

I'm Dropping Main Event

I'm a week behind with it already and I cannot bring myself to care to watch the same 6-10 minute matches with the same rotating cast. It has never been something people read anyway so I might as well drop it and free up some of my schedule.

Daily News Update – September 30, 2021

Monday Night Raw Star Undergoes Surgery.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/monday-night-raw-star-undergoes-surgery-2/>

Backstage News On Why Alexa Bliss Is Off WWE TV.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/backstage-news-alexa-bliss-off-wwe-tv/>

VIDEO: Title Change Takes Place On AEW Dynamite.

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

VIDEO: Another Former NXT Champion Coming To AEW.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-another-former-nxt-champion-coming-aew/>

Update On Randy Orton's WWE Status.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/update-randy-ortons-wwe-status/>

Another Former NXT Star Coming To AEW For Title Shot.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/sammy-guevaras-first-tnt-title-defense-former-nxt-star-next-week/>

WATCH: Emotional Speech After AEW Dynamite.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-emotional-speech-ae-dynamite/>

RUMOR: AEW's Creative Direction Has Changed In A Big Way.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/rumor-ae-ws-creative-direction-changed-big-way/>

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.](#)

Monday Night Raw – April 30, 2007: The One Night Whodunnit

Monday Night Raw

Date: April 30, 2007

Location: Gaylord Entertainment Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Commentators: Jim Ross, Jerry Lawler

We are officially done with Backlash and that means it is time to start getting ready for Judgment Day. The show is in less than three weeks so it is probably going to feature a lot of rematches/fallout from the rematch/fallout show. That might not be the best thing in the world but WWE has been on a roll as of late. Let's get to it.

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

John Cena, with his title, runs into Vince McMahon, the new ECW World Champion. Vince: "What up Holmes? Peace out! The champ is here!" Cena thinks that unless ECW stands for Extremely Crazy White Guy, all he is seeing is an old guy in a durag. Shawn Michaels comes in to say Cena got lucky last night and wants one more shot. Cena is down but Vince says not so fast, because he makes the matches around here. Let's do it one more time, but Shawn has to win a match to get a shot at Cena. Then the winner can come for the big one. Vince: "Peace out my brothers!" Cena: "Yeah he's lost it." He'll see Shawn later.

Opening sequence.

Edge vs. Randy Orton

Edge slaps him in the face to start and the chase is on around the ring. Back in and Orton pokes him in the eye (denying it of course) and the circle stomp is on. A knee drop gets two and it's time to hammer on Edge's head. Orton chokes on the middle rope and then snaps the neck across the rope to make it worse.

We take a break and come back with Orton being sent shoulder first into the post to give Edge a breather. A spear drives Orton off the apron and into the announcers' table for the big crash. With commentary taking a bit to come back, Edge only gets two inside. Edge's jumping knee gets two and the chinlock goes on. That's broken up so Edge drops him with a spinwheel kick, only to get crotched on top. Edge shoves him down but dives into a dropkick to leave them both down for a bit.

The slugout goes to Edge thanks to a thumb to the eye but Orton grabs a backbreaker for two. The powerslam gets the same so Edge snaps off the Edge-O-Matic for his own near fall. A double crossbody puts both of them down but it's Edge up first for an attempt to take the turnbuckle pad off. The referee

catches him though, allowing Orton to score with a hard clothesline. Edge counters some right hands in the corner to drop him face first onto the buckle, meaning we've got some blood. The Impaler gets two and, after countering an RK0, Edge spears him down for the pin.

Rating: B. These two beat each other up very well and that's the kind of thing that is always a nice idea. It felt like a big time match and odds are this is what we were going to see last week. If they had been able to do that match before a shorter but still great Cena vs. Michaels match, it could have been an all time classic Raw. Instead, it's a pair of awesome matches on back to back weeks.

We look at the end of Michaels vs. Cena from last week.

We look back at Bobby Lashley helping Santino Marella take the Intercontinental Title from Umaga.

Santino Marella is here for his first interview as champion, so we see him winning the title again. Santino talks about how he can't believe this is happening. His family is very happy but his first title defense is next week.

Last night at Backlash, Rob Van Dam talked about how happy Vince McMahon must be now that he has crushed ECW. It was counterculture and all about making wrestling fun again, but now Vince is ECW World Champion. This Vince As ECW Champion thing could have been AMAZING if ECW meant anything at this point.

Vince won't let Shane McMahon hold the ECW World Title belt because he's too annoyed at Van Dam. Tonight, Shane needs to make sure Van Dam is destroyed once and for all. Vince also thanks Shane for his help last night, prompting Shane to say he loves Vince and hug him. Vince freaks a bit but says Shane can hold the title. As Vince leaves, Shane can't help but start the ECW chants.

Edge is angry that Shawn Michaels is getting ANOTHER title shot when Edge didn't lose last night. He is going to insert himself back in the title picture whether anyone likes it or not. Get it? Got it? Good.

Jeff Hardy vs. Johnny Nitro

Lance Cade and Trevor Murdoch are on commentary and there are no seconds for a bit of a weird change. Hardy wastes no time with a Russian legsweep into the split legged cradle. Nitro is right back with some right hands as Cade and Murdoch are being especially respectful of Hardy. Hardy fights out of a chinlock and avoids a charge in the corner. The Whisper in the Wind drops Nitro again and a sitout gordbuster gives Hardy two. Nitro gets in a shot to the face and heads up, only to get backdropped down. The Swanton finishes for Hardy.

Rating: C. These two could have a passable match in their sleep and they had another completely acceptable one here. I'm not sure why the Hardys vs. Cade/Murdoch seems to be continuing, but it isn't like there is anything else to do in the tag division. There are a few teams here and there, but are any of them worthy of a title program? Maybe Cryme Tyme? Anyway, were you expecting Hardy vs. Nitro to be bad?

Post match, Cade and Murdoch try to show Jeff some respect but he leaves out of caution.

We see some stills of last night's pretty great main event.

Video on Vince McMahon winning the ECW World Title last night.

Rob Van Dam vs. Umaga

Shane McMahon handles Umaga's introduction. We're joined in progress with Van Dam kicking away but getting shoved off the top for the big crash into the barricade. Back in and Umaga slowly hammers away before cutting off a comeback attempt with the Samoan drop. For some reason Van Dam tries to slam Umaga,

which goes as well as you would expect. The sleeper on Umaga's back works slightly better until Van Dam gets rammed into the corner and tossed outside.

Umaga follows him outside and now the sleeper goes on again. This time Umaga rams Van Dam HARD into the steps for another break for a near countout. Back in and Umaga hits the running headbutt but misses the running hip attack in the corner. A basement dropkick and basement spinwheel kick have Shane panicking and Rolling Thunder gets two. Umaga's running splash hits the post and there's the Five Star but Umaga grabs the throat on the landing. Some choking sets up the Samoan Spike to put Van Dam away.

Rating: C+. It was short but hard hitting as Van Dam was a unique challenger to Umaga. That's what you want out of something like this, though Umaga beating the top ECW star so soon might have been a little rushed. Still though, Umaga gets back on the right path in a pretty good match so it was a good use of TV time.

Vince McMahon comes out to pose, still as the best heel in the company.

Torrie Wilson and Carlito come up to Ric Flair in the back and Flair isn't happy with Carlito for yelling at him in Spanish last week. Carlito apologizes, which is all Flair needed, but he has also gotten them a match tonight with the World's Greatest Tag Team. If it goes badly, they can go their separate ways. Flair gives him a pep talk, but says this is his last chance. Flair leaves and Torrie asks if this is a good idea. Carlito: "RELAX!"

Shawn Michaels vs. John Cena

Non-title....and non-match as there is no Shawn. We cut to the back where Shawn is out cold.

Post break, Coach accuses John Cena of taking Shawn out,

earning himself a grab by the shirt and a lift off the floor. Vince McMahon comes in to ask what is going on. Coach is going to find out what happened, but Vince wants Shawn wrestling TONIGHT. For some reason, Val Venis is there in street clothes checking on Shawn as well.

Ric Flair/Carlito vs. World's Greatest Tag Team

Torrie Wilson is here with Flair and Carlito. Flair starts with Haas and WOO's a bit before hiptossing Haas over. Benjamin comes in to choke Carlito on the ropes but a dropkick gives Carlito two. For some reason Carlito goes into the wrong corner and it's Haas coming back in to stomp away. A backbreaker gives Haas two and we hit the reverse chinlock. Benjamin's backbreaker gets two and we hit a chinlock with Benjamin's knee in the back. Carlito fights up and gets over to Flair for the tag as everything breaks down...and Carlito knocks Flair out with a left hand. The brawl is on and we have a no contest.

Rating: C-. Another watchable match which was only there for the angle at the end. Flair isn't doing anything important at the moment so a quick pay per view match with Carlito is a good way to go for him. The match itself was what you would expect, but Flair vs. Carlito is going to work out.

Flair and Carlito fight up the ramp, but Carlito rakes the eyes and escapes.

Now Edge has been attacked and Coach isn't sure what to do. He wants Randy Orton though.

We recap the attacks on Michaels and Edge.

Here's Mr. Kennedy who says he didn't do that. You won't find a glove that fits his hand, because he has this briefcase. Kennedy could have cashed in his briefcase at Backlash but he chose not to. How many fans would like to see him cash in his briefcase right here in Nashville, Tennessee? The fans approve

of the idea but that isn't going to happen.

Kennedy thinks it was wrong for Edge to wait until after John Cena had gone through an Elimination Chamber to cash in. He's going to be more fair and announce when he's cashing in. That would be in 335 days at Wrestlemania XXIV, when the new champion will be MR. KENNEDY!!! Kennedy.

Randy Orton has been attacked as well.

Coach comes in to recap the attacks to Vince McMahon, who says he knows who did it. Whoever did it did it because of John Cena, so Coach needs to send Cena to the ring to meet the man who did this.

Mickie James/Candice Michelle vs. Melina/Victoria

Candice chokes Victoria to no avail so it's off to Melina to miss a dropkick. Mickie comes in for some hair pulling and catfighting, which is not exactly Mickie's style. It's back to Victoria, who knocks Mickie outside and drives her into the apron. Melina grabs the cross arm choke but Mickie fights back up with a neckbreaker. That's enough for the hot tag to bring in Candice and everything breaks down. Mickie saves Candice from a double suplex and a rollup finishes Victoria.

Rating: D+. Candice was getting in a little offense here and there and that's probably a sign of the next push. It's easy to see why WWE would want to push her, though she still has a long way to go in the ring. Putting her in there with women like Mickie and Victoria will help a lot though so at least they have the right idea.

The ECW Originals don't like Vince McMahon as ECW World Champion. Tommy Dreamer cries, because he's Tommy Dreamer.

We recap tonight's attacks.

Here is John Cena to say whoever is behind this could have saved themselves a lot of time and come at him face to face.

He's ready to fight....and here's the Great Khali, which makes Cena swallow hard. Cena charges out to start the fight on the floor and gets knocked around. They head inside with Cena's flying shoulder having no effect, earning himself a clothesline. A big boot puts Cena down again but he fights up and manages to get him in the FU. That's broken up with elbows to the face though and the double chokeslam plants Cena to end the show.

Overall Rating: B-. The wrestling started good and then went downhill as the show went on, but I liked the one night mystery to set up Cena's next challenger. It's the definition of a spring/early summer title program and there is nothing wrong with that. Khali running through all four members of the fatal four way in one night is a great symbolic move and now we get to move on to what could be an interesting (not necessarily in a good way) title match. Overall, another good night, which is nice to see.

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New Column: The Gangrel Solution

Who knew the Fanged Freak could solve everything (with some help from the Rock)?

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/kbs-review-gangrel-solution/>

Dynamite – September 29, 2021: All The Feelings

Dynamite

Date: September 29, 2021

Location: Blue Cross Arena, Rochester, New York

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

AEW has been on a roll as of late and that means we could be in for something special tonight. I'm not sure what we are going to be seeing here, but it certainly could be a fun night. If nothing else, we're in Brodie Lee's hometown and that means we are probably going to be in for some tributes. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

We open with some BRODIE chants, which are just awesome.

Here's CM Punk, who will be on commentary tonight but can't

dive into the crowd because of the athletic commission.

Adam Cole vs. Jungle Boy

Feeling out process to start until Boy hits a heck of a chop into a springboard armdrag. A dropkick puts Cole on the floor and let's take a breather for a bit. Jungle follows him out and Cole kicks him down, setting up a neckbreaker back inside. The chinlock holds Boy in place for a bit but he is right back up with a shot to the face. Jungle hits a brainbuster into a belly to belly into the corner, followed by the rolling German suplexes for two.

Cole rolls his way out of a torture rack for two and hits the brainbuster onto the knee for two of his own. Jungle snaps off a poisonrana into a running forearm to the back of the head, setting up kind of an Angle Slam into a Death Valley Driver for two. Back up and Cole superkicks him out to the floor, leaving Jungle down for a good bit. The Panama Sunrise on the floor is broken up but Jungle's suicide dive is cut off by an enziguri.

Cole gets back on the apron so Jungle snaps off a running hurricanrana to the floor. Back in and Cole hits another enziguri, setting up the Panama Sunrise....for two. I'm not sure if someone should be kicking out of that so soon but Cole's stunned face made it a little better. Jungle pulls him into the Snare Trap but Cole slips out and kicks him outside. Back in and a low blow cuts Jungle down, leaving Cole to hit the Boom for the pin at 13:45.

Rating: B. This was a heck of a back and forth match, which is something that you can always go for around here. It was a lot of dives and flips and kicks to the face, but at least they were putting on an entertaining match. Jungle losing again isn't my favorite thing, but at least it was to someone like Cole, who is being pushed as a major star.

Post break here is the Elite and after a break, Karl Anderson

talks about how great the Elite is, including introducing most of the team. Anderson: "And of course Nak and Cutler." Cole talks about how he beat Jungle Boy on his own, because Bay Bay is elite and undefeated. The fans chant for Punk, who has not had the nicest things to say about the Elite so far.

Kenny Omega talks about how his social media has been blowing up over his match with Bryan Danielson last week. Last week might have been the greatest match in AEW history and he isn't surprised. Danielson cashed in on his promise to kick Omega's head in but he couldn't make it work when it counted. Since Danielson has no record though, he isn't getting a rematch and he'll never see Omega face to face again.

Cue Danielson to refer to the champ as Kenny "NO BALLS" Omega. Punk: "Well that's a t-shirt." Danielson issues the challenge to face any member of the Elite on Rampage but gets no takers. Instead, Omega wants to fight right now but Danielson calls out the reinforcements from the back and gets Frankie Kazarian, Christian Cage and Jurassic Express. The Elite bails from the fight of course.

Andrade interrupts the Lucha Bros and says they haven't defended their AAA Tag Team Titles in a long time. He has some friends if they're up for a defense, and the Bros seem down.

Matt Sydal/Dante Martin vs. Cody Rhodes/Lee Johnson

Cody headlocks Sydal to start and gets nowhere with it. Instead it's off to Sydal to headlock takeover Johnson, setting up a kick to the back. It's back to Martin to stare Johnson face to face and we take a break. Back with Cody getting the hot tag to clean house as commentary talks about how the fans aren't thrilled with Cody these days. Everything breaks down as Johnson and Sydal fight outside.

Martin missile dropkicks Cody for two and a double jump moonsault is good for the same. Johnson tags himself back in and gets kicked in the face by Sydal. That doesn't seem to

matter as Johnson kicks Sydal in the face, only to get rolled up by Martin for two more. Another superkick rocks Martin though and a fisherman's buster onto the knee finishes for Johnson at 7:45.

Rating: C+. They kept this moving and that was a good thing. Sometimes you don't need a match to keep going forever and that was the case here. Good little match, with Johnson getting to shine a bit and the fans' displeasure with Cody being highlighted for a change. That's interesting, and it's a smart path to take, even if it takes some time.

Post match Cody calls out Malakai Black but Arn Anderson tells him to shut up. Anderson talks about how Black has destroyed everything they love and Cody is missing the point. Black is an assassin who will take out everyone to win a match. Cody is the kind of person who would give up his car if someone tried to steal it but Anderson would shoot them in the head. He isn't going to coach a loser, so Johnson can leave with him.

Jon Moxley/Eddie Kingston/Darby Allin vs. Bear Country/Anthony Greene

Sting is here with Darby and company and it's a brawl to start, with Allin and Greene being left alone in the ring. That's fine with Allin, who gets two off of la majistral. An armdrag sends Greene down and we get a Ricky Steamboat reference. We settle down to Bear Country beating up Moxley but Kingston breaks up the double splash. The spinning backfist sets up a German suplex and the brawl heads to the floor. That leaves Greene alone with Moxley and Kingston, who shrug off a springboard spinning high crossbody attempt. The German suplex/lariat combination finishes Greene at 3:30.

Rating: C-. Mostly a squash here and that's all it needed to be. Sometimes your best bet is to get people on there on screen and let them do their thing, which is exactly what they did here. It wasn't a great match or anything, but it can be a

good idea to let big stars feel like big stars. Nice job, even if it was hardly a classic.

Post match Sting lays Greene out for a bonus.

Video on Ruby Soho vs. Britt Baker, with Soho promising to take the title.

Dark Order/Orange Cassidy vs. Hardy Family Office

Negative 1 is here with the team because AEW likes making its fans emotional. This is a sixteen man tag to make things a bit complicated and the Dark Order is already fighting among themselves. Alan Angels loses his mask and it's a suplex/top rope spear combination from Butcher and Blade for two. Private Party comes in to work on on Angels as we get a THANK YOU BRODIE chant.

Everything breaks down though and we take a break. Back with Jack Evans (Flippy McGillicutty according to Punk) coming in to pick up the pace until Evil Uno kicks him in the face. Alex Reynolds gets sent into Uno as the issues continue, so Cassidy comes in for the top rope thumbs up splash. Uno walks out on the match so some more of the Order goes to talk to him.

Evans flips over into a backslide for two on Cassidy as everything breaks down again. Uno keeps walking but cue Negative 1 and Amanda Huber (Brodie's widow) with 1 throwing the papers and Amanda telling the team to get it together. The Order charges the ring and cleans house, with the parade of secondary finishers. A series of strikes sets up a German suplex and the Fatality is good for the pin at 7:51.

Rating: A. This was all about the emotions and they nailed that on every level. I wasn't a big Lee fan but I was smiling throughout the entire thing, which is all it needed to be. Outstanding stuff here, with the Dark Order reunion bringing all the feelings. I loved this and they did exactly what they were trying to do.

Post match the Dark Order gets back together and it's about as cool as you can get.

Lio Rush is All Elite. Rush? Not actually retiring? I'm as stunned as you are.

FTR and Tully Blanchard are ready to show that they're the best again. Top guys out.

Here are Dan Lambert and the Men of the Year to talk about how Chris Jericho got kneed in the face by UFC's Jorge Mazvidal last week. The thing is, Jericho saved this promotion from itself and turned it into the hottest promotion anyone has seen in years. Then Jericho came after them and got beaten down like never before, leaving his earning potential the same as everyone here: zero. Now they have cut the head off of AEW and Tony Khan-man will have more trouble selling snake oil.

Scorpio Sky talks about how he was a star around here at the beginning and then he grabbed the giant Sonic ring, but it wasn't good enough. No one around here was paying attention, but Dan Lambert was watching. Lambert sees him as a main eventer, just like Ethan Page. That sends Page into a rant about how great he is at everything but he can't get an action figure or a spot in the opening video. He has the best smile around here and now he rolls with champions, because the Men of the Year are the Top Team.

Hikaru Shida is ready to get her 50th win in AEW, but she has to beat Serena Deeb next week on Dynamite's second anniversary show.

Penelope Ford/The Bunny vs. Tay Conti/Anna Jay

It's a brawl to start with the villains being sent into the corner. Tay tries to jump to the apron but falls down and comes up holding her knee. Ford kicks Anna into a neck snap from Bunny before dropping a knee. We take a break and come back with Ford and Conti coming in off the double tag. A

double suplex gets two on Ford but she Matrixes away from a clothesline and hits a Stunner on Jay. Ford's fireman's carry gutbuster gets two but she misses a moonsault. The TayKO knocks Bunny silly on the floor and the Dangerous Jay kick sets up the Queenslayer to finish Ford at 6:31.

Rating: C. This should be the end of the feud and that's how it should have gone. Conti and Jay are a good team for the young and plucky faces and that's what they did here. Ford and Bunny were a good obstacle for them to get by and it wound up being a completely watchable match as well.

Post match Negative 1 comes in to celebrate. Punk: "He's a smart kid."

Video on Thunder Rosa vs. Nyla Rose vs. Jade Cargill on Rampage.

Here is MJF for a chat. MJF doesn't think much of upstate New York and wants to talk about the four pillars of AEW. You have Jungle Boy ("Beat him."), Sammy Guevara ("Beat him."), Darby Allin ("....yeah whatever.") and the strongest pillar of them all, which is the man who was in the first match at All In, Maxwell Jacob Friedman himself. He is the past, present and future of AEW and that means he should be the AEW World Champion. Tony: "Earn that in the ring then dude." MJF teases talking to Bruce Prichard if he doesn't get a title shot, but here is Allin to interrupt.

MJF: "As much as I love the whole school shooter mime on a skateboard routine", he's not happy with the interruption. There is nothing wrong with being a #2 guy, like Mark Messier, Scottie Pippen, or Sting. MJF says he's the #1 guy, so Allin asks if MJF is done talking and tells him to go if he isn't happy. See, Allin is AEW for life until death, but he doesn't understand how MJF can be #1 when Allin is the only one of the two of them to win a title.

MJF appreciates the Batman voice and brings up Allin being

straightedge. We hear about Allin getting in a car with his drunk uncle as a kid and they got in an accident. The uncle died, and it's a travesty because the wrong man died. Allin says MJF isn't breaking him mentally, which sends MJF leaving. MJF was on fire here, even if he was going really far with some of these things.

Video on Sammy Guevara vs. Miro, which is fallout from Miro beating Fuego del Sol up to take his car. Guevara will buy him a new car if he wins.

TNT Title: Miro vs. Sammy Guevara

Guevara is challenging and they circle each other to start. A knee strike misses for Guevara and Miro takes him down for the stomping. Miro runs him over for two but Guevara is back up with a running crossbody to knock both of them outside. Guevara posts him hard and avoids a charge into the steps but Miro is fine enough to snap off a belly to belly back inside.

We take a break and come back with Guevara jawbreaking his way to freedom from a chinlock but Miro kicks him down again. That earns Miro a Spanish Fly and they're both down for a bit. There's a low superkick to rock Miro and a running knee does the same. Miro's missed charge sends him flying out to the floor so Guevara hits a HUGE flip dive to the floor. Back in and Guevara charges into a swinging release slam for two but Guevara blocks a superplex attempt.

A middle rope cutter can't keep Miro down and Guevara can't load up the GTS. The jumping superkick gives Miro two so Guevara rolls outside. That leaves Miro to pull off a turnbuckle pad, which brings out Fuego for a save. Guevara is back in with a jumping knee to send Miro into the exposed buckle. There's a tornado DDT into the GTH to drop Miro. The 630 gives Guevara the pin and the title at 13:42.

Rating: B. The best way I can describe this match is that it was a ride. I wanted to see if Guevara could pull off the

impossible here and win the title and you could feel the release of emotion when he actually pulled it off. It didn't feel like they rushed the title change either, and it would be fine if Miro gets the title back. If nothing else, they gave Guevara his big win and that's what matters most here.

A bunch of wrestlers come out to celebrate with Guevara to end the show.

Overall Rating: A-. I had a great time with this show as they were focusing on the emotions. This was about having a good time in front of a crowd that wanted to be entertained. Throw in some things being announced for the anniversary show and the big title change at the end and this was a heck of a way to spend two hours. Awesome show and things might be getting better soon.

Results

Adam Cole b. Jungle Boy – Boom

Cody Rhodes/Lee Johnson b. Dante Martin/Matt Sydal – Fisherman's buster onto the knee

Jon Moxley/Eddie Kingston/Darby Allin b. Bear Country/Anthony Greene – German suplex/clothesline combination to Greene

Dark Order/Orange Cassidy b. Hardy Family Office – Fatality to Johi

Tay Conti/Anna Jay b. The Bunny/Penelope Ford – Queenslayer to Ford

Sammy Guevara b. Miro – 630

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Daily News Update – September 29, 2021

Top WWE Star Misses Live Event For Unknown Reasons.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/top-wwe-star-misses-live-event-unknown-reasons/>

News On What To Expect From The WWE Draft.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/news-expect-wwe-draft/>

Former World Champion To Be Free Agent, Open To Offers.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/former-world-champion-free-agent-open-offers/>

Welcome To The Family AEW Announces New Signing.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/welcome-family-aew-announces-new-signing/>

More Former WWE Stars Make AEW Debuts.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/former-wwe-stars-make-ae-w-debuts/>

VIDEO: Controversial NXT Character Is Back After All.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-controversial-nxt-character-back/>

RUMOR: WWE Taking Summerslam International.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/rumor-wwe-taking-summerslam-international/>

RUMOR: Several NXT Names Who Make Be Drafted To WWE Main Roster.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/rumor-several-nxt-names-make-drafted-wwe-main-roster/>

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NXT – September 28, 2021: More Like It

NXT

Date: September 28, 2021

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Beth Phoenix, Wade Barrett

It's time to focus on the women's division as we have several women's matches taking place this week. This includes a pair of title matches, plus a grudge match. That's the easy part though. The fun part is finding out how many new people can be brought in with little to no explanation. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Here is Hit Row to get things going. They run down tonight's focus on the women's matches and wonder why no one is coming after Isaiah Scott's North American Title? B Fab is ready to take out Elektra Lopez, so here is Legado del Fantasma to make things serious.

B Fab vs. Elektra Lopez

No DQ and the brawl starts on the floor before the bell. B Fab kicks Lopez in the head and they're outside in a hurry, with the guys getting in a big brawl of their own as we take a break. Back with a fight over a table, with Lopez driving it into B Fab's ribs. They get back in with a bunch of weapons joining them. B Fab grabs some kendo sticks to swing away but Lopez crossbodies her through an open chair. Lopez drops her ribs first across the top of the open chair, setting up a Blue Thunder Bomb to put B Fab away at 10:05.

Rating: B-. They had a hard hitting match here and it worked well given how little experience both of them have around here. Again, I'm still not sure why the regular television shows are going more extreme than most of the Extreme Rules pay per view, but at least we are getting some better stuff this week.

We go to InDex's honeymoon, with the two of them walking on the beach. Johnny Gargano and Candice LeRae are watching from the balcony of a hotel room and LeRae suggests that more things are going to happen. Dexter seems to like how Indi looks coming out of the water and Gargano panics. Then a shark starts coming up from the water and....yeah it's Gargano with a shark fin on his head.

Here is Joe Gacy, to say that the ring is still a safe space and he has not been canceled. He has made a bigger impact than stars like Tommaso Ciampa and Bron Breakker, because he didn't throw a punch. Gacy speaks for a generation while the rest of them lives in a dark world. Then last week he was shunned, but

now he is here to usher the world into a new normal. Woke, as written by WWE.

Xyon Quin vs. Oney Lorcan

It's a 205 Live rematch and Quin knocks Lorcan outside to start. Back in and Lorcan runs him over, setting up a quickly broken chinlock. Quin fights up with a Samoan drop and finishes with a running forearm at 2:58. They might have something with Quin, just based on his look.

Grayson Waller talks about being a thrill junkie who loves to take chances. Now he's taking a chance by going after the Cruiserweight Title. Why are we getting these (good and useful) vignettes explaining people AFTER we've been confused by their debuts?

Here is MSK for a chat. They have been champions for awhile now and they are going to keep smoking the division. Cue the Grizzled Young Veterans, who say that they want their two on two title shot but here are Trick Williams and Carmelo Hayes to interrupt. Hayes says they are going to be champions because he has the golden ticket. MSK is good with that but Zack Gibson wants to know why everyone is talking in riddles. Cue Josh Briggs and Brooks Jensen, who want in on this too. The brawl is on among the challengers and MSK hold up the titles. MSK really need challengers so this was a messy but necessary segment.

Raquel Gonzalez is ready for Frankie Monet but Toxic Attraction comes in, with Mandy Rose saying the title will look better on her.

Women's Tag Team Titles: Toxic Attraction vs. Io Shirai/Zoey Stark

Shirai and Stark are defending and Mandy Rose is here with the challengers. Shirai flips away from Dolin to start, though she can't quite get the nip up right. The second takedown sets up

a more successful nip up and it's off to Jayne, who gets taken down in the corner. Stark comes in for some rapid fire rollups as commentary talks about how the champs never defend their titles. That's because they don't have much need to exist, but that has never stopped WWE before.

Stark chops her down and hits a slingshot Swanton for two. Dolin comes in off a blind tag and kicks Stark down but the champs are back up with some springboard dropkicks. Some dives to the floor have Attraction in trouble and we take a break. Back with Jayne hitting a running knee to Shirai's face. Shirai is back with a kick to the face though and the tag brings in Stark to hit people in the face.

Stark gets knocked into the corner though and it's back to Shirai to clean house again. A 619 sets up a springboard missile dropkick for two on Dolin as Rose is panicking on the floor. Everything breaks down and it's Stark hitting her GTS on Jayne...and tagging out instead of covering for no apparent reason. Stark dives onto Dolin but stops to glare at Rose. Shirai hits the Moon Over Moonsault to retain at 12:43.

Rating: C+. I would have bet on the title change here, but that would mean a regular team holding the titles instead of a wacky tag team with nothing in common and that's not how WWE rolls. Toxic Attraction is a fine enough idea and they can work well in the ring, though it seems like they're only around as lackeys for Rose more than anything else.

Video on Bron Breaker, who still feels like Scott Steiner and wants to be NXT Champion.

Tommaso Ciampa joins us via Facetime to say that Breaker is talented but let's hold off on the Hall of Fame induction for now. Breaker is a stud but it took Ciampa over 900 days to get back the title that he never lost. They'll face each other one day and Breaker will drown in an ocean of inexperience.

Andre Chase vs. Boa

Chase doesn't think much of Tian Sha and grabs an armbar to start. A suplex sends Boa flying and it's time to stomp away. Chase puts on a chinlock and shouts that Boa has a lot to learn, but Boa is back up with some kicks to send Chase outside. Chase shouts a lot and then goes over to Mei Ying, who mists him in the face. Boa's layout reverse DDT finishes at 3:09.

Rating: D+. Boa still isn't great in the ring but at least they are pushing someone new. That's the point of something like this, though you can expect Chase to keep getting the TV time despite him losing over and over. Chase's gimmick isn't the worst thing, but egads it's another one where they beat you over the head with everything and that can get tiring.

Back to the honeymoon, with Johnny Gargano worrying about what could happen when InDex goes to their room. Gargano lies his way into the hotel room (Gargano: "Security around here sucks.") and finds a bunch of condoms in Lumis' bag. InDex comes back and Gargano hides in the closet as a pillow fight breaks out, complete with various statements that sound like...I think you get the idea. InDex takes a nap and Gargano leaves, with Lumis holding up the condoms and giving him a thumbs up.

Cruiserweight Title: Grayson Waller vs. Roderick Strong

Waller is challenging and comes through the crowd to jump Strong before the bell. A heck of a suicide dive takes Strong down and we take a break. We come back joined in progress with Waller hammering away until Strong dumps him outside for a breather. The abdominal stretch goes on to keep Waller in trouble but he fights out into pinfall reversal sequence.

Strong goes with his basics by hitting a backbreaker and the camel clutch goes on. With that broken up, Waller gets suplexed for two but manages to block a superplex attempt. Waller hits a top rope missile dropkick and sends him outside

for a big flip dive. Back in and Waller grabs a Stunner for two of his own, only to walk into a jumping knee to the face to retain Strong's title at 6:19.

Rating: C+. This was a good showing from both of them, even though I'm not sure what the point was in having Waller go from a heel on 205 Live to a face here. That being said, at least he's doing something and I'll take what I can get. It's nice to have the title being defended a little more regularly and Strong is going to be good at anything he does.

LA Knight doesn't like Odyssey Jones coming in here and talking about the uncrowned NXT Champion. Cue Jones to scare Knight and say that Knight has never seen anything like him. Andre Chase walks by to complain about the lack of a DQ, allowing Knight to jump Jones.

Dante Chen is from Singapore. This is the extent of his character.

Cora Jade and Trey Baxter are excited for her match next week. She's only twenty years old and is ready for the future. They seem rather happy together.

Moving on from happy to unhappy, we have the debut of Lashing Out With Lash Legend, who is on a stage with an audience. She goes over various topics in NXT, such as the Draft (allowing her to talk about her WNBA career), Trey Baxter/Cora Jade and her Lash Out of the Week, which is Andre Chase. We're done in a hurry, which is probably a good thing. I'm assuming this is a parody of a daytime talk show and it was every bit as bad.

Ridge Holland vs. Kyle O'Reilly

O'Reilly jumps Holland before the bell and we take a break (again). We're joined in progress with Holland working on the ribs and hitting a backbreaker to keep O'Reilly in trouble. The bearhug goes on but O'Reilly fights out in a hurry and starts striking away. Holland plants him face first though and

grabs a powerbomb for two. O'Reilly knocks him down again and goes up but Pete Dunne offers a distraction. Not that it matters as O'Reilly grabs a rollup for the pin at 5:27.

Rating: C. What we got was pretty good, but the same match setup as the Cruiserweight Title match isn't exactly a positive sign. O'Reilly as someone who fights from underneath and survives against a monster is smart, though not so much with Holland losing twice in a row. Then again, he's kind of perfect for the main roster so a promotion wouldn't shock me.

Post match the beatdown is on but Von Wagner makes the save.

Tony D'Angelo is still on the docks, is still in the mob and is still talking about his family. The difference this time: he debuts next week.

Women's Title: Raquel Gonzalez vs. Frankie Monet

Monet, with the rest of the Robert Stone Brand, is challenging. Gonzalez gets headlocked down to start and then powers her off without much trouble. Another hard toss has Monet in trouble so it's out to the floor, where Gonzalez gets pulled off the steps for a crash. Back in and some running knees to the back have Gonzalez in more trouble and a suplex gives Monet two.

Monet cranks on part of a surfboard and then kicks her down for...well no count actually as Gonzalez's shoulders aren't down. Back up and Gonzalez drops Monet for a change, setting up the spinning Vader Bomb for two. Gonzalez's back gives out though and Monet double stomps her for two of her own. Not that it matters as Gonzalez is back up with the Chingona Bomb for the retaining pin at 7:52.

Rating: C+. I would have bet on the title change here but the segment with Toxic Attraction earlier was kind of a giveaway. Monet losing like this is a little weird, but it would not surprise me at all to see her going straight to the main

roster. She's one of the stars who absolutely does not need NXT so it isn't the worst idea.

Post match Monet and company go to leave but here is Toxic Attraction to jump them from behind. With Monet dispatched, Toxic surrounds Gonzalez and beats her down, allowing Mandy to hold up the title to end the show. Assuming you ignore them losing earlier this show, this was an effective segment.

Overall Rating: C+. I liked this a good bit better than last week's show, if nothing else because they slowed WAY down with the whole thing. There weren't a bunch of people being tossed out there and it felt like we were seeing wrestlers who had debuted being put into place. The Gargano/InDex stuff is going to be hit or miss, though I'm sure there are people who find it funny. Overall, the show felt much more structured this week and while it is still a bunch of newer people who aren't quite ready for these spots, it felt WAY more like NXT than whatever the last two weeks have been.

Results

Elektra Lopez b. B Fab – Blue Thunder Bomb

Xyon Quin b. Oney Lorcan – Running forearm

Io Shirai/Zoey Stark b. Toxic Attraction – Moon Over Moonsault to Jayne

Boa b. Andre Chase – Reverse layout DDT

Roderick Strong b. Grayson Waller – Jumping knee to the face

Kyle O'Reilly b. Ridge Holland – Rollup

Raquel Gonzalez b. Frankie Monet – Chingona Bomb

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Ring Of Honor TV – September 22, 2021: It's A Theme Show

Ring of Honor

Date: September 22, 2021

Location: UMBC Event Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Caprice Coleman

We are firmly away from Death Before Dishonor and in theory this should be the tapings where we see some fallout. That being said, last week we got some pre-fallout (Fall-in?) with the Tag Team Titles changing hands. Not that it makes much of a difference given how often they have been swapped as of late, but it's certainly an event. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Quinn McKay welcomes us to the show and runs down the card, with a focus on the Pure Rules division.

Pure Rules Gauntlet Match

No word on how many entrants and lost rope breaks carry over from one fall to another. Eric Martin is in at #1 and World

Famous CB is in at #2 with Brian Milonas on commentary. They trade the grappling to start with Martin going to the ropes to avoid a drop toehold, which seems a little dumb. Then he uses the next two in rapid fashion and is out of breaks after less than a minute and a half. Martin kicks CB off the top for a crash to the floor and it's a running corner clothesline back inside. CB is right back with a kick to the face and a choke with knees in the back for the tap at 3:14.

Delirious is in at #3 and it's time for more grappling to get things going. They hit the mat with both guys tripping the other for some short form control. CB's headscissors sends Delirious over to the ropes for a break and it's time to run the ropes in an awkward manner. A dragon suplex sends Delirious flying but he twists around into a cobra clutch. That's broken up as well so CB tries a bunch of rollups to no avail. Delirious is right back with a cobra clutch backbreaker into a triangle choke while bending the arm the wrong way (GEEZ) for the tap at 13:23.

LSG is in at #4 and after a break, Delirious' headlock doesn't work very well. Instead they just hit each other in the face until Delirious grabs a neckbreaker for two. LSG blocks a suplex though and strikes away, including some running forearms. With Delirious rocked, LSG pulls him into a Muta Lock for the tap at 21:13.

Joe Keys is in at #5 and, after a break, gets taken down by a headlock takeover (popular way to start). Keys snaps off a backbreaker but gets sent into the corner, only to come out with an abdominal stretch. A tilt-a-whirl backbreaker keeps LSG's back in trouble and we hit a half crab. That means LSG needs to use his second rope break so Keys rolls some German suplexes, meaning LSG needs his third and final break. Keys takes him up top for a superplex but LSG turns it into a crossbody for the pin at 30:28.

Brian Johnson is in at #6 and talks about how he is the best

and about to rewrite everything around here. Johnson drives the beaten up LSG into the corner for some shoulders to the ribs but LSG is back with Rocket By Baby. A rope break gets Johnson out of trouble so he throws a right hand (one more and he's disqualified) and throws his feet on the ropes (which is fine because LSG is out of breaks so it doesn't count...which I think makes sense) to pin LSG and win the whole thing at 32:56.

Rating: C+. These things are always a little weird to grade because it's a bunch of mini matches in a row. What we got here was good though, with the right person winning. Johnson coming in to beat a worn down LSG for the win is the perfect thing for him and I liked enough of this to make it work. Nothing great, but it wasn't exactly supposed to be given the circumstances.

Post match Johnson insists on a handshake, because he's good at being a villain.

Rhett Titus vs. Mike Bennett

Pure Rules again. They go with the grappling to start and try a test of strength to no avail, with both of them kicking the other away. That's good for a standoff so Titus grabs a headlock to put Bennett in some trouble. The Cobra Twist makes it worse and we take a break. Back with Titus working on the leg and the threat of a Boston crab makes Bennett burn a rope break.

Bennett has to use a second to save himself from another hold so Bennett goes after the arm. That doesn't work either so it's time to chop it out instead. Bennett blasts him with a discus forearm to the jaw and Titus has to use his first break. Bennett pulls him back to the mat and snaps off a DDT onto the leg as we take a break.

We come back with Bennett having to use his third break before getting gutwrench suplexed for two. An ankle lock sends Titus

going for the ropes again so Bennett ties up the legs again. That's fine with Titus, who starts a slap fight from the mat. Back up and Titus' leg gives out but he's able to block the piledriver. Bennett kicks the leg out again but gets rolled up for two. They fight over a bunch of rollups and trade clotheslines until the time limit expires at 15:00. The judges give it to Bennett.

Rating: B-. They were doing a grappling exhibition here and that worked out rather well. Titus has come a long way over the last year and a lot of that is due to being in the ring so often. Put him in there against better wrestlers and he is going to get better as well. Bennett held his own here too and it was a good main event as a result.

Respect is shown to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. This was a very wrestling focused show and it worked out fairly well. What mattered here was they focused on something and it was entertaining enough. It was certainly another show from before Death Before Dishonor and it's nice to see something like this be able to fill in a week.

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Daily News Update – September 28, 2021

Next Year's WWE Royal Rumble Will Be A Little Bit Different.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/next-years-wwe-royal-rumble-will-little-bit-different/>

Monday Night Raw Star Going Away For A Few Months.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/monday-night-raw-star-going-away-months/>

Run It Back: Stable Reforms On Monday Night Raw.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/run-back-stable-reforms-monday-night-raw/>

VIDEO: New WWE Title Challenger Emerges.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-new-wwe-title-challenger-emerges/>

Warrant Issued For Former Impact Wrestling Star.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/warrant-issued-former-impact-wrestling-star/>

Monday Night Raw Star Returns With New Nickname.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/monday-night-raw-star-returns-new-nickname/>

WWE Star Issues Bounty On Shelton Benjamin.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-star-issues-bounty-monday-night-raw-wrestler/>

VIDEO: Goldberg Returns To Monday Night Raw With A Challenge.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-goldberg-returns-monday-night-raw-challenge/>

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Monday Night Raw – September 27, 2021: Get Them A Pillow

Monday Night Raw

Date: September 27, 2021

Location: Heritage Bank Center, Cincinnati, Ohio

Commentators: Jimmy Smith, Corey Graves, Byron Saxton

We're done with Extreme Rules and the biggest changes involve a doll and this show. First up, Charlotte destroyed Lillie the doll last night, sending Alexa Bliss into an emotional breakdown. Other than that we have a WWE Championship match set for the top of the show, because Monday Night Football is going to kill them otherwise. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a recap of Big E. cashing in Money in the Bank to win the WWE Title, plus pinning Bobby Lashley again last night at Extreme Rules in a six man tag. The rematch is set for tonight.

WWE Title: Big E. vs. Bobby Lashley

Big E. is defending and after the Big Match Intros, we're ready to go. Lashley powers him into the corner to start so Big E. fires off a slap to the face. That earns him a beating in the corner and a snap suplex for less than one. A clothesline puts Big E. on the floor but he snaps off a belly to belly to send us to a break. Back with Lashley hitting a Downward Spiral into a big clothesline to put Big E. in even more trouble. Lashley takes him up top but Big E. blocks the superplex.

That's fine with Lashley, who knocks him off the top and down onto the apron for a crash instead. The double clothesline on the floor teases the double countout but they make it back inside. That means the slugout can be on but Lashley has to go to the ropes to avoid the Big Ending. The spear through the ropes drops Lashley....but here are Shelton Benjamin and Cedric Alexander in Hurt Business shirts. Lashley hits a spinebuster and seems pleased but here is New Day to go after Alexander and Benjamin. The spear cuts Big E. down as the other four fight inside for the DQ at 10:00.

Rating: C+. I'm not sure how many people expected a clean finish here so it wasn't like it was a disappointment. Giving Big E. a DQ loss doesn't exactly make him look great but I'm sure you are going to see something else from him later tonight. They mostly delivered a nice match though and that's all they needed to do.

Post match the brawl is on and security comes out to break it up. Actually we're not done as this match is happening again later tonight inside a steel cage (which they just happen to have lying around).

Erik vs. Angel Garza

Ivar and Humberto Carrillo are here too. Erik powers him around to start but gets caught in an armbar for his early

efforts. That's broken up and Garza is back with his knee to the face. Garza TAKES OFF HIS PANTS, which Carrillo teases throwing in. That brings Ivar over but the distraction lets Garza hit a superkick into the Wing Clipper for the pin at 2:01.

We recap Charlotte beating Alexa Bliss last night and destroying Lillie, plus beating up Bliss again, because it has been so long since Charlotte accomplished anything.

24/7 Title: Reggie vs. Ricochet

Reggie is defending. Feeling out process to start with Ricochet working on a wristlock but they need to trade moonsaults over each other out of the corner. Ricochet sends him outside for the big flip dive as the 24/7 goons are watching from the front row. That's enough for them to jump the barricade and jump Reggie for the DQ at 1:20.

Post match Ricochet fights back but Drake Maverick has a walkie talkie, telling someone to do it now. Cue Akira Tozawa to go after Reggie, who escapes anyway. Note that Ricochet is the one who is a guest star but we have a continuing story involving four morons trying to catch an acrobat to win a comedy title.

Riddle is on his own tonight because Randy Orton is probably taking a week off to have some Skyline Chili. Or he needed to take a break from Riddle because he wanted to RKO him on the concrete. Riddle thinks that's a bad idea because it could hurt Orton's back. It's cool though, because Riddle has his headphones with Orton's theme song. Singing ensues.

Akira Tozawa is still in the ring and wants a match with someone.

Keith Lee vs. Akira Tozawa

Yes it's Bearcat and it's a splash into the Big Bang

Catastrophe for the pin on Tozawa at 35 seconds.

We recap the opening match and a very serious Big E. promises to beat Bobby Lashley again, just like he did when he promised to cash in. A serious Big E. is a good Big E.

US Title: Sheamus vs. Damian Priest

Priest is defending and it's no countout/no DQ. Why Priest needed to have his entrance before that big recap is beyond me, but letting the US Champ stand around in the ring for three minutes certainly isn't a bad look or anything. Before the match, Sheamus says this won't be pretty, but it will be pretty ugly as he gets the title back. They go with the power to start with Sheamus headlock takeovering him down.

Priest fights up but gets elbowed in the face to cut him off. The Broken Arrow is broken up so they head outside, where Priest hits a quick suplex. There's a big boot and it's already time for a table. Sheamus isn't having that and sends Priest into the steps but the ten forearms on the apron are broken up. Instead, Sheamus hits the White Noise through the table in a big crash to send us to the break.

Back with Priest fighting out of a kendo stick choke, because White Noise off the apron through a table is just a spot. Another table is set up in the corner but Priest is back up with kendo stick shots. A chair is brought in but Priest is sent head first into it in the corner (that sounded great). Priest is back up with South of Heaven for two and they slug it out from their knees. An enziguri gives Priest two but he jumps into the jumping knee to the face for the same. The Reckoning is loaded up but Sheamus slips out, only to be sent through the table in the corner. Now the Reckoning can retain the title at 15:50.

Rating: B. This was a heck of a fight and the match they should have had last night at Extreme Rules. I'm not sure what the point was in having an extreme match on Raw when you had a

regular match on the extreme pay per view. The other problem here: Sheamus, a multiple time World Champion, just hit his secondary finisher off the apron and through a table. It sent us to a break and we came back with Priest being fine. You could do an injury spot or a title change off of that, but it might not even be the biggest spot in a Raw match.

Mustafa Ali isn't happy with Mansoor signing the two of them up for a six man tag with Jeff Hardy. Ali rants about Hardy, who pops up behind them, asking what Ali would say to them. After Ali backpedals hard, Hardy talks about how they are up against some scary monsters. He's ready to twist their fates.

Jinder Mahal/Veer/Shanky vs. Mansoor/Mustafa Ali/Jeff Hardy

Shanky sidewalk slams Ali to start so it's off to Mansoor, who gets elbowed by Veer. We hit the neck crank for a bit but Mansoor fights up in a hurry and brings in Jeff to clean house. Everything breaks down and Veer's baseball lariat finishes Ali at 3:44.

Rating: D+. So yes, we really are reheating Jinder Mahal and the final form of the Singh Brothers. This hasn't worked before and it isn't likely to work now, but that has never stopped WWE before. Maybe focusing on Veery and Shanky would help, but I have no reason to believe that will be the case.

Karrion Kross promises to hurt people.

Karrion Kross vs. Jaxson Ryker

Kross knocks him into the corner to start and mocks Ryker's military history. A suplex takes Ryker down but an armbar is broken up. The Doomsday Saito set up the Krossjacket to make Ryker tap at 1:37. That's good for a smile.

Doudrop is going to answer Charlotte's Open Challenge for a Women's Title match.

Bobby Lashley rants about Big E. winning the title with the

Money in the Bank briefcase. Tonight, he isn't injured and he can hurt Big E. even more in a cage.

Riddle vs. AJ Styles

Riddle suplexes him down for an early two but gets hit in the face for a trip to the floor. AJ hits a sliding knee off the apron and we take a break with Riddle in trouble. Back with Riddle striking away but getting caught in a pumphandle gutbuster to cut him off. Riddle kicks him to the floor and hits a big dive to take AJ down again.

Back in and the Floating Bro is countered into a Calf Crusher (that was sweet) but Riddle slips out. The comeback is on as Riddle gets all fired up, even knocking Styles down a few times. That's fine with AJ, who counters a running knee into a Burning Hammer (geez) into the Styles Clash for the pin at 12:10.

Rating: C+. This match right here might embody Raw's troubles more than anything else. There is no reason for this match to happen. RKBro beat Styles and Omos for the titles and we have seen several combinations since then. It is continuing just for the sake of having matches and filling in time now. The match will be fine, but find a reason for them to fight other than "they're fighting again".

Post match, Omos plants Riddle again with the chokeslam.

We look back at Shayna Baszler snapping on Nia Jax and putting her on the shelf with an arm injury last week.

Shayna has no comment, but does have a nifty deck of cards.

Women's Title: Charlotte vs. Doudrop

Charlotte is defending. Doudrop shoves her around to start and Charlotte can't manage to slam her. The big running backplash crushes Charlotte...and here's Eva Marie because WWE absolutely refuses to move on from ANYTHING. Charlotte gets in a chop

block and Natural Selection retains at 1:52.

Post match Eva poses over Doudrop and gets decked by Charlotte.

Goldberg (OH HERE WE GO) is back and talks about how he and Bobby Lashley are both fathers. He doesn't know what kind of a father Lashley is but Lashley attacked Goldberg's son at Summerslam. Now he is going to fulfill the vow he made when his son was born and hurt Lashley a lot. I'm so excited for this. It's right up there with a bad infection.

Eva Marie is still in the ring and complains about the disrespect. She can beat anyone in the locker room so here is Shayna Baszler. The Kirifuda Clutch knocks Eva out in a hurry and the fans approve. Shayna lets go and unloads on Eva's arm ala last week with Jax for a bonus. I could go for face Shayna.

Nikki Ash and Rhea Ripley say they have nothing in common except the titles. Nikki thinks they need matching blue gear, but Rhea says it's a good color on Nikki only. Hey, remember when Riddle and Orton were a team who didn't agree on anything but they worked well together and one of them was really excited about the team and wanted them to have matching gear and a wacky name but the other wasn't interested?

WWE Title: Big E. vs. Bobby Lashley

Lashley is challenging in a cage and jumps Big E. before they're both inside. Big E. is sent into the barricade and the cage as this is one sided before the bell. A posting makes it even worse and we take a break. Back with the bell ringing and Big E. sending him into the cage over and over. A running clothesline drops Lashley again but he's back up with a trip into the cage wall.

The spear is countered into a hiptoss into the corner but Big E. has to fight out of a Hurt Lock attempt. Lashley settles

with a suplex for two and goes up but Big E. is right up there for an attempt at a super Big Ending. That doesn't quite work as Big E. comes back down but gets caught in a dragon sleeper over the ropes. That's enough for Lashley to go for a climb but Big E. is back up for the save.

Big E. goes up but the Hurt Business is there to cut him off. Lashley goes for the door but here's Xavier Woods to slam the door on his head. New Day gets rid of the Hurt Business, with Kofi hitting the trust fall off the cage onto both of them. We take a break and come back with Big E. ducking an elbow and hitting the trio of belly to belly suplexes. The spear cuts Big E. down for two though and Lashley goes for the door. That's broken up so Lashley tells him to stay down, only to walk into the Big Ending for two. A spinebuster plants Big E. so it's time to climb but Big E. pulls him back down with the super Big Ending to retain at 16:31.

Rating: B. This was a pair of big strong guys hitting each other very hard and that's what it needed to be. Setting up the super Big Ending earlier and then actually doing it in the end worked well and it felt like a major victory for Big E. He needed this to solidify himself as the champion and it was a good fight that felt like a pay per view level title match.

Post match the cage is raised, but here's Drew McIntyre to stare Big E. (who is fine with this) down to end the show.

Overall Rating: C. In something I've had to say far too many times over the years, there is a good two hour show in here somewhere, if you trim off a lot of the fat. By fat, I mean a lot of the repetitive stuff that has been done so many times that it doesn't feel like it matters anymore whatsoever, such as Eva Marie vs. Doudrop, Jinder Mahal and company, the 24/7 Title, Styles/Omos vs. RKBro and probably Karrion Kross. It's either not going to happen or it has happened so many times that there is no reason to be interested anymore.

The rest of the show did have some good moments, which tended to be when they were focusing on what the talented wrestlers can do in the ring. There were good matches and it felt like important things were happening here. The problem is there was so much other stuff that didn't work and dragged the good down. That happens far too often on Raw, but it does seem like they are getting out of the horrible depths they had reached a few months ago. I'll absolutely take that, but the Draft is going to change everything anyway so I'm not sure if it matters.

Results

Bobby Lashley b. Big E. via DQ when Kofi Kingston and Cedric Alexander interfered

Angel Garza b. Erik – Wing Clipper

Reggie b. Ricochet via DQ when R-Truth interfered

Keith Lee b. Akira Tozawa – Big Bang Catastrophe

Damian Priest b. Sheamus – Reckoning

Jinder Mahal/Veer/Shanky b. Jeff Hardy/Mansoor/Mustafa Ali – Baseball lariat to Ali

Karrion Kross b. Jaxson Ryker – Krossjacket

AJ Styles b. Riddle – Styles Clash

Charlotte b. Doudrop – Natural Selection

Big E. b. Bobby Lashley – Super Big Ending

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