

Reviewing the Review – Monday Night Raw: June 15, 2015

After all the pay per views in the span of a few weeks, this show marks the beginning of a recently unthinkable FIVE WEEK build to Battleground. The big stories are Sheamus now holding the Money in the Bank briefcase and fellow heel Seth Rollins retaining the World Title last night in a long ladder match against Dean Ambrose. This means that Rollins won a major match on his own. I wonder if we'll hear about that tonight. Let's get to it.

Before we get started, there was one last tribute to Dusty Rhodes. Yeah it's the same one, but Dusty deserves as many as WWE wants to give him.

The main story throughout the night was the Authority picking the next challenger to Seth's title. This means that people were trying to impress them all night, because the Authority are the king and queen of WWE and the wrestlers are all just their playthings, sent out there to dance and perform at the Authority's will. Throughout the night there were people having regular matches which for some reason meant more, even though it's almost never someone you see earlier in the night because WWE has gotten very, very stale in its format. We'll get to the next challenger at the end.

Rollins came out for his big victory speech and bragged about being that much better than Ambrose. They're doing a great job of keeping Ambrose from beating Rollins and when he finally does, which he will one day, it's going to be a big moment. As Rollins took all the credit (literally thanking himself over and over in a great heel touch), Ambrose came out and cleaned house, saying he wasn't leaving the ring until he got another fight against Rollins. This went on for awhile until Sheamus came out for a fight, eventually losing to a rollup. Why would you ever want to win something in WWE? It almost guarantees a losing streak.

Case in point: R-Truth beat King Barrett for the second time in two days, this time in about twenty seconds. Barrett beat him down post match and

talked about how serious this was to him. I'm picturing Barrett running around talking about how TOTALLY IMPORTANT it is that he's a king while everyone else laughs at him, because that's how interesting wrestlers are treated around here.

Kevin Owens bragged, Dolph Ziggler challenged him to a non-title match, Owens beat Ziggler in the same match Ziggler has had for the last year. In case you can't tell, I really, really do not care about Dolph Ziggler. Word on the street is that he was about to leave the company and I can't say I'm complaining.

Paige tried to get the Divas to help her fight the Bellas but this somehow tied into the Authority and the rest of the division not wanting to get on their bad side. This is pretty clearly setting up some NXT callups and I'm terrified of what might happen to them. The Bellas beat Paige in a handicap match later in the show.

Sheamus helped Kane beat Orton in a nothing match. This was supposed to make me think Kane is a viable contender to Rollins. That's hilarious, if not a bit stupid.

With an unintentional assist from Ryback, Miz beat Big Show via countout. This was fine as a quick help to the three way feud.

Roman Reigns wanted to fight Bray Wyatt, but Bray did his usual freaky promo before holding up a picture of Reigns playing with his daughter. See, that's at least that's a specific thing for Wyatt, who usually only speaks in riddles. It's a baby step, but at least a step.

Machine Gun Kelly, a rapper I've only heard of through WWE, rapped for the better part of eternity and was then beaten up by Kevin Owens. That alone made the way too long performance worth it as Owens is one of the coolest heels in a very, very long time.

Neville/Prime Time Players beat the New Day in a fun six man. It's good to see Neville added into a feud so he has something to do instead of just floating from match to match.

The big reveal was, of course, Brock Lesnar, which opens up a ton of

storyline plot holes but his Suplex City/Exit F5 shirt more than made up for it. A few of these plot holes:

1. Cole's lawsuit, which isn't so much a plot hole as they addressed it on WWE.com, but they really need to mention it on Raw. It just needs to be a quick line of "we settled it out of court" but it needs to be said on TV.

2. After Stephanie freaked out of Lesnar and sent him away because she hadn't captured a good set of balls in a long time, they're just bringing him back to beat up their guy? Is this supposed to be a test? Or are they dumping Rollins to go with Lesnar, who was all insane and violent and nowhere near as controllable as Rollins?

3. What if Rollins wins? Is he supposed to just say "yeah it's cool Authority. I don't mind you throwing the biggest, baddest monster ever. What are we doing for dinner tonight?"

Overall this show was about setting up Battleground, which again has the potential to be one of the more entertaining shows in a long time. Granted a lot of that is due to Brock, but that's why you bring him in. I wasn't wild on the story of wondering who the opponent was going to be because Lesnar really wasn't all that shocking. Still though, good enough show which wasn't the same old repetitive stuff we've seen time after time. There are some plot holes that have to be addressed however, but you can do that in just a few quick promos.

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