

Jackpot Recap: 07.04.2025

July 4, 2025 | Studio

Introduction

The set glows in soft gold and crimson lighting. A sleek UTA "Jackpot Recap" graphic pulses behind a modern desk. At center stage stands MELISSA CARTWRIGHT, dressed sharply in a red blazer with black trim. The camera zooms in as the crowd audio fades under the studio ambiance.

Melissa Cartwright: Good evening, UTA fans! I'm Melissa Cartwright, and welcome to *Jackpot Recap* -- your official ringside rewind of all things United Toughness Alliance!

Melissa Cartwright: The month of June saw the *long-awaited return* of the UTA to the Pearl Theater in Las Vegas -- and with it came the launch of a high-stakes, high-drama tournament to crown a new UTA Champion. Over four weeks, we've seen chaos, controversy, comebacks, and championship dreams rise and fall.

Melissa Cartwright: From legendary returns to breakout performances... from unexpected debuts to main event mayhem -- the UTA's first month back has delivered in spades. And tonight, we're looking back at *every moment* that set the tone for what's shaping up to be the most competitive summer in UTA history.

Melissa Cartwright: We'll break down the full card from each edition of Jackpot this month, dive into the most talked-about storylines, and of course -- check in on the ever-intensifying UTA Championship Tournament, where only one can survive the road to 25, with the next detour being *One Last Stop*.

Melissa Cartwright: So, grab a drink, hit that replay button, and let's roll back the footage -- starting with week one. Jackpot. June 6th. The UTA comes home.

Month in Review

The screen behind Melissa shifts to a montage of arena footage, match highlights, and roaring fans from the past four weeks inside the Pearl Theater. Golden overlays label each week's Jackpot episode as upbeat instrumental music plays briefly underneath.

Melissa Cartwright: The United Toughness Alliance kicked off its return on June 6th with a message from COO Rich Wingate -- and a promise: four weeks in Las Vegas, a new champion crowned, and the dawning of a new era.

Melissa Cartwright: That night, Jackpot set the tone early. We saw Brick Bronson bulldoze through Carter Durant. Gideon Graves dismantled El Fantasma Oscuro with brutal efficiency. And Jaxson Ryder brought the crowd to its feet with a highlight-reel Phoenix Splash over Graham Keel to advance in the tournament.

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Melissa Cartwright: But it was the main event that had people talking. Athena Storm vs. Valentina Blaze -- two rising stars delivering a modern classic... until Valkyrie Knox stormed the ring and wrecked *both* women, leaving carnage behind and a message loud and clear: the Women's Division just became war.

Clips play behind her: Knox's ambush, Ryder's victory celebration, and Brick's cold stare toward the UTA Championship banner.

Melissa Cartwright: Week two saw momentum shift -- and returns begin. Jet Lawson lit up the skies but couldn't outmaneuver the cold-blooded Magnus Wolfe. Maxx Mayhem took Titan Rex to the edge before getting himself disqualified in a chair-swinging meltdown. And in one of the most anticipated returns of the year, B.R. Ellis made his in-ring comeback against Tyler Cruz.

Melissa Cartwright: Cruz gave it everything, but Ellis reminded the world what elite technical wrestling looks like. Cold, focused, and relentless -- B.R. Ellis punched his ticket to the second round.

Footage plays of Cruz's Sky Twister Press, Ellis's suplex barrage, and the post-match handshake that brought the Pearl Theater crowd to its feet.

Melissa Cartwright: Also announced that night -- the road to the UTA Championship ends at *One Last Stop* on July 11th before *WrestleUTA: 25* on August 3rd. Every match from June forward builds to that single destination... and every superstar wants their name in that final bracket.

Melissa Cartwright: As June rolls on, storylines deepen, rivalries ignite, and the pressure mounts. Who will survive the path to the finals? And who will be left wondering what could have been?

Melissa Cartwright: Week three of Jackpot saw the tournament field tighten. Brick Bronson powered past Gideon Graves in a collision of tanks. Jaxson Ryder edged out Jet Lawson in a high-octane aerial clash. Malachi Cross and Titan Rex tore the ring apart in a heavy-hitting war -- with Rex pulling out the win. And in one of the most technical showdowns of the month, Jarvis Valentine narrowly defeated B.R. Ellis in a match that had purists buzzing for days.

Melissa Cartwright: Then came week four -- the final Jackpot before **One Last Stop**. The UTA Championship Tournament field is now locked in: Brick Bronson, Jaxson Ryder, Titan Rex, and Jarvis Valentine. Four men. Two matches. One championship destiny awaits on July 11.

Melissa Cartwright: But that episode also gave us something else -- answers. After weeks of attacks and silence, Valkyrie Knox finally stepped forward and told the world why she dismantled the Women's Division.

Clips roll of Valkyrie in the ring, cold and commanding.

Melissa Cartwright: Her reason? She's not here for a division. She's not here for validation. She's here to destroy the illusion of hierarchy in women's wrestling. She doesn't want a title -- she wants to burn down the foundation. Athena Storm and Valentina Blaze were simply the first bricks to fall.

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Melissa pauses for a moment.

Melissa Cartwright: Joining me now to discuss her history with the UTA and her appearance on last week's Jackpot -

Melissa begins to walk, the camera following her.

Melissa Cartwright: Marie Van Claudio.

Marie Van Claudio awaits her, wearing a pink dress. She shakes Marie's hand and they both take a seat in chairs set up.

Melissa Cartright: Marie, I want to thank you for taking the time out to sit with me and talk about what's been going on within the UTA.

Marie Van Claudio: I thank you for your time, and if you must, you can ask me anything and I will be happy to answer them.

Melissa Cartright: Well, let's get the first question out of the way. You are no stranger to the UTA. You were a part of the company from 2014 up till the end of 2016. Do you have any good experiences being here along with bad experiences?

Marie looks at her and begins to talk.

Marie Van Claudio: Of course. In every company, you are going to have good times and bad times. When I look back at my UTA career, I look at both of them. The good times where I won the Women's Championship for the first time AND where I took La Flama Blanca to the limit and nearly won the UTA World Championship for the first time. OH! And I should mention that I defeated Kathryn Velmont Thomas to become the NEW First Lady of the UTA!

She smirks at that statement.

Marie Van Claudio: And there are also the bad times. Some days I didn't even feel like I didn't belong because of some of the stuff that was said about me, some days I didn't want to be heard because of it and not to mention the drama that happened with Amy Harrison.

She pauses as Melissa looks at her.

Melissa Cartright: Speaking of which, do you ever think we will see Amy Harrison come here again?

Marie Van Claudio: I don't have a say in that - the only thing I know is she still has that bitter taste of losing the Prodigy Championship. Whether she shows up or not, it's her decision, not mine.

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Melissa Cartright: I respect honesty.

Marie nods at that statement.

Melissa Cartright: Now let's talk about last week at Jackpot. You showed up and wanted to take a look at the action. It was also said by commentary that you could be a future hall of famer! What are your thoughts on that statement?

Marie pauses;

Marie Van Claudio: You never know what to expect. I do appreciate the comments and hopefully one that will happen! I don't know when, but if it does happen soon, say at the anniversary show, then I know my time in UTA meant something.

Melissa Cartright: Also, another thing I want to touch up on. The comments that were made towards you from Valkyrie. I'm positive that they made you very upset.

Marie's eyes come across with anger.

Marie Van Claudio: Anger is not the word to describe how I am feeling! As much talent Valkyrie has in that ring, her attitude towards veterans, like me, that fought for a women's division to happen, especially now, are very and I mean very hurtful and tasteless! I busted my ass for many years to earn respect in this place to begin with!

She keeps her eyes on Melissa.

Marie Van Claudio: And if I was still active on the roster, I would smack her around, beat her down and show her why she should respect the ones who made this possible! I'm not going to let my legacy go to waste at -

Just then Valkyrie comes in and Marie stands up, kicking her chair back. Melissa quickly gets up and rushes out of the area, leaving Valkyrie and Marie face to face as the height difference is showing. Valkyrie looks up and down.

Valkyrie Knox: For someone that talks a lot, you sure talk about a big game. Talking trash like that got your ass handed to you by the likes of Mikey Unlikey, Amy Harrison and others that basically mopped the floor with you.

Valkyrie smirks at what she said, but Marie is not happy at all.

Valkyrie Knox: Future hall fo famer? With your bad record? I needed that laugh.

Marie Van Claudio: Oh really? You think I'm some weak link that had a bad record in the past. Well maybe

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you should ask ANYONE I've faced off with in this place what I am capable of doing! Don't believe it, then maybe you should find out!

Valkyrie rolls her eyes.

Valkyrie Knox: Stop with that tough girl act, I'm not buying it at all. I have better things to worry about instead of a hack like Marie Van Claudio trying to get back her glory days when she knows it's up! You know what I plan on doing, Marie?

She circles around her as Marie is looking uncomfortable.

Valkyrie Knox: Going into One Last stop and winning the Women's Championship. The championship that you once held before it was taken away due to the lack of talent and the lack of a leader in you!

Marie becomes irritated as Valkyrie still circles around her like a shark.

Valkyrie Knox: And besides, if you ever step into the ring again, I will make sure the "future hall of famer" NEVER, and I mean NEVER, gets to hold the Women's Championship as long as I am champion... again.

Valkyrie stops circling around her as she begins to walk away. Valkyrie turns behind her as Marie still has a pissed off look on her face. Valkyrie turns and mouths off "pathetic" with Marie watching her go.

The Breakdown

As Marie Van Claudio storms off, we are taken back to the other side of the studio where the screen behind Melissa displays: "UTA STORYLINES TO WATCH." Bold graphics and high-drama music underscore each story as she walks through them.

Melissa Cartwright: An intense situation brewing between Valkyrie Knox and Marie Van Claudio right here on Jackpot Recap.

She composes herself, and brings things back on track.

Melissa Cartwright: Over four weeks, the UTA hasn't just delivered great matches -- it's ignited powerful stories. These are the arcs driving the conversation... and shaking up the future of this promotion.

Melissa Cartwright: First -- *Valkyrie Knox: Burn It Down.*

Clips flash of Valkyrie's ambush on June 6th... and her chilling promo on Jackpot's final June episode.

Melissa Cartwright: We now know why she attacked Athena Storm and Valentina Blaze. Valkyrie Knox isn't chasing titles -- she's here to tear down what she calls the "hollow empire" of women's wrestling. Her mission

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is destruction, not division. And if her message wasn't clear before... it is now. Nobody is safe.

She looks back over toward where she just was with MVC.

Melissa Cartwright: Maybe not even legacy stars such as Marie Van Claudio, as we just saw.

She resituates herself, and continues.

Melissa Cartwright: Second -- *Brick Bronson: Cold, Unstoppable, Unshaken.*

The screen shows Brick dismantling Carter Durant... and then plowing through Gideon Graves with the same calculated brutality.

Melissa Cartwright: Two matches. Two dominant wins. Brick Bronson doesn't talk -- he crushes. He didn't just beat two of the toughest men on the roster -- he did it without blinking. If there's anyone steamrolling toward the finals at *One Last Stop*... it's this man.

Melissa Cartwright: Third -- *Jarvis Valentine Returns to Form.*

Footage rolls of Jarvis locking in the Figure Four and scoring the decisive win over B.R Ellis.

Melissa Cartwright: B.R Ellis's return was impressive -- but it was Jarvis Valentine who rose to the occasion. Cool, focused, and unshaken by the spotlight, Jarvis proved that time away hasn't dulled his edge. He's heading to the semifinals -- and he just might complete the comeback story of the year.

Melissa Cartwright: And finally -- *The Risk and Reward of Jaxson Ryder.*

Montage: Ryder's Phoenix Splash against Keel... and his hard-fought victory over Jet Lawson.

Melissa Cartwright: Ryder's heart is undeniable. But now the stakes are even higher. Can that fire carry him all the way to championship gold -- or will the risks finally catch up to him at *One Last Stop*?

The Road to 25: ONE LAST STOP

The studio lights dim to a rich crimson glow. Behind Melissa, the screen now reads: "ONE LAST STOP - JULY 11 - PEARL THEATER." Footage flashes of the finalists, Valkyrie's attacks, and the roaring Las Vegas crowd. A slow drumbeat pulses underneath as the camera zooms in.

Melissa Cartwright: Four shows. Four rounds. And now, only four remain.

Melissa Cartwright: On July 11th, the United Toughness Alliance returns to the Pearl Theater for *One Last Stop* -- our first major event in over five years. And at its center? The crowning of a brand-new UTA World

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Champion.

Melissa Cartwright: In the semifinals -- Brick Bronson will collide with Jaxson Ryder. A cold-blooded tank versus a high-flying risk-taker with nothing to lose. One man crushes everything in front of him. The other survives by inches and heart. Something's got to give.

Melissa Cartwright: On the other side, Jarvis Valentine meets Titan Rex -- a clash of styles, eras, and strength. Jarvis wants to prove his legacy still matters. Rex? He's a modern monster looking to define his own.

All four finalists appear onscreen in a dramatic tournament bracket overlay. Their eyes stare directly into the camera, dead serious.

Melissa Cartwright: But the championship tournament isn't the only headline on July 11th.

Melissa Cartwright: After weeks of cryptic violence, Valkyrie Knox has made it official -- she *will* be at **One Last Stop**. Whether it's a match, a massacre, or something else entirely... the division is on alert.

Footage plays of Athena Storm and Valentina Blaze both recovering and rallying fan support. Overlay text reads: "SHOWDOWN IMMINENT."

Melissa Cartwright: More matches will be announced in the days ahead. Rumors are swirling. Legends may return. New names may debut. And the future of UTA will be written under the brightest lights we've seen in years.

Melissa Cartwright: July 11th. One final night in Las Vegas. Four names chasing immortality. And one shot at the most coveted prize in pro wrestling.

Suddenly, the lights in the studio shift -- a sharp static pulse cuts through the audio feed.

Melissa Cartwright: Uh--hold on a moment--

The camera swings wide as Eric Dane Jr. steps onto the set, wearing street clothes, a bandage on his shoulder, and fire in his eyes. He doesn't wait for permission.

Eric Dane Jr.: Melissa, I'm sorry to crash the show, but I've got something to say -- and I won't wait.

The crowd in the studio stirs, sensing the tension.

Eric Dane Jr.: Two weeks ago, I was attacked on Jackpot. Then again in Orlando at IN THE ZONE. I still don't know who's behind the mask. But what I do know is I'm done waiting, and I'm done watching my back.

He turns to face the camera directly.

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Eric Dane Jr.: So here it is -- no tricks, no sneak attacks. At One Last Stop, I'll be in that ring. If you've got the guts, you'll meet me there... face to face. No mask. No hiding. I want to see you.

He steps closer, jaw clenched.

Eric Dane Jr.: July 11th. Las Vegas. Come find me... if you're man enough.

Dane turns and walks off set without another word. The studio is left buzzing.

Melissa Cartwright (composing herself): Well... there you have it. Eric Dane Jr. has laid down the gauntlet. The masked attacker's days in the shadows may be numbered.

She looks back to the camera, regaining her broadcaster poise.

Melissa Cartwright: I'm Melissa Cartwright -- and this has been Jackpot Recap. We'll see you ringside at One Last Stop.

The camera fades to black. The UTA logo flashes in red and gold, followed by the event tagline:

"ONE LAST STOP -- LIVE FROM LAS VEGAS -- JULY 11"

Show Credits

Segment: "Introduction" - Written by Ben.

Segment: "Month in Review" - Written by Ben, meagan.

Segment: "The Breakdown" - Written by Ben.

Segment: "The Road to 25: ONE LAST STOP" - Written by Ben.

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