

Dynamite – July 1, 2020 (Fyter Fest Night One): Let's See Them Match It



IMG Credit: AEW

Dynamite

Date: July 1, 2020

Location: Daily's Place, Jacksonville, Florida

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

It's a big night around here as we have arrived at the first night of Fyter Fest. Over the next two weeks, we'll be seeing a pair of big shows for free, which is always one of the best taglines that you can offer. The headliner this week is Cody defending the TNT Title against Jake Hager, which could be interesting. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Chris Jericho joins commentary in a snappy Canada jacket.

Maxwell Jacob Friedman/Wardlow vs. Luchasaurus/Jungle Boy

Marko Stunt is here with the Express. Before the match, MJF talks about how lame the Jurassic Express really is, mainly because he's beaten Jungle Boy so many times. We're in a ratings war and the only person who can save AEW is MJF. It's a brawl to start with MJF being sent to the apron but catching Boy in a reverse Alabama Slam. Before he throws Boy down though he hands it off to Wardlow for a powerslam on the floor.

Back in and the beating continues, with Wardlow and MJF getting in a few shots each. MJF has to dive onto Boy to cut off a tag attempt, so Boy hits an overhead belly to belly. That's still not enough for the hot tag as Wardlow comes in for a belly to back suplex, nearly dropping Boy in the process. Boy slips out of a double belly to back suplex though and rolls over to make the hot tag to Luchasaurus.

Some kicks to Wardlow's head put the monster down but Wardlow comes back with a suplex slam. Luchasaurus gets over for a tag to Boy, who sends MJF outside. Three straight dives take MJF down but it's Wardlow sending Boy over the barricade. Luchasaurus hits a huge flip dive (Jericho: "He just turned from Godzilla into Mothra!"), followed by the Extinction Level Event to MJF back inside. Wardlow makes the save and Luchasaurus powerbombs MJF, who bounces up for a superkick to Luchasaurus.

Everyone is down until they all nip up for a four way standoff. Marko tries to dive at Wardlow, who pulls him out of the air and tosses him onto Boy. Back in and MJF low blows Luchasaurus for two before accidentally hitting Wardlow with the diamond ring (after asking if Wardlow can do anything right). The Tail Whip into a kick to the head sets up a springboard twisting tornado DDT to plant Wardlow again. A chokeslam into a standing moonsault finally finishes Wardlow at 11:02.

Rating: B+. This was a blast of an opener and I'm surprise by

the ending with Wardlow taking a fall. Luchasaurus needed to pick up a win after last week's loss and he did it on a big stage. Couple that with Stunt barely being a completely minor factor for most of the match and it was a great time with few annoyances. Not a bad start.

Next week:....a puppy battle royal?

Video on Hikaru Shida vs. Penelope Ford for Shida's Women's Title.

Women's Title: Hikaru Shida vs. Penelope Ford

Ford is challenging and has Kip Sabian in her corner. Scratch that actually as Sabian gets in an argument with the referee before the match and is ejected before the bell. Shida starts fast and tries the Falcon Arrow but Ford slips out and gets two off a sunset flip. They go outside with Ford being dropped onto the apron for a knee to the face. Back in and Ford sends her face first into the turnbuckle a few times before snapping off a German suplex for two as we take a break.

Back with Shida fighting out of a camel clutch but getting caught in a reverse DDT for two. Shida fights up to win a slap of until Ford is back with a pump kick to put her down. That just earns Ford a fireman's carry into a backbreaker for two, with JR saying Ford has grit. Jericho: "I'M SICK OF THAT WORD!!!" Shida's Falcon Arrow connects but Ford reverses into a rollup for two of her own. Shida hits a running knee to the face for two and goes up for a missile dropkick, with Ford Matrishng backwards to avoid any contact.

Ford goes outside to pick up the title belt, so here's Sabian with a kendo stick. Shida takes it away and knocks him outside, allowing Ford to come back in with a Lethal Injection for two. The moonsault misses though and Shida hits some running knees, setting up the Falcon Arrow for a very close two. Another running knee finally pins Ford at 11:21.

Rating: B. As JR put it, Ford wrestled the match of her life here and it was far better than I would have expected. Ford has showed some great athleticism before but this time she had a very good match to go with it. Couple that with Shida being her usual awesome/great self and this was a heck of a performance and something I wouldn't have bet on the entire time.

Taz breaks down the Paradigm Shift, showing that Jon Moxley won't be able to use it on Brian Cage because Cage is too muscular.

TNT Title: Jake Hager vs. Cody

Cody, in a shirt inspired by the Great American Bash logo (you might not want to remind fans that the other show is on), has Arn Anderson in his corner while Hager's wife Catalina is here. Hager powers him down to start and easily blocks a big boot. Cody's headlock doesn't last long as Hager takes him into the corner to hammer away. The ankle lock is broken up so Anderson yells at Hager for a distraction.

Cody runs the corner for a big dive out to the floor (JR: "You've got to believe the Arn Anderson distraction was structured. Jericho: "OF COURSE IT IS!"). Back in and Cody starts cranking on the leg before switching to a Figure Four. Hager makes the rope so Cody hits the Beautiful Disaster. A second attempt is countered into a powerslam though and they're both down. Hager goes after Anderson on the floor and snaps off a German suplex to Cody as we take a break.

Back with Hager hammering away but going after Anderson again, allowing Cody to post him. They head back in and the Cody Cutter gives Cody two but Hager is right back with a Vader Bomb for his own two. Cody's reverse DDT gets two, as does Hager's belly to belly superplex. The ankle lock goes on and Cody gets the rope, allowing Carolina to slap Cody in the face. Anderson offers a distraction but here's Dustin Rhodes

to deck Hager. The Cross Rhodes is countered into a Rock Bottom and the head and arm choke but Cody reverses into a rollup to retain at 12:13.

Rating: B-. They have to be turning Cody heel soon right? That was about as cheating of a way to retain the title as you can get and hopefully it leads to something a little more interesting. The match was good enough, but as usual, Cody isn't the best choice for the big epic match. That ending wasn't great either as I had to rewind it to see what happened.

Post match Hager thinks he won and punches the referee to blow off steam.

Darby Allin isn't cleared to wrestle, so he skateboards a lot.

Orange Cassidy comes out to put his feet up on the commentary table.

Private Party vs. Santana/Ortiz

Matt Hardy is here with Private Party. Santana sticks his chin out so Cassidy can get in a right hand but it's a dropkick to the floor instead. Marq Quen comes in and plays Matt Hardy for Cassidy's Poetry In Motion to take both of them out. Back in and Quen's middle rope moonsault gets two but Ortiz gets in a cheap shot to take over.

A seated Octopus goes on, with Jericho and JR ripping into Excalibur for his proper name and accusing him of making the name up. Back from a break with Quen fighting out of an abdominal stretch and bringing Cassidy back in to clean house. Cassidy sends them both outside for a corkscrew dive, with commentary giving Excalibur more jabs about the name.

Back in and Private Party is knocked off the top, setting up a super sitout powerbomb. A reverse powerbomb sends Quen face first into the buckle and it's a double belly to back

faceplant for two with Kassidy making the save. The Street Sweeper is loaded up but Quen grabs Santana's headband for the break. Kassidy's Sling Blade into a backbreaker sets up Gin N Juice for the pin on Santana at 10:47. Ortiz's very, very last second save just missed.

Rating: C+. This was pretty good but it wasn't going to hold up compared to the rather solid opening. Private Party continues to be a team with a lot of athleticism but their matches still seem to be more of a collection of moves rather than a structured match. They're entertaining, but I'm not sure I'd call them quality.

Post match Jericho is livid at Orange Cassidy and throws a cup of water on him. Wrestlers come out to separate them with Jericho screaming over and over.

Kenny Omega and Hangman Page are ready to defend their Tag Team Titles against the Best Friends. Page knows the Best Friends deserve a shot but that word goes away when the bell rings. Omega says they'll win.

Here's what's coming next week.

What won't be coming next week is Jon Moxley defending against Brian Cage, which has been moved to Fight For The Fallen on July 15.

Taz and Brian Cage come out and say they're not annoyed about the delay. Moxley is going to be tested whenever he gets in the ring with Cage. The only thing Moxley has a case of is the chickens****. Cage is winning the title.

Tag Team Titles: Kenny Omega/Hangman Page vs. Best Friends

The Best Friends are challenging and are driven to the ring by Trent's mom in a minivan. Ok that's good for a chuckle. Chuck takes Omega down to start with some armdrags and it's an early standoff. Page and Trent come in to collide and forearm it out

before it's back to Chuck for a suplex. Page gets in his own suplex to drop Chuck onto Trent and hands it back to Omega for the Kitaro Crusher. Cue FTR with a cooler to join commentary and we take a break.

Back with Trent being sent hard into the corner but managing to get over to Chuck for the hot tag. The big flip dive takes out both champs and Trent suicide dives Omega. Trent isn't done as he sends Omega into Page against the barricade with Omega getting the worse of it. Back in and Page hits a fall away slam on Trent, followed by a dive onto Chuck. A heck of a lariat drops Trent and Omega is back in to add a fisherman's buster for two. Everything stays broken down with the Champs sending both of them into the corner.

A wheelbarrow suplex drops Chuck and it's Omega's running knee for two on Trent. The Last Call misses and Omega is pulled to the floor, setting up Strong Zero for two as Omega dives back in for the save. Chuck seems to kill Omega with the Awful Waffle but let's stop for a hug. Page is up to deck Chuck and it's a pair of discus forearms to Trent. The sunset driver is blocked but Trent grabs a cradle for two on Page. The Deadeye gives Page two and he has finally had it, meaning it's the Buckshot Lariat to finish Trent at 15:08.

Rating: B. Another good match that surprised me with some near falls I wouldn't have bet on. What matters most here though is Omega and Page continuing on the road to bigger matches against better opponents and there are several to pick from. The Best Friends had some moments here, and hearing JR's disdain for the hug is always worth a listen.

Post match FTR comes in to give the champs beer, but Omega pours his out. The Young Bucks have to come in to break things up to end the show.

Overall Rating: A-. This was a heck of a show with some great action up and down the card and nothing resembling bad

throughout. I'm curious as to what they are going to do next week without the World Title match, but at least they went with the sensible move by moving things around. The first half was excellent though, and hopefully they can at least match it next week.

Results

Luchasaurus/Jungle Boy b. Wardlow/Maxwell Jacob Friedman – Standing moonsault

Hikaru Shida b. Penelope Ford – Running knee

Cody b. Jake Hager – Rollup

Private Party b. Santana/Ortiz – Gin N Juice to Santana

Kenny Omega/Hangman Page b. Best Friends – Buckshot lariat to Trent

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Dynamite – June 24, 2020: IAmJericho?



IMG Credit: AEW

Dynamite

Date: June 24, 2020

Location: Daily's Place, Jacksonville, Florida

Commentators: Jim Ross, Tony Schiavone, Excalibur

It's a week before Fyter Fest but things might be shaken up a bit as World Champion Jon Moxley is missing this week due to Coronavirus fears. I'm not sure what that is going to mean for the future but we'll worry about that if something else develops. I'm not sure what else to expect this week but they have a good enough track record to give me hope. Let's get to it.

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

Wardlow vs. Luchasaurus

Lumberjack match with MJF here with Wardlow and the rest of Jurassic Express with Luchasaurus. They collide to start and Wardlow heads outside for some yelling at the lumberjacks. Back in and Wardlow hits a running shoulder to the ribs to send Luchasaurus outside. After a beating from the lumberjacks, Luchasaurus is fine enough to escape a suplex and

fire some kicks to the ribs.

A suplex takes him down and it's time to rip at the mask a bit. Luchasaurus comes back with a legsweep and the standing moonsault for two before heading up top. Wardlow is right there with him for a top rope superplex for his own two. A knee to the face doesn't do much to Wardlow, who is right back with a running hurricanrana. That just earns him a Spanish fly and they're both down.

Wardlow rolls to the ramp and Luchasaurus follows, where he is planted with a powerslam. Jungle Boy tries to interfere and gets thrown into the pile of lumberjacks. Stunt dives onto everyone for going after Boy as Wardlow and Luchasaurus fight up the ramp. Brandon Cutler tries to get involved but gets tossed off the stage. Stunt does the same and gets the same result, followed by a Tail Whip to knock Wardlow onto the pile.

Luchasaurus shooting stars onto everyone as JR wonders when someone is going to try to win the match. Back in and Luchasaurus hits a chokeslam but MJF offers a distraction. Jungle Boy spears him through the ropes to the floor, allowing Wardlow to get in a low blow. The F10 finishes Luchasaurus 9:16.

Rating: C+. The spots were entertaining enough but there was only so much you can do with the focus being on the lumberjacks for some fairly long stretches. The ending keeps Luchasaurus safe and makes Wardlow look like a monster, but this was there for the sake of two monsters doing big spots on each other. That worked well enough and it was entertaining while it lasted.

Taz breaks down how Brian Cage does the Drill Claw. Hint: it involves being really strong.

After a rundown of what is to come tonight, Britt Baker sends Tony a note, asking for a diagnosis of Luchasaurus' green

tongue. She also now has a branded Plexiglas case around her special chair.

Hikaru Shida vs. Red Velvet

Non-title and Shida gets in an argument with Penelope Ford on the way to the ring. Ford gets in a slap but the referee won't let Shida cane her. Running knee and Falcon Arrow finish Velvet at 13 seconds.

Post match Shida goes after Ford and the brawl is on. Shida even knocks down Kip Sabian and they're finally broken up.

Earlier today, Cody and his very, very large entourage had a press conference for his TNT Title defense against Jake Hager. Arn Anderson talks about how Jake Hager wasn't the right opponent for Cody at the moment but he wanted to fight him anyway. Cody is going to be ready to fight the tough monster. As for Cody, he sees the TNT Title as hope and talks about how he doesn't like cosplay wrestling. Cody talks about the title not being complete and Hager finally arrives. They pose and who I believe is Hager's wife throws water in Cody's face. They're done, after the completely realistic press conference.

Joey Janela and Sonny Kiss stop at a gas station where Joey goes inside to get food. Some guys bother Kiss and try to get in a fight with him, causing Joey, with Lunchables purchased, to come out for the save. They both could get used to this.

Sonny Kiss/Joey Janela vs. Brodie Lee/Colt Cabana

Kiss snaps off an early headscissors and handsprings into a slap in the corner. Lee runs him over though and beats up Janela as well. Cabana comes in gets caught in a Hart Attack. Lee breaks up something close to a Muta Lock and the rest of the Dark Order offers a distraction. The confused Cabana adds a splash for two on Kiss and we take a break. Back with Janela getting the hot tag and Death Valley Drivering Cabana.

Kiss and Janela hit moonsaults off the top to take out Lee and Cabana. Back in and Cabana gets hit with a top rope splash from Janela, plus a 450 from Kiss. Lee makes the save but gets sent to the floor. Cabana reverse a Doomsday Device into a victory roll for two so Kiss dives onto the rest of the Dark Order. Lee kicks Kiss in the face but can't quite catch Janela's suicide dive. Back in and the discus lariat blasts Janela, allowing Cabana to get the pin at 9:11.

Rating: D+. The sloppiness was hard to ignore here with some spots clearly missing and other moments where someone was just standing there so someone could do something. Cabana having some success thanks to the Dark Order is interesting, but I'm not sure I can imagine him doing a full heel turn.

Post match the Dark Order leaves so here's Lance Archer to jump Janela and Kiss. Jake Roberts says save it for someone more important.

We look at Shawn Spears using a loaded glove to win last night on Dark.

SCU vs. FTR

Christopher Daniels and Kazarian for SCU here and it's Harwood working on Kazarian's arm to start. Wheeler comes in to stay on the arm and everything breaks down in a hurry. Everyone falls out to the floor and we take a break. Back with Kazarian making the hot tag off to Daniels but Harwood cuts him off and suplexes Daniels onto Kazarian. The slingshot suplex, and a Four Horsemen pose, drop Daniels again. Kazarian grabs Daniels' hands to block a sunset flip but Wheeler breaks it up. Wheeler keeps going by turning over a small package to give Harwood two.

Back up and Kazarian hits an Unprettier for two on Wheeler but Celebrity Rehab is countered into a catapult to send Daniels into the corner. The Veg O Matic gets two on Daniels but Kazarian is back in for the powerbomb/neckbreaker combination

for two on Harwood. Daniels hits a jumping knee to put Harwood on the floor but walks into the Goodnight Express for the pin at 12:33.

Rating: B-. There's something interesting about FTR being billed as this old school tag team but mainly doing more old tag team spots here in the middle of the usual lack of tags chaos. It was still entertaining, but I'm hoping we get some more of the actual, you know, tagging involved in a tag match. Good enough match though and FTR getting another win is a good thing.

Post match FTR talks about all the teams that they want to face in AEW, with the Young Bucks at the top of the list. Cue Butcher and Blade in FTR's truck but here are the Lucha Bros behind them. Butcher and Blade issue a challenge for an eight man tag at Fyter Fest with the Bucks joining FTR and the match is accepted. The Bros beat FTR down with the Bucks make the save. Butcher and Blade and the Bros steal the truck.

Video on Kenny Omega and Hangman Page being oddballs. The Best Friends don't know how Page and Omega can be best friends when they don't even drink the same. Omega and Page aren't best friends, but they're a great team and that's what matters. Page: "Them boys are good. I mean, we're gonna whip their a**, but they're good."

Video on Brian Cage vs. Jon Moxley.

Brian Cage vs. Joe Cruz

Tazz is on commentary as Cage throws Cruz around to start and then curls the guy in his arms. There's an overhead belly to belly as JR makes sure to get Cruz's name in in case his family is watching. A toss powerbomb from the ramp to the ring plants Cruz again and the Drill Claw finishes at 1:23.

Post match Taz grabs his mic and asks where Moxley is. He finds him in the camera and yells about how Moxley his hiding

at home with some fake excuse. Cage is taking the title at Fyter Fest and is more dangerous than anything Moxley has. Can Moxley stop the path of Cage? Taz got a little tongue tied in there a few times but he got the point across.

Cabana and Lee are happy with their win as Lee tells him how important it is to bounce back. Lee wants one more chance to show him what it means when they face SCU at Fyter Fest. Colt isn't sure about that but seems to go along with the idea.

We run down the Fyter Fest card.

Baker sends Schiavone a note about Big Swole putting her in a dumpster for NINE AND A HALF HOURS but Swole is still the biggest piece of trash in AEW> Swole comes in but Baker laughs her off and has an appletini. Baker tells her to go steal someone else's star power so Swole climbs onto the truck and pours trash onto Baker.

Santana vs. Matt Hardy

Ortiz is here with Santana. Moxley and QT Marshall missing the show due to the Coronavirus has been mentioned but there is no explanation for why Santana is taking Sammy Guevara's place. It's Broken Matt here, complete with Neol. Santana drives Matt into the corner to start and actually gives us a clean break. As Baker is throwing trash at commentary (much to Tony's annoyance), Santana gets backdropped to the floor. Matt presses Santana's head against the post and literally opens his eye before whipping him into the barricade. Back in and Santana gets in a cheap shot and we take a break.

We come back with Santana flipping out of a side Effect and planting Matt with a spinning Rock Bottom. A Lionsault gives Santana two but he misses the frog splash (which would have missed even if Matt hadn't moved), allowing Matt to send him into all of the buckles. The Side Effect gets one on Santana, with Ortiz shouting that Matt "WANTS YOUR FOOD!". Another Side Effect gets two but Santana is back with a running Samoan

driver. Santana cradles Matt for two but he reverses into a cradle to put Santana away at 10:54.

Rating: C+. Matt is another good example of someone who is a lot better when he drops the insanity and just wrestles. He does a lot of interesting stuff but he is still more interesting when he is himself. It worked for a long time and while I get that he wants to be creative, sometimes it's better to just be yourself.

Post match Ortiz helps Santana beat Matt down until Private Party makes the save.

Here are Orange Cassidy and Chris Jericho for a showdown. Jericho asks why the chicken crossed the road. To get to the other side of course. That's a joke that people have heard before and while it was amusing at first, it becomes more and more annoying over time. Orange Cassidy is the chicken crossing the road joke and it's ticking Jericho off (this sounds vaguely familiar but I can't quite place it).

Jericho has watched some of Cassidy's stuff and yes there is a unique presentation and like Brian Pillman said, you have to be different to make it in wrestling. Then Cassidy got out of his lane and messed with Le Champion. He better be the best Orange Cassidy he can be at Fyter Fest, and if he tries those kicks to the shin, Jericho will knock him out in thirty seconds. Cassidy better reach into his pockets and pull out a man sized miracle because Jericho is knocking the juice out of him at Fyter Fest. Jericho: "Now that's a funny joke."

Cassidy takes the mic, thinks about saying something, and lays it down. Now we get the slow motion shin kicks and the hands in the pockets. Jericho breaks Cassidy's sunglasses and the fight is on with the two of them heading outside. They go into the stands and slug it out until Jericho swings a camera into his face. Cassidy fights back though and Superman Punches Jericho off a railing through a table to end the show.

Overall Rating: B-. This wasn't as good of a show as they've been doing lately but as I've said before: if this is their bad show, they're going to be just fine. They were focusing on some rapid fire build towards Fyter Fest here but with the top of the cards set, going through the undercard this fast isn't a problem. The wrestling wasn't as good this week, though that wasn't the point either. Not a bad show at all, and I did get a chuckle out of Jericho thinking the same way I do. I guess IAmJericho? Anyway good enough show this week.

Results

Wardlow b. Luchasaurus – F10

Hikaru Shida b. Red Velvet – Falcon Arrow

Brodie Lee/Colt Cabana b. Joey Janela/Sonny Kiss – Discus
lariat to Janela

FTR b. SCU – Goodnight Express to Daniels

Brian Cage b. Joe Cruz – Drill Claw

Matt Hardy b. Santana – Rollup

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Dynamite – November 20, 2019: The Wait Is A Good Thing



IMG Credit: All Elite Wrestling

Dynamite

Date: November 20, 2019

Location: Indiana Farmers Coliseum, Indianapolis, Indiana

Commentators: Jim Ross, Tony Schiavone, Excalibur

This should make for an interesting week as Chris Jericho is set to make a huge announcement. That very well may be something about his cruise, but it could be something coming a little sooner. Other than that we should be in for our usual big show, though you never can tell what that is going to bring. Let's get to it.

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

The announcers run down the card and preview the show. Thankfully they kept it short, as should be the case with something like this.

Nick Jackson vs. Fenix

This is Jackson's first singles match in about four years. Nick shoulders him down so Fenix is right back up with a dropkick to the face. A backflip off the apron lets Nick avoid a 619 and they head to the floor

to start the luchaing. Neither can hit a DDT on the floor, nor can they hit dropkicks inside so the fans give them a big ovation. Fenix goes up top for a very twisty wristdrag to put Nick back on the floor.

They quickly change places and Nick has to bail out of a springboard flip dive off the top. That lets Fenix hit a cutter on the floor and they're both down. A big Swanton gives Fenix two back inside but he misses the rope walk kick to the head. Nick strikes away to set up a bulldog and a running knee to the head gets two. A super hurricanrana is good for the same, plus a very big reaction from the crowd. Back up and Fenix nails a superkick, only to have Nick kick him in the face a few times as well.

Fenix nips right back up for a superkick of his own and then falls down. Nick is sent to the apron for a rope walk hurricanrana, followed by another rolling cutter for two back inside. They head to the apron again with Nick hitting a kick to the head into a German suplex to drop Fenix to the floor. Back in and a slingshot Canadian Destroyer gets two and the Sharpshooter has Fenix screaming. That's broken up and so is the Tombstone so Fenix kicks him into the corner. A running kick to the face sets up the Black Fire Driver to finish Nick at 11:55.

Rating: B+. I'm not big on the Bucks matches but this was the kind of back and forth all action match that these two are made to have. I had a good time with this and it was more proof of the value that the Lucha Bros have. They can't have a bad match at this point and it works either as singles or tag wrestling. Heck of a match here and all kinds of entertaining, which I always expect from Fenix. Jackson does do a great high speed offense and that was on full display here.

Post match Fenix walks away from the offer of a handshake.

Britt Baker vs. Hikaru Shida

Shida gets the frustration going to start but misses a big kick to the face to give us a standoff. Baker can't get Lockjaw so she punches Shida in the face and we take a break. Back with Shida using a chair to hit a running knee to the face on the floor. They head back inside with Baker's nose busted open but still being able to pull Shida off the top to send her arm first into the rope.

A pumphandle facebuster gives Baker two and a hanging DDT is good for the same. Shida is right back with the running knee to the face and mixes things up a bit with a running knee to the face, only to get caught in the first half of Lockjaw. A foot on the rope gets her out of trouble so Baker settles for two off of a fisherman's neckbreaker. Shida is right back with a Falcon Arrow for two and ANOTHER running knee to the head finishes Baker at 9:55.

Rating: C+. Shida is growing on me in a hurry but she needs to figure out something other than that running knee. It's her V Trigger and while it isn't quite as repetitive, it is turning into a big portion of her offense. Throw a kick to the face or even a forearm but find something else. Either way, she is pretty clearly on her way to a title shot as Baker loses again, which seems to be the case for her in bigger matches.

Video on the Dark Order, who seems to want you to join them. This feels like a commercial for the group, which is a lot better than just having them be weird because they look weird. It's the first thing that makes me even somewhat interested in the team so well done on the change of pace.

Dynamite Dozen Battle Royal

Adam Page, Chuck Taylor, Kip Sabian, Jimmy Havoc, Jungle Boy, Pentagon, Sonny Kiss, Marko Stunt, Joey Janela, Maxwell Jacob Friedman, Orange Cassidy, Billy Gunn

The final two entrants face off next week for....a ring? I wonder if this is how they're getting to a midcard title. Christopher Daniels pops up for a distraction and it's Pentagon being thrown out early on. Daniels and Sabian go through the ropes to the floor and it's time for Kiss to dance in front of Gunn (because he's a certain kind of man). MJF throws Kiss out and Gunn isn't happy, so everyone jumps on Gunn. He throws them all off and gets rid of Havoc, who comes back in with the staple gun because that's what we need in a battle royal.

Referees get rid of Havoc and we look at him leaving for a good while. Back from a break with things having slowed down a lot, including having Janela gone due to some Shawn Spears interference. Gunn no sells Sabian's chops and unloads with right hands. Cassidy is left for the showdown and

that means the hands in the pockets. The weak kicks ensue and Gunn has no idea what is going on....so MJF throws Cassidy out for the big heel heat.

MJF backs into Gunn, who says that's twice now. A SUCK IT into the Fameasser lets Gunn throw him to the apron but MJF holds on. Cue Wardlow for a distraction so Page can get rid of Gunn. It looks like we're down to Taylor, MJF, Page, Sabian and Boy, though I would bet on someone being down on the floor. Page cleans house until he runs into a raised knee from Chuck. Penelope Ford grabs Taylor's foot though and it's a Disaster Kick to get rid of Taylor. Boy hits a big running hurricanrana to get rid of Sabian but it's MJF sneaking back in to pull Boy out, leaving MJF and Page as the winners at 10:14.

Rating: C. The big conclusion here: MJF is the best heel in wrestling and it isn't even close. I remember listening to John Hennigan on Steve Austin's Show and he gave his basic definition of psychology: faces give fans what they want and heels don't let them have what they want. That was on full display here with MJF not letting the fans have Kiss, Cassidy or Gunn (thanks to his bodyguard at least), and the fans hated him as a result. That's how you get a heel over and it works to perfection for him.

Post match MJF and Page have to be held apart. They'll meet for the ring next week.

Chris Jericho and Jake Hager run into the Librarians...and we take a break.

Here are Jericho and Hager for a big announcement. Jericho talks about snapping last week and how unbecoming that is for a champion. He tries to apologize but it's the Fonzie issue (I would say look it up but if you don't know the Fonz, I have no use for you) of not being able to get the word "sorry" out of his mouth. Hager says sorry for him, in a rare moment of speaking.

Anyway, next week Jericho is going to get his THANK YOU from everyone next week. He wishes the celebration would be here in Indianapolis but they have enough sports teams anyway. Next week it's going to be a big Thanksgiving celebration, including gifts, an aquarium and maybe even some clowns. Jericho declares Indianapolis a dump and goes to leave but

here's SCU to cut him off. Scorpio Sky talks about how great Jericho is....but Sky pinned him last week. Fans: "YOU GOT PINNED!"

Sky celebrated all weekend and is even getting to go on a date with his high school crush, Melanie Parsons. Jericho: "I've seen Melanie Parsons, and she's gained a lot of weight since high school!" Sky doesn't seem to mind but Jericho gets back to the point: he thinks it's cuter than baby Yoda that Sky thinks he got one over on Le Champion last week. Jericho even offers a singles match next week but Daniels says they need time to train. Like a month or two for a training camp!

That doesn't work for Jericho, who demands it take place next week. Kazarian says we need to make sure it is NOT for the title because Jericho would get too nuts if it was on the line. Sky agrees he does not deserve a title match....but Jericho wonders what would happen if it was a title match. Jericho: "GUESS WHAT! YOU GOT IT!" And he even forces a handshake, but Sky pulls him in for the big smile. Sky says he's been waiting fifteen years for a chance like this and promises to turn Le Champion into Le B****.

The fight is on with the Inner Circle running in to take care of SCU. Daniels and Kazarian are handcuffed to the ropes and the beatdown is on, including Brandon Cutler and Michael Nakazawa who try to make a save. Cue the Jurassic Express for the save, thankfully with Marko Stunt being taken down with a single clothesline. Jungle Boy has some better luck but it's Luchasaurus for the big staredown with Hager. The watch comes off but Hager bails, because Luchasaurus is the monster that AEW has been needing.

Peter Avalon vs. Luchasaurus

Before the match, Avalon says Luchasaurus looks healthy because life has found a way. Don't worry though because he's about to turn the fossil into motor oil. Kick to the head and the reverse powerbomb (I've always thought that would be a great finisher) finishes Avalon at 30 seconds. They know what they have here and that's a great sign.

Pride And Powerful vs. Private Party

Can they just be Santana and Ortiz? That's what their name graphic says so drop the pretty bad team name. Private Party hangs a Matt Travis shirt (wrestler who was recently killed in an accident) over the ropes for a great touch. Even Santana and Ortiz, who have a history with Travis, approve in a touching moment. Santana takes Kassidy into the corner to start and it's time for some grappling. Some facewashing has Kassidy annoyed and we take an early break.

Back with Santana coming in again and sending Quen into the corner. Quen's springboard is broken up and it's a super Russian legsweep into a DDT from Ortiz. The dead lift bridging German suplex gets two and it's time to work on Quen's back. Some rolling suplexes into a very delayed suplex...hang on as Santana hands the upside down Quen off to Ortiz for more delaying...and another hand off back to Santana just to show off a bit more.

They trade off a third time until it's finally a Falcon Arrow to give Ortiz two. A Boston crab stays on the back and we take another break. Back again with Quen reversing Ortiz's bearhug into a rollup, with Quen flipping forward into the corner for the hot tag to Kassidy. Everything breaks down and Kassidy hits a big moonsault to the floor to take out Santana. A slingshot Code Red (not as impressive after Jackson did a slingshot Canadian Destroyer earlier) gets two with Santana making the save.

Quen takes Santana out but his back gives out to break up Silly String. A kick to the face gets two on Kassidy and it's a cutter out of the corner for the same. Santana busts out the slap jack but here's Nick Jackson to take it away. Kassidy is back up with an enziguri to Santana and Gin and Juice is good for the pin at 15:05.

Rating: B-. It's a good match and Private Party gets a big win that they have been needing, even though Santana and Ortiz losing should have come later. The commercials didn't help things either as they kept taking me out of the match. I did like the story with Quen's back and the speed with which they set up that finisher was very impressive. Good match, but they needed to adjust some things.

Post match it's Sammy Guevara jumping Nick Jackson until Dustin Rhodes comes in for the save. Dustin grabs Sammy's phone for some filming of his own in a funny addition.

We run down next week's stacked card.

Kenny Omega is training to face Pac and traces back all of his issues to the loss at All Out. Jon Moxley took care of the scraps but Pac started all of this. Next week he gets a chance to fix things and the road to redemption begins. Double the weight on the bench press. On one side. That whole thing must weigh 100lbs now.

Darby Allin vs. Jon Moxley

Allin has a big, special entrance this time with a video of a Moxley body bag being crowd surfed. Allin is then carried to the stage in said body bag for a creepy visual. Moxley comes in through the crowd so Allin takes him down with a dive. They fight into the crowd, including a Thesz press onto the concrete to Moxley. Allin gets thrown back to ringside and an overhead belly to belly makes things even worse for him.

They head inside for the opening bell and Allin hits a shotgun dropkick in the corner. Allin's high crossbody bounces off of Moxley though and it's another shotgun dropkick to put Allin in the corner this time. Moxley even chills on the top rope as we take a break. Back with Moxley letting go of an STF, allowing Moxley to hit a running crossbody to the floor. Moxley's hand is slammed into the steps but he gets knocked off the top, landing on the ropes in the process.

Moxley knocks him to the floor but stops to pick up the body bag, allowing Allin to hit a running flip dive. Back in and a heck of a clothesline turns Allin inside out and it's time to put him in the body bag. Allin isn't having that and hits a Stunner, only to get caught in a swinging Boss Man Slam. The Paradigm Shift is blocked and a missed charge into the corner lets Allin get two. Code Red gives Allin two but the Coffin Drop is countered into a rear naked choke. Allin flips backwards for the near fall and Moxley heads up, bites Allin on the head, and hits a SUPER PARADIGM SHIFT (Allin sold it like death too) for the pin at 11:15.

Rating: B. That ending alone makes this work as Allin got dropped HARD on his head for one of the best looking endings in a long time. Allin has become a star during his time with AEW and that is something they had to do. He is the kind of guy who you can point to and say that AEW is creating stars and the more of those they can do, the better they are going to be. Moxley winning here is good too, as he needs to build up his record quite a bit.

Overall Rating: A-. This was one of the most enjoyable shows they have done so far with nothing coming close to being bad. They had some very strong matches throughout the night and the Jericho vs. Sky promo was quite good. I'm liking some of the names that they are building up too and that should make for a bright future. Maybe it was watching this the next day, but dang I had a good time here and it was one of the best things I've seen from AEW yet.

Results

Fenix b. Nick Jackson – Black Fire Driver

Hikaru Shida b. Britt Baker – Running knee to the face

Maxwell Jacob Friedman and Hangman Page won a battle royal last eliminating Jungle Boy

Luchasaurus b. Peter Avalon – Reverse powerbomb

Private Party b. Pride And Powerful – Gin and Juice to Santana

Jon Moxley b. Darby Allin – Super Paradigm Shift

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Ring of Honor TV – April 17, 2019: The NWA Is The Way



IMG Credit: Ring of Honor Wrestling

Ring of Honor

Date: April 17, 2019

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

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Caprice Coleman

The fallout from Supercard of Honor continues to be delayed as we're still not quite ready to get to New York yet. As usual, that means we could be going in a variety of ways as you never know what sort of things this company will throw at you. Odds are it won't be storyline based though, which can get old after awhile. Let's get to it.

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

The Briscoe Brothers aren't happy with having to qualify for the Crockett Cup. That's cool though, as they'll throw someone a beating tonight to make it in. After tonight though, they're not responsible for what

happens.

Opening sequence.

Shane Taylor vs. Luchasaurus

Shane yells a lot and they take turns shoving each other in the face. Luchasaurus' kick to the legs gets on Shane's nerves so he chops the heck out of Luchasaurus' chest. Some more kicks have Taylor in trouble but a right hand on the apron sets up a hanging Stunner for two.

Back from a break with Shane shrugging off a knee to the face and getting two more off a chokeslam. The Snake Bites (anklescissors faceplant) into the Shining Lizard (yep) gives Luchasaurus two of his own and they trade the big shots to the face. One heck of a clothesline blasts Luchasaurus for two more but something like Black Mass rocks Shane again. A chokeslam sets up a standing moonsault to Shane's raised knees and Shane blasts him with a knee of his own. Greetings From 216 finish Luchasaurus at 8:11.

Rating: C+. Shane can have some awesome hoss fights and while this one was good, it wasn't quite up to the levels of his fights with Jeff Cobb. Luchasaurus is a great monster, though having him lose here doesn't do him a ton of good. I could see Shane being a great monster for someone to slay, though I'm not sure who that someone would be.

We look at Silas Young cheating to beat Jonathan Gresham last week.

Young and Gresham get in an argument in the back but they're separated pretty quickly. A rematch is teased for later.

Sumie Sakai/Mayu Iwatani vs. Katie Forbes/Mazzerati

Tenille Dashwood is on commentary and announces that she is cleared to get back in the ring (which ring isn't specified). Forbes is debuting here (she was at the Impact United We Stand show and didn't exactly stand out). She's also rather, ahem, hippy and that seems to be the main focus of her existence. Mazzerati slaps Iwatani in the face to start so it's a fast paced Japanese armdrag to take Mazzerati down.

Since Mazzerati realizes how far in over her head she really is, it's off

to Sumie vs. Forbes for a change. Katie shoves her into the corner so Sakai kicks her in the foot (which seems to take three tries for Forbes to get the hint) and hits the Mongolian chops in the corner. Forbes hips her in the head and follows with a handspring hip attack in the corner. A Stinkface (yeah you get the idea) sends us to a break with the announcers calling this "terrible".

Back with Mazzerati kicking Sakai in the knee and getting frustrated at the kickout. The legdrop misses so Sakai gets in a running knee but Forbes intercepts Iwatani on the floor. Sumie grabs a fisherman's neckbreaker to drop Mazzerati again and this time the tag works just fine. Everything breaks down and Iwatani springboard wristdrags both of them at once. Dashwood: "I can do that but I just hold it back."

Iwatani's middle rope missile dropkick sets up a missile dropkick to give Sakai two. Forbes fireman's carries both of them at once and does some squats before hitting the Samoan drop. There's no cover so Iwatani superkicks Forbes, leaving Mazzerati to take Smash Mouth for the pin at 10:00.

Rating: D+. I would go into a little more on Forbes but I'd be surprised if she's brought back. Her entire thing was the hips and that got annoying in a hurry because it feels out of place around here. Forbes wasn't working for me and the act wasn't great when it started and aged even faster. Mazzerati needs more work but there's potential there. Just keep her away from Forbes, who was the big problem with the match.

PJ Black is impressed with Bandido and doesn't like the cheating ways.

Crockett Cup Qualifying Match: Jeff Cobb/Willie Mack vs. Briscoes

This could be good. Mark and Mack chop the heck out of each other to start and you know they're both cool with that. A crossbody takes Mark down and a knee to the head makes it even worse. Cobb comes in for his very delayed vertical suplex and the Briscoes are in trouble. Jay comes in to face Cobb and we take a fast break.

Back with Cobb charging into Jay's elbow in the corner and a double elbow dropping him again. Some knees to the head and an elbow of his own put

Jay down and they head outside. Mark isn't that patient though and hits a big dive onto both of them to put Cobb back in trouble. Jay fires off the hard shoulders in the corner and a snap suplex (with some trash talk to Mack) has Cobb in rare trouble.

A dropkick gets Cobb out of trouble, because a 280lb Olympic wrestler can throw a great dropkick, and it's the hot tag bringing in Mack. The reverse Cannonball gets two on Mark but Jay sends Mack into something close to a Claymore for two. We take another break and come back with Mark headbutting Mack in the corner with some surprising success. The neck crank goes on for a bit but Mack hits a pop up Downward Spiral (that's a new one). The tag brings in Cobb but Jay comes in without a tag of his own in what seems like a bit of chicanery.

Cobb suplexes both of them in a row and then does it at the same time to show off. A standing moonsault gets two on Mark, who is right back with a Pele of all things. Jay's crazy hard lariat gets two as Mack is back to life for the latest hot tag. Mack hits a Samoan drop into a standing moonsault for two on Jay and it's time to head outside. Since Mack and Cobb can never get together, Mark hits a running Blockbuster off the apron to drop Mack again.

Back in and Mack is fine enough for a t-bone suplex for two but walks into the Doomsday Device. Cobb shoves Jay into the cover for the save and breaks up Redneck Boogey for a bonus. The Stunner into a swinging German suplex sets up Mack's frog splash for two on Mark in a great false finish. Jay grabs Mark to block the Tour of the Islands so it's Mack and Mark chopping it out again. Mack hits a running big boot but Jay comes back in for a hurricanrana into the Jay Driller. Just in case, Mark drops the Froggy Bow for the pin at 19:44.

Rating: A-. I dug the heck out of this one as they were nailing it throughout with an energy you don't get around here very often. The best thing I can say about it though was that it felt like an old NWA main event tag. Back in the day you would have a random pairing against a regular team (usually the Horsemen or the Midnight Express) and they would tear the house down with an awesome match. Cut about three minutes out of this and it's even better, which is quite the accomplishment.

Check this one out, and probably the Crockett Cup too.

Overall Rating: B+. The main event is more than enough to carry this one as far as it needed to go, though the rest of the card doesn't exactly live up to that level. I want to see the Crockett Cup though, which is about all this show needed to do. They need to get to the main stories though because this isn't going to be the norm for these shows.

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