Joey Janela's Spring Break 9 Night Two: And Now, We Cluster

<u>Joey Janela's Spring Break: Clusterf*** Forever 2025</u>

Date: April 19, 2025

Location: Palms Casino Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada

Commentators: Jordan Castle, Dave Prazak, Veda Scott

And then we have this thing, which is going to be complete insanity and that is entirely by design. The show's namesake match is going to be a huge battle royal with people running all over the place and pretty much no semblance of order. That makes for one of the most entertaining matches you will see all year and they know exactly what they're doing. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

We get an opening video set to I'm So Excited in a pretty awesome troll jab at AEW.

<u>Doug Gentry Memorial Scramble Cage Match</u>

Gringo Loco, Ciclope, Facade, Jimmy Lloyd, Man Like DeReiss, Marcus Mathers, Mike D. Vecchio, Ninja Mack, Sidney Akeem

One fall to a finish and everyone is in the cage (which has weapons, plus platforms on the top for the purpose of diving) the whole time. Gentry is apparently someone who worked backstage in the early days of Ring Of Honor and is getting a match named in his honor. Akeem dives off one of the platforms to start and gets speared through a door by Vecchio for his efforts.

Mack goes up with a kendo stick but has to pull Lloyd and Mathers down with a Tower Of Doom. Various Canadian Destroyers

ensue before Vecchio sends various people into the cage. One heck of a helicopter bomb plants Akeem for two and DeReiss superplexes Vecchio off one of the platforms. Facade one ups them by walking the cage for a big dive of his own. Mathers ties Facade in the Tree Of Woe for some chair shots but Lloyd is up with a bunch of chair throws.

Mack and Akeem have their big showdown but stop to beat up Loco and Mathers instead. Ciclope is up with a double spear but gets clotheslined by Lloyd. DeReiss and Mathers hit 450s (after arguing over whose would be better) before Vecchio hits a shooting star off the platform for the big wipe out. A masked man comes into the cage and cleans some house before revealing himself as Miedo Extremo, Ciclope's former partner.

Miedo sends Ciclope off the platform and through a barbed wire net and some doors at ringside. Back in and a door is bridged over two chairs as Ciclope is carried out. Another door is bridged over the first as Vecchio and Loco climb to the platform. Loco powerbombs Vecchino through said doors and gets the pin for the win at 11:33.

Rating: C+. There were nine people in the cage for most of the match and, as has been proven in various other promotions over the years, that isn't going to work. There are too many people in there to do anything other than big spots and while those were entertaining, it only went so far. The big spot at the end was fun though and this could have been worse.

The cage has to be taken down so we look at Jordan Oliver returning last night at Spring Break to team with Alec Price to win the Tag Team Titles.

We look at Atticus Cogar defeating Fuego del Sol, winning Fuego's match and seemingly ending his career. That was way better than I would have expected.

Next recap is the main event of Spring Break, with Sabu defeating Joey Janela in Sabu's retirement match.

Long upcoming events rundown.

We look at The People vs. GCW in January.

We look at Tournament Of Survival 9.

We look at GCW in Kouraken Hall as I wonder how long it takes to get that cage down.

We look at Josh Barnett's Bloodsport 12 in November.

We look at a show in Hawaii in November.

We look at the Wrld On Lucha from...sometime.

And now, we Cluster***.

2025 Cluster***

It's a Royal Rumble with random intervals, pinfall, submission, leaving the arena or death for eliminations (yeah this whole thing is supposed to be a total mess so don't bother keeping track of the rules). The Up Up Girls (the TJPW singers, all three of them) are in at #1, #2 and #3 and do their song but Kerry Morton interrupts at #4 and calls the song stupid (with some additional expletives). He's going to throw them out and show them what it's like to be with a real American man, complete with hip thrusts. Morton insists on being introduced again and he's #2.

The Girls beat him up, including a pillow to the head (Prazak wants to borrow it) and Morton is out. Morton freaks out and leaves so we get an encore song. B3cca, a pop singer, is in at #3 and sings about her attractiveness. Then she tries to sing with the Up Up Girls but kicks them down. Another dance takes too long though and the fight is on, with B3cca missing a high crossbody. Zayda Steele in at #3 and begs off from the Girls as Swipe Right and Jackson Drake are in at #4.

The distraction lets Steele and B3cca eliminate the Up Up

Girls. Steele Unprettiers B3cca for the elimination and Steven Crow (a cowboy in pink) is in at #5. Swipe Right jumps him for the elimination and it's MBM and his Friend (a masked man) in at #6. They want to make peace until the Friend full nelsons Steele. MBM tries to kiss her but kisses the Friend by mistake and they're easily tossed.

The Warlord (yes that Warlord) is in at #7 and everyone in Swipe Right and Drake (just make him an official member already) runs off, with Steele bailing without being eliminated. Shreddy is in at #8 (he's in great shape and likes to brag about going to Japan) and can't knock Warlord down. Instead he asks for a test of strength as Tombstone Jesus (ok then) is in at #9. Warlord tosses Shreddy and goes after Tombstone but Steele comes in to try her luck. This goes as well as you would expect but they manage to toss Warlord. Steele slaps Tombstone for some reason…and low bridges him out.

Human Tornado (there's a name from the past) is in at #10 and dances a bit so Steele goes after him. That earns her some dancing stomps in the corner and Nate Webb (with his arm in a sling) is in at #11, giving us Teenage Dirtbag for the crowd participation. The dancing stomps continue (going close to two minutes now) as Webb goes through the crowd for the singing. Then Yoshihiko is in at #12 and the fans go nuts as expected. A high crossbody gets two on Tornado, who sends Yoshihiko into the corner, where Steele chokes away. Santana (and Blanket) Jackson are in at #13, because we need a Michael Jackson impersonator.

Webb gets in the ring and a three way test of strength is teased, with Webb's arm injury leading to his elimination. Jackson tosses Tornado and we get a showdown between Yoshihiko and Blanket (a stuffed baby)....and Snitsky is in at #14 (Veda Scott: "NO! NO! NO!"). The fans want Snitsky to kick the baby (Prazak: "What is this, South Park"?) but he chokeslams Jackson instead. Snitsky grabs Jackson's hat and sunglasses

instead, makes the out cold Jackson dance, and then tosses him.

Yoshihiko gets eliminated, leaving Snitsky alone with Blanket (and Steele, who is on the floor). Snitsky picks up Blanket and asks the crowd where he should punt, with a fan catching Blanket for the elimination. Then Snitsky leaves the building, leaving Steele alone in the ring as Tara Zep is in at #15. They brawl out to the floor (both still in) and then go back inside with an Unprettier giving Steele the elimination. Kidd Bandit is in at #16 and wastes no time in kicking Steele in the head for the elimination.

Unagi Sayaka is in at #17 and Bandit kicks her to the apron, where Sayaka pulls out a big band. They fight over it until it snaps into Bandit's face to knock her down as Jai Vidal is in at #18. Sayaka gets slapped down and rolls out to the floor, and Ashley Vox is in at #19. That goes nowhere so Vipress is in at #20 as the entrances are starting to come faster. Viva Van is in at #21 and trades some forearms until Sonny Kiss is in at #22.

Van is sent to the apron but slingshots back in for a spinwheel kick. Parrow is in at #23 and Vidal immediately joins his team (assuming a team exists). Vipress gets in Parrow's face and is tossed out, as is Van. There goes Kiss and Sayaka is allowed to eliminate herself to avoid pain. Vidal is tossed and we're down to Vox and Parrow. Vow says they both just got married (not to each other) so he can't eliminate her. They try the Dirty Dancing lift…and Parrow tosses her. Bodhi Young Prodigy is in at #24 as commentary wonders if Blanket died earlier.

Bodhi chops away to no effect and gets tossed just as fast. Channing Decker is in at #25 and decks Vox and Vidal on the way out. Parrow: "THAT WAS A LITTLE F***** MUCH!" A fall away slam drops Decker and he's out. Sonico is in at #26 and it's his birthday. Parrow takes his chair away and hammers him down

for the elimination. Randy Myers (he's weird) is in at #27 and goes to the throat before twisting Parrow's nipples. An over the shoulder piledriver gives Parrow the pin and he's alone again.

CPA is in at #28 and takes off his button down shirt to reveal an identical shirt. A drop toehold sets up the 1099 and Parrow pulls off the tie. Dustin Thomas (he doesn't have legs) is in at #29. A drunk Kidd Bandit is apparently still in and some triple teaming staggers Parrow, who is eliminated by the trio. Sleepy Ed is in at #30 and brings out a bed for a nap on the stage. Everyone gets quiet in a nice moment until Jeffrey John is in at #31. John comes in with a top rope cutter to CPA (on his fourth shirt) as the drunk Bandit falls down.

Rhys Maddox is in at #32 and doesn't do much until THE MEXICOOLS (Juventud Guerrera, Super Crazy and Microman, the latter with bubble mower) are in at #33. The Juvy Driver eliminates Maddox, Crazy pins CPA and another Juvy Driver gets rid of John. That leaves us with (I think) Guerrera, Crazy, Microman, Thomas and the drunk Bandit (on the floor). We get a bizarre Microman vs. Thomas showdown and a 619 hits Thomas. He's right back with an ankle lock to Microman as Team Juggalo Championship Wrestling (about 7 people) are in at #34.

Crazy gets tickled with a rubber chicken and a double team is enough to pin him. The new Backseat Boyz get rid of Guerrera and Bandit follows him out. Microman realizes he's in trouble and tries to slug away but gets tossed out. So Team JCW is all alone (technically with Sleepy Ed) and it's New Roy (formerly known as Nasty Leroy but now inspired by New Jack) in at #35.

Some trashcan lid shots do a bit of damage but he gets caught with a low blow. The beating is on, including the clowns (there are clowns) popping balloons off his head. Roy gets pinned and Team GCW (another 6 or 7 people) are in at #36 to mostly even it up and the fight is on. The brawl heads to the floor and I'm not going to try to tell who is in and who

isn't, partially because I have no idea who some of these people are. The blood is flowing and some people go into the crowd as the weapons (including a barbed wire board) are pulled out. Veda Scott: "We bring this on ourselves."

The clowns powerbomb Dr. Redacted through the barbed wire board and 2 Tuff Tony lights his fist on fire to punch John Wayne Murdoch. Redacted gets a trashcan and puts it on himself for the big dive onto the pile. Just about everyone brawls to the back and they're all out so the ring is empty, with Sleepy Ed on the stage. The arena goes quiet and we have something of a lullaby playing...and the Invisible Man is in at #37. He takes Ed into the ring and tosses him out before Dan Barry is in at #38.

Barry works on the arm but gets reversed into a wristlock. That's reversed into a headlock but some headscissors take Barry down. They run the ropes and miss some clotheslines before trading armdrags for a standoff. Respect is shown before Barry gets in a cheap shot (and flips off the crowd) but Man's DDT gets two. Barry is sent to the apron and gets crotched on top, where it's a superplex for the elimination. Frank The Clown is in at #39 and doesn't think much of the Invisible Man.

Apparently Man starts a F*** THAT CLOWN chant but Frank insists he is NOT a Mark A** B****! Frank charges in and gets dropped for the fast pin. Dan The Dad is in at #40 but Man won't shake his hand. They won't hug either and Man knocks the cup off coffee out of his hand. Dan blocks a right hand and gives him a spanking for rudeness before taking off his belt. The whip is blocked and Dan gets rolled up for the pin. Cheeseburger is in at #41 and they slug it out. A superkick is blocked and Cheeseburger gets pulled into a Figure Four for the tap.

Jack Cartwheel is in at #42 and they trade cartwheels until Cartwheel cartwheels away. A Death Valley Driver sets up a

shooting star press to raised knees. Cartwheel is knocked out and Tommy Invincible is in at #43. They take turns grappling and neither can get very far as Harlan Abbott is in at #44. Abbott and Invincible slug it out until Abbott shifts over to the Man. A Jay Driller plants Man and Manny Lemons is in at #45.

Abbott and Lemons knock each other down and it's GCW World Champion Effy in at #46. Effy fires off some running shots into the corner to all three (save for Invincible, still on the floor) and knocks Lemons out. Abbott hits a Jay Driller on Effy but gets reversed into a rollup for the pin. Invincible is back in but the Man hits Effy low and tosses him out. Invincible plants the Man though and gets the pin, leaving him alone for a bit. JGeorge (he makes movies) and Lady Killjoy are in at #47, with Invincible taking him down for a YOU CAN'T HURT ME Five Knuckle Shuffle.

Megan Bayne is in at #48 and gives JGeorge Fate's Descent onto Killjoy for the double pin. Invincible gets back inside and Bayne hits Fate's Descent to get rid of him. Frankie B is in at #49 and another Fate's Descent is good for another elimination. Brittnie Brooks is in at #50 and avoids a splash in the corner. Not that it matters as Bayne hits a tombstone for the elimination. Leina Kross, a tall powerhouse in her own right, is in at #51.

They forearm it out and trade running shots to the face, followed by an exchange of German suplexes. Sam Holloway is in at #52 and gives the two of them a double chokeslam. Bayne and Kross roll outside (not eliminated) and it's 1 Called Manders in at #53. They slap it out and Holloway is clotheslined out without much trouble. Thomas Shire, Manders' tag partner, is in at #54 so they hug before trading forearms. Shire manages to get him into a torture rack but Manders slips out and gets the elimination.

Action Mike Jackson (75 years old) is in at #55 and after a

handshake, it's Old School to Manders. Masha Slamovich is in at #56 and Jackson takes both her and Manders over at once. Manders tosses Jackson but Kross is back in to snap Slamovich with a German suplex. Back in and Slamovich kicks Kross out for the elimination and Alec Price is in at #57. Price hits a top rope seated senton on Manders and a tornado DDT to Slamovich. Paul London, now a lounge singer, is in at #58 and suplexes Price.

Starboy Charlie is in at #58 and goes mirror images with London. That's broken up and the Bob Squad (about 6 people) are in at #59. Hold on though as some of them realize that one of the members isn't from Atlanta, meaning they turn on each other. Two of them members get confused and dive over the top to eliminate themselves. Bobby Flacco, the team's leader, is eliminated and Manders tosses the rest of the Squad and is left alone in the ring, with a bunch of people on the floor.

Man Like DeReiss is in at #60 and runs the ropes with Charlie while still rapping his entrance. He even eliminates Charlie with a big boot and stops for a staredown with Slamovich. Then DeReiss requests a Stinkface but makes the mistake of covering his face, allowing London to do it instead. DeReiss realizes what happens and goes to the floor, leaving Slamovich to toss London. Price gets back inside and they trade rollups for two each, only for Price to roll Slamovich up again for the pin.

Manders is back in and, after shrugging off a Blockbuster, lariats Price out. Bayne gets back in for a weird showdown and hits a running clothesline to get rid of Manders. DeReiss is back in and sends Bayne into the corner but Joey Janela is in at #61 to cut off a Stinkface. Bayne and Janela beat up DeReiss, including a Doomsday Device for two. Cue Chris Bey who says he isn't in the match…but Brodie Lee Jr. (AEW's Negative One) is in at #62 to complete the field.

Lee superkicks Bayne (in the arm) and poses a bit as we seem to be down to four. Bayne Falcon Arrows DeReiss for the elimination so Janela and Bayne go after Lee. Janela's chair shot hits Bayne by mistake though and he accidentally eliminates her. Lee rolls Janela up for two but he pulls Janela into an ankle lock. That's broken up and a Death Valley Driver gives Janela two. Lee nips up and hits a clothesline into a Stunner to eliminate Janela and win at 2:19:47.

Rating: B. This is the definition of "you're not supposed to take this seriously" and that's what happened. A 13 year old won the match, which also involved the Invisible Man going on a run, a pop trio singing and a stuffed baby being punted into the crowd. This match is not going to be for everyone, but if you want to just unwind and embrace the insanity/silliness that is professional wrestling, it doesn't get much more fun than this right here.

Overall Rating: B-. As you can probably tell, the whole thing is about the Cluster and that was about as entertaining as it could have been. I had a good time with the show and it's the perfect way to wrap up the big wrestling weekend. Just have fun, enjoy how insane it is, and go from there. It's not for everyone, but I had a blast with a lot of this and I can imagine people getting together and wondering who could possibly be next.

Results

Gringo Loco won the Doug Gentry Memorial Scramble Cage Match Brody Lee Jr. won the Cluster**** last eliminating Joey Janela

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DDT Goes Las Vegas: And They Go It Well

DDT Goes Las Vegas

Date: April 18, 2025

Location: Palms Casino Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada

Commentators: Dave Prazak, Nick Knowledge, Jordan Castle

This is from DDT Pro Wrestling out of Japan and that could go in a few directions. The problem here comes down to how over the top and insane things will get. There has been some great wrestling on these shows but there have also been some things that make me want to move on to anything else. That could make things interesting so let's get to it.

Starboy Charlie vs. Yuni

These two would go on to team together the next day at TJPW vs. DDT vs. GCW. They take their time to start until Yuni flips out of an early headlock. Charlie flips away too and throws in some air guitar for visual accompaniment. That takes us to another standoff, with Yuni flipping away again. A headscissors sends Charlie outside, naturally with a moonsault taking him out. Back in and Yuni misses a moonsault, allowing Charlie to come back with a tilt-a-whirl backbreaker.

The surfboard goes on for a bit until Charlie gets two, only to get caught with a nice dropkick. A reverse dropkick in the corner sets up a running hurricanrana into a kind of jumping leg attack (a kick would be a stretch) for two. Charlie is back up with a Gory Bomb for two but Yuni grabs a tornado DDT.

That just earns him a release Rock Bottom into a corkscrew moonsault for…well the bell rings but it was only two. Charlie goes up and gets caught with a dropkick. Yuni gets caught with a super atomic drop though and a shooting star press finishes for Charlie at 8:39.

Rating: C+. Good, fun opener here and that's a smart idea. Charlie is a bit of an odd guy but he can do the flips and dives, which is what you want in a spot like this. They did well enough here without going too long, making it a good choice for the opener without going too hard to take away from later in the card.

<u>Dan The Dad/Kody Lane vs. Daisuke Sasaki/Ilusion vs. Mizuki Watase/Shota</u>

Dan The Dad is a great dad, complete with shorts and a coffee mug. He and Lane also come out to Born To Run so they have something going for them. Ilusion and Shota start things off with Ilusion's wristlock not getting her very far. A jumping back elbow drops Ilusion and it's off to Watase for a slingshot hilo. Dan comes in (with coffee) and gets wristlocked by Sasaki but manages to grab a springboard armdrag (while taking a sip and not spilling a drop).

Sasaki grabs a beer and they have a toast, with Sasaki spitting beer into Dan's face. Then Dan loses his glasses and gets more spit in the eyes. Ilusion comes in with a missile dropkick and stomps away, with Dan having to drop his mug. Those monsters. Something like a What's Up has Dan down again and it's Ilusion coming in with a slingshot hilo of his own. Dan fights his way out of the corner though and grabs the mug, which is enough to give him a recharge.

A rolling tag brings in Lane to clean house, including a springboard moonsault to take out Sasaki and Ilusion. Shota gets caught in an Alley Oop (and a good one at that) but Saskai drops Lane. Watase slaps Sasaki in the face but it's

too early for Shota's frog splash. Dan orders Shota off the top rope (safety first), earning some arguing and a tornado DDT. Lane makes the save and pulls Watase outside, only to get dropped by Shota's dive.

Ilusion dives off the top onto the pile and Dan goes up, with Lane having to save him from Sasaki's superplex. Instead Dan takes off his glasses and hits a running Doomsday Device to the floor. A Backpack Stunner plants Shota for two with Watase having to make the save. Dan and Watase slug it out and Lane comes in with a one footed Lionsault. Ilusion Swantons Dan though and La Mistica into a crossface makes Dan tap at 13:07.

Rating: B-. I had fun with it as you had Dan doing his goofy stuff and the others being there for the serious side. That's what you need every so often as Dan and Lane were enough of a wacky team to make this work. Sasaki and Ilusion are good villains and the action was fast paced enough with just a right amount of comedy. Fun match.

<u>Santana Jackson vs. Antonio Honda</u>

Jackson is a Michael Jackson impersonator and Honda is a bald guy who doesn't have the best coordination. Prazak: "Annie if you are ok, use the hashtag DDTVegas and let us know." They lock up to start and Jackson dances away, including a crotch grab. The test of strength is teased and Jackson keeps switching hands, sending Honda into a fit. Jackson's dancing makes Honda dance and he wants a timeout.

It's actually a ruse though, with Honda hitting him in the throat to take over. Honda stomps him in the ribs for two and gets annoyed that it wasn't enough. Back up and Honda hammers away and tries a Flip Flop and Fly, only for Jackson to dance his way out and whip out a glittery white glove for the big right hand. The Moonwalk DDT (What else?) is broken up though as Honda sends him to the floor, only to fall down on the dive attempt.

Honda grabs the mic and talks about how his knees are crying...just like George Harrison's guitar. He wants to tell us an important story though (this is a thing with him) and holds up a Too Sweet sign, saying it was a fox. Since he came to Las Vegas, he wanted to go to Caesar's Palace but went to the wrong place, which was apparently Caesar's penis. Then he hits Jackson in the face to take over.

Jackson makes him twist his own nipples but Honda gets in a knockdown of his own. The middle rope fist drop sends Jackson outside, where he rolls underneath the ring. Then he comes out in a red jacket and wearing a werewolf mask, because it's close to midnight. A spear sets up a Thriller Elbow into the Moonwalk DDT for the pin at 9:15.

Rating: C+. This is going to be a case where your entire enjoyment of the match is going to depend on what you think of the gimmick. It's a one note gag, but Jackson was really good at what he was doing. I'm not sure what the deal is with Honda, but he certainly has something to him. It might not be a good something, though it's definitely there. Total comedy match and I was amused enough.

WXW World Title: 1 Called Manders vs. Yukio Naya

Naya, a rather muscular guy, is defending. The running shoulders don't go anywhere at first but Naya manages to knock him down and take over. They seem to enjoy the exchange of chops until some big kicks drop Manders again. This gives commentary the chance to talk about the sumo background of Naya's family, which seems to be quite the lineage. A hard kick to the back gives Naya one and a middle rope elbow is twice as successful.

Manders tries to come back with chops but they just seem to annoy Naya even more. A running dropkick works a bit better and he fires off a running clothesline in the corner. The powerslam out of the corner gets two but the lariat is cut off. Manders strikes away until the lariat is countered into a left handed chokeslam for two. Back up and they trade clotheslines until Manders hits his lariat to retain at 9:31.

Rating: B-. This show has been covering a lot of different kinds of matches and this was the hoss fight. They beat each other up for a good while with Manders being overpowered but staying in there long enough until he could get the big shot. There's something to be said about having two big power guys beat each other up until one of them falls and that's what we got here.

<u>Tyler Bateman/Marcus Mathers/Gringo Loco vs. Shunma</u> <u>Katsumata/Nick Wayne/Kazuma Sumi</u>

Mathers and Katsumata start things off and we get a pose off. Mathers' headlock doesn't get him very far so they try some grappling and flip up to their feet. Loco and Sumi come in with a running shoulder making Sumi nip up. Sumi hits a dropkick and swivels his hips, followed by a rather spinny headscissors to the floor. Wayne tags himself in to cut off a dive though and gets to face Bateman.

Wayne gets beaten down and it's back to Sumi, with Loco gorilla pressing him. More hip swiveling ensues and it's back to Mathers for a rather delayed belly to back suplex. Mathers drops Sumi again and hands it off to Loco for a (hip swivel) split legged moonsault and a near fall. Sumi manages a pop up hurricanrana and Katsumata comes in for a double dropkick to Bateman. Wayne's dragon suplex gets two on Mathers but Mathers is back up with a superkick.

Sumi comes back in and gets caught with a middle rope Stunner with Katsumata having to make the save. Everything breaks down and all six brawl until Mathers and company are superkicked to the floor. Triple dives to the floor take them out again, with Katsumata going back in for an even bigger dive onto everyone else.

Back in and Katsumata misses a top rope splash and Mathers hits a nice Swanton. Loco's delayed super Falcon Arrow gets two on Sumi with Wayne making his own save. Wayne's World misses and Bateman plants Wayne with a brainbuster. Mathers hits a jumping cutter on Katsumata but gets taken out by Wayne. Now Wayne's World can take Bateman out for the pin at 13:36.

Rating: B-. Another fun match here with everyone getting to showcase themselves fairly well. Mathers has been one of the stars of the weekend and Loco is good for his high spots in a match like this. These guys worked well together and this was a nice addition after a couple of singles matches.

Shinya Aoki vs. Timothy Thatcher

Thatcher is in Terry Funk tribute gear and they go straight to the mat for the grappling. That goes nowhere so they get back up and try the grappling again, this time with Thatcher managing to take him down for two. A European clutch gives Aoki two and he pulls Thatcher into something close to a surfboard. That's broken up and Thatcher grabs a half crab. A bow and arrow has Aoki in trouble until he grabs the nose and goes for the arm.

Thatcher takes him down again and starts in on the arm to no avail. Aoki gets him down but can't break Thatcher's bridge, instead getting pulled into a failed cross armbreaker attempt. Something like an Octopus on the mat but Thatcher slips out and bails to the floor for the first time. Thatcher staggers around until Aoki takes him down with a suicide dive. Back in and Thatcher hits a quick piledriver for two but Aoki pops up. A full nelson goes on and Aoki takes him down for the pin at 9:20.

Rating: C+. It's a different kind of match as they both have grappling backgrounds, but it wasn't the most exciting match. I do appreciate trying to do something different and it wasn't

like anything else on the show thus far, but it didn't exactly feel like a pro wrestling match. Not bad and very different, but not my favorite.

DDT Universal Title: Yoshihiko vs. Minoru Suzuki

Suzuki is defending and goes to slap Yoshihiko, who remember is a doll. Stomping ensues and the fans are not pleased with Suzuki's violence. A big kick sends Yoshihiko into the corner but Yoshihiko gets two off a small package. Suzuki isn't pleased and hammers away in the corner but Yoshihiko reverses into a guillotine choke. A DDT sends Suzuki outside and it's a big dive, which goes over Suzuki and lands in the crowd.

Yoshihiko is whipped into a wall and then over some chairs as the violence intensifies. Some slams into various hard objects ensue, followed by some fairly gentle rams into the post. And yes, Yoshihiko is busted open and yes the referee has gloves on. Back in and a leglock has Yoshihiko in more trouble, with the leg being tied around the rope. Suzuki's running boot in the corner is cut off though and now it's Yoshihiko with a kneebar. That's broken up as well so Yoshihiko grabs a Fujiwara armbar, with Suzuki making it over to the ropes.

Back up and Suzuki grabs a choke, with the rope being just too far away. Two arm drops ensue but Suzuki tries the Gotch Style Piledriver instead. That's countered into a spinning hurricanrana and the cross armbreaker has Suzuki in trouble. Suzuki makes the rope so Yoshihiko goes up, only to have the super hurricanrana countered into a Gotch Style Piledriver to retain at 15:03.

Rating: B-. I won't say I forgot what I was watching, but it does get kind of entertaining to see Suzuki out there wrestling himself. It's total insanity but there are some people who can make this kind of thing work. Suzuki did it for fifteen minutes here and honestly, it was fun. I absolutely do not want to see it full time, but for a one off like this, it

was good enough. In a weird way that is.

Konosuke Takeshita vs. Mao

They circle each other a bit as commentary explains their history as former stablemates. Mao's headlock is blocked and Takeshita works on the arm before dropping him with a running shoulder. Mao is back with a dropkick and a kick between the shoulders gets two. That's fine with Takeshita, who tells him to kick again, only to bring Takeshita up to his feet. A powerbomb out of the corner plants Mao and a second one drops him again, but he backdrops out of the third.

Back up and Takeshita pulls the referee into the way so he can forearm Mao out of the air for two. We hit the chinlock for a bit before Mao is up with a good dropkick to send Takeshita outside. The dive connects and then another one does the same, followed by a reverse cannonball to Takeshita's back back inside. Back in and Takeshita's Blue Thunder Bomb is countered with a headlock takeover.

That's fine with Takeshita, who forearms him in the face and now the Blue Thunder Bomb can connect for two. Back up and they strike it out until Takeshita grabs a brainbuster for another double down. The running knee is cut off and Mao comes back with a Stunner. A spinning kick to the head gets two but Takeshita plants him with a kneeling tombstone on the apron.

Back in and a super brainbuster is countered with a hurricanrana to bring Takeshita down. Takeshita's big clothesline doesn't get one but Mao's running palm strike gets two. Map goes up and tries a flipping dive but Takeshita...well he was supposed to forearm him out of the air but missed. Instead Mao just crashes and Takeshita forearms him down, setting up the running knee. Raging Fire finishes Mao at 17:10.

Rating: B+. I've seen Mao a few times and this was by far his best match. Granted it was against Takeshita who could have a

good match with a raccoon but dang it was a strong way to close the show. There is apparently a big history here and this felt like a major showdown, which I'm assuming lived up to the hype.

Respect is shown to end the show.

Overall Rating: B. I kept harping on this but I liked the mixture of styles here. Instead of just doing the same matches over and over, we got a bunch of different stuff. Some of it was better than others but they didn't have anything terrible and the main event was very good. It's a pretty awesome show and one of the better offerings of the weekend so far.

Results

Starboy Charlie b. Yuni — Shooting star press
Daisuke Sasaki/Ilusion b. Mizuki Watase/Shota and Dan The
Dad/Kody Lane — Crossface to Dan
Santana Jackson b. Antonio Honda — Moonwalk DDT
1 Called Manders b. Yukio Naya — Lariat
Shunma Katsumata/Nick Wayne/Kazuma Sumi b. Marcus
Mathers/Tyler Bateman/Gringo Loco — Wayne's World to Bateman
Shinya Aoki b. Timothy Thatcher — Full nelson pin
Minoru Suzuki b. Yoshihiko — Gotch Style Piledriver
Konosuke Takeshita b. Mao — Raging Fire

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