Dynamite – October 5, 2022: In Search Of A Story

<u>Dynamite</u>

Date: October 5, 2022 Location: Entertainment And Sports Center, Washington DC Commentators: Excalibur, Tony Schiavone, Taz

It's the third anniversary of Dynamite and you know that means we are going to be seeing something special. In this case we have a big tag match main event as Chris Jericho and Sammy Guevara are facing Bryan Danielson and Daniel Garcia. As a bonus, the show is an extra fifteen minutes long tonight so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Wheeler Yuta vs. Maxwell Jacob Friedman

William Regal is on commentary and doesn't think much of MJF, even if the fans seem to like him. Wheeler sends him into the corner to start and we hit the Fargo Strut for some old school flare. A dropkick just annoys MJF so he takes Yuta down and grabs a chinlock. Back up and MJF grabs a tilt-a-whirl faceplant as we take a break.

Back with Yuta whipping him hard into the corner and grabbing a small package for two. Yuta grabs some rolling German suplex for two but his hurricanrana is countered into a powerbomb onto a knee. They go to a pinfall reversal sequence for several near falls each and then do it again for a bonus.

Back up and a double clothesline puts them down, which is good for a standing ovation. MJF takes him up top for a super Tombstone but gets countered into a super hurricanrana. Yuta goes up for a splash but MJF rolls away and flips him off. That's fine with Yuta, who hits a heck of a dive into the splash for two anyway. Yuta tries the Seatbelt but gets pulled into the Salt Of The Earth for the tap at 15:00.

Rating: B. They got time, they had a good story and it worked well as a result. MJF might not be the flashiest star in the ring but he knows how to put together a solid match. There was no way that Yuta was going to win here but the fact that he was wrestling instead of talking was a smart way to go.

Post match Yuta offers MJF the handshake and MJF considers it, only to have Lee Moriarty jump Yuta from behind. Cue Stokely Hathaway with the Dynamite Diamond, which MJF reluctantly puts on. That's enough for William Regal, who gets up from commentary and LOADS UP THE BRASS KNUCKLES. MJF and company leave, albeit with MJF glaring at Regal. The knuckles got quite the reaction.

Video on Chris Jericho/Sammy Guevara vs. Bryan Danielson/Daniel Garcia.

The Jericho Appreciation Society isn't happy with Garcia and punishment is promised.

Darby Allin vs. Jay Lethal

Feeling out process to start with Lethal sending Allin out to the floor. Allin is right back in for the springboard high angle armdrag into a standoff. Lethal gets smart by going after the knee but gets caught in a Scorpion Death Drop for a double knockdown. We take a break and come back with Lethal staying on the knee, including a super dragon screw legwhip.

Lethal slaps on the Figure Four as you might have expected, but Allin makes the rope, as you might have expected. The leg is fine enough for two off a Code Red so here are Sonjay Dutt and Satnam Singh. Lethal wants them to go back, setting off a pinfall reversal sequence until Allin grabs the Last Supper for the pin at 10:15.

Rating: B-. Another good one here as Lethal continues to be able to have a nice match with anyone. That is why he is put in these spots over and over, with Allin getting a win over a name who still matters. This was the kind of television match that is always going to work and that was the case again here.

Post match Lethal shakes Allin's hand, much to Singh and Dutt's annoyance.

Video on Brian Cage and the Embassy.

TNT Title: Wardlow vs. Brian Cage

Cage, with Prince Nana, is challenging. They fight into the corner to start with Cage hitting a running clothesline but not being able to drop him. A hurricanrana sends Wardlow into the ropes but he catches a 619. Wardlow plants him with a World's Strongest Slam but the Powerbomb Symphony is countered as we take a break.

Back with Wardlow fighting out of the corner and hitting a Whisper in the Wind of all things. A series of suplexes rock Cage but he catches Wardlow on top with a kick to the head. The apron superplex gets two on Wardlow, who is fine enough to come back with a spinebuster. Not to be outdone, Cage hits an F5 but tries his own powerbomb. Wardlow headbutts him a few times and hits the four movement Powerbomb Symphony to retain the title at 10:03.

Rating: B-. Sometimes you need two big strong men hitting each other for a good while until one of them can't stand up any longer. That is exactly what we got here and Wardlow felt like his old self for a change. I'm still not sure why we need the Wardlow/Samoa Joe thing when this is the kind of stuff that he can do on his own. As for Cage....well he had potential but it's pretty clearly over for him no matter what.

Post match the Gates of Agony come in for the beatdown on Wardlow but Samoa Joe runs in for the save. Cage is back up but FTR comes in for the real save.

Britt Baker says Saraya isn't cleared to wrestle so this is still her house.

<u>Toni Storm/Athena/Willow Nightingale vs. Penelope Ford/Serena</u> <u>Deeb/Jamie Hayter</u>

Saraya is here to cancel out Rebel and Britt Baker. Willow and Hayter start things off but it's off to Athena vs. Ford instead. Athena hits a basement dropkick but Ford is back up with a handspring elbow back in the corner. Deeb comes in and gets dropped by a springboard spinning crossbody. It's off to Storm to run Deeb down down and pound away with the forearms to the back. Deeb gets sent into the corner for some running charges, including Storm's running hip attack. Deeb is right back up and takes out Storm's leg as we take a break.

We come back with Storm fighting out of a chinlock and forearming away at Deeb. Everything breaks down and Deeb leglocks Storm as she suplexes Athena, with Hayter doing the same thing to Nightingale. Back up and Storm gets over for the tag off to Nightingale for a spinebuster on Hayter. Rebel loads up a crutch shot but Saraya makes the save. We hit the parade of secondary finishers until Ford gets a quick two on Nightingale. Ford's handspring elbow is broken up and a doctor bomb gives Nightingale the pin on Ford at 9:29.

Rating: C+. There were two good parts here, as we had the women getting some more time, plus Nightingale actually getting a win. They didn't get too insane here either and that made for another nice TV match. Nightingale could be on her way to something in the future if they give her a chance, and based on this maybe they are doing so.

Post match we get the big staredown, with Saraya getting in a fight with Baker. A low superkick from Saraya drops Rebel. So

I guess she can wrestle again.

Rush and Jose the Assistant aren't pleased with Private Party.

Here are the Acclaimed and Billy Gunn, because it's National Scissoring Day. The champs talk about their success and say AEW now stands for ACCLAIMED EVERY WEDNESDAY. Bowens talks about how scissoring is something that makes you friends and partners. The fans want a real team rather than two people thrown together like Keith Lee and Swerve Strickland (dubbed Sneaky Swerve).

Billy talks about how this is a special day and he has a present from city hall: some GIANT GOLD SCISSORS! Billy: "No running with scissors please." Bowens wants to see some scissoring before Caster talks about his dad winning a Super Bowl for the local NFL team. That Super Bowl ring is his prized possession and now he is proud of his son becoming a champion too. For now though, we are in a city that represents the divide in America. However, everyone loves the Acclaimed and scissoring goes beyond left and right and red and blow.

We load up the three way scissoring to unite America but Swerve Strickland cuts them off. Swerve wants the titles back and doesn't like Billy Gunn, even pulling out a rock, which beats scissors. The challenge is on for Billy vs. Swerve next week....and here is Mark Sterling of all people. He wants in on the scissoring and gets beaten down in a bit of a bizarre cameo. Billy accepts Swerve's challenge for next week and three way scissoring ensues. This was long, ridiculous, over the top, and an absolute blast.

Dark Order is ready to win the Trios Titles on Rampage.

Madison Rayne praises Skye Blue when Tay Melo and Anna Jay to come in and mock them. A sports entertainers vs. wrestlers challenge is on.

Hangman Page vs. Rush

Jose the Assistant is here with Rush. Page gets shoved around to start but Rush has to bail from the threat of a Buckshot Lariat. They head outside with Rush whipping away with a camera cord and sending Page into the barricade. We take a break and come back with Page hitting a slingshot dive onto Rush before they get back inside. Rush stands on Page's shoulders in the corner but gets taken down for two. Page has had it with him and gets in a hard clothesline. The Buckshot Lariat finishes Rush at 9:05.

Rating: C+. Well Page wasn't going to lose less than two weeks away from his World Title shot so Rush putting him over was the right way to go. They had a hard hitting match here until Page knocked him silly, which is how this should have gone. Page needs to get back to the serious and they started it well here, though I don't know if they have time to do enough before Cincinnati.

Post match Private Party comes out but Jon Moxley comes through the crowd to say he has been waiting for this for three years. Moxley is ready for his match in his hometown at the arena he used to smoke and drink in. After he walks from his house to the arena, he is ready to beat Page and prove that he is the man around here. Moxley goes to leave but Page is ready to do this right now. Moxley calls him a sweet kid and says Page says stuff that gets him in trouble. He has thirteen days, so watch your d*** mouth.

Willow Nightingale wants to be TBS Champion so Jade Cargill and the Baddies come in. Nightingale can be #39, but she thinks she can be the 1 in 38-1.

Luchasaurus vs. Fuego del Sol

A chokeslam and something like a reverse AA finishes Fuego at 23 seconds.

Post match Jungle Boy comes in with a chair to knock Luchasaurus outside. He and Luchasaurus were best friends but Luchasaurus chose Christian instead. Now Jungle Boy is going to break him piece by piece. Luchasaurus can pick the time and the place so Christian picks next week in Toronto.

Here's what's coming on various shows.

Pac is ready for Trent Beretta.

Bryan Danielson/Daniel Garcia vs. Chris Jericho/Sammy Guevara

Jericho and Garcia start things off to start, with Jericho armdragging him down. Garcia gets him to the mat and has a seat on Jericho's back but a cheap shot from Guevara lets the villains take over. It's off to Danielson to clean house and send Jericho outside for the suicide dive as we take a break.

Back with Guevara hitting a super Spanish Fly for two on Danielson and then posing with Jericho. Stereo crossbodies put Jericho and Danielson down though and it's a double tag to Garcia and Jericho. Guevara gets dropped hard so we get the staredown into the hockey fight right hands. Garcia gets the better of things and kicks Jericho in the chest, setting up the Dragontamer.

Guevara makes the save but the Lionsault hits Garcia's raised knees. Guevara tries to come in off the top but dives into a Crossface. Danielson grabs one on Jericho at the same time before they switch to stereo hammer and anvil elbows. Guevara comes back in and cleans house but Garcia counters the GTH into a piledriver. Jericho breaks it up so Danielson knees him from the apron.

A clothesline drops Guevara and Jericho drops Danielson onto a table. With that not being enough to break it, Jericho suplexes him through the table. Guevara's shooting star hits raised knees though and now the Dragontamer...is broken up with a Jericho belt shot. That's enough for Guevara to steal the pin at 14:23.

Rating: B. It was a good match with a bit of a screwy finish so it was didn't exactly come off well. This didn't feel like the major main event of the AEW anniversary show, at least somewhat due to it mainly being about Ring Of Honor. Garcia vs. Jericho continues to be built up, though I'm still not sure how interesting that is really going to be.

Overall Rating: B+. This was a stacked show with a bunch of very good matches, though nothing broke through to that top level. What matters here that they are setting up a major title match in Cincinnati before we can move on to the Full Gear build. The problem is that it might not be that interesting, despite being put together well enough. Solid action and storytelling, but they need a big story around here and that doesn't seem to be anywhere in sight.

Results Maxwell Jacob Friedman b. Wheeler Yuta — Salt Of The Earth Jay Lethal b. Darby Allin — Last Supper Wardlow b. Brian Cage — Powerbomb Symphony Willow Nightingale/Athena/Toni Storm b. Jamie Hayter/Penelope Ford/Serena Deeb — Doctor bomb to Ford Hangman Page b. Rush — Buckshot lariat Luchasaurus b. Fuego del Sol — Reverse flipping fireman's carry slam Sammy Guevara/Chris Jericho b. Bryan Danielson/Daniel Garcia — Belt shot to Garcia

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ANOTHER Backstage Fight At AEW

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wrestling-rumors-another
_backstage-altercation-aew-tv-star-sent-home/

Yes, again. This time it was reportedly between Andrade and Sammy Guevara, following their big Twitter argument. Andrade was reportedly sent home, which should tell you what happened in the whole thing. The mask vs. career match set for Rampage is off as well.

Just....dang man. AEW seems to be rapidly turning into a circus and I'm not sure what that is going to mean for them. At some point, you have to have someone be the bad guy backstage and start fining, firing or suspending people over this stuff. They already did that with the major fight, but this stuff needs to be shut down before it can start. Andrade almost has to be finished in AEW, but how many times can Sammy get into something and be kept around? Either way, AEW needs to stamp this stuff out and fast, because this is turning into WAY too big of a problem.

Daily News Update – October 5, 2022

Make sure you check out some recent reviews:

<u>Monday Night Raw – October 3, 2022</u>

PWG Threemendous

<u>NXT – October 4, 2022</u>

More Details On Ricky Steamboat's Return To The Ring.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/details-ricky-steamboats
_return-ring/

Verdict Reached In Randy Orton Tattoo Trial, Amount Of Money Awarded.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/verdict-reached-randy-or ton-tattoo-trial-amount-money-awarded/

NXT Stars Get Married Over The Weekend In International Ceremony.

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er-the-weekend-in-international-ceremony/

WWE's Carmella Debunks Story Of Explicit Video Featuring Her And Corey Graves.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/carmella-responds-report
ed-explicit-video-corey-graves/

AEW Star Hints At Wanting To Leave Company (And He Might!).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aew-star-hints-wanting-l
eave-company-might/

LOOK: Seth Rollins' Unlikely Shield Replacements.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/look-seth-rollins-recrea
tes-shield-pose-wwe-live-event/

Speculation Over Surprising Name For Brock Lesnar's Next Opponent.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-bring-ufc-legend-bro
ck-lesnars-next-opponent/

WATCH: Darby Allin's Latest Insane Stunt (From 92 Feet In The Air).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/watch-darby-allins-lates
t-insane-stunt-92-feet-air/

WWE And AEW Both Interested In Top Independent Star.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-aew-interested-top-i
ndependent-star/

WWE Star Returns To Original Gimmick, What It Means For Former Stable.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-star-returns-origina
l-gimmick-means-former-stable/

Another WWE Star Out Of Action With Injury.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/another-wwe-star-actioninjury/

Former NXT Star Returns To Company In New Role.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/former-nxt-star-returnscompany-new-role/ Here's What WWE Didn't Have Planned For Cody Rhodes Before His Injury.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/heres-wwe-didnt-plannedcody-rhodes-injury/

Roman Reigns Explains Amazing Summerslam Catch.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/roman-reigns-explains-am
azing-summerslam-catch/

WATCH: Personal Brawl Breaks Out After Monday Night Raw.

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aks-monday-night-raw/

Two AEW Stars Get In Heated Argument (And It Gets Personal).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/two-aew-stars-get-heated
 -argument-twitter-gets-personal/

Injured AEW Star Undergoes Surgery, Hopes To Breathe Again.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/injured-aew-star-undergo
es-surgery-hopes-breathe/

Possible Great News On Recent WWE Injury.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/possible-great-news-rece
nt-wwe-injury/

Six WWE Stars Appear On This Week's NXT.

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eeks-nxt/

AEW's Andrade El Idolo Reportedly On The Outs With AAA Promotion.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/aew-star-reportedly-outs
-aaa-promotion/

Three NXT Stars Make Main Roster Debuts This Week (Contains Mild Main Event SPOILERS).

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/three-nxt-stars-make-mai n-roster-debuts-week-contains-mild-main-event-spoilers/

Bayley's Monday Night Raw Promo Sets Off Twitter Spat With Superfan Izzy.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/bayleys-monday-night-raw
_promo-causes-twitter-spat-superfan-izzy/

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NXT – October 4, 2022: They Did The Important Part

<u>NXT</u>

Date: October 4, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida Commentators: Sudu Shah, Wade Barrett, Byron Saxton

We're coming up on Halloween Havoc near the end of the month and the card seems to be set. They still have a few things that need to be done to get ready for the show though and we will probably get some more of that build this week. We also have some guest stars coming in this week from Smackdown so things should be feeling bigger. Let's get to it.

<u>Here are last week's results if you need a recap.</u>

Here is Pretty Deadly, dressed as very stereotypical British men (complete with red robes and powdered wigs), for a state of the Commonwealth address. They talk about how back in the day, some pilgrims came from the United Kingdom (Prince: "Hello.") and now as a result, they are here. All of the other teams have been training in the Performance Center to be as good as they are, including the Boring Brothers and Cheap Denim. Therefore, they should be the Tag Team Champions for all time!

Cue the Brawling Brutes, who are tired of how Pretty Deadly have been complaining everywhere. Pretty Deadly claims they were hacked (By Kevin Nash! Kevin Patrick! Kevin Owens!) but get cleared out anyway. As usual, Pretty Deadly is one of the funnier things in NXT, as long as you don't take them seriously in the slightest.

Earlier today, Alba Fyre attacked Toxic Attraction so the six woman tag is off for tonight, with Fyre and Mandy Rose taken out.

Carmelo Hayes vs. Oro Mensah

Trick Williams is here with Hayes. Mensah snaps off a suplex to start and they head outside. Hayes gets in a cheap shot to take over and chops Mensah down back inside. Back up and Mensah kicks away, including a shot to the head to knock Hayes away. A missed charge slows Mensah down though and the top rope ax kick finishes for Hayes at 5:30.

Rating: C. Hayes is a bigger deal than Mensah, but you would think that they might not want to have Mensah lose in one of his first matches as part of NXT. Granted Mensah has almost no chance of winning in the ladder match so it isn't going to lead anywhere, but this was a bit of an odd way to go. I can always appreciate more from Hayes, though Mensah not losing would have made sense too.

Brutus Creed isn't cleared to compete because of his shoulder.

Duke Hudson comes in to laugh at him and gets a match with Julius Creed as a result.

<u>North American Title Match Qualifying Match: Von Wagner vs.</u> <u>Andre Chase</u>

Carmelo Hayes is on commentary. Wagner throws him around with the straight power to start but Chase is back with some right hands. Mr. Stone offers a distraction but gets taken down by Thea Hail. Chase grabs a rollup for two but gets caught with a Death Valley Bomb for the pin at 3:31.

Rating: C-. While I can see the point in having Hayes win the opener, this one feels a lot more questionable. Chase has been on a roll as of late while Wagner seems to have long since stopped being anything around here. I guess they need a power guy in the ladder match, but they had no one else other than Chase to get him in there?

Post match Wes Lee jumps Carmelo Hayes.

Sanga wishes Nathan Frazer luck in his qualifying match. With Frazer gone, Veer Mahaan comes in to stare at Sanga.

Lash Legend is ready for Wendy Choo.

Grayson Waller has his security ready to deal with Apollo Crews' visions.

Wendy Choo vs. Lash Legend

Choo goes after her to start and they head outside, where Legend spins her into a backbreaker. Back in and a side slam gives Legend two but she misses an elbow, allowing Choo to strike away. Some more kicks put Legend down and Choo's top rope Vader Bomb is good for the pin at 3:46.

Rating: D+. Given that it was a Lash Legend match, this could have been a heck of a lot worse. I'm not a big fan of Choo, but she is miles ahead of anything Legend can do right now.

Hopefully this wraps it up for both of them though, because there is no reason to have it keep going. WWE keeps trying with Legend and it keeps not working, so at least they're consistent.

Wes Lee is ready for Halloween Havoc but wants Grayson Waller first. He'll have to settle for a match with an invading Stacks.

Gallus promises to be back and they're coming for Bron Breakker.

Kayden Carter and Katana Chance know they are different but they work great together.

Toxic Attraction vs. Nikkita Lyons/Zoey Stark

For a future Women's Tag Team Title shot. Lyons powers Dolin into the corner to start so it's off to Stark vs. Jayne. Stark knocks her outside without much trouble so Dolin comes back in, earning a springboard spinning crossbody. Toxic Attraction is sent outside for a breather and we take a break.

Back with Lyons in trouble but she kicks her way to freedom. The hot tag brings in Stark to go after Dolin. A superkick into a German suplex gets two on Dolin as everything breaks down. Jayne gets to clean house for a change but she walks into the flipping knee from Stark. The splits splash finishes for Lyons at 10:23.

Rating: C. I like Toxic Attraction, but the title picture needs some fresh blood. WWE sees something in Lyons and Stark as a team so this isn't the biggest surprise. I don't know if they win the titles, but at least a fresh team is being added to the mix. Lyons feels like she is going to be a major priority for the women's division at some point, but for now she will have to settle for going after these titles.

Ilja Dragunov is ready to get some more gold because he fought

so hard to become champion and then never lost it. He's ready for JD McDonagh and Bron Breakker if that is what it takes to get back where he wants to be. Dragunov continues to feel like a star.

It's time for the Grayson Waller Effect with Cora Jade and Roxanne Perez. They talk about how they want to fight each other, with Perez saying they wanted to come into WWE together and be what the Four Horsewomen were to them. Jade accuses her of showing her true colors but Waller interrupts to reveal that in two weeks, they are going to get to pick your poison, meaning select each others' opponents. Oh and their Halloween Havoc match is going to be Spin The Wheel, Make The Deal.

Waller even goes up to the stage to spin the wheel, comes up on Weapons Wild (sounds street fightish). The women fight in the ring so Waller comes back, only to be pulled underneath by Apollo Crews. Waller comes out and yes his eyes are red like in Crews' vision last week. This is the right role for Waller, as he is rather good at being the annoying pest who never shuts up.

The Schism yells at an unseen member of the team in a red hoodie. The person failed at their mission and need to be better.

Julius Creed vs. Duke Hudson

Creed knocks him down, grabs a suplex and hits the basement clothesline for the pin at 48 seconds.

Post match Brutus Creed comes out and beats on Hudson as well. Damon Kemp pops up on the platform to say it's going to be different at Halloween Havoc. Kemp makes it simple: if Julius can beat him at Halloween Havoc, Brutus can get another match, with Brutus saying he just needs five minutes. Kemp says Brutus' career is on the line at Halloween Havoc, which Brutus accepts on Julius' behalf. Julius makes it even bigger by saying it's an ambulance match. Kemp is in. JD McDonagh is ready for Ilja Dragunov and Bron Breakker at Halloween Havoc.

Hank Walker's security buddies fire him up. Quincy Elliott comes in to do the same and dancing ensues.

Axiom is ready to win his trilogy with Nathan Frazer.

Xyon Quinn vs. Hank Walker

Walker armdrags him down a few times but Quinn is back with some shots to the face. We hit the quickly broken chinlock so Walker can hit the Thesz press. Some right hands have Quinn in more trouble but that's broken up. Quinn's running fist finishes Walker at 2:10.

Post match the beating is on until Quincy Elliott, makes the save. And adds a spank to Walker.

Cameron Grimes comes up tot he red hoodied Schism person with a warning about Joe Gacy. Cue Schism to beat Grimes down and to praise the hoodied one for doing well. The person in the hoodie is officially on the team. No identity given.

Brooks Jensen/Josh Briggs and Malik Blade/Edris Enofe give the Brawling Brutes a pep talk but get in their own argument. The Brutes say either team can get a shot after they win the titles, but get serious.

Bron Breakker is ready for Halloween Havoc but Javier Bernal comes up to suggest it's a bad idea. Oh and that Breakker isn't very good. A match is set for next week.

<u>Tag Team Titles: Brawling Brutes vs. Pretty Deadly</u>

The Brutes are challenging. Wilson hammers on Holland to start but can't get him up for a suplex. A dropkick/butterfly suplex combination drops Wilson so Butch can come in to bend the fingers. Prince comes in and gets dropped with a clothesline, leaving Wilson to get caught with some Sheamus style forearms to the chest.

We take a break with the champs in trouble and come back with Butch fighting out of a chinlock but getting driven into the corner. Butch slips away again and makes the tag to Holland for the house cleaning. A powerbomb out of the corner gets two on Wilson and it's back to Butch, who misses a running knee in the corner. Prince tosses Wilson at Butch for a Codebreaker (cool) with Holland having to make the save.

Everything breaks down again and Holland sends Prince outside, leaving Butch to try a cross armbreaker on Wilson. Prince makes the save by stacking Wilson up for two but Butch is back with the Bitter End. Prince puts a foot on the rope so Holland sends him outside. The kick to the head into the Northern Grit connects but here is Imperium for the distraction. Prince uses said distraction to send Butch into the apron and Spilled Milk retain the titles at 12:25.

Rating: C+. They had some good drama in the end but this was less of a match and more waiting for Imperium to show up and cost the Brutes the titles. That's a fine way to go with Extreme Rules coming up in less than a week so they did the right thing all around. Pretty Deadly might not be good, but they are just right for what they are and that's enough.

The brawl continues on the floor and goes to the back to….not end the show as Edris Enofe/Malik Blade and Josh Briggs/Brooks Jensen come out to stare at the champs to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. This show didn't have the best wrestling, but it did a nice job of getting things ready for Halloween Havoc. That's what matters a lot more at the moment and NXT did a nice job of building the show up. Now I want to see it more than I did before and the next few weeks should be entertaining as well. Efficient show this week, even if it might not have been their best.

<u>Results</u>

Carmelo Hayes b. Oro Mensah — Top rope ax kick Von Wagner b. Andre Chase — Death Valley Bomb Wendy Choo b. Lash Legend — Top rope Vader Bomb Nikkita Lyons/Zoey Stark b. Toxic Attraction — Splits splash to Jayne Julius Creed b. Duke Hudson — Sliding lariat Xyon Quinn b. Hank Walker — Running punch Pretty Deadly b. Brawling Brutes — Spilled Milk to Holland

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Threemendous: You Shouldn't Be Able To Cut It In Half

<u>Threemendous</u>

Date: July 16, 2006 Location: Hollywood-Los Feliz JCC, Los Angeles, California Attendance: 350 Commentators: Disco Machine, Excalibur So someone requested that I do this show....oh seven or eight years ago now but I've finally gotten around to/remembered to do it. It's back in the earlier days of PWG and I'm not sure if there is some kind of gimmick for the show. PWG has a history of some rather awesome show names and the tradition holds up in their earlier days too. Let's get to it.

An unnamed man is in the ring and talks about how amazing it is for PWG to have been around for three years. He's a bit hard to understand but he talks about fixing some problem and promises a special show tonight. Oh and buy concessions.

<u>Disco Machine vs. Excalibur</u>

Before the match, Excalibur talks (of course) talks about seeing some familiar faces around here but there are some people who might not know the history between these two. They have been together for a long time now and there have been questions about who is the better commentator. Excalibur says he can talk at length about absolutely nothing so he proposes a title match tonight: the winner earns the title of Best PWG DVD Commentator.

We get a guest referee who….is not named, which probably has something to do with the massive clipping that PWG releases have to do due to various rights issues. Commentary does let us know that the referee is named Patrick Hernandez. Good to know. Anyway they fight over arm control to start with Excalibur grabbing a top wristlock and flipping over. That's broken up and it's a standoff until Disco twists Excalibur's fingers.

That's broken up with a hiptoss and Excalibur drops some knees as the two of them talk about the referee allegedly being the inspiration for the Robin Williams movie RV. Disco gets red carded for a headbutt to the chest which lets Excalibur come back with a suplex for two. A catapult sends Excalibur outside for the big dive (which Disco said he didn't know was coming) and they're both down on the floor, leaving commentary to go over the company's history.

Back in and Disco grabs a camel clutch before a suplex gets two. As Disco hits a backbreaker, commentary talks about airline experiences, including the lack of peanuts and package deliveries. Excalibur rakes the eyes to come back and grabs something close to a cobra clutch, setting up a German suplex for two. Disco chokes him to block a heart punch and a chokebreaker finishes Excalibur at 8:30.

Rating: C. I wouldn't have bet on this having a definitive winner as it would have seemed destined to go to a draw. It wasn't a match that meant much of anything as it was all about playing into the company's history, which makes sense on an anniversary show. Excalibur never was much in the ring and he didn't show me anything else here, but for a fun way to open the show and give the fans something to like, it worked well enough.

Ronin vs. Nemesis

Nemesis grabs a wristlock to start and armdrags him down, meaning it's time to pose. Back up and Nemesis kicks him into the corner as the fans chant HELLO KITTY at Ronin in an old school callback. I mean, as old school as you can get in a promotion that is three years old. Nemesis sends him outside, teases the pose, and then misses a baseball slide.

Ronin gets in a shot to the ribs and sends him back inside for two off a suplex. Back up and Nemesis grabs a Cradle Shock for two and hammers away in the corner. What looks to be a running monkey flip out of the corner doesn't go so well and Ronin is back with a swinging brainbuster for two. One heck of a lariat into a Death Valley Driver finishes Nemesis at 7:09.

Rating: C. Another just ok match here with two PWG regulars. The lack of story behind the match made it a bit difficult to get invested in what they were doing though, as they were just doing moves until someone won. Ronin has been on a lot of these PWG shows but has never really done much to get my interest up. Nemesis was just another guy here and while the match was watchable, it kind of came and went.

Top Gun Talwar vs. Colt Cabana

Cabana, who isn't a very big guy, towers over Talwar. As a bonus, Cabana has two formal photos of some couples. Commentary says Cabana doesn't know who they are, but that's the pretty run of the mill for him. Then Talwar offers to fight from his knees....and seems to do a line of cocaine (commentary's word). Cabana fights from his knees as well and scares Talwar outside, where he circles the ring on his knees.

Back in and they fight over wrist control as commentary talks about stabbing your leg after drunkenly staggering around your apartment. They lock hands and roll around until Talwar finally breaks out, leaving them to sit next to each other on the mat. Now it's time to lay on each other for some near falls before Talwar's rollup is countered with a crawl across the ring. Cabana sweeps the legs so Talwar winds up on all fours, where he crawls around with Cabana on his back. Yeah it's that kind of a match people.

They tease a test of strength but Talwar stops to smell Cabana's fingers. Now it's a lockup with Talwar climbing the ropes without breaking contact. Said lockup stays on as they go outside, around the ring and through the entrance curtain. We can hear a bunch of stuff....and then the curtain is pulled back to reveal them having some tea. The referee grabs both of them by the ear and brings them back to the ring, where Cabana picks the ankle. The tease of a low blow is switched into a leg stretch, with Cabana talking until Talwar bites the fingers.

That's not enough to escape so Cabana rocks them back and forth to make Talwar angrier. Back up and they gently slap it

out (Excalibur: "Shades of Moe and Shemp.") before heading outside again. Talwar is whipped towards the barricade but keeps running, only to trip over the steps. Cabana finds some resistance bands to tie around Talwar's throat while getting in some exercise, only to have Talwar tie it around Cabana's wrist.

The tug of war is on until Talwar pulls him in for a clothesline to take over. Back in and Talwar hits a spinning reverse DDT (the Chipolte) for two on Cabana as commentary makes fun of Ike Turner beating Tina Turner. Cabana misses the Flying Apple but counters another Chipolte into an inverted bearhug (meaning Cabana picks him up for a Tombstone and shakes him back and forth) for the win at 12:02.

Rating: C+. This match wasn't for me and I'm not big on the comedy stuff, but they also didn't do anything so stupid that it was ridiculous. Cabana doing his comedy stuff is his bread and butter and Talwar is one of those wacky guys who can make something like this work well enough. Not something I'd ever want to see again, but it could have been FAR worse.

Post match Cabana leaves and World Champion Joey Ryan runs in to beat up Talwar. A piledriver on the chair leaves Talwar laid out and Ryan brags about being the best PWG Champion of all time. The fans don't like it, so Ryan piledrives Talwar on the chair again. Ryan wants Excalibur out here so here he is, just after Ryan hits a third piledriver on the chair. Good beatdown, but those sideburns make Ryan look like a joke rather than a serious guy.

Davey Richards/Kevin Steen/Human Tornado vs. Dynasty

Richards and company have Candice LeRae with them and the Dynasty is Chris Bosh/Scott Lost/Scorpio Sky, with Jade Chung. It's a big brawl before (I think?) the bell and it all heads outside until the Dynasty is left laying. Back in and Davey kicks at Lost but the tiger driver 98 is blocked. Sky comes in to dance a bit so Richards shoulders him down as well. Tornado and Steen clear the ring with the Dynasty needing a breather on the floor.

After teasing leaving, the Dynasty comes back and slows it down a bit until we get to Tornado vs. Lost. A crossbody puts Lost down and his attempt at a low blow fails (that's difficult to do). It's off to Richards to strike away as commentary discusses why a low blow didn't affect Tornado (I'll let you figure that one out). Tornado comes back in for a dancing low blow on Scott and Bosh's attempt at a low blow just hurts his hand. A leg trip takes Tornado down though and it's Sky getting to stomp away in the corner.

Bosh and Steen (on the apron) exchange nipple twists before Tornado is sent face first into Sky's rock hard abs. They certainly have some unique spots around here. Figure out if that is a good thing on your own. Sky heads outside where he gets beaten up by Steen and Richards, who have to be pulled off. Back in and Tornado gets elbowed in the face and Lost grabs a chinlock. Tornado fights up and this a neckbreaker, allowing the hot tag to Steen to pick up the pace. Richards comes in with a missile dropkick and it's a German suplex for two on Lost.

Bosh and Steen slug it out but it's right back to Sky to leg lariat Richards. With everyone else on the floor, Tornado hits a HUGE flip dive to wipe out the pile. Back in and Richards rolls Lost up for two but Sky takes Richards down with a jumping cutter. Bosh's clothesline into a backbreaker gets two on Tornado and there's a Stunner to Steen. That doesn't work for Steen, who is back with a Rock Bottom to Bosh. Richards gives Sky a gutbuster and Lost has to break up a stretch muffler. Steen hits a great looking moonsault for two on Bosh but Sky clears them out and knocks Tornado silly with an implant DDT for the pin at 20:05.

Rating: B. Now this felt more like a PWG match as you had six

guys in there starting off with a regular tag before going into the wild fight that it needed to be. The Dynasty looked like a team but since commentary isn't about to offer any kind of insight into what is going on, they were just people who had somewhat matching gear. The other three were people who happened to be teaming together, as backstory or drawing people in isn't exactly PWG's strong suit.

Post match Steen grabs the mic and yells something at Richards that is kind of hard to understand but it doesn't seem to go well. Richards grabs the mic and rants about a variety of things, including slipping in a gay slur. He seems ready for the Battle Of Los Angeles and is ready to take someone out. Steen appears to apologize to Tornado and they hug it out. I think that was a heel promo? Maybe?

Roderick Strong vs. TJ Perkins

Perkins is only 21 here and looks even younger than that. They start slowly with Strong tying him up, only to get pulled down into a cross arm choke. That's reversed into the same thing from Strong. With that broken up, Perkins needs to tie his boot and Strong is nice enough to let him. Perkins wins a battle over wrist control but gets flipped over into an armbar. That's reversed into a hammerlock from Perkins as the technical start continues.

Perkins fights out again and it's another standoff, this time with Strong bailing to the floor for a seat in the first row. Back in and Perkins goes right back to the arm as commentary explains why it might not be great business for Strong to be a heel. Strong fights up and tries a kick to the ribs, which Perkins stops and spins around to drop Strong again. The front facelock goes on and is switched into a cravate as Strong can't get anything going here.

The chop off goes a bit better for Strong, who manages to hit his first backbreaker. We hit the full nelson with Strong's legs, followed by a less painful looking (for both of them) camel clutch. A torture rack backbreaker drops Perkins again but Strong pauses to yell at the fans. Strong hits a suplex for two and then slams him on the apron to make it worse. Back in and Strong ties their legs together and pulls on the arm for a rather nasty looking hold.

Perkins gets out and avoids a charge in the corner, setting up a high crossbody for two. Strong is back with an enziguri into a Falcon Arrow for two more but Perkins pulls him into a cross armbreaker. With that broken up, Strong hits the fireman's carry gutbuster into the Sick Kick into the tiger driver for....two, in quite the kickout. Not that it matters as the Strong Hold makes Perkins tap at 18:56.

Rating: B. This is the kind of match that would fit in PWG or Ring Of Honor as they kept it straight and went with one move after another until Strong, the bigger star, got the win. That is all you needed to do here and it was the lengthy match that didn't feel boring or long despite getting a lot of time. Good stuff here as both guys are always worth at least a look.

Kings Of Wrestling vs. Cape Fear

That would be Claudio Castagnoli/Chris Hero vs. El Generico/Quicksilver. This is announced as impromptu, but there is no story given for why it was thrown together. Hero and Generico start things off with the fans WAY behind the Kings. Generico works on the arm but Hero cravates him down and it's off to Quicksilver vs. Castagnoli. Some leg cranking has Quicksilver in even more trouble but he's back up with a hurricanrana for two.

Hero comes back in and has to counter a monkey flip so it's right back to Castagnoli to clothesline Generico. This time it's Generico grabbing a hurricanrana of his own and Castagnoli is frustrated. Hero comes in without a tag and the Kings chop each other by mistake. Generico sends them outside for some dives as Castagnoli is busted open bad (via a gash from the previous night).

Back in and Hero makes a blind (but not deaf) tag to take Generico down. Hero chops him in the throat and Castagnoli adds an uppercut for two. A gorilla (appropriate) press drop onto the turnbuckle has Generico in more trouble and Hero comes in for a dropkick for two. Generico finally manages to armdrag Castagnoli into Hero and a flip over allows the hot tag to Quicksilver.

A middle rope spin into a Black Widow has Hero in big trouble as Generico hits a heck of a dive onto Castagnoli on the floor. Hero falls over to the ropes and suplexes Quicksilver down hard for the break. It's back to Generico, whose corner run tornado DDT is countered into an uppercut from Castagnoli for two more.

Hero ducks the Yakuza Kick and hits Generico with one of his own but back to back dropkicks take him down. Castagnoli gets taken down by a hurricanrana on the floor and a brainbuster gives Generico two on Hero. That's too far for Castagnoli, who LAUNCHES Quicksilver into some chairs at ringside. Back in and Hero flips Generico into a powerbomb from Castagnoli (cool) for the pin at 20:48.

Rating: B. This got going near the end but there were some long stretches of dull to get there. Generico is someone who can work well with anyone but the Kings were much better as a team. Good match here and it ate up a lot of time, though it never reached that point of being a classic or into a higher gear.

<u>PWG World Title: B-Boy vs. Joey Ryan</u>

Ryan is defending in a Battledome, meaning a TLC match inside a cage (though you win via pinfall/submission). The weapons are already in the cage and Ryan goes for the climb at the bell, only to have B-Boy throw a chair at the wall to cut him off. Ryan's elbows are broken up and cut off with a single elbow to the face, followed by a heck of a kick to the chest.

There's a clothesline to drop Ryan again and Excalibur gets in a jab at Konnan for some reason. Ryan gets blasted with a chair to the head and the blood is flowing early. The blood works well for B-Boy, who sends Ryan face first into the cage. Back up and Ryan sends him into the cage for a change (and his first major offense) to bust B-Boy open as well.

Ryan snapmares him down, sits in a chair, and grabs the chinlock to slow things down a bit. With that broken up like a drop toehold should be, Ryan drop toeholds him into the chair to make the bleeding even worse. A chair to the face lets Ryan grab a ladder, which is slammed back with a chair. Some ladder shots to the face have Ryan in more trouble and another shot takes out a cameraman.

The chairs are piled up for a Death Valley Driver to give B-Boy two more but the referee gets bumped. Therefore, Ryan tapping to B-Boy's Crossface means nothing, allowing Ryan to come back with a spinebuster onto a chair for two. The table is set up near the corner and a superbomb through it gives Ryan two of his own. Ryan slaps the referee for the slow count so they slug it out (just go with it) until Ryan sends him into the cage over and over.

A Go To Sleep connects but there is no referee again. A second referee slides in to count two before checking on the bloody original referee. Ryan and B-Boy fight to the floor (escape doesn't matter in this match) with B-Boy getting the better of things by throwing Ryan into the chairs. A cheap shot slows B-Boy down but he gets in a low blow. A double stomp onto some chairs keep Ryan in trouble as they have been on the floor for a good while now.

Ryan is back with a low blow and they climb the side of the cage until Ryan elbows him down through the table at ringside.

Back in and B-Boy fights back and puts Ryan on a ladder, setting up a top rope cutter for the double knockdown. A VERY delayed cover gets two so B-Boy puts Ryan's head through the ladder rungs. With a chair over Ryan's head, B-Boy goes to the top of the ladder and double stomps down onto the chair.

Since Ryan is done, Scott Lost runs in to beat down B-Boy, including a Vertebreaker onto the pile of chairs. B-Boy is up at two so here is Human Tornado to take out Lost. Scorpio Sky and Chris Bosh run in to beat on Tornado so Kevin Steen, Davey Richards and Excalibur run in to clear some of them out. Everyone fights at ringside and Tornado sets up a table in the ring.

Tornado goes up top but flip dives onto the pile at ringside instead of moonsaulting onto Ryan through the table. B-Boy goes up top for a Superfly Splash through Ryan through the table for two (with the fans popping BIG for the near fall). With both of them down, Jade Chung comes in but Candice LeRae is right there to take her out. Ryan sends LeRae into the cage so B-Boy hits him with a chair. Chung makes the save this time so B-Boy gives her a GTS. That's enough for Ryan to pour something on a cloth to smother B-Boy and knock him out to retain the title at 34:47.

Rating: C-. I don't often get to say this, but you could have easily cut half of this off and had a better match. This was A LOT of filler, plus all of the insanity at the end. It doesn't help that Ryan isn't very good in the ring and seems to be more about reputation than anything else. The brawling was good but I was checked out about halfway through and just wanting this to end. B-Boy was ok here but he didn't exactly feel like a top star. Good enough match, though its flaws are really bad.

We're off the air with the ring announcer only getting to AND STILL.

Overall Rating: B-. This show hit a nice stretch near the middle but the main event didn't work and the first few matches weren't exactly great. Maybe this is just too early in its history, but the show didn't have me wanting to race out to see more PWG. While it certainly isn't a bad show, there is almost nothing on here that blew me away. Maybe jumping ahead a bit will help, but this was closer to mediocre than good.

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New Column: Yeah Not A Fan

Another fan apparently doesn't live up to some imaginary standard.

https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/kbs-review-guess-youre-n
ot-fan/

This is probably going to be the last column for the time

being. I've done over 430 of them over 8+ years and they're becoming more and more of a chore. I tend to spend more time thinking "dang I have to do that too" and dreading it more, which is the sign that it's time to switch things up. I might do some short form stuff in the future, but for now, this is pretty much it.

Monday Night Raw – October 3, 2022: Make It A Big Deal

Monday Night Raw

Date: October 3, 2022 Location: Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul, Minnesota Commentators: Jimmy Smith, Corey Graves, Byron Saxton

It's the go home show for Extreme Rules and the show is mostly set. However, it still doesn't feel like there is anything that stands out as a main event. I would assume it's going to be the Fight Pit between Seth Rollins and Matt Riddle, but the card feels like it is lacking something even if there isn't much room for anything else. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Here is Judgment Day for a chat before their match. Finn Balor is ready to beat Edge so badly that Edge will quit right then and there. Damian Priest promises to take out anyone who comes for them. Dominik gets the mic and is greeted by a WHO'S YOUR DADDY chant. He hates Rey Mysterio and says he has a new family now, thanks to the Judgment Day. Balor says he could have taken Edge out last night, corrects himself to say last week, and offers one more olive branch. Cue AJ Styles to interrupt though and we're ready to go.

Judgment Day vs. AJ Styles/Rey Mysterio

It's a brawl before the bell with Judgment Day being cleared out and we take a break. We come back joined in progress with Priest sending Rey into the corner so Balor can hit Two Amigos, followed by the Eddie Dance, and a Third Amigo, because we can't go more than a few weeks without an Eddie reference. A trip to the floor sees Rey get dropped onto the announcers' table and Finn grabs a chinlock back inside. Rey slips away though and the tag brings in Styles to clean house. Balor low bridges Styles outside and we take a break.

Back with Priest escaping a Calf Crusher attempt but getting atomic dropped. Rhea pulls Rey off the apron though and Dominik gets in between them, with Dominik dropping to his knees in a funny bit. We cut away from Rhea hitting Rey, only to show it on a replay in what seems like a production gaffe. Back in and the Coup de Grace finishes Styles at 10:42.

Rating: C+. The Judgment Day story isn't the most interesting but the talent involved in this match is enough to make it watchable. There is a good chance that they will be involved in WarGames (it's either them or the Bloodline) but I'm not sure who could face them at the moment. For now though, they were a good way to use the first half hour of Raw.

Post match AJ blames Rey for not being there and shoves him down. Rey leaves and Judgment Day comes in to beat Styles up.

Bobby Lashley is happy to be US Champion for three months and he's ready for anyone to come after the title next week. Cue Mustafa Ali of all people to say he wants a chance right now. Lashley blows him off so Ali spins him around and pokes at his chest. That's enough for the opportunity.

Sami Zayn and Jimmy Uso/Solo Sikoa are in the back with Sami

telling a story about a couch being on fire (it has a happy ending). Jey Uso comes in to be all serious and say they're here to tell everyone that Roman Reigns will be here next week for the season premiere. They run into the Street Profits, who aren't that impressed.

Bobby Lashley vs. Mustafa Ali

Non-title. Lashley throws him around to start and hits a running shoulder in the corner. The delayed vertical suplex connects but Ali slips out of a powerslam attempt. A superkick staggers Lashley and the tornado DDT sends him outside. Ali's suicide dive sends Lashley into the announcers' table but he blasts Ali hard as we take a break.

Back with Lashley sending him into the corner and hitting the Downward Spiral for two. Ali shoves him off the top though and hits a 450 onto Lashley's arm to take a limb away. Lashley is fine enough to hit a one armed spinebuster for two and Ali is sent head first into the post. That works so well that Lashley does it again before sending him HARD over the barricade. A dive gets Ali back in at nine so Lashley spears him inside out. The Hurt Lock knocks Ali out (though he doesn't tap) to give Lashley the win at 11:26.

Rating: C+. This felt like a way to make Ali feel like a tough guy, but there is little reason to believe that he is going to become a star again. For some reason WWE will bring him back, build him up for a week or two at best, and then drop him entirely. This was a good performance from Ali, but I have no reason to believe that it is going anywhere.

Post match Lashley seems to be going to help Ali up but Seth Rollins comes in for a Stomp. Another Stomp onto the title leaves Lashley laying. Rollins throws in a Stomp to Ali on the floor. Lashley vs. Rollins continuing could be interesting so this should work.

Post break, Rollins is still in the ring and we see a clip of

his brawl with Matt Riddle after the show went off the air. He is ready for Riddle on Saturday and we see a video on the Fight Pit (a cage with a platform around the top where the wrestlers can walk/fight). With that out of the way, Rollins is ready to face Riddle right now.

They aren't allowed to fight tonight but Riddle is ready to kill him on Saturday. They argue over whose side guest referee Daniel Cormier will be on before Rollins reminds Riddle that he can't see his kids anymore. Rollins mentions child support but Riddle...insults his breath. We get more serious with Riddle bringing up Rollins' lack of titles. Oh and he hasn't main evented Wrestlemania (eh...), but his wife sure has. Cormier pops up on screen to introduce himself and say he respects them both. That aside though, he's calling it down the line. Cormier didn't get much of a reaction, but he is a good fit for the spot on Saturday.

Candice LeRae gets a pep talk from Asuka/Bianca Belair/Alexa Bliss. As they are talking, another QR code pops up.

Miz is on the phone and wants guarantees that Dexter Lumis is out next week because it's his birthday celebration. Lumis opens the door behind him but Miz misses it. Oh and he'd also like to know where Tommaso Ciampa is.

Dakota Kai vs. Candice LeRae

The rest of Damage Ctrl is here with Kai. LeRae takes her down by the arm to start before a Hennig necksnap gets two. A basement kick to the chest sends Kai to the apron, where LeRae sends her into the buckle. Kai gets taken out with a quick dive and we take a break. Back with Kai kicking LeRae in the face, setting up the Kawada kicks to make it worse. A Scorpion kick staggers LeRae but she gets up a shot to the face out of the corner for a breather.

Something like a Black Widow has Kai in trouble but she drives LeRae into the corner to break it up. Kai goes up but gets caught with a German superplex (ouch) for two. That's enough to draw Iyo Sky up for a distraction, allowing Bayley to drop LeRae right into Kai's rollup for the in at 10:42.

Rating: C. I'm a bit surprised that the newcomer LeRae took a fall here until you realize that Kai is a newcomer as well. Yeah she has a title, but she has only been on the main roster and back in the company for a little over two months. The match was decent like you would expect from LeRae and Kai, but LeRae losing so soon is a little weird to see.

Johnny Gargano runs into Miz, out cold on an anvil case. Gargano pokes him in the side and Miz awakens....with a drawing of himself and Dexter Lumis on his chest. Miz runs off.

Bayley is excited to sign a contract with Bianca Belair tonight and implies bad things are coming.

Commentary acknowledges the passing of Antonio Inoki.

Otis vs. Johnny Gargano

Chad Gable is here with Otis and Austin Theory is on commentary. Gargano forearms away to start but gets dropped with a shot to the face. An over the shoulder backbreaker has Gargano in more trouble until he slips out and forearms away again. An enziguri rocks Otis but he's right back with a tbone suplex to drop Gargano in a hard landing.

The Vader Bomb misses so Gargano strikes away, setting up a heck of a DDT. A low superkick gets two on Otis, who rolls outside so Gargano hits a big dive. Then Gargano pauses to beat up Theory, followed by a tornado DDT off the apron. Theory gets in a briefcase shot though and a World's Strongest Slam finishes for Otis at 5:32.

Rating: C+. Otis gets some serious protection around here, from being able to knock Braun Strowman down to beating Gargano. I can see the potential in him as a monster, but there is only so much you can do as the second of someone whose entire deal is being an obnoxious guy who makes annoying sounds. Good big vs. little match here, though the result is a bit weird.

Post match the beating is on but Braun Strowman runs in for the save and we ring the bell for Strowman vs. Gable (scheduled for tonight).

Braun Strowman vs. Chad Gable

Strowman throws Gable over the top to start and we take a break ten seconds in. Back with Strowman having been knocked over the announcers' table during the break (by Otis, who was ejected) and then getting posted to make it worse. Gable manages a rather impressive German suplex for two as we see Omos and MVP watching in the back. A cross armbreaker over the ropes is broken up with straight power so Gable goes for the eye to break him up. A dropkick to the knee takes Strowman down again but Gable misses the moonsault. Strowman boots him in the face and hits the powerbomb for the pin at 7:04.

Rating: C. WWE has a very weird style of monstering with Strowman since he got back. He's winning, but people are getting in a lot on him, including Gable and Otis in particular. It's a weird way to go and feels like they don't know which version of Strowman they want to use. Gable's suplex looked good, but if he is only going to be a comedy goof, I'm not sure why they let him do it to someone like Strowman.

Bobby Lashley swears vengeance against Seth Rollins.

Corey Graves is in the ring to emcee the contract signing between Bayley and Bianca Belair. Bayley says that despite not having the rest of Damage Ctrl out here, she is having a great day. She signs and promises to make history on Saturday because the ladder is symbolic of her entire WWE career. Bayley has had to climb the ladder throughout her time in WWE and at one point, she was Belair. They even had the same ponytails! Once upon a time, those Bianca Belair signs were BAYLEY signs, but then thin*gs changed.

Belair finally cuts off the rant and signs as well (with the contract having a QR code on the back). Belair talks about how Bayley is showing the world the real her and how it took her a whole year to come up with a plan. You can plan on calling her champ after Extreme Rules, but Bayley points to the rest of Damage Ctrl being with her on Saturday.

We see Iyo Sky and Dakota Kai beating up Asuka and Alexa Bliss in the back, which is enough of a distraction for Bayley to get in a cheap shot. Belair fights her off and runs to the back, where Asuka has a chair wrapped around her leg and the glaring Bliss wants Sky tonight. Nice segment here as Belair was a lot more serious in a big moment.

Angelo Dawkins vs. Solo Sikoa

The rest of the Bloodline (minus Roman Reigns of course) is here with Sikoa and Montez Ford (whose foot/ankle is in a cast) is with Dawkins. They start fast with Dawkins sending him outside, where Sikoa grabs a chair. The rest of the Bloodline cuts him off and we take a break. Back with Dawkins fighting out of a nerve hold but walking into a Samoan drop.

Another Samoan drop gets two and the nerve hold goes on to keep Dawkins down. A belly to belly suplex plants Dawkins again and there's the running Umaga attack in the corner. Dawkins is back up with a kick to the head to cut Sikoa off though and the comeback is on. There's the running spinning splash in the corner and the Silencer drops Sikoa for two.

Sami Zayn and Jey Uso get on the apron for a distraction/argument though, meaning Sikoa's superkick gets a VERY delayed two. Back up and Dawkins knocks Sikoa outside, where a big flip dive drops the Bloodline. Sikoa uses the distraction to hit the spinwheel kick and Spinning Solo for

the pin at 12:07.

Rating: C. There was a lot going on here and Sikoa getting another win is a smart move. Sikoa needs to be established, but more importantly they continued with the issues between Jey Uso and Sami Zayn. That is one of the most interesting things going in WWE at the moment and I still want to see where the whole thing goes. For now though, hopefully Ford gets better soon, as the team is better than Dawkins on his own.

Austin Theory is happy with Otis and promises to take out Johnny Gargano on Smackdown. The banged up Chad Gable approves.

Edge says that since he has come back, he has basically been Adam as the veil of the character has been taken away. He was told that he could never wrestle again and it was not his choice. Now he has decided to make it his choice but now he is 46 years old and this is taking its toll on his whole family. He didn't have a family before and now his daughters can see how tough it is on him.

That brings him to Judgment Day, who keeps coming back no matter how often he beats them. His back is against the wall and that makes him dangerous. You can ask Foley, Taker and Orton what that means, because he is coming out swinging. Finn Balor better be ready for war, because Edge is. This was a "look at the camera and talk" promo and it worked very well.

<u>Alexa Bliss vs. Iyo Sky</u>

Bianca Belair, Dakota Kai and Bayley are here too. Bliss starts fast and hammers away before but gets taken down with a dragon screw legwhip. Back up and Bliss kicks her down, setting up a flip splash for two. Kai manages to get in a throat snap across the ropes though and a running dropkick on the floor drops Bliss as we take a break. Back with Kai in trouble but managing to hit a quick butterfly backbreaker. The moonsault misses though and Bliss grabs a DDT. Twisted Bliss connects so Bayley distracts the referee, drawing Belair over for the fight. Belair gets sent into the steps but it's a big dive from Bliss to take them all down. Back in and Sky runs Bliss over, setting up the moonsault for the pin at 9:14.

Rating: C+. I liked it well enough, but they have been putting the women in the final spot of the show for a long time now and it doesn't feel like it is because they are the biggest deal on the show. It was a nice match with Bliss being aggressive and the numbers game costing her though, and Sky hitting that moonsault is always nice to see.

Post match the beatdown is on but Asuka, with a kendo stick, limps down for the failed save attempt. The ladder is brought in and crushed around Bliss' ribs and the long form beatdown is on. Damage Ctrl climbs the ladder and poses with the titles.

Quick Extreme Rules rundown.

Damage Ctrl is still posing to end the show.

Overall Rating: C. This was one of the most "right in the middle" shows I can remember from any promotion in a long time. All of the matches were in the same range and while there were some good promos, Extreme Rules just isn't feeling big. The fact that I'm only somewhat sure of what the main event is going to be should tell you a lot about the pay per view. This show didn't make me want to see it that much more, and while it was completely ok, there was nothing on here that you really need to see.

<u>Results</u> Judgment Day b. AJ Styles/Rey Mysterio – Coup de Grace to Styles Bobby Lashley b. Mustafa Ali – Hurt Lock Dakota Kai b. Candice LeRae – Rollup Otis b. Johnny Gargano – World's Strongest Slam Braun Strowman b. Chad Gable – Powerbomb Solo Sikoa b. Angelo Dawkins – Spinning Solo Iyo Sky b. Alexa Bliss – Moonsault

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<u>Smackdown – February 1, 2008</u>

<u>Smackdown – September 30, 2022</u>

Rampage - September 30, 2022

Miro Explains Why He Has Been Gone From AEW (In His Own Special Way).

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WWE Adds Another Violent Match To Extreme Rules.

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Here's What WWE's White Rabbit Will Likely Be Revealed.

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Robert Roode Undergoes Medical Procedure In Birmingham, Alabama.

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Kenny Omega And The Young Bucks Could Be Gone From AEW For A Long Time.

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https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/ufc-legend-set-appear-ww e-extreme-rules-special-role/ As always, hit up the comments section to chat about what is going on and <u>get on the Wrestling</u> <u>Rumors Facebook page.</u>

Rampage — September 30, 2022: Get The First One Down

Rampage

Date: September 30, 2022 Location: Liacouras Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Commentators: Excalibur, Jim Ross, Tony Schiavone

Rampage is back to normal this week and that should make for a decent enough show. You never know what you're going to get around here, though odds are you'll get at least one important thing. Other than that though, there is a good chance you'll be seeing some names who aren't around on Dynamite very often. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Tag Team Titles: Acclaimed vs. Butcher and the Blade vs. Private Party

Acclaimed, with Billy Gunn, is defending. Bowens and Kassidy start things off as Matt Hardy is watching in the back. They trade quick one counts as the fans sing in praise of the Acclaimed. A standoff gives us a handshake before Bowens drives Kassidy into the corner for the tag off to Castor. With Kassidy down, Castor stops for some scissoring with Gunn before Bowens comes in for a neckbreaker onto Castor's knees. Quen comes in and gets a middle rope legdrop between the legs. That's enough for Butcher and the Blade, who come in and run the champs over. Bowens fights back up and is quickly headbutted right back down. We take a break and come back with Bowens powering out of Blade's chinlock but getting powerslammed instead.

A superkick drops Blade hard but it's Private Party tagging themselves back in to clean house. Private Party hits the Motor City Machine Guns' Skull & Bones (with a Swanton instead of a splash) for two on Blade with Castor making the save. Everything breaks down again and Kassidy hits a dive of his own. Castor hits his own dive and sends Blade back inside, where it's the Arrival into the Mic Drop to retain the titles at 9:58.

Rating: C+. It was a fast paced match and a good way to get the Acclaimed their first win, though I have no idea why they went with a three way match featuring all of a few moments of setup. The Acclaimed are over and if they can deliver in the ring to back it up, their title reign could go on for a rather long time.

Celebratory scissoring ensues post match.

The Firm mock FTR for holding various Tag Team Titles, which they can't remember anyway. The Gunn Club wants the Tag Team Titles and bring up FTR for being #1 contenders for almost six months. They'll leapfrog FTR too. I'm not sure if mocking your own rankings is the best idea.

Jade Cargill mocks AEW for giving her no competition but Vickie Guerrero, Marina Shafir and Nyla Rose come in. Cargill says Rose can have a title match but on Jade's time. It's as good as anything else at the moment.

Lee Moriarty vs. Fuego del Sol

W. Morrissey and Stokely Hathaway are here with Moriarty.

Fuego gets taken to the mat to start and then uppercutted up against the ropes. Some stomps keep Fuego in trouble and a Border City Stretch finishes him off at 1:57.

Post match Morrissey gives Fuego a chokeslam.

Hangman Page is ready for Jon Moxley and the Dark Order will be in their corner. Andrade and Jose the Assistant come in to mock 10. Next week is the anniversary of Brodie Lee's last match so Andrade has an idea: they have a match next week, with the mask Brodie Lee gave 10 vs. Andrade's career. That could be interesting. The Firm comes in to mock Andrade and brings up Matt Hardy's contract tampering with Private Party. Please tell me that this isn't going to be their take on WWE's alleged tampering.

Willow Nightingale vs. Jamie Hayter

Rebel and Britt Baker are here with Hayter. Nightingale takes her down and fires off some headbutts until Hayter fights up for an exchange of shoulders. Hayter gets dropped for a basement crossbody and splash for two. Some chops have Hayter in more trouble but she's right back with a big boot to drop Nightingale hard (and Baker dances).

We take a break and come back with Hayter hitting a backbreaker for two. Nightingale pops up and hits a heck of a Pounce out to the floor to rock Hayter hard. Back in and a Death Valley Driver gives Nightingale two so it's time to go up top. Baker offers a distraction though and it's a shortarm clothesline to give Hayter the pin at 8:08.

Rating: C+. This was an interesting one as Nightingale is such a ball of charisma that I'm looking forward to seeing her most weeks, while Hayter is looking like a breakout star. She has very good abilities in the ring and the crowd is reacting to her, but until she breaks away from Baker, none of that is going to matter. For now though, this was a nice meshing of styles, with Nightingale's power working well for her. Video on Wardlow and Samoa Joe, because the best use of two of your midcard champions is to have them team together.

Here is Ryan Nemeth to mock various Philadelphia legends until Hook comes out to wreck him. As Hook is going to leave, the Trustbusters come out with an envelope with his name on it, which Hook takes.

Video on Swerve Strickland at a music festival.

Video on Hangman Page vs. Jon Moxley.

John Silver and Rush are ready for the main event.

Here's what is coming on upcoming shows.

Trent Beretta is ready for Pac and the All Atlantic Title at Battle of the Belts.

<u>John Silver vs. Rush</u>

Alex Reynolds, Andrade and Jose the Assistant are here too. Silver grabs a headlock to start and a running elbow sends Rush outside. The dive is loaded up but Silver flips down into the Tranquilo pose for a nice touch. Rush comes back in and hammers on Silver, even knocking him outside for a whip into the barricade. Back in and the running corner dropkick is loaded up, only to have Rush hit the cocky kick instead.

We take a break and come back with Silver hitting some corner clotheslines, followed by the rolling German suplexes. A sitout powerbomb gives Silver two and it's time to slap it out. That goes to the bigger/stronger Rush but Silver grabs a brainbuster for two more. Jose tries to interfere so Reynolds pulls him down. The distraction lets Rush hit a running forearm into the corner though, setting up the Bull's Horns for the pin at 10:55.

Rating: C. Silver is someone who is probably never going to become a major star in AEW but he has found a niche for

himself and it is working. He has so much charisma that it is hard to ignore him. On the other side though, I have no idea what we are supposed to get out of Rush, who is a power guy with almost nothing else to him. Why this was a main event eludes me, but Rush did look dominant at the end.

Post match the beatdown is on, with Butcher and the Blade joining in. The rest of the Dark Order and Hangman Page run in for the save to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. As usual, Rampage is enough of a quality show but so much of if feels unimportant. Rush vs. John Silver? Jamie Hayter getting a win over Willow Nightingale and a Lee Moriarty squash? That's not exactly must see TV and that is where Rampage falls. It could be something valuable to AEW but instead we get whatever they throw out there that week, I don't quite get the thinking, but that's what Rampage is.

<u>Results</u> Acclaimed b. Butcher and the Blade and Private Party – Mic Drop to Blade Lee Moriarty b. Fuego del Sol – Border City Stretch Jamie Hayter b. Willow Nightingale – Shortarm clothesline Rush b. John Silver – Bull's Horns

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Smackdown – September 30, 2022: We Need Guest Stars

<u>Smackdown</u>

Date: September 30, 2022 Location: Canada Life Centre, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada Commentators: Corey Graves, Michael Cole

We are eight days away from Extreme Rules and the card is mostly set. There are enough matches ready to go for the show but it wouldn't surprise me to see a little more added this week. That isn't a bad thing as there is no major match just yet, but that leaves some ground to be covered. Let's get to it.

<u>Here are last week's results if you need a recap.</u>

Opening sequence.

Madcap Moss/Ricochet vs. Solo Sikoa/Sami Zayn

Ricochet headscissors Sami down to start and snaps off a dropkick as Graves compares the Bloodline to the family on House of the Dragons. Moss and Sikoa come in with the former getting taken down into the corner for a stomping. It's back to Zayn and everything breaks down, with the villains being sent outside. Moss LAUNCHES Ricochet over the top and onto the both of them as we take a break.

Back with Ricochet fighting out of a nerve hold but getting Samoan dropped for two. Another Samoan drop is countered with some elbows to the head and the hot tag is enough for the tag to Moss. House is cleaned so Sikoa grabs a chair for a distraction, allowing Zayn to Blue Thunder Bomb Moss for two more. Everything breaks down and Zayn breaks up Ricochet's dive. Ricochet gets away and tries the dive but gets a chair pelted at his head by Sikoa to knock him silly. Sikoa tags himself in and spinwheel kicks Moss, setting up the Swinging Solo (swinging Rock Bottom) for the pin at 12:36.

Rating: B-. Building up Sikoa so soon after his arrival on Smackdown is a good idea and this was a fine way to make him feel like a bigger deal. Sikoa is someone who needs to find a way to make himself stand out and being the aggressive violent one could be a smart option. Moss taking a pin isn't a good sign for his future, but at least it came at the end of a good match.

Post match Sikoa beats on Moss some more, despite Zayn telling him to cool it.

Post break Zayn and Sikoa head back to the locker room, where Jey Uso (not supposed to be here tonight) opens the locked door. Uso is proud of Sikoa and...that's about it. Sikoa heads into the locker room, leaving Jey to say he sees right through Zayn. This is Zayn's one shot, so Jey tells him not to dare think about putting the family in jeopardy. Zayn says take it up with Roman (that draws an 0000 from the crowd) and heads into THEIR locker room. Jey is seething as the best angle in WWE continues.

Karrion Kross is ready to take out Drew McIntyre and move on to take the titles from Roman Reigns.

Austin Theory is happy to have seen Drew McIntyre humiliated at Clash At The Castle. McIntyre is missing the mental abilities. How did he not see Solo Sikoa coming at him? McIntyre grabs Theory by the shoulder and tells him to get in the ring now.

<u>Austin Theory vs. Drew McIntyre</u>

Hold on though as the Alpha Academy is here with Theory. McIntyre actually gets taken down to start and Theory hammers away, only to get caught with the Futureshock. The Claymore is loaded up but McIntyre has to deal with the Academy for the DQ at 1:52.

Post match the beatdown is still on but Johnny Gargano and Kevin Owens (with separate entrances and separate music) come in for the save, likely giving us a main event.

The Maximum Male Models are ready to bring home a title to make things better for Max Dupri. He's thrilled at the idea of the two of them facing the Usos....but they mean the title for longest time holding a pose. Max storms off as they strike a pose, with Hit Row coming in to glare at them.

Shotzi is ready for Bayley tonight.

Hit Row vs. Los Lotharios

B Fab is here with Hit Row. Adonis gets taken down by Angel to start, allowing Angel to TAKE OFF HIS PANTS and throw them at Dolla. Adonis neckbreakers his way out of trouble and hands it off to Dolla for the running knee (Tennessee Whiskey), setting up El Rey (a jumping elbow, because ever move needs a special name). The Wasteland/fall away slam combination sets up the Heavy Hitter to finish Humberto at 2:24. Pretty much a squash.

Commentary talks, with a really big sign behind them saying "REVEL IN WHAT YOU ARE".

Ronda Rousey isn't worried about Liv Morgan but is considering a baseball bat.

Ronda Rousey vs. Natalya

Rousey takes her to the mat without much effort but Natalya reverses into almost a cover. Back up and Rousey knees her in the ribs but the running knee in the corner is countered with a powerbomb. The Sharpshooter attempt is countered into the ankle lock, which is broken up as well. Natalya is back up with a discus lariat for two but Rousey ankle locks her for the win at 3:45.

Rating: C+. Short and to the point here, though Natalya's relevance somehow continues to sink further and further. There is nothing from her to draw any interest and that has been the case for a long time now. Rousey is stuck in a bad position too, as there is no interest in this Morgan match and WWE seems to realize it.

Post match Liv Morgan comes out with a baseball bat but Rousey throws her into the timekeeper's area anyway. As security gets Rousey to leave, Liv charges at Rousey again and they're both held back. Yeah still not working, as Rousey will either smash her to end the reign or Morgan will escape and no one will buy it. They're stuck and that isn't going to get any better.

Drew McIntyre, Kevin Owens and Johnny Gargano are in the back and run into the Models still holding the pose. Owens keeps going and bumps into Sami Zayn, who he says needs a new shirt.

Shinsuke Nakamura and Sonya Deville aren't sure what to think of the Models posing.

Here is Imperium for a chat. Gunther is ready to beat Sheamus again next week and then to beat all of the Brawling Brutes at Extreme Rules. Cue Sheamus to interrupt (and call Gunther Betsy) but he's on his own this week because the rest of the Brutes are stuck in Florida. Sheamus is ready to fight and uses a shillelagh to take out Kaiser and Vinci.

That leaves Gunther, who wants the club dropped. That's fine with Sheamus but Kaiser and Vinci get back up to hold Sheamus down. The beating is on, but Sheamus asks if that's all they have. Gunther lays him out with a shillelagh shot to the face. Good stuff, and I think the title changes next week.

Bayley is ready to take out Shotzi, even if Iyo Sky and Dakota

Kai are stuck in Florida. Then she's winning the title at Extreme Rules.

Commentary announces that Antonio Inoki has passed away. That's a huge one to put it mildly. Look him up if you haven't heard much about him, because there was no one like him.

Shotzi vs. Bayley

Shotzi has her tank back for a big reaction. Bayley takes her down to start but gets sent throat first into the bottom rope. Shotzi goes up but gets caught, only to send Bayley outside as we take a break. Back with Shotzi jumping over Bayley in the corner but missing a charge, setting up the Rose Plant to give Bayley the pin at 6:33.

Rating: C. This was one of those weird matches where most of it was taking place during the break. Shotzi looked fired up and it was nice to have the tank back, though I question how much sense it makes to have her bring the tank back and then lose a few minutes later. Bayley looked dominant near the end, but it came after a good performance from Shotzi.

Post match Bayley gives her another Rose Plant and pulls out a ladder. Bianca Belair runs in for the save and Bayley bails.

The Models are close to breaking the record but Max Dupri breaks it up. He takes off the M belt and says this was never for him. "Yeah." Graves: "I haven't been this sad since Shawn kicked Marty through the Barbershop window." Thank goodness.

<u>Drew McIntyre/Johnny Gargano/Kevin Owens vs. Alpha</u> <u>Academy/Austin Theory</u>

We hear about McIntyre and Gargano as Evolve Tag Team Champions for your mind blowing line of the week. Gargano takes Theory down to start and Owens hits the flip dive off the apron to take out Theory and Gable as we take a break. Back with Gable getting two off a northern lights suplex and grabbing an armbar. That's broken up and the hot tag brings in Owens to start the house cleaning.

A DDT plants Theory and a fisherman's buster onto the knee does the same to Gable. The Cannonball sets up the Swanton for two on Gable but a kick to the face drops Owens. Everything breaks down and Otis runs McIntyre over on the floor. A bunch of superkicks rock Otis (with Gargano looking to be favoring his ankle) and it's a Stunner to Gable on the announcers' table. The Claymore hits Theory for the pin at 9:41.

Rating: C+. They didn't waste time here and it was an entertaining match, even if there was little need to have Theory take another fall when Gable was right there. Otis didn't do much here and that was kind of strange after he has been presented as such a force. Given the situation they were in, this was a completely acceptable main event.

Post match McIntyre gets the strap out to beat on Theory to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. This was a weird show where the action was mostly good but it didn't feel like much of a show. The biggest issue is the lack of a bunch of the normal stars, but they filled in the gaps rather well. Extreme Rules still needs some work though and that wasn't factored in here. Pretty good show still, even if it didn't do much for the pay per view.

<u>Results</u> Solo Sikoa/Sami Zayn b. Madcap Moss/Ricochet – Swinging Solo to Moss Drew McIntyre b. Austin Theory via DQ when Alpha Academy interfered Hit Row b. Los Lotharios – Heavy Hitter to Humberto Ronda Rousey b. Natalya – Ankle lock Bayley b. Shotzi – Rose Plant Drew McIntyre/Johnny Gargano/Kevin Owens b. Alpha Academy/Austin Theory – Claymore to Theory Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and head over to my Amazon author page with 30 different cheap wrestling books at:

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