### 205 Live — September 3, 2021: The Extended Edition

#### 205 Live

Date: September 3, 2021

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Nigel McGuinness, Vic Joseph

I've all but given up trying to figure out what to expect from this show, but this time around we actually know what is coming. This week's show was taped last week and WWE actually gave us a preview last week. No it doesn't mean anything, but it is kind of nice to have for a change. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

#### Cora Jade vs. Amari Miller

You don't see women in action very often around here. Jade sits down on a skateboard and rides down to the ring for a unique entrance. Miller grabs a wristlock to start but gets headlocked over as they start technical. Back up and they fight over a test of strength until Miller flips her over with a judo toss. Jade misses a running knee in the corner and gets caught with a Backstabber.

A kick to the face gives Miller two and it's off to an armbar with a knee in the ribs. That's broken up and they trade forearms with Jade getting the better of things to take over. A Gory Stretch spun into a knee to the face sets up a running knee to Miller's face for two. Miller isn't having this though and grabs a cravate so she can drive Jade's face into the knee for the pin at 5:26.

Rating: C-. It was completely fine, but again the important thing here is mixing things up. You can get a lot out of mixing things up like this and it was nice to have something

fresh. 205 Live can get so stale so bringing in some of the women (or just unused NXT wrestlers) can mix things up a bit. Both of them worked well enough and I liked it fairly well.

#### Josh Briggs vs. Joe Gacy

Rematch from a few weeks back where Briggs beat Gacy. They shove each other around to start with neither getting much of an advantage. Gacy drives him into the corner and hammers away but Briggs is right back with an elbow to the face. A side slam into a splash gives Briggs two and we hit the chinlock. Back up and Gacy headbutts his way out of trouble but gets knocked hard outside. Gacy gets tossed back in and this time he runs Briggs over with a shoulder. Some hard clotheslines against the ropes set up a Crossface to put Briggs in real trouble for a change. That's broken up though and Briggs nails a running big boot for two. Back up and Gacy hits the handspring lariat for the fast pin at 8:45.

Rating: C+. This was more like it as you had two hosses beating each other up for a good while. Briggs has been around a few times as of late and it has been nice to see him getting to beat people up. Gacy can do his thing as well and it makes sense to have him even the series. This is likely setting up a rubber match, which should work out well.

#### Xyon Quinn vs. Andre Chase

I guess this is the extended edition. Quinn recently upset Boa on NXT so he has some momentum. Chase has to spin out of a wristlock to start but gets run over with a big shoulder. The rag dolling is on and Chase's armdrag is blocked with ease. Quinn misses a charge into the corner though and Chase grabs a neckbreaker for two. The chinlock doesn't last long so Chase goes with a Hennig necksnap for two instead. We hit the neck cranking for a bit until Quinn fights up and snaps off a Samoan drop. A torture rack neckbreaker finishes Chase at 4:35.

Rating: C. This wasn't quite a squash but it was never in doubt. Quinn is pretty close to a beast and I could go for seeing more of him in the

future. It's a good sign that his win over Boa wasn't treated as just a fluke, so hopefully he gets to do something else. I'm sure Vince will approve of someone with that kind of a look so we might be seeing him again sooner rather than later.

Overall Rating: C+. This is what I've been wanting to see from 205 Live, as it felt like an NXT showcase rather than just putting a bunch of people out there because they're on the roster. 205 Live has needed to be more like this for a long time as this is a lot more useful than just running two cruiserweight matches. The cruiserweights can be on the show, but there is no need to have it be entirely built around them. This was better, and it gives me some hope. Throw in the 29 minute run time and it's even better.

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### Main Event - September 2, 2021: They're Back

#### Main Event

Date: September 2, 2021

Location: Paycom Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Commentators: Kevin Patrick, Byron Saxton

We're out of the Summerslam fallout week and that means we are ready to get started on the road towards Extreme Rules. Some of the build began this week on Raw and odds are we'll be seeing a lot more of that this week. As for the Main Event stuff, it's probably time for more of the usual. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

Opening sequence.

<u>Jeff Hardy vs. Cedric Alexander</u>

They trade spinning of their jackets to start until Alexander drives him into the corner and shouts about what Jeff has. A headlock has Hardy in more trouble but he sends Alexander face first into all four buckles. An ax handle sets up a failed Twist of Fate attempt and Alexander heads outside.

Hardy misses a dive and bangs up his knee so Alexander can choke away back inside. Alexander takes him into the corner but Hardy headscissors his way to freedom. They slug it out until Hardy atomic drops him to set up the basement dropkick. The Twist of Fate is countered into a Michinoku Driver for two but now the Twist of Fate can connect. Hardy adds the Swanton for the pin at 6:12.

Rating: C+. Maybes it's due to how lame Main Event matches can be a lot of the time but I had a nice time with this one. They are both veterans who can do some good things in the ring and that is what they did here, with Alexander looking good in defeat. Hardy is still valuable in a few places on the roster, and I would think there is a better spot available for him than this.

We look at Becky Lynch returning at Summerslam to win the Smackdown Women's Title from Bianca Belair in about thirty seconds.

From Smackdown.

Here is Becky Lynch, with a jacket that makes her look like a matador, to say she is back on top. A year and a half ago, she had to give up her Raw Women's Title in a hard moment. It was giving up her identity but she has been working every day since to get back here. Now we get to Summerslam, and the fans don't seem to like that. She knows there have been some people unhappy with her, but she is sorry.....FOR ABSOLUTELY NOTHING! The fans like that and Becky talks about how she needs to be prepared around here.

Cue Bianca Belair, who the fans seem to like as well. She isn't about to make excuses because that isn't who she is, but she isn't cool with what happened at Summerslam. Belair issues the challenge for tonight but here is Zelina Vega to interrupt. She thinks it's funny that Belair has fallen this far down and thinks she should get the title shot. Now it's Carmella coming out to say she should face Lynch tonight. She didn't have time to be prepared at Summerslam and didn't even have her nails done.

Cue Liv Morgan (to a rather strong reaction) to ask why Carmella and Zelina should get title shots when they lose over and over. Carmella laughs at her for sitting in catering all the time but Belair isn't having this. Belair: "All three of y'all done lost your d\*\*\* minds." She challenges Becky again but gets a "nah, not tonight". Lynch might be a heel, but no one seems to care. The brawl is on between the other four and I think you know where this is going.

#### Carmella vs. Zelina Vega vs. Bianca Belair vs. Liv Morgan

Joined in progress, elimination rules and the winner gets a future shot at Lynch. Belair shoulders Carmella in the ribs and then gorilla presses Vega, who doesn't seem thrilled with going up. Vega avoids Morgan's charge in the corner and hits a rolling kick to the face, only to get rolled up by Carmella

for two. Belair comes back in and KOD's Vega for the pin and the elimination at 3:02. Since Carmella and Morgan are both down on the floor, Belair has to throw Morgan back in, allowing Carmella to get in a cheap shot. That allows Morgan to hit Oblivion for the pin on Carmella at 3:57.

So we're down to Belair vs. Morgan and we take a break. Back with Belair hitting the running shoulder in the corner but Morgan drop toeholds her into the corner. A spinebuster gives Belair two and she counters Oblivion into a delayed suplex....which is countered into a Codebreaker for Morgan's two. The KOD is blocked so Belair drops her onto the turnbuckle. Now the KOD can finish Morgan off at 11:56.

Rating: C+. This was two matches rolled into one as the Carmella and Vega stuff was completely useless but it got a lot better when we got to the one on one part. They needed Morgan in there as beating Vega and Carmella means nothing for Belair, who needed the rebound win after Summerslam. Now they can build towards Extreme Rules and we should be in for a good road there.

We see the big revolving door of interrupts segment from Raw, with multiple matches being set up for later in the night.

From Raw.

#### Tag Team Titles: RKBro vs. MVP/Bobby Lashley

RKBro is defending and AJ Styles, with Omos behind him, is on commentary. MVP drives Riddle into the corner to start but Riddle is right back with some shots to the face. That's enough to put MVP on the floor, setting up the big springboard Floating Bro as we take a break. We come back with Lashley working Riddle over until a hot tag brings in Orton. The hanging DDT hits Lashley but MVP is still legal and gets in a cheap shot. It's back to Riddle for a knee to Lashley, setting up the Floating Bro for two. Everything breaks down and AJ decks Lashley, only to have to deal with Omos. The distraction

lets Riddle hit a jumping knee to MVP, setting up the Floating Bro to retain at 10:49.

Rating: B-. Now this was more like it with much more of an action packed match. They had a bunch of stuff happening throughout and the ending was the right call. There wasn't much doubt about a possible title change, but at least they got in and did their thing with some time. Not a great match, but it was good enough to get the show out of a bit of trouble.

Post match Lashley goes after Riddle but walks into an RKO to end the show. Orton vs. Lashley could be interesting.

#### <u>Lucha House Party vs. Mansoor/Mustafa Ali</u>

Ali makes sure Mansoor doesn't spend too much time high fiving fans on the way to the ring. Mansoor and Metalik trade early covers so it's a double tag to bring in Ali and Dorado. A running hurricanrana and dropkick have Ali in trouble but Mansoor gets in the way of the double dives.

We take a break and come back with Dorado being sent over the top and over the announcers' table in a heap. Ali grabs a suplex into a gutbuster for two and tells Mansoor to stomp on him. Dorado shoves Ali off the top though and a high crossbody drops him again. It's back to Metalik to pick up the pace and his splash off of Dorado's shoulders crushes Ali. A rollup with feet on the ropes gives Ali two, though Mansoor breaks up the cover by shoving said feet off of said ropes. The distraction lets Dorado hit the Golden Rewind but Mansoor tags himself in for the slingshot neckbreaker and the pin at 6:23.

Rating: C. I'm curious about where they're going with Ali and Mansoor, as I can't imagine them getting the Tag Team Titles anytime soon, but I'm also not sure I can see them being split up. Either way it is nice to have Ali doing something, even if this is likely leading to a big Mansoor moment in Saudi Arabia. Good enough match here, though it isn't like the tag

division has meant anything in forever.

We look at Roman Reigns beating John Cena at Summerslam but then Brock Lesnar returns to mess everything up.

From Smackdown.

Here is the Bloodline for the big family celebration. Roman Reigns takes his time listening to the fans booing him so Paul Heyman says the people have the chance to acknowledge him. In addition, you may cheer for the Usos as well! Heyman says we have seen enough of John Cena, who was beaten by Roman Reigns at Summerslam. Cue Finn Balor to say that a lot of people are talking about the Universal Title, but he was wanting to challenge for the title himself.

Balor doesn't trust anyone around here though and he isn't waiting around. Instead, he wants his title shot next week on Smackdown. There is no answer but Balor charges at the three of them to start the brawl. Cue the Street Profits to go after the Usos, setting up a bunch of house show matches around the horn. Balor hits the Coup de Grace on Jey as an annoyed Reigns watches from the stage to end the show. The challenge didn't get an answer.

Overall Rating: C. That was quite the Main Event and I'm not sure what else I should have expected. They are firmly back into their formula around here and that is rather depressing. Main Event can be better, but this isn't exactly something that makes me care about what is going on in WWE. Even the highlight packages aren't all that great, but that has been the case for a long time now. Watchable show as usual, as long as you don't want to be overly entertained.

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# Impact Wrestling — September 2, 2021: That's Not The New Norm

#### **Impact Wrestling**

Date: September 2, 2021

Location: Skyway Studios, Nashville, Tennessee

Commentators: D'Lo Brown, Matt Striker

We're still on the road to Victory Road and that means more of Ace Austin, which is not a bad thing. Tonight we have Tommy Dreamer vs. Austin with Dreamer possibly being added to the World Title match if he wins. That's the kind of threat that Impact might actually follow up on, which doesn't give me much hope. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

In Memory of Daffney. That was a really hard one.

Opening recap.

Opening sequence.

<u>Madison Rayne/Kaleb With A K/Tenille Dashwood vs. Taylor Wilde/Rachael Ellering/Jordynne Grace</u>

Ellering and Kaleb With A K start things off with Rachael wrestling him into the corner without much effort. A release gutwrench suplex drops Kaleb With A K for two and it's Grace coming in for some standing clotheslines. Rayne gets in a cheap shot though and Dashwood gets to come in and take over. Grace powers out of a chinlock by slamming Rayne backwards but Kaleb With A K cuts off a tag.

A kick to the face cuts that off without much effort though and Wilde comes in to clean house. Wilde's tornado DDT gets two on Kaleb With A K with Dashwood having to make a save. Back up and Rayne has to grab Kaleb With A K's hands to block a German suplex, only to have Ellering break it up, meaning the German suplex can give Wilde the pin at 5:04.

Rating: C. This is a good example of how to do intergender wrestling, as Kaleb With A K was a perfect fit to take this kind of a beating. It can be put together well without going too far into being ridiculous and that's what they pulled off here. That is quite the trick, so well done on making it work.

We look at Deonna Purrazzo retaining the Knockouts Title at NWA Empowerrr and then attacking Mickie James at the 73rd Anniversary Show.

Deonna Purrazzo and Matthew Rehwoldt don't care for Mickie James or Trey Miguel.

Tommy Dreamer talks about the time he took the ECW World Title from Christian Cage, though Cage pops up to say Dreamer didn't pin him in that match. That's true, but Dreamer just wants one chance to be the face of Impact Wrestling. He asks Cage to not get involved tonight because he wants to do it himself. Sure.

Here's what's coming tonight.

#### Black Taurus/Crazzy Steve vs. No Way/Fallah Bahh

The rest of Decay is here, as is No Way's Conga Line. Actually

hold on as part of the Conga Line attacked Rosemary, because it's Tasha Steelz in disguise. We come back from a break for the opening bell, with Steve slugging away at Bahh in vain. Bahh throws him down with ease and it's off to No Way vs. Taurus. A Sling Blade drops No Way and a hard right hand has him in more trouble.

No Way gets in a quick tag to Bahh and sunset flips Taurus, who gets crushed by Bahh's splash. A belly to belly lets No Way come back in for two and Bahh hits the running hip attack in the corner. Bahh drops No Way down into a legdrop for two on Taurus but a double clothesline gives him a breather. The hot tag brings in Steve to slug away as everything breaks down. Steve bites Bahh in the head and a middle rope DDT is good for the pin at 6:45.

Rating: C-. Totally run of the mill tag match here and that's about all there is to say. No Way was playing things a bit more heelish here, which is kind of weird when you have him doing the dancing deal before the match. It might be nice to see him doing something else, because right now he's the same guy he was in WWE but with a different company name at the top of his contract.

Flashback Moment of the Week: Christian Cage b. Sting at Final Resolution 2007.

W. Morrissey doesn't like Sami Callihan for saving Eddie Edwards. He does have a bit of respect for the two of them for hating each other....and here is Moose to interrupt. Moose agrees with everything Morrissey has said since he got here. Neither of them like Sami Callihan, but Moose is looking for an alliance instead of a friend. Glaring ensues.

Steve Maclin is very intense and wants Petey Williams next week.

Here is Moose for a chat. He doesn't like that everyone, like Eddie Edwards, wants to be a hero. They have a long history

together, but Moose is a different guy now. So get out here so Moose can teach him that the hero doesn't always save the day. Cue Eddie so the brawl can be on. W. Morrissey runs in for the beatdown and a double powerbomb leaves Eddie laying. No Sami Callihan for the save, as per Eddie's request.

No Way and Fallah Bahh didn't know anything about Tasha Steelz attacking Decay. TJP comes in to reform the team with Fallah Bahh and is cool with No Way too. They'll head to Swinger's Palace next week.

Eric Young is ready to cure Rhino and chains him up in a prison.

#### X-Division Title: Josh Alexander vs. Jake Crist

The returning Crist is challenging after Alexander wanted to fight any former X-Division Champion. Alexander drives him into the ropes to start and catches a charging Crist in a powerslam. Crist sends him to the apron so Alexander goes up top, only to be pulled back down for a neckbreaker. The front facelock goes on for a bit and Jake plants him down again. Crist grabs the front facelock again but this time Alexander strikes his way to freedom in a hurry. Alexander rolls some German suplexes to knock Crist silly and Divine Intervention retains the title at 5:36.

Rating: C. Not much to see here, other than Alexander ending Crist with those suplexes. This was little more than a workout for Alexander, who is going to need someone special to take the title from him. That's kind of a problem, but I'm curious to see where they go with the whole thing.

Post match Alexander is asked why he put the title on the line. That's because he has to so he is challenging people for the title. Cue Chris Sabin to say he is a big Alexander fan but Alexander is a one time champion, compared to Sabin's eight title reigns. The challenge is on for Victory Road and Alexander is down for that. Makes as much sense as anything

else right now.

Sam Beale is offering Brian Myers' offer to find a new wingman and we see some applications. One of them looks like David Arquette.

The applicants are here and Brian Myers isn't impressed. He makes a few random cuts, including one who likes Mojo Rawley. We get down to two, with one of them being Zicky Dice of minor NWA fame. The two of them (Dice and Manny Lemons) will be back next week.

#### Rohit Raju/Shera vs. Matt Cardona/Chelsea Green

Raju and Cardona start things off but it's quickly off to Shera to run Cardona over instead. The big elbow crushes Cardona and it's back to Raju, who is quickly slammed down. Green comes in to work on Raju's arm before kicking some non-existent dirt into his face. A headscissors sets up a slap to Raju, who brings in Shera. That's fine with Green as she slaps Shera into Radio Silence from Cardona. Raju posts Cardona though and a jumping knee finishes Green at 3:33.

Rating: C-. Just a quick match here but you're only going to be able to get so much out of Green working on the arm and slapping the heels in the face. This feud has been going on for a little while now and it isn't all that interesting, but at least they are doing a few things to keep it fresh. Now just find a way to keep it from being so dull and we might get somewhere.

Su Yung and Kimber Lee have turned Brandi Lauren into one of them. Maniacal laughter ensues but Yung doesn't seem pleased.

Here are the Good Brothers for a chat because we can't escape them for a week. Karl Anderson tells the fans to sit down and shut their fat mouths. He knows the fans feel like they are seeing some rock stars but be quiet for a bit. They aren't happy with Rich Swann and Willie Mack stealing a pin on them last week but Mack got powerbombed through a table for what he did. Mack is in traction right now so now his name is Willie Lack The Ability To Walk. Cue Rich Swann with a chair but referees are out there in a hurry to break it up.

Post break, Rich Swann has to be held back again so Scott D'Amore gives Swann a Bunkhouse Brawl with Karl Anderson next week.

Here's what's coming next week.

#### Ace Austin vs. Tommy Dreamer

If Dreamer wins, he's in the World Title match at Victory Road and Madman Fulton is here with Austin. Dreamer is wrestling in a Dusty Rhodes mask because reasons. Austin takes him down for a kick to the back to start so the mask comes off to make things serious. A Cactus Clothesline puts them on the floor and Dreamer posts him hard. Fulton saves Austin from going into the barricade though and Austin kicks Dreamer in the face.

Back in and a powerbomb gives Austin two but Dreamer crotches him on top. A neckbreaker out of the corner gives Dreamer a breather and the slugout is on. Dreamer hammers away in the corner and bites Austin's head, setting up a powerslam for two. An enziguri drops Austin again but he's right back up with a springboard Fameasser for the same. Back up and Austin charges into a cutter but Fulton breaks up the cover. Dreamer posts Fulton but gets caught with the Fold for the pin at 7:44.

Rating: C. It probably isn't a good sign when I have a sigh of relief that the good guy loses. This was your usual Dreamer match, as he doesn't do much outside of his hits. Dreamer is fine enough in the ring and can do his usual stuff, but it is a good idea to keep him limited. Now if they can keep him limited from talking too, we should be in better shape.

**Overall Rating**: C-. Pretty run of the mill show here without much of anything standing out. They did a nice enough job of building Victory Road, but there was nothing that really grabbed me. What makes me a little more hopeful though is the fact that this feels like a one off instead of a new normal. Impact has actually built up some good will in recent months and that is rather nice to see.

#### **Results**

Jordynne Grace/Rachael Ellering/Taylor Wilde b. Kaleb With A K/Tenille Dashwood/Madison Rayne — German suplex to Kaleb With A K

Black Taurus/Crazzy Steve b. No Way/Fallah Bahh — Middle rope DDT to Bahh

Josh Alexander b. Jake Crist — Divine Intervention Rohit Raju/Shera b. Matt Cardona/Chelsea Green — Jumping knee to Green

Ace Austin b. Tommy Dreamer — Fold

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### Ring Of Honor TV — September 1, 2021: They're Doing It Again (Bad Version)

#### Ring of Honor

Date: September 1, 2021

Location: UMBC Event Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Lenny Leonard

The rather long road to Death Before Dishonor continues and that means we are going to be seeing more of the Women's Title tournament. The level of interest took a bit of a hit last week as Quinn McKay was eliminated, so I'm not sure what to expect going forward. We have some more things to cover on the way though and maybe that can pick up some of the slack. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

Opening sequence.

Ian Riccaboni welcomes us to the show and runs down the card, featuring the other two quarterfinals matches.

Angelina Love talks about how great she is and how she deserved her first round bye. Why shouldn't she be the Women's Champion?

<u>Women's Title Tournament Quarterfinals: Angelina Love vs. Max</u>
<u>The Impaler</u>

Amy Rose is in Max's corner. Before the match, Rose warns Angelina that this is going to hurt. Love goes after Max and gets scared by the glare she sees looking back at her. They head outside with Love being sent into the barricade as we take a break. Back with Love mostly destroyed on the floor but Max chops the post by mistake.

Love gets back in and hits a running elbow so Max just looks at her. A torture rack has Max in more trouble and a toss sends her throat first across the top. Love bails to the floor again and gets posted, setting up a choke over the ropes. Max doesn't let go though and that's a DQ at 5:53. Rose doesn't seem to mind.

Rating: D+. This tournament continues to be weird and not in the best way. This was a complete squash with Love getting destroyed until Max went too far in the end. I'm assuming someone beats Love in the finals and then gets wrecked by Max later, but this hasn't exactly been the most thrilling stuff so far.

Love is dropped on her arm and the shoulder seems banged up.

#### <u>Women's Title Tournament Quarterfinals: Allysin Kay vs. Trish</u> Adora

Both of them say they'll win. They go with the aggressive grappling to start with Adora taking her down into a headscissors. That's reversed into a front facelock but Adora spins up, only to get caught in a wristlock. Kay tries an armbar on the mat and we take a break. Back with Kay kicking at the leg to put Adora in more trouble and dumping her over the top. They head back in and Kay kicks her into the corner, setting up the chinlock.

That's broken up in a hurry and Adora hits a running crossbody, setting up a backbreaker for two. A DDT gives Adora the same and it's time to go after Kay's arm. Kay tries a Kimura but switches into a rear naked choke to keep Adora in trouble. The rope is grabbed so Kay kicks her in the head for two. Neither can hit their lariat so Kay elbows her in the head over and over. Back up and another lariat misses, allowing Adora to hit Lariat Tubman for the pin at 13:50.

Rating: C+. Technically solid and the ending sequence got better, but I'm still having issues caring about most of the

women in the tournament. Adora has a unique look and charisma, but it's not like most of the field has any kind of character. They have showed up, cut some very short promos, and are most of the way towards a title. That has been the problem with the women's division around here for years and it is the case all over again.

Here are the updated brackets:

Rok-C Angelina Love

Trish Adora Miranda Alize

Death Before Dishonor rundown.

TV Title: Dragon Lee vs. Eli Isom

Isom is challenging and talks about how he promised his father that he would win the TV Title. Lee knows Isom is good but he isn't taking the title. Dalton Castle is on commentary but stops to answer a phone call. They fight over a lockup to start and Lee rolls away, setting up the Tranquilo pose. We take a break and come back with Isom grabbing a headlock but getting caught in a quick hurricanrana to the floor.

Back in and Lee slams him down to set up a chinlock, followed by a half crab with a boot on Isom's neck. That doesn't last long and Isom is right back with a quick armdrag to the floor. Isom nails his own big dive and a high crossbody gets two back inside. They slug it out and get a little more heated until Lee scores with a dropkick. A slingshot dropkick in the corner rocks Isom again and we take a break. Back with Isom winning a slugout this time but getting caught with a poisonrana.

A snap German suplex doesn't do much to Isom so they hit each other again for a double knockdown. Back up and Isom snaps off a tilt-a-whirl backbreaker for two more. The Promise is broken

up and Lee drapes him over the top, setting up a top rope knee to the back. Lee hits another knee to the back of the head for two (Castle: "THE DRAMA!"). Isom is right back up with the Promise for a VERY near fall but Lee knees him in the face again. There's another knee to the face, followed by another knee to the face to retain Lee's title at 12:25.

Rating: B. Isom is an underrated gem these days and he can do no wrong at this point. Throw in Lee as one of the better performers in all of Ring of Honor today and you have the makings for an awesome match. That Promise was one of the hottest near falls you could have asked for and it was an awesome match as a result for a heck of a TV main event.

Lee offers some rare respect to end the show.

**Overall Rating**: C+. This tournament continues to hit some bumps, mainly due to the lack of top stars involved. The women's division has been a major problem for a long time and they seem to be doing the same thing all over again. Now granted the main event bailed out the rest of the show (as much as it needed to be bailed out that is) and it was another perfectly watchable week of wrestling.

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# Daily News Update — September 6, 2021

That's How You Do A Special Pay Per View.

WATCH: AEW Star Makes Surprise Appearance, Wins World Title.

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earance-wins-world-title/

WWE Shuts Down Another Division In Latest Big Change.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-shuts-another-divisi
on-latest-big-change/

Huge Title Change Takes Place At AEW All Out.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/huge-title-change-takes-place-aew/

VIDEO: Two Massive Debuts Close AEW All Out, Plus Post Show Promo.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-two-massive-debuts-close-aewplus-post-show-promo/

WWE Personality No Longer Testing Positive For Coronavirus.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-personality-no-longer-testing-p
ositive-coronavirus/

VIDEO: Two More Surprise Debuts At AEW All Out.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-two-more-surprise-debuts-at-a
ew-all-out/

As always, please check out all of the videos if you can, hit up the comments section and <u>get on</u> the <u>Wrestling Rumors Facebook page</u>.

### All Out 2021: Their Latest Classic

#### All Out 2021

Date: September 5, 2021

Location: Now Arena, Chicago, Illinois

Commentators: Jim Ross, Excalibur, Tony Schiavone

We're back to the still fairly rare AEW pay per view schedule with an absolutely stacked show. There are three major matches this time around, including CM Punk vs. Darby Allin, Chris Jericho vs. MJF and Kenny Omega defending the World Title against Christian Cage. Let's get to it.

<u>Buy-In: Hardy Family Office vs. Orange Cassidy/Wheeler Yuta/Chuck Taylor/Jurassic Express</u>

Matt Hardy shoves Taylor into the corner because he wants Orange. He gets Luchasaurus instead so Jack Evans gets a rather fast tag. Luchasaurus sends Evans flying with a suplex and it's off to Boy to send Evans into the corner. Quen and Yuta come in, with the former getting two off a running crossbody.

We get the big sequence of most of the people trying a hold at the same time to as much avail as you would expect. Luchasaurus comes back in to throw people around, including a knee to the face to drop Evans. Private Party and Hardy come in to take Luchasaurus down but Orange breaks it up with the slow motion kicks. That earns him a Codebreaker into a shooting star onto his back, followed by a trip to the floor. We get a short form parade of dives but Orange heads back inside for the hands in pockets comeback to drop Private Party.

Hardy is back in with a Twist of Fate but now it's Jungle getting to clean house. Angelico and Luchasaurus put Evans and Jungle on their respective shoulders for a chicken fight but here is the Blade to interfere. Marko Stunt dives off of Luchasaurus' shoulder to take him out, leaving Jungle to make Angelico tap with the Snare Trap at 8:34.

Rating: C+. Take a bunch of popular wrestlers, put them in the ring with a bunch of unpopular wrestlers, have them fly around a lot and do cool spots to pop the crowd. That's how you do a match like this and they made it work well here. This was a fun, quick spectacle and it wasn't supposed to be anything else.

The opening video runs down the big matches.

#### TNT Title: Miro vs. Eddie Kingston

Miro is defending. Kingston goes for his neck to start but has to fight out of an early Game Over attempt. That's enough to send Miro outside for an early breather as they both feel very serious. Back in and Kingston snaps off a suplex, earning a rather loud cheer from the crowd as Miro bails back to the floor. This time Kingston joins him and gets sent hard into the barricade to put Kingston in trouble for the first time.

That lasts all of a few seconds as he is back with a kick to Miro's face. A dive off the apron is countered into a powerslam though and Miro, despite holding his neck, gets a breather. There's a hard posting to put Kingston down again and it's a backbreaker back inside. We hit the chinlock but Kingston fights back up with the chops. Miro knocks him silly again but Kingston snaps off a jumping enziguri.

A Saito suplex drops Miro again, allowing Excalibur to rattle off Kingston's Japanese influences. Back up and they chop it out, with Kingston getting the better of things to set up more Saito suplexes for two. The threat of a spinning backfist sends Miro outside so Kingston hits the suicide elbow. Back in and Kingston's fisherman's suplex gets two as the fans are all behind Kingston. Miro pulls him into the corner though and unloads with forearms to the back.

Kingston accidentally pulls the turnbuckle pad off but Miro catches him with the jumping kick to the face. Game Over goes on but Kingston falls forward to make the rope for the break. That is NOT cool with Miro, who walks into the spinning backfist into the DDT for a delayed two as the referee was getting rid of the turnbuckle pad. Some knees connect to Miro so he goes into the corner, allowing him to sneak in a low blow. The jumping superkick retains the title at 13:25.

Rating: B. This was two big guys hitting each other hard but there was a story there too. Kingston set up the neck and the DDT, which had been built up in the last week, gave him a great near fall. Miro needing to cheat to survive was a good way to go and the crowd was WAY into everything all night. Very good choice for an opener here and I got into it.

We run down the card.

#### <u>Jon Moxley vs. Satoshi Kojima</u>

Moxley wanted someone from New Japan and Kojima accepted. The bell rings and Moxley flips him off, setting up the big chop off. They forearm it out until Kojima runs him over with a shoulder and Moxley rolls outside. Kojima catches him with a dive and Excalibur is right there to list Kojima's accomplishments. Moxley jumps back inside for a suicide dive of his own and a Russian legsweep sends Kojima into the barricade.

Back in and Moxley stomps on the hand and starts cranking on

it for a bit, followed by the knees to the chest. Kojima sends him into the corner though for the rapid fire chops and a top rope elbow gets two on Moxley. Back up and Moxley snaps off a suplex before taking Kojima up top. That just earns Moxley a superplex back down and a DDT on the apron makes it worse. Tony calls Moxley a representative of the state of Chicago and even JR gets on him a bit for it.

Back in and Moxley (with a cut elbow, which causes Excalibur to mention Moxley's staph infection from a year or so ago in a great catch) hits a release suplex, or Jason Jett's Crash Landing for you last few weeks of WCW fans. The Paradigm Shift into the brainbuster gets a delayed two and Moxley is rocked. Kojima's lariat is countered into a German suplex for two and a jumping knee drops Kojima again. Back up and Kojima hits the lariat into the Koji Cutter but can't cover.

They slug it out from their knees and then their feet until Moxley blasts him with a lariat of his own. The bulldog choke goes on but Kojima makes the rope. Some Mongolian chops rock Moxley, who counters another lariat into the Paradigm Shift. Another Paradigm Shift finishes Kojima at 11:55.

Rating: B-. This was another fun one with Moxley getting a win over a credible opponent. There is something cool about AEW's relationship with New Japan (stupid name aside) but I'm not a huge fan of having the dream matches with little personal backstory. The action made up for it and the match was good, though I could have used a better build.

Respect is shown post match....but none of that matters as Minoru Suzuki is here. Suzuki takes off his shirt and they forearm it out with Moxley throwing in a bow of respect. That's fine with Suzuki, who wins the slugout and chokes Moxley out. The Gotch style piledriver leaves Moxley laying.

We recap Britt Baker defending the Women's Title against Kris Statlander with a bunch of talking heads giving their predictions.

#### Women's Title: Britt Baker vs. Kris Statlander

Baker, with Rebel and Jamie Hayter, is defending and Orange Cassidy is here with Statlander. They stare each other down a bit until Statlander starts working on Baker's recently broken arm. That's broken up though and Baker takes her into the corner for a hanging neckbreaker. The seconds are near blows on the floor as Baker sends Statlander face first into the apron.

Baker grabs a neck crank to keep Statlander in trouble but she fights up for some running shots to rock Baker in the corner. Statlander grabs a modified Falcon Arrow for two but Baker is back with a hard DDT for the same. Baker loads up the glove, which takes long enough for Statlander to kick her in the head.

Statlander's Area 451 misses though and Baker grabs a crossface. That's countered into an electric chair faceplant and an ax kick gives Statlander two. Baker is sent outside but the big dive misses. A Stomp rocks Statlander again but she is able to counter the Lockjaw back inside. The Spider Crab is countered as well and Baker busts out a Panama Sunrise for two. Another stomp sets up the Lockjaw to retain at 11:33.

Rating: B. These two beat the fire out of each other and the fans were into it, even without the drama over who was going to win. Statlander was a good choice of an opponent as she feels like a credible enough of a threat but was always going to come up short in the end. Baker could be champ for a long time, but it is going to go through Thunder Rosa at some point and that is all that matters.

Andrade El Idolo and Chavo Guerrero deny having anything to do with Pac's travel issues. El Idolo is ready for Pac on Rampage.

We recap the Lucha Bros vs. the Young Bucks in a cage for the Tag Team Titles. The Bucks keep cheating to win and the teams have a history of major matches in the company's history.

#### <u>Tag Team Title: Lucha Bros vs. Young Bucks</u>

The Bros are challenging in a cage and get rapped to the ring. Don Callis joins commentary as the Bucks try to leave early. That's broken up with ease though as the Bros score with kicks to their backs. More kicks, including stereo kicks to the kneeling Bucks, keep the Bros in control but the Bucks kick them right back down. Penta winds up on the floor between the ring and the cage (which doesn't connect to the apron), leaving Fenix to get powerbombed against the cage.

There's a kick to Penta's head and a chain is used to choke Fenix. A hurricanrana sends Matt into the cage and Penta is back in with a Backstabber out of the corner. The Bros' stereo low superkicks only hit each other and Matt hits a top rope flipping Stunner on Penta. A double rolling cutter drops the Bucks as well and the Penta Driver gives Penta two on Matt. The Bucks are back up with more kicks and Fenix is sent into the cage.

The Swanton/Tombstone get two on the Bros but the BTE Trigger knees only hit each other. Fenix sends the Bucks into each other but Matt kicks both of them low. More Bang For Your Buck gets two on Fenix so the frustrated Bucks go after the masks. Callis calls it psychology, which Tony calls BS. Fenix is sent face first into the cage and Cutler throws his bag into the cage. Matt loads up a thumb tack shoe but Penta gets in front of Fenix. That's fine with Matt, who kicks Penta in the head instead.

Penta is sent into the boot in the corner, with his mask getting stuck for a disturbing visual. A running boot from Nick drives Penta's head even further into the tacks and there's a superkick into the poisonrana to Fenix. The BTE Trigger gets two on Penta with Fenix making a save to bring the crowd right back to life. Matt takes the shoe off but Fenix makes the comeback with his variety of insane kicks. The shoe goes upside the Bucks' heads and the Black Fire Driver gets two on Matt. The spike Fear Factor is broken up so Nick and Fenix climb the cage to slug it out.

Matt and Penta pull them down for stereo package piledrivers on the apron, setting up the big slugout. Matt goes up top with Penta though and it's a super Canadian Destroyer to bring him back down to put everyone out. Everyone gets back up for a circle strike off until they're all knocked down again. Back up and a Fear Factor gets two on Nick so Fenix goes up to the top of the cage. Nick saves Matt from the package piledriver and climbs up top with Fenix, only to get kicked back down. Fenix dives onto all three of them (dang) and the spike Fear Factor FINALLY ends the Bucks' reign at 22:02.

Rating: A-. They had to do the title change here and even though things got bleak for the Bros more than once, all that matters was the big ending. The Bucks had to lose here and it took a lot to put them away, but it was a heck of a match to get there. This was the big show stealing match and that's all you could have expected it to be. Awesome stuff here and by far the best thing on the show so far.

We get the long celebration and a look back at the rest of the show as the cage is removed.

#### Casino Battle Royal

We have twenty entrants and three minute intervals between suits. Clubs are in first, including Hikaru Shida, Skye Blue, Emi Sakura, Bunny and Abadon, the latter of whom freaks out the announcers. Blue and Bunny slug it out to start with the hometown girl Blue getting a big reaction. Blue gets sent to the apron though and Abadon knocks her out in a hurry.

Bunny eliminates Abadon a few seconds later and is fine with

letting Sakura put Shida in a surfboard. That's broken up with a rake to Sakura's face though and Bunny gets in some more stomping until the Diamonds come in. That means Anna Jay, Kiera Hogan, KiLynn King, Diamante and Nyla Rose.

The brawling is on again and Sakura is out in a hurry. Hogan and King follow her out and there goes Shida with them. Rose and Diamante team up to go after Bunny and Jay and split up in about ten seconds. The four of them are joined by the Hearts, in the form of Thunder Rosa, Penelope Ford, Riho, Jamie Hayter and Big Swole. Riho hits a double 619 on Ford and Conti but Hayter tosses her out. Swole headbutts Diamante out but gets tossed by Hayter as well. The fans are behind Rosa as she fights off Hayter and Rose in the corner.

Things slow down a bit until we get the Clubs, with Tay Conti, Red Velvet, Leylah Hirsch, Jade Cargill and Rebel. The brawling is on and Velvet dropkicks Rebel out. Bunny and Jay wind up on the apron and both are kicked out in a hurry. Cargill throws Hirsch out and onto the pile (including onto some referees) and the clock ticks down, bringing up the RUBY SOHO chants. The Joker is....Ruby Soho (formerly known as Ruby Riott).

The final grouping is Soho, Conti, Ford, Cargill, Hayter, Velvet, Rose and Rosa. Soho goes after Cargill and then Rose, with Rosa using Soho to take Rose down. Cargill pumphandle faceplants Soho and tosses Hayter out in a nasty crash. Velvet is tossed as well but Rose gets rid of Cargill. Conti gets rid of Ford but gets tossed as well, leaving us with Soho, Rosa and Rose.

Rosa and Soho are knocked silly in a hurry but Rose gets a bit too cocky, allowing Rosa to send her to the apron and kick her out for the elimination. They stare each other down until Rosa shouts in Spanish and chops her hard. The Fire Thunder Driver is broken up and Rosa is sent to the apron but she pulls Soho out with her. Soho can't get a German suplex off the apron but

she can knee Rosa off the apron for the win at 21:48.

Rating: C+. This is their signature deal with the decks and all that jazz but it doesn't make for the most thrilling battle royal. It doesn't help when the Joker gets the big advantage, but Soho winning is one of the right ways they can go. It made for a good moment, though the match could have been a bit shorter to keep things moving a bit faster.

We recap Chris Jericho vs. MJF. Jericho can't beat MJF and has become obsessed with him, so tonight Jericho's career is on the line.

#### Chris Jericho vs. Maxwell Jacob Friedman

We get the old school COUNTDOWN but it is only leading to "JERICHO'S LAST MATCH". Ok points for some good trolling, along with MJF coming to the ring in a king's robe. Jericho is played to the ring by Fozzy's guitarist to quite the reaction. MJF bails to the floor to rip up some Jericho signs before coming back inside so Jericho can snap off some armdrags. MJF gets in a shot to the face so they head outside, where Jericho whips him into the crowd. Jericho drops things onto MJF's head and they go back inside.

This time Jericho's baseball slide is caught in the ring skirt though and the beating is on. MJF starts in on Jericho's bad arm and drives his elbow into the shoulder. Jericho fights up but a shot to the arm cuts that off in a hurry. A headbutt and some chops set up MJF's Fargo Strut and the Heatseeker on the apron crushes Jericho again. That's good for a nine so MJF knocks him back outside, only to miss an Asai moonsault.

Back in and they slug it out with Jericho getting the better of things. Jericho goes up top but dives into a Codebreaker for two in a good moment. Back up and Jericho scores with a dropkick for two and the fans are behind him again. Some corner clotheslines and right hands look to set up a super hurricanrana but MJF counters into a super sitout powerbomb.

MJF is banged up too though, allowing Jericho to come back with a Codebreaker for two. Cue Wardlow but Jake Hager comes out to take care of him in a hurry (because the Inner Circle and the Pinnacle are back for this match).

The distraction lets MJF get in a baseball bat shot and the Judas Effect hits Jericho…for the pin at 18:19, though Jericho's foot was on the rope. Therefore hold on, as another referee comes out to explain things and the match will restart. The bell rings and Jericho grabs a rollup for two. MJF is right back with the Salt of the Earth, which is reversed into a rollup for two more. The hold goes back on but this time Jericho reverses into the Walls. MJF is dragged back to the middle of the ring and FINALLY taps to save Jericho's career at 21:08.

Rating: B. This was another good one as MJF used all of Jericho's stuff because he believes he is the better of the two. Then Jericho wins in the end, with the great false finish of the boot on the rope. I'm not sure how much good this whole thing has done for MJF because he ultimately lost in the end, but it was nice to see him in such a high profile feud over the last several months.

The Inner Circle comes out to celebrate with Jericho.

We recap CM Punk vs. Darby Allin, which includes Allin in a BEST IN THE WORLD body bag and being hung from a helicopter.

#### Darby Allin vs. CM Punk

This is Punk's first match since January 2014 and he's in tights instead of trunks. Allin sits in the corner so Punk sits in the middle of the ring for the staredown. They lock up and Allin armdrags him down, which has Punk thinking twice for a second. Back up and Punk shoulders him down, earning a WELCOME BACK chant. Punk has to clarify that they mean him before grabbing a headlock and laying on Allin for a bit.

That's broken up as well so Allin hits a hard running shoulder of his own. The threat of the GTS sends Allin bailing to the floor though and we need a breather. Allin is back in with the high angle armdrag and some running shoulders in the corner. Punk whips him HARD over the top and out to the floor though with a nasty crash. Back in and a belly to back suplex sets up a double arm crank to keep Allin down.

The abdominal stretch goes on, followed by a tilt-a-whirl backbreaker (Allin: "OH S\*\*\*!") for two. Another abdominal stretch is countered into the flipping Stunner to give Allin a needed breather. The springboard Coffin Drop to a standing Punk sets up La Majistral for two and the Code Red gets the same. Punk catches him on top but a belly to back superplex is countered into a crossbody for two.

Back up and Punk scores with the GTS out of nowhere but Allin falls outside. Allin barely beats the count so Punk tries another GTS, which is countered with a bunch of elbows to the head. A big charge sends Punk outside and there's a Swanton to a standing Punk outside. Back in and Allin loads up the Coffin Drop but Punk sits up. Allin's cradle is countered but so is the GTS, allowing Allin to get two off the Last Supper. Punk's leg lariat gets two so Allin loads up the poisonrana, only to get countered into the GTS for the pin at 16:08.

Rating: B. This was a well put together match as Punk got to stand still a lot and wrestle in bursts instead of going full speed the whole time. That allowed Allin to do most of the heavy lifting and protected Punk from not having his wind back yet. The big matches can come with time, but for now this was about getting Punk back in the ring to knock off some of the rust. Rather good match, mainly due to the setup and Allin's work.

Post match Sting comes out to check on Allin, with Punk kneeling right next to him. Allin gets up and Punk shakes his hand for the cool moment. Punk gets to take a quick victory lap and says that was #1.

Full Gear is Saturday November 13.

We recap QT Marshall vs. Paul Wight. Marshall had been insulting Tony Schiavone and his family, so Wight came out to help his broadcast partner. Now it's time for Wight's in-ring debut.

#### QT Marshall vs. Paul Wight

Wight doesn't waste time and starts in with the chops before Marshall can take his jacket off. Marshall gets in a shot to the bad hip though and a low dropkick staggers Wight. The kickout sends Marshall outside and it's time to start panicking. Back in and the Diamond Cutter is blocked, Wight beats up the rest of the Factory and grabs the chokeslam for the pin at 3:12.

Rating: D+. That's how it should have gone and there is nothing to complain about here. Yes the Marshall stuff over the last few weeks has been a bit lame but ultimately, Wight beat him without much effort and that is all he should have done. Wight can go back to commentary until he is needed again and Marshall can go back to....whatever it is that he does.

Jon Moxley is facing Minoru Suzuki on Dynamite in Cincinnati.

Moxley says Suzuki better be ready to come to his hometown in the Nasty Natti.

Malakai Black is ready for Dustin Rhodes on Dynamite and suggests that Rhodes think of everything he has done to Rhodes' family and friends.

We recap Christian Cage challenging Kenny Omega for the World Title. Cage pinned him to win the Impact Wrestling World Title so now it is time to do it for the belt that really mattes. Talking heads aren't sure who should win.

#### AEW World Title: Christian Cage vs. Kenny Omega

Omega, with Don Callis, is defending and Cage starts fast by knocking Omega outside. Cage whips him into the barricade and Cage hits the big dive off the top to take him out. Back up and Omega whips Cage into the steps before pulling out a table. This one is laid on top of Cage though and Omega stomps it for a break (Omega: "Did I do that???"). Cage blocks a suplex through another table and suplexes Omega onto the floor. Back in and Cage's Cloverleaf is blocked, allowing Omega to hit something close to a Sling Blade for two.

Omega knocks him to the floor again and hits the moonsault off the barricade. Back in and Cage is in more trouble, setting up a chest first whip into the corner. A fireman's carry backbreaker gives Omega two more but he takes too long going up, allowing Christian to grab a hurricanrana. Christian chokes on the ropes and then jumps over for the customary right hand. Omega gets in a knee to the head and drives him into the corner for some shoulders to the ribs.

Now the V Trigger can hit the back of Christian's head in the corner. The Snapdragon brings Christian out of the corner and there's a second to make it even worse. Cage flips him off so it's a third Snapdragon into another V Trigger. Instead of covering, Omega tries a German suplex through a table on the floor. Since that can't work, Christian reverses into a Killswitch attempt but has to settle for a spear through the table instead. It takes them a minute to get back in, where Christian hits a spear each to Omega's back and ribs for two.

Christian can't follow up and has to escape the Dr. Wiley Bomb. Omega this some knees to the face, setting up a ripcord V Trigger. A tiger driver is countered though and Christian gets the high angle Cloverleaf. Callis calls in the reinforcements with the Good Brothers but Christian fights them off. The Killswitch gives Cage two more and they're both down. With nothing else working, Christian catches him on top

and tries a super Killswitch but gets reversed into a super One Winged Angel to retain the title at 21:21.

Rating: B+. They did everything they could to get around the lack of drama and it was a very good match. The problem is I never once believed Christian had a chance and I can't imagine I'm alone. Cage was fine for a one off challenger, but Omega is going to need a major challenger sooner than later. Like at Full Gear for example.

Post match the rest of the Elite comes in for the big beatdown, with Jurassic Express not being able to make the save. The YES chants begin but Omega grabs the mic and asks if if Chicago is finally starting to understand. Omega doesn't care who is a hometown hero because no one is on his level. When it comes to the AEW World Title, the only people who have a chance to beat him are either not here, already tired or already dead. Then the lights go out....and it's Adam Cole (Bay Bay) making his debut.

Cole gets in the ring....and superkicks Jungle Boy, because Cole is with the Elite. Omega: "In the words of Steve Urkel, did I do that?" Cole asks who is ready for Story Time With Adam Cole Bay Bay. The Elite is the most dominant faction in wrestling and no one can stop them. Omega hits the catchphrase....and we have Ride of the Valkyries. Brian Danielson is here too and some of the Elite bails. Danielson, Christian and Jurassic Express stare down Omega, Cole and the Young Bucks, with Omega leaving so the good guys can clean house so YES chants can end the show. That's a heck of a pair of surprises so yeah, they nailed it.

**Overall Rating**: A. Great matches, two big moments and the historic title change with the only thing resembling a bad match lasting less than 200 seconds. They did pretty much everything right here and it was a pretty awesome show as a result. This felt like the normal AEW pay per view and that is certainly a great thing to hear. Awesome show and it didn't

feel like nearly four hours so there isn't much of anything to complain about here.

#### Results

Miro b. Eddie Kingston - Jumping superkick

Jon Moxley b. Satoshi Kojima — Paradigm Shift

Britt Baker b. Kris Statlander - Lockjaw

Lucha Bros b. Young Bucks — Spike Fear Factor to Nick Jackson Ruby Soho won the Casino Battle Royal last eliminating Thunder Rosa

Chris Jericho b. Maxwell Jacob Friedman — Walls of Jericho CM Punk b. Darby Allin — GTS

Paul Wight b. QT Marshall — Chokeslam

Kenny Omega b. Christian Cage — Super One Winged Angel

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# Daily News Update — September 5, 2021

All Out, All Day.

More On Why AEW All Out Match Was Postponed.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aew-match-postponed/

He'll Probably Be Gold: WWE Makes Huge Signing.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/hell-probably-gold-wwe-makes-huge-s
igning/

VIDEO: WWE Announces Injury To SmackDown Star.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-wwe-announces-injury-smackdow
n-star/

Some Excellent Wrestling News For A Change (Health Related).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/excellent-wrestling-news-change-hea
lth-related/

Boss Time? Important Update On Sasha Banks' WWE Status.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/important-update-sasha-banks-wwe-st
atus/

WWE Lets Another Name Go From The Company.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-lets-another-name-go-company/

As always, please check out all of the videos if you can, hit up the comments section and get on

## All Out 2021 Preview

It's time for another AEW pay per view and that should be a good thing. The company has done very well with these over the years and there is no reason to think this one won't be great as well. There are a few matches which could go on last and almost everything on the card could wind up being good. AEW has done a rather nice job of hyping up the show and now they have a chance to make it actually work. Let's get to it.

## Buy-In: Best Friends/Jurassic Express vs. Hardy Family Office

This is a bonus match after everything else was thrown off by Pac vs. Andrade El Idolo being called off. The Hardy Family Office is one of the more bottom of the barrel stables but Hardy has some name value and the team itself could be worse. That being said, this is there for one reason and one reason only: to get the fans singing along with Jungle Boy's entrance in a cool moment to start the show.

I'll go with the good guys here as there is no reason for Hardy and company to win. The team is a bunch of losers for the most part and the fans love most of the Best Friends/Jurassic Express. Let these guys go out there, have their ten or so minutes and pop the crowd to get things going. It isn't going to take much to fire up a Chicago AEW crowd, but this is a logical way to go.

## Women's Title: Britt Baker(c) vs. Kris Statlander

We'll go with what should be one of the easier ones to start the main card. I like both of these women and AEW has done a good job of making Statlander feel like a threat. Statlander comes off like a monster who could run Baker over but odds are Baker will have Rebel and Jamie Hayter with them. This is one where it is all going to come down to execution, because I don't think the ending is in doubt.

Of course Baker retains here as there is no reason for her not to. Baker is easily the biggest star in the women's division and there is no reason she should be dropping the title anytime soon. Statlander is more or less the challenger of the month and she will be just fine in that role. Let them go out there, do their thing and give us some false finishes before Baker retains. It isn't a complicated one here.

## TNT Title: Miro(c) vs. Eddie Kingston

This one has been all about the promos in the build up but then we are going to get to see these two hit each other a lot and really hard. Miro has been on another planet since going into the Redeemer deal and Kingston might still be the best talker in wrestling today. They aren't going to reinvent the wheel here, but they are going to have quite the smash mouth match you know they can haven.

Miro retains here too, as it is going to be a huge moment when he finally wins the thing. The good thing about Kingston is he barely ever needs to win a match to stay over because his talking is just that solid. These guys are going to beat each other up for a bit and then Miro will win. That's a fine use of pay per view time and this match has had me interested since it was first announced.

## <u>Jon Moxley vs. Satoshi Kojima</u>

This is the latest Forbidden Door match as I continue to try and figure out what exactly is forbidden about the whole thing. Moxley seems disappointed in having to face Kojima, but there is a good chance that this is going to set up another big Moxley match, likely at a New Japan event, down the road.

Kojima is a legend and looked rather nice in his quick trip to Impact recently, but this is a bit different.

Of course Moxley wins here, as there is no reason for him not to. Moxley is one of the top stars in AEW and a win over another legend is only going to boost him up. I'm not sure where this story is going or how many new eyes it is bringing in to AEW, but Kojima is certainly a big enough name that beating him is still going to matter. Now just stop saying Forbidden Door over and over and we could get somewhere positive.

## <u>Casino Battle Royal</u>

AEW continues to be obsessed with the gambling theme. Anyway, this is the now traditional (well, for them anyway) battle royal with twenty regular entrants coming out in groups of five, plus one Joker. The winner gets a future Women's Title shot, but the fun part is trying to figure out who the Joker is going to be. There is a name out there who makes sense, but there needs to be a winner too.

For the winner, I'll go with Tay Conti, as she has been built up rather strong over the last few weeks. I know the logical answer is probably Thunder Rosa, but she isn't going to need a special battle royal to get a title shot. As for the Joker, the best bet is probably on Ruby Soho (Riott), but there is always the chance of a curve ball in the form of the IInspiration (the IIconics). So yeah, Conti wins and Soho is the Joker in what could be a cool use of both.

## <u>Paul Wight vs. QT Marshall</u>

Now we get to this match and I'm sure people are going to have some thoughts. Wight being brought in was a pretty nice surprise, but then he basically disappeared from TV and went to a commentary spot. That's all well and good, but now that he is getting back in the ring....it's just the Big Show and he's against a midcard guy. What is this feud supposed to be

and why is Billy Gunn getting involved too?

Anyway, of course Wight wins here, because otherwise it's quite the waste of time. Marshall isn't going to be a big deal in AEW no matter how much they put him around Cody Rhodes (or possibly Gunn) and I would hope they wouldn't waste a win over a legend on him. This will be perfectly fine if it's Wight knocking Marshall silly in about two minutes, but if the show goes long and starts to drag, this is what is going to get blamed more than anything else.

## Chris Jericho vs. Maxwell Jacob Friedman

I'm not sure what to think of this match, as having Jericho (whose career is on the line) win would make a lot of the stuff he's done with MJF seem a bit worthless. MJF is going to be fine no matter what he does but this Jericho feud needs to wrap up already. It has been going on for a very long time now and MJF has already beaten him three times. This needs to be MJF's big win, but that might almost be a big surprise at this point.

I'll go with the hope and pick MJF, because there is little reason for Jericho to win this match. Jericho is going on tour with Fozzy and might be missing some shows (including the post All Out show). MJF needs to have the big definitive win, though I can't imagine they are going to have Jericho lose and go to commentary full time. MJF should win here, though I'm kind of scared that he won't.

## Tag Team Titles: Young Bucks(c) vs. Lucha Bros

This is in a cage and that could make things interesting. The big story here is the idea that the rest of the Elite won't be able to interfere and help the Bucks, but at the end of the day, it's the Bucks. You're only going to be able to get so far against the Bucks, so I'm curious to see how far this is going to have to go. The Bucks have held the titles for longer than any team in history and I'm almost scared to see what it

takes to get the titles off of them.

For the sake of my sanity, I'll say the Lucha Bros win here, though I'm not completely certain. The silver lining is that even if the Bucks win here, Grand Slam is coming up in two and a half weeks in New York and Santana and Ortiz could be lurking. I think/hope the Bros win here as there is no reason to keep the titles on the Bucks any longer. They have run through everyone and it is time for them to finally (and I do mean FINALLY) drop the titles to someone else for a change.

### AEW World Title: Kenny Omega(c) vs. Christian Cage

Now this is going to be interesting as AEW has been put into a weird place with the World Title. Omega has held it for a good while, but he is already being overshadowed by Punk. If Daniel Bryan is the next one in, Omega is going to take another backseat on top of that. I know the idea seems to be that it's Hangman Page's title to win, but that might be going a long way with the other names on the roster.

That being said, Cage isn't taking the title off of Omega so this should be a hard fought win for Omega, with roughly 73 people getting involved. Omega almost needs the win to get back on track after losing the Impact wrestling World Title to Cage back in August and this title means way more anyway. This should be Omega winning so he can move on to the bigger names.

## Darby Allin vs. CM Punk

As much as the traditionalist in me thinks that the World Title should be going on last, come on. This is the match that the show has been built around and there is almost no reason to put anything else on last. Punk's return to Chicago for Rampage was maybe the best moment ever in AEW and now we have him in the ring for the first time in seven and a half years in the same city. How could this not headline?

In addition to headlining, Punk wins here too, as he needs it

more. Yes Punk is a much bigger name and far more established than Allin, but ultimately, Punk needs to show that he can still do it. If he just comes back in and loses, how much of an impact does he have when someone else beats him? Allin gets a lot out of being the guy Punk asked to face first, but Punk goes over here to reestablish himself.

## **Overall Thoughts**

AEW has billed this up as the biggest show they have ever had. I'm not sure if that is going to be the case (though it could be) but it does feel more like a traditional wrestling show. That is a good thing, as AEW sometimes goes a bit too big with some of the things they are doing. They have a solid card here and multiple matches with stipulations or something on the line which could headline the show. I'm looking forward to seeing what they have here and that is a good thing indeed.

PPV Previews, 2021, All Out, AEW, Best Friends, Jurassic Express, Hardy Family Office, Casino Battle Royal, Britt Baker, Kris Statlander, Young Bucks, Lucha Bros, CM Punk, Darby Allin, MJF, Chris Jericho, Christian Cage, Kenny Omega, QT Marshall, Paul Wight, Jon Moxley, Satoshi Kojima, Miro, Eddie Kingston,

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# Smackdown — April 6, 2007: The Last Victory Lap

#### **Smackdown**

Date: April 6, 2007

Location: Allen County War Memorial, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Attendance: 4,500

Commentators: Michael Cole, John Bradshaw Layfield

We are done with Wrestlemania and that means it is time to back in the glory of a pretty awesome show. I'm not sure what that is going to entail, but this time around we should be in for at least an appearance from Undertaker, who won the Smackdown World Title on Sunday. Let's get to it.

## <u>Here is Wrestlemania if you need a recap.</u>

Opening sequence.

Here is Mr. Money in the Bank/Kennedy to get things going. Kennedy brags about the briefcase's power and promises that the Kennedy Era will have begun. Begun.

#### <u>Jeff Hardy vs. Mr. Kennedy</u>

They fight over a lockup to start and go up against the ropes with neither being able to get very far. Jeff shoulders him down and grabs an armdrag into an armbar. Kennedy gets sent outside for the slingshot dropkick through the ropes into the big dive. We take a break and come back with Jeff hitting the sitout gordbuster.

The Swanton is broken up though and Kennedy bends him around the post to work on the ribs, setting up a seated abdominal stretch. Back up and Kennedy knees him in the ribs to cut off a comeback attempt and there's a backbreaker to make it worse. The regular abdominal stretch goes on but

Hardy hiptosses his way to freedom. Whisper in the Wind drops Kennedy again but a REALLY far Swanton only hits mat. The DDT finishes Hardy, which Cole calls cashing in on victory. It's going to be a long contract holding time.

Rating: C. Pretty standard match here with Kennedy getting a nice win as he gets ready to move forward with the briefcase. That's the right thing for him to do and the kind of win that he needs. Kennedy has cheated to beat a bunch of top names, but he needs to prove that he can get some clean pins like this one.

Post match, Hornswoggle charges at Kennedy but it's Finlay jumping Kennedy from behind and promising violence if Kennedy ever hurts Hornswoggle again.

Wrestlemania got a lot of press.

Krystal is in Teddy Long's office and they had a great time at Wrestlemania, plus AFTER the show. Teddy gets a card to open later but Mr. Kennedy comes in to say he wants him in the ring. After some clarification, Teddy figures out that he means Hornswoggle and the match is on for next week. Oh and we'll make it a handicap match with Finlay involved too. Kennedy leaves upset and Long opens the card, which he says is amazing.

Ashley runs into Timbaland (music producer) and praises his music. Jillian Hall comes in to audition for him and Ashley/Timbaland aren't impressed.

Wrestlemania music video.

#### Chris Benoit vs. The Miz

Non-title and Miz is looking fiery here. They fight over a lockup to start and Miz grabs a headlock. You don't do that to Benoit, who snaps off a belly to back suplex for the break. A backdrop has Miz in more trouble and a snap suplex gives Benoit two. The chops put Miz into the corner and Benoit sends him out to the apron. That means a heck of a chop to stop him cold but Miz manages to snap the throat across the top rope.

Miz hammers and stomps away and the cravate puts Benoit in more trouble. Benoit can't even roll out of it so Miz knocks him into the corner for the running clothesline. Some elbows to the head give Miz two and it's off to another chinlock. That's broken up as well and Benoit starts striking away to take over.

The release German suplex sends Miz flying so Benoit loads up the Swanton, only to have MVP pull Miz away at the last second. It might not sound like much, but factor in that Miz was probably 75% of the way across the ring and Benoit would have connected. That's one of the longest top rope jumps I've ever seen and the crash landing lets Miz steal the pin. JBL sounding crushed at the fact that Miz just beat Benoit is great.

Rating: C-. Not the most thrilling match here but good night that jump was a sight to behold. You don't see someone get that kind of distance most of the time and unfortunately it didn't get the credit it deserved. MVP vs. Benoit continues and odds are we'll get a rematch at Backlash, or whatever the next Smackdown pay per view is. Works for me, as long as MVP keeps facing international champions.

We look at Matt Hardy going after Sharmell in Money in the Bank to distract King Booker. JBL: "He made the wrong choice."

Booker and Sharmell aren't happy and swear revenge.

#### <u>King Booker vs. Matt Hardy</u>

Queen Sharmell is here with Booker. Matt punches him into the corner to start, setting up the clothesline in to the bulldog for two. Booker is back up with a kick to the face and Sharmell adds some choking from the floor. A spinebuster plants Matt, who is bleeding from the mouth, for no cover. Instead it's a quickly broken chinlock, followed by an elbow to the face.

Matt is right back up with a neckbreaker and Matt's own elbow gets two. Booker isn't having any of that and kicks Matt in the face for two more. We hit the abdominal stretch and Booker throws in some elbows to the ribs. That's shifted into an armbar but Matt fights up again and hits the Side Effect. Matt's rollup gets two but Booker superkicks him hard. Back up and Booker tries a backslide, only to have Hardy grab a small package for the quick pin.

Rating: C. I don't think there is any surprise tot he fact that these two could have a fine enough match if they were given time. The amount of holds wasn't quite interesting but at least they got to do a little bit here and tie it back in to what happened at Wrestlemania. Sharmell seems to be getting some more focus though and that might not be the most thrilling concept.

Post match Sharmell yells about Matt violating her at Wrestlemania and then Booker LOSES. Sharmell walks out on him, leaving Booker upset.

#### Kane vs. Dave Taylor

William Regal is here too and jumps Kane before the match. Kane beats both of them up without much trouble and leaves them laying. No match.

Booker apologizes to Sharmell and things seem to be better. Then she slaps him.

Mark Henry is coming back.

#### Brian Kendrick/Paul London vs. Chavo Guerrero/Gregory Helms

Non-title and here are Deuce & Domino and Cherry to watch from their car. Helms takes London down to start and drops an early leg for two. Chavo comes in for an armbar followed by a dropkick for a quick two. The champs are right back up with running headscissors to put Guerrero and Helms on the floor, setting up the big dives.

We take a break and come back with Helms' swinging Rock Bottom backbreaker getting two on Kendrick. The alternating beating in the corner is on, setting up Chavo's front facelock. That doesn't last long though as the hot tag brings in London to clean house in a hurry. A Nightmare on Helm Street gives Helms two as everything breaks down. Chavo's superplex is broken up though and he gets sent outside. A Sliced Bread/sitout powerbomb combination gives Kendrick the pin.

Rating: C+. As JBL keeps saying, London and Kendrick are fun to watch. That's exactly the case and it's hard not to like them. To have held the titles this long and still be so entertaining is quite the trick that they have pulled off. It is probably time to drop the titles though, and it actually makes me a bit sad because these guys really are that good.

Deuce & Domino want the titles.

The Condemned had a big premiere in Detroit.

Booker is upset about Sharmell.

Hall of Fame video.

We've got druids so I think you know what that means. Here's the Undertaker, fresh off winning the Smackdown World Title at Wrestlemania. Before he can say anything though, cue Batista, who marches straight down to the ring. Batista says congratulations and he wants his rematch. Undertaker nods and Batista leaves but here is King Booker to jump Undertaker from behind. That doesn't go well for Booker, as the Tombstone onto the announcers' table leaves him laying to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C. As has been the case with almost everything else this week, this was more about taking a breather rather than doing anything meaningful. Booker going after Undertaker and the rematch being set up are fine, but this was a show that didn't really do much as far as setting up things. For the first show after the biggest night of the year, that is completely fine.

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## ECW On Sci Fi — April 3, 2007: It Was Happening Sooner Or Later

#### ECW on Sci Fi

Date: April 3, 2007

Location: Allen County War Memorial, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Attendance: 4,500

Commentators: Joey Styles, Tazz

We are done with Wrestlemania and ECW actually had more than a bit of a presence. Not only did ECW World Champion Bobby Lashley take out Umaga so Vince McMahon could be shaved bald, but the ECW Originals beat the New Breed in the big eight man tag. Neither seems to be over though so let's get to it.

Here are last week's results is you need a recap.

Opening sequence.

Here is Bobby Lashley to talk about how big a night Wrestlemania was for him. Everyone is talking about the Battle of the Billionaires and we see some shots of Vince McMahon being shaved at Wrestlemania. We also see Lashley taking Vince's hat last night on Raw, leaving Vince to hide his bald head under various things, including Lilian Garcia's skirt. Lashley knows Vince is coming to end his title reign, so bring it on.

We look at the Condemned movie premiere in Detroit, which is

the largest premiere of the century or whatever their latest title is.

#### CM Punk vs. Stevie Richards

Punk goes with a hammerlock into a headlock to start and Richards is in early trouble. Richards gets smart by going after Punk's taped up ribs and a suplex gets two. We pause so Richards can mock the X pose before Punk grabs the abdominal stretch. Richards gets a bit too cocky though and charges into a knee to the face. The ribs are too banged up for Punk to try a suplex so he strikes away at Richards' face instead. The (first time ever) officially named GTS finishes Richards.

Rating: C-. Richards always had some energy to him in these matches, even if he had a complete lack of a chance of winning anything. Punk gets back to winning after the Money in the Bank loss and that should be part of his way up towards the main event, either around here or elsewhere. ECW isn't keeping Punk for long, so they should get what they can out of him while they can.

Rob Van Dam is in the back with Timbaland (music producer) and pleasantries are exchanged. Van Dam leaves and Extreme Expose comes in to suggest they get a spot in his new music video. Timbaland seems intrigued.

Matt Striker and Marcus Cor Von offer CM Punk a spot in the New Breed. Punk says no, but Cor Von says you're with us or against us.

Extreme Expose.

Wrestlemania music video.

## <u>Snitsky vs. Hardcore Holly</u>

Holly slugs away to start and gets knocked into the corner for the hammering/choking. The big elbows set up some stomping but Holly gets a foot up in the corner. A suplex is countered into a failed Alabama Slam attempt and Snitsky kicks him in the face for the easy pin.

Post match, Snitsky unloads on Holly with a chair and crushes it in the steps for some hard chair shots. That's certainly an injury angle to get Holly off of TV for a staph infection.

Hall of Fame induction ceremony video.

## New Breed vs. ECW Originals

Extreme Rules, which was going to happen sooner or later. We're joined in progress with Sabu dropping Striker to set up the one armed camel clutch and everything breaks down in a hurry. The weapons are brought in to clear out the New Breed, meaning it's time for some dives. Dreamer whips Striker into a trashcan in the corner but Cor Von gets in a cheap shot so the New Breed can take over.

The rest of the Originals are held outside but Dreamer manages a DDT/neckbreaker combination to get a breather. Now the rest of the Originals can come back in to clean house with Sabu getting two on Striker. Burke knocks a swinging Sandman down without much effort but Dreamer hits the baseball slide into the chair into Striker's face in the Tree of Woe. Sandman cleans house with the kendo stick but Cor Von is back up to suplex Dreamer onto an open chair.

There's the Pounce to send Dreamer outside so Sabu comes back in to throw a chair at Cor Von's head. Van Dam slips out of a Razor's Edge through a table and rolls Thorn up for two. Ariel crotches Van Dam on top but Sabu makes another save. Van Dam and Sabu drive Thorn through the table at the same time but the Van Dam is sent outside. The Elijah Express sends Sabu through a table in the corner though and Burke gets the pin.

**Rating**: B. This was actually a heck of a sprint and that is what this should have been. Once they came back from the break, this was a pretty awesome match with all eight guys

working hard and beating each other up. Odds are this sets up a tables match at Extreme Rules for the big blowoff, though the Punk factor is going to be interesting as well.

**Overall Rating**: B-. The main event carried the thing, though the rest of the show was little more than a way to have a breather after Wrestlemania. That's all they needed to do here and it worked quite well, mainly due to one match. Sometimes you need to see something hard hitting and fun, which is what we got on this show. Nice job, though it's more of a stand alone episode than anything else.

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