

# Rampage – September 24, 2022 (Grand Slam): See? You Can Do It.

## Rampage

Date: September 24, 2022

Location: Arthur Ashe Stadium, New York City, New York

Commentators: Excalibur, Jim Ross, Tony Schiavone, Chris Jericho

It's the biggest Rampage of the year as we are in New York City for a stacked two house show. The card is headlined by a battle royal (shocking I know) for the #1 contendership as we have a title shot to get through before Full Gear. Other than that, there are a bunch of grudge matches so let's get to it.

[Here is Dynamite if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

## House Of Black vs. Sting/Darby Allin

No DQ and Sting/Allin pop up behind the House (Brody King/Buddy Matthews with Julia Hart) during their entrances to start the fight on the stage. The bell rings and they fight to the ring with the House taking over without much trouble. Sting gets surrounded but manages to fight them both off, only to be driven hard into the corner. A super Code Red gives Allin two on King but a suicide dive (and a fast one at that) is cut off by a raised knee.

Sting goes up but gets shoved through a table, with his head hitting part of another one, because that's something you want to see happen. Hart gets back up and handcuffs Sting's arms behind his back as we take a break. Back with Allin slipping out of Dante's Inferno on the stage and climbing the set,

which can't end well. The Coffin Drop off the set takes out a standing Matthews but King pulls another one out of the air into the sleeper.

The two of them crash off the stage and through some tables, leaving Matthews to grab Sting's bat and go after the still handcuffed Sting. Matthews sits Sting in a chair, where he laughs a lot until the lights go out. Normally that would be a bad thing....but the GREAT MUTA comes out and slowly makes his way to the ring, where he dragon screw legwhips Matthews (still looks great). The mist hits Matthews, which knocks him into Hart, sending her through a ringside table (or part of it as that was a nasty landing). Sting breaks the handcuffs and Death Drops Matthews for the pin at 11:01.

**Rating:** C+. This was all the Muta appearance and that is not a bad thing. The rest of the match though, which was pretty much little more than a bunch of brawling and table spots, was something that you've seen done around here quite a few times. At least they had a reason to continue to feud, even if it was for a one off cameo. Now find something else for everyone to do.

#### Hook/Action Bronson vs. Jericho Appreciation Society

Bronson raps the team to the ring. Parker kicks Hook in the face to start but Hook spins out of a hiptoss and gutwrench suplexes him down. Bronson comes in for the shoulders and corner splash before handing it back to Hook. This time doesn't work as well as the Society takes him into the corner to stomp away. Hook pretty easily suplexes his way out of trouble and hands it back to Bronson for a running powerslam for two on Parker. Everything breaks down and stereo Redrums finish the Society at 5:07.

**Rating:** C-. What were you expecting here? Bronson is a big guy and not a wrestler so they put him in there against a couple of goofs who are there to do nothing but lose. The match

wasn't supposed to be anything competitive and it was never going to be, but at least they kept it short so it didn't drag on too long.

### Samoa Joe/Wardlow vs. Tony Nese/Josh Woods

Mark Sterling is here with the villains. Wardlow and Woods slug it out as the other two brawl on the floor. A spinebuster plants Woods and a Cactus Clothesline sends them both outside. Joe hammers Nese down in the corner before avoiding his moonsault. The MuscleBuster finishes Nese at 2:24. Well that was nothing, but at least Nese got his weekly appearance in.

Post match the beatdown is on for Joe but Wardlow comes in for the save (which favoring his leg a bit). Sterling jumps Wardlow with a title belt, earning himself a three movement Powerbomb Symphony. If Wardlow was hurt, you wouldn't know it based on that.

Jungle Boy is ready to move on from Christian Cage.

### Jungle Boy vs. Rey Fenix

Fenix rolls at him to start and tries an early Black Fire Driver, only to get caught with a dropkick. It's already time to strike it out until Fenix kicks him to the floor and we take a break. Back with Jungle Boy hitting a clothesline to cut off a comeback attempt. A brainbuster gives Jungle Boy two and there's the suicide dive to drop Fenix again.

They get back in with Jungle Boy nailing a superkick into the poisonrana. That's not enough to even put Fenix down, as he is right back up with a rolling cutter for a double knockdown. Jungle Boy gets another fast two before they fight out to the apron. Fenix knocks him to the floor but dives into a superkick to put them both down again.

We take another break and come back with Fenix getting the better of a slugout and hitting a Gory Bomb swung into a

cutter for two. Jungle Boy pops back up and huts a running elbow to the back of the head for two, meaning it's another double breather. Fenix hits Two Amigos but the third is countered into a Samoan driver to give Jungle Boy two of his own. Jungle Boy gets kicked down again, setting up a good frog splash to give Fenix two more. The springboard spinning kick to the head in the corner sets up the Black Fire Driver but Jungle Boy reverses into a small package for the pin at 17:47.

**Rating:** B. Take two guys who are capable of working this fast paced and exciting style and let them do their thing for the better part of twenty minutes. That's a great way to fire up the crowd and it worked well here. Jungle Boy gets a win to boost him back up after losing to Christian Cage at the pay per view and Fenix is bulletproof so this went rather well.

Respect is shown post match but Christian Cage, with his arm in a sling, is back. It's a ruse though as Luchasaurus pops up behind Jungle Boy and the beatdown is on. Christian blames Jungle Boy for the arm injury so he's introducing him to the right hand of destruction. Christian wishes Jungle Boy's mom and sister were here watching this, as Luchasaurus hits a chokeslam. That's still a long time before Jungle Boy gets to Christian again.

We look at the Jericho Appreciation Society's celebration for winning the Ring Of Honor World Title. The REAL celebration is on for Dynamite though, even if Daniel Garcia doesn't seem convinced.

### Eddie Kingston vs. Sammy Guevara

Tay Melo is here with Guevara, who calls Kingston fat to make them start fast. They fight around the ring with Kingston getting the better of it without much trouble. A poke to the eye rocks Sammy and they head to the apron, where Sammy backdrops him to the floor. The kick to the chest drops Kingston again and we take a break.

Back with Sammy in trouble until a Melo distraction lets him hit a running knee to the face. The double springboard cutter gets two on Kingston but the GTH is broken up with elbows to the head. The rapid fire chops in the corner rock Sammy again and there's a suplex to make it worse. Sammy is right back with a superkick but Kingston half and half suplexes him. The spinning backfist sets up a spinning backfist which sets up a spinning backfist which sets up the Stretch Plum to give Kingston the win at 7:23.

**Rating:** C+. This was a match that was set up for a few weeks now and then they finally paid it off. After all of the drama. Kingston gets a win back to make up for some of his recent losses and it isn't like Guevara losing is going to hurt him. Perfectly fine match and they gave Kingston the win that he needed.

Post match Kingston won't let go so Jerry Lynn comes in to try reasoning with him. Security pleading with him doesn't work either, so the referee reverses the decision to give Sammy the win. The frustrated Kingston beats up security. Fair enough, and Kingston won the match definitively in the first place so this doesn't really hurt him.

Quick Dynamite recap.

TBS Title: Diamante vs. Jade Cargill

Diamante, with Trina, is challenging and goes right at her to start. Some chops in the corner set up some left hands and some rollups give Diamante two. Jade kicks her in the face but gets kicked down again. A baseball slide sends Cargill outside but she pulls a dive out of the air. An F5 onto the apron plants Diamante and Jaded retains the title at 2:34. Of all of Jade's dominant wins, this was the most recent. Please find something interesting for her to do already because this is getting old.

Post match Trina turns on Diamante, ending their....five minute

on-screen relationship?

### Golden Ticket Battle Royal

Evil Uno, 10, Rush, Jay Lethal, Lance Archer, Penta El Cero Miedo, Hangman Page, John Silver, Butcher, Isaiah Kassidy, Marq Quen, Danhausen, Chuck Taylor, Trent Baretta, Brian Cage, Ari Daivari, Matt Hardy, Daniel Garcia, Jake Hager, QT Marshall, Blade, Kole Carter, Dalton Castle, Dante Martin, Lee Moriarty

For the World Title shot on October 18. Page gets jumped from behind during his entrance so we take a break to restore order. Back with Penta superkicking Daivari out and Danhausen curses Carter, allowing Trent to throw him out. Marshall gets cursed and then clotheslined out before Hager is out. Cage dumps Chuck and knocks Castle off the apron, right onto the Boys. The Boys offer a distraction so Castle can dump Cage and Archer knocks out Chuck. There goes Castle, with Garcia and Moriarty following him out.

We take a break and come back with Private Party saving themselves with the Silly String. Then Butcher and Blade jump them from behind but Hardy gets to hit everyone. Blade, Private Party and Hardy are all tossed, with Uno and Butcher following them. We're down to Silver, Rush, Page, Penta, Archer and Lethal but Rush dumps Silver. Penta kicks Archer out and we're down to four.

Lethal gets tossed over the top but Satnam Singh catches him (Dalton and the Boys did it better). That's enough for Lethal to toss Penta but Page tosses him out, leaving us with Rush vs. Page. They fight to the apron and the Deadeye knocks out Rush to give Page the win at 13:14.

**Rating:** C-. This wasn't the most thrilling battle royal and Page was one of the only viable options for the win. That being said, Page vs. Moxley for the title in Cincinnati works well for me (the fact that I have a ticket to the show is a

detail I assure you) and will be perfectly acceptable as the big TV main event before we get to the major pay per view build. Not much of a battle royal here though as AEW continues to run these far too often.

Ricky Starks and Powerhouse Hobbs are ready to fight.

### Ricky Starks vs. Powerhouse Hobbs

Lights Out, meaning anything goes. Starks gets a special video entrance about how absolute he really is. Starks goes right at him to start and hammers away, sending Hobbs bailing out to the floor. A clothesline drops Hobbs again and Starks sends him into the steps. Back in and Hobbs hits White Noise onto a knee to take over, meaning it's already time for a table. Instead of setting it up, Hobbs just throws it at him before tossing in some chairs.

We take a break and come back with Starks hitting a DDT for two but Hobbs hits him low (Jericho freaking out about how unfair that was is good for a laugh). Hobbs sets up two chairs but Starks kicks him low to break it up. Starks turns the chairs back to back but gets backdropped onto the edges, because that's a spot we need in wrestling.

A running powerslam onto the chairs gets two on Starks and they fight up the ramp. Starks misses a charge into the set so Hobbs breaks off a piece of the set. That takes too long though and they fight back to the ring, where Starks hits him in the face with the set pipe. Roshambo onto the chairs (at least Hobbs' feet touched them) finishes Hobbs at 11:47.

**Rating:** B. This was a fight and Starks won in the end to avenge the All Out loss. That's how this should have gone and they did a very nice job of making Starks feel like a star again. Other than that, this was all about violence and they did that well enough to make it work for a main event.

**Overall Rating:** B. The good was good and the bad (minus the

battle royal) was short, making this one of the better Rampages in a long time. This felt like a Dynamite as they had a lot going on and it felt important. I have no reason to believe that AEW will do it again for Rampage going forward, but I'll take it for a one off. The crowd was clearly getting tired in the end, but even a tired AEW crowd is better than most fans elsewhere.

### Results

Sting/Darby Allin b. House Of Black – Scorpion Death Drop to Matthews

Hook/Action Bronson b. Jericho Appreciation Society – Stereo Redrums

Samoa Joe/Wardlow b. Tony Nese/Josh Woods – MuscleBuster to Nese

Jungle Boy b. Rey Fenix – Small package

Sammy Guevara b. Eddie Kingston via reversed decision

Jade Cargill b. Diamante – Jaded

Hangman Page won the Golden Ticket Battle Royal last eliminating Rush

Ricky Starks b. Powerhouse Hobbs – Roshambo onto chairs

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# Dynamite – September 21, 2022 (Grand Slam): They Know How To Do This

## Dynamite

Date: September 21, 2022

Location: Arthur Ashe Stadium, New York City, New York

Commentators: Tony Schiavone, Excalibur, Taz

It's probably the biggest Dynamite of the year as we are in a stadium for Grand Slam. As expected, the show is going to be a huge one with a World Title match between Bryan Danielson and Jon Moxley for the vacant championship. Other than that, Swerve In Our Glory is defending the Tag Team Titles against the Acclaimed in an All Out rematch. Let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Ring Of Honor World Title: Chris Jericho vs. Claudio Castagnoli

Castagnoli is defending and starts fast by gorilla pressing Jericho onto the top rope. A big boot knocks Jericho outside and Castagnoli follows him, only to have Jericho hide behind former Ring Of Honor owner Cary Silkin. That's enough for Jericho to get in some cheap shots to stagger Castagnoli but he's right back with the uppercuts back inside. They fight to the apron and fight over a suplex before forearming it out instead. Jericho gets the suplex onto the floor and they're both down as we take a break.

Back with Jericho charging into a boot in the corner but managing to catch Castagnoli on top. A super hurricanrana pulls Castagnoli down for two and the fans bought that kickout. The Judas Effect is blocked though and a double stomp sets up the Sharpshooter to put Jericho in trouble.

A rope is grabbed so Castagnoli hits the Riccola Bomb for two. Castagnoli goes up but dives into the Codebreaker for two more. The Walls go on but Castagnoli is out fast, setting up the Swing. That and a clothesline are enough for two so Jericho grabs Floyd the baseball bat. That's taken away but the distraction lets Jericho hit him low. The Judas Effect gives Jericho the pin and the title at 14:48.

**Rating:** B. I'm really not sure on this one as Jericho is the definition of someone who doesn't need to win a World Title. Castagnoli was on a roll since winning the title and he loses to Jericho of all people? I'm not exactly interested in more of the Sports Entertainers vs. Wrestlers (read as WWE vs. AEW) feud but that seems to be where we're going. Good match of course, but that result is a head scratcher in a lot of ways.

Post match the Jericho Appreciation Society, including Daniel Garcia, come out to celebrate.

#### Tag Team Titles: Swerve In Our Glory vs. Acclaimed

Acclaimed is challenging and Caster's rap makes reference to a glory hole. The champs have rapper Fabulous in their corner while the Acclaimed have Billy Gunn. Lee runs Bowens over to start and then snaps off a running hurricanrana, which has Bowens scared and the crowd impressed. Bowens comes in and manages a hiptoss, meaning it's scissoring time. Strickland isn't having that and breaks it up with a dropkick, much to Gunn's annoyance.

We take a break and come back Caster powerslamming Swerve and brainbusting Lee (which might have been planned as a suplex). The hot tag brings in Bowens to clean house,

including a hurricanrana (or maybe a headSCISSORs) to Lee and a rollup for two on Strickland. Back up and Lee tosses Bowens HARD onto the ramp but misses a moonsault to Caster. Swerve goes for a boombox shot but hits Lee by mistake, allowing Bowens to hit a Blockbuster.

The Mic Drop connects for a VERY delayed two as Caster seems to hurt his knee. Strickland comes back in and drives Caster (knee seems ok) into the corner. Lee Pounces Caster and throws him into Swerve's sitout powerbomb for a rather near fall, with the kickout bringing the crowd back to life. Strickland's springboard flip dive is more of a springboard flipping kicks to their faces but Gunn gets in his face. The Fameasser on the floor hits Swerve and it's the mic Drop to give Caster the pin and the titles at 13:41.

**Rating:** B-. It wasn't the match they had at All Out but there was no way it was going to be able to live up to that standard. That being said, this was ALL about the huge moment as the fans were ready to see it and AEW went exactly where they should have. The Acclaimed has turned into one of the most over acts in the company and they needed the titles here.

Post match scissoring ensues as Swerve is stunned.

FTR congratulates the new champs but it's time for their title shot. The Gunn Club comes in to mock them and I think FTR has their next non-Tag Team Title feud.

Wheeler Yuta...is interrupted by MJF, who comes to the stage with a Ric Flair strut. MJF says Wheels will never get a reaction like this. These people love him and would drink his sweat or let him sleep with their wives. The only reason he wouldn't do it is because he has standards but Yuta calls him the King of The Low Hanging Fruit.

Yuta brings up MJF getting engaged to be married recently and suggests that MJF's fiance is too smart for her. His fiance has figured out that MJF is a spineless piece of garbage who

will walk out on her like MJF walked out on AEW. MJF: "Give it up for Wheeler. He has went from drying paint to pet rock personality." MJF is here to wish the "Blackpool Cuckold Club" luck in the main event tonight and mocks both Danielson and Moxley. Oh and William Regal can teach him how to pop pills! That earns MJF a slap to the face but he headbutts Wheeler and SHOVES TONY SCHIAVONE! Yuta is back up but W. Morrissey comes in for the save.

Jade Cargill and the Baddies aren't worried about Diamante and her friend. Cue Diamante, who brings in her friend...Trina, who is apparently a rapper. Not that commentary or anyone else tells us that of course.

#### All-Atlantic Title: Pac vs. Orange Cassidy

Cassidy is challenging and throws his sunglasses at Pac to start. Pac doesn't care for that and the lazy kicks make him even angrier. They're enough to make Pac stomp him down in the corner as Tony keeps talking about how MJF will be fined but it won't matter. They head outside with Cassidy getting posted, setting up the big flip dive over the top.

We take a break and come back with Cassidy raising his boots to prevent the Black Arrow from launching. Cassidy knocks him outside for a dive, setting up the top rope DDT back inside. The Orange Punch is blocked though and Pac pulls him into the Brutalizer, which is countered into a rollup for two. The Orange Punch connects for two and Pac rolls outside for a breather. With the referee not able to see it, Pac gets in a shot with the ring bell hammer to knock Cassidy silly and retain at 12:15.

**Rating:** B-. This is where Cassidy has found his sweet spot. He isn't likely to ever become a main eventer or a World Champion but giving him a title shot like this, only for him to come up short is fine. Good match here and Pac continues to be someone who feels like a major star every time he's in the ring. The

fans would have gone nuts for the title change, but it wasn't the right call.

Interim AEW Women's Title: Britt Baker vs. Serena Deeb vs. Athena vs. Toni Storm

Storm is defending and Rebel is here with Baker. It's a brawl to start with everyone getting a quick near fall. Deeb even breaks up a backslide and rolls Baker and Athena up at the same time. Then it's a leglock to Storm and an abdominal stretch (and then a suplex) to Athena at the same time.

We settle down to Storm hitting a running dropkick for two on Baker before going up top. That means a Tower Of Doom to bring everyone down and we take a break. Back with Storm and Deeb holding half crabs but slapping each other instead of cranking back harder. With those broken up, Athena dropkicks Baker to break up the Stomp and Deeb neckbreakers Baker over the ropes.

A swinging neckbreaker gives Deeb two on Storm and the Serenity Lock goes on. Athena breaks that up and throws Baker and Deeb at the same time. A powerbomb swung into a faceplant gives Athena two on Storm and Deeb makes the save. Baker tries the Lockjaw on Storm, who reverses into a crucifix to retain the title at 9:47.

**Rating:** C+. They went fast here and got to the point, with Storm getting the pin to retain in the end. Storm needs more wins to make her feel like a bigger star and pinning Baker is one of the best ways to do so. Storm needs a feud for the title, but getting rid of the Interim name would make things better than anything else.

Post match Baker (whose nose is busted) goes after Storm but Jamie Hayter runs in to pull her off. Then Hayter and Baker beat Storm down together and hug. Deeb beats on Athena at the same time. Lockjaw is loaded up...and Saraya (Paige) debuts. She clears the ring and invites anyone to come fight her but no one accepts. There's your big debut, but seeing her in the

ring is going to be a scary sight.

Darby Allin drags a body bag around New York before getting in a cab, saying he's going to a funeral.

Here is what is coming on Rampage.

### AEW World Title: Jon Moxley vs. Bryan Danielson

For the vacant title and William Regal is on commentary. Danielson goes for the leg to start before we get to the chops that you knew were coming. The chop off goes to Danielson, who takes Moxley into the corner for more chops and kicks. The running dropkick misses but Danielson keeps striking away anyway. Another kick knocks Moxley off the top and down to the floor for the flying knee as MJF, with the chip, is watching in the crowd. Moxley gets him onto the apron and tries a choke, only to get German suplexed hard. The running knee from the apron drops Moxley again as we take a break.

Back with Danielson striking away but Moxley pulls him into a half crab, followed by the ankle lock. With that broken up, they go up top with Moxley raking the back and backdropping him down. Moxley grabs a LeBell Lock of his own but Danielson slips out. They lock legs and wind up standing on their heads to slug it out, with Danielson getting the better of things.

Danielson grabs Cattle Mutilation to keep Moxley in trouble and the Hammer and Anvil elbows make it even worse. Moxley manages to survive and hits the King Kong lariat as MJF is chuckling over what he's seeing. Danielson suplexes his way out of the Death Rider and hits the running knee for two, which has MJF on his feet. Moxley stomps Danielson in the ankle and hits the Death Rider for two.

Back up and Danielson starts kicking away, setting up some stomps. A triangle choke goes on before shifting to the LeBell Lock but Moxley makes it to the ropes. That's fine with Danielson, who goes up top and hits a knee onto the arm.

Moxley is right back with a Death Rider on the ramp for two, setting up a sleeper to make Danielson tap for the title at 19:32.

**Rating:** A-. They had a heck of a fight here and what matters most is that the title situation is set as we get ready for MJF to take the title, probably at Full Gear. You knew this was going to be an awesome match and that is what they pulled off in another great one. Moxley winning the title is a safe way to go, even if it makes it feel like we could have been here a few months ago.

Post match Regal comes in to hand Moxley the title but Danielson takes it away and points at Regal to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** A. What else is there to say here? The action was great, big things happened, and the main event set up things for the future. What mattered the most here was the atmosphere though, as they were in front of a ton of people in a huge venue and it was an outstanding show that delivered on every front. Absolutely worth checking this one out, as there is nothing bad in the slightest and some of the stuff was excellent.

### Results

Chris Jericho b. Claudio Castagnoli – Judas Effect

Acclaimed b. Swerve In Our Glory – Mic Drop to Strickland

Pac b. Orange Cassidy – Hammer to the head

Toni Storm b. Britt Baker, Serena Deeb and Athena – Rollup to Baker

Jon Moxley b. Bryan Danielson – Choke

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# Rampage – September 16, 2022: It Would Be So Easy

## **Rampage**

Date: September 16, 2022

Location: MVP Arena, Albany, New York

Commentators: Jim Ross, Excalibur, Chris Jericho, Tony Schiavone

The road to normalcy continues this week but there might not be as much to get hyped about with this show. The problem is that with no tournament matches for this week, there is only so much that can be done to bring in the interest. Rampage has a tendency to not feel the most important but maybe they can pull it off. Let's get to it.

[Here is Dynamite if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Matt Hardy vs. Darby Allin

They shake hands to start and it's Allin grabbing a headlock takeover. Hardy fights up so Allin crucifix bombs him for two. With Hardy on the floor, Allin's dive is cut off but he drives



Hardy into the steps to knock him silly again. Allin goes Jeff/PCO by trying a Swanton, which only hits apron because people like him never learn.

We take a break and come back with Hardy hitting a Side Effect out of the corner for two. The Twist of Fate is countered and a suplex is as well, with Allin grabbing a Scorpion Death Drop to put them both down. Allin loads up the Coffin Drop but gets powerbombed out for two. Hardy misses a moonsault and gets Code Reded for two, followed by the Last Supper to give Allin the pin at 10:00.

**Rating:** C. Well at least Hardy didn't go over. If Hardy can go at a pace like this then he's fine to keep around, as long as he isn't given a story to go with it. Allin winning is of course the only way to go here, even if he doesn't have much going on. They didn't exactly go extreme here, which was the point, but it could have been worse.

Post match Allin leaves so the lights go out. Cue Brody King and Julia Hart to run Hardy over, with King calling out Allin and Sting. The challenge is on for a No DQ match next week, so King chokes Hardy (playing off Sting's longtime association with Matt) until the lights go out again and King disappears. This is a feud that was wrapped up and is continuing, which is rarely a good idea.

Eddie Kingston wants Sammy Guevara next week in New York. The match is already made.

Here is Claudio Castagnoli, flanked by Wheeler Yuta, for a chat. Claudio says the title represents what he can do and the Blackpool Combat Club represents the new symbol of excellence. Last week, Yuta lost the Pure Title to Daniel Garcia but you learn the most by losing. Then last week, Castagnoli defended his title against Dax Harwood, who was one of the toughest opponents he ever faced.

Next week is a great week for the Club though as it's two

members of the team fighting for the AEW World Title. Next week, the Club will have two World Champions in its ranks...but Chris Jericho interrupts. Jericho wants to talk about the Jericho Appreciation Society's great week, including how he should be fighting for the World Title. Castagnoli reminds Jericho for tapping so the fans get on him, with Jericho saying he wishes he was in Albany, Georgia. Jericho brags about his World Title wins and now he wants #8 to be the Ring Of Honor World Title. Castagnoli was hoping for that so it's on.

Jade Cargill and the Baddies were cut off by Diamante, who challenges her for the title. Note that Excalibur said Diamante was "red hot", despite that she has lost her last two matches.

#### Penelope Ford vs. Willow Nightingale

Kip Sabian is here with Ford, who sees to have caught JR's eye. Ford slugs away to start but gets caught in a headlock for her efforts. Nightingale takes her down for some rollups and we pause for Excalibur to rapid fire the matches for next week. A basement crossbody lets Nightingale get a rather smiley two, only to miss a Pounce. Some middle rope knees crush Nightingale and we take a break.

Back with Nightingale getting fired up and hitting a spinebuster for two. Ford is fine enough to Matrix away from a clothesline and hit a jumping cutter for two of her own. A kick to the face rocks Nightingale and something like a Stroke sets up a Muta Lock for the tap at 8:27 (as Sabian talks to the box helmet).

**Rating:** C. Ford is being reheated after her long absence but dang it is depressing to see Nightingale lose so often. She has so much charisma and is rather fun to watch every time she's out there, but I do get why AEW wants to push Ford so much more. Decent enough match too, as Ford gets her footing

back.

Hangman Page and the Dark Order are ready for the Golden Ticket Battle Royal at Grand Slam for, say it with me, a future World Title shot. La Faccion Ingovernable comes in to glare and shout.

### Danhausen vs. Ethan Page

Stokely Hathaway is here with Page, who isn't having anything of this being cursed. A big boot and running shoulder sets up the Ego's Edge for the pin at 1:27.

Ricky Starks tells Powerhouse Hobbs to think about everything that is about to happen to him because Hobbs has his undivided attention. They'll see each other in New York.

Josh Woods and Mark Sterling are ready to send Samoa Joe on a permanent vacation. Joe doesn't buy it.

Here's what's coming on various shows.

### Ring Of Honor TV Title: Samoa Joe vs. Josh Woods

Joe is defending and drives him into the corner to start for an exchange of grins. Woods cranks on the arm so Joe reverses into a cravate. With that not working, it's time for the big forearm exchange, because that's what so many AEW matches become. Joe sends him outside but Tony Nese snaps Joe's arm across the top as we take a break.

Back with Joe rolling him up for two but not being able to get the Koquina Clutch. Joe puts him down and hits a backsplash for two but his arm is giving out. Nese and Sterling offer distractions so Woods can escape the rollup. A knee to the face rocks Joe and a pin into another knee to the face gets two more. Back up and the Rock Bottom out of the corner cuts Woods off, followed by the MuscleBuster to retain at 10:09.

**Rating:** C+. This felt like a Ring Of Honor match with Joe

doing his usual stuff to win. I can go with more and more Joe so this was one of those fun matches that will work almost every time. It worked for a Rampage main event, even if the ROH TV Title feels like it has no value whatsoever.

Post match the triple teaming is on but Wardlow comes in for the save. Sterling escapes the Powerbomb Symphony and we get a Wardlow/Joe staredown to end the show. Unify some titles and I'm thrilled.

**Overall Rating:** C. The main thing that this show did was prove how easy it would be to have a regular Ring Of Honor show. This week featured two Ring Of Honor champions, including a title defense in the main event. There's no reason to have Dark and Dark Elevation, so turn one of them into a Ring Of Honor show and keep all that stuff there. As for the show itself, this was little more than the final table setting show for Grand Slam, which is going to be huge. Not a must see show, but it gets us to the must see shows.

### Results

Darby Allin b. Matt Hardy – Last Supper

Penelope Ford b. Willow Nightingale – Muta Lock

Ethan Page b. Danhausen – Ego's Edge

Samoa Joe b. Josh Woods – MuscleBuster

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# Rampage – September 9, 2022: I Guess Good Is Good Enough

## Rampage

Date: September 9, 2022

Location: KeyBank Center, Buffalo, New York

Commentators: Jim Ross, Excalibur, Tony Schiavone, Chris Jericho

It's the second night of the Tournament Of Champions and the best thing that can happen to this show is a hot match to make some of the last week go away. That is what they did on Dynamite but Rampage is a bit of a trickier subject. We do get Darby Allin vs. Sammy Guevara this week though and that should be enough. Let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Tournament Of Champions First Round: Darby Allin vs. Sammy Guevara

Tay Melo is here with Guevara. Feeling out process to start as they trade headlocks until Allin backslides him for two. A Gory Stretch into a Fujiwara armbar keeps Guevara in trouble but he blocks a charge in the corner. Guevara superplexes him into Two Amigos but Allin reverses the third into a crash over the top...where Allin suplexes him on the floor for a bonus. Melo cuts off a dive before Allin tries anyway, only to get pulled out of the air with a cutter on the floor as we take a break.

Back with Guevara hitting a knee to the face as Jericho talks about the chemistry these two have in the ring. Guevara misses a shooting star press and gets caught with a Code Red for two. Melo offers another distraction though, allowing Guevara to kick Allin in the face. The always confident Guevara stops to kiss Melo, allowing Allin to hit the big flipping suicide dive.

Back in and Allin rips off Guevara's wedding ring, which is enough to make Melo get on the apron. Guevara knocks Allin down and takes his ring back, setting up an enziguri in the corner. A double springboard cutter gives Guevara two but he misses his own Coffin Drop. Cue Anna Jay so Melo can throw in the skateboard. Guevara powerbombs him onto the wheels, setting up GTH to finish Allin at 11:05.

**Rating:** B-. It was another good match between the two of them though I don't know if it was quite the classic that commentary was hyping it up as being. Guevara going forward is a fine way to go, even if it means Allin loses another big match. That being said, Guevara is the hotter star right now, as Allin hasn't done much without Sting in a pretty long while. Solid opener, as AEW continues putting their biggest matches at the top of their shows.

We look at MJF's return on Dynamite and showdown with Jon Moxley.

Here is Samoa Joe for a chat. Joe hasn't been around very often and he owes the people a lot more violence. He is open for business so here is Mark Sterling with Josh Woods and Tony Nese. Sterling thinks that Woods should get a TV Title shot and Joe says sure. Hold on though as Sterling says the paperwork isn't done so we'll do it next week in a real city like Albany.

Miro is mad at not being in the tournament and calls himself flawless.

## Madison Rayne vs. Serena Deeb

I had forgotten Rayne worked here. Feeling out process to start with Deeb not being able to hit the Deebtox as Rayne rolls her up for a close two. Back up and Deeb shoves her down and starts hammering away. Deeb gets annoyed at being rolled up so she goes after the knee and Serenity Locks Rayne for the tap at 3:58.

**Rating:** C. Not much beyond a squash here and I'm still not sure how much higher Rayne is going to go in AEW. She has experience and is certainly passable in the ring, but she feels like just another person on the show for the most part. I'm still not sure why Deeb isn't a bigger star, she she rarely breaks out of that third tier of women. The skill is there, but for some reason nothing else is clicking for her.

Jade Cargill and the Baddies aren't surprised by beating Athena and say she might as well be 50-0.

Powerhouse Hobbs is ready to hurt even more people.

William Regal talks about hiring Dax Harwood out of obscurity, but now Regal is in Claudio Castagnoli's corner. Castagnoli is ready to face Harwood, who will win something on his own one day, but it won't be tonight. Harwood says this is how he feeds his family so Top Guy out.

Here's what's coming on various shows.

## Ring Of Honor World Title: Dax Harwood vs. Claudio Castagnoli

Harwood is challenging and William Regal is here with the champ. Feeling out process to start with Harwood's leapfrog being pulled out of the air but he grabs some rollups for two each. Back up and Castagnoli fires off some uppercuts to take over so Harwood suplexes both of them over the top and out to the floor. We take a break and come back with Castagnoli winning a slugout and putting on an abdominal stretch.

With that broken up, Castagnoli puts him on top but gets chopped backwards, setting up a Swan Dive from Harwood. JR goes into a funny rant about how you're an idiot if you aren't doing this for the money as Harwood backdrops his way out of a Neutralizer. Harwood grabs a piledriver for two and goes up top, only to get superplexed back down. We take another break and come back again with Harwood getting two off a backslide so Castagnoli kicks him in the face.

The slingshot sitout powerbomb gives Harwood two more but Castagnoli puts him right back on top. A belly to back superplex is countered into a crossbody for two more, plus a big crash. Another slugout goes to Castagnoli and it's a giant swing into the Sharpshooter. With that almost broken up, Castagnoli tries a Crossface but gets reversed into a Sharpshooter of his own. That breaks down and Castagnoli drives in some hammer and anvil elbows, setting up the Sharpshooter to make Harwood tap at 20:24.

**Rating:** B. This wasn't a match that had a ton of doubt to it but the action getting to the pretty obvious ending was quite good. Castagnoli is a monster and Harwood kept at him until he fell short at the end. I could go with Harwood not getting pinned so often, but then again I could also go with FTR doing something of note but that doesn't seem likely anytime soon either.

Respect is shown to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** B. As usual, outside of a single match, there was nothing on here that felt like it was making any kind of a difference. Rampage feels like a show where they grabbed a handful of people who weren't on Dynamite and let them get ring time that week. That can be nice to see and gives us stuff like the main event, but when you have this many people and so little TV time, there are going to be problems and that is what you see with AEW a lot of the time. The main event was very good, but sometimes you need more than that to make



something worth the time and effort.

## Results

Sammy Guevara b. Darby Allin – GTH

Serena Deeb b. Madison Rayne – Serenity Lock

Claudio Castagnoli b. Dax Harwood – Sharpshooter

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# All Out 2022 Preview

For the first time in a good while, we are getting a full scale AEW pay per view rather than AEW and some other promotion mixing together to make a big special. As tends to be the case on AEW pay per views, the card is absolutely loaded, even to the point of being WAY too big. There are fifteen matches between the Zero Hour (better than Buy In) show and the main card, all of which are absolutely necessary. Let's get to it.

Zero Hour: FTW Title: Hook(c) vs. Angelo Parker

You know, because we needed to get Hook onto this thing. Or is it that we needed to get the “Sports....Innderdainers”? Either way, this is the kind of a match that is not likely to take very long because Parker has never been treated as anything serious and Hook runs over everyone. I don't know what else anyone is really expecting here, but at least Hook should pop the crowd.

Of course I'll take Hook to win here, as there is no reason for it to go any other way. Hook is one of those unique stars that just works for some reason and it would be nuts to have him lose to one half of a comedy duo. I'm sure Matt Menard will get his chance to be destroyed later, but for now, this will be Hook crushing Parker and going off to find some more chips.

Zero Hour: AAA World Mixed Tag Team Titles: Tay Melo/Sammy Guevara vs. Ruby Soho/Oritz

If anyone can explain why this match is on the card, you're smarter than I am. This is the third time that these teams have fought in ten days and that isn't exactly my idea of interesting. The first two matches weren't good but now we're seeing them again after a second match this week on Rampage. But at least they're on the show and something is on the line, so points for that I guess?

There is almost no reason to believe that the titles are going to change here so we'll go with Melo and Guevara retaining. If I had to guess, maybe Soho can even get pinned again to keep the titles where they already are. This feels completely out of the norm for AEW and I'd like to believe that it isn't something they are going to do regularly. Either way, this isn't something I'm interested in seeing but we're getting it anyway, because something about a trilogy.

Zero hour: Tomohiro Ishii vs. Eddie Kingston

So these two fight back at a New Japan event in May and this

it he rematch, which AEW is hosting so I guess they can fight each other once on equal footing? This is another match that was added on to the card and the story seems to be that Kingston is wanting to prove that he has become a better man since Ishii beat him the first time. I'm not sure how interesting that is but you know AEW will take a New Japan star when they can.

I'll go with Kingston here, even if it is a match with virtually no build or reason to exist other than to get the two of them on the show. Much like the previous match, it is one of the first matches I would cut from the card, but it should at least be a heck of a fight with two guys hitting each other really hard. Ishii is getting up there in years but he can still do his thing well enough to get by.

#### Zero Hour: All Atlantic Title: Pac(c) vs. Kip Sabian

After several months of sitting in the front row with a box over his head, commentary just said "yeah that's Kip Sabian" and now he is getting a title match against Pac. Why that is supposed to be interesting isn't clear, as it's still Sabian, who has never been much more than just ok during his time in AEW. It should be nice to see Pac defend the title on AEW TV for once, even under these circumstances.

Despite having no idea what they're going for with the whole box thing, I'll go with Pac to run through Sabian without much trouble. Pac is on a higher level and I don't see the point in messing with the title on someone so far out of Pac's league. Maybe commentary can explain something about Sabian's deal, but for now, this is just a weird story that came out of nowhere and leaves me wondering why it's happening.

#### Interim Women's Title: Britt Baker vs. Toni Storm vs. Hikaru Shida vs. Jamie Hayter

Yes we're still doing the Interim Champion deal and no I don't quite get it either. This is the thing they're doing rather

than just vacating the title and moving on and it's still not exactly a great way to go. This time Thunder Rosa has suffered a back injury and will not be able to defend the title, so this is what we're getting instead. At least there are some options to win here, which always helps.

I'll take Storm to win, even if the signs seem to be pointing to Baker. If nothing else, it would be nice for Storm to win and give us something fresh, as Baker and Shida have both been champion for so long. Hayter would be interesting as well and is a dark horse to win the thing, but I'll go with Storm here, if nothing else to set up the Storm vs. Rosa match when she gets back.

### Ricky Starks vs. Powerhouse Hobbs

For the life of me I don't get why it took so long for these two to have something significant to do but at least they're finally getting some kind of a match here. Both of them have the potential to be break out stars and that could very well start with this match. This is the result of a tag team split and that is as good of a reason as any for two young stars to be fighting.

I think I'll take Hobbs here, even if Starks seems more ready to move up to the next level. The good thing here is there is no bad choice for a winner, as long as AEW picks someone and moves forward with them. Hobbs is a monster and Starks is more of a complete package, which opens up several possibilities no matter which choice they make. I'll flip a coin and go with Hobbs though in what should be a fine match either way.

### Jungle Boy vs. Christian Cage

We'll stick with the grudge match theme here as Jungle Boy finally gets his hands on Cage after a lot of horrible things were said about him. These two have been on a collision course for several weeks now and we should be in for something good when they finally get to face off. There is a major wild card

in the background though and that could be the big factor in the whole thing.

I think I'll go with Cage here, as Luchasaurus has been so notorious in his absence for the last few weeks. If nothing else, it seems a bit too easy that Luchasaurus was Cage's heavy and then stepped aside while Jungle Boy got to Cage. Maybe that is a red herring, but I have a feeling that Luchasaurus turns on Jungle Boy to let Cage get the win, which would set up even more between these three going forward.

### Bryan Danielson vs. Chris Jericho

Hey, did you know that Jericho calls himself a Sports Entertainer and is a bad guy in a company that focuses on wrestling? I wasn't sure if AEW had hammered the idea in enough just yet. This is a match that has been set up for a few weeks and should be a good one if they do it right. Jericho has a hit or miss track record, but Danielson seems incapable of having a bad match no matter what he does in AEW, meaning I have a lot of hope.

Danielson needs the win more than Jericho so we'll go with what makes sense here and pick Danielson to go over. Jericho seems to be bringing back the Lionheart as he continues his own version of the 3 Faces Of Foley, but Danielson wrestling him down and then beating him, likely with Daniel Garcia not helping Jericho when he needs it, is the way to go. This needs to be Danielson's to give him a win over a bigger name and that is what they'll do here.

### TNT Title: Jade Cargill(c) vs. Athena

Well it's about time. This is a story that has been built up for the last few months and I cannot bring myself to care after so many months of Athena getting beaten up by Cargill and the Baddies. They have to have the match at some point though and this is as good for a place as any, even if it is something that should have happened at least a few weeks ago

when the interest was still there.

Of course Cargill retains here and there is no reason for this to be anything else. Cargill is someone who is going to need a special opponent to finally take her down and as good as Athena is, I can't picture that being the case. Athena will probably hit the 0 Face for a near fall, but ultimately it's going to be Jaded to keep Cargill undefeated, as she should be at the moment.

### House Of Black vs. Sting/Darby Allin/Miro

This is another match that feels like it was forgotten until the last few days and now it is taking place on the show. That isn't the best way to go but there are a lot of names in here who should probably be on the pay per view. Miro vs. the House Of Black alone should be good and Sting/Allin already have issues with the team. Now just let them all go nuts and it should be fun.

This should be fun and I'll go with Miro making Matthews tap to win. Sting and Allin can do their wacky things and Sting can probably have his showdown with Black, but with all of the reported personal issues for Black, I can't imagine his team winning here. This is a way to redeem Miro a bit and that is the way they should go, as it's almost easy to forget he is even in AEW half of the time.

### Casino Ladder Match

A few weeks ago, I was wondering when AEW was going to announce another ladder match and here we are. This is the latest future World Title opportunity on the line and so far we have seven names, plus more to come. In other words, this is all about the Joker, and it wouldn't surprise me to see a big name return in that spot, as he is certainly overdue to do so.

In short, I'm going with MJF making his triumphant return,

likely setting up the title match in New York City later this month. MJF has been gone for several months now and it is long past time to get him back so he can continue his reign of amazing. If nothing else, seeing him come in at the very end and win the thing without having to put in much, if any, work, would be a heck of a troll job and something I can see him doing.

### Wardlow/FTR vs. Jay Lethal/Motor City Machine Guns

And here we have the weirdest match on the card, as I still don't know why this is the best thing that they can offer. The match has felt thrown together since it was announced and for a very good reason: it is a thrown together match for the sake of getting the people involved on the show (you might be noticing a pattern emerging here). It's nice to have them here, but Harwood's speech explaining why the match matters didn't quite sway me.

Give me FTR and Wardlow to win here, which is the only logical way this can go. At the end of the day, they both REALLY need something to do and this isn't likely to lead anywhere. While I could go for FTR vs. the Guns later on, Wardlow vs. Lethal has already been done. I'm not sure why this match is taking place, but hopefully it isn't AEW giving up on the three of them so soon, as that would be incredibly stupid.

### Tag Team Titles: Keith Lee/Swerve Strickland(c) vs. Acclaimed

Now this one intrigues me and I'm not sure about where it is going to go. On one hand you have the champs, who have not exactly been given a major run yet and have only held the titles for a few weeks. On the other hand though, you have the Acclaimed, who are on fire and the fans absolutely love them, meaning there has to be some temptation to pull the trigger here. That makes this a little complicated and I'm not sure what they are going to do.

I'll take the champions to retain though, as it just isn't

like AEW to take someone who is getting their big break and just cut them off so soon. The Acclaimed has come a long way but I don't know how much they need the titles. Caster's raps alone, or with Bowens' nutty charisma, are going to keep them over for a very long time so why bother with giving them titles that they don't really need yet? The champs keep the belts.

#### Trios Titles: Hangman Page/Dark Order vs. Elite

Yeah I don't think there is any real shock that this is where we wound up after the whole tournament was announced. Even if Page wasn't involved in the tournament in the first place, I don't think there was any shock in the fact that he wound up in the finals anyway. These titles feel more and more like a vanity deal for the Elite anyway, and that is where things get screwy.

I'm actually taking Page and the Dark Order to win here, as it is more of a feel good story for the lovable goons to FINALLY win something than for the Elite to get another title on their resume. Throw in Omega possibly being blamed for the loss, Page redeeming himself, and whatever else the Bucks are going to talk about and the underdogs winning is the much more interesting way to go.

#### AEW World Title: Jon Moxley(c) vs. CM Punk

CHICAGO! Ok there now we can move on. For some reason this feels like it is designed to be a match for the live crowd than everyone else watching. I get the idea of keeping a crowd hot, but this story has been so all over the place and I'm still not sure I get why we're getting things going this way. At the very least, this is the kind of story that needs to end so everyone can move on to something else, and in theory that is what they'll be doing.

I'll take Punk to win here, again going off of the idea of MJF getting his title shot in New York later this month. MJF vs.



Moxley doesn't have the history to it and Punk winning the title back to set up the big loss to MJF is a better way to go. This really doesn't feel like a main event though and I wouldn't be hurt if they went with the Trios Titles headlining instead (The heck am I saying?). Oh and one more time: CHICAGO!

### Overall Thoughts

Long. That's the overall thought for this show: it sounds really long. There are so many matches crammed into this card that I've been dreading it more and more every week. I'm still not sure why AEW insists on doing this but for some reason this is what we get with their regular pay per views anymore. I'm sure people will be burned out by the end, but why let that get in the way of what they want to do?

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# Rampage – September 2, 2022: It's Not Like It's Going To Matter

## Rampage

Date: September 2, 2022

Location: Now Arena, Chicago, Illinois

Commentators: Jim Ross, Excalibur, Chris Jericho

It's the final show before All Out and now we get to find out who else is in the Trios Titles tournament final. Hangman Page is subbing in for the injured Evil Uno, who was taken out by a pair of crutches shots on Dynamite. With that rather intense injury out of the way, let's get to it.

[Here is Dynamite if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Trios Titles Tournament Semifinals: Best Friends vs. Dark Order/Hangman Page

Page and Orange Cassidy kick things off as Don Callis is on commentary. Hold on though as Danhausen gets in to tease a curse to Page but gets ejected. Then Cassidy gets on Page's back like a horse, only to be flipped down to set up the hands in his pockets. Page misses a clothesline so the other four come in, meaning the Best Friends get to hug. Then the Dark Order try their own hug, only to be sent into each other.

Soul Food into the half nelson suplex drops Silver before he gets sat up top. Cassidy can't do a Tower of Doom so Page pulls Silver down like a damsel in distress, leaving Cassidy to hit the lazy kicks. Silver takes the bullet for Page before Cassidy picks up the pace with a superkick. Trent's tornado DDT drops Page and everyone is left down.

We take a break and come back with Page launching Reynolds over the top onto the Trent and Chuck. Page pulls Cassidy out of the air and hits a fall away slam before missing a dive by taking out Page by mistake. A double chokeslam puts Page through a table on the floor but it's Silver getting to clean house. Some kicks rock Cassidy inside but he grabs the Stundog Millionaire.

One heck of a clothesline turns Cassidy inside out but he's back with the Beach Break for two. The assisted splash gets two on Silver with Page having to make a save. Trent takes Page up top, where Page flips out of a belly to back superplex. The Deadeye gets two on Cassidy with Chuck making a save this time. Silver Stuns Cassidy but Silver can't hit the German suplex. Instead Cassidy small packages Silver for two and the Awful Waffle gives Chuck the same. The Orange Punch hits Page and Chuck clotheslines him to the floor, only to have Silver grab a rollup pin on Chuck at 12:12.

**Rating:** C+. I really wasn't big on the comedy in the first few minutes but then they cranked it up and had the usual insanity that comes with these matches. What matters is getting Page to All Out, because he needs to be in there with his friends/non-friends the Young Bucks. That's the main story of the whole tournament and whether you like it or not, this had to happen to get us there.

Eddie Kingston is ready to face Tomohiro Ishii again because he has not walked that King's Road path. Uh, yay.

### Rey Fenix vs. Blake Christian

Christian blocks a kick to the face to start and snaps off a spinwheel kick. Back up and a dropkick sends Fenix into...a nip up so we can have a standoff. A rope walk wristdrag takes Christian down but he's fine enough to hit a handspring kick to the head to send Fenix outside. The running flip dive drops Fenix again but he's fine enough to chop away. A spinning knee

to the face sets up the Black Fire Driver to finish Christian at 2:22. Short and packed with stuff.

The Jericho Appreciation Society interrupts Hook, who is ready to fight. They'll fight on Sunday instead.

### Sammy Guevara/Tay Melo vs. Ortiz/Ruby Soho

Non-title rematch from last week Ortiz and Soho lost last week. Ortiz avoids Sammy's charge to start and hits some crossface shots in the corner. Soho kicks Melo from the apron and we take an early break. Back with Soho's arm having been banged up during the break but Ortiz avoids a springboard.

A powerslam plants Sammy and it's off to Soho for some STO's to Melo. Soho hits a bunch of headbutts and a knee to the face as everything breaks down. Ortiz hits a running backplash for two on Sammy but he catches Soho in a wheelbarrow. Melo adds the DDT for two but Ortiz flips out of a double suplex, leaving Soho to roll Melo up for the pin at 7:40.

**Rating:** C+. They were moving rather fast out there but I could go for not doing the same match twice to set up a rematch, likely for the titles. That is something out of WWE's playbook and these matches aren't good enough to overcome the bad idea. At least Soho go a win, though a rollup over Melo in a bit of a mess isn't some kind of a game changer.

Don Callis interrupts the Dark Order/Hangman Page and talks down to Page, who is held back.

All Out rundown, now featuring a rubber match between Tay Melo/Sammy Guevara vs. Ortiz/Ruby Soho. That's three times in ten days.

Earlier today, we had a sitdown interview between Athena and Jade Cargill, with the Baddies. Jade isn't worried about Athena, who says that Jade needs to take her more seriously. That's still not working for Jade, who Kiera Hogan thinks

should be called #37. A lot of trash is talked and Athena leaves.

Here's the rest of the All Out rundown, because it's fifteen matches long.

Video on CM Punk vs. Jon Moxley. Punk really likes saying CHICAGO.

We get a face to face interview between the Acclaimed and Keith Lee/Swerve Strickland. Billy Gunn promises that the Acclaimed is winning, while the Acclaimed brag about how their accomplishments. Swerve gets serious and says they aren't going to put up with Acclaimed being silly. The champs are the rocks of this division and rocks beat scissors.

Here are FTR and Wardlow for a chat, with Chris Jericho forgetting the Motor City Machine Guns' name ("Detroit Machine Guns") on the way to the ring. Dash Harwood is impressed by the fans' cheering and talks about a time that he felt worthless and unloved. Then it was 2022 and the fans got behind him, which turned everything around. Not everyone is going to love FTR but that is ok.

There are some journalists (he means Meltzer) who are asking why the All Out six man tag is taking place. Well it means a lot to him because he's looking in the rear view mirror of his career. There are three things you don't mess with in life...but here are the Motor City Machine Guns, Jay Lethal, Sonjay Dutt and Satnam Singh.

The Guns brag about being from Detroit and Alex Shelley talks about how great FTR may be. What they don't have though is the respect that the Guns have. Dutt promises to mess with Harwood's friends, money and family, which has Dutt calling Harwood's daughter a brat. Harwood has to be held back to wrap things up. Wardlow didn't actually say anything.

So this was a segment that happened and all it did was show

that A, the match isn't interesting and they threw in the Harwood/Dutt thing to try to make it matter, and B, Wardlow has lost all momentum that he had from the spring and early summer. Harwood talked about people asking why the match was taking place and yeah, it's a valid question.

The match feels COMPLETELY tacked on as a way to get FTR and Wardlow onto the show. FTR should be in a big title match but instead they're getting this for whatever reason. It's not interesting and all three of them deserve FAR better (yes the Machine Guns are great but they're thrown in here too rather than having a dream match with FTR be built up as it could have been).

QT Marshall isn't impressed by Ricky Starks and thinks he won't be worth anything without Powerhouse Hobbs behind him. Starks is ready to beat him up and walks over to knock on a locked door, which seems to contain the Factory. Marshall panics and eventually comes to get them out, only to get jumped by Starks. They fight into the arena and through the crowd before getting in the ring for the bell.

### Ricky Starks vs. QT Marshall

After a break less than thirty seconds in, we come back with both of them getting up for the slugout. Starks grabs a springboard tornado DDT for two but the Factory tries a distraction. Marshall is slipped a watch but misses a big shot, leaving him to settle for a rollup with feet on the ropes for two. Starks takes out the rest of the Factory but gets a rope kicked low on the way back in. Marshall's Diamond Cutter is countered but the second attempt connects for two. Back up and Starks hits the spear, setting up Roshambo for the pin at 7:03.

**Rating:** C. It was intense while it lasted but there is only so much you can get out of Starks beating up the Factory in about three and a half minutes shown. The good thing is that Starks

has FINALLY beaten up the Factory, though I have no idea why the team needed to be involved in this story in the first place. The match was just a way to get Starks on the show though, so it was only ever going to be so good.

Post match Powerhouse Hobbs comes out to brawl with Starks. Bryan Danielson comes out to stare at Jericho to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C+. The fact that this was a go home show for a pay per view helped things out a bit but otherwise, this wasn't exactly a great week. What mattered here was setting up the Trios Titles match and apparently adding a fifteenth match to the pay per view card. I'm not sure why that is the case, but none of this show is going to matter once All Out starts. Pretty skippable show this week, but not a disaster.

### Results

Dark Order/Hangman Page b. Best Friends – Rollup to Chuck

Rey Fenix b. Blake Christian – Black Fire Driver

Ruby Soho/Ortiz b. Sammy Guevara/Tay Melo – Rollup to Melo

Ricky Starks b. QT Marshall – Roshambo

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# Rampage – August 26, 2022: I Won't Be Looking Forward To It

## Rampage

Date: August 26, 2022

Location: Wolstein Center, Cleveland, Ohio

Commentators: Jim Ross, Excalibur, Chris Jericho, Tony Schiavone

We're coming off quite the major moment on Dynamite as Jon Moxley squashed CM Punk to unify the World Titles. That leaves some questions open for All Out and AEW does not have much time left to set it up. I could go for finding out what is going to headline the show, but odds are we will find that out next week on Dynamite. Let's get to it.

[Here is Dynamite if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Trios Titles Tournament First Round: House Of Black vs. Dark Order

Brody King drives 10 into the corner to start but has to power out of a headlock. King knocks him into the corner so it's off to John Silver, who elbows Buddy Murphy in the face. Everyone comes in and the brawl breaks out as we take a break. Back with Alex Reynolds caught in the wrong corner, allowing Malakai Black to shoulder him down. Reynolds manages to slip over to the corner though and it's back to 10 for the comeback.



The full nelson has Black in trouble until Murphy makes the save. The Order starts striking away at Murphy but King is back in to...get clotheslined outside by 10. Black is back in and tears off 10's knee brace, setting up a kneebar. But look out, here comes Miro for a distraction, including a faceplant to Murphy and a right hand to King. That's enough to let Reynolds roll Black up for the pin at 9:02.

**Rating:** C. There's your WWE finish and upset of the week, as the Order gets into the semifinals in quite the surprise. Odds are this sets up Miro vs. the House Of Black at All Out, likely with Sting and Darby Allin joining in. The match was perfectly watchable, but they might as well hand the Elite the titles at this point.

Post match the House jumps Miro until Sting and Darby Allin make the save.

Hook doesn't care what Matt Menard and Angelo Parker said about him. With Hook gone, Menard and Parker come in to say they want to take the weight of the title off of his shoulders.

#### TNT Title: Wardlow vs. Ryan Nemeth

Nemeth is challenging and, as the hometown boy, says the best thing about Cleveland is LEAVING. Fellow hometown boy Wardlow cuts him off, with the walk from backstage entrance, and we're ready to go. Chris Sabin, Jay Lethal, Sonjay Dutt and Satnam Singh come out, but Nemeth wants them gone. Nemeth talks more trash until he gets headbutted down. A big right hand knocks Nemeth silly, setting up a four movement Powerbomb Symphony to retain the title at 1:28.

The Andrade Family Office isn't happy with their losses last week. Private Party and Andrade El Idolo almost come to blows, with El Idolo threatening consequences.

#### Powerhouse Hobbs vs. Ashton Day

Clothesline, mock Ricky Starks pose, spinebuster, Day is done at 1:03.

We cut to the back, where the Factory beats up Ricky Starks, much to Hobbs' approval. I have no idea why the Factory needs to be included in this story.

Jade Cargill isn't worried about Athena but has to stop to yell at Leila Grey. As for Athena, she's challenges for All Out, so here is Athena to jump Cade from behind...and get punched in the face anyway. This feud is death.

### Tay Melo/Sammy Guevara vs. Ortiz/Ruby Soho

Melo and Soho fight over arm control to start with Melo taking her down to crank on the wrist. Back up and Soho drives shoulders into the corner as Excalibur runs down the All Out card. Melo gets knocked into the corner so it's off to Ortiz to run Sammy over. After a ninja pose, Ortiz gets sent into the corner, allowing Sammy to hit a running knee. A kiss from Melo sends us to a break and we come back with Soho kicking Melo in the corner.

Sammy offers a distraction so Ruby poisonranas him, allowing Melo to score with a high crossbody for two. Everything breaks down and Ortiz DDTs Sammy but has to block Melo's tornado DDT. No Future drops Melp but Sammy makes the save. Angelo Parker pops up for a distraction, allowing Anna Jay to run in and send Soho into the steps. That's enough for Sammy to hit a springboard cutter for the pin at 9:41.

**Rating:** C+. Yes believe it or not, Soho loses again in a match that was a big deal for her. Even if she didn't get pinned here, it was yet another case of her having a chance to get a moment and it's another loss instead. Ortiz and Soho not beating Melo and Guevara is fine, but can we get Soho a win of some kind already? Anywhere?

We look back at Jon Moxley beating CM Punk in short fashion to

unify the World Titles.

We get some exclusive post match footage of Punk hearing about his foot being really messed up.

Dustin Rhodes is ready to finally win the World Title and Claudio Castagnoli respects him.

### Ring Of Honor World Title: Claudio Castagnoli vs. Dustin Rhodes

Castagnoli, with Wheeler Yuta, is defending, Caprice Coleman and William Regal (replacing Jericho) join commentary, and Arn/Brock Anderson are here with Dustin. Feeling out process to start with Dustin grabbing an armdrag for two, which has him holding up two fingers at Castagnoli. A headlock doesn't work for Castagnoli so he powers Dustin outside for consultation with Arn. Back in and Castagnoli sends Dustin arm first into the corner before ducking a charge, sending Dustin outside as we take a break.

Back with Dustin fighting out of a Crossface into a side slam. A clothesline sends Castagnoli outside for a change and there's the flip dive off the apron. Back in and a middle rope hurricanrana sets up a Code Red for two on Castagnoli. One heck of a clothesline gives Castagnoli two more and there's the giant swing for another near fall.

The Crossface goes on again but Dustin escapes again and hits a powerslam. A piledriver...doesn't quite work as he kind of drops Castagnoli to the side, making it more like a powerbomb, for two. Castagnoli is back up and tries a leapfrog, with Dustin's head hitting him low (ala Konnan vs. Eddie Guerrero at Uncensored 1996). That doesn't keep Castagnoli down long and he hits the pop up uppercut to retain at 12:28.

**Rating:** B-. The build for this was good, but it didn't exactly hit that level that you might have expected. Castagnoli is being presented as a major star in AEW and that means he isn't

going to lose the title in a quickly booked defense in the main event of Rampage. Dustin continues to be as likable as you can get, but he wasn't going to win here and that wasn't surprising.

**Overall Rating:** C+. As has been the case in recent weeks, the show was a watchable hour of wrestling where almost nothing felt like it was going to matter in the slightest. This has become more of the showcase show for AEW and that's a fine way to go, but that isn't exactly going to have me counting down the days until the next episode.

### Results

Dark Order b. House Of Black – Rollup to Black

Wardlow b. Ryan Nemeth – Powerbomb Symphony

Powerhouse Hobbs b. Ashton Day – Spinebuster

Tay Melo/Sammy Guevara b. Ortiz/Ruby Soho – Springboard cutter to Ortiz

Claudio Castagnoli b. Dustin Rhodes – Pop up uppercut

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# Rampage – August 19, 2022: Here They Are!

## Rampage

Date: August 19, 2022

Location: North Charleston Coliseum, Charleston, West Virginia

Commentators: Tony Schiavone, Excalibur, Jim Ross, Chris Jericho

Things have gotten all the more interesting around here in the last few days as we are now getting ready for one of the biggest matches in Dynamite history. Forget that for now though, because we have something far more important this week. That could only be one thing and say it with me: the Trustbusters are here! Let's get to it.

[Here is Dynamite if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Here is Claudio Castagnoli, with Wheeler Yuta, to get things going. After praising Ricky Steamboat (in the front row), Claudio gets to the point: an open challenge for a future Ring Of Honor World Title shot. Cue Dustin Rhodes to say he has wanted to hold the World Title for thirty four years and until recently, they both had people saying they should be World Champion. Castagnoli knows the feeling Dustin has and sees the fire in his eyes. The challenge is accepted for next week, with Castagnoli wanting the best Dustin has. Respect is shown. I could go for this.

Ruby Soho and Ortiz want to fight Sammy Guevara and Tay Conti next week.

Tag Team Titles: Keith Lee/Swerve Strickland vs. Private Party

Private Party is challenging. Cassidy punches away at Lee to

start and it's off to Swerve, who can't hit a suplex. He can however duck a Quen springboard crossbody but gets hurricanranaed to the floor by Kassidy. A corkscrew dive takes Swerve down and we take a break. Back with Kassidy posing at Lee, with the delay allowing Swerve to hit a middle rope stomp on Quen. That's enough for the hot tag to Lee so house can be cleaned. Kassidy gets Pounced into the ropes and Swerve adds the running kick to the back of the head for two. Swerve doesn't like that kickout so it's the JML Driver to retain the titles at 7:58.

**Rating:** C+. Lee and Swerve didn't exactly feel like they were in a ton of danger here and that really is how things should have gone. Private Party had that one big win over the Young Bucks and then have done almost nothing of note since then. That isn't enough to make them threats to the titles here, but their athleticism is still worth at least a glance.

Powerhouse Hobbs interrupts the Factory's card/dominoes game, asking why they didn't take care of Ricky Starks. QT Marshall promises they'll get it done.

#### FTW Title: Hook vs. Zack Clayton

Clayton (formerly of some Jersey Shore spinoff) is challenging and brags about his star power and promises to take it back to a state people actually like in New Jersey. Redrum retains the title in 12 seconds.

Angelo Parker and Matt Menard don't like Hook having the FTW Title and think it should be around the waist of a sports entertainer.

Billy Gunn isn't happy with the Gunn Club and is bringing the Acclaimed to deal with them next week.

We look at La Faccion Ingovernable turning on Dragon Lee and kicking him out of the team.

## Buddy Matthews vs. Serpentico

This is billed as a standby match because Hook's match was so fast in a nice touch. Julia Hart is here with Murphy, who knocks him to the corner to start. A buckle bomb sets up what used to be known as Murphy's Law for the pin on Serpentico at 1:10.

Post match Miro comes out, holding Malakai Black's mask. Miro brawls with Matthews and beats him down.

Britt Baker (in a KISS shirt), Rebel and Jamie Hayter aren't happy that they're not in the title match at All Out. They do want to see Toni Storm and Thunder Rosa implode though. It's not like either of them can win anyway.

## Penelope Ford vs. Athena

Athena armdrags her into an armbar to start but gets driven into the corner. A jumping knee cuts Ford off but she rolls Athena throat first into the middle rope as we see the guy with a box in his head. Commentary confirms that it's Kip Sabian as Ford hits a slingshot elbow and we take a break. Back with Ford being sent into the barricade, setting up the 0 Face to finish Ford at 5:20. Not enough shown to rate but it's nice to have Ford back.

Post match the Baddies run in to beat down Athena. Jade Cargill and Stokely Hathaway come out and destroy Athena's wings with a sledgehammer. Cargill sledgehammers Athena down too. Can we GET TO THE MATCH ALREADY? This has been going on for months already.

We recap Jon Moxley and CM Punk on Dynamite.

Video on Powerhouse Hobbs vs. Ricky Starks. Hobbs was hired to keep the FTW Title on Starks but Starks couldn't keep up his end. More from Starks on Dynamite.

Here's what's coming on various shows.

The Best Friends and Orange Cassidy are ready for the main event.

### Trios Titles Tournament First Round: Trustbusters vs. Best Friends/Orange Cassidy

Sonny Kiss is with the Trustbusters. Slim J drives Trent into the corner with Jericho comparing Slim J to a ferret. Chuck makes the save and tosses him into a sitout powerbomb from Trent. Some house is cleaned but Boudreaux comes in to wreck people without much effort. Everything breaks down and we take a break with the Best Friends in trouble.

Back with Trent getting in a forearm but Daivari brings in Slim J, who knocks Chuck off the apron. Cassidy's staredown distracts Slim J though and Trent gets in a suplex. That's enough for the tag to Cassidy so the pace picks up, including a high crossbody to Slim Jr and the satellite DDT to Daivari. Now Cassidy wants Boudreaux (and seems to talk some trash). Boudreaux wrecks the good guys, at least until he gets knocked into the corner for a triple dropkick.

Slim J takes the Best Friends down with a top rope corkscrew dive, followed by something like a Whisper in the Wind to Cassidy. Daivari's frog splash gets two as everything breaks down again. A series of shots send Boudreaux over the barricade but Kiss crotches Cassidy. Slim J's top rope elbow gets two on Cassidy but here is Danhausen to curse him. That's enough for the Best Friends to hit a double chokeslam, setting up an assisted splash (with the Best Friends holding Slim J up and Cassidy diving off of their shoulders at the same time) to give Cassidy the pin at 10:32.

**Rating:** C+. The finish was rather cool and they had the right team win, but it's still trying to make me interested in the Trustbusters. Good luck with that, as I've yet to see something from either Daivari or Boudreaux that will draw my interest. They are getting it much more right with Cassidy



though, as he is filling his role as the guy who is better than the lower card and a possible spoiler for bigger spots perfectly.

Danhausen poses with the winners to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C+. Better than last week's as it felt like some interesting things took place here, but still not a must see show. Rampage has been around for just over a year now and the show hasn't felt important in a long time. You might get one somewhat important thing a week and the rest of the show feels like they are just filling in their hour. Not a bad show whatsoever, but nothing you would need to watch, as has been the case with most recent editions.

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# Dynamite – August 10, 2022 (Quake By The Lake): A Bloody Ok Time

## Dynamite

Date: August 10, 2022

Location: Target Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Commentators: Taz, Excalibur, Jim Ross

It's another themed show with Quake By The Lake, though in this case it seems to just be a name instead of anything specific. The card is pretty stacked as we have Jon Moxley defending the World Title against Chris Jericho, plus a coffin match and a tornado tag. That should be enough so let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

## Darby Allin vs. Brody King

Coffin match. Allin pops up out of the darkness to start fast, including some thumbtacked skateboard shots. They fight around the ring with Allin getting punched out of the air and being sent over the table. King breaks the skateboard over his knee, which has Allin diving right back at him. Back in and Allin fights his way out of trouble on top and hits a super Code Red, with King being sent outside again (there is a trail of blood on the floor). This time King whips him HARD into the barricade as we take a break.

Back with King missing Allin with a middle rope splash to the floor but hitting the table clean. Allin loads up a big dive but the lights go out, meaning it's House Of Black time. Julia Hart trips Allin down and the beating is on, allowing King to

hit a running flip dive through a table in the corner.

The coffin is loaded up, but Sting is inside. House is cleaned but Sting throws Malakai Black the bat. Black thinks about it but leaves, allowing Allin to hit a big cannonball suicide dive to drop King on the floor. It's not enough to get him into the coffin though as King drops Allin onto the steps. Allin manages to get in a few chain shots though and chokes King on the apron. King falls off the apron and falls into the coffin to give Allin the win at 13:24.

**Rating:** B-. That was a lot of blood from King, who was gushing by the end of the match. The good thing here is that Allin won, which is pretty overdue for him in a big match. Odds are that isn't it for him with the House of Black as Sting and Malakai still need to have their showdown, but for now, it's a good win for Allin.

Jon Moxley says that since we have the FTW Title, his title might as well be the FYI Title. Tonight, he is going to push the last survivor of the Hart Dungeon and the Lionheart and see what happens.

Chris Jericho promises to win the title tonight because the Lionheart, complete with the leather vest, is back. Jericho talks about how he is going to stretch Moxley tonight and tonight he is going to win the title again.

We have brackets for the Trios Titles tournament:

Death Triangle

Will Ospreay/Aussie Open

Andrade El Idolo/Dragon Lee/Rush

Young Bucks/???

House Of Black

Dark Order

Trustbusters

## Best Friends

### La Faccion Ingovernable vs. Lucha Bros

Tornado tag with Jose and Alex Abrahantes here too. La Faccion starts fast and Fenix is suplexed hard into the corner. Penta is back up with a Sling Blade though and Fenix hits a suicide dive to send Rush into the barricade. There's the running flip dive to drop Andrade again, leaving Penta to hit Made In Japan for two on Rush. Back in and Rush breaks up the spike Fear Factor and drops Fenix onto Penta for a double two. La Faccion hits stereo flip dives to the floor and we take a break.

We come back with the Bros hitting their own big flipping dives, setting up Fenix's Eddie dance and frog splash. That only hits knees (spent too much time dancing) but Penta hits a rolling cutter to drop Rush, leaving all four down. Back up and Andrade ties Penta's mask to the ropes (JR: "NOT THE DOUBLE KNOT!"), leaving Rush to piledrive Fenix. Penta rips the mask off and makes the save, leaving Andrade to throw the mask into the crowd. As the fans chant THROW IT BACK, Rush hits the Bull's Horns and El Idolo finishes Fenix at 13:52.

**Rating:** C+. In a way, I can go with the idea of just throwing up your hands and not even bothering with the tags anymore. These matches exist for nothing more than a bunch of chaos, so just throw away the tagging part and get to what everyone is waiting on. They do the style well, but my goodness, enough with the Bros losing their masks.

The Young Bucks come up to Hangman Page and the Dark Order. The Bucks praise Page for everything he has done over the years and reminisce about their great times together, saying it was the best time of their careers. One more time: they can reunite the team and win the Trios Titles. Page is grateful for their time together but turns them down for the Dark Order, because they have had his back. They'll get together later though, with the Bucks not being overly pleased but not

arguing.

### Anthony Henry vs. Luchasaurus

Jungle Boy is on commentary. Henry charges at him, gets beaten up, and walks into the Fossilizer (Sean O'Haire's Widowmaker for those O'Haire fans out there) for the pin at 37 seconds.

Post match Christian Cage pops up on screen in the back...and Jungle Boy actually goes running after him because he knows where the interviews take place (as logical as it gets around here). Security keeps Jungle Boy from Christian but Luchasaurus comes in to take them out. Christian escapes and Luchasaurus headbutts agent Pat Buck.

Miro isn't sure what to do about the House of Black but Julia Hart comes up to tell him to embrace their gift. She isn't the woman allowed to touch his face, but he'll accept their help.

Powerhouse Hobbs is interrupted by QT Marshall and the Factory. They'll take care of Ricky Starks, which seems to have Hobbs' approval.

Here are Jay Lethal, Satnam Singh and Sonjay Dutt. They brag about taking out Wardlow on Saturday and Lethal wants another shot. Cue Wardlow to say he's taking them all out right now, with FTR coming out join them. The villains bail but come back in, with Wardlow and FTR clearing the ring.

The Jericho Appreciation Society is ready for Chris Jericho's win tonight and even have a little bit of the bubbly waiting on them. Daniel Garcia calls himself the Dragon Slayer for taking out Bryan Danielson, which sends Anna Jay off to choke someone who doesn't seem to like that. That would be Leva Bates (formerly known as Blue Pants).

### Aaron Solo vs. Ricky Starks

The Factory is here too but get ejected for trying to interfere. Starks takes Solo down but the Roshambo is

countered with a hurricanrana. Starks misses the spear but then hits the spear (almost from the side) for the pin at 2:02.

Post match Nick Comoroto comes in to go after Starks but he gets away from a chair shot. Then Starks runs away into the crowd when the rest of the team comes in.

Stokely Hathaway interrupts the Gunn Club and recruits the younger generation. Billy doesn't like it, so Stokely calls him old. Danhausen comes in and a match seems to be made for Rampage.

The Trustbusters interrupt the Best Friends because Orange Cassidy won't answer Ari Daivari's texts or calls. Cassidy says no, so threats are made.

#### TNT Title: Madison Rayne vs. Jade Cargill

Cargill is defending and misses a charge into the corner to start. A middle rope dropkick sends Cargill outside. They head outside and Madison has to counter a powerbomb into a hurricanrana. Back in and Jade hits a heck of a spear as we take a break. Back with Rayne grabbing a neckbreaker and hitting a not great enziguri. The Baddie distraction lets Jade kick her down and, after countering a counter, hit Jaded to retain at 7:34.

**Rating:** C. This could have been worse, but Rayne is going to hit a pretty solid ceiling of just ok most of the time. At the same time, Jade isn't going to lose in a mostly cold match on Dynamite so there was only so much drama. Rayne is a veteran who can wrestle a competent match, but this seemed more about giving Jade a win over a name, whatever that is worth in Rayne's case.

Post match Athena, previously disguised as a Baddie, comes in to take Jade out and clear the ring.

Thunder Rosa and Toni Storm, now #1 contender due to Kris Statlander getting hurt, are cool with each other but ready to fight. Storm wants to keep her momentum going.

Here's what's coming on a bunch of shows.

### AEW World Title: Jon Moxley vs. Chris Jericho

Jericho, in his WCW/ECW/NJPW look as the Lionheart, is challenging and William Regal is on commentary. Feeling out process to start as Jericho (with ponytail) armdrags him down a few times. Jericho takes him down to crank on the neck but Moxley is back up with some chops and trash talk. A snapmare drops Moxley and Jericho rips out the earring, with Regal saying fair enough, as he would have done it too.

We take a break and come back with a rather bloody Moxley working on an armbar but Jericho breaks that up. Jericho grabs the Hartbreaker Figure Four around the post, which lasts as long as it can. Back in and Moxley grabs a crossface, which is reversed into the Walls. We take a break and come back with Moxley still in the hold but crawling over to the rope for the break. Jericho tries the triangle dropkick but gets sent outside, allowing Moxley to go up top, only to dive into the Codebreaker for a close two.

With that not working, Jericho takes a turnbuckle pad off for a distraction, allowing Sammy Guevara to throw in a baseball bat (overthrow that is). A heck of a shot gives Jericho two and a ram into the buckle sets up the Judas Effect for a very close two. With nothing else working, Jericho goes for the belt but misses a charge into the exposed buckle. Moxley grabs a choke but Jericho (now bleeding too) reverses that into a Liontamer. That's reversed into another choke and Jericho finally taps at 22:34.

**Rating:** B. This was a good enough big match feel, though the blood was a bit excessive after the opening bloodbath from Brody King. Jericho is still a big enough win that this boosts

Moxley, as he continues to be able to stop Jericho each time. Rather good TV main event here, though Moxley is going to need someone for All Out.

Post match the beatdown is on but the Jericho Appreciation Society, followed by the Blackpool Combat Club and more of the Society run in for the big dive. Cue the returning CM Punk for the ring clearing save and showdown with Moxley. A middle finger from Moxley and a brushing off leave Punk alone to pose to end the night. It was about time for Punk to be back, as the interim thing was getting a bit ridiculous after two plus months. It's the only thing that would make sense for All Out too, so this is about as perfect as you can get.

**Overall Rating:** B-. The opener and main event were both good but the middle dragged pretty badly here. What matters is that they now have a big main event set for All Out, which had been sorely lacking over the last few weeks. They still need some better work in the midcard and All Out needs a bit of a better focus, but the last half hour of this show was the important part and they covered it well.

### Results

Darby Allin b. Brody King – Allin knocked King into the coffin  
La Faccion Ingovernable b. Lucha Bros – El Idolo to Fenix  
Luchasaurus b. Anthony Henry – Fossilizer  
Ricky Starks b. Aaron Solo – Spear  
Jade Cargill b. Madison Rayne – Jaded  
Jon Moxley b. Chris Jericho – Choke

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# Rampage – August 5, 2022: More Of The Same

## Rampage

Date: August 5, 2022

Location: Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Commentators: Excalibur, Tony Schiavone, Jim Ross

We're a day away from Battle Of The Belts and that is probably not going to mean very much. Other than that, we have a street fight this week between Keith Lee/Swerve Strickland and Josh Woods/Tony Nese, after Woods attacked Lee last week. In addition, Madison Rayne will be making her AEW debut which could be interesting. Let's get to it.

[Here is Dynamite if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

## Jon Moxley vs. Mance Warner

Non-title and William Regal is on commentary. Before the match, we get a video from Warner, who is quite the Tennessee style talker. He promises to fight Moxley (rather than dance with him) because he has heard Moxley talk about how much he loves to bleed. Now Ole Mancer is here to become the man. It's a brawl in the aisle to start with Warner sending him into the

steps before biting Moxley's head.

They get inside for the bell and are back on the floor literally two seconds later. Moxley gets sent into the barricade and there's a crotching on the barricade to make it worse. A clothesline knocks Moxley down again and they head inside but he tied Warner's leg in the ropes. There's a running dropkick to the ropes to set up a Figure Four but Warner is out without much trouble.

Back up and they trade right hands in the corner before going outside again. Moxley gets whipped hard into the steps but he's back up with a suplex. They head inside but are right back outside (again) to fight on the steps. Warner hits a DDT onto said steps and we take a break. Back with Warner stomping on the ankle and hitting a not great spinebuster for two. A boot to Moxley's bloody face gets two and Warner grabs a chair, which is forearmed into Warner's head.

Now Warner is busted open as well, which offers a good target for Moxley's suicide dive into the barricade. Back in and a superplex sets up the hammer and elbow elbows, though Moxley's arm is hurt from forearming the chair. Warner hits him with a clothesline and they're both down. The cover from Warner is countered into a Kimura before Moxley stomps away at the head. A piledriver sets up more stomping and Moxley chokes him out at 11:37.

**Rating:** C+. Yes it's another Moxley brawl with blood and again it doesn't get to stand out after how many times we have seen it. Warner is a good talker but his stuff between the bells doesn't exactly stand out. It's a bunch of whipping people into things and hitting them with weapons, which gets repetitive fast. Having both of them in the same match didn't exactly hit a high level, though it was a decent brawl.

At Dynamite, Ricky Starks was interrupted by the Factory. QT Marshall offers Starks protection from the team (which now

includes Kole Carter) but he isn't interested in help, either from Marshall or Aaron Solo.

### Ryan Nemeth vs. Konosuke Takeshita

Takeshita avoids a charge to start and hits a running boot in the corner as the fans seem rather invested here. Peter Avalon, in Nemeth's corner, grabs Takeshita's leg though and Nemeth starts kneeling away. Takeshita is right back up with a Blue Thunder Bomb and the running knee finishes Nemeth at 1:40. Well that's how you build someone up for tomorrow's title match.

Post match Avalon goes after Takeshita and gets kneed down for his efforts.

At Dynamite, Orange Cassidy and the Best Friends aren't thrilled with how they're doing as of late but think they do their best as a trio. They're in for the Trios Title tournament, but Dr. Danhausen comes in to make it four. Because he's a doctor too.

### Madison Rayne vs. Leila Grey

Stokely Hathaway is here with Grey. They lock up to start with Grey driving her into the corner for a forearm to the chest. The frustration sets in for Rayne and they go to a series of standing switches. Some rollups gives Rayne some near falls and we hit the armbars to keep Grey in trouble.

Back up and Grey misses a charge into the corner but Hathaway jumps up and down on the steps for a rather obvious distraction. Grey knocks her off the apron and we take a break. Back with Rayne striking away and getting two off a northern lights suplex. Rayne hits a sliding lariat into Cross Raynes (yes Cross Raynes) to finish Grey at 8:29.

**Rating:** C. Rayne is an interesting veteran to bring in as the fans are going to know who she is and she can wrestle a good

enough match. There are multiple women above her though and she is only going to draw so much interest. This was about what I expected and now Rayne can move on to do whatever else, though she might be better suited as a coach than a regular competitor.

Post match Jade Cargill comes out and issues the challenge to Rayne for next week's Dynamite. Rayne is in and even takes out the invading Kiera Hogan.

Video on the Lucha Bros vs. La Faccion Ingovernable in a tornado tag.

Mark Sterling doesn't think much of Keith Lee/Swerve Strickland, who are ready to face Tony Nese/Josh Woods in a street fight.

Here's what's coming on various shows.

### Keith Lee/Swerve Strickland vs. Tony Nese/Josh Woods

Non-title falls count anywhere and Mark Sterling is here with Nese and Woods. It's a brawl on the floor to start with Woods driving Strickland into the barricade. They trade off with a drop toehold sending Nese into the barricade, leaving Woods to get forearmed in the face. Nese is back up with some protein powder in Lee's face but that's about it for offense, as Strickland grabs a toolbox and launches it, only to hit the steps.

As Lee gets some water for his eyes, Woods forearms Swerve in the face and grabs a twisting suplex to send him into the steps. We take a break and come back with Lee saving Strickland from being powerbombed off the apron and through a table. Lee can't stop Nese from kicking Strickland in the face but he can break up a cover at two. Everyone gets back in with Lee cleaning house but Nese dropkicks a chair into his face. A double DDT onto a chair gets two as Strickland 450s in for the save.

Now we get a table set up, but Sterling comes in with a wrench (from the toolbox) to knock Strickland silly. Lee is back up with a headbutt to Nese and throws Sterling off the top and through the table. Woods still can't suplex Lee off the apron and through more tables but Nese adds a suplex and the superplex does indeed drive Lee down hard. Nese brings in a bunch of chairs but gets backdropped onto them instead. The Swerve Stomp onto the chairs is enough to give Strickland the pin at 13:56.

**Rating:** B-. I'm not sure what to think about something like this, as it's another weapons based brawl which we seem to have almost every week or so. Lee and Strickland are a rather good team and they did well here, but I could go a little while without seeing Nese, who never seems to win anything. There are so many good teams around here but Lee and Strickland are facing a makeshift team with Mark Sterling. I'm not sure I get that one.

**Overall Rating:** C+. Pretty good show here, but the amount of time spent on hardcore or weapons stuff around here gets annoying at times. Rayne vs. Grey was the only match here to get some time and not have a bunch of weapons stuff involved. There are talented wrestlers around here and they don't need the stuff going on to make their matches interesting. The show was good enough, but it felt like they were tacking on a bunch of extra stuff that didn't need to be there, which tends to be a recurring theme for AEW.

### Results

Jon Moxley b. Mance Warner – Bulldog choke

Konosuke Takeshita b. Ryan Nemeth – Running knee

Madison Rayne b. Leila Grey – Cross Raynes

Keith Lee/Swerve Strickland b. Tony Nese/Josh Woods – Swerve Stomp onto chairs to Nese

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