

Impact Wrestling – February 9, 2012 – Heck Of A Go Home Show...Until The Ending

Impact Wrestling

Date: February 9, 2012

Location: Wembley Arena, London, England

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Tazz

It's the go home show for Against All Odds and the final show in England. These shows are always fun because you get a much better crowd before we head back to Orlando on Sunday and the crowd that could put a Nick Bockwinkel promo to sleep. We'll probably get a few more matches to flesh out the card tonight and remember there's no Hardy due to travel issues. Let's get to it.

Oh and it's the Star Wars episode. This could mean ANYTHING.

We open with the Star Wars theme and shots of Qui-Gon Jin and Obi-Wan preparing to face droids. This is put together with hogan returning last week. We also talk about the four way a bit.

Here's Ray to open the show who says he wants to talk to Bobby Roode and only Bobby Roode right now. Ray isn't happy. Here's Roode and Ray says cut his music. He meets Roode in the aisle and wants to know why Roode hasn't had his back at all. Ray says he had Roode's back against Storm but where was Roode for him? He says that Roode has the title because Ray has kept it on him.

Roode says he's had Ray's back and Ray says that's true, but last time he put a knife in it. Bobby says their problems are both with Sting and here comes the scorpion enthusiast. Sting declares himself the special enforcer at the PPV and also,

tonight it's going to be the two of them against Storm and himself.

Hogan and Garrett arrive.

We recap the AJ/Daniels/Kaz story with Kaz being forced to turn on AJ due to some form of control that Daniels has over him.

Christopher Daniels vs. AJ Styles

These two must be approaching Sheik vs. Bobo Brazil lengths of a feud. Daniels jumps him quickly but AJ knocks him to the floor and hits a great flipping dive. Coming back in AJ dives over the top and almost gets the Styles Clash but Daniels kicks him away. Daniels tries to pull out a foreign object but the referee sees him trying it. Daniels throws it to Kaz which the referee misses. AJ gets knocked to the floor as Daniels takes over. Back in a clothesline gets two.

Daniels hooks what appears to be a nerve hold and the fans are split. AJ gets in an enziguri to put Daniels down. Christopher goes over to Kaz for the foreign object but Kaz doesn't throw it in. Styles hits his moonsault into a reverse DDT and the springboard forearm. The Clash is countered again into a release Rock Bottom. BME misses but Daniels lands on his feet. Pele puts Daniels down but this time Kaz gives him the object. AJ tries to load up the Clash but as he pulls Daniels up, Daniels pops him with the knucks for the pin at 5:46.

Rating: B-. I really liked this match, probably a lot more than most AJ vs. Daniels matches. This feud has been done to death so if they have to do it again, I'm glad they're adding in a new factor to it. The object was a fine little plot point to the match and it worked very well for this. Good match and far more entertaining than what they usually do in my eyes.

Gunner tells Bischoff he'll protect him later.

Here are Joe and Magnus. Magnus talks about being back in the UK and how he has nothing against most parts of it. Tonight however, they're not in Her Majesty's UK. They're in England. Tonight he's come home and he's brought his partner with him. A few months ago there was a Wild Card Tag Team Tournament and everyone said this wouldn't work. However, they've proven everyone wrong. As for Morgan and Crimson, the only reason they're a team is so they don't have to face each other. At Against All Odds, they'll win the titles.

Here are the champions and they say the time for talking is done. The champs clear the ring very quickly, running over Magnus and Joe as they have every time that it's been on a level playing field. Joe pulls Magnus out before the double chokeslam takes him out.

Austin Aries vs. Doug Williams vs. Alex Shelley

This is non-title. Aries is sent to the floor so Williams and Shelley do their own thing for a few moments. Sliced Bread is countered and Williams goes after Shelley's knee. Aries slides back as Shelley hits the floor. Doug dives on Shelley and Aries dives on Doug to put everyone down. Aries tries a superplex on Williams but Shelley comes back in and tries a Domsday Device, but Aries escapes. Pendulum Elbow takes WAY too long to launch and Shelley moves. Chaos Theory to Shelley hits but Aries kicks Williams low to break it up. Shelley countered the brainbuster and hits Sliced Bread for the pin at 4:45.

Rating: C+. Fun match and it was a good way to have Shelley get momentum going into Sunday and his title shot. Williams is a guy you can bring in for something like this and it works well. They flew around the ring a bit and got the crowd going, which is what the cruiserweight style guys are supposed to do.

Hogan is talking to Garrett in the back when Sting comes in. Sting and Hogan are all cool and Hogan asks Garrett to step

out for a minute. Hogan says Sting has a target on him and everyone is coming for him. If Sting needs Hulk's help, he'll have it. Sting says he likes the sound of that and Hogan says something is going to go down. The cameraman is thrown out before that gets explained.

Video of the fans talking about how much they love Impact.

Here's a video from earlier today with Tara at the arena. She's filming stuff when Gail comes in and beats her up. They go into the arena so as not to draw cops I suppose with Gail destroying her. She leaves Tara laying.

Quick video from Hogan talking about how TNA is this close to being the best in the world.

Here are Hulk and Garrett with Hulk talking about how these are the best fans in the world. Hogan talks about everything the fans have given to him over the years and how now he wants the fans to give all of that to Garrett now. And the fans just do not care one bit. There's a canned pop and it still sounds weak. Hogan blames Eric for a lot of Garrett's problems and here's the papa now.

Eric and Gunner come out and Eric wants to know who Hogan thinks he is to get in Eric's family business. Hogan says it's not Eric's time anymore. Eric says it's not Hogan's time anymore and that Hogan has no right to be here. Hogan says Eric doesn't get it and that he has the Hulkamania Stroke around here. He talked to Sting and Hogan has booked Garrett vs. Gunner at the PPV. There's more to it but Gunner and Garrett get into a fight. Eric hits Hogan low and down goes Garrett. Hogan gets up and clears the ring, still making Garrett look like a guy that is in way over his head and has to be saved. Garrett hits his dad and that's about it.

Ray is mad at Roode and yells some more about Roode not having his back. Roode says they'll be ok and wants a hug. Ray hugs him and says three days.

Hey it's Hogan and Garrett again. Hulk says that they'll put an end to Eric's time in this business so Garrett can have a future. How exactly is Eric stopping that?

Mickie James vs. Velvet Sky

The announcers talk about Star Wars and Princess Leia in particular. The girls are a bit sloppy with Velvet barely holding onto a side roll. Mickie sends her into the corner and the fans are booing this somewhat. Headscissors puts Mickie down but she pops up and hits a low dropkick for two. Mickie hooks a seated abdominal stretch and the fans still don't care. Velvet comes back and drives Mickie into both knees one at a time. Taz talks about pigeons and both girls reverse each others' finishers. Velvet rolls Mickie up for the pin with a small package at 5:18.

Rating: D. This was a terrible match as both of them were missing things very rapidly. Also was there any point to this match being on the show? I can't think of one other than to get hot women in the ring. That's certainly good enough of a reason but it doesn't do much for the sake of storylines.

Video on the UK tour so far.

Video on the PPV main event with all four of them talking about the match. There's a ton of time left too.

Sting/James Storm vs. Bobby Roode/Bully Ray

Sting and Roode start us off and Sting quickly takes him down and puts on the Scorpion in less than two minutes. Ray comes in but Sting avoids the big boot. Off to Storm and the ring is cleared as we take a break. Back with Ray demanding Storm get in and here's the Cowboy. The announcers talk about how there's been no sign of Abyss since Genesis, which is a point I had forgotten about.

Storm takes over and winds up for awhile before poking Ray in

the eye. Back to Sting as the dominance continues. The heels finally take over and work on the injured ribs of Storm. Roode comes in with a body vice and slams Storm into the mat before Storm can make the tag. Off to a bearhug which Storm breaks up with a poke to the eye. A Russian legsweep takes Ray down and it's off to Sting vs. Roode.

He beats on Ray as well as house is cleaned. Both guys get splashes but a second to Roode misses. Sting calls on his memories with Flair and slams Roode off for two. Roode's head goes onto Ray's balls to send Ray to the outside. Spinebuster gets two on Sting but the fisherman's suplex is countered. Death Drop puts Roode down and the Deathlock goes on. Ray looks to save but Ray say see you in three days. Roode taps at 15:14.

Rating: C. Yes, the world champion just tapped out clean to the part time wrestler/boss in the middle of the ring three days before a PPV. I've got nothing. I'm sure the TNA fanboys will explain to me how this is a brilliant move and foreshadows something or other, but I REALLY do not get who this benefits whatsoever. Was there a reason Storm couldn't have gotten a pin here? Like ANY reason? I'm needing some help here because I don't get it at all.

Overall Rating: B-. I really liked tonight's show and it did a great job of building up Against All Odds. I still really don't like the overpushing of Bischoff but that's life in TNA anymore. The main event on Sunday is a pretty wide open field which is something you rarely get in wrestling anymore. Good show here and hopefully that means good things for Against All Odds on Sunday. Also, thank goodness the Star Wars stuff didn't mean anything.

Results

Christopher Daniels b. AJ Styles – Pin after Daniels hit Styles with brass knuckles

Alex Shelley b. Austin Aries and Doug Williams – Sliced Bread

#2 to Aries

Velvet Sky b. Mickie James – Small Package

Sting/James Storm b. Bobby Roode/Bully Ray – Scorpion
Deathlock to Roode

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

NXT – February 8, 2012 – The Best Thing That Could Have Happened To This Show

NXT

Date: February 8, 2012

Location: BOK Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Commentators: William Regal, Josh Matthews

Here we are again. I really don't know what to talk about here other than Young and Titus seem to have formed a new alliance after hating each other for so long. I don't know how well Titus' heel turn is going yet because he doesn't have anything to gain. I'm sure nothing will change here because that's how this show works. We're at a month away from this being running for a year. Let's get to it.

We are Wild And Young and feel the need to sing about it.

Striker opens the show and tells us that there are four matches tonight, including the Usos vs. Hawkins/Reks. You know, to freshen things up a bit.

Derrick Bateman vs. Heath Slater

Bateman takes over to start but misses a corner charge. Regal talks about punching a homeless man as Slater punches him down. A leg lariat puts Bateman down and it's off to a chinlock. Bateman fights up and hits something like a modified STO for two. A flip neckbreaker like the one John Morrison used to use gets the same. Slater pops up and hits his running spinning sleeper drop for the pin at 3:27. That needs a bad name.

Rating: D. This didn't click at all for me as there was a severe lack of selling. Granted at the same time it's Heath Slater vs. Derrick Bateman in a match that runs three and a half minutes so how good was it possibly going to be? Bateman's stock somehow manages to fall even further, which I didn't think was possible.

Percy Watson vs. Darren Young

Titus is on commentary. Percy starts out fast and takes him down where he stomps away on the ribs. They go to the floor and Percy gets caught in the ring skirt. Back in a swinging neckbreaker gets two for Darren and it's off to a body scissors. Titus goes on a rant about how no one has done anything for him so he's controlling his own destiny. Young charges at Watson in the corner but Percy moves, sending Young chest first into the buckle. The Heisman (spinning splash) gets two and the Persecution gets the pin at 4:24.

Rating: D+. Better match but it still wasn't anything great. This was more about furthering Percy vs. Titus post match which is a much more interesting feud. Titus turning is fine, but like I've said many times, it doesn't mean anything without there being something for him to win. At least it wasn't Slater though.

Titus gets in the ring and tells Percy that when Titus attacks him, Percy will know it.

Johnny Curtis hits on Kaitlyn and implies that Bateman has a crush on her.

Trent Barretta vs. Tyson Kidd

Yes please. They run the ropes a bit with Kidd hitting an elbow to the face to take over. Trent knocks him off the apron and they head to the floor. Whisper in the Wind off the barricade takes Kidd down but he goes down as well. Back in the ring Kidd comes off the top but jumps into a dropkick which gets two for Trent. Kidd charges in the corner but Trent gets up two knees to take him down.

He tries what looks like a one legged Codebreaker but Kidd counters into a Sharpshooter attempt. That's countered as well but Kidd kicks his head off and a release German gets two. These kickouts and counters are getting good. Trent gets in a shot to take Kidd down and heads up. A missile dropkick gets two and Barretta is getting frustrated. They go into a pinfall reversal sequence and Kidd hooks him into a sunset flip for the pin at 5:22.

Rating: C+. These guys are very fun at what they do but they're stuck here on NXT so that we can see guys like Jinder Mahal on Smackdown. Kidd used to be my favorite guy on this show and I wish he'd get more time to showcase his stuff because he really is fun to watch when he gets more than a few minutes.

Kidd helps Trent up post match which is a different style for him.

Kaitlyn goes up to Bateman in the back and Maxine comes in to yell about the loss earlier. There's a match set up. Curtis can be seen watching in the back as the girls argue.

Kaitlyn vs. Maxine

Regal goes into a LONG rant which almost has to be a song

lyric or a poem. He literally talks for 34 seconds and says that's what Maxine said. It ended with what sounded like "shoplifters of the world unite." From what I can find that's a song by The Smiths. Kaitlyn drops a leg and Regal says her legs could crack walnuts for him at Christmas. Maxine hooks a dragon sleeper to slow things down. Kaitlyn comes back with some knees and the worst cross body ever, due to a lack of jumping. Maxine wins with a crucifix at 2:59. This was your usual NXT Divas match.

Video on the Chamber which I think is the same one from Raw.

Trent is getting out of his gear in the back when Kidd comes up and says Trent has earned his respect. Kidd proposes a tag team and asks Trent to think about it. Can we please get an NXT Tag Title already? In this case there actually is a division for it.

Usos vs. Tyler Reks/Curt Hawkins

Curt and let's say Jey start us off. Hawkins takes him down a few times but walks into a northern lights for two. Off to Jimmy vs. Reks as the Usos do their "I say Us, you say 0" thing which gets a reaction as it always does. Hawkins is sent to the floor and the Usos double team to dive onto Hawkins. Reks and Hawkins use a nice misdirection move to get a boot to Jey's head and we take a break.

Back with Reks hooking Jey in a chinlock and then hitting a boot for two. Back to Hawkins and things slow way down. Reks and Hawkins are very uninteresting in the ring and they slow matches down so much when they're in there. Reks and Hawkins double team even more but Jey blocks a charge in the corner with a boot.

Hawkins gets Reks back in again though and Jey gets pounded on even more. The heels tag again and it's back to Curt for a chinlock. Jey takes him down and brings in Jimmy. Everything breaks down and Jimmy escapes the spinning Rack neckbreaker.

He gets shoved into a cane shot by Hawkins and Reks gets a rollup pin at 7:29.

Rating: C. The problem with this is the same as the problem with most of the feuds on this show: we've seen it so many times that there's no point in watching them anymore. This might have been the first time that Reks and Hawkins have beaten them, but does it really matter after they've lost about four or five times in a row?

Striker runs out to report the cane shot (why doesn't this happen more often?) and Hawkins drops him with a right hand.

Overall Rating: B-. This show flew by and in a good way. A lot of new stories were started tonight and it was like there was a brand new writer for it, which shakes thing up a lot which is what this show has needed for a very long time. I'm actually looking forward to this show now because there's something new to see, which is the best thing that could have happened on NXT.

Results

Heath Slater b. Derrick Bateman – Spinning Sleeper Mat Slam

Percy Watson b. Darren Young – Persecution

Tyson Kidd b. Trent Barretta – Sunset flip

Maxine b. Kaitlyn – Crucifix

Tyler Reks/Curt Hawkins b. The Usos – Rollup to Jimmy after a cane shot from Hawkins

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

Who Wins The Chambers?

I think I'll go with.... Barrett on Smackdown. It just kind of fits and I could easily see Barrett vs. Sheamus at Mania.

On Raw, I think it'll be Punk or Jericho, but hopefully Punk. That's certainly the way it seems they're going.

Your picks/thoughts?

Johnny Ace Not Fired

According to WWE.com. I'm fine with this because Ace is a good heel boss, but it kind of makes the last two shows pointless in regards to this storyline. Didn't the Board tell HHH that he had the right to fire Ace and become the boss again at any given moment? Why now does HHH's firing not stand? Why am I looking for continuity in WWE?

Thoughts on this?

Monday Night Raw – February 6, 2012 – Truth Go Boom

Monday Night Raw

Date: February 6, 2012

Location: Chesapeake Energy Arena, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Commentators: Michael Cole, Jerry Lawler

We're on the second of the three Raws between the Rumble and the Chamber. Last week's show was pretty awesome with the return of Undertaker to apparently challenge HHH. Also it appears that HHH is back in charge instead of Johnny Ace which should at least be interesting. We should get some more matches for the PPV tonight too. Let's get to it.

We open with a gong. Oh wait it's just a recap from last week with Taker returning and seeming challenging HHH.

6 Pack Challenge tonight with the winner entering the Chamber last. Also Show vs. Bryan.

Here's HHH to open things up. He says he was here last week to fire Johnny Ace. He wasn't here to wish him well, but rather well in all of his future endeavors. However he never got that far. Ace being called a man is an exaggeration as he's more of a weasel. Apparently Ace flew to Stamford to plead for another chance and HHH has to wait on the proposal. The decision should be in by tomorrow morning.

However he's not here for that, but rather to talk about the return of the Undertaker. He talks about hearing the gong go off and it still gives him chills. Taker is the only person that humbles HHH when they're in the ring together. Last week though, HHH didn't feel humble or anything like that. He felt sorry for the Undertaker. He knows what he did to Undertaker last year and he chooses to remember the Undertaker in a certain way.

HHH plays a highlight reel of Taker's career and I think this is all from Wrestlemania. That's how HHH wants to remember him, not like this, which brings up a video of Taker not being able to stand after last year's match. Due to that, the challenge for Wrestlemania is declined. If they have to do it again, HHH will have to finish it. He respects Taker too much and this is over.

HHH goes to leave and his music cuts off. There go the lights and a video from the match last year plays. Taker is somewhere and says it's not over. The victory last year means nothing and he wants what belongs to him. So it's Shawn's storyline from two years ago with Taker in Shawn's place?

Daniel Bryan vs. Big Show

AJ comes out with Bryan in a neckbrace. Show takes him straight to the corner and the power begins. He throws Bryan around a lot until Bryan gets in a kick to the knee and we take a break. Back with Bryan's half crab being broken as Big Show powers him around. Spear gets two. Show loads up the chokeslam but Bryan counters into a guillotine choke. Bryan gets in a shot to the leg and goes up but Show kicks him to the floor. Now Bryan is holding his knee but he was goldbricking. Show charges at Bryan but almost crushes AJ again. Bryan takes AJ to the back and loses by countout at 7:32.

Rating: D+. These two just do not work well against each other at all. Show is good against someone like Henry. The problem is that Bryan is not Henry and can't have a ton of convincing offense against the Big Show. That makes the matches quite boring so what's the point of watching them fight, especially when Bryan loses almost every time?

Bryan says Show tried to run her over on purpose and she's more important than the title. On Sunday (the PPV is in two weeks), he'll still be Bryan, a vegan and the champion.

Carl Edwards, a NASCAR driver drove his car into the arena last week and met with Cena. Cena will be the official starter for the Daytona 500.

Video on the Elimination Chamber.

Here's Otunga in the ring and he has something to say. He praises Ace and wants the Board of Directors to keep Ace on the job. Otunga asks for us to join him in prayer and he Tebows. We get an announcement from HHH that right now, Otunga has a match.

Sheamus vs. David Otunga

Otunga is in his suit, sweater and bowtie. Sheamus immediately loads up the Celtic Cross but Otunga escapes, losing the sweater in the process. A double ax takes him down and there are the ten forearms. The shirt is torn now as well. Otunga holds onto the top rope and grabs a DDT to take over. He stomps away and chokes a little bit but Sheamus is all ticked off. Brogue Kick ends this in 2:04.

Here's Jericho who says the end of the world is here. He's here to end the lying, the plagiarism and all that jazz. Everyone who is in this ring is a Chris Jericho wannabe. The fans are all wannabes too. He got all of the fans to believe whatever he wanted. Jericho admits he trolled all of them. Miz scowling in a suit is a Jericho thing. Kofi flying around is a Jericho thing. Dolph walking to the ring with Vickie is a Jericho thing because he walked to the ring with Stephanie. O.....k?

Then we have CM Punk. Punk says he's the best in the world but in reality he's a Chris Jericho wannabe and he knows deep down inside that Jericho is the best in the world. He doesn't have to write it on the back of a t-shirt but he knows it. Jericho is back to claim what is his and that means the end of the world of CM Punk. Here's Punk who comes in with a mic and drops it. Instead he holds up the title then turns his back on

Jericho. Jericho looks like he's pulling his arm back to hit Punk but doesn't and the champ leaves. Jericho yells about wanting Punk to say something but Punk keeps walking.

Randy Orton/Great Khali vs. Wade Barrett/Cody Rhodes

Orton and Barrett start but it's quickly off to Khali with the chops. He chops Orton HARD for the tag back in. Off to Rhodes and we're in an 80s style kick and punch match. Orton hits the elevated DDT and Khali tags himself back in. They get in an argument but Khali chops Rhodes out of the air during a Beautiful Disaster attempt for the pin at 3:45.

Rating: D-. This match happened. That's about all I've got for it. I get that it's supposed to push the idea of distension and everything but that doesn't mean that it's a good match. Khali was supposed to be dominant and while it kind of worked, the execution of it came off as horrible.

Khali tries to chop Orton post match but takes the RKO instead.

Now we hear about a Twitter argument between Rock and Cena. Now we see the Cena video AGAIN.

Tamina/Alicia Fox/Kelly Kelly/Eve Torres vs. Beth Phoenix/Natalya/Bella Twins

We get an inset promo from Beth who talks about how she's unbeatable. She starts with Eve and the beating begins. Off to a Bella who is chopped in the chest to bring her in. She walks into a Samoan Drop from Tamina and the Superfly Splash ends this in 1:33.

HHH is in the back when Ace comes up. Ace is all smiley and says he's still the interim GM. He met with the Board earlier today and they're very nice people. He'll accept whatever decision they make. Shawn is going to be here next week. Also it's officially Cena vs. Kane in an ambulance match. Speaking

of ambulances, HHH says Ace's career is on a flatline. If Ace doesn't leave right now, he'll be flatlined.

The decision on Ace will be announced tomorrow morning at 10AM.

We get the same video from earlier with Taker's voiceover.

Ace says he thinks the Board is looking for someone honest rather than someone who is a brute.

CM Punk vs. Dolph Ziggler vs. R-Truth vs. The Miz vs. Chris Jericho vs. Kofi Kingston

This is one fall to a finish and the winner gets to be #6 in the Chamber. Roberts fumbles over the rules before the match starts. Everyone is in the ring at once so I'm not going to try to keep up with what's going on. Jericho heads to the floor which is a smart move. Other than him, everyone but Ziggler and Kofi go to the floor. Truth TOTALLY misses a dive and crashes to the floor on his back.

Ziggler teases a dive but stops to strut. Punk clotheslines him down for two as we take a break. Back and Truth is carried out. Jericho and Kofi are on the floor and Kofi is down. Punk hits a combination neckbreaker/DDT on both heels but it only gets two on Miz. The Vice goes on both guys but Kofi makes the save. It's down to Punk vs. Jericho but Miz and Dolph come back in.

Jericho and Miz clothesline each other down as this match is going VERY slowly. Punk goes up for a superplex on Dolph but it winds up being a Tower of Doom. Miz covers Punk as Jericho covers Dolph so the referee counts both, getting two both times. Miz tries for the Finale on Jericho but Kofi comes in with Trouble in Paradise to Miz, sending him to the floor. Middle rope missile dropkick takes Kofi down and it's off to a chinlock.

Jericho misses the Lionsault and blocks Trouble in Paradise. There are the Walls for Kofi but Punk comes back in with a knee to the back of Jericho's head. Chris is sent to the floor and Ziggler tries a rollup, getting two. GTS takes Ziggler down but Jericho breaks it up, sending Punk onto the table. Jericho slides in and steals the pin on Ziggler at 12:25.

Rating: C+. The problem with this show is based in this match. The problem is that with so many people being in this match, there's nothing else to get us through the rest of the show. This was decent but once Truth was gone, the crowd was basically dead for the rest of the time. It's not bad but it's nothing great.

Jericho sits like Punk in the ring.

We hear screaming and Eve is being yelled at by Kane. He says he has to do something because of the hate. Cena is starting to embrace the hate and when he finally does it fully, he'll be in a better place. Until then though, Kane is afraid for Eve and Cena. More than that though, he's afraid of himself. Ok then.

Overall Rating: C+. This was much more about storytelling and moving things forward towards the Chamber and then on to Mania. It wasn't as good as last week's, but we got a lot done tonight which needed to happen. There's plenty of time before Mania, so it was good to get some of this out of the way. The problem with the main event as I said though is that it gives us nothing but Smackdown matches before then, which is ok but it still gets a little boring. Good show but not great.

Results

Big Show b. Daniel Bryan via countout

Sheamus b. David Otunga – Brogue Kick

Great Khali/Randy Orton b. Cody Rhodes/Wade Barrett – Chop to Rhodes

Kelly Kelly/Eve Torres/Tamina/Alicia Fox b. Beth

Phoenix/Natalya/Bella Twins – Superfly Splash to Brie Bella
Chris Jericho b. CM Punk, Dolph Ziggler, Kofi Kingston, The
Miz and R-Truth – Jericho pinned Ziggler after a GTS from Punk

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

Smackdown – February 3, 2012 – The Viper Is Back

Smackdown

Date: February 3, 2012

Location: Qwest Center Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska

Commentators: Michael Cole, Josh Matthews, Booker T

Well I'm another year older and Smackdown hopefully is a little better than last week. Last year there really weren't any long matches to be seen. Bryan is still champion and tonight we find out who he'll be defending against inside the Smackdown Elimination Chamber. I think I like the three week build better for this as the match is set tonight so what's the point in drawing it out when the Chamber sells the show? Let's get to it.

Do you know your enemy? Mine is too much cake.

Teddy is in the ring to open the show. He says there's going to be a Smackdown Elimination Chamber match as well and here are the participants: Bryan, Barrett, Big Show, Rhodes, Orton, Henry. Those are the top guys on the roster so I can't really argue with them. After Teddy gives us a brief explanation of

the rules, here's Henry. He complains about having a one in six chance at the PPV and demands a title match one on one tonight. Teddy says be thankful you're in after losing the cage.

He follows that up by saying Henry is out of the Chamber and gets no title match tonight. Henry gets in Teddy's face so Teddy suspends him indefinitely. Henry says that if he's suspended, he's going to earn it and grabs Long's tie. Cue Sheamus who makes the save. They stare each other down and Sheamus kicks his head off and Henry heads to the floor.

Henry leaves and Teddy asks Sheamus if he knows which champion he'll face at Mania. Sheamus isn't sure yet but will announce it after the Chamber. Cue Cody who says he did all the work in the Rumble and eliminated the most people but Sheamus got the win and the glory. Cody is going to take that momentum into the Chamber and become the first dual champion since the Ultimate Warrior. Teddy makes Sheamus vs. Rhodes right now.

Cody Rhodes vs. Sheamus

This is joined in progress after a break but I don't think we missed much. Cody tries to come out of the corner but gets caught in a rolling fireman's carry slam. Out to the floor with Sheamus still in control. Cody manages to dropkick him into the post and hits the Beautiful Disaster off the barricade. Moonsault press gets two for Cody and he hooks a crossface kind of move. Sheamus fires back and a powerslam gets two. They go up and Sheamus knocks Cody off and hits the flying shoulder. Brogue Kick misses as does the Beautiful Disaster and Sheamus loads up the move Finlay called the Celtic Cross for the pin at 5:17.

Rating: C. Was there really a reason for Sheamus to get another finisher? What exactly was wrong with kicking the guy's head off? Anyway, good match to get Sheamus more momentum, although I could have gone without them having Cody

lose again. Sheamus is the bigger star, but there are others he could do this to.

Cody is still at ringside after the break.

Justin Gabriel vs. Hunico

No match as Cody runs in for the beatdown and is joined by Hunico and Camacho. Khali comes out for the save. Hunico takes the Pubjabi Plunge.

Drew is in the back and Teddy says it's too predictable when Drew is in the ring. Why does Drew have a job still? He leaves and Santino comes in. Santino comes in and suggests a new tag team: SantinH0000000000000000! Duggan comes in and we get stereo USA/ITALIA chants. They leave and Aksana comes in. Sex jokes are made and Duggan says H00000000!

Mike Tyson Hall of Fame video.

Santino Marella/Jim Duggan vs. Epico/Hunico

Epico vs. Santino gets us going. Off to Duggan quickly who does nothing of note but clothesline. Back to Santino who does all of his usual stuff. Santino loads up Cobra but Rosa distracts him and the Backstabber from Primo ends him at 2:42.

Back from a break and Cole is in the ring to interview the champ. Cole says that he doesn't like to admit it, but Bryan survived. Bryan takes the mic and says this is about him. He succeeded on Sunday and calls himself a role model. Bryan talks about how being a vegan is a good thing and the fans are killing themselves by eating meat. He says he's healthier than everyone in the building without clogged arteries and a lack of heart failure. Everyone should be a vegan but the fans say he sucks.

It isn't fair that he has to be in the Elimination Chamber, especially against someone that he's dominated like Big Show. Big Show is a failure in both the ring and in life due to him

running over AJ. If Teddy doesn't take him out of the Chamber, Bryan is going to the Board of Directors and Teddy may join Johnny Ace on the unemployment line. So Ace is officially gone?

Cue Big Show who says he would have been here sooner but he was in the back finishing a steak. Bryan has been calling himself a role model but it doesn't matter if you tell people that. Show says Bryan has been lucky and a pompous jerk. After the Chamber, he'll still be a jerk but he won't be champion anymore. Bryan pokes him in the chest and says that he's overcome the odds over and over again. Show goes right at him and the beating is on. He chokeslams Bryan and AJ comes out in a neckbrace. She stops the big right hand and leaves. Bryan promises to keep her safe.

Beth and Natalya are doing Hindu squats and the stupid joke/gimmick that Natalya started last week continues. Give me a break.

Beth Phoenix/Natalya vs. Tamina/Aksana

Glam Slam pins Aksana in 43 seconds.

Tamina breaks up a Sharpshooter by Natalya post match with a superkick and hits a Superfly Splash to leave her holding her ribs.

Don't be a bully.

Great Khali will replace Henry in the Chamber.

Five minute video on how awesome John Cena is.

Orton says he'll win the Chamber match and beat whomever he has to beat.

Wade Barrett vs. Randy Orton

This is no disqualification. Bryan and AJ are watching from

the back. They brawl to start as Booker calls Barrett a future Hall of Famer. Orton takes over with a suplex and hits the Stomp. Out to the floor and Barrett throws him into the barricade. Orton throws him back in and pulls out a table as we take a break. Back with Orton trying a superplex and being countered by Barrett who shoves him through it for two.

Barrett goes after the bad back of Orton by bending it around the post. Orton has his back rammed into the apron and they go back inside. Barrett hits a bunch of knees and a big boot to knock Randy right back to the floor. They go into the crowd for a bit with Orton hammering on Barrett even more. Back to ringside and Orton jumps off the apron with a double ax to the head.

Wade manages to reverse Orton into the steps and take over. He brings in a chair and tries for Wasteland but Orton escapes and clotheslines Barrett down. Now Orton gets the chair and pops Barrett over the back with it a bunch of times. The chair is wedged between the top and middle rope and Orton whips Barrett into it.

A dropkick puts Barrett down and they head to the floor again. Barrett takes more of a beating and back inside Orton hits the Elevated DDT. RKO is countered into the Winds of Change for two. Barrett loads up a pumphandle slam onto the chair but Orton counters and hits an RKO. He doesn't cover though and moves the chair to the middle of the ring. RKO onto the chair ends this at 13:51 shown of 17:21.

Rating: C+. This was long and more of a beating by Orton than a match. I'm not sure why they had Barrett get taken down so hard here but it's a pretty definitive ending to this feud. The match was fine and it's not like Orton has destroyed Barrett the entire feud or anything. I liked it well enough and it was fine for a long TV main event.

AJ and Bryan are in the back and Teddy makes Bryan vs. Orton

for next week. Bryan tells AJ to stay here where it's safe and watch this. Bryan comes to the ring and celebrates while Orton is posing. The champ leaves and the celebration in the aisle ends the show.

Overall Rating: C+. It was a better show than last week and we definitely launched towards Elimination Chamber pretty strong. I like them having a lot of the Chamber guys in matches beforehand as you get good matches out of it and the matches have a built in backstory. The show was better than last week but not exactly a classic. Oh and on a side note: there was a Brodus match taped but there was no sign of it here.

Results

Sheamus b. Cody Rhodes – Inverted Emerald Flosion

Epico/Primo b. Jim Duggan/Santino Marella – Backstabber to Marella

Beth Phoenix/Natalya b. Tamina/Aksana – Glam Slam to Aksana

Randy Orton b. Wade Barrett – RKO onto a chair

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

Impact Wrestling – February 2, 2012 – The UK Has Some Loyal Fans

Impact Wrestling

Date: February 2, 2012

Location: Wembley Arena, London, England

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Tazz

I was going to make a bunch of jokes about being in England tonight but I'll try to find something funny to say instead. We have two shows in London before heading back to Orlando for Against All Odds on the 12th. I don't think many matches have been announced officially yet but for the most part you can guess a lot of them which is fine. These shows outside of the Impact Zone are always interesting, so let's get to it.

We open with a video of the fans who talk about how awesome wrestling is.

Hogan will be back tonight.

Roode and Ray open the show. The place looks great. Ray talks about how the fans aren't going to see Hardy tonight because they took care of him last week. I think that was done because Hardy has visa issues due to the legal history. Roode says it's great to be back in Ireland. He insists it's not them that sucks and praises himself and Ray. I think the fans are chanting for D-Von.

Roode calls out Storm and here's the Cowboy. Ray gets between them and there's Sting's music. The ring looks a lot smaller than usual. Sting says he talked to Hardy yesterday and Jeff will be back at Against All Odds. Sting announces the four way main event that I think we all knew was coming for the title at the PPV. As for tonight, Storm gets both of them in singles matches.

Garrett calls his trainer who will be here tonight.

Samoa Joe/Magnus vs. Crimson/Matt Morgan

Non-title here and it's a Buckingham Brawl which is a new twist on things: there's a coin flip to start and the winners get to be in the ring without having to tag, meaning it's a handicap match in a way. Crimson starts and the numbers game

starts up quick. The non-champions dominate for the opening minutes with a power/speed combination.

They set for their double team combination out of the corner but Crimson takes Joe down and Magnus jumps into a suplex. Hot tag brings in Morgan and everything breaks down. Crimson is sent to the floor and the Carbon Footprint misses in the corner. That allows Joe and Magnus to hit their finishing sequence on Morgan and the middle rope elbow gets the pin at 3:56.

Rating: C. Quick match but this was a good way to let Magnus/Joe get one up on the champs. Crimson and Morgan have beaten them I think twice now so why should we buy them having a real chance again? The rule twist was a nice addition and it lets the champs save some face. Decent match and the crowd was way into it.

Eric Bischoff is here.

Here's Eric in the ring. A kid flips him off at ringside. Eric says he thought the British people were civilized. He says he's here to burst the bubble of Garrett with a little dose of reality. Eric asks Garrett to come to the ring and then demands it. The arena is a very different setup as the entrance is on the hard camera side, making it almost like the old MSG setup for those of you familiar with it.

Garrett gets here and Eric tells him that no matter who is training him (remember that Eric knows who it is) it's not going to matter because Garrett is never going to be good enough. Garrett asks why Eric doesn't take it up with the trainer and Eric says that the trainer will never be here. The trainer (presumably) calls Garrett and Garrett doesn't look that pleased. The trainer is here tonight and wants to speak with Eric.

Mark Haskins, a British guy that was in some X-Division series that was put on last year, talks about how he's here to do

whatever it takes to win. He says he'll win the title.

Mark Haskins vs. Austin Aries

This is non-title I believe. The entire front row has its back to the ring for some reason. Aries takes him to the mat and the fans still like Aries more than the hometown boy. Haskins is sent over the top but he skins the cat into a headscissors to take over. Aries skins the cat as well but Haskins dropkicks him down. Haskins sets for a plancha but Aries slides in. A springboard attempt is countered, resulting in Haskins being crotched.

A top rope shot to the floor takes him down even more and the fans are all for Aries. Back in and Haskins gets crotched again. A low dropkick misses and Haskins starts his comeback. A monkey flip puts Aries down but a second is countered. Haskins nips up and runs the ropes for a springboard crossbody. A cutter gets two on the champ.

Haskins goes up for a Shooting Star and lands Lesnar style, landing right on his head. Since he's pretty much dead, Aries hits the brainbuster and holds onto him, flipping over to hook kind of a dragon sleeper hold but with Aries behind and under Haskins and pulling back on him for the tap at 4:45.

Rating: C+. Aside from the near neck breaking botch, this was a fun match. Haskins is fast but you would think he would get cheered in his hometown. I don't know if that's more praise for Aries or a bad thing about Haskins, although I'm leaning towards the former more than the latter. Good match though.

Eric Bischoff is yelling on the phone about getting a cab and Sting comes to bring him back inside.

James Storm vs. Bobby Roode

Feeling out process to start and Storm takes over. He takes Roode to the mat but the champ heads to the floor to avoid a

Last Call. We take a break and come back with Storm hitting a facebuster but walking into a clothesline. There's going to be a Star Wars Special next week. As long as it's not the Holiday Special I'm all good with that. Spinebuster gets two. Storm comes back and they slug it out.

Roode goes up top but Storm gets in a big right hand to slow him down. Storm's trunks have something that looks like the Brahma Bull on it. Storm snaps off a rana to send both guys down. Storm starts his real comeback and hits a Backstabber for no cover. Top rope elbow gets two.

Russian legsweep by Storm is countered into the Crossface but Storm rolls into the ropes. Roode sets for the Payoff but Storm counters into the Eye of the Storm but Roode counters as well. There's the Payoff but it only gets two. Storm comes back with a Codebreaker to avoid a belt shot. He loads up the Last call but here's Ray to break it up. That opening allows Roode to spear Storm for the pin at 13:50.

Rating: B-. If I never see another spear it'll be too soon. This was a good match between two guys that should be facing each other for the title in a big time PPV program but that spot goes to Hardy because Storm never got high during a PPV and made the company look like a joke. Quite a good TV match though.

Post match Ray gives Storm a Rock Bottom onto the title belt. Sting makes the save.

Tara vs. Gail Kim

Tara is #1 contender but from what I can tell, this is non-title. Tara takes over to start and strips her top off for the standing moonsault. Gail takes over with some choking and a knee to the back for two. She hooks a leg lock by bending Tara's leg over Gail's neck then a clothesline gets two.

Mike thinks if Tara beats Gail here, it might be an advantage

for her going into the rematch at the PPV. A missile dropkick misses for Gail and Tara hammers away. Powerslam (called a snap slam by Tenay) gets two but Rayne runs in for the...not DQ. She ran into Gail but it doesn't count for some reason. Widow's Peak ends this at 4:57.

Rating: C-. The match was ok but I really don't get the theory here. What purpose did this serve? Why not have Rayne take the loss here rather than giving us the match ten days before its on PPV? I really don't get this company's thinking at times but then again, why bother trying to get people to buy the TV show when you can give the matches away for free?

Here's Garrett to reveal the trainer but Eric comes out with Gunner. Eric talks some trash and to not a ton of shock, Hogan is the trainer. The fans of course love him because he's an old school guy and if you're loved once, you're always loved. Hogan and Garrett beat Gunner up for a bit while Eric stands there. Gunner is knocked to the floor and Eric is terrified and runs. Of all the people that Hogan could give a rub to, they picked Garrett Bischoff?

Hogan and Garrett talk about how they're coming for Eric.

Bully Ray vs. James Storm

This is Storm's second match of the night and he has bad ribs. Ray works on the injury with some hard shots before draping Storm over the top. Off to a camel clutch for a few moments and then a slam. Here comes Roode and we take a break. Back with Sting coming to the ring with a cricket bat and Ray holding Storm in a bearhug.

Ray lets that go and hits a big boot followed by some elbow drops for two. A splash gets the same. The middle rope backsplash misses and Storm starts his comeback. He wins a nice countering sequence on the apron and a middle rope cross body gets two. Ray tries to grab Storm but gets knocked into the referee. Sting chases Roode out of the ring and the Last

Call beats Ray clean at 14:00.

Rating: C+. Not as good as earlier but it was nice to see someone using basic psychology here like Ray was doing. Storm getting a win keeps him strong which is something he needed going into the PPV. Not a great match or anything but Ray has really impressed me in his singles run.

Overall Rating: B. This was pretty good here as the pretty strong string of non-Orlando shows continues. This moved us towards the PPV and gave us a big development in the Bischoff feud. Now if you don't care for the Bischoff feud or the main event, this wasn't the show for you because that was the majority of the focus tonight. Hogan being back isn't a bad thing but hopefully he actually gives someone a rub for a change. That talk of a Star Wars show next week though scares me.

Results

Magnus/Samoa Joe b. Crimson/Matt Morgan – Middle rope elbow to Morgan

Austin Aries b. Mark Haskins – Reverse Dragon Sleeper

Bobby Roode b. James Storm – Spear

Tara b. Gail Kim – Widow's Peak

James Storm b. Bully Ray – Last Call

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

NXT – February 1, 2012 – NXT Comes, NXT Goes, Nothing Happens

NXT

Date: February 1, 2012

Location: Qwest Center Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska

Commentators: William Regal, Josh Matthews

We're continuing with this show because someone up there hates me. This week we continue with the Titus Is Evil story as Alex Riley ran in for the save last week because...well because someone had to I guess. Other than that we have Bateman, Maxine and Curtis promising to get along for the purposes of....I have no idea. Let's get to it.

This didn't come up until Thursday for some reason.

Here's Titus to open the show. He says that the fans are being good and quiet like small people. The best thing they can do is shut up according to him. He gets on to Riley very quickly and says that he's ready for him. Here's Darren Young of all people who says he hates being here. Young says they have unfinished business. Titus says the only unfinished business Young should have is with his barber.

Young talks about how he's respected Titus lately and extends his hand for a shake. Titus doesn't care about respect from the people or from Young. Titus seems to be stumbling over his lines in this. Percy comes out and yells at Titus and calls him stupid. Them are fighting words pardner! Young calls him into the ring and as Watson gets ready, here's Riley to even the odds. The following is exactly what you would expect: brawl, Striker, tag match main event.

Tyson Kidd vs. Trent Barretta

Yes please. Tyson takes it to the mat quickly and gets some two counts but Trent bridges out. They fight for control and Tyson sends him to the floor where he hits a suicide dive. Back in an enziguri sends Tyson to the corner. A running elbow in the corner knocks Kidd back but Trent walks into a spin kick for two. Trent hits his corner stomp and a running knee gets two. They go to the corner and Tyson gets crotched. Trent goes up and tries a rana but Kidd rolls through for the pin at 4:10.

Rating: B-. As usual the cruiserweight style guys go out and have the most entertaining match of the night. Trent continues to be awesome and it's hard for Kidd to have a bad match as well. Good stuff here and there needs to be an NXT Title so these two can have a 15 minute match for it. And yes I know that's nuts.

Striker is in the back on the phone when Hawkins and Reks mess with him. The screen messes up during this. Hawkins and Reks want matches, so Striker says next week everyone licensed gets a match. That's about it.

Here's Slater to brag about ending his losing streak last week. We get a clip and as Bateman brags, here's Bateman. Slater wants to see the clip again but instead Bateman makes fun of him. "I didn't even know you had a finisher." Neither did I actually. Bateman says it was almost as impressive as the Undertaker's Streak. Slater talks about how he's won three titles and has main evented Summerslam and all that jazz.

Bateman says he has a career highlight reel of Slater which is nothing but stills of him losing and the word loser over the top, including Horny winning the over the top rope challenge. A brawl starts and Slater is knocked to the floor. Cue Maxine who kisses Bateman and that's about it.

Maxine vs. Alicia Fox

We get a clip from three weeks ago that set this up. They

immediately go at it and head to the mat. Curtis comes out and the distraction lets Alicia get a rollup for the pin at 41 seconds. Someone please explain to me why this division exists.

Five minute video on Cena that aired at the Rumble.

Maxine and Bateman go looking for Curtis and Kaitlyn finds it ironic that Maxine is always looking for Curtis. Kaitlyn says she's looking out for Bateman because they're friends but Maxine doesn't buy it. Curtis comes out of a door after they leave and smiles.

Percy Watson/Alex Riley vs. Titus O'Neil/Darren Young

Watson vs. Young starts us off. Watson sends him to the floor and hits a perfect plancha to take him out as we take a break. Back with Riley in control of Young and getting two off a clothesline. Percy comes back in and knocks Young to the floor with a dropkick. As they get back in, Young hits the belly to back on the apron for two. Titus comes in for the first time and puts a neck crank on Watson.

Young comes back for a neckbreaker which gets two. Titus brings the power back in and chinlocks Watson, but gets caught in the corner and Watson makes the hot tag to Riley. He cleans house and hits the elevated DDT for two on Young. O'Neil breaks it up and everything breaks down. Titus gets a blind tag and hits the Clash of the Titus for the pin at 9:33.

Rating: C. For a main event tag match this was fine. It's nothing of note but it pushed Titus' heel turn a bit stronger and gives us a new guy in the main event with Riley. I'm a fan of his so seeing him in a featured match is a fun thing. The match itself was nothing all that bad but it was as there as any NXT main event.

Overall Rating: C+. This show wasn't that bad. It wasn't that good, but it certainly wasn't anything bad. The best thing you

can ask for from this show anymore is that it goes by quickly and this one pretty much flew by. We get a new program with Slater vs. Bateman which is something other than Bateman vs. Curtis so it's an automatic improvement. Not bad here but it's just another show in this never ending series.

Results

Tyson Kidd b. Trent Barretta – Sunset flip off the top rope

Alicia Fox b. Maxine – Rollup

Titus O'Neil/Darren Young b. Alex Riley/Percy Watson – Clash of the Titus to Riley

Monday Night Raw – January 30, 2012 – They've Turned It On

Monday Night Raw

Date: January 30, 2012

Location: Sprint Center, Kansas City, Missouri

Commentary: Jerry Lawler, Michael Cole

We're past the Rumble now and Raw still has the same champion. The main thing going on tonight is that HHH is going to be evaluating Ace's job performance. Last night, Ace pretty much was perfect other than a few small errors, which makes me think something is up. Punk vs. Ziggler was a highlight of the show and I'd like to see more of it. Also the Chamber members have been announced already: Kofi, Miz, Truth, Punk, Ziggler and Jericho. Let's get to it.

After a quick Rumble video and the theme song, we're ready to go.

Ace comes out and shakes hands with fans and the announcers to keep sucking up. He talks about how it's ok to make mistakes as long as you don't make the same ones. Ace is looking forward to the evaluation. He talks about his performance last night and moves onto the "Elimination PPV." We hear the aforementioned Chamber participants. Also it's Beth vs. Eve, Kofi vs. Miz and Ziggler vs. Orton. Finally, Punk vs. Bryan.

Cue Punk who leads us in the goodbye song. Ace wants an apology for not screwing Punk and being a man of his word. Punk talks about how bad of a job Ace has done and can't wait until HHH gets here and throws him out. We also get the Bart Simpson (I think) suck and blow at the same time line. Ace says he won't take it personal because the Board doesn't. He does offer a clean slate via a handshake but Punk says if you do that to the best wrestler in the world, it means you want to go to sleep.

That brings out Bryan for the big celebration as usual. After last night, Punk isn't much of a challenge. Punk again says he's the best in the world so Bryan says he's a role model as a vegan. He doesn't even eat meat. Punk wants to know what exactly Bryan eats then. Bryan threatens to shove the Pipe Bomb somewhere it shouldn't be. Punk says let's give the people a show and the best match in the world.

That brings out Sheamus to remind us that he won the Rumble last night. His words, not mine. He also reminds the champs they defend at the Chamber PPV and that Ace could be fired. Sheamus doesn't pick yet and gives Ace a little Irish proverb. Punk and Bryan shake hands.

Barrett is in a sky box to watch Orton's match.

Randy Orton vs. Dolph Ziggler

During Orton's entrance, Barrett says he'll finish the job on Friday. Barrett is doing commentary from his box in a way. Ziggler starts off fast and avoids a right hand. Randy takes

it to the mat for a second with a headlock. Barrett reiterates that he'll take Orton out on Friday. Zigger hits a dropkick to the back and we take a break. Back with Ziggler holding a chinlock.

Orton gets up and avoids a corner splash but another dropkick takes him down for two. A neckbreaker sets up the sit-ups. Dolph goes up but gets crotched and a superplex gets two for Randy. Orton powerslams him down but the elevated DDT is countered and Dolph hooks the sleeper. They go to the corner again and Orton gets a slick rolling cradle for two. Fameasser gets the same for Dolph. Zig Zag is countered and we go to the floor. Orton throws him into the barricade and comes back in with the elevated DDT. RKO ends this totally clean at about 11:00.

Rating: B-. Is Ziggler capable of having a bad match anymore? He and Orton do nothing but put on solid matches anymore and this was no exception. Good stuff here and the dominant victory is fine for Orton. I don't think it hurts Ziggler really as he's a lower level star than Orton so it's not exactly an upset.

New Hall of Fame inductee tonight.

We get a still package on the Kane/Ryder/Cena stuff from last night.

Ace is still talking to people in the back and asks Regal how his son is. Regal has daughters apparently, who are conjoined and locked in the attic. Somehow that's hilarious.

Brodus Clay vs. Tyler Reks

There's a disco ball in Brodus' entrance now. Reks actually gets in some offense, even getting Brodus down to one knee. Not that it matters though as Brodus comes back and What The Funk ends this in 1:04.

Punk is lacing up his boots when Bryan comes in. Punk asks about the whole vegan thing and Bryan explains about how it's about screaming animals and not putting poison in your bodies. Bryan asks about straightedge which Punk explains and says he doesn't claim to be a role model. He's just the best wrestler in the world.

CM Punk vs. Daniel Bryan

Bryan quickly takes over with a dropkick and double leg stomp out of the surfboard position. The announcers explain the Chamber as Bryan continues to control. He misses a high kick and Punk backdrops him to the floor. Punk drops an axehandle on him and they trade European uppercuts on the floor. Bryan throws him over into the timekeeper's area but Punk beats the count back in at 9.

Punk hits a belly to back suplex to set up the springboard clothesline which gets two. Bryan does his moonsault out of the corner and tries a cross body at the same time Punk does. They collide and as they're both down we take a break. Back with Bryan working on the arm which he kicked during the break. Bryan goes up but Punk crotches him and hits a rana after shouting BEST IN THE WORLD.

The running knee hits in the corner and Punk shifts to the good arm for the bulldog. I love subtle little things like that, even though Cole and Lawler pointed it out. GTS is attempted but Bryan heads to the floor. Baseball slide is attempted but Punk's suicide dive is countered by a forearm. Missile dropkick gets two for Daniel. Bryan fires off the kicks but Punk gets a sunset flip for two. BIG kick to the head of Punk gets the same.

They go to the corner again with Bryan trying a superplex. A headbutt puts him down and there's the Savage Elbow. Well not quite as he only points with one arm. GTS is countered into a crucifix but Bryan can't get the LeBell Lock. Slingshot puts

Bryan into the corner and a high kick puts him down. And here's Jericho to interfere for the DQ at 15:04.

Rating: B. It was good while it lasted and I guess this sets up Jericho vs. Punk. It was very good back and forth stuff, but it does kind of say a lot when Punk vs. Bryan and champion vs. champion is only the first hour main event. Still though, pretty entertaining match which had no chance at a clean ending.

Jericho hits Punk with a Codebreaker and leaves him laying. He hit Bryan first though so Bryan wins.

Mike Tyson is going to the WWE Hall of Fame. This was on ESPN.com earlier today.

Truth comes out for commentary for the next match.

Kofi Kingston vs. The Miz

Miz talks about the handstand last night and how he'll be going to the main event of Wrestlemania no matter what. Miz controls to start with his usual basic stuff. Kofi avoids a charge and speeds things up a bit, but Miz takes him down with a double axe from the top. Off to a cravate and into the short DDT for two. Cole keeps asking about Little Jimmy and Truth gets annoyed. Kofi is in tights with question marks on them. Top rope cross body hits Miz for two. He tries the SOS but Miz escapes. Jumping forearm is almost countered into the Finale but Kofi shakes him off. Trouble in Paradise hits out of nowhere for the pin at 4:15.

Rating: C. It's nice to see Kofi get a win which gives him some momentum. He hasn't really done anything as a singles guy in awhile so this is something he needs going into the Chamber. Not a great match but at least it accomplished something and was 100% clean. Kofi has as much chance as I do in the Chamber but that's ok as he'll hit some huge spots for the fun aspect of the match.

Otunga comes in to talk to Ace and wishes him luck.

Same Rock video from last night airs. You know, for the wrestling fans that don't know who The Rock is.

Divas Title: Eve Torres vs. Beth Phoenix

Eve jumps her to start but the Glam Slam ends this in 30 seconds. Yep, this was pointless.

Kane pops up on the screen and says this could have been avoided if Cena embraced the hate. Cena keeps looking by Kane to Rock, and until Cena embraces the hate, there's no way Cena can beat Rock. Kane is going to continue punishing Ryder until the hate is embraced. Tonight, Kane is going to use Eve as a way to push that idea along. The fire goes off and Kane isn't at the entrance. Instead he's on the apron behind her. She screams and Cena comes out for the save.

The fight is on quickly and they go into the aisle. Cena fires back at Kane and rams him into the steps. He picks up the steps and takes Kane down with them, drawing a smile on John's face. There's another shot and Kane is in trouble. Cena loads up the announce table and sets for the AA as he laughs. Kane elbows his way out of it and runs through the crowd. Good segment as Cena has some fire to him (no pun intended) and you buy that he can beat Kane now, which is the idea heading into the Chamber so he can reach his destiny at Wrestlemania.

Time for Ace's evaluation. Ace says he's not nervous because he knows what he's done on Raw and that the fans have appreciated it. He's had to go through a self evaluation and has given himself a lot of 5's (the highest score possible). Ace goes on with this for a bit before HHH's entrance cuts him off. HHH says forget everything about the assessment and all that stuff because it's all about how Ace has grabbed the power and tried to make himself a star.

Ace tries to explain it and HHH says don't lie and make it

worse. HHH talks about how this is a personal agenda to make Ace a star. That HAS to be a rib. HHH talks about people letting personal decisions cloud their judgment and having to be replaced. Ace says he'll do anything to save his job. HHH makes sure the word anything was in there. When Ace says that's right, HHH says apologize to the WWE Universe.

Ace apologizes to everyone and you can feel the corporate stooge in him coming out perfectly because he snaps this off like he's ordering dinner. HHH says the fans aren't going with it so how about Ace runs a gauntlet match against everyone in the locker room that wants a shot at him. That probably isn't fair though so how about Ace joins Vince's exclusive club. Ace is really shaken about it but puts on chapstick and gets on his knees.

His eyes are closed and he's puckered up. HHH laughs and says "You're really going to do it aren't you you freak?" Instead, Ace is fired and HHH is running Raw again. HHH sets to wish his well in his future endeavors...and a gong sounds. The lights go out, fire comes up, and the Undertaker is back. I don't know if Ace is officially gone or not but HHH said the Board said HHH could run Raw again anytime he wanted.

Taker stares down HHH and slowly walks to the ring. Well there's Wrestlemania and the shot at 20-0. Taker circles HHH and they stare each other down. This is a LONG overrun as it's 11:15. He looks up at the Wrestlemania sign and then at HHH then hits the throat slit. A very long staredown and more looking at the sign follows and then HHH pats him on the shoulder to a lot of booing. HHH leaves and Taker looks at the sign again. His music plays us out.

Overall Rating: B. I really liked tonight's show, but MAN does it take a hit between Miz vs. Kofi and the Cena/Kane fight. That Rock video is way too long and it stops things cold. I really don't get the point of it either. Who doesn't know who the Rock is? Even non-wrestling fans know he used to be a

wrestler and wrestling fans worship him. Why do we need a 5 minute video on him? Either way, the rest of the show was solid as they've turned it on as they always do this time of year.

Results

Randy Orton b. Dolph Ziggler – RK0

Brodus Clay b. Tyler Reks – What The Funk

Daniel Bryan b. CM Punk via DQ when Chris Jericho interfered

Kofi Kingston b. The Miz – Trouble in Paradise

Beth Phoenix b. Eve Torres – Glam Slam

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

Ace Appears To Be Fired, HHH Appears To Be Back In Charge, And Undertaker Is Back

Quite the closing segment no? My take: I was starting to like Ace but his time has kind of come and gone. I wonder if the whole personal issues thing is going to keep HHH from running Raw and if they'll just keep Ace on. Should be interesting and I think we all knew HHH vs. Taker III was coming. That should be good and hopefully it's career vs. career.

Your thoughts?