

= Sacrifice ( 2008 ) =

Sacrifice ( 2008 ) was a professional wrestling pay @-@ per @-@ view ( PPV ) event produced by the Total Nonstop Action Wrestling ( TNA ) promotion that took place on May 11 , 2008 at the TNA Impact ! Zone in Orlando , Florida . It was the fourth event in the Sacrifice chronology and fifth event in the 2008 TNA PPV schedule . Ten professional wrestling matches , two for championships , were featured on the card .

The main event was a Three Way match for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship between then @-@ champion Samoa Joe and challengers Kaz and Scott Steiner . The match was initially promoted as Joe 's defense of his title against Kurt Angle and Steiner . However , Angle sustained an injury before the match that removed him from the bout ; he was replaced with Kaz . Joe won the match , retaining the championship . The Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament for the vacant TNA World Tag Team Championship was also held at Sacrifice . The Latin American Xchange ( Hernandez and Homicide ) defeated Team 3D ( Brother Devon and Brother Ray ) in the Finals to win the tournament and the championship . TNA featured two matches on the undercard : the TNA Knockouts Makeover Battle Royal for a future TNA Women 's Knockout Championship match , and the debut of the TNA TerrorDome to determine who would compete in a future TNA X Division Championship match and take Angle 's place in the main event . Gail Kim won the TNA Knockouts Makeover Battle Royal and Kaz won the latter .

Sacrifice is noted for the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament and the debut of the TerrorDome , later renamed the Steel Asylum at TNA 's Bound for Glory IV PPV event on October 12 , 2008 . The Wrestling Observer Newsletter reported 25 @, @ 000 people purchased the PPV and 900 people attended . Chris Sokol of the professional wrestling section of the Canadian Online Explorer rated Sacrifice a seven out of ten , the same ranking he gave the 2007 event .

= = Production = =

= = = Background = = =

In January 2008 , TNA announced that the fourth installment in the Sacrifice chronology would take place on May 11 . Two months later , Sacrifice was scheduled for the TNA Impact ! Zone in Orlando , Florida . TNA created a section covering the event on their website and released a promotional poster featuring TNA wrestlers Christian Cage , Kurt Angle , Samoa Joe , and Sting , and the tagline " Are You Willing To Give Up What Means The Most ? " On the May 1 episode of TNA 's television program TNA Impact ! , TNA announced it would introduce a new match type at Sacrifice , the TerrorDome .

= = = Storylines = = =

Sacrifice featured ten professional wrestling matches that involved wrestlers from pre @-@ existing scripted feuds and storylines portraying villains , heroes , or less distinguishable characters ; these scripted events built tension and culminated in a wrestling match or series of matches .

The main event at Sacrifice was a Three Way match for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship between then @-@ champion Samoa Joe and challengers Kurt Angle and Scott Steiner . At TNA 's previous PPV event Lockdown on April 13 , Joe defeated Angle in a Six Sides of Steel Cage match to win the TNA World Heavyweight Championship . Prior to Lockdown on the April 3 episode of Impact ! , Steiner announced that he would use his Feast or Fired TNA World Heavyweight Title shot at Sacrifice . Staying true to his word , on the April 17 episode of Impact ! , Steiner challenged Joe to a title defense at Sacrifice . Angle and Joe fought in a rematch for the title on the April 24 episode of Impact ! ; Joe won after Steiner interfered . In response to Steiner 's interference , Management Director Jim Cornette scheduled a Three Way match between Angle , Joe , and Steiner for the title at Sacrifice .

On the April 17 episode of Impact ! , A.J. Styles and Tomko defended the TNA World Tag Team Championship in a Three Way match against the teams of Kaz and Eric Young and The Latin American Xchange ( Hernandez and Homicide ; LAX ) . During the match , Young switched to his " Super Eric " superhero character and pinned Styles to win the championship for his team . Styles and Tomko were then scripted to argue that Young and Super Eric were different people . In the storyline , Super Eric and Young refused to admit they were the same person , causing Cornette to strip Kaz and Young of the championship . On the April 24 episode of Impact ! , Cornette set up the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament to crown new TNA World Tag Team Champions . The tournament consisted of eight established teams competing in four matches to qualify for the tournament . The four winning teams would then compete in a single @-@ elimination tournament against eight wrestlers chosen by Cornette to be assigned as teams at Sacrifice . The first two teams to qualify were Team 3D ( Brother Devon and Brother Ray ) and the pairing of Christian Cage and Rhino on the April 24 episode of Impact ! . LAX and the team of Styles and Super Eric were the last , qualifying on the May 1 episode of Impact ! . Cornette also announced the eight wrestlers ? known as the Egotistical Eight ? who would be involved at Sacrifice on the May 1 episode of Impact ! : Awesome Kong , B.G. James , Booker T , Kip James , Matt Morgan , James Storm , Robert Roode , and Sting . Two teams were announced on the May 8 episode of Impact ! : Sting teamed with Storm and Kip aligned with Morgan .

The TNA Knockouts Makeover Battle Royal and the debut of the X Division TerrorDome were promoted as featured matches for the Sacrifice undercard . The TNA Knockouts Makeover Battle Royal was announced by Cornette on the April 24 episode of Impact ! . The rules of the contest involved two stages : a standard battle royal in which competitors fought to eliminate wrestlers by throwing them over the top rope and a ladder match in which the final two wrestles fought to retrieve a contract that had been hung above the ring . An added stipulation to the bout was that the loser 's head would be shaved and the winner would earn a TNA Women 's Knockout Championship match . On the May 8 episode of Impact ! , Gail Kim won a Ten @-@ Woman Clippers on a Pole match that granted her immunity from having her head shaven if she lost at the event . During the April 24 episode of Impact ! , TNA announced plans to introduce a new match type in the near future . The TerrorDome was announced on the May 1 episode of Impact ! , and the participants were announced on the May 8 episode . The participants were Alex Shelley , Chris Sabin , Consequences Creed , Curry Man , Jay Lethal , Jimmy Rave , Johnny Devine , Kaz , Shark Boy , and Sonjay Dutt .

= = Event = =

At the start of the program , Kurt Angle announced he received a legitimate neck injury wrestling overseas a few days prior to the show . He consequently removed himself from the main event at the order of his doctor .

= = = Other featured employees and attendees = = =

Sacrifice featured employees other than the wrestlers involved in the matches . Mike Tenay and Don West were the primary commentators for the telecast ; Frank Trigg provided guest commentary for the main event . Jeremy Borash ( for the main event ) and David Penzer served as ring announcers . Andrew Thomas , Earl Hebner , Rudy Charles , and Mark " Slick " Johnson participated as referees . Lauren Thompson and Borash conducted interviews during the show . In addition , Angle , Trigg , Kevin Nash , Rick Steiner , Jim Cornette , Petey Williams , Hector Guerrero , Raisha Saeed , and members of Samoa Joe 's family appeared on camera in backstage or ringside segments . Joe 's family performed a traditional Samoan fire dance during his ring entrance . Billy Corgan of The Smashing Pumpkins was also in attendance .

= = = Preliminary matches = = =

The first of four quarterfinal matches in the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament opened Sacrifice . It pitted James Storm , accompanied by Jackie Moore and Sting , against Team 3D ( Brother Devon and Brother Ray ) . The match lasted eight minutes and fifty seconds . Near the end , Team 3D set up a table in the middle of the ring . Sting then turned on Storm and lifted him off the turnbuckle and slammed him through the table . Devon covered Storm for the win , thereby advancing himself and Brother Ray in the tournament .

The second quarterfinal match , Christian Cage and Rhino against Booker T and Robert Roode , lasted seven minutes and five seconds . Rhino won the match for his team by tackling Roode . Afterwards , Booker T attacked Cage and Rhino with a steel chair .

In the third quarterfinal match , Latin American Xchange ( Hernandez and Homicide ; LAX ) , accompanied by Hector Guerrero , fought the team of Kip James and Matt Morgan . The match ended after four minutes and twenty seconds when Morgan missed a bicycle kick on Hernandez , mistakenly hitting Kip in the face . Hernandez then performed a dropkick on Morgan and followed with the cover on Kip for the win .

The last quarterfinal match featured A.J. Styles and Super Eric against Awesome Kong and B.G. James . Super Eric picked up Kong and slammed her into B.G. , who was laying on the ring mat . Later , Styles attempted to perform a move by jumping off the ropes , but legitimately tripped , falling face @-@ first on the mat . Then B.G. lifted Styles to perform a suplex , which Styles countered into a small package pin attempt , resulting in a victory at five minutes and forty five seconds .

The fifth match was the debut of the TerrorDome and involved Alex Shelley , Chris Sabin , Consequences Creed , Curry Man , Jay Lethal , Jimmy Rave , Johnny Devine , Kaz , Shark Boy , and Sonjay Dutt . Before the match , Management Director Jim Cornette announced that the winner would take Kurt Angle 's place in the main event , in addition to being the TNA X Division Championship number one contender . In this match , the ring was surrounded by a giant red steel barred cage with a domed roof . The wrestlers were to compete as they climbed up the side to a hole in the center of the ceiling ; the first to escape the cage would win . While Devine was attempting to escape , Kaz intervened and caused Devine to fall from the ceiling into a group of wrestlers huddled in the center of the ring . Kaz then climbed out of the hole to win the contest at ten minutes and forty five seconds .

The semifinals of the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament followed , beginning with Team 3D pitted against Cage and Rhino in the sixth encounter . The bout lasted ten minutes . Before the contest , the TNA commentators announced that Booker T 's attack on Cage and Rhino had caused them to have concussions in the storyline . During the contest , Team 3D associate Johnny Devine came to the ring and handed Ray a kendo stick without the referee 's knowledge . Although Rhino tackled Devon and went for the cover , Devine entered the ring to distract the referee , allowing Ray to hit Rhino with the kendo stick and cover to win the contest for his team .

The last semifinal match between LAX , accompanied by Guerrero and Salinas , and Styles and Super Eric . During the bout , Hernandez lifted Super Eric and held him upside @-@ down vertically for an extended period of time before slamming him back @-@ first into the mat with a delayed vertical suplex . Later , Styles held Homicide in a small package pin attempt until Salinas distracted the referee , allowing Guerrero to enter the ring and readjust Styles and Homicide to make the pin in LAX 's favor . Afterwards , the referee counted the pin , giving LAX the win at seven minutes and forty seconds , although Styles ' shoulders were clearly not fully against the mat .

= = = Main event matches = = =

The first main event match was the TNA Knockouts Makeover Battle Royal , the winner of which would become the number one contender to the TNA Women 's Knockout Championship . It involved Angelina Love , Christy Hemme , Gail Kim , Jackie Moore , ODB , Salinas , Rhaka Khan , Roxxi Laveaux , Traci Brooks , and Velvet Sky . This contest involved two stages ; the first was a standard battle royal . After all but two wrestlers were eliminated , stage two , a ladder match , began . The winner of the ladder match would become the number one contender to the TNA Women 's Knockout Championship ; the loser would have her head shaved . The final four were Kim

, Laveaux , Love , and ODB . The next eliminated was ODB , followed by Love ; both were eliminated by Laveaux . Only Kim and Laveaux remained for the ladder match portion . Kim had won immunity on the May 8 episode of Impact ! , so if Laveaux won the match , then Love 's head would be shaven . Love and Sky interfered in the contest several times . During the bout , as Kim and Laveaux stood on the ladder , Kim flipped over Laveaux , grabbed her around the legs , and slammed her into the mat back @-@ first with a powerbomb . Laveaux 's head was legitimately cut open during this stage . Later , while Laveaux climbed the ladder in an attempt to retrieve the contract , Love interfered by pushing the ladder over . Kim followed by climbing the ladder and grabbing the contract to win the encounter at ten minutes . Afterwards , Laveaux was forced to have her head shaven .

Next was the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament finals for the vacant TNA World Tag Team Championship between LAX , accompanied by Guerrero and Salinas , and Team 3D . The duration was eleven minutes and thirty seconds . Devine tried to interfere in the contest by setting up a table for Team 3D , but Guerrero stopped him and set up the table for himself outside the ring , placing Devine on top . Guerrero then climbed a padded turnbuckle and jumped onto Devine with a diving foot stomp , forcing him through the table . In the ring , Team 3D performed one of their signature tag team maneuvers , the 3D II , forcing Homicide into the mat and following with a cover , but the referee refused to count because Homicide was not the legal man in the contest . Hernandez then performed his signature Border Toss maneuver on Devon , slamming him into the mat from the top of a turnbuckle . Homicide followed with a splash from the top of a padded turnbuckle on Devon for the pinfall victory , winning the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament and the vacant TNA World Tag Team Championship .

The main event was a Three Way match for the TNA World Heavyweight Championship between then @-@ champion Samoa Joe and challengers Kaz and Scott Steiner ? Steiner was accompanied by Petey Williams and Rhaka Khan . At the beginning of the bout , Joe placed Kaz and Steiner in various holds and submission maneuvers . Steiner countered this by placing Joe in his signature Steiner Recliner submission maneuver , which Joe escaped by lifting him in the air on his shoulders . Kaz then jumped off of a turnbuckle and dropkicked Steiner . Later , Joe dove through the second rope onto Steiner . However , Steiner countered by hitting Joe in the head with a steel pipe while the referee was distracted by Khan . Near the end of the match , Kaz tried to perform his signature Flux Capacitor maneuver on Steiner from a turnbuckle , but Steiner countered by pushing him off to the ringside area . Joe then kicked Steiner in the head and then performed his signature Muscle Buster maneuver , driving Steiner neck- and back @-@ first into the mat , at fourteen minutes and thirty seconds to win the contest and retain the TNA World Heavyweight Championship .

= = Reception = =

The event was attended by 900 people and , according to the The Wrestling Observer Newsletter , 25 @, @ 000 people purchased the show on pay @-@ per @-@ view . Chris Sokol of the Canadian Online Explorer rated Sacrifice a seven out of ten ; the same rating he gave to the 2007 Sacrifice event and higher than TNA 's previous event , Lockdown , which he gave a six and a half out of ten . TNA 's next PPV event , Slammiversary on June 8 , received the same rating by Jon Waldman . Sokol felt that Sacrifice was a " decent PPV " , and " interesting " overall and rated main event a seven and a half out of ten ; he described it as a " solid match , with good wrestling " . He rated the TerrorDome the highest , an eight out of ten , and the TNA Knockouts Makeover Battle Royal and The Latin American Xchange versus Kip James and Matt Morgan bout the lowest , a six out of ten . He rated the Finals of the Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament a seven and a half out of ten , and said that it was " another solid match between these two teams " . Sacrifice received a higher rating than rival World Wrestling Entertainment 's Judgment Day PPV event , held on May 19 , which Bob Kapur gave a six out of ten .

James Caldwell of the Pro Wrestling Torch gave the main event two and three @-@ quarter stars out of five and the Tournament Final received two and a half stars out of five . He stated that the main event had " its moments " but " wasn 't memorable " . However , he described the Tournament

Final as a " great story " . Bryan Alvarez of Figure Four Weekly commented that the main event was a " good match " and the Tournament Final was a " pretty good match " . Phil Allely , a journalist for The Sun , argued that the absence of Kurt Angle " actually helped TNA as it added some realism to the night , giving an ultra talented mid @-@ carder a rare chance to shine in the main event " but felt that the show was " marred by TNA ? s reliance on run @-@ ins and interference " .

Sacrifice was released on DVD on July 15 , 2008 by TNA Home Video .

= = Aftermath = =

The decision to remove Kurt Angle from the Sacrifice main event was not made until the day of the show . Angle was expected to be sidelined for at least one month , putting TNA 's original plan , a match between him and A. J. Styles at Slammiversary , in jeopardy . Scott Steiner received an unspecified injury at Sacrifice .

Following Sacrifice , Samoa Joe defended the TNA World Heavyweight Championship against four other competitors in a King of the Mountain match at Slammiversary . The match was announced on the May 15 episode of Impact ! by Joe . Booker T , Christian Cage , James Storm , Matt Morgan , Rhino , Robert Roode , Styles , and Tomko competed in qualification matches for the contest on the May 22 and May 29 Impact ! episodes ; Booker T , Cage , Rhino , and Roode qualified . Kevin Nash was named Special Guest Ringside Enforcer on the May 29 episode of Impact ! . Joe retained the championship at Slammiversary .

The Latin American Xchange ( Hernandez and Homicide ) and Team 3D ( Brother Devon and Brother Ray ) began a rivalry after Sacrifice over the TNA World Tag Team Championship . On the May 15 episode of Impact ! , Team 3D attacked LAX 's manager Hector Guerrero . Management Director Jim Cornette announced a rematch for the title at Slammiversary between the two teams on the May 29 episode of Impact ! . LAX were the victors in the contest at Slammiversary , retaining the championship .

On the May 22 episode of Impact ! , Styles fought Booker T in a King of the Mountain qualifier . After the bout , Booker T , Team 3D , and Tomko assaulted Styles until Angle came to his defense . However , Angle soon turned on Styles , striking him with a steel chair and continuing the assault with Booker T , Team 3D , and Tomko . This set up a match between Styles and Angle at Slammiversary , announced by Cornette on the May 29 episode of Impact ! . Styles defeated Angle at Slammiversary .

After Sacrifice , Roxxi Laveaux shortened her name to Roxxi . Gail Kim was given a TNA Women 's Knockout Championship match against then @-@ champion Awesome Kong on the May 15 episode of Impact ! . Kim lost the bout after interference from Angelina Love . The team of Kim , ODB , and Roxxi defeated The Beautiful People ( Angelina Love and Velvet Sky ) and Moose in a Six Woman Tag Team match at Slammiversary .

The new number one contender to the TNA X Division Championship , Kaz , was given a title match against then @-@ champion Petey Williams at Slammiversary . Kaz , however , lost the encounter . TNA later renamed the TerrorDome to the " Steel Asylum " when it was used on October 12 , 2008 at their Bound for Glory IV PPV event .

= = Results = =

TNA Knockouts Makeover Battle Royal  
Deuces Wild Tag Team Tournament bracket