

# On This Day: December 1, 2011 – Impact Wrestling 2011: Come Home Bobby Roode

## Impact Wrestling

Date: December 1, 2011

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Tazz

We've got two more shows before Final Resolution and the card is starting to come together. It feels like a filler PPV until we get to something a lot bigger. The interesting thing will be if Storm is allowed to wrestle again as he's really getting hurt by being injured as the mini-feud with Roode he had made him the real star out of the whole thing. But it's a concussion so it's hard to say when he'll be better. Let's get to it.

We open with a video of Roode's family talking about how he's pretty much abandoned them and it's all about him anymore. Cool idea given how he was pushed as this family man when he was going for the title.

Sting opens the show and says everyone is trying to run this place. Right now, he's going to deal with Bobby Roode, so get on out here. Roode says let's get this over with. Sting talks about how Roode has done all this stuff and jumped Styles and Hardy to end the show. Roode calls it great TV and says Sting is welcome for what he's done recently. Sting says he runs the place and it's run his way. For every bad thing Roode does, there's a consequence, which starts right now.

Cue AJ and Roode says Sting is fighting AJ's battles now. Sting also brings out Hardy who asks why Roode doesn't respect Sting's authority. Sting says screw you Bobby and makes it a three way match for the main event tonight.

The Knockouts are in robes while Karen yells. She gets in Velvet's face and yells about disrespect and all that jazz. Tonight they're going to wash six cars and then the rest of them. Oh and they'll be in swimsuits. Madison gladly disrobes and looks pretty good underneath it.

Jeff Hardy says he and AJ are about to go talk strategy. Jarrett comes up and takes his jacket off. He wants to know why Hardy thinks he belongs here. Hardy says this is his last shot. Jarrett throws his jacket in Hardy's face and beats him down. Here's your backstage brawl of the week.

Bischoff meets with Ray in the back because they don't have an office anymore. Eric wants Ray to wait before killing his kid. Yeah brilliant there dude. Instead, let's get rid of Abyss. Ray put him through a table and it did nothing so Eric suggests talking to him. Ray thinks he's nuts (both Eric and Abyss) so he'll get Scott Steiner to help talk. Oh geez.

The Knockouts are in bikinis and washing cars and Tara is forced to disrobe. ODB gets a street fight with Mickie James for some reason. If she hurts Mickie she's the new #1 contender.

#### Mexican America vs. Ink Inc vs. D-Von/D'Angelo Dinero

Winners are #1 contenders. D-Von and Pope clear the ring until we get down to Pope vs. Anarquia with the street preacher taking over. The Mexicans finally take over until it's a hot tag to D-Von. There's nothing interesting going on here. I still want to know why they think pushing D-Von is a good thing. Neal tags himself in, spears Hernandez but walks into a spinebuster from D-Von for the pin at 5:06.

**Rating:** D+. Whatever man. The tag division is such a joke anymore without any solid teams in there. It's like the tag champions and the #1 contenders are just slapped together with no real rhyme or reason. This isn't going to be much of a match and does anyone buy that these guys are going to get the

titles?

Here's Austin Aries to talk a bit. He says he has a problem as the greatest man that ever lived. His plan was to revitalize the division and bring in some greatness, but his greatness is so far ahead of everyone else. It's time to call this the A Double division. No one can hold a candle to him so....oh dang it here's Kid Kash.

He talks about Turning Point and how Aries screwed him over after Kash took out Sorensen for him. It's an old vs. new argument and Aries says he's champion. Kash says he held it before. Aries says shake my hand and you have a shot. They shake hands and punch each other at the same time. I think that's supposed to be a face turn for Kash.

Gunner goes to find Garrett Bischoff at a gym.

AJ says he'll win tonight.

Gunner tries to find Garrett Bischoff but finds someone else who he beats up. No one else seems to care. He keeps looking and annoys someone else. Gunner beats up two more people and then the original guy comes back. There's a clothesline for him and then he chokes the guy down. He hurts a guy's arm and tried to be menacing, saying he's coming for Garrett.

Sting yells at Jarrett, telling him to stay out of the main event tonight. Jarrett says Sting has no room to talk because he was in the match with Hardy at Victory Road. Sting says there will be consequences if Jarrett interferes. Jarrett says he might be willing to pay that consequence.

More parenting stuff from Roode's "wife".

The Knockouts are still washing cars. Taz's car is in line for later and a bus or something like that comes up.

Steiner is lifting weights when Ray comes up to talk about Abyss. CAN WE HAVE A WRESTLING MATCH ALREADY??? Steiner

suggests offering a freak to Abyss to get him to join their team again.

### Mickie James vs. ODB

Street fight. It's a brawl on the ramp to start and they roll towards the ring. Street fights mean falls count anywhere here I guess. Mickie's rana is countered into a powerbomb. They go into the crowd and Mickie fights back in front of a handicap ramp. ODB hits her with a lot of metal stuff and Mickie looks a bit dead. We do the odd hardcore match thing where people insist on walking around.

She walks around even more until Mickie gets in a chop. Gee, I wonder if the minute long walk had anything to do with her getting a second wind. Back to the ring and Mickie starts her comeback. ODB breaks up the jumping DDT and gets a chair. Like any idiot, she holds it in front of her face to allow Mickie to kick the chair into her face for the pin at 7:00.

**Rating:** D+. Well that was pretty dull. I have no idea why they went walking around like that but I never get that in any wrestling match with hardcore rules. ODB continues to look like an idiot and the girls are still better than the Divas, but they're still nothing to blow my skirt up. The weak show continues.

Storm (at home) says he's still out with a concussion. Angle interrupts and asks Storm how it felt to have his head bashed in and how his daughter reacted to it. Angle blames Storm for losing the title so Angle says be here next week to confirm a match at Final Resolution. Storm says it'll be a beating, not a match.

Some chicks are in the back and looking for Abyss.

We see the long version of Roode's family complaining. Roode says he got them a bunch of stuff with the money so if he's a user, so are they.

## TV Title: Rob Van Dam vs. Robbie E

Why do I have a feeling the obvious ending isn't the one that is going to happen? RVD dominates to start and sends Robbie to the floor quickly. Big Rob gets in a shot to take over and Robbie pounds away a bit. Back to the floor and here's Eric Young in underwear with a fire extinguisher. RVD gets a kick to the face and hits the Five Star but Eric has the referee. Daniels runs in and hits Angel's Wings on RVD so Robbie can get the pin at 4:02.

**Rating:** Rob. What else do you want me to call it? This was about as predictable as you could want it to be, which isn't saying much. The match wasn't the point here obviously and the idea was to have Daniels run in and Young to be all wacky because that's all he knows how to do.

Steiner's girls are all messed up after meeting Abyss.

The Knockouts get in a fight with the water and soap. Karen comes in with garden hoses and sprays them all down.

## Robert Roode vs. AJ Styles vs. Jeff Hardy

This has over twenty minutes to go so maybe it'll be good. This is non-title of course. Roode immediately hits the floor and we get our first contact about a minute in with both guys beating on Roode. He gets ping-ponged between the two of them and then clotheslined to the floor. Time for the face showdown....or not. Instead they get in a mini argument over who gets to dive to the floor. Hardy hits a baseball slide as we take a break.

Back with Roode hitting a belly to back suplex for one as Hardy makes the save. AJ gets his eyes raked and accidentally hits Hardy, giving us the showdown we've been waiting for. AJ hits his drop down into a dropkick sequence but Hardy takes over and gets two of his own. Roode comes back in and beats both guys down before focusing on Hardy. Spinebuster gets two.

AJ pops back up with the springboard forearm and backflip into the reverse DDT on Roode. Roode takes over again and hits a fisherman's suplex on AJ which Hardy breaks up. Twist of Fate to Roode and he loads up the Swanton, but here's Jarrett to crotch him. Roode covers Hardy for the easy pin at 14:30.

**Rating:** C. Pretty ok match here but at the end of the day, so what? This is more about pushing Jeff vs. Jeff again and that's not exactly something interesting. Not a bad match at all but I've never been a fan of three ways, which isn't helping things here. At least it sets up a match at Final Resolution, which we'll get to now.

Sting comes out and makes Jeff vs. Jeff in a cage at the PPV. If Jarrett escapes first, Hardy is gone. If Hardy escapes first, he gets the title shot at Genesis. Karen comes out to yell so she'll be handcuffed to Sting during the match.

**Overall Rating:** D+. The biggest problem with this show is that the pacing problems were back. There were five minutes of wrestling in the first hour and for what? So we could have segments about Gunner, Garrett Bischoff, and the Knockouts in swimsuits? That's what we're focusing on now? This was a backstage heavy show and that's really not all that interesting. Also, you don't need to have Roode's family pop in all through the show if you're going to show a full version of it later on. Not a bad show, but pretty boring overall.

### Results

D-Von/D'Angelo Dinero b. Mexican America and Ink Inc – Spinebuster to Neal

Mickie James b. ODB – Spinning kick to the face

Robbie E b. Rob Van Dam – Pin after Angel's Wings

Bobby Roode b. AJ Styles and Jeff Hardy – Pinned Hardy after Jeff Jarrett interfered

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# **Sacrifice 2011 – Played So Safe They Might As Well Have Their Tubes Tied**

## **Sacrifice 2011**

Date: May 15, 2011

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Tazz

It's another TNA PPV tonight with the main event being Sting vs. RVD for the title. Earlier today Karen Angle, who is in one of the big matches, posted a message on her Facebook saying that she wouldn't be able to be in the ring tonight due to a bad ankle. What a shock indeed. Anyway the card looks ok I guess so let's get to it.

The opening video is all about Sting vs. RVD and is set to a song called, appropriately enough, Sacrifice which is rap/hip hop. Both guys are shown training, almost like a Rocky montage.

There's a big Sacrifice banner which is a bit different.

There was a rumor that the whole place would look different but I don't see any major differences.

### Mexican America vs. Ink Inc

Neal comes out with the big American flag to fight off the evil (not) foreigners. The fans chant USA as I guess Shannon's teased heel turn means nothing. This is now the Impact Wrestling Zone. Yeah I'm not changing the name. Anarquia and Shannon start us off. Arm work by Shannon to start which goes on for awhile. Anarquia wasn't bad as Lowrider in OVW but he's rather generic here which isn't his fault.

Anarquia tries some power which gets him a leg lariat from Moore. Rosita gets up to distract and this incredibly by the book match brings in Hernandez. Neal comes in also and gets a belly to belly to take him down. Sarita does the same thing Rosita did as even the announcers point out that it's the same thing. Back off to Anarquia and Moore who gets a cross body off the top for two.

Moore goes to the floor and Anarquia slides into the ring skirt, getting caught behind it in a somewhat creative spot. Asai moonsault takes Hernandez down but Sarita comes in again to turn the tide. Shouldn't a big powerful heel tag team not need girls to take over on some punks? Backbreaker submission goes on Moore by Hernandez and a slam move gets two.

Moore plays Ricky Morton as every female wrestling fan that was a teenager in the 80s screams in terror. Moonsault press mostly misses Anarquia and it's hot tag Neal minus the pop. Cross body out of the corner gets two. Moore gets a Cactus Clothesline to take Anarquia to the floor but it's Border Toss time. That doesn't connect but neither does the Mooregasm due to Rosita. Hernandez uses a sitout Dominator for the pin on Neal. He almost landed on his head but the hair shielded him.



**Rating:** C. Not a terrible match at all and even decent at times, but this was the walking definition of generic. It's as paint by numbers as you can possibly get but at the same time that's just fine. Decent enough opener and nothing to really complain about. Nothing to get excited about either but this was completely fine.

The announcers talk about what happened on Impact and get interrupted by the Jarretts' music. Karen is on crutches and is in a cast/walking boot. Jeff says that Karen was giving orders to the hired help and stepped on an action figure. The fans LOUDLY chant BS as apparently she has a bad sprain and it's broken in two places. The tag match is off and cue Foley. He says he looked at the x-ray and that apparently it was of a 6'6 African American male. The match is on because wrestling matters. Karen throws the walking boot at Foley as he leaves.

Brian Kendrick is apparently facing Robbie E tonight in an added match. He talks about language and talks about how the X-Division is awesome and how it's not just about small people.

#### Robbie E vs. Brian Kendrick

Kendrick does his meditation thing pre-match with the hood over his head. Hmm, Robbie has his opponent on the mat with his head covered and with him not looking. What in the world should he do? He pulls the hood back and gets beaten up for his efforts. Kendrick, robe/whatever still on meditates more and keeps fighting him off. I can't decide if he's more like Mr. Miyagi or Obi-Wan-Kenobi.

Cookie goes after Kendrick and is told God has a plan for her. Robbie knocks him to the floor in his first offense. Kendrick's mouth is busted. Middle rope elbow gets two on Kendrick who is still in that robe. Suplex on the floor but

the second is reversed by Kendrick. Back in the ring a missile dropkick gives Kendrick control and there goes the robe. Robbie can't get the neckbreaker and a leg lariat ends this. Time for meditation.

**Rating:** C-. Not bad again but this was just an extended Impact match. Not bad but at the same time there's no real point to this for the most part. Granted it's an added match so you can't really complain about much. I'm curious as to where this leads to a very small extent as the whole X-Division thing has been done over and over again and it never goes anywhere long term.

Kendrick tries to "bond" with both of them post match and it doesn't go that well.

Tara is asked about the match tonight and is asked who she wants to win. Before she can answer Madison pops up and says it's all about her. Tara is told to stay in the back tonight.

We recap Mickie vs. Madison. Tara was forced to leave so Madison brought her back on the condition that she had to work for Madison. Mickie won the title from Madison in about 8 seconds at Lockdown so tonight it's title vs. Tara's contract.

Knockouts Title: Mickie James vs. Madison Rayne

Madison looks hot but her tiara looks like the hat the Pope wears. The religious leader, not Dinero. Tara pops up just after the bell. Well at least we're longer than the previous month's match. We hit the floor quickly and Mickie is sent into the steps. Madison drops her by the hair for two. All Rayne so far. Tara won't hit Mickie when Madison tells her to. Mickie grabs a neckbreaker to get us back to even.

Tara still won't hit her and we get some pinfall attempts. Down goes the referee and Mickie gets kicked in the thigh I

think. Madison revives the old loaded glove trick but Tara steals it away. Mickie can't get the DDT and Madison gets a rollup with a handful of Dukes for two. Mickie gets a flapjack and a nip(ple) up but the Thesz Press takes down the referee again. Rayne Drop can't hit and it's DDT time. Tara comes in with the loaded glove and hits Madison to zero shock and we're done.

**Rating:** D+. Really awkward match here as the ending was exactly what they hinted at the entire time. Tara vs. Madison is up next I guess so I guess Mickie now faces...Winter maybe? I really have no idea but it should be ok I guess. Should be interesting either way I suppose. Yeah I have nothing else to say here.

Fourtune says they'll win tonight. Tonight Max Buck can't be a star if he was thrown by a ninja. Cool line. AJ vs. Dreamer is no DQ. Beer Money makes fun of Harris and says AMW is done.

#### X-Division Title: Max Buck vs. Kazarian

If there are five members of Fourtune, why does the song say Fourtune Four? Technical stuff to start us off with neither guy getting an extended advantage. Kaz is in long tights tonight in a new look for him if my memory is right. Max sends him into the corner but Kaz jumps over him and gets a reverse X-Factor for two. That was a rather smooth looking counter indeed.

The fans aren't that pleased here it seems. Out to the floor with Max in control as he shouts Come On Frankie. Jawbreaker gives Max more control and a dropkick gets two. We hit the mat and Kaz gets beaten on even more. Kaz gets a gutwrench suplex off the middle rope to put both guys down. Spinwheel kick gets no cover for the champ.

Springboard legdrop gets two. Fade to Black is countered so Kaz settles for a jumping neckbreaker for two. Fade to Black

is countered again into a Buckle Bomb as Max takes over again. Elevated DDT sets up a 450 for two. Surprised by that kickout. Kaz punts him kind of and a sunset bomb sends Max head first onto the concrete. That sounded sick. THAT gets two as this is a better match than I was expecting. Fade to Black STILL can't hit but a Shining Wizard ends Buck finally.

**Rating:** B. Match of the night so far and a rather unexpectedly long and decent match. There was zero drama which hurt things a lot here but the match was really quite good. The ending was a bit abrupt but it was still a good outing by both guys which came out of nowhere, which is always a nice perk.

Abyss says it's going to take more than Janice to get rid of him. He keeps going despite everything that's happened to him. The teeth he got knocked out of his mouth were delicious apparently. He has Crimson tonight.

Quick recap of Crimson vs. Abyss says that Crimson injured Abyss and is undefeated. This is revenge time. Simple and sweet I guess.

### Crimson vs. Abyss

They charge at each other after a brief staredown and it's a battle of the big men. Shoulder block takes Abyss down and a clothesline sends him to the floor. Out to the floor as this is mostly just a brawl. All Abyss here. This is one of those slow matches where a lot of the match is one guy (Crimson in this case) laying around while Abyss moves very slowly.

Crimson tries a comeback and a double clothesline puts both guys down. More power man stuff leads to a chokeslam by Abyss for a very close two. And hey it's time for Janice. The referee wisely runs off to the floor instead of DQing Abyss. Since it would be near murder for that to hit Crimson he gets a spear for two.

Shock Treatment doesn't work as Crimson gets a double arm DDT for two. Abyss comes back again and a Vader Bomb gets two. Corner splash misses and Crimson gets a Sky High Powerbomb (Red Sky) to end this. That's a good finisher for him as that Red Alert is almost impossible to hit on big guys.

**Rating:** C. This is a good example of a match that got better with the finish. Abyss not having enough to put Crimson down is a nice addition to his whole undefeated streak. Better than I expected and not bad at all for a battle of the big men. Crimson could be something interesting if pushed right but they need to get him onto something significant quickly.

We recap Beer Money vs. Matt/Harris which is a weird team to say the least. Basic idea is Harris knows Storm so that's their advantage.

Tag Titles: Beer Money vs. Matt Hardy/Chris Harris

The former partners start us off as Harris' tights say America's Most Wanted. The fans chant Braden Walker and it's off to Matt before any contact. The champs take over on Matt as Walker is indeed bigger than he was the last time we saw him. Now it's Harris in against Storm's new "partner". Off to Storm now and Harris runs off as Storm glares at him.

The challengers keep using AMW moves on Storm in an attempt at psychology but the gut of Harris keeps covering it up. Codebreaker out of nowhere puts Matt down but Storm needs a tag. Double tag to ZERO reaction and Roode plays face in peril again. Roode gets his back worked on via a middle rope elbow by Hardy and it's off to a gutwrench.

Finally off to Storm who gets to beat on Harris. Skin the cat sets up an elevated DDT to Harris. Reverse tornado DDT gets two for Storm. He likes those DDTs I guess. Matt breaks up DWI but it's a Backstabber for him. Catatonic doesn't work

and Roode hits a spinebuster to Harris. The Beer Money shout sets up a superkick to Harris but Storm doesn't want to do DWI. Instead it's the Death Sentence (Trash Compactor for you REALLY old school fans) and Harris is done. Matt apparently just walked off and left Harris somewhere near the end.

**Rating:** C-. Just a match here as Harris dragged this WAY down. He's terribly out of shape and his selling and timing were way off. It seems like the Harris thing is probably going to lead to an AMW reunion because that's the best way to use a guy like Storm right? Either way, weak match and not much to write home about at all.

Ray yells at Borash a bit "because he can." JB asks about Dreamer and Ray says it's none of his business. Ray and Dreamer know why Dreamer is doing what he's doing and JB doesn't need to know. Apparently AJ needs to drink, listen to rock and roll and chase women. Ray threatens AJ's family, including implying sex with AJ's wife.

### Tommy Dreamer vs. AJ Styles

Very basic technical match to start and remember that this is no DQ. Why Immortal isn't out there destroying AJ immediately eludes me but whatever. Dreamer takes over for a bit and drops a bunch of elbows. Out to the floor and AJ hits a plancha to take over. AJ pours a soda over Dreamer's head and crotches him on the railing. He slides under the railing and it's forearm time. Love that move.

Out into the crowd because that's just what we do. The fans chant ECW which is I guess what TNA wants to do. Dreamer breaks a cardboard Impact (no wrestling) sign over his head and AJ is bleeding from around the temple. Back to ringside and it's time for some weapons. AJ gets a shot in and there's a table. Table gets set up as the fans want fire. AJ uses the table like a launch ramp for a clothesline in the corner

for two.

DDT by Dreamer gets two as AJ is under the ring ropes. I love little rules like that which are cool while there are all kinds of weapons in the ring. Dreamer finds a fork for a throwback to their I Quit match but AJ blocks it. Dreamer's shirt is off and I'm very glad he has a muscle shirt under it. The table legs are broken but AJ says Dreamer is going through it.

Dreamer gets a shot in and sets for the Dreamer Driver only to get caught with a Pele. Styles Clash is set but Ray comes in with a chain shot to AJ. Daniels comes out for the save but AJ is more or less dead. Piledriver through the table marks the second time that Tommy Dreamer has pinned AJ Styles on PPV. I give up.

**Rating:** C-. Tommy Dreamer has pinned AJ Styles twice on PPV in less than a year. Dude, WHY IS TOMMY DREAMER PINNING AJ STYLES ON PPV??? The match was just ok but at the same time it was nothing past a basic hardcore match and Ray coming in was about as not shocking as anything you could have asked it to be.

We recap the Jarretts vs. Angle/Chyna. Basically Chyna is there to take care of Karen and that's about it. Velvet Sky was the prime suspect and that went nowhere.

Jeff Jarrett/Karen Jarrett vs. Kurt Angle/Chyna

This should be...interesting. Christy points out that it's guy on guy and girl on girl. Those exact words. TNA seems rather sexually frustrated tonight for some reason. Chyna looks like Captain America. We get a vague reference to Chyna and Jarrett feuding over the IC Title back in WWF without saying any of that of course. The guys start because we haven't seen that in awhile right?

Loud Angle chant to start us off as Karen is about to cry. Chyna's Gonna Kill You according to the crowd. Chyna gets tagged in and Karen hides on the floor. Jeff sneaks around and comes in as apparently he's still legal so Kurt doesn't have to be tagged in. Ankle lock goes on but Karen's distraction leads to her being almost fed to Chyna. Gorgeous dropkick by Jeff puts Kurt down.

The fans want Chyna which means she might do a total of one move. Jeff and Kurt do the majority of the work here as you would expect them to. Kurt snaps back into it (OH YEAH!) and a belly to belly gets two. Angle Slam can't hit and it's Rolling Germans time. Jeff takes over again and says it's over. Stroke is countered into the ankle lock but Jeff escapes. Angle Slam hits for two.

Chyna finally gets tagged in and (mostly) slams Jeff. Supelx looks a bit weird and Karen says I love you but no. Chyna goes after Karen in full on stalker mode but Karen walks into Kurt in the ring. Chyna gets her and hits a splash/clothesline in the corner. Pedigree hits and Tenay calls it a DDT. That has to be better than the powerbomb. Ankle lock goes on but Jeff won't let her tap. Angle grabs one on Jarrett and Karen taps.

**Rating:** C. I'm not sure what to grade this so we'll go with it right in the middle. While it wasn't much, this was more or less exactly what they had to do. Chyna isn't tested in the ring recently and Karen can't wrestle so they let the guys have a quick match and let Chyna hit like two moves to end it. The feud is likely going to continue unless they had the weakest blowoff in recent memory. Not great, but exactly what it was destined to be.

We get the same recap video from Impact (I think). Nothing of note here: RVD never lost the title, Sting handpicked him for the rematch.



## TNA World Title: Rob Van Dam vs. Sting

Anderson, in a Packers Favre jersey and with a laptop at the table apparently, is going to sit in on commentary. I think he's doing a live chat during the PPV. No big match intros here. Very basic and technical stuff to start us off which is a theme tonight. Both guys miss moves and Van Dam hits the floor for a breather. That's a borderline heel move.

RVD takes over as Anderson mentions the heelish aspects to him tonight. A spinwheel kick in the corner misses as does a Stinger Splash as we head to the floor. Van Dam tries a leg drop off the railing and hits railing, possibly hurting his knee. Into the crowd again as Van Dam reverses a whip into a wall or something. Anderson makes PG jokes because those haven't been done in SO long right?

Van Dam gets kicked into a guard rail up in the crowd and both guys are down. Sting gets kicked down the stairs and dove on in a cool spot. Back in the ring and it's the kick off the top by Van Dam as this has been the main event brawl so far. Knees to the back counter Rolling Thunder and Sting is fired up. Another Stinger Splash misses in the corner as does the Five Star.

Rollup gets two for Sting and the Death Drop actually hits for...the completely clean pin out of absolutely nowhere. That's one of the most anticlimactic endings I have ever seen in my entire life. Anderson kept running his mouth the entire time and again, absolutely nothing happened here. He has something special for Sting on Impact apparently.

**Rating:** C-. Sweet goodness man TNA can't get a main event to work well for the life of them it seems. Sting winning isn't a shock but there was NOTHING as far as an ending sequence there. Literally Sting grabbed the move, hit it and we were done. No kickouts, not big segment, just a totally clean

win. Not a bad match, but dude, that's it?

Anderson goes to the ring and stares him down and we're out.

**Overall Rating:** C+. This was such a played close to the vest show that it was unreal. It was a decent show and there isn't a bad match on the card, but nothing is great at all and the best match is only good at best, being the X Title match. It's a decent enough show but it's a show that didn't need to exist for the most part. Nothing really happened here and other than Chyna's first match in like ten years, nothing is going to be memorable about this as far as I can tell. Decent enough show though and it held my interest for about 90% of it, but definitely not worth \$40 or whatever it costs.

### Results

Mexican America b. Ink Inc – Sitout Dominator to Neal

Brian Kendrick b. Robbie E – Leg lariat

Mickie James b. Madison Rayne – Pin after Tara hit Rayne with a loaded glove

Kazarian b. Max Buck – Shining Wizard

Crimson b. Abyss – Red Sky

Beer Money b. Matt Hardy/Chris Harris – Death Sentence to Harris

Tommy Dreamer b. AJ Styles – Piledriver through a table

Kurt Angle/Chyna b. Jeff Jarrett/Karen Jarrett – Ankle lock to Karen Angle

Sting b. Rob Van Dam – Scorpion Death Drop

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# Impact – May 5, 2011 – Well They Couldn't Be Good Forever

## Impact

Date: May 5, 2011

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Taz

Episode Title: The Network is Coming

We've got two weeks before Sacrifice and things are starting to take shape before the PPV. The main thing from last week to carry over here is the possibility of Angle's mistress being revealed. Aside from that though there really isn't much to talk about for tonight's show. I'd assume some more matches will be officially announced for the PPV but that's about it. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of the Network issues as Hogan is ticked off about the whole thing. The episode is called The Network is Coming. Gee that doesn't sound familiar at all.

We open with Sting and RVD coming to the ring and see that Immortal is in the ring waiting on them. Snow, Diamond and Brown come out to prevent the fight which the fans want to see. Hogan says that if Sting knows something about the representative, tell him right now. There's going to be a representative here next week and he, no SHE will be here to talk to Hogan face to face.

Hogan tries to charge Sting and Van Dam but D'lo Brown holds Hulkster back. That doesn't last though as Immortal jumps the agents and the fight is on. Fournite comes out to even the sides and clear the ring. Roode takes the mic and says the

usual stuff about Fournune building the company and Hogan/Bischoff cashing in on their work. He thought he knew Hogan but this Hogan has no pride. Roode earns his pay and puts food in his kids' mouth. He's a blue collar worker and has earned what he has. What has Hogan earned?

Roode references Jay Lethal's recent release (called a firing here) and says that Lethal was a guy that did what he asked every single week. I guess that means when he actually got on TV. Roode says his name is Bobby Roode and things are going to start to change next week. Nice to see someone get some mic time in Fournune other than Daniels or Styles.

The Jarretts get Velvet out of the shower and say Hogan has let them issue an ultimatum and she needs to get to the ring now.

Matt Hardy says he was/is one half of the best tag teams of all time. He's going to give someone a call and that person is going to come and the two of them will challenge Beer Money for the tag titles.

### Suicide vs. Sangriento

Suicide controls to start until Sangriento (means bloody or bloodthirsty) gets a DDT onto the apron. And of course a random masked luchador is nothing at all like Sin Cara in the slightest. Sin Cara is an actual superstar in Mexico as opposed to a made up character here.

Suicide hits his usual unique offense which can't keep Sangriento down though. Middle rope dropkick to the back of the head and a rana from the middle rope both get two for Sangriento. Suicide fights back and tries his half breed cousin of the Angle Slam. Sangriento counters and gets a cool looking move as he springboards off the middle rope (think a Lionsault) but goes backwards into a cutter to end this at

3:50. Cool ending.

**Rating:** C. Not much of a debut here but the ending was a fairly unique move which is hard to pull off in today's product. Sangriento is probably going to wind up meaning nothing like the majority of the X-Division guys. Either way though, cool move by taking a guy already on the roster (Amazing Red) and giving him something new to do.

Hogan and Bischoff try to figure out who the representative is and think it could be Flair. Sting said the one coming next week was female but also said that it was a representative and not necessarily the representative so that's not a plot hole.

Back with Mexican America in the ring and it's time for their Cinco de Mayo celebration. They talk about the history of the holiday which is in memory of the Mexican army winning a major battle. Sarita calls in the Spanish announce team and say bring their own tequila, which they happen to have. The team is Hector Guerrero (Eddie's big brother) and Willie Urbina (not sure on the spelling of that).

Anarquia doesn't like Urbina because he's Puerto Rican and not Mexican. They take him down and Hector isn't happy. Anarquia looks a lot like Chavo. The heels threaten Hector and Ink Inc of all people come out for the save. They say get out and hold up the flag. I guess we're just supposed to forget the issues they were having when Shannon was being a jerk?

Christopher Daniels/AJ Styles vs. Bully Ray/Gunner

Gunner is being pushed as the stopper for Immortal. Ray and Daniels start but Daniels tags out almost immediately to let AJ fight Ray but the Bully runs off to bring in Gunner. The good guys work over Gunner until Ray interferes and we enter the tag team formula. Mickie is defending the title against Tessmacher later tonight. She gets a title match why exactly?

After Daniels gets beaten down for a bit it's hot tag to AJ who cleans house, hitting the springboard forearm to Gunner. Pele looks to set up the springboard 450 but Ray breaks it up and everything breaks down. The fans want D-Von as Ray gets his chain. Tommy Dreamer runs in for the save....and piledrivers AJ for the DQ. Tommy Dreamer has turned heel and this is a no contest instead of a DQ for no apparent reason. Ray says good choice and Dreamer doesn't look happy. Match ran about 4:10.

**Rating:** C. Not a terrible match here but dude....Tommy Dreamer? So AJ is now feuding with the ECW guys? At least they let Gunner do most of the work as he isn't that bad in the ring. AJ vs. Ray could be a pretty good blowoff match if they let them fight. Other than that though, nothing of note to see here.

Back and Dreamer is MAD. He's wrecking everything in sight and won't talk to anyone. I'm guessing he wasn't doing that because he wants to.

AJ can't feel his fingers and they're looking for a doctor and ice. Fournite thinks this is about EV 2 or something but they're not sure. AJ says either they get answers or Dreamer is taking a beating.

Matt is on the phone and Ray comes up. Ray wants to know how "he" is doing and Matt says good. Ray says Dreamer did what he has to do to keep himself in this company. That makes things seem a bit better. It's gotten so bad for Immortal they have to get TOMMY DREAMER to help them?

The Jarretts and Velvet are up next.

Winter gives pills to Angelina and says soon she won't need them anymore. Winter talks about their souls connecting when they first met which Angelina doesn't remember. She's crossed eons of time to find her again and Angelina will remember soon. She kisses Angelina on the cheek and says come with

her. This might not end well.

Here are the Jarretts for their weekly continuance of this feud that will not die. They call out Velvet and say that every Knockout has been a champion other than her. I guess the tag titles don't mean anything. More accusations are made by the Karen who says that Velvet is sleeping with Kurt to get herself noticed. Velvet denies it and makes fun of Karen like last week. She's never been champion but that's her goal now. Velvet says she has business to take care of so Karen makes more fun of her for it and somehow makes Winter/Angelina vs. Velvet.

Winter and Angelina come out but before we get going here's Kurt for more talking. Apparently the Network has made the main event a mixed handicap match with Angle/Velvet vs. Jarrett/Angelina/Winter. Is there anyone in TNA that can't make matches?

Bischoff is ticked off in the back when Terry and Murphy come up and say they can help. Eric is all ticked off and makes them fight with the loser leaving TNA.

Back and Crimson is looking for Joe with a metal object in hand.

### Rob Terry vs. Murphy

They slug it out to start and a clothesline doesn't really hurt either guy. Loser leaves TNA/Immortal remember. Murphy takes over until Terry fires back with raw power to a moderate face pop. Other than that the crowd doesn't seem to care. Half belly to back suplex/half chokeslam by Murphy and he goes up top and a top rope clothesline gets two. The announcers say loser leaves Immortal so I'm not sure which it is here. Terry more or less Hulks Up and hits a modified Jackhammer to end this at 3:20.

**Rating:** D. So? Really, so what? I guess at the same time this gets rid of Murphy so that helps a bit. Nothing of note here as it was just a quick battle of power. There's nothing to say here but I guess it lets Terry, who has more potential than Murphy, stick around and have something to do.

Hogan says both of them are out of Immortal. Ok then. He and Bischoff keep brainstorming on who the network person could be as they're running out of time.

Joe is just getting here an hour and 22 minutes into the show. Crimson pops up with a sledgehammer and says the next time someone is beating Joe down he'll turn his head just like Joe did last week. Joe says he never asked for help. Crimson says stay out of his way or else. Joe wants to know if that's a threat and Crimson says take it however you want to.

Knockouts Title: Miss Tessmacher vs. Mickie James

Tessmacher takes the glasses off and bends over to pick them up. Well it's not like she's here for her in ring abilities. Basic stuff here as Tessmacher does gymnast stuff while Mickie walks her through the match. Victory Roll gets two for Tessmacher and she fires the worst enziguri I've ever seen for two. Off to the arm by Tessmacher for a bit before Mickie makes her comeback with a bunch of clotheslines. Neckbreaker sets up a terrible looking jumping DDT to end it at 3:52.

**Rating:** D. Match sucked, girls were hot. That sums up the entire match as that's the entire reason Tessmacher was out there. Mickie can't really do much with this kind of opponent, especially with her shoulder not being 100% still. I can't imagine what Tessmacher is going to do but she looks good so I can't complain that much.



Madison and Tara come out and Madison wants a rematch for the title. Mickie says cool but Tara's freedom is on the line too.

Brian Kendrick, Generation Me and Amazing Red are ticked off about Lethal being fired and are going to see Bischoff about it.

The aforementioned X guys come up to Eric who is getting coffee. They want to know what they have to do to get a shot. Eric says he cares about them and says their solution is to grow about a foot and a half and throws coffee on Kendrick. So we're using the Eddie Guerrero situation in WCW as a storyline now?

We hear from Sting and RVD about the match at Sacrifice. RVD says he deserves a title shot and Sting says he respects Van Dam. Anything can happen there. Somehow that took three minutes to say.

Winter/Angelina Love/Jeff Jarrett vs. Velvet Sky/Kurt Angle

This actually gets big match introductions including a slow bell ring. Winter vs. Velvet to start us off and it's off to Angelina quickly. Nothing Velvet does hurts her until a spear puts Angelina down. Velvet gets in Karen's face which lets Angelina get up and get a boot in as we take a break. Back with Angelina working on Velvet some more and a double team suplex takes Sky down again.

Off to the guys and Jarrett blocks the Angle Slam with an armdrag to take over. Sunset flip is rolled through into the ankle lock and Jarrett kind of taps but it doesn't count. Karen tries to cheat and Kurt pulls her in as he pulls Jeff out from the ropes. Velvet tags herself in to get at Karen but the other chicks beat her down before Karen gets hurt. Double DDT takes the two chicks down and actually gets the pin

on Winter at 8:15 including commercial.

**Rating:** D. Another weak match here as nothing of note happens as we're still waiting to get to the point with the reveal of the chick that Angle has so that we can set up a mixed tag or whatever to continue this already far too long feud. Nothing special here at all and a really weak main event.

Kurt says the chosen one is here next week and isn't Velvet.

Hogan and Bischoff are still talking about the network guy and their car has "You're Next" spraypainted on it. The X guys are behind it and apparently did it with even Eric saying it's not Goldberg.

**Overall Rating:** D. Not the worst show TNA has ever done but at the same time there was a lot of stuff here that bored me to death. The Jarretts/Velvet stuff is going nowhere really and seems like it's just padding before we get to something. Again they're setting up for an Impact rather than the PPV which usually makes for a really lackluster PPV, which is never a good thing. Everything is kind of in neutral at this point as we wait for the reveal of a network executive, who I'm assuming is the big one next week, even though they left a door open to continue it. Weak show here after a string of good ones.

## Results

Sangriento b. Suicide – Springboard Cutter

AJ Styles/Daniels vs. Bully Ray/Gunner went to a no contest when Tommy Dreamer interfered

Rob Terry b. Murphy – Spinebuster

Mickie James b. Miss Tessmacher – Jumping DDT

Kurt Angle/Velvet Sky b. Angelina Love/Winter/Jeff Jarrett – Sky pinned Winter after a DDT