

# Ring of Honor – March 30, 2016: The Dead Zone

## Ring of Honor

Date: March 30, 2015

Location: Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall, Las Vegas, Nevada

Commentators: Mr. Wrestling III, Kevin Kelly

We're still in Las Vegas with the cool blue curtains and a World Title defense with Hirooki Goto from New Japan challenging ROH World Champion Jay Lethal. It's not like Lethal has anything else going on right now so having him defend against someone from outside the company isn't the worst idea. Let's get to it.

## Roderick Strong vs. Adam Page vs. Moose vs. Matt Sydal

This is a Four Corner Survival match which actually means one fall to a finish. Strong and Sydal get things going with a nice running of the ropes before Roderick gets in his first backbreaker for two. Page tags himself in to go after Strong but Sydal tags himself in as well, only to get sent to the floor. That's as good as a tag so it's Moose coming in to slam Strong for two with Page making the save.

Moose and Sydal go to the floor with Matt getting powerbombed onto the apron, followed by Page diving on Strong as we take a break. Back with Page dropkicking Strong into the corner until Sydal drops both Page and Strong at the same time. A standing moonsault gets two on Adam, followed by Moose slugging it out with Strong.

Moose dropkicks Sydal and Page off the corner so everyone starts focusing on Moose to give themselves an opening. Page throws Sydal with a release dragon suplex but here's BJ Whitmer to trip Page up, allowing Sydal to knee him in the face. The shooting star press crushes Page but Strong comes back in with a knee to both faces and the pin on Page at 11:53.

**Rating:** C. The match was certainly energetic but I'm not a fan of these wild messes with no real story (save for maybe Moose being dominant) and

action all over the place. There's a way to do these things but they have a bad tendency to turn into borderline trainwrecks like this one. It certainly wasn't bad but it just came and went with no real impact.

Here's Adam Cole with something to say. After some production guy says "I hope it's story time. I really like it.", it's story time with Adam Cole. Adam says that despite this perceived downward spiral, he's still the best wrestler in the world and the future World Champion. There is no one in that locker room who can stand up to him and Kyle O'Reilly shouldn't even be in the same ring as him. Cole may be without his Kingdom but he'll be winning that title back soon.

This brings out Matt Taven on a crutch to promise titles both in American and Japan. Well actually he'll be winning them on his own because Cole hasn't won any gold in a long time. After Cole got hurt, it was Taven who was keeping Cole relevant and he's tired of carrying Adam. The Kingdom will be rebuilt in Taven's image and that's it for Cole.

Dalton Castle isn't a fan of rules (like dress codes because he's a clothing optional man) so he loves the idea of a Fight Without Honor against Silas Young in two weeks.

### Cheeseburger vs. Foxx Vinyer

Foxx pounds the much smaller man down to start and some strikes to the chest don't have much effect for Cheeseburger. Instead a powerslam gets two on Cheeseburger but he pops back up with a knee to the head. The palm strike is loaded up but here's the All Night Express to pull Foxx out for the DQ at 1:32 for no apparent reason.

The Express isn't here to attack Cheeseburger because they like him. They see the heart inside him and know that he's tough enough to go through tables and be bent over ladders, even though the fans don't care about him. Yeah no matter how badly he's been beaten up, the people aren't going to care.

The Express reads some mean Tweets from fans before ripping on the other teams for being too small (the Young Bucks), smelly farmers (the Briscoes) and big bald guys (War Machine). The fans chant for

Cheeseburger, who reads the catchphrase on the back of the Express' shirt and gets beaten down. Wrestling III: "HE'S JUST A BURGER!!!" War Machine and the Briscoes come out for the save but the Briscoes pick up the belts. The champs aren't happy with that and it's a big staredown.

The House of Truth is ready for the main event.

#### ROH World Title: Hirooki Goto vs. Jay Lethal

Goto is challenging after beating Dalton Castle at Supercard of Honor. Lethal's graphic still shows him with the TV Title. Jay kicks him in the ribs at the handshake but Goto easily pounds him down into the corner. With the champ in trouble, Taeler Hendrix offers a distraction to break up the top rope hurricanrana. Jay is right on him with a suicide dive and we get a Trutharooni in celebration.

Lethal hits a chinlock back inside and we take a break. Back with Goto making his comeback and blocking the Lethal Injection. A Saito suplex gets two on the champ and an AA into a backbreaker gets the same. Martini offers another distraction though and it's the Lethal Injection to retain the title at 10:17.

**Rating:** C. This is the kind of match that doesn't do much for me as there's no real story other than Goto won a match at a show a few weeks back. There's no connection or animosity between these two and with about seven minutes of airtime, there's only so much they can actually do. It's a perfectly watchable match but I need something else to care about or a lot higher quality.

Post match Donovan Dijak comes in to go after Lethal and easily wins the slugout. The Book of Truth to the back has no effect so Dijak kicks Martini's head off to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** D+. I really wasn't feeling this one as it's a collection of midcard stuff or short term angles that don't seem to have much importance. The show went by fast enough and wasn't exactly bad but nothing felt big here, save for maybe the big angle at the end. Then again I can't imagine they'll put the title on Donovan Dijak, even though I'm a fan of the guy. This wasn't a horrible show but it's completely

skippable.

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