole gets Uno in a camel clutch and the Bucks load up the double kiss, but the rest of the Order takes their place for the kiss instead. A double backdrop puts Cole on the floor and the Order gets to pose for a change. Something Evil gets two on Cole as everything breaks down again. The Order is sent outside and get take out by dives, leaving Cole to kick Reynolds down. A rollup gives Reynolds two and he knees Cole in the face for a bonus. The Bucks are back in with superkicks and the Panama Sunrise into the BTE Trigger into the Boom finishes for Cole at 10:48.

**Rating:** C+. I can forgive the Superkliq for not exactly taking the Dark Order seriously but they ultimately had to put in some effort to win. Cole getting the pin works as well as he continues to pad his resume while the Bucks take a bit of a step back from him. Silver continues to look like a star, though I'm not sure how much of a future he has in this 837 member group.

Post match here is Jungle Boy to go after the Superkliq, who run off because he grabs a chair. Brandon Cutler is left alone to try the cold spray, which is blocked by the chair. The Snare Trap has Cutler in trouble, with Boy adding the spray to Cutler's eyes. Now see how easy it is to make Jungle Boy look good? Get rid of the freak show and he's a star. It's not that hard.

Cody Rhodes appears at his wrestling academy, where his fellow

coaches (or maybe students) aren't happy with him. Arn Anderson puts him through a drill where everyone goes after him one at a time. Cody wants to know what this is supposed to teach him so Anderson pulls out a photo of Dusty Rhodes beating him up back in the day. Arn talks about how Cody never wanted to disappoint kids, but would kids have thought Dusty was bad for busting Arn open that night? Of course not, because Arn had it coming. Malakai Black has it coming too.

Here is MJF to say he is stuck in a place that smells like hookers and gasoline. He doesn't like not being announced for his match, even though there is no match scheduled. Punk: "You know how I can tell? No Wardlow." MJF doesn't think Darby Allin is ready to fight him so maybe he did break Allin mentally. After telling a fat guy to shut up, MJF feigns shock over hearing about Allin being attacked last week. MJF: "TONY SCHIAVONE! DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS???"

MJF is going to give us a match with Allin, so Wardlow brings out a referee to count the ten. The count is on...and here's Sting to answer. A baseball bat shot to the ribs drops Wardlow and MJF runs into the snow. MJF teases running back in but runs despite Sting dropping the bat, much to commentary's disgust.

Britt Baker interrupts Anna Jay's interview and talks about how the Superkliq beat the Dark Order. Anna: "They are not losers!" Baker talks more trash and the fight is on with referees breaking it up in a hurry.

### Kiera Hogan vs. Penelope Ford

The Bunny is here with Ford. Hogan grabs a headlock to start as Punk wants to know if there is any relation, though commentary isn't sure which Hogan he could possibly mean. Tony is right there to bring them back to focus on the TBS Title as Ford misses a running boot in the corner, setting up a takedown to give Hogan two. Ford bulldogs her into the corner

to take over again though and we go to a break. Back with Hogan hitting a superplex but not being able to follow up. A sliding kick to the face in the corner rocks Ford for two more but Ford hits a running cutter. The Muta Lock finishes Hogan at 7:53.

**Rating:** D+. Not the best match here, but neither of these two are exactly known as a ring general. They were both trying but ultimately you're only going to be able to get so much out of them. Hogan is someone who has potential due to her amazing charisma and it's clear that AEW sees a lot in Ford. Keeping it short was the right call here, and it's not like this dragged down the show.

Post match here is Ruby Soho to jump Ford in revenge from last night. The beating is on but the Bunny comes out to...do nothing actually.

Miro isn't sure what happened that caused him to lose the TNT Title. He thinks his God has turned on him because he was given a body of granite and a neck of sand. Miro will either be a champion or an enemy and it is time to destroy. He hasn't seen his wife since losing the title and he will not again until he is God's favorite champion again.

Here is Hangman Page for a chat. Tony Schiavone recaps Page's feud with Kenny Omega, leaving Page to talk about how the Elite left their home in Ring of Honor in 2019. Their world changed and then he lost his big matches on the way. It felt like he started to lose a bit more, including his confidence. The one thing that it felt like he never lost was the fans chanting COWBOY S\*\*\*, which means we have to pause for a chant.

That meant taking his shot on day one and learning to let the past live in the past and accept new friends in his life. It meant taking his chance to stick his neck out like his friends did so many times. It means having the guts to go back home

for the birth of his son, but last week he finally picked up the phone and took a shot.

Page feels the people still believe in him though, and for the first time in his life, he does too. The promise he can make is that he will give us everything at Full Gear, including COWBOY S\*\*\*! This was a heck of a promo and it was nice to have Page finally say these things instead of having to figure out the big story for ourselves. It wasn't hard to figure out, but it's nice to hear it from the source for a change.

Here's what's coming next week, including Malakai Black vs. Cody Rhodes III and tournament matches.

#### Bryan Danielson vs. Bobby Fish

Feeling out process to start with Fish's headlock not working, as Danielson kicks him into the corner. Back up and Fish strikes away, only to get knocked outside. Fish gets posted but is fine enough to cut off the running knee from the apron as we take a break. Back with Fish working on the knee and hitting a sliding lariat for two more.

The half crab goes on but Danielson is back up with a suplex to send Fish flying. Danielson evens things up by wrapping the knee around the post but Fish is back in with a backdrop driver. Fish takes him up top for a super Falcon Arrow and starts tying up the knee. They both get kneebars until Danielson kicks him in the head for the break. A heel hook makes Fish tap at 12:28.

**Rating:** B. Fish got in a lot here, which is the kind of thing that makes AEW work so well. They know how to make someone look good in defeat, albeit in a match they had no business winning. There is nothing wrong with Fish losing to a much bigger star and Danielson gets a win over someone with some name value. AEW has figured out that formula and that is a great thing to see.

With less than a minute to go in the show, here is the bracket for the #1 contenders tournament:

10

Jon Moxley

Orange Cassidy

Powerhouse Hobbs

Dustin Rhodes

Bryan Danielson

Lance Archer

Eddie Kingston

That's....interesting. I guess?

**Overall Rating:** B. Not so great brackets aside, this was another good show from AEW, who don't seem to know how to had a bad one these days. They throw in at least two exciting matches to keep you hooked and the rest is all gravy. The title change was a nice surprise too, though I'm not completely sure why the frog suits were included. Anyway, another good night here, as AEW is on fire (again).

### Results

Malakai Black b. Dante Martin – Black Mass

Las Super Ranas b. Lucha Bros – Brainbuster to Fenix

Jon Moxley b. Wheeler Yuta – Paradigm Shift

Superkliq b. Dark Order – Boom to Reynolds

Penelope Ford b. Kiera Hogan – Muta Lock

Bryan Danielson b. Bobby Fish – Heel hook

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# Judgment Day 2007 (2021 Redo): The Cooling Off Period

## Judgment Day 2007

Date: May 20, 2007

Location: Scottrade Center, St. Louis, Missouri

Attendance: 10,500

Commentators: Jim Ross, Michael Cole, Taz, Joey Styles, Jerry Lawler, John Bradshaw Layfield

It's another B show but this one is trending more towards B-territory. The main events will see John Cena defending against Great Khali and Edge defending against Batista. Neither of those exactly sound like must see main events, but I've certainly heard of worse cards. Maybe the rest can pick up the slack. Let's get to it.

The opening video talks about not knowing what is on the other side while looking at the main events.

## Ric Flair vs. Carlito

Carlito turned on Flair to split up their team and it's time for revenge. JR says Flair deserves to be in all the Halls of Fame. I remember him getting inducted into the Paperboy Hall

of Fame a few years back in a touching ceremony. Carlito goes right after him to start but gets chopped outside in a hurry. Back in and Carlito takes him down by the arm for some hammerlocking. The arm is sent into the apron and Carlito forearms away in the corner.

The fans are behind Flair but get quieted down when the arm is wrapped around the post. There's a hammerlock slam but Flair comes back up with the good arm for a single chop. That's all Carlito is going to give up at the moment though as he dropkicks Flair into the corner and goes right back to the arm. Another comeback is cut off as JR sums up the match: Flair is getting one shot in for every two or three from Carlito. The armbar goes on again and an elbow to the face gives Carlito two.

Flair chops his way out of the corner but Carlito cuts him off again with a backdrop. We hit another armbar before Carlito stomps on the arm and grabs a keylock. Flair fights up again with more chops and right hands, plus an elbow to the jaw. There's the chop block but Carlito cuts him off with a thumb to the eye. The Backstabber is blocked though and Flair stomps on the leg. More stomping sets up the Figure Four for the tap.

**Rating:** C. Can we please give up on Carlito already? It's pretty clear that WWE isn't going to give him a big push (which I can understand) and now he has one of the better matches in his WWE run but loses clean to Flair. I'm fine with Flair winning, but it's getting a little tiring to watch Carlito get dead end push after dead end push.

Shawn Michaels looks back at being hurt by Great Khali and then kicked in the head by Randy Orton....and gets jumped by him again, leaving Shawn laying.

We recap Bobby Lashley vs. Vince McMahon/Shane McMahon/Umaga. The trio beat Lashley last month to give Vince the ECW World Title and an angry Lashley is out for revenge. And the title,



but that might be implied. Vince has been an amazing heel as the champion and it's about as perfect of a troll job as you could hope to see.

### ECW World Title: Vince McMahon/Shane McMahon/Umaga vs. Bobby Lashley

Lashley is challenging and sends Umaga outside to start. The McMahons are tossed around, with Shane having to save Vince from destruction. That earns Shane an overhead belly to belly and there's a spear to cut off the invading Umaga. The running powerslam pins Shane in less than a minute and a half.

Post match Umaga takes Lashley down again and Vince says Lashley didn't pin Vince so that isn't a title change. Better luck next time as the amazing trolling continues. Of note: Vince lost his stylish doorag in there and most of his hair has grown back.

Shawn Michaels is told he can't wrestle tonight.

### CM Punk vs. Elijah Burke

Punk, with bad ribs coming in, joined Burke's New Breed but turned on them in about a week. Burke goes straight for the ribs but Punk puts on a headlock to cut him off. Some kicks stagger Burke and it's a quick breather for a standoff. Burke goes after Punk's ribs to slow him down, only to get kicked right back down. The chinlock goes on but Burke comes back with more shots to the ribs. Said ribs are fine enough for a t-bone suplex and Punk hits a running elbow in the corner.

A delayed vertical suplex drops Burke for two, though Tazz thinks that might have hurt Punk's ribs even more. We hit the chinlock but Burke is right up with some shots to the face. Again Punk comes right back with a spinning middle rope crossbody but Burke tosses him over the top, with Punk landing on the steps for a nasty crash. That's not enough to slow Punk down again though as he slides in with a sunset flip (minus

the flip) for two more. The GTS is countered so Punk tosses him outside instead, setting up the suicide dive.

Back in and Punk goes up again, only to get pulled down for a hard crash onto the ribs. Burke starts ripping at the tape (maybe they're the source of Punk's powers) and puts on a waistlock. A belly to back suplex gets two on Punk and the fans chant for JBL. Burke is smart enough to grab a bodyscissors while the fans get it out of their system before cutting off a charging Punk.

They head up top, where Punk hits a top rope superplex, only to bang up his ribs again. Back up and Punk gets two off an enziguri, setting up the running knee in the corner. The GTS is countered into the Elijah Experience for two so Burke puts him on top, setting up the Elijah Express in the Tree of Woe. The delayed cover gets two and another Elijah Experience is countered into the GTS to give Punk the pin.

**Rating:** C+. The first half of this was weird as Punk didn't seem like he was going to sell a bullet to the ribs, let alone anything Burke threw at him. Things got better later on and they settled into a nice match, with Punk vanquishing Burke after some work. This should free up Punk to move into the ECW Title picture, at least once the McMahons are out of the there. Good match, at least once Punk stopped being a superhero.

Edge brags about his recent accomplishments and promises to retain the title against Batista.

### Randy Orton vs. Shawn Michaels

Shawn isn't here to start due to not being cleared...but here he is anyway, looking totally out of it (which would have meant something very different for Shawn back in the day). Shawn insists that the bell ring and Orton drops him with one shot. Shawn has to pull himself up on the apron and the hanging DDT drops him hard again.

Commentary already wants this stopped as Orton kicks Shawn in the head again. Orton loads up the RK0 but lets Shawn drop out of near pity. Shawn has to go to the eyes to break up a super RK0 and manages to shove Orton off the top. The top rope elbow connects and Shawn somehow picks himself up in the corner. Sweet Chin Music is loaded up...and Shawn collapses, which is enough for the referee to call the match.

**Rating:** C. I have no idea how to rate something like this as it was much more of an angle than a match. Shawn hit about one move, but that's exactly the point of something like this. It was complete destruction and makes Orton look great, so well done on all fronts here, even if it was barely a match.

Post match Orton hits an RK0, causing Shawn's wife to come out and cry. Shawn is taken out on a stretcher, which allowed him to go off for a few months for knee surgery.

Great Khali, holding the WWE Title, which isn't his, says if John Cena wants some, he can come get some.

#### Raw Tag Team Titles: Hardys vs. Lance Cade/Trevor Murdoch

Cade and Murdoch are challenging after having been sneakily respectful to the Hardys as of late. Matt and Cade start things off with Cade grabbing a headlock takeover. That doesn't last long as Matt is right back up for a standoff. JBL's strategy for Cade and Murdoch: drink beer and knock people's teeth out. Simple yet effective. The pace picks up and Matt gets taken into the corner for some arm cranking from both villains. A hard forearm to Cade's face lets the tag bring in Jeff as things actually slow down for a change. JBL: "You never know what this tattooed up freak is going to do."

A hiptoss drops Jeff again but Murdoch doesn't follow up, which is still a bit strange to see. It's back to Matt for a clothesline and it's time to work on the arm. The middle rope elbow to the back of the neck gives Matt two but Cade comes in off a blind tag to run Matt over. A dropkick gives Cade two

and it's back to Murdoch as the villains start taking turns. Murdoch's Vader Bomb hits raised knees though and it's back to Jeff to start cleaning house.

The slingshot dropkick in the corner gets two on Murdoch and the Hardys clear the ring in a hurry. JBL: "What would you call that move that Jeff Hardy did?" Cole: "Good." JBL: "That was too easy." Cade and Murdoch tease walking out but come back in so Jeff can grab a headlock. That's broken up and Murdoch sends Jeff outside...as the fans sing the Goodbye Song for some reason.

Cade takes Jeff back inside to drop some knees on the back and Murdoch puts on the chinlock. A kick to the face gives Murdoch two and the Code Red/Canadian Destroyer (or somewhere in the middle) gets two. Jeff jawbreaks his way to freedom and there's the hot tag to Matt. The Side Effect gets two on Cade but he's right back with a spinebuster to put Matt down for the same. Not that it matters as it's a Twist of Fate into the Swanton to give Jeff the retaining pin.

**Rating:** B-. Rather nice old school formula tag match here with the Hardys winning to hopefully wrap this up. At the end of the day though, there is only so much that you can do when the division only has a handful of teams. The Hardys can work with anyone, but who else is there to work with at the moment? Cade and Murdoch are a good old school southern style tag team too and that is always going to work.

Batista is voted most likely to win a title tonight.

We recap Edge vs. Batista for the Smackdown World Title. Edge won the Money in the Bank briefcase on Raw and then cashed it in later in the week to win the title from Undertaker. Now it's time for Batista to get his shot, as he and Undertaker had gone to a draw just before the cash-in.

Smackdown World Title: Edge vs. Batista

Edge is defending and you can see him panic just a bit when Batista's music hits (he was always great at the facial expressions). We actually get the instructions from the referee for a bit of old school flavor. Edge hides in the ropes to start as commentary gets in an argument over how much of a champion Edge really is. More bailing to the ropes keeps Batista (with a taped up knee) from getting very far to start so he puts Edge on top instead.

With nothing else working, Batista finally hammers away in the corner and then throws Edge outside. Edge sends the bad knee into the steps to slow Batista down and a missed charge into the post makes things even worse. That gives Edge a new target and the Fujiwara armbar keeps Batista in trouble. It's switched over into a hammerlock but Batista is back up with shoulders to the ribs in the corner.

Batista clotheslines Edge out of the air and it's time to slug it out. A powerslam gives Batista two but Edge counters a second attempt into the Edge O Matic for two of his own. The spear cuts Edge in half for two more and Batista hits the spinebuster, only to hurt his own knee. The delay lets Edge pull Batista into a rollup with trunks to retain.

**Rating:** C-. This was a good example of a match that didn't work because there wasn't much of a story. They were fighting over the title, but their story was set up via a two minute promo on Smackdown. I know they didn't have the time to do anything more, but it left this one really lacking. Edge retaining works just fine as he needs to be established as champion, though it was a pretty lame way to get there.

The WWE Divas are polled on John Cena vs. Great Khali. It's split, though Maria votes for Batista. For some reason this is edited off of the Peacock version, and I would really hope it isn't over Victoria and Melina picking Khali because he's "really really big."

## US Title: MVP vs. Chris Benoit

Benoit is defending (with a bad knee after Smackdown) and it's 2/3 falls. They fight over a lockup and head outside for a second, only to come back in for a standoff. MVP has to bail to the rope to escape the Crossface before grabbing a headlock takeover. With that not working, MVP takes him down by the knee but Benoit grabs the arm to escape. MVP goes right back to the knee but Benoit is right back with the rolling German suplexes.

The knee gives out though, leaving Benoit to switch to the Crossface instead. A rope gets MVP out of trouble and it's time to stomp on the knee some more. MVP misses the running boot in the corner and has to escape the Sharpshooter. Instead, MVP goes up top and gets caught in an electric chair, only to have the knee give out. The Playmaker gives MVP the first fall and we get a one minute rest period.

MVP is right back on the leg to keep Benoit in trouble and he gets tied in the Tree of Woe. A kneebar keeps Benoit in trouble and we get what sounds like a "THIS IS BORING" chant. Benoit fights up but gets pulled straight into a stretch muffler. The rope gets Benoit out of trouble but MVP is right back on the knee. Another twist of the knee sets up a small package to give MVP the second fall and the title.

**Rating:** C+. This was almost a sequel from Benoit vs. Finlay on Smackdown and it wasn't that much better. There is something off in Benoit as of late and that is going to get sad in a hurry. For now that, MVP winning is a great thing as he FINALLY gets something after weeks of losing almost everything. You can only do so much with him when he can't win a thing so this was a much needed statement.

We recap John Cena vs. Great Khali for the Raw World Title. Khali took out Edge, Randy Orton and Shawn Michaels before dropping Cena on the same night. Cena knows he's going to get

destroyed here but is never one to back down from a challenge.

### Raw World Title: John Cena vs. Great Khali

Khali is challenging but comes in holding the title itself. There is something to be said about the shots of the fans, including one woman, going absolutely coconuts for Cena's entrance. That is the kind of thing that a lot of wrestlers wish they could do but only a handful can actually make happen. They do the big staredown to start and Cena's shots to the chest have no effect. Khali's clothesline has quite the effect though and a right hand puts Cena down again. Cena gets knocked outside for a ram into the steps for two back inside and Khali drops a big leg for the same.

A shot to the knee staggers Khali though and Cena manages the Throwback, only to get kicked in the head. The nerve hold has Cena in more trouble but he powers up for some running shoulders. The big shoulder ties Khali up in the ropes and Cena is smart enough to unload as fast as he can. Khali gets an arm free to knock him away but the big chop is blocked. They fall outside again and Khali grabs the steps, only to have them dropkicked into his face. Back in and Cena scores with the top rope Fameasser (with the fans WAY into the fast comeback), setting up the STFU to retain the title.

**Rating:** C. It's probably Khali's best match ever, though that isn't exactly a high bar to clear. What matters here is that Cena escapes over a monster and got a good(ish) match out of him, as Khali mainly stood there while Cena flew around. They were smart to keep this short, and dang the crowd being into this helped a lot. Not a great match, but given their situation, it was about as good as it was going to get.

Replays wrap us up, complete with a cut from Cena putting the STFU on to the hold actually being on because WWE likes to cut a lot.

**Overall Rating:** C+. There was enough good action on here to

keep me interested, but it was definitely a step down after the last few big shows. Nothing on here felt like you needed to see it and that is not the best feeling. It was certainly a lower level pay per view and having One Night Stand coming up just two weeks later is not going to make things better. Decent show, but not really worth your time.

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## Smackdown – May 18, 2007: The New/Wrong Direction

### Smackdown

Date: May 18, 2007

Location: 1st Mariner Arena, Baltimore, Maryland

Commentators: Michael Cole, John Bradshaw Layfield

It's the go home show for Judgment Day and I'm not sure what



that is going to entail. Everything was shaken up last week when Edge won the World Title from Undertaker, who seems to be going on the shelf. Edge is going to be defending against Batista on Sunday, meaning it's time for the rapid fire build. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a recap of last week's cage match, Mark Henry's return, and Edge's Money in the Bank cash-in to take the title from Undertaker. That was a heck of a way to wrap up the night.

Opening sequence.

MVP vs. Matt Hardy

MVP grabs some headlock takeovers to start but gets armdragged away to give us a standoff. Some right hands put Hardy into the corner as commentary ignore the match to talk about Edge (it would be during a Matt match). A snapmare sets up the neck crank but Matt fights up in a hurry.

Matt drops MVP again and hits a middle rope legdrop for two as the fans aren't exactly thrilled with this. MVP gets in a few kicks and drops an elbow for two, setting up the neck crank. That's broken up and Matt hits an elbow of his own for two of his own. You don't do that to MVP though as he kicks Hardy in the head to send him outside.

We take a break and come back with MVP getting some more near falls, setting up a running boot to the face in the corner for two more. Matt can barely stand up but the referee lets him continue, as the referee continues to not be that sympathetic. An uppercut drops Hardy as commentary is wanting the match to be stopped. MVP hits a fireman's carry drop but somehow Matt is up with a Side Effect for two of his own. The bulldog out of the corner and a middle rope elbow get two each but MVP sends him into the post. The Playmaker is enough to finish

Hardy.

**Rating:** C+. This was the kind of win that MVP has been needing as it made him look a lot more intense on the way to the (next) title match with Chris Benoit. MVP has not exactly been seen as a vicious guy so far and it's nice to have him do something like this over an established name like Hardy. Good match with a good story, and that's what they should have done.

Post match MVP talks about how the deck is stacked against him but beating Chris Benoit will only solidify his greatness.

We get a quick highlight reel of Edge's World Title moments.

We see some exclusive footage from the after last week's show, with druids carrying Undertaker away. There are various clips of the big beatdown/Undertaker's career included.

Jimmy Wang Yang/Brian Kendrick/Paul London vs. Deuce N Domino/Chavo Guerrero

London, with a goatee, starts with Chavo and snaps off a headscissors out of the corner. A rollup gives London one and it's off to Yang for a high crossbody to Deuce. Domino offers a distraction though and Kendrick gets knocked down to put the villains in control for a change. Kendrick fights out of the corner in a hurry though and it's off to Yang to clean house. Chavo cuts him off with a suplex but everything breaks down, with Yang hitting a top rope moonsault press for the fast pin.

**Rating:** C-. This feels like something that we've seen a dozen or so times in recent months. It was nice to mix up a pair of feuds instead of doing the singles deals again, but the Cruiserweight Champion taking another fall is hardly the most original idea. I'm sure Yang will get a short and technically sound title shot but it isn't like it's going anywhere further. Just find a new way to present the title and the division, because this isn't helping anyone.

Mark Henry says this is a jungle and he has no predators because he is the king.

### Mark Henry vs. Funaki

Funaki bounces off of him to start and is promptly hammered down. The World's Strongest Slam finishes for Henry in about a minute. That's how it should have gone.

Raw Rebound.

### Finlay vs. Chris Benoit

Non-title. Feeling out process to start until Benoit just hits him in the face to turn violent. Finlay sweeps the leg and pulls on the knee a bit, even with Benoit chinlocking him from the mat. Benoit reverses into a chinlock so Finlay goes to the ropes, setting up a chinlock of his own. That's broken up so they head outside with Benoit being sent knees first into the steps. Back in and Finlay goes right back to the knee, unfortunately with the same hold.

Benoit fights up again and avoids a charge in the corner, setting up the German suplex. The knee won't let him hit another one though, meaning he has to settle for Three Amigos. It's time to load up the Swanton but the knee slows Benoit down again, allowing Finlay to knock him off the apron for the crash. Back in and Finlay grabs another leglock to send us to a break.

We come back with more of the same hold until Benoit fights up again. Some chops don't do much to Finlay who, say it with me, takes him down to work on the leg again. Benoit gets up again and hits an enziguri, setting up the rolling German suplexes. Cue Hornswoggle, who gets taken down for a Sharpshooter attempt. Finlay uses the distraction to grab the Shillelagh but Benoit reverses into the Crossface. Cue MVP for the DQ.

**Rating:** C. As soon as I saw Benoit vs. Finlay, my expectations

went up. It's one of those matches that should be pretty great no matter what they do, but then it just wasn't very good. Most of the match was spent with Finlay working the leg, which is fine in theory but gets pretty repetitive in a hurry. The match was far from awful, but it was pretty boring and that's not what you expect from these two.

Post match Benoit goes after MVP but Finlay gets in a Shillelagh shot to the knee. MVP leaves Benoit laying.

Ozzy Osborne is here to perform the Judgment Day theme song so Jillian Hall tries to audition for him.

Ashley introduces Ozzy Osborne for I Don't Wanna Stop. Performing ensues and I'll have the chorus stuck in my head all day.

We get another movie trailer for Edge's inaugural address later tonight.

#### Miz vs. Christian York

Miz clotheslines him down to start but misses an elbow that takes its time being set up. Back up and Miz hits a running corner clothesline but pulls York up at two. A swinging neckbreaker finishes York in a hurry. This was the much more serious version of Miz and even JBL has to compliment him a bit.

Timbaland will have a music video featuring some WWE Divas.

Krystal thanks Teddy Long for giving Vickie Guerrero the chance to be his assistant. Vickie comes in so Krystal leaves, with Teddy saying he isn't sure about this. He knows the history of the Guerrero family but Vickie wants the chance to change the perception about the family. After some sucking up about Krystal, Teddy agrees to give her the interview.

Another Edge video.

## Kane vs. William Regal

Boogeyman, Little Boogeyman and Dave Taylor are here as I had no idea this feud went on for so long. Regal slugs away to start and actually strikes him down in a bit of a surprise. Some more shots keep Regal down and we hit the chinlock as JBL still seems to be scared of the Boogeyman.

Kane fights up and tries the chokeslam but is quickly countered into an exploder suplex. They slug it out until Kane kicks him in the face and scores with the side slam. The top rope clothesline connects but Taylor offers a distraction to give Regal a breather. Taylor throws Little Boogeyman inside but the distraction lets Kane hit a chokeslam for the pin.

**Rating:** C. This was another kind of weird match as Regal was nearly squashing him until Kane made his comeback. You don't often see something like that but it was actually working well enough. Kane and Boogeyman are growing on me as the freak show pairing and it's not like the tag division has any kind of depth otherwise, so why not see what they can do?

Worms are busted out post match.

Judgment Day rundown.

Teddy Long brings out Edge for his inaugural address. Edge says he'll handle the introduction before saying that HE is YOUR World Heavyweight Champion. He is ashamed to be a Canadian citizen (but he would be ashamed to be American too) because he never gets any respect.

Another place he didn't get any respect was on Raw, where he beat everyone but still didn't get treated right. He'll take on all comers here, which gets Long's attention. Long reminds him of his upcoming title defense against Batista, which doesn't bother Edge. He beat Undertaker in three seconds after Batista couldn't do it in three months, so bring Batista on. Cue Batista to welcome Edge to Smackdown and promise to take

the title back on Sunday.

**Overall Rating:** C. This was a bit of a weird show as Judgment Day was already set, save for the main event, so they had to cobble something together at the last second. Edge vs. Batista is the only choice they had for the spot and the match should work out. Other than that, it was a totally ho hum edition of the show, which is kind of surprising after what they have been doing as of late. Not bad, but things feel like they have hit a bit of a wall for both shows this week.

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## ECW On Sci Fi – May 15, 2007: Replays And Glaring

ECW on Sci Fi

Date: May 15, 2007

Location: 1st Mariner Arena, Baltimore, Maryland

Commentators: Joey Styles, Tazz

It's the go home show for Judgment Day and Bobby Lashley is still chasing Vince McMahon and the ECW World Title. That has been a well done story so far and we could be in for even more of the same going forward, as the whole thing seems to have some legs, just because of how gleeful Vince seems to be as champion. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a recap of Bobby Lashley getting beaten down by Umaga and the McMahons last night on Raw.

Vince McMahon joins us from WWE headquarters and talks about how much of a fashion statement his doorag really is. He blames Bobby Lashley for needing it and Lashley must like seeing him in it. Well Vince likes what he saw happen to Lashley last night, which is why tonight it's Lashley vs. the New Breed in another handicap match. That's just a preview for Sunday though, where Vince will retain the title. Vince is just perfect in this role.

Opening sequence.

Rob Van Dam vs. Snitsky

Snitsky throws him down to start and stomps away, setting up some elbows for two. A suplex gets the same and Snitsky forearms away at the chest. Snitsky mixes things up a bit with a double underhook arm crank but Van Dam fights out and kicks away. The spinwheel kick and windmill kick drop Snitsky but Rolling Thunder misses. Instead Snitsky gets crotched on top off a missed boot and gets kicked outside. That's fine with Snitsky, who blasts him with a clothesline before adding a chair shot for the DQ.

**Rating:** C-. Snitsky had the right look to be a monster and

could do a good enough power match, so this was about as good as he was going to do. Van Dam has fallen pretty hard in the last few months and I'm not sure how much higher you can expect him to get at the moment. A win in a rematch over Snitsky might help, but I'm not sure if there is a magic formula for him around here.

Video on CM Punk.

### CM Punk vs. Stevie Richards

Punk has heavily taped ribs and strikes away to start but gets slowed down by the injury. Richards is smart enough to go after the ribs and try to rip off the tape, which only earns him more kicks to the ribs. The bow and arrow stays on the ribs and Richards gets creative with a jumping double stomp. An abdominal stretch doesn't last long but Richards misses a charge in the corner. Punk's neckbreaker out of the corner gets two but Richards hits a running dropkick. Punk has finally had it though and reverses a tornado DDT into the GTS for the pin.

**Rating:** C. This was a short match but they did it about as well as they could have. Richards didn't do anything outside of the logical path by working on Punk's injured ribs but he mixed it up a bit to keep things fresh. Rather nice match here all things considered and I would not have bet on that.

Elijah Burke fires up the rest of the New Breed, who don't seem entirely convinced at his leadership.

### Kevin Thorn vs. Nunzio

Ariel is here with Thorn, who powers him into the corner to start as the smoke from Thorn's entrance has to clear out. Nunzio's jawbreaker doesn't get him anywhere as he hits a spinning jackknife out of the corner (that looked good) and hits some crossface forearms. Nunzio swings away to no avail as the chinlock goes on. That's broken up but Thorn gets some



boots up in the corner. The Dark Kiss finishes Nunzio in a hurry.

**Rating:** D+. Nothing match here, as you might have guessed, but the interesting thing here is that Nunzio was replacing Sabu. It turns out that Sabu wasn't interested in losing to Thorn and was fired as a result. That is probably the best for everyone involved, as Sabu never fit in WWE and it isn't like he was doing anything important at the moment.

Weekly Condemned material.

Extreme Expose.

Here's the same video package that opened the show.

Bobby Lashley promises to end Vince McMahon on Sunday and get the ECW World Title back.

Judgment Day rundown.

### Bobby Lashley vs. New Breed

Before the match, Elijah Burke praises Marcus Cor Von and says they're getting there with Matt Striker. Burke starts going over his own resume but Striker handles the end of the introduction for him (while giving the fans an F for their lame effort). Cor Von likes Burke too and now it's time to go. Burke starts for the team and is powered into the corner in a hurry. The delayed vertical suplex keeps Burke in trouble so it's off to Cor Von for the power showdown.

Lashley leapfrogs Cor Von and elbows him in the face, which somehow makes Striker tag himself in. That means Striker can get a beating of his own but Cor Von sneaks in with the Pounce to send Lashley outside. The villains start taking turns on Lashley, who finally fights out of Cor Von's chinlock. The comeback doesn't last long as Cor Von knocks him down again, setting up the seated abdominal stretch. Lashley fights up again and starts pummeling Striker, including the spear for

the pin as Burke and Cor Von watch from ringside.

**Rating:** C-. Another match where they didn't have a lot of options and even the logical way to go was only so good. Lashley has been built up about as much as he can for a match like he has coming up so this was just the last thing he did rather than any major push. New Breed continues to fall apart, and that is a good thing as the team is ready to go on their separate ways.

Replays and glaring wrap up the show.

**Overall Rating:** C-. I wasn't feeling this one and that isn't a big surprise. It was pretty clear that Lashley vs. McMahon is the only real story on the show, so what else were they supposed to do for the rest of the hour? ECW does not have a lot of depth when it comes to stories. The matches themselves haven't been much either, leaving this as a not very surprising lackluster effort.

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# Daily News Update – October 16, 2021

Top WWE Star Injured Going Into Crown Jewel.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/top-wwe-star-injured-going-crown-jewel/>

Chris Jericho Taking Some Time Away From AEW TV Due To Fozzy Tour.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/chris-jericho-taking-time-away-aew-tv-due-fozzy-tour/>

AEW Has Several Contracts Expiring Within The Next Year.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aew-several-contracts-expiring-within-next-year/>

How Roman Reigns Is Viewed Backstage In WWE.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/roman-reigns-viewed-backstage-wwe/>

Paul Heyman Teases Surprising Addition To The Bloodline.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/paul-heyman-teases-surprising-addition-bloodline/>

Roman Reigns Slams CM Punk, Says A Match “Doesn’t Do Anything For Him”.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/roman-reigns-slams-cm-punk-says-match-doesnt-anything/>

AEW’s Cody Rhodes Says He’s Woody From Toy Story.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aews-cody-rhodes-says-hes-woody-toy-story/>

Backstage News On How WWE Views AEW Internally.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/backstage-news-wwe-views-aew-internally/>

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