

Ring of Honor TV – October 18, 2017: The Bullet Bites the Burger

Ring of Honor

Date: October 18, 2017

Location: Sam's Town Live, Las Vegas, Nevada

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Colt Cabana

We're still in Las Vegas and still dealing with the fallout from Death Before Dishonor. It's not clear if Global Wars, which will have ended by the time this show airs, will get any focus. That's what keeps confusing me about this company: some of their pay per views matter and some are just big time specials. At least TV has been good lately so let's get to it.

Addiction isn't allowed in, despite being awesome wrestlers.

Opening sequence.

Kushida vs. Scorpio Sky

Sky is a PWG legend. A technical sequence goes nowhere so Sky takes over with a backbreaker for two. Kushida starts in on the arm and it turns out that his mom is in the crowd. Well that's always cool. Hopefully she's fine with her son working on the arm with kicks and a stomp until Sky takes him down with a neckbreaker. Sky goes up but his frog splash is countered into a cross armbreaker. It's too close to the ropes though and here's Daniels with an air horn. Kazarian comes in to kick Kushida low for the DQ at 3:27.

Rating: C. This didn't have the time to mean much but it was nice while it lasted. Sky is someone I've heard a lot about but I've only seen him a few times. I wouldn't be complaining about him being around here more often. At least Kushida was around as that's always a good thing.

Kushida gets beaten down until Jay Lethal makes the save. During the

break, a challenge for a tag match was made and we have a match...at some point in the future.

We look back at Jay Briscoe injuring Bully Ray and Tommy Dreamer's promo with him last week.

Here's Bully in sunglasses to no music. He apologizes for everything being low key and says he has to worry about the head trauma at the moment. Right now he doesn't know if he's ever going to get his hands on Jay Briscoe, even if he'd love to more than anything else. For the first time in his career, he's thinking about stepping away for the sake of his family. These people have been his wrestling family all these years but for once he has to think about his family at home. Bully goes to leave and Mark Briscoe comes out to say Bully's issues are with Jay, not the family. They're cool with each other.

We look back at Kenny King saying he'll fight anyone for the TV Title anytime. A small army came out to stare him down and King didn't seem to mind. Next week, it's a four way to crown a new #1 contender.

Here's the Bullet Club for a celebration with the promise of a big surprise. Shane Taylor follows the team out with Cody handing him a wad of money along the way. Cody talks about having the most lucrative contract in ROH history. We hit that YOU DESERVE IT chant before Cody talks about the Young Bucks getting offers from every wrestling company in the world about two years ago.

That's where Cody is now, but he is officially signing the exclusive contract with Ring of Honor. This...pretty much changes nothing but it's the Bullet Club so that makes it awesome. Everyone else leaves and Cody thinks he should do something special for his first official night on the roster. How about a title defense right now? Cody hints that it's going to be Dalton Castle but instead it's...Cheeseburger.

Ring of Honor World Title: Cody vs. Cheeseburger

Cody is defending in a suit with Shane Taylor at ringside. Cheeseburger gets taken down and slapped in the head a few times, only to come out of the corner with a high double kick to the chest. Cody bails to the floor

and that means a slingshot dive as Cheeseburger gets in his early offense. A shot with the big ring cuts Cheeseburger off though and it's time for a belt whipping.

Cheeseburger takes it away and gets two off a crucifix but a delayed superplex cuts him off in a hurry. A quick springboard knee to the head (ala Seth Rollins) gives Cheeseburger two but the palm strike is countered into Cross Rhodes...for two as Cody picks him up. The delay lets Cheeseburger get in a few whips, only to have Cody slap on the American Deathlock for the tap at 5:44.

Rating: C+. That's the kind of Cheeseburger match I can go for: he gets in some hope spots but is overwhelmed by the size and skill. It gets old watching him do the same things over and over again so this was fairly refreshing. Cody wasn't going to lose here but it came off like a weaker version of HHH vs. Taka Michinoku (that's a compliment), which is just fine.

The Kingdom is ready.

It's time for Coleman's Pulpit with his guests the Dawgs, Will Ferrara and Rhett Titus. Apparently they're wearing the wrong suit jackets and Ferrara isn't happy. So yeah, they're a bad comedy act. Ferrara hates cheese and he hates Cheeseburger. Titus on the other hand isn't happy with Kenny King not appreciating Titus getting him his job back. They're ready for the Tempura Boyz next week. This team doesn't look promising.

Kingdom vs. Search and Destroy

It's the Motor City Machine Guns and Jonathan Gresham for Search and Destroy here. Taven jumps Sabin from behind to start and we start...well not that fast really. Everything breaks down in a hurry and the Kingdom is sent outside for a triple dive. Back in and some triple kicks take Taven down but Marseglia's blind tag breaks up a tornado DDT attempt. The Kingdom takes over on Sabin in the corner with a variety of stomping as we're told how interesting Marseglia really is. O'Ryan hits a good looking spinebuster and a running knee gets two as we take a break.

Back with Sabin escaping Rockstar Supernova and getting pummeled for his

efforts. Sabin DDT's and dropkicks his way to freedom as his partners have no issues with all three opponents being in the ring at once. It's off to Gresham to clean house, including a moonsault onto O'Ryan off a belly to back from Taven in a nice counter. Gresham ankle locks O'Ryan as the Guns dive onto Marseglia and Taven. It's Taven coming back in with a Disaster Kick for the save so Gresham tags Sabin back in for a fairly dumb idea.

The Guns come right back with the Dream Sequence and a suicide dive on O'Ryan. Marseglia takes them both down with a springboard dive, followed by Taven hitting a no hands version. Gresham moonsaults from the middle rope and grazes a few of them. Back in and Skull and Bones is broken up, allowing Taven to get in a walking stick shot for the rollup (with tights) pin at 10:24.

Rating: C+. This could have been better if I cared about the Kingdom in any way, shape or form. The Guns are starting to grow on me again, especially now that they actually got the belts off the Bucks. That being said, it's not a good idea to have a new champion take a fall like this. Just pin Gresham.

Overall Rating: C. It wasn't a bad show but there was nothing that blew me away. The Bully promo is good and while I don't think there's any secret tot he fact that this is setting up Bully vs. Jay at Final Battle, at least they're giving us a good story along the way. Not a bad show here but it's a filler episode, even with big names around.

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up the Updated History of the Intercontinental Title in E-Book or Paperback. Check out the information here:

<http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2017/10/02/new-paperback-kbs-history-of-the-intercontinental-title-updated-version/>

And check out my Amazon author page with cheap wrestling books at:

Ring of Honor TV – September 12, 2017: Goals Make Great TV

Ring of Honor

Date: September 13, 2017

Location: Center Stage Theater, Atlanta, Georgia

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Marty Scurll

We're less than two weeks away from Death Before Dishonor and hopefully we can actually get somewhere other than "hey, Minoru Suzuki is going to be here" for a change. I know he's a Japanese legend but it seems that he's the major selling point for the pay per view, despite not actually being on the card. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of the Kingdom returning to health and beating down the Briscoe Brothers and Bully Ray.

Opening sequence.

Here's Bully Ray to open the show. He's accomplished a lot of things in his career but this is the first time he's been in Atlanta with Ring of Honor. When he got here, the company asked him what he wanted to do. He immediately wanted to team up with the Briscoes and they won the Six Man Tag Team Titles but unfortunately they lost them almost as soon. All he wants now is to get those titles back in Las Vegas, and that's exactly what he promises to do. Simple and to the point here.

Quick look at the Young Bucks and Hangman Page winning the Six Man Tag Team Titles. You know, in case they hadn't been featured enough lately.

We recap Cheeseburger vs. Will Ferrara. They used to be partners until Cheeseburger hit Ferrara by mistake, sending Ferrara over the edge.

Tonight it's a grudge match.

Will Ferrara vs. Cheeseburger

Ferrara tries to come in through the crowd for a cheap shot but Cheeseburger is ready for him. A kick to the ribs and a kneedrop have Will in trouble as the fans are way into this. Cheeseburger gets sent throat first into the rope though and a clothesline puts him down again. Ferrara snaps the throat across the ropes and we take a break.

Back with Cheeseburger palm striking him off the top and getting two off a springboard swanton bomb. A Michinoku Driver gives Ferrara two but he can't get something out of a fireman's carry. Cheeseburger grabs a Saito suplex and an ankle lock of all things until Ferrara makes the ropes.

The high flying goes a bit too high though as Ferrara pulls him out of the air with a Codebreaker for two, followed by a jumping Downward Spiral for an even closer near fall. The required low superkick sets up a dragon suplex to drop Ferrara, followed by a Tombstone for two. There's a top rope double stomp for the same but Ferrara blocks a tornado DDT. The hammerlock lariat sets up a modified Crossface to knock Cheeseburger out at 11:19.

Rating: B. This was WAY more fun than it should have been, despite a pretty horrible build to get us here. The stakes for this one are still really low and it's not a thrilling story but sweet goodness they beat the heck out of each other with some awesome near falls. Good match, but they can only get so far with Cheeseburger when he does the same story over and over again.

Ferrara won't let go of the hold so here's Rhett Titus for the save. As you might expect, Titus stomps away on Cheeseburger as well.

It's time for Coleman's Pulpit where he doesn't like jive turkeys. And that's it for this edition, which was basically just a preview with the new set.

Video on Jay Lethal vs. Silas Young in a street fight with neither of them being able to get up after the match was over. Therefore, it's Last

Man Standing at Death Before Dishonor.

Silas Young vs. Chase Brown

Young shoulders him down to start and beats the heck out of the jobber, including that backbreaker into a clothesline. Brown gets in a few shots but is taken down with ease. Misery ends Brown at 2:35.

Post match the beatdown is on but Lethal comes in for the save. Silas offers a challenge for Last Man Standing, even though that's already been set.

Cody is ready to face Suzuki.

The Bullet Club attacked Dalton Castle to advance the story from War of the Worlds UK.

Pay per view rundown. This is more than you get for these things more often than not.

Bully Ray and the Briscoes are ready to take the Six Man Tag Team Titles back.

Kenny King is ready to win the TV Title in his hometown.

Search and Destroy vs. Bullet Club

Motor City Machine Guns/Jonathan Gresham/Jay White vs. Guerrillas of Destiny/Young Bucks. Scurl dancing to the Guerrillas' music is rather amusing. Nick and Gresham start things off with things speeding up and neither being able to do much of anything. Gresham finally gets in a dropkick to send Jackson outside though and the Bucks are in some early peril.

The Guerrillas have some better luck but Sabin is there with a suicide dive to take them out. The Bucks are right back up with the kicks to the head though, followed by some suicide shoves of their own. Matt adds a running flip dive off the stage and everyone is down. Gresham gets up for some dives of his own, followed by a shooting star press, only to have Roa run in for a cutter to pull Gresham out of the air in a SWEET

counter.

Back from a break with Gresham taking the Bucks down and bringing in White to fight both Guerrillas at the same time. A double Flatliner has Scurll panicking but Tama is right back with a Lumbar Check. Nick gets the tag and beats up both Guns at the same time in a completely face sequence.

Everything breaks down and it's a double Sharpshooter to the Guns. Sabin slips out of More Bang For Your Buck and it's the Dream Sequence to Matt. Nick will have none of that though and cleans house until Jay Rock Bottoms Matt down, followed by a big flip dive out to the floor to drop a pile of people. The Meltzer Driver is broken up and it's the Guns kicking the heck out of Matt. Something like a double Death Valley Driver is enough to put Matt away at 11:20.

Rating: B. This was another fast paced, entertaining match that could even overcome the Bucks levels of annoyance. Having the Bucks lose was a good way to set up a likely title match at the pay per view and that's as simple of a way as you can go. The Bucks need challengers and while I don't think the Guns are going to get the belts, they're as fine as anyone else for some short term challengers.

Bucks vs. Guns for the Tag Team Titles is announced for the pay per view to end the show.

Overall Rating: A-. It's almost like this show is WAY better when there's actually a point. This show gave us two good matches and helped hype up the pay per view. We have an actual card now and that keeps the TV shows from being dull, meaningless wastes of time. I had a good time with this show and that's something I don't get to say much around here.

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up the Complete 2002 Monday Night Raw Reviews in either E-Book or Paperback. Check out the information here:

<http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2017/07/21/new-e-bookpaperback-kbs-complete-monday-night-raw-2002-reviews/>

And check out my Amazon author page with cheap wrestling books at:

<http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6>