

# New Column: What's Your Angle Kurt?

Looking at what is on the other end of those texts and what I'd like to see as the reveal.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/kbs-review-whats-angle-kurt/>

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## TNA Loses UK TV Deal

And the spin is AMAZING.

<http://wrestlingrumors.net/tna-loses-uk-tv-deal/>

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## TNA's Latest Woes – October 14 Version

Oh sweet goodness where do I even begin?

So in the last twenty four hours or so, the following news has come out (believe at your own risk in some cases):

1. Billy Corgan is suing Dixie Carter for various reasons. This includes a RESTRAINING ORDER against her and can you really blame him?

<http://www.pwinsider.com/ViewArticle.php?id=105347>

2. Dixie Carter seems to owe half of the world money for selling off

pieces of TNA to keep the thing going.

<http://411mania.com/wrestling/tna-news-dixie-carter-personally-owes-billy-corgan-money-funder-for-last-impact-taping/>

3. Some TNA talent might walk if they don't get paid this weekend.

<http://411mania.com/wrestling/some-tna-talent-will-reportedly-declare-themselves-as-free-agents-of-not-paid-this-weekend/>

I'm sure I missed something in there but we've reached the point where the court system is trying to keep Dixie Carter away from TNA. They're out of money and they have bills. I don't know who Dixie can fleece this time but it looks even worse than usual.

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## **Dixie Carter Out As President Of TNA, Replaced By Billy Corgan**

<http://www.pwtorch.com/site/2016/08/12/breaking-tna-announces-major-executive-shake-corgan-carter/>

Maybe this changes things but given that it's TNA, I'll need to see something before I buy into the hype. Corgan at least has money, but I continue to wonder how much is going to be pumped into TNA before the investors give up because they're drawing 350,000 people in a great week.

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# Impact Wrestling – July 5, 2016: A Cry For Help

## Impact Wrestling

Date: July 5, 2016

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: D'Angelo Dinero, Josh Matthews

We have arrived. Tonight is the FINAL (Like really the final. We're not lying this time.) match between Matt Hardy and Jeff Hardy, which naturally is being held at Matt's house in North Carolina instead of in the arena. The idea is the loser can never use the Hardy name again, which would be the second time this stipulation has been in place. Let's get to it.

We open at the Hardy compound with Matt and Reby holding a birthday party for their son Maxill. Matt's gift is expunging the enigma from the family tree and restore honor to the Hardy name. The final deletion takes place tonight at sunset and the gardener is told to prepare the battlefield.

Here are Maria and Mike Bennett to open things up. Mike wants everyone to take notice of the greatest X-Division Champion of all time ever (his words). Bennett has been near perfect since he got here so now it's time to turn that record into gold. He asks someone to come out here so he can cash in the X-Division Title so here's the returning Dixie Carter, a full two weeks since she was last here. She says Option C is in effect tonight but Bennett has to defend his title first. Since the fans want one more match before next week, let's have Bennett defend against the entire X-Division in Ultimate X.

X-Division Title: Mike Bennett vs. Eddie Edwards vs. Mandrews vs. Andrew Everett vs. Rockstar Spud vs. Trevor Lee vs. Braxton Sutter vs. DJZ

I think that's everyone and it's Bennett defending in Ultimate X (title hung above the ring, climb across the ropes to get to it). DJZ dives over the top to take out Edwards and Everett, leaving Sutter to pull Spud down from the ropes. Spud slaps him in the face but a kick to the face might

have knocked Spud's tooth out. Either way it means he's out of the match to calm things down a bit.

Bennett stops Sutter but gets kicked in the head but Eddie kicks him in the head, meaning it's time for everyone to hit something, leaving everyone down so we can have a highlight package three minutes in. Trevor pulls DJZ off the cables and throws him with a German suplex. Lee charges into a spinebuster from Bennett, who tries to jump up and get the title without having to climb across.

Eddie hurricanranas him down before taking out Lee and Helms with a suicide dive. Everett dives on all of them, followed by Sutter and DJZ doing the same. Mandrews goes above the cables to moonsault down onto a bunch of people, leaving Bennett alone in the ring. He still can't climb though so he grabs a ladder, which Eddie baseball slides back into him. Bennett comes back in with the ladder but Eddie kicks it over and wins the title back at 9:45.

**Rating:** B-. This was a bit better than the normal Ultimate X matches but I would have preferred seeing a regular match instead of this big mess but that's all you can hope for in the X-Division these...well it's been years instead of days. Eddie getting the title shot is interesting, but the name "Chris Sabin" would be the first thing I'd think of.

We see Ethan Carter III and Drew Galloway getting into a fight after last week's main event.

#### King of the Mountain Title: James Storm vs. Eli Drake

Drake is defending and is quickly knocked out to the floor to start before Storm pounds in some right hands in the corner. Eli comes back with some choking on the ropes and a powerslam. It's already time to bring in the title but Storm comes back with a Sling Blade and Closing Time. Last Call sends Drake outside where he hits Storm with the belt for the DQ at 5:24.

**Rating:** D+. Nothing wrong with setting up a bigger rematch down the line and these two had some good chemistry on the mic together last week. Drake is just a step above the Honky Tonk Man where he doesn't deserve

the title over people he's keeping it from and that means he's interesting to watch, which is something TNA needs.

We get a trailer for the Final Deletion, which includes Jeff jumping out of a tree and shooting fireworks. This is going to be.....something.

We look back at Ultimate X. It was only half an hour ago and we're already recapping it?

Eddie says he's going to cash in Option C.

### Jade vs. Marti Bell

Street fight and Jade charges to the ring to start things off. Marti brings in the cookie sheet but gets taken down in slow motion for some right hands. Some sheet shots knock Jade back and bicycle kicks a trashcan lid into her chest. Jade pops back up and goes off with a kendo stick before putting a trashcan over her head. The package piledriver is countered with a backdrop so Marti gets her baton. Jade busts out some nunchucks to disarm her with ease, followed by the package piledriver onto a chair for the pin at 5:45.

**Rating:** C-. The violence wasn't bad here but this is a really dead feud. Hopefully this wraps things up though as Jade and Marti aren't interesting characters and I'm still not sure why I'm supposed to care about these two fighting. Jade's title reign crippled anything she had going and Marti just came back after not doing anything for months, meaning this isn't the most interesting feud almost by definition.

We go to Jeff's house where he's cutting the grass into shapes. Now it's inside where Jeff plays some guitar...and then go to Matt's vision which looks like the Terminator. A drone is seen flying outside the window and various miniature planes attack Jeff, who fends them off with his guitar. A red hologram of Matt comes out of the drone to say tonight is the final deletion. The drone (apparently called Vanguard I) flies away so Jeff chases after it on his motorcycle before we cut to Matt, who rides around on a lawnmower to destroy the art in the yard. I'm actually in awe and that's not a good thing this time.

Mike Bennett and Maria are in the ring to complain about the title change earlier in the night. Maria wants Dixie to come out here right now but gets Billy Corgan instead. Maria immediately sucks up to him but Dixie comes out to interrupt. Dixie tries to calm Maria down as she shouts about how one of them have to leave.

Things finally calm down with Dixie saying she isn't going anywhere while Mike and Maria try to manipulate everyone. Mike says people tune in to see them so Dixie needs to face reality. Maria starts her ME OR YOU until Corgan shouts at her to stop. Billy is sick of hearing this nonsense and if Mike and Maria want to quit, he'll hold the door open for them. Bennett says they're not quitting and promises to ruin Destination X next week.

Back to the compound with Matt telling the gardener to pour gasoline on the ring because it takes a lot of fuel to delete someone.

#### Decay vs. BroMans/Raquel

Before the match, Godderz says that he and Raquel have been keeping a secret from Robbie because he can't keep secrets. In honor of Big Brother After Dark debuting soon, here's a video of Rosemary kissing Bram backstage. I'm not sure what that has to do with Big Brother After Dark and I'd be more curious to see if they actually wanted to be associated with TNA.

The women brawl to start until Jesse takes over with a dropkick. That's fine with Abyss who comes in and throws Jesse around before cranking on his neck. The hot tag brings in Robbie as everything breaks down. Steve dives into the Adonis Lock but Rosemary makes the save. Raquel dives off the apron to take Rosemary down. Abyss tries to chokeslam Steve onto Robbie but only hits the mat, setting up the BroDown for the pin on Steve at 4:53.

**Rating:** C. I like the BroMans and Raquel more every time I see them and it should be interesting to see what happens if they get another title shot. Decay continues to be a team that is living WAY beyond its means and is far more entertaining than I ever thought they should have been. I can't imagine either of these teams will be holding the belts after the

Wolves come back but it's fun while it lasts.

Here's Eddie Edwards to announce his decision. Eddie talks about how important this is but Lashley comes out to cut him off. Lashley talks about how great of a tag wrestler Edwards is but he has no idea what he's getting into. Eddie says he's been through the wars before, including breaking his elbow and winning a ladder match the next day.

That's not enough for Lashley who brings up all the careers he's destroyed. Option C needs to be changed a bit because Lashley wants to make it title for title next week. Eddie agrees that the smart move would be to just keep the X Title and leave but he wants to make history so it's title vs. title. Lashley wants to fight now but the spear is blocked by a running knee to the face. Edwards holds up both titles and Lashley doesn't get back inside.

Final Deletion trailer again.

We get a split screen sitdown interview with Ethan Carter III and Drew Galloway. Ethan calls Drew a hothead and needs to look in the mirror to see the problem. Drew says he does that every single day and he knows Ethan isn't the man he is. All Drew wants is the title and Ethan is someone standing in his way. A challenge is thrown out for next week and Ethan accepts.

### Matt Hardy vs. Jeff Hardy

This is outside and in the dark in somewhat rickety looking ring. Before the match, Matt tells the referee (who he makes sure is licensed) to count the pin or call the submission. Matt plays the violin (given to him by Antonio Stradivari, who died in 1737) to summon the enigma. Jeff rides up and Matt tells him to prepare for his deletion. We come back from a break where the gardener reads us a statement saying not to try this. It's in Spanish but it's a nice gesture.

They trade punches to start and the longest stretch without the camera cutting is about four seconds. Jeff superplexes Matt (slow motion) and gets two off a splash before pulling out what appear to be shutters covered in ivy. Matt goes through those for two as we have music playing

instead of commentary. Matt takes over with a kendo stick to the back as this is only a match in the loosest of terms.

We've got a ladder less than two minutes in with Jeff being knocked back into the corner and choked with the rungs (Matt: "DELETE! DELETE! DELETE!"). The Side Effect onto the ladder is countered and Jeff hits a Twist of Fate before taking his shirt off. The Swanton gets two and Jeff puts the ladder on the middle rope. That's not enough though as he climbs into a tree (yes a tree) and dives off, hitting only the ladder on the way down. That only gets two so Matt hits him with a chair and pulls out a firework cannon to shoot at Jeff, who blocks it with a trashcan lid.

Since that didn't work, Matt pulls out a rake and calls for Brother Nero. Jeff has his own fireworks to shoot at Matt, who hides behind a metal boat as the music switches from something resembling classical to rock. Jeff turns the boat over but gets caught in a sleeper because after fireworks, of course you use wrestling moves. They fall into the water and Jeff disappears with Matt saying he's been flushed. Jeff pops out of the water in full Willow gear and chokes Matt with the umbrella until the gardener comes up with a stun gun to knock Jeff out for the pin at 7:27.

Actually not so fast as Matt takes the mask off and it's...the gardener. Jeff pops back up and knocks Matt into a dirt pit for more choking but lets go when he sees a massive Hardy logo. Jeff climbs onto that as we go to a Wyatt style montage of the birthday party. Reby hands Matt a candle and he sets the symbol on fire to knock Jeff off for the pin at 9:36.

**Rating:** N/A. No rating since this had nothing to do with wrestling and was heavily edited throughout. Normally I would explain something stupid here but do I really need to? This was Matt and Jeff shouting LOOK AT OUR BRILLIANCE and Dixie being stupid enough to let them do whatever they wanted. Words don't describe this one well enough but I hope Matt and Jeff financed this themselves because TNA is broke enough that they can barely afford to pay their production staff but they can have this....thing which probably cost a small fortune.

Matt poses to end the show as the symbol burns behind him.

**Overall Rating:** D+. You know what I thought of here? Wrestlemania XII.



It's a show where the card where the entire show is cut in two with the main event being one thing and everything else being the opposite. The first hour and forty minutes of this show were actually entertaining and set up Destination X pretty well with some interesting matches and storylines.

Then the second half is a cry for help. This was Matt and Jeff climbing onto something high up and screaming REMEMBER US! WE USED TO BE COOL AND NOW WE'RE ALL GENIUSES AND STUFF! I don't know if this is TNA trying to come up with something new and cutting edge but how many more people is this going to draw?

Let's say it's an explosion and gets them up to 400,000 viewers. What then? More of the same stuff that has driven people away time after time because that's how TNA works. This was basically the Attitude Era in a nutshell: little to do with wrestling, an attempt to get people to talk but at the end of the day it's a big mess that people watch like it's a car crash. This was certainly something entertaining but it wasn't wrestling. If that's what TNA wants to do then so be it, but if this is the best they've got, I'm really scared to see where they go next.

### Results

Eddie Edwards b. Mandrews, Andrew Everett, DJZ, Trevor Lee, Mike Bennett, Braxton Sutter and Rockstar Spud – Edwards pulled down the title

James Storm b. Eli Drake via DQ when Drake used the title belt

Jade b. Marti Bell – Package piledriver onto a chair

BroMans/Raquel b. Decay – BroDown to Steve

Matt Hardy b. Jeff Hardy – Pin after Jeff fell off a Hardy symbol

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<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01FWZZ2UA>

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# Impact Wrestling – June 21, 2016: What's Next?

## Impact Wrestling

Date: June 21, 2016

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Josh Matthews, D'Angelo Dinero

We're coming off one of the most entertaining nights Impact has put on in a long time but there was a small bump in the road just afterwards as they aired their regular show. The big news coming off that: we get ANOTHER Matt Hardy vs. Jeff Hardy match this week as they fight inside a cage. I doubt they can top the commercial marathon from last week but let's get to it.

We open with dueling promos from Matt Hardy and Jeff Hardy as they both talk about how this is the final battle. I'm so sure.

Here's Drew Galloway for an opening chat. Galloways isn't going to whine and complain but he wants Ethan Carter III out here right now. Carter apologizes for what happened last week but Drew wants a fight. He thinks Carter was on commentary because Carter thought he deserved the title shot instead.

Ethan says he shouldn't have been in the title match because he was burned out. They yell about how hard both of them worked as champion but

Ethan rescinds his apology and says he should be champ. Drew thinks Ethan got where he was by talking instead of fighting so it's about to be on.

Cue Lashley to laugh about them arguing before both guys think they should have a #1 contenders match. Instead Lashley has set up a tag match where Drew and Ethan will team together. If they win they get a title shot (not clear if it's one at a time or a triple threat) but if they lose they go to the back of the line. If Lashley's team wins, his partner gets a title shot so here's Eli Drake to offer to be the partner. Lashley agrees and it's on right now.

### Lashley/Eli Drake vs. Ethan Carter III/Drew Galloway

Lashley goes after Ethan to start but a standoff means a double tag. Drake gets taken into the corner as the good guys keep tagging themselves in, much to each others' annoyances. Ethan backdrops Drake but Eli grabs a quick neckbreaker. It's off to Lashley for a quick choke before Eli punches Ethan in the face a few times.

The bad guys keep taking turns stomping away before Eli slaps on a chinlock. A double clothesline drops Ethan and Lashley but Drake knocks Drew off the apron to break up the tag attempt. The TK3 allows the hot tag to Drew as everything breaks down. Blunt Force Trauma is broken up and the 1%er plants Eli, only to have Lashley spear Ethan down. That's fine with Drew as he pins Drake at 8:17.

**Rating:** C. Well I'm glad they solved that issue in the span of twenty minutes. As usual, TNA has no idea how to let something build up because it can't be the main event since that's Matt and Jeff's designated territory and the idea of waiting a week just isn't in TNA's lexicon. I like the story and I love the fact that these guys are being built up but let the stories progress over time, not all at once.

Decay wants to know who Rosemary has been talking to but she says to trust her. They'll get an answer tonight.

Lashley comes up to Drew in the back and says he holds all the cards. He might give Ethan the first shot but Drew wants to step outside right now.

Here's Decay to reveal who Rosemary has been talking to. They're the death dealers but tonight they want to offer life to...Bram. She asks everyone to trust each other and thinks Bram is fed up with everyone trying to fix him. Bram lost the King of the Mountain Title because he was alone and they don't want him to be like that anymore. The answer is decay. Bram: "I guess you're kind of hot, I don't know." Bram declines the offer though and the beatdown is on.

Lashley congratulates Ethan on getting his title shot but it's still on his terms. Ethan will know who gets the shot by the end of the night. As I said earlier: SLOW DOWN WITH THESE THINGS.

### Marti Bell vs. Jade

Jade goes right after her to start as a fan tries to start dueling chants. Marti takes over and sends it to the floor while yelling a lot. That's fine with Jade who picks up Marti's baton, only to be told to put it down. You don't argue with Earl Hebner so they head inside, sans baton. A German suplex looks to set up Jade's package piledriver but Marti escapes and slaps her in the face. Jade faceplants her hard and Marti bails to the floor to grab that baton for a knockout shot for the pin at 5:49.

**Rating:** D-. The wrestling was nothing, the story was nothing, and the ending was predictable. I really don't think anyone was looking forward to this match and I have no idea why it's going to continue other than they have a lot of time to fill and think these two are interesting because they've been on TV before.

Maria Kanellis and Mike Bennett will respond to Dixie slapping Maria in the ring.

Lashley laughs at Dixie about the slap so she says he'll face both Ethan and Drew next week. That's fine with Lashley, who is way too cool with this.

Here are Mike and Maria with something to say. Josh says they've gone radio silent on social media since last week. Just out of curiosity I checked both of their Twitters and couldn't find the end of their tweets

from the last 24 hours. In other words, Josh Matthews continues to have no idea what he's talking about. Anyway, Maria says she hasn't slept in a week and the slap last week was assault. They demand Dixie is out here right now so here she is, along with Billy Corgan.

Maria screeches that Dixie needs to step down but Dixie thinks it's crazy. Mike threatens to sue TNA for so much money that Dixie would lose everything. Eh true but small claims courts are backed up for months. Corgan suggests that Dixie take a leave of absence for about a week. Yes a week. Dixie panics but agrees before leaving. Mike wants an X-Division Title shot because Destination X is coming up soon. He can wrestle any style, no matter what the keyboard warriors think. Billy thinks Mike needs to earn that so he can have a title shot right now.

#### X-Division Title: Eddie Edwards vs. Mike Bennett

Eddie is defending and Josh starts things off by talking about everything Eddie has accomplished as champion. He's held the belt NINE DAYS and has had one successful title defense. As usual, Josh Matthews continues to be stupid. Eddie snaps off a hurricanrana to start and avoids a Bennett knee drop. Maria offers a distraction as the announcers talk about bullfrogs. A quick cutter gives Mike two and we hit the chinlock on the champ. Eddie fights back and sends him outside for a pair of suicide dives.

Back in and a Blue Thunder Bomb gets two on Bennett and Eddie heads up top. Mike tries a superplex but Eddie smacks his ears to break it up. Josh: "How appropriate in an X-Division match." Josh Matthews, stupid, you know the drill. Anyway the Miracle in Progress is broken up and Eddie tries a sunset flip, only to have Mike kneel down and hold the ropes (while Maria holds his hands) for the pin and the title at 8:32.

**Rating:** C-. This was your standard "it's that time of the year so the X-Division Title means something to the main eventers" match but I really can't get over all the stupid things Josh was saying. He got on my nerves last year when he called fans stupid for bringing up Austin Aries losing his career because they were paying too much attention and now he just says stupid stuff. I'm sure I'm just overthinking it though because wrestling fans are stupid people who overthink things.

Robbie E. plugs Big Brother After Dark and sees Jesse and Raquel talking about doing something behind Robbie's back.

#### Braxton Sutter vs. Balam

Actually not so fast as Rockstar Spud comes out and says he's taking Balam's place because he's sick of the Braxton Sutter show. Spud runs his mouth and gets punched in the face to start things off.

#### Braxton Sutter vs. Rockstar Spud

Sutter sends him into the corner but gets caught in a tornado DDT for two. Spud's chinlock doesn't go anywhere as Sutter kicks him in the face and hits a Downward Spiral for the pin at 2:40. There's no reason for them to do so, but I'm sure these two will fight again.

Post match Spud kicks Sutter low, hits him in the back with a belt and spits on him.

Video on Sienna, talking about how hard she trains and how she wants to destroy Gail Kim. Until she mentioned Kim, this was a face promo.

#### Matt Hardy vs. Jeff Hardy

Cage match with pin or submission only to win. Jeff doesn't even waste time by throwing in tables, a ladder and a chair before Matt can even come out. Reby Hardy introduces Matt and insists that no one call him crazy. Matt brings in his own chair and somehow doesn't notice Jeff on the top, waiting to dive on him at the bell. Matt comes back by shoving Jeff into the cage for two. Another whip sends Jeff into the cage and us to a break.

Back with Matt still in control as the announcers try to make sense of the story. Matt takes too long setting up a table though and eats a chair to the face. Poetry in Motion only hits the cage though and Matt bites the leg. A Side Effect through a chair only gets two for Matt but Jeff comes back with Whisper in the Wind to put both guys down.

Some Twists of Fate keep Matt down but the Swanton only gets two. The fans aren't reacting to any of this. Another Twist of Fate puts Matt on a

table so Jeff puts a chair on top of him. A second table is stacked on top of that before Jeff puts a ladder on the ropes for a splash through the top table but not through Matt. Not that it matters of course as it's enough to pin Matt at 14:13.

**Rating:** B-. Ok now what's next? I mean, I have no reason to believe this wraps up the feud so what are they doing next? It's clear that these two are going to feud for months on end while the fans get quieter and quieter because they're desensitized to these huge spots after seeing them for years. It's a good cage match and all but the big spot is the only thing that's going to matter.

**Overall Rating:** C+. This was a better show than they've done recently and a lot of that was due to having the Hardys contained to the last twenty or so minutes. They're going to get in their stuff no matter what happens so just let them have their time while the rest of the show is mostly strong. It's not a great show or anything but if they can get this pacing stuff down, everything will get better in a hurry.

Above all else though, the most frustrating thing about TNA continues to be that they clearly know how to create new stars (Sutter, Carter, Galloway etc.) but those people are typically stuck underneath the Hardys' nonsense. It's gotten better in recent weeks but I can't help think that whichever Hardy comes out of this on top is next in line for the title after pushing everyone else out of the way to less of a reaction because we've seen that so many times.

### Results

Drew Galloway/Ethan Carter III b. Lashley/Eli Drake – 1%er to Drake

Marti Bell b. Jade – Baton to the head

Mike Bennett b. Eddie Edwards – Rollup while holding the ropes

Braxton Sutter b. Rockstar Spud – Downward Spiral

Jeff Hardy b. Matt Hardy – Swanton Bomb through a table

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# Impact Wrestling – February 9, 2016: The English Pick Up

## Impact Wrestling

Date: February 9, 2016

Location: MEN Arena, Manchester, England

Attendance: 3,000

Commentators: Josh Matthews, D'Angelo Dinero

We're out of Pennsylvania for a change as the annual Maximum Impact tour begins. That means the return of Ethan Carter III as he goes after Matt Hardy and the World Title, along with the continuation of the Kurt Angle farewell tour. The UK shows are always energetic so let's get to it.

We open with a quick video on the UK tour.

Here are Matt Hardy and company with the champ saying the Matt Hardy brand is far more valuable than the TNA brand. He's the one who the people should be cheering because he's taken this company to new heights. Tyrus goes on a rant about how Carter reached the title because of his bodyguard's efforts. Reby talks about how awesome her husband is because he's talented, sexy and rich.



That brings us back to Matt who talks about his greatness due to beating Carter, his brother Jeff and Kurt Angle. In that whole time though, there hasn't been a word from Dixie Carter. Therefore, Matt isn't leaving this ring until Dixie comes out here to face him. That's not it though as he wants the cancer known as Ethan Carter fired and that's what Dixie will do if she wants to keep her mega star happy.

The lighting is rather dim again even though the crowd doesn't seem that bad.

### Lashley vs. Bram

We miss the opening bell because we needed to hear Eric Young bragging about ending Jeff Hardy's career. They slug it out to start and quickly go outside with Bram getting the better of it, only to have Pope talk about Dumb and Dumber. Back in and Lashley's leapfrog is telegraphed, allowing Bram to kick him in the ribs for two.

We hit a quick chinlock before Lashley fights up and catches him in a running powerslam (nice touch in England). The spear misses though and Lashley goes into the buckle, setting up the Brighter Side of Suffering. That's not enough for Young though as he gets inside with the King of the Mountain Title, only to hit Bram by mistake. The spear gives Lashley the pin at 5:52.

**Rating:** C. I liked this better than I was expecting to but as usual the big story here continues to be how horribly Bram is used. The guy has a good look, can go in the ring and has a solid character. The solution: pair him with Eric Young, who gets all of the focus for whatever reason.

Tyrus gives Matt Hardy security to deal with Carter tonight.

Here's Kurt Angle with something to say. He talks about being in TNA for ten years (and still being remembered as that guy who used to be awesome in WWE) and is going to be facing Lashley in his final match but here's Maria to cut him off. After her usual speech, here's Mike Bennett with something to say.

Bennett grew up watching Angle and beat up his brother with Kurt's

offense. Kurt wants Bennett out of his ring so Bennett says he wants to fight, which earns him a quick dispatch. Angle talks about not wanting to fight anyone that he doesn't respect, which is why he's fighting Drew Galloway. This brings out Galloway to point at Angle.

Bobby Roode gives James Storm the Boozer Cruiser back. They might be cashing in the Tag Team Title briefcase tonight.

#### X-Division Title: Trevor Lee vs. Tigre Uno

Lee is defending and has Gregory Shane Helms in his corner. Tigre sends him outside really quickly for a big flip dive, followed by a tornado DDT back inside. The champ takes over for the first time and stomps on Tigre's bad shoulder. Some knees to the back keep Tigre in trouble but he pulls Lee to the floor and snaps off a hurricanrana off the apron. Back in and Helms trips Tigre, allowing Lee to knee him in the face and grab the fisherman's buster to retain at 5:17.

**Rating:** C. See, I can live with Tigre losing here after Trevor already showed that he can beat Uno clean last week. It isn't damaging Uno as he's just not good enough to beat Lee no matter what, which is likely why we'll see these guys fight two or three more times. Helms as a mentor is interesting but he needs to get in the ring at some point.

Beer Money comes out and says they want to cash in their briefcase but they get the Decay instead of the Wolves. Rosemary talks about her toys (the titles) and speaks in her rhyming style. Roode wants to fight instead of talk so let's get a referee out here.

#### Decay vs. Beer Money

It's a brawl in the aisle to start until Roode drops a knee on Steve's ribs. Abyss breaks up a Sharpshooter and slowly pounds on Roode, only to have the chokeslam countered into a spinebuster. A double tag brings in Storm to beat on Steve and Roode throws in a Blockbuster. There's the double suplex for both Decay villains and it's time to SHOUT THEIR NAMES. DWI plants Steve but Abyss pulls the referee out for the DQ at 5:25.

**Rating:** D+. I'm really not feeling Decay as they're really just a team

that goes out there and plays the standard “we’re freaky” team role. It doesn’t help that Steve was a comedy guy who hasn’t change enough to make up for his worthless performances and Abyss is the same guy he’s been forever. Nothing to see here and Decay continues to look worthless.

Post match Decay beats on Beer Money until the Wolves come out to save Roode from Janice. The Wolves say they want their belts back so Abyss challenges them to a Monster’s Ball match next week. The champs agree of course.

Reby and Dixie Carter talk about how proud Matt is.

We’re ready for a Knockouts match but here’s Grado, recently fired, to interrupt. He has proof that he was screwed in Feast or Fired but here’s Eli Drake, flanked by security, to interrupt. Security is an inept as ever and Grado gets away while holding an envelope.

Drew Galloway says tonight is about making himself the present by beating Kurt Angle.

#### Jade vs. Madison Rayne

Time for more faction wars despite the factions barely being a thing at this point. Rayne spears her to the floor to start and dives onto the Dollhouse. Back in and Madison gets a quick rollup for two but Jade kicks her in the face for the same. The heel choking begins but an enziguri breaks up Jade’s double underhook. Madison scores with a running clothesline but Jade knees her in the head. The Package Piledriver puts Madison away at 4:24.

**Rating:** D. Is there a point coming to these matches ANYTIME soon? These teams have been feuding for weeks and now that Kong is gone, I’m not sure what else these women are supposed to do? They have no real story until Angelina Love likely returns for one more reunion of a team that was a big deal eight years ago.

Gail Kim runs in to save Madison from an attack with a chair.

Grado rants to Billy Corgan about how he was screwed. Corgan says he can’t understand a word Grado says and here’s security to drag Grado off.

## Kurt Angle vs. Drew Galloway

Rematch from a few weeks back where Kurt won. Drew cranks on an armbar to start but Angle suplexes him down with ease. Off to a chinlock from Kurt as Pope thinks Angle could have been Knockouts Champion if he wanted to. Back up and a double clothesline puts both guys down and we take a break.

We come back with Drew getting out of the ankle lock and getting two off a Future Shock. They head outside with Drew walking into an Angle Slam onto the steps for two, only to have Galloway grab a reverse Alabama Slam (not Jam Pope) for the same. Drew takes him up for a super Celtic Cross for two more but he has to escape the Angle Slam. A pair of Claymores drop Kurt but he avoids a middle rope Claymore, setting up the rolling Germans.

The top rope splash gets two on Galloway, who comes right back with the third Claymore for two (so much for that move). There's a Crossface (with Drew wrapping Kurt's arm around his neck instead of between his legs) but as you would expect, Kurt reverses into an ankle lock, only to have Drew kick him in the knee. The crossface goes on again and Kurt taps at 15:16.

**Rating:** B. This is what they needed to do as Galloway can use this win a lot more than Angle. They were totally into the trading finishers style here and it worked well, mainly due to the time they were given. Angle tapping is the right ending and Galloway looks awesome (unlike the Claymore at this point), which is exactly what it needed to be.

Post match Drew bows to Kurt.

Here are Matt and company to demand Ethan's firing. Dixie comes out but Matt cuts her off and says they're having this discussion here. If anyone knows how to make this a success, it's Matt Hardy, because he's the superstar and the World Champion. The one thing he wants is Ethan Carter III gone because Ethan is the source of every problem around here. Then Matt won the title at Bound For Glory and caused the World Title Series to start up.

This brings out Rockstar Spud who is immediately the victim of short jokes. Matt still wants someone fired but Spud cuts him off to demand

that Matt not disrespect Dixie like that. Hardy just wants Ethan fired but Spud won't insult Ethan to Dixie. As bad as Ethan is, he backs up what he says. Spud thinks Matt is scared so Tyrus lays him out as Matt looks on. Matt screams at Dixie to fire Ethan but here he is for his big return. House is quickly cleaned and we're really supposed to care about Carter vs. Tyrus.

**Overall Rating:** C+. It's a good show, but the last ten minutes are built around Matt Hardy vs. Dixie Carter with Ethan Carter III vs. Tyrus as the bonus. I know Matt is doing a lot better than people were expecting him to, but it's Matt Hardy. I really can't get around that no matter how much I try. At the end of the day, it's Matt Hardy getting this push that so many others could do just as well. We've seen the matches (they're ok) and we've heard the promos (they're not that ok) and I have no desire to see Matt Hardy in this spot. The rest of the show was good, but Matt Hardy as the centerpiece needs to wrap up soon.

### Results

Lashley b. Bram – Spear

Trevor Lee b. Tigre Uno – Fisherman's Buster

Beer Money b. Decay via DQ when Abyss pulled the referee to the floor

Jade b. Madison Rayne – Package Piledriver

Drew Galloway b. Kurt Angle – Crossface

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# Impact Wrestling – September 30, 2015: Only TNA

## Impact Wrestling

Date: September 30, 2015

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Josh Matthews, D'Angelo Dinero

It's the go home show for Bound For Glory and the big question is what does Dixie Carter have in store for her nephew Ethan at the show. Last week's show ended with a teaser of a special guest referee for Sunday's title match, even though it should be pretty easy to figure out where they're going with the story. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of Galloway winning the title shot last week.

Here are Ethan and Tyrus to open the show. Ethan doesn't get why no one is talking about him four days before the biggest show of the year. Everyone is talking about Drew Galloway when he hasn't even won anything yet. Even Dixie Carter is talking about Drew and the champ wants her out here right now to explain herself.

Dixie gets right in his face and talks about how Drew stood up for TNA after Ethan wanted nothing to do with the war against the company their family owns. Ethan says he's sleeping fine at night as the World Heavyweight Champion. This Sunday, Drew isn't going to beat him because Drew can't do it. Cue Galloway to tell Ethan to shut his bloody mouth. No one likes Ethan because he turned his back on the company.

Drew says this is his company in the first place and the belt makes him the best in the world. Ethan better hope that Drew never stops talking because the only thing he does better than talk is fight. The champ says this Sunday, Drew isn't going to stand up because he better stand down. Drew isn't coming to Sunday to be the savior, but he is coming to be the

champ. This was good stuff and as well done of a thrown together build as they could have had.

James Storm blames Mahabali Sheera for the downfall of the Revolution.

Ethan tells Dixie that he'll take out the future on Sunday.

Recap of Sheera rebelling against the Revolution, which started falling apart as a result.

### James Storm vs. Mahabali Sheera

No DQ. Sheera starts the brawl in the aisle but Storm hits him low to take over. Storm's cross body is caught in a fall away slam but James grabs a Backstabber. Two chairs are set up in the middle of the ring and Storm slams Sheera "through" them for two. Now it's table time but Storm spits beer in the referee's eyes.

The worst spear I've ever seen (like worse than Christian's) gets no cover and Storm is able to get in a cowbell shot to the head. Eye of the Storm through the table gets two so Storm breaks a beer bottle. Cue Manik and Abyss for a Black Hole Slam and frog splash, setting up the Sky High to give Mahabali the pin at 7:30.

**Rating:** C-. If you believe the reports, this is supposed to be the big star at the India tapings. I'm not wild on Sheera either way but this wasn't much of a match. Then again, that's almost always the case with TNA's gimmick matches as they're so overused that it's hard to get into one over the other. Storm is gone from the company now and if they've ever wasted a potential star like they did with him, I can't come up with the name.

Here's Bobby Roode with something to say. Roode is proud to be King of the Mountain Champion and is ready to defend the title with respect. There's going to be an open challenge on Sunday and here's Lashley to interrupt. Lashley came here to face the best competition in the world and to collect titles. They've had some great matches all year so why not one more time on Sunday for the King of the Mountain Title. Roode accepts. They also respect each other a lot because that's required in

TNA.

Taryn tells the Dollhouse to destroy the Beautiful People once and for all tonight.

#### DJZ vs. Tommaso Ciampa vs. Trevor Lee

Lee and Brian Myers will be getting their rematch for the Tag Team Titles on Sunday. Ciampa starts fast by suplexing DJZ onto the apron but Lee hits a nice flip dive to take Ciampa down. DJZ comes back in with a middle rope elbow and a double tornado DDT. Lee German suplexes Ciampa for two but he comes back with Project Ciampa (powerbomb into a backstabber) for two on Trevor. The break up sends Ciampa to the floor though and Lee's flipping cross body into a powerslam is good for the pin at 4:16.

**Rating:** C. So let me make sure I've got this straight. Lee, who is about to fight for the Tag Team Titles, wins an individual match by pinning someone going into a multi-man match for a singles title while Ciampa, a guy who isn't even a full time wrestler here, was RIGHT THERE for the fall. Only in TNA.

The Beautiful People are ready for the Dollhouse, even though Angelina has a busted shoulder (read as she's pregnant). Velvet wants Taryn at ringside because just like her, it's going to be ugly.

Brooke talks about what it means to be a Knockout. She wants the title back.

Ethan isn't worried about whatever Dixie has planned for him.

#### Dollhouse vs. Beautiful People

Marti/Rebel/Jade vs. Madison/Velvet here. Velvet's "Let's Cuddle and Watch Star Wars" shirt is about as awesome as you can get. It's a brawl to start with Madison sending Marti into the corner. Off to Jade for some kicks to the ribs as Pope refuses to predict a winner between Kong and Kim, citing disrespect. Madison sends Jade into the corner and makes the tag off to Sky.



More kicks have Jade in trouble so she brings in Rebel (in pink gloves) for even more kicks. A double clothesline puts both of them down and it's off to Madison vs. Marti with the Rayne Drop connecting for two. Everything breaks down and Velvet avoids having her arm crushed. Rebel throws powder in Madison's eyes and Marti grabs a rollup for the pin at 6:20.

**Rating:** D. This really didn't do it for me as they had a bunch of kicks and then a brawl at the end. Also, I don't know about you but I could see two big factions facing off on pay per view as an interesting idea but why do that when you can air it in a nothing match on TV instead? As usual, only in TNA.

Eric Young wants to fight anyone.

Gail Kim is ready for Awesome Kong and doesn't know what to expect when they square off on Sunday.

Eric Young comes out to yell about Sgt. Chris Melendez having so many people help him with that one win. Eric declares himself God. This brings out Robbie E. of all people because he wants a fight. Robbie's offense doesn't do much as a low blow puts him right back down.

This brings out Melendez for the real fight but Eric puts him down one more time. Young goes for a chair but Chris takes it away and sends Young running. Now it's Mr. Anderson to block Young from escaping and ask him about where God has been all his life. A bunch of people in the back want to beat Young up but Anderson, Melendez and Robbie take their turns on him instead.

Matt Hardy comes in to see Galloway and let him know that if they win their tag match tonight, Sunday's main event becomes a three way. Drew loves the idea and says that's why they're here.

Young yells at Dixie about how unfair that was so Dixie gives him Kurt Angle on Sunday.

Video on Sunday's card.

Ethan Carter III/Tyrus vs. Matt Hardy/Drew Galloway

If Matt and Drew win, Matt is added to Sunday's World Title match. Tyrus kicks Drew in the ribs to start before it's off to Drew vs. Matt. Hardy has some more luck and gets in a few shots of his own but the Twist of Fate is easily broken up. The villains take over with Tyrus slapping on a chinlock before stepping on Matt's ribs as we take a break. Back with Matt making a comeback and tagging in Drew to clean house. A running boot to the face is enough to put Tyrus away at 13:20, putting Matt in the title match on Sunday.

**Rating:** D+. How in the world was this a thirteen minute match? It felt like it ran about five minutes and I can't remember a thing about it. This really didn't need to have a stipulation attached but we wouldn't be in TNA if they didn't add something in for the sake of adding it in. We're not even done with that yet.

Dixie comes out and announces Jeff Hardy as the guest referee for Sunday's main event. Shocking indeed.

**Overall Rating:** C. This was WAY better than in previous weeks. Like, staggeringly better in parts. They addressed the major matches on Sunday and built them up well enough to make me a lot more interested in the show than I was before. Above all else though, everything seemed like it had a purpose. It wasn't a bunch of filler disguised as a wrestling show and that's a very nice change of pace.

However, there is one major issue. TNA spent their entire go home show building up Carter vs. Galloway but then they throw Matt Hardy in with like two minutes to go. Not only is Matt not a logical move (he's lost his two title shots already) but it feels as shoehorned in as anything I've seen in a very long time. I'm not a big fan of triple threats in the first place and throwing in someone who doesn't belong there makes it even worse. I could go for a break from the Hardys as well as TNA really needs to get away from these old acts. It's not like their ratings are amazing with Jeff on top or anything so why not try something new?

## Results

Mahabali Sheera b. James Storm – Sky High

Trevor Lee b. DJZ and Tommaso Ciampa – Spinning powerslam to DJZ

Dollhouse b. Beautiful People – Rollup to Rayne

Matt Hardy/Drew Galloway b. Tyrus/Ethan Carter III – Big boot to Tyrus

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## **New Column: The GFW Invasion Was Really Bad**

I'm not bothering with anything complicated here.

<http://www.wrestlingrumors.net/kbs-review-the-gfw-invasion-was-really-bad/41459/>

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# Impact Wrestling – September 2, 2015: I Hated This Show

## Impact Wrestling

Date: September 2, 2015

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Josh Matthews, D'Angelo Dinero

It's full on war now as the Global Force roster attacked several TNA wrestlers last week with Karen Jarrett revealing that she was behind the attacks on Drew Galloway and Bully Ray in recent weeks. In addition to the invasion, it's almost time for Bound For Glory, which really hasn't been set up yet. Let's get to it.

The Hardys and Ethan Carter III arrived earlier. Carter defends against Matt Hardy tonight and if he retains, Jeff Hardy is Carter's personal assistant.

We recap Karen Jarrett being revealed as the evil mastermind last week.

The Jarretts lead the GFW roster to the ring. Jeff talks (again) about returning on June 24 and being inducted into the Hall of Fame. He brags about all the success the GFW/TNA show had but Karen cuts him off to explain that she did everything for all the hard work her husband has put in for GFW. Yes she set these wheels in motion and had Chris Adonis take out Bully Ray. Jeff is building a new empire and no one in the back can compete with these boys. Adonis issues an open challenge to anyone in the back so here's Lashley.

### Lashley vs. Chris Mordetzky

Lashley throws him down to start and then drops Chris with a clothesline. The Mordetzky Lock (full nelson) is quickly countered into a full nelson slam but Mordetzky nails a Polish Hammer (double ax handle to the chest) to take over. We hit the chinlock before they head outside with Lashley being sent into the steps. Back in and a butterfly suplex seems to annoy Lashley more than hurt him. A double clothesline puts both guys down and

it's Lashley up first with a German suplex. The spear is countered into a spinebuster but Lashley easily blocks the full nelson. Now the spear connects but here's GFW for the DQ at 8:57.

**Rating:** D+. Totally meh match here as this was nothing to see and just a match to show that Mordetsky is part of GFW's roster. I still have no reason to care about a group of people who have been around for a month and range from no one interesting to WWE rejects. Nothing to see here.

Lashley gets destroyed so here are the Wolves for a failed save. Jeff says bring out the surprise so here she is with the Tag Team Title Feast or Fired briefcase. She says Magnus gave it to her, which apparently you can just do.

Tag Team Titles: Wolves vs. Brian Myers/Trevor Lee

Wait a minute because Earl Hebner won't do it, earning him a right hand from Jeff. Another referee is forced to ringside and the match is on. Trevor dropkicks Edwards down for two as this is actually a regular match for a change. Myers comes in for a slam of his own but the Wolves come back with stereo submission holds, only to break them up to go after Sonjay Dutt. Myers brings in a pipe but the distraction lets Lee blast Davey with the briefcase for the pin and the titles at 2:35. There's your token title win to make this invasion IMPORTANT.

Bobby Roode only cares about winning the King of the Mountain Title tonight.

Long recap of everything that just happened.

Ethan Carter III talks about his love of stories and how tonight, Matt's story of going for the World Title ends tonight.

King of the Mountain Title: PJ Black vs. Bobby Roode

Black is defending and Roode stops to brag about being a TNA original. This is TNA's house and Roode is bringing the title home. It's a brawl on the floor to start as Matthews mistakenly says Black won the title last week. They get inside for some chops but Black blocks a suplex and sends Roode outside for a suicide dive. A springboard clothesline drops Roode

and we take a break. Back with Roode winning a slugout and getting two off a spinebuster.

The Roode Bomb is broken up and Gabriel gets two off a reverse DDT. Black's top rope Lionsault hits knees though and Roode slaps on the Crossface, only to have Dutt come out for a distraction. It doesn't work this time though as Roode puts the Crossface back on. Drew Galloway takes Dutt out and Black...is free because Roode let it go for no apparent reason. Black's springboard is countered into the Roode Bomb for the pin and the title at 13:15.

**Rating:** C+. The match was fine but what does this title change mean? That would be nothing, because the title has no important lineage and has been thrown out there for some meaningless changes. It's the old Russo idea that you can get people to care because the title changes without the idea of making people care about the title in the first place.

Post match GFW chases Roode off and Jeff rants about everything going on here. Cue Dixie and OH DEAR GOD SHUT UP! They're going back and forth about stabbing each other in the back and all the mistakes each other has made like ANYONE cares. Jeff brings up his ownership stake and Dixie proposes a winner take all match. Jeff agrees and Drew Galloway comes out to be on Dixie's team. Drew wants to stand up for TNA and the Wolves and Lashley come out to join him in Team TNA.

Dinero and Matthews talk about what just happened.

Here's the returning Kenny King with a mic in hand. He's been going through an identity crisis in the last year but now he's just here on his own. Kenny doesn't want to be the kind of guy who jumps someone from behind and uses a numbers advantage to beat someone down. He issues an open challenge to anyone from any roster to come fight him right now.

### Bram vs. Kenny King

Bram goes right after King to start but Kenny takes him down with a nice dive. He tries it once too often though and eats a clothesline to give Bram control. King comes back with a running elbow in the corner, followed by an enziguri to put Bram in the corner. Bram ducks another

dive though and the Brighter Side of Suffering gives Bram the pin at 3:37.

**Rating:** D+. So King comes back, turns face, and loses in less than four minutes. That being said, this match was nothing to see but it calmed me down a lot after the stupid hostile takeover stuff had me losing my mind. This was something different than that one big story, though it was stupid in its own way.

The Hardys say Matt will win the title. Has there been a more tacked on feud than this in recent years?

Here's Velvet Sky with something to say. She's been keeping to herself since she got back for a reason. The Knockouts division has been evolving constantly and so has she. The Dollhouse is out of control and Taryn is going to pay. Velvet tells Taryn to come out here but she comes up on screen to say how sick she is of being compared to Velvet as the hot blonde in TNA.

Taryn has been in movies and on TV but Velvet looks like a Hot Topic reject. This is Taryn's house and now she has to play with Taryn's dolls. Cue the Dollhouse, who quickly beats Tarn down. Angelina Love and Madison Rayne come out and yes, the Beautiful People are back.

Video on Matt Hardy vs. Ethan Carter III in Full Metal Mayhem, which of course set up tonight's regular match.

Dixie gives Team TNA their pep talk. It's Lethal Lockdown in two weeks for full control.

### TNA World Title: Matt Hardy vs. Ethan Carter III

Ethan is defending and if Matt loses, Jeff Hardy is Ethan's personal assistant. Josh: "EC3 and Matt Hardy have been rivals for quite some time." No Josh, they haven't been. Feeling out process to start until Matt hits a running Diamond Cutter (called a neckbreaker) for two. A big clothesline puts the champion on the floor and it's off to a break. Back with Carter missing a middle rope elbow but putting on a sleeper.

Matt fights up and nails some clotheslines, followed by the Side Effect.

The referee gets bumped off the Twist of Fate attempt though and there's no one to count. A belt shot to Matt's head gets two because Matt WILL NOT DIE, which seems to be code for WILL NOT STOP DRAGGING OUT OBVIOUS ENDINGS. Jeff gets in a cheap shot on Carter to give Matt two but they ram heads and Carter falls on top for two. Tyrus grabs Matt's leg and gets chaired by Jeff, only to have Ethan hit a TKO on Matt for two more. The referee gets distracted again and a low blow and sunset flip retain Carter's title at 13:17.

**Rating:** C. Wow you know what that wasn't? Epic. You know why it wasn't? Because they did the big gimmick match three weeks ago and this company is too stupid to figure out that they shouldn't do things in that order. The match was fine but I have no reason to care about Matt Hardy as a lame duck challenger before we get to the Bound For Glory and whatever they have planned there.

Jeff now has to work for Carter and is forced to raise the champ's hand to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** F. I've sat through a lot from TNA over the years. I survived Immortal, THEY, all of Russo's nonsense and Dixieland. Tonight, for the first time, I got mad at them over how bad things got. This invasion is one of the worst written, lamest attempts at doing something that I've ever seen. Case in point: if the blowoff is in two weeks, the whole story lasted five shows. Even the WWF InVasion, one of the most botched stories ever, ran several months before the big ending.

Instead, TNA has decided that we care about the power struggle (because they're too stupid to run ANYTHING BUT A POWER STRUGGLE) between Jeff and Dixie, leaving Ethan Carter III, a guy who could have been a much bigger deal for them, fighting the Hardys in a midcard feud. We're a month away from Bound For Glory and their big story is going to be blown off on TV two weeks beforehand.

If TNA is going down, and I'm sure they won't because these morons somehow back their way into deal after deal to keep this mess going another six months, they're going out as only they can: with no idea of how to run a good show, bad storytelling, stupid decisions, and the wrong



people on top because those people think the fans care about them. This was a disaster and I absolutely hated it.

## Results

Lashley b. Chris Mordetzky via DQ when the GFW roster interfered

Brian Myers/Trevor Lee b. Wolves – Lee pinned Richards after a briefcase to the head

Bobby Roode b. PJ Black – Roode Bomb

Bram b. Kenny King – Brighter Side of Suffering

Ethan Carter III b. Matt Hardy – Sunset flip

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