

Ring Of Honor TV – May 26, 2021: It Worked For NXT

Ring of Honor

Date: May 26, 2021

Location: UMBC Events Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Caprice Coleman

Last week's show felt a bit more unique with a nice mixture of stuff so hopefully they can keep it up here. I'm never sure what to expect from this show, but they have been surprising me enough lately. The match quality has been better as well so maybe they can keep that up too. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Quinn McKay is back, thanking everyone for her support and promising to have another match. We get the card run down as well and we're ready to go.

Matt Taven has been attacked and his ankle is hurt again. The Tag Team Title match tonight might be a little bit in trouble.

Fred Yehi vs. Rocky Romero

Pure Rules and the World Famous CB is on commentary. During the entrances, Yehi wonders if he is pure or anti-pure, while Rocky is ready for Yehi. They go slow to start with some grappling on their feet, followed by a bit more on the mat. Yehi takes him down and cranks on the neck, which is enough to send Romero bailing to the corner and us to a break. Back with Romero hitting a shoulder block and grabbing a headlock as the first gear continues.

Yehi gets a headscissors on the mat but Romero reverses into a headlock, which actually sends Yehi to the ropes for his first

break. A slugout goes to Yehi, who steps on Romero's hand to slow him down. A lifting wristlock keeps Romero's arm in trouble and it's time for more cranking. We take another break and come back again with Romero having to throw his way out of a sleeper. Yehi doesn't seem to mind and hooks a fisherman's suplex for two. Romero pulls him into a cross armbreaker, meaning it's time for the second rope break.

A t-bone suplex sends Romero down to set up the Koji Clutch, meaning Romero needs his first break. We have less than two minutes to go as Romero snaps the arm over the top rope. A dropkick to the back gets two but Romero still can't get the cross armbreaker with a minute left. Yehi gets the legs tied up and pounds on the ribs, followed by a sliding kick to the head. The Koji Clutch makes Romero tap at 14:44.

Rating: C+. This was a pretty good technical exchange but there is something about Romero's style that keeps me from getting into his matches. There are times where he's rather good but this felt like one of those same matches which have never held my interest. It was not bad in any way, but it feels like a performance instead of a match and that keeps it at a certain level.

Matt Taven's ankle is screwed up but he isn't letting a title shot pass by.

Here is Flip Gordon to say he is sick of waiting because he wants his World Title shot (which he has earned) at Rush. Instead he gets EC3, who comes to the ring, says Gordon has been warned, and leaves. Yeah....still not feeling EC3 in Ring of Honor at all.

The Foundation is ready to defend the Tag Team Titles but Jay Lethal comes in to mention Taven's injury. Lethal isn't happy with this but the fact that Taven wants to wrestle shows how much this means to him. The champs seem down.

Tag Team Titles: OGK vs. Foundation

OGK (Matt Taven/Mike Bennett) are challenging Rhett Titus/Tracy Williams. Bennett and Williams start things off with Williams taking him down by the arm without much trouble. The headlock doesn't last very long so Williams takes him down by the leg. Cranking ensues but Bennett reverses into an armbar of his own. Taven comes in for an elbow to the back of the neck but the ankle gives out, meaning it's time for a trip to the floor.

Back from a break with Bennett bringing Taven back in for a dropkick into a chinlock. Titus gets smart by going after the ankle, with Williams cranking on a half crab. A chinlock with the knee in the back has Taven in more trouble before it's back to Titus to stay on the leg. Some knees to the neck and shoulder set up a chickenwing as Williams likes to mix up his submissions. Taven gets away and brings in Bennett for the rapid fire chops, followed by a hammerlock DDT to Williams.

A Death Valley Driver plants Williams as everything breaks down. Titus gets superkicked into a spear for two and we take another break. Back again with Williams forearming Taven down for two with Bennett making the save. The DDT onto the turnbuckle rocks Taven again but he manages a legsweep for a breather. Bennett comes back in and cranks on the ankle lock as everything breaks down again.

Williams puts Taven in a half crab as Bennett armbars Titus, allowing them to stare at each other and slap each other at the same time. That is broken up so a pair of piledrivers put everyone down. Bennett and Williams forearm it out but Taven breaks it up. That earns him a kneebar but Bennett makes a save. Taven misses a middle rope crossbody and Titus clotheslines him into a piledriver from Williams to retain the titles at 19:28.

Rating: B. This got the time that it needed and they told a nice story with the ankle slowing Taven down. The injury was the main focal point and it gets even better when you have

Williams, who can pick apart anyone even when they are healthy. It was a good story and the action backed it up, as you probably expected.

Respect is shown post match. The champs leave and Taven is frustrated. Cue Vincent on the screen to say that HE is Matt Taven, with commentary confirming that Vincent attacked him. You mean Taven's archenemy is the person who attacked him before a big match? How shocking.

Overall Rating: B-. Pretty lame reveal at the end aside, this was another good show as they don't try to do anything more than set some simple goals and then accomplish them. That is what made NXT work so well and Ring of Honor is making it work too, because it is a good formula. This was another solid show and Ring of Honor continues to be one of the easiest shows to watch every week.

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Ring Of Honor TV – April 14, 2021: When Did They Do That?

Ring of Honor

Date: April 14, 2021

Location: UMBC Events Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Caprice Coleman

We are on the way to the 500th episode and that is going to be a heck of a show once we finally get there. Other than that though, you never know what you are going to see around here and that is a good thing, at least most of the time. I'm curious to see how they are going to do with the big one, but I'm also curious to see what they have with another normal one. Let's get to it.

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

Quinn McKay runs down the card.

Delirious (with necessary subtitles) talks about how much Rocky Romero means to wrestling. This includes giving Delirious a scar above his eye and since that scar is forever, it might make him hurt Romero.

Rocky Romero is back after losing the Pure Title Tournament and is ready to beat someone from his past. They have a history together and Romero is ready to win the Pure Title, which he could defend elsewhere. Since that should make him a heel around here, I'm relatively sure that it won't.

Delirious vs. Rocky Romero

Pure Rules and we hear about how Romero is representing New Japan. They go technical to start with Romero grabbing a full nelson to take over. That's broken up but so is the chinlock so the grappling continues. Delirious' headlock takeover keeps

Romero down for a bit but he is right back up to grab Delirious' rope. The threat of a half crab sends Delirious over to the ropes for his first break so he tries to grab the wrist for a change.

Romero sends him outside so Delirious comes back in with his series of forearm. A running clothesline drops Romero again but they both miss a series of clotheslines. Romero nails one of his own and we take a break. Back with Delirious working a hammerlock as commentary talks about the show being on longer than Nitro. It passed that years ago so wouldn't "longer than Nitro and Thunder combined" sound better?

Delirious is back with cobra clutch so Romero goes straight for the rope for the fast break. Romero grabs an armbar, sending Delirious to the ropes for the second break. That's fine with Romero, who hits a missile dropkick while Delirious is still in the ropes for two. Delirious is right back with a fisherman's buster for a much needed breather.

The Cobra Stretch goes on but Romero slips out in a hurry, only to be clotheslined down for two. Delirious grabs a backbreaker and puts the clutch on again but Romero backflips over for two more and a break. They slug it out with a minute left and Delirious punches him down for two more. Back up and Romero flips him over into a cross armbreaker for the tap at 14:51.

Rating: B-. I'm not a fan of either guy but they did their thing here rather well. They played the time limit angle up by the end and I wasn't sure who was going to pull it off. Good stuff here, and it felt like a wrestling match, which is exactly what they are shooting for with the Pure Rules stuff.

Respect is shown post match.

We look at Brody King debuting his own stable (Tony Deppen/Homicide/Chris Dickinson) to go after La Faccion Ingovernable.

The Briscoes talk about how they were supposed to fight each other last year at the Anniversary Show but the pandemic happened. Then EC3 got Jay's attention so Mark got PCO to go after the Tag Team Titles. That was a waste of a title shot though, meaning it's time for them to fight at the 500th episode.

Rey Horus has been pulled from the main event but Mexisquad is a trio so Flamita is in instead. That needed a meeting?

Jay Lethal is ticked off and ready for Mexisquad tonight. Jonathan Gresham doesn't seem to be as fired up, but that is a hard level to reach.

Foundation vs. Mexisquad

Jonathan Gresham/Jay Lethal vs. Flamita/Bandido and that sounds rather interesting. Lethal and Flamita start things off with Flamita armdragging him down. That's fine with Lethal, who pops back up for the basement dropkick. Gresham comes in for a headlock and then snaps off a heck of an armdrag to put him on the floor. Bandido comes in and sends Gresham outside so Lethal can come in as well.

This time it's Bandido taking Lethal into the corner so Flamita can come in with a top rope ax handle to the arm. The Squad has some communication issues though, allowing Gresham to grab a German suplex. Gresham cranks on Flamita's leg and it's off to Lethal for an armbar. Lethal stays on the hammerlock and it's back to Gresham for a seated abdominal stretch. The Octopus doesn't work so Bandido tries an enziguri...which hits Flamita.

It isn't much of an enziguri though as Flamita is fine enough to kick Jay down and bring Bandido back in to pick up the pace. A dropkick to the back breaks up the Lethal Injection to Bandido but Flamita drops Bandido to mess up a double team. Flamita blames the arm but the fight is on anyway, allowing Gresham to take out Flamita on the floor. A powerbomb sets up the Figure Four, with Flamita taunting Bandido instead of making the save. Bandido has to tap at 13:45.

Rating: B. They told the story of the breakup here and that is exactly what they were going for the whole match. I liked what we got here and that is not surprising given how much talent was in here. The Squad didn't go flying around as much as they usually do and it worked out well anyway. They're that good, and the Foundation can have a solid match against anyone, so this shouldn't be a big shock. Rather good stuff here.

Flamita walks out on the team to end the show.

Overall Rating: B+. This was a pretty great TV show and that is a good sign going into the big milestone show next week. They are on a roll and know how to make something like this work. Ring of Honor has sneakily turned into a heck of a weekly show and this was one of their better editions in a little while. Rather good show here with both matches worth checking out.

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Major League Wrestling Fusion

– February 17, 2021 (Filthy Island): The MLW Ultimatum

Fusion #122

Date: February 17, 2021

Location: Filthy Island, Hawaii

Commentators: Dan Lambert, Tom Lawlor, Jared St. Laurent, Rich Bocchini

It's time for a special event as MLW offers their take on UFC's Fight Island. As long as we don't have to deal with another Fyre Fest joke, I'm all for trying something new, as MLW is getting weaker and weaker every show. The main event is a long awaited showdown between Low Ki and King Mo. Let's get to it.

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

We get a disclaimer that MLW assumes no liability on the show.

Tom Lawlor tells Dominic Garrini that there is a problem with catering (no), meaning there is no spam. Lawlor sends him down to the port and hands him a bottle of something. Garrini: "You want me to drown him?" Lawlor: "It's for you." Garrini stares into the camera.

Opening sequence.

Commentary welcomes us to the show and runs down the card. This could be a rather long night.

The ring, which has no ropes or ring skirts, is surrounded by trees and there are some people (Fans?) on a couch. Music is handled by a guy with a boom box. I've seen worse.

Mauna Loa vs. Dominic Garrini

Loa looks a bit like Blue Meanie (in a grass skirt but minus

the blue) and Lambert calls Lawlor out for the low rent talent. Loa runs him over and hits a splash for an early two, sending Garrini out to the floor for a consultation with commentary. Back in and Garrini chokes him out at 39 seconds.

There is going to be a jungle fight later on between Savio Vega and Mil Muertes. In the jungle.

Los Parks are ready to defend the Tag Team Titles against Contra on March 3. LA Park also wants Alex Hammerstone's National Openweight Title.

Commentary previews the main event.

We look at the first Low Ki vs. King Mo fight.

Azteca Underground now has its own website.

The Dynasty isn't overly impressed with Hawaii but are ready to make it work.

We recap Salina de la Renta trying to buy out IWA from Savio Vega, who says no. Her bosses at Azteca Underground aren't happy and Mil Muertes is coming.

Commentary is scared of the Jungle Fight but Salina de la Renta has sent in a note. The boss of Azteca Underground promises blood will be spilled. It's signed El Jefe, which should make you rather interested if you're a Lucha Underground fan.

Kevin Ku vs. Zenshi

Dominic Garrini is here with Ku...who is taken down by Zenshi diving out of a tree. Zenshi dropkicks him to the floor and ducks some kicks to the head back inside. A kick to the ribs slows Zenshi down and a half crab goes on. Since there are no ropes, Zenshi pulls himself to the post for the break instead. Ku stands on Zenshi's throat for a bit, only to have Zenshi come back with a quick rollup for two. They strike it out

until Zenshi nails a Pele for two and follows with some more kicks to the head. Ku's half nelson suplex is countered with a backflip but a running cutter is countered into a dragon suplex to give Ku the pin at 4:59.

Rating: C. This was where the weird environment came into play and it might not have been for the best. Above all else it felt more like a fight than a match, which may be the idea of the show but it doesn't mean it works out so well. Not much to the match but you knew Team Filthy was going over here, as that's kind of the point of this week.

The Von Erichs can't be here tonight but they want Low Ki to win to show up Tom Lawlor. Maybe they'll show up anyway.

We go back to the jungle where Savio Vega yells at Salina de la Renta, only to get jumped by Mil Muertes. More on this later.

Next week: MLW Underground rather than Fusion.

TJP sits down with Alicia Atout and is tired of losing so many tag matches with Bu Ku Dao. He likes teaming with people but Dao has been dragging him down by not knowing what winning time is. No he isn't a bully because Dao can't carry his end. Alicia says Dao looks up to him, which TJP attributes to Dao being 4'11 (TJP: "Maybe 5'5 with the hair."). That's enough of the interview.

Gringo Loco vs. Rocky Romero

Loco is listed as being "super over in Cancun." Romero throws his jacket to one of the "fans" on the couch and we're ready to go. Feeling out process to start and they go with the test of strength into the flipping exchange. A tilt-a-whirl backbreaker gives Loco two and we hit the double arm crank. Back up and Romero grabs a flying mare but Loco runs him over with a clothesline.

A leglock with an arm crank has Romero in trouble for all of five seconds and Loco's chops just fire Romero up. A running hurricanrana takes Loco to the floor but he's right back in to drop Romero onto the couch. The big dive knocks Romero and the couch over and sets up a reverse DDT for two back inside. Loco misses a cartwheel moonsault but he's fine enough to hit an enziguri. Romero grabs a Stunner on the arm and a tornado DDT gives Romero the pin at 8:50.

Rating: C. Romero is a guy I can never predict as sometimes he's rather good, sometimes he's rather awful and sometimes he's so completely average that I can barely bring myself to care about what he does. That was the case here, as he had a completely run of the mill match and I couldn't get into it. It certainly wasn't bad, but it was kind of there.

Back to the Jungle Fight, which is a bunch of walking and brawling...until Contra hacks the feed.

Contra doesn't like Injustice.

We look at more of Low Ki vs. King Mo.

The Von Erichs are diving to Filthy Island. Shouldn't that be boating?

Here's what's coming over the next few weeks.

More Muertes and Vega. This time they're choking and walking around until Muertes hits him with a crowbar. Salina says finish it and Muertes gets the pin. This was a big waste of time.

More Low Ki vs. King Mo.

Tom Lawlor gives the Dynasty ringside seats but Hammerstone wants Gatorade and Spam thrown in.

Here's the Top 10.

10. Jordan Oliver

9. Calvin Tankman

8. Myron Reed
7. Mil Muertes
6. Richard Holliday
5. Mads Krugger
4. Low Ki
3. Lio Rush
2. Tom Lawlor
1. Alex Hammerstone

King Mo vs. Low Ki

They go straight to the slugging in the clinch but Mo takes him down to the mat for a leglock. Another leglock has Ki in trouble but he reverses into a choke. Mo reaches for the non-existent ropes....and the referee says that's a tap (it was close) at 1:34.

Lambert is ticked and Team Filthy jumps Ki. The Von Erichs make the save and Team Filthy is cleared out to end the show.

Overall Rating: C-. I'm really not sure what to think of this show anymore. This was one of their unique ideas and it was just there. They did some weird hybrid of a UFC knockoff (not a bad thing) and MORE OF THE FYRE FEST NONSENSE so this was a mixture of disappointing and annoying. That has been the case for a long time now and that has me doing something I don't like to do.

During the show, a calendar was shown with the big matches coming on the next two shows. If MLW can't do something in there to make me more interested in the show, I think I'm dropping it from the schedule. It took me more than a few days to make myself care enough to watch this show and that shouldn't be the case. I could use the extra time to do shows I want to do so I'm giving them the next two weeks. Hopefully they fix it, but I'm not sure I can see it happening.

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Major League Wrestling Fusion – November 25, 2020: Just Like Last Time



IMG Credit: Major League Wrestling

Fusion #111

Date: November 18, 2020

Location: Gilt Nightclub, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Jared Saint Laurent, Rich Bocchini

I'm not sure what to make of things around here. Last week's show wasn't

the worst but it also didn't exactly live up to the expectations I was hoping for around here. It's time to start the Opera Cup again and while it's a nice idea, it's not like the first one was a blow away idea. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a quick preview of tonight's first round Opera Cup matches.

Opening sequence.

We look at the end of last week's show with a new member of Contra attacking Alex Hammerstone.

Earlier today, Richard Holliday didn't think much of Contra and promises that Hammerstone will be fine. He runs into Gino Medina, who claims he quit the Dynasty while Holliday insisted he was fired. Medina implies violence by the end of the night.

Opera Cup First Round: TJP vs. Richard Holliday

Holliday has the Caribbean Title held up but makes it clear that this is non-title. The bigger Holliday shoves him down without much effort to start so TJP runs the corner for a headlock takeover. A basement dropkick sends Holliday bailing into the corner for a breather and the threat of the Octopus sends Holliday to the ropes a moment later. We settle down to TJP working on a hammerlock, followed by an armdrag to frustrate Holliday even more.

TJP slips out of a suplex attempt and hits a dropkick to the back. Holliday is knocked outside and that means it's the Wrecking Ball dropkick to keep him in trouble. Back in and TJP gets crotched on top to finally give Holliday control. Holliday starts stomping away at the leg before switching over to the arm. TJP is right back up and slides through the legs to grab a Sharpshooter. Make that a Muta Lock, followed by a Pentagon arm snap.

Holliday's arm is fine enough to drop TJP onto the apron but TJP snaps off a top rope hurricanrana. Holliday plants him back down and grabs the chinlock, which is enough to start TJP's comeback. A not great looking

tornado DDT sets up Three Amigos but Holliday hits a spinebuster. The Market Crash finishes TJP at 10:25.

Rating: D+. Not their best showing here as it was just a collection of moves that took up about ten and a half minutes. I've seen better from both of them so maybe it was just an off night. Either way, this wasn't quite the best way to start off the tournament, which isn't exactly thrilling in the first place.

The Von Erichs wish you a happy Thanksgiving. They're coming for Team Filthy too.

We look back at Myron Reed retaining the Middleweight Title over Brian Pillman Jr. and calling out Lio Rush as his next challenger.

Lio Rush likes the idea of a big debut with a big title shot.

We look at King Mo knocking out Low Ki (thanks to some interference) earlier this year.

King Mo wants the doctors to keep Low Ki out of the ring because his head is too scrambled.

Dan Lambert wants to know why Low Ki is in the Opera Cup but King Mo isn't.

Salina de la Renta interrupts the announcers and wants to know who tried to get her contract broken. She is running the January 6 episode and no one is canceling that.

Calvin Tankman vs. Robert Martyr

This is Tankman's debut and he's a rather large guy who can move around well. Tankman starts fast with a dropkick and chops Martyr down in the corner. Martyr runs into a backbreaker and the Tankman Driver (Drill Claw) finishes at 1:14. Total destruction.

Tankman dedicates that to his baby and now he wants to beat everyone in his path to the World Title. That was to the point.

Alex Hammerstone has ribs, neck and back injuries.

Hammerstone calls in and says the injuries aren't even keeping him out of the gym, let alone the ring. Contra hacks the feed though and promises to end Hammerstone.

Opera Cup First Round: Rocky Romero vs. Tom Lawlor

Team Filthy is here with Lawlor and I've missed the I HAVE COME TO KILL YOU theme. Romero blocks an early takedown attempt and grabs a headscissors on the mat as the grappling begins. Romero's rollup gets two and it's off to a cravate, which Lawlor reverses into one of his own. That doesn't go anywhere either so Romero grabs a headlock to slow things down.

Lawlor wins a battle of shoulder blocks but Romero dropkicks him to the floor. A running knee off the apron drops Lawlor again and we hit the chinlock back inside. There's the Octopus to have Lawlor in even more trouble so he slowly walks to the ropes. A headscissors takes Lawlor down but he pulls Romero into a bow and arrow hold. With that broken up, it's a Hennig necksnap into a sliding clothesline for two on Romero. Lawlor grabs a Fujiwara armbar before switching to a double arm crank.

That's reversed into something like a crucifix with a Crossface (that's a new one) with Lawlor making it over to the rope. Lawlor starts cranking on the leg until Romero uses the good one for an enziguri. Romero's guillotine choke is countered into an exploder suplex but he's right back with another tornado DDT.

Lawlor gets tied in the ropes for a middle rope stomp to the back. A running Sliced Bread gives Romero two but Lawlor is right back with Lars Sullivan's Freak Accident. They strike it out until Lawlor gets two off a backslide. With the rear naked choke not working, Lawlor uses his legs to grab a cradle for the pin to advance at 17:43.

Rating: B-. Good back and forth match here which might have gone a bit longer than necessary. The most important part here though was that it felt like an important match with Lawlor hanging in there to win in the end over a game Romero. It wasn't a classic, but it did what it was supposed to do and worked well enough.

Post match Lawlor says he is coming for the Opera Cup to add his name to the list of winners.

Overall Rating: C. This was almost all about the tournament and Contra, which seems like it could be the case for a long time to come. Much like last week, what we got here was fine though it wasn't anything memorable. MLW has a tendency to not have the big fight feeling and that has been the case so far. Maybe they need more time, but it isn't exactly promising so far.

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up the paperback edition of KB's Complete 2004 Monday Night Raw Reviews (also available as an e-book) from Amazon. Check out the information here:

<http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2019/08/26/new-book-and-e-book-kbs-complete-2004-monday-night-raw-reviews/>

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Ring Of Honor TV Results – September 23, 2020: They Have A Point



IMG Credit: Ring of Honor Wrestling

Ring of Honor

Date: September 23, 2020

Location: UMBC Events Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Commentators: Caprice Coleman, Ian Riccaboni

It's the second week of both the return and the Pure Title tournament and things have gone pretty well so far. Having a tournament under these circumstances is one of the smartest (and only) thing that they can do but it's better than nothing. If it lives up to last week, they're going to be just fine. Let's get to it.

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

Quick look at the tournament.

Opening sequence.

Quinn McKay welcomes us to the show and throws us to a clip of Jay Lethal defeating Dalton Castle last week.

Lethal says that's the first step towards becoming the first ever two time champion. He doesn't care who he faces next week because he wants the best.

We look at the end of Jonathan Gresham defeating Wheeler Yuta.

Gresham says no one is stopping him and it doesn't matter who he is facing next week.

David Finlay talks about being part of a big wrestling family but he was

never forced to stay in the business. Then he went into the New Japan Dojo and was started from scratch because they break you down. He hasn't been in Ring of Honor since January 2019 because he hurt his shoulder against the Briscoes and missed eight months. Finlay has been working on a variety of offense, including a leg submission.

Rocky Romero talks about everything he has done in Ring of Honor and everyone he has shared the ring with over the years. He loves the idea of the Pure Title tournament because it is everything he loves about wrestling. Romero has wrestled Finlay because and knows all of his weaknesses and strengths. The experience is what is going to matter here though because he has done this for a lot longer than Finlay. Romero is going to win the tournament and put it on his resume, but Finlay is just going to be a footnote.

Pure Title Tournament First Round: Rocky Romero vs. David Finlay

They trade standing switches to start and that's an early standoff. Finlay headlock takeovers him down but Romero is back up with a headscissors. They go to the corner where Finlay gets in a kick to the ribs, setting up the chinlock. We take a break and come back with Finlay getting two off a dropkick and faceplanting him down. The camel clutch goes on, with Finlay switching it into a cobra clutch for a change.

Rocky fights up into a springboard tornado DDT for the break though and it's time to kick away at Finlay's shoulder. Romero goes up and drives a middle rope knee into the arm. Sliced Bread is broken up and Finlay slams him into the ropes, with Romero's knee getting banged up.

The leglock goes on but Romero reaches over to use his first rope break. The slugout goes to Finlay but Romero is right back with Sliced Bread for two, plus a warning for a closed fist. Romero slaps on the armbar with kicks on the face but Finlay gets his feet on the rope for the break. Another Sliced Bread is countered into a backbreaker and Finlay hits a Last Shot for the pin at 13:03.

Rating: C+. I'm not much of a fan of either of these two but they had a rather nice match here. This was more what the idea of the tournament was supposed to be and they made it work out rather well. It's nice to see

someone younger get the win and Finlay will probably get something from a match against Jay Lethal in the next round.

Matt Sydal talks about having a mind, heart and soul advantage over everyone here. He took Tae Kwan Do and his foot has a big calcified growth on his foot thanks to an injury to make his kicks even worse. When he was starting with wrestling, Delirious was the first person to open his eyes to see how much more there was to this world. They had a match in 2004 and it meant so much to him. Now he needs to win the title to honor those who came before him.

Delirious, with subtitles, talks about being in Ring of Honor for sixteen years but never winning a title. He is a completely different breed and now things are going to change. This is a different Delirious because there is no crowd to make laugh so he is coming in as a beast. He and Sydal first met in 2004 and they have both won over the years. They are different but they are the same and there is no Delirious without Sydal. Delirious is in the tournament because he is bored and wants to be the best in the world.

Pure Title Tournament First Round: Delirious vs. Matt Sydal

The more muscular than usual Delirious dives after Sydal's leg to start and it's time to grapple. With that broken up in a hurry, it's off to a test of strength for a change of pace. They go back to the mat with Delirious' leglock being countered into a headscissors, which is countered right back into the leg hold. Sydal reverses into another headscissors but Delirious snaps the arm over the top rope, which counts as a rope break. Delirious is smart enough to stay on the arm and we take a break.

Back with Delirious holding a short arm scissors but having used a rope break while we were away. They run the ropes into a double clothesline, followed by some kicks to the face to give Sydal two. Sydal kicks him in the legs and head for two more but Delirious is back with a cobra clutch suplex. They go into a pinfall reversal sequence until Sydal slaps on Delirious' cobra stretch for the tap at 9:57.

Rating: C. This was a bit shorter than I was expecting but you don't have

to stretch things out a long way to get nice results. Sydal winning is fine as Delirious is kind of the designated wrestler if Ring of Honor is in need of a name. It works out well enough and the match was completely watchable, even with a surprise ending as Sydal is now in AEW.

Overall Rating: C+. They have something nice going on with this tournament and we could be in for a nice long run of matches as a result. It's very structured and given ROH's history with storylines, that is hardly the worst idea. As has been the case for most promotions restarting, it's much more about getting ANYTHING out there so while the tournament may not be for everyone, it's a lot better than nothing.

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Ring of Honor TV – March 20, 2019: In Which Long British Names Don't Make Up For A

Boring Show



IMG Credit: Ring of Honor

Ring of Honor

Date: March 20, 2019

Location: RP Funding Center, Lakeland, Florida

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Colt Cabana

It's time for things to get a little weird as we have the post-pay per view show taped before the pay per view, meaning we won't be getting any kind of fallout. In other words, it's going to be all about the wrestling and I'm not sure what that's going to include. Hopefully they have something good here so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Shinobi Shadow Squad vs. Silas Young/Briscoes

Oh this is going to hurt. Eli Isom and Jay start things off with Eli actually taking over for all of two seconds off a front facelock. A kick to the ribs cuts him down though and it's off to Mark as the announcers tease spoiling a pay per view that hasn't happened yet in a clever enough chat. Cheeseburger comes in and gets clotheslined as we take a break.

Back with Young clotheslining Burger as well before handing it off to Mark for a camel clutch. A missed charge lets Burger roll away a few times and the hot tag brings in Isom to pick up the pace. White Noise

gets two on Jay but it's the Death Valley Driver into the Froggy Bow....for two? The strong pushing of Isom continues and gets even stronger as his brainbuster hits Jay for another near fall. The Briscoes are done with him and come back in for a High/Low into the Jay Driller for the pin at 9:14.

Rating: C-. The more I see of Isom, the more I like him. There's no reason for him to be anything more than a jobber but he's trying hard and getting a bit of a push as a bonus. That's nice to see and the fact that he's an average sized person and not Cheeseburger sized makes it better. There was no way the villains were losing here, but at least there was a nice moment or two.

Rhett Titus is ready to win the NWA National Championship from Willie Mack next week.

Joe Keys and Brian Johnson are in the ring and don't like the ugly women here in Florida.

Joe Keys/Brian Johnson vs. The Bouncers

Keys wants a posedown with Bruiser, who starts a BEER chant instead. A test of strength lets Bruiser hit him in the face and an atomic drop has Keys in the corner. Another chop sends him crawling over to Johnson and the jobbers get Bruiser into the corner for a double stomping. A double slam gets one on Bruiser, who gets over to the corner for the tag to Milonas without any trouble. Everything breaks down and Closing Time finishes Joe at 5:19.

Rating: D. This was a mostly squashy squash and that's not the most thrilling thing in the world. I'm still not wild on the Bouncers but at least they're now just there for the fun matches instead of anything important. This was a fun match for the crowd and while the jobbers got in a little too much offense, this could have been worse.

Madison Rayne doesn't like Thunder Rosa disrespecting the Women of Honor.

Willie Mack is defending his National Title in all fifty states and next week Florida will be state #5.

Madison Rayne vs. Thunder Rosa

Sumie Sakai and Holidead are the seconds and Rayne charges to the ring and starts hammering away. A running forearm has Rosa in more trouble but Rayne and Sakai have to drop Holidead, allowing Rosa to take over. Back in and a kick to the back has Rayne in trouble and we take a break. We come back with Rayne hitting an enziguri but getting pulled down into a chinlock instead. That goes nowhere so Rayne is up with a spear, followed by another enziguri for two. Rosa hits a Gory Bomb for her own near fall but the reverse DDT gives Rayne the pin at 9:15.

Rating: D+. I still don't care much for the women's division, but at least they're putting out some fresh talent. It's still not the most thrilling in the world and Rayne is leaving, though at least there's someone new out there. Rosa and Holidead should be pushed stronger, even if there's nothing they can do because the Women's Title scene is kind of a mess.

Coast to Coast is back next week.

Rocky Romero vs. Zack Sabre Jr.

Feeling out process to start with Sabre taking over on the arm as only he (and I mean that literally) can. Romero gets out with a dropkick to the floor but Sabre is back in to work on the leg. Make that the arm again as Sabre switches up in a hurry. Another dropkick gets Romero out of trouble again so this time Sabre goes after the neck as we take a break. Back with Sabre still toying with Romero and grabbing a crossarm choke.

Romero reverses into one of his own, followed by a tornado DDT for his first real offense. A springboard crossbody gives Romero two and there's a kick to the face for a bonus. The forever lariats in the corner are countered into an STF but Sabre tries to make it a little too flashy and Romero makes it to the rope.

Sabre does his cocky kicks to the face so Romero takes him into the corner for a running knee to the ribs. A DDT gets two and Romero wins a slugout, followed by a running Sliced Bread for two more. The Sliced Bread in the corner is countered though and Sabre pulls him down into

Hurrah! Another Year, Surely This One Will Be Better Than the Last; The Inexorable March of Progress Will Lead Us All To Happiness for the win at 13:44.

Rating: B-. Sabre is one of those once in a generation talents with some of the most incredible holds you'll ever see. Romero....I don't get it. I know he's a much bigger deal in Japan but I don't ever remember seeing him do anything better than average in the ring. Sabre's insane stuff worked well here, but it was just a one off match for a special main event due to Sabre's appearance.

Overall Rating: C-. These shows are the definition of hit or miss as you never know what you're going to get. This was all about wrestling and it wasn't very good for the most part, including some lame long form squashes and nothing that meant anything long term. It wasn't terrible, but nothing that you needed to see whatsoever.

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Ring of Honor TV – December 20, 2017: Now This Could Work

Ring of Honor

Date: December 20, 2017

Location: RP Funding Center, Lakeland, Florida

Commentators: Colt Cabana, Ian Riccaboni

We're past Final Battle but we won't be getting to the fallout from that for at least a few weeks. It's hard to say what we might be getting tonight but there's a good chance that we might be having a Best Of show or a bunch of matches taped from other shows. This could range anywhere from a waste of time to something entertaining so let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

Addiction vs. Coast to Coast

They start fast with Daniels taking a double flipping faceplant as the announcers discuss Final Battle without actually mentioning any specifics in a nice touch. We settle down to Kazarian chopping Ali in the corner until it's off to Daniels for some face raking of his own. Back from a break with more of the same, including Kazarian's slingshot legdrop, followed by Daniels' springboard moonsault.

Ali fights out of the corner and Angle Slams Daniels, finally allowing the hot tag off to LSG. A double front flip clothesline takes Addiction down and a springboard spinning forearm nails Daniels. Ali's Downward Spiral plants him again but Kazarian breaks up Coast to Coast's Coast to Coast. Daniels' Backstabber into the Unprettier takes Ali down, only to have LSG springboard back in with a clothesline. The Best Meltzer Ever finishes LSG at 9:38.

Rating: C+. I like Coast to Coast but would it kill them to A, limiting the Meltzer stuff to one team and B, having a tag match that doesn't turn into a wild brawl after a few minutes of actual tagging? That was how this stuff went in ECW and it was annoying there too. This is supposed to

be the wrestling company and for some reason they can never go even a good chunk of a tag match without this stuff going haywire. It would be nice for a change.

Post match LSG says he's tired of losing because they haven't won a single major match in a year. Ali says they're done if they lose their next match. LSG agrees.

Shane Taylor vs. Eli Isom

The massive Taylor shoves him around to start and hits one of the loudest chops I've heard in years. One heck of a clothesline sets up a right hand to knock Isom cold for the referee stoppage at 2:45. Now that's how you get Taylor over as a killer. I always love the guy who is knocked out with his eyes open, unable to move but basically in shock from the impact. It's a great visual.

The Young Bucks have brought their best friend for a six man tag. Marty Scurll comes in but they're talking about Kenny Omega.

It's time for Coleman's Pulpit with special guest Brandi Rhodes. She plugs being on the cast of WAGS: Atlanta and Coleman compares her to Sapphire. Brandi is ready for the Women's Title tournament, even though she hasn't won any matches yet. She used to be a figure skater so she knows about competition. As usual, nothing worth seeing here. Well save for Brandi, who continues to be stunning.

The Elite vs. Best Friends/Rocky Romero

Now you know Omega is getting a superstar pop here. Matt and Romero get things started with Rocky not being able to hit Sliced Bread. It's off to Omega vs. Chuckie with Kenny asking for silence during the handshake. Barretta jumps Omega from behind though, thankfully just definitely making the Elite the faces for once. The One Winged Angel is broken up and everything breaks down in a hurry. Elite cleans house (well duh) and it's a triple dive so we can hit the pose.

Back from a break with the Bucks actually in trouble, including the Two Dog Night into a big hug. Matt gets in a springboard spinning cutter to

drop Romero and the hot tag brings in Nick to clean house. A Swanton hits knees though and Barretta gets in a running knee. The Dude Buster is broken up and the hot tag brings in Omega for another big reaction. Back to back Snap Dragons have the bad guys (I think?) in trouble but a tornado DDT cuts Omega off.

The V Trigger is broken up but we hit the Superkick Party. Rocky superplexes Nick though and Barretta German superplexes Matt onto him in a moonsault. Barretta's snap piledriver gets two on Omega and we take a second break. Back again with Omega hitting the V Trigger but Barretta piledrives him onto the apron. Nick German suplexes Barretta onto the apron, only to get caught with Sliced Bread onto the pile at ringside.

Back in and Romero cleans house with running shots in the corner, followed by a kick to Nick's face. Omega misses a V Trigger and gets caught with something like a running reverse cutter. The Bucks are back up to clean house and Romero is caught in a Sharpshooter/Crossface combo (The Cease and Desist. It's funny because it makes fun of WWE you see.).

Nick is thrown into them for a break though and it's time for a triple slugout. Triple superkicks stagger the Friends but triple jumping knees into triple cradle piledrivers get two on the Elite. A super Dudebuster gets two on Nick but Omega breaks up a double Sliced Bread. Matt and Omega load up Tombstones with Nick dropkicking down onto the two of them. A One Winged Meltzer into the Cease and Desist (with a horrible Crossface) ends Romero at 20:53.

Rating: B+. If you can ignore all the pre-planned stuff, this was a heck of a fight with everyone moving at a very fast pace the whole way. They were beating the heck out of each other, but there's one much more important thing: the Elite wrestled as faces, which takes away one of their biggest issues. It gets very tiresome watching the group wrestle as faces but being presented as heels, especially when they wrestle a face style. Let them do what feels natural and see how much better it works.

Overall Rating: B. The main event is almost half of the show so there's only so much you can criticize around here. This is the kind of stand alone episode that is always going to work and there's nothing wrong with

that. We can get to the fresh stuff later on and as long as you have a big attraction like Omega or something big in general, things will be fine.

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Ring of Honor TV – September 20, 2017: Such Blatant Plagiarism

Ring of Honor

Date: September 20, 2017

Location: Center Stage, Atlanta, Georgia

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, BJ Whitmer

It's the go home show for Death Before Dishonor and that could mean multiple things. One option is to have almost nothing about the pay per view and focus on almost anything else. On the other hand they might actually pay attention to the show and give us something important. Yeah I'm betting on the first too. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

Hangman Page vs. Kenny King

Feeling out process to start with Page grabbing a headlock for little avail. King takes him down into one of his own though and things slow down. An armbar (with very little torque) has Page in more trouble before they head outside with Page being sent into the barricade. King hits a dive off the apron and we take an early break.

Back with Page grabbing a piledriver and sending Kenny into the barricade. Caprice Coleman sits in on commentary to announce that the Briscoe Brothers will be his guests next week. Page hammers away some more until a spinebuster gets King out of trouble. A big spinning kick to the face puts Page down but he avoids a slingshot dive and grabs a suplex on the floor. Back in and King sweeps the leg to set up a very weak Last Chancery. Since that's easily broken up, King settles for the Royal Flush and the pin at 10:31.

Rating: C. King getting the win before his title shot on Friday is the right call, though it would have been nice if they actually mentioned the title match during this one. I'm a bit surprised they would have Page lose clean though as he's someone they seem intent on pushing. If nothing else they put the Six Man Tag Team Titles on him to go with the most important and amazing team ever, which is quite the rub.

Marty Scurll vs. Rocky Romero

This is the result of the dreaded Twitter challenge. Romero tries a cross armbreaker less than five seconds in but Scurll is already into the ropes. Back up and Romero ducks a charge to send Marty outside, which of course means a suicide dive. Marty is right in on the arm though, snapping it across the top rope and stomping away. A hard stomp to the elbow keeps Romero in trouble and we take a break.

Back with Rocky getting superkicked to the floor, followed by a second one to keep Marty's Bullet Club card. Something like a reverse Angle Slam gives Marty two but it's too early for the chickenwing. Instead they hit some rollups for two each and it's a stalemate. Rocky's Sliced Bread #2

is countered into the chickenwing which is countered into a cross armbreaker.

That's broken up as well and it's a buckle bomb into the corner to snap Rocky's head back. Rocky avoids the moonsault though and hits something like a Shining Wizard for two of his own. It's back to the cross armbreaker but this time Marty gets his feet into the ropes. They run the ropes again until a heck of a clothesline drops Rocky, followed by the Bird of Prey (basically a flip into White Noise) for the pin at 9:39.

Rating: B-. Scull's in-ring work is getting better, which is a great sign considering how awesome his character stuff is. There's only so much you can get out of the average matches so it's cool that he's getting to showcase his already established skills around here for a change. Romero was fine as well, but that's pretty well known in the first place.

Here's Cody to explain what happens when the undesirable becomes the undeniable. Now that he's the best in the world, it's time for this title to undergo a change. A lackey brings out a box as the announcers tell Cody to take the upcoming title defense more seriously. Cody drops to his knees and opens the box to reveal a big ring. The Ring of Honor you see. This would be more effective if he hadn't shown off the ring in a backstage segment. From now on, the fans will be having to kiss his ring, though we go to a break before it happens.

Death Before Dishonor rundown with some quick promos.

The Motor City Machine Guns are ready to take their place as the top team in Ring of Honor.

Marty Scurll is ready to destroy Chuck Taylor in Taylor's first singles match.

Briscoes vs. The Kingdom

It's Vinny Marseglia/TK O'Ryan (no Matt Taven) for the team here and Bully Ray is on commentary. Jay and Vinny start things off but let's look at the commentators instead of the match. Mark comes in for some forearms in the corner and it's off to TK to take more of the same. A blind tag

allows Vinny to come back in for a bicycle kick and the Briscoes are finally in some trouble. Multiple forms of stomping ensue and it's off to TK for some biting. TK comes back in and makes sure to draw in Jay so the double teaming can take us to a break.

Back with Jay coming in off the hot tag for some hard clotheslines and a backdrop. The hangman's neckbreaker gets two on O'Ryan and Mark has to kick a chair out of Marseglia's hands. The referee won't let Jay hit the Jay Driller onto the chair so the Brothers settle for a Razor's Edge/neckbreaker combination (called a reverse 3D) instead.

Mark gets shoved off the top and it's a reverse Twist of Fate into the Swanton (such plagiarism) for two more. O'Ryan grabs a ball bat and swings it in front of the referee, who doesn't seem too upset by the whole situation. A Spin Cycle (another Hardys move) gets two on Mark with Jay making the save. Back up and the Jay Driller ends O'Ryan at 11:22.

Rating: B-. This was good, despite the pretty blatant Hardys stuff from the Kingdom. It helps a lot when you have the Briscoes out there as one of the best teams in the world at the moment and the best team this company has ever had. As a bonus this helped build up something for Friday's six man match, which has the potential for a heck of a heel turn.

Overall Rating: C+. Solid enough show here, though the big problem continues to be the lack of Minoru Suzuki, who apparently can't even do a promo or a video to help hype up the match. Knowing Ring of Honor they'll give him the title anyway for the sake of adding prestige or something, because Heaven forbid we let the ROH wrestlers build up their company on their own. Good show this week.

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Ring of Honor – June 24, 2015: Quality Meets Entertainment

Ring of Honor

Date: June 24, 2015

Location: Ted Reeve Arena, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Attendance: 1,500

Commentators: Kevin Kelly, King Corino, Nigel McGuinness

It's the final week of the Global Wars cycle, meaning next week it's back to the full on Ring of Honor crew for the first time in this series.

Tonight we're getting appearances from some major New Japan stars, which should lead to some interesting pairings with the Ring of Honor guys.

Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

Roderick Strong vs. Shinsuke Nakamura

Strong is on a roll at the moment and is known as Mr. ROH. Nakamura is a huge star in New Japan and has amazing charisma. I've always been a Strong fan and Nakamura is one of the few New Japan guys who lives up to the hype he receives. Nakamura takes him down by the arm to start but Strong reverses into a key lock of his own. Back up and Strong nails some dropkicks but can't put on a bow and arrow hold.

An Angle Slam gets two on Nakamura but he kicks Strong in the head and starts with his signature knee strikes. Another knee puts Strong over the barricade and we take a break. Back with Strong winning a slugout but falling to the mat. Strong is back up with a torture rack into a backbreaker though (he's been called the Messiah of the Backbreaker), sending Nakamura to the ropes before the Strong Hold (Boston crab) can be locked in.

Instead it's Nakamura slamming him down but missing the running knee (Bryan took it from him) and taking a jumping knee to the face. A backbreaker onto the top turnbuckle gets two as I'm digging the psychology in this one. His move is a back hold so work on the back. Why is that so complicated? A big forearm drops Strong and a jumping knee from the middle rope knocks him silly.

Strong is up first and grabs the Strong Hold, sending Nakamura into the ropes for a break. They slug it out again with Strong taking Nakamura's head off with a running boot (Sick Kick) but a suplex backbreaker (I told you he knew a lot of them) only gets two. The running knee gets one on Strong and Nakamura can't believe it. Granted he usually gyrates around like that so it's hard to tell how mad he is. Strong hits another knee but Nakamura just blasts him with a knee/kick to the face for the pin at 17:05.

Rating: B+. This was a hard hitting wrestling match here and that's the kind of stuff that Ring of Honor is shooting for. Strong is a big star in ROH but Nakamura comes off like a natural performer, which makes him stand out anywhere he performs. This was a fun match that again lived up to its hype, which is what Nakamura does best.

Michael Elgin vs. Gedo

Gedo is a smaller guy who also books New Japan. Elgin is a big power guy who can do other things to back it up. Gedo goes to the eyes to start but walks into a fall away slam for two. Things are going slowly due to Elgin's eye but he's still easily able to suplex him back in, complete with a count of thirty from the fans. They weren't second of course but wrestling fans aren't the most patient people in the world.

Elgin's spinning Swanton misses and Gedo kicks him in the face for two. There's always something to be said about keeping it simple. Elgin gets tired of this defense stuff though and buckle bombs Gedo, followed by a helicopter bomb (Elgin Bomb, one of my favorites) for the pin at 4:48.

Rating: D+. Yeah this wasn't clicking. Elgin needs someone with more speed to get a decent match out of him and Gedo is more of a cheater than anything else. It doesn't help that Gedo is pushing 50 and is really there more for his name than anything else. Not horrible, but it's good that they kept this short.

Roppongi Vice/Kazuchika Okada vs. AJ Styles/Young Bucks

This is Chaos vs. Bullet Club with Vice being a tag team of (Trent) Baretta (with its 19,000 spellings) and Rocky Romero. The Bucks (Nick and Matt Jackson) are the IWGP Junior Heavyweight Tag Team Champions and Styles is IWGP Heavyweight Champion, making this champions vs. challengers. Styles and Okada get things going with AJ snapping off some armdrags before they trade victory rolls for two each. An early attempt at both finishers fails as well and it's a standoff after a very fast start.

Off to Baretta vs. Nick for some missed superkicks before Matt and Rocky come in. The Bullet Club gets tired of waiting and cleans house with a single superkick. Yeah the Bucks REALLY like throwing superkicks. Baretta gets triple teamed but Romero comes in to break up a cover. The Bucks start their pretty slick double teaming before it's off to Styles for a suplex into the corner. I like it when wrestlers do normal moves into different places. It's simple yet still seems fresh, which is hard to do these days.

Back from a break with AJ taking Romero and Okada off the apron to prevent a tag, so Trent whips out a tornado DDT for the tag to Romero. Rocky cleans house by dropkicking AJ off the apron and hurricanranaing both Bucks at the same time. Matt nails a superkick to slow him down but Rocky pops off the ropes and hits a clothesline to put both guys down. Okada and Styles come in off another double tag with Okada taking over in a hurry. AJ comes back with his moonsault into a reverse DDT but Okada

reverses into something like White Noise into a backbreaker.

Nick gets double teamed by Vice as everything breaks down. A Doomsday Device but with a running knee and on the floor, plants Nick but AJ plants Okada with Sunday Bloody Sunday (Prince Devitt's old move, basically a one arm DDT brainbuster). Like so many Japanese stars, Okada isn't interested in selling though and pops up with a tombstone. The Rainmaker (maybe the most overrated finisher I've ever seen. It's a standing clothesline with theatrics) misses and Nick takes Okada to the floor with a tornado DDT which clearly didn't connect.

Romero gets hung over the ropes for a swanton and More Bang For Your Buck (a quick series of dives) is broken up and Okada drops a top rope elbow on Nick. AJ's springboard forearm (I love that move) takes Okada out again but Matt starts firing off even more superkicks, only to have Okada dropkick Styles down to break up the Clash on Romero.

All six slug it out and a triple superkick staggers Chaos. Okada again pops up and a double superkick/Pele combo and a spike piledriver into a flipping spike tombstone (the Meltzer Driver. Yes that Meltzer) puts him right back down, followed by a double superkick into a Styles Clash on Baretta for the pin at 17:25.

Rating: B. Here's the thing: this match was not a very well done match. It was sloppy at times, the "fighting spirit" thing still comes off as a way to not have to sell, the flips are borderline meta, the move is actually called the Meltzer Driver, Kelly has to shout SUPERKICK every single time one connects, the tagging part was forgotten halfway through (and no that's not an ROH thing. It annoys me when every company does it) and the fans cheering for the heels is always annoying because they're cool heels instead of trying to do, like, heel stuff.

However, that doesn't mean it wasn't an incredibly entertaining match. This was fun throughout with everyone moving all over the place and having a great time out there. Yeah it's a spot fest, but that normally means it's entertaining. Styles continues to be on another planet since going to Japan and this was no exception. Really fun main event here, albeit with issues I'll likely be insulted for pointing out.

Overall Rating: A-. This show was a really good example of balancing good wrestling and entertainment, but again, they have the problem of New Japan leaving next week. However, this was a good way to get the fans in the tent, which is going to keep them coming back later. In theory at least. This was definitely the best show they've put on so far, which is a very good sign after just a few weeks. Really fun hour here with all wrestling and no story, which can work every now and then.

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