

Main Event – March 9, 2017: Thank Goodness For Raw

Main Event

Date: March 9, 2017

Location: Allstate Arena, Chicago, Illinois

Commentators: Tom Phillips, Byron Saxton

Back to the land of the misfit toys that no one cares enough to repair because they weren't all that fun in the first place. I'm sure we'll get to hear about how amazing Brock Lesnar vs. Goldberg will be, despite it not being likely to last as long as either match on this show is going to be. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

Jinder Mahal vs. Curtis Axel

Dang from a pay per view to Main Event in the same week. Some people might say that the Fastlane match was COMPLETELY POINTLESS but I'm not supposed to complain about free wrestling or something. Curtis chops away in the corner as you can see droves of people going to the stairs. A jumping knee to the chin puts Axel down and some kneedrops make things worse. That earns Jinder some angry right hands in the corner and the Hennig necksnap for two. The PerfectPlex is broken up though and Jinder grabs a cobra clutch slam for the pin at 3:46.

Rating: D. For those of you who were begging for Jinder to get his head back you see. Axel continues to be someone whose time has passed and there's almost no way to recover but at least he got that token Intercontinental Title reign a few years back. These guys are the Main Event Players and it's no surprise that the match was as meaningless as it was.

Package on Sunday's main event which is longer than the main event itself.

To Raw!

Here's Chris Jericho to get us going, which is the absolute best thing they could do to keep the crowd from turning on the show. Tonight is the rebirth of Chris Jericho because last night at Fastlane he screwed Kevin Owens out of the Universal Title. A few weeks ago, Owens took a knife and he stuck it in man.

Jericho wants Owens out here right now so here's Kevin. Owens starts to talk but Jericho immediately cuts him off and wants to know why he was stabbed in the back. Kevin says there was no stabbing in the back because they were never best friends. Remember who his best friend used to be? Sami Zayn, who Owens stabbed in the back as he would do over and over again.

Jericho is just a tool and Owens did whatever he could to keep the Universal Title. Chris was there to watch his back because he knew what to expect but he was also gullible. Then Jericho outlived his usefulness by accepting the match against Goldberg on Kevin's behalf. Last night Goldberg would have been outsmarted but Jericho got the better of Kevin last night.

Jericho calls trusting Owens the worst thing he ever could have done but now he has friends around this arena. Chris: "I've got the friends of Jericho! CHEER ME ON MAN!" Jericho isn't done with Owens though because last night was the beginning of a road that ends at Wrestlemania. The match is made but since the show is in a month, let's have a fight right now. Owens comes down to the ring for the brawl until Samoa Joe comes in to jump Jericho. Sami Zayn runs out with a chair for the save and house is cleaned.

To Monday again.

Here's Goldberg and EGADS the booing starts when the music stops. Goldberg holds up the title and says it belongs to the people as much as it belongs to him. Goldberg says he has information he's never mentioned before but the CM PUNK chants start up. He kind of rolls with them but here's Paul Heyman instead. Heyman knows he's not man enough to get in the ring with Goldberg but he knows someone who is.

Cue Brock Lesnar for the staredown with Heyman saying that no one is

happier for Goldberg than Lesnar himself. Only one of them can walk out as the winner because the other will walk out of Wrestlemania as the loser. Lesnar extends his hand as Goldberg looks at Lesnar, meaning it's an F5 for the new champ.

Jack Gallagher/Mustafa Ali vs. Tony Nese/Noam Dar

Gallagher does his headstand in the corner to scare Nese off so he brings in Dar to take Ali's headscissors. You know what that means. Yeah apparently WWE thinks that a basic move on a nothing show is going to get the next Undertaker Loses reaction so CUE THE FREAKING CROWD SHOT.

Back from a break with Ali armdragging Nese into an armbar. Gallagher comes in and gets beaten down as well with the tag formula going full steam ahead. Jack escapes a body vise and makes the hot tag to Ali for the rolling neckbreaker. Gallagher is brought right back in for the headbutts, setting up the inverted 450 to give Ali the pin at 9:15.

Rating: C-. This felt like it was out of the early days of the cruiserweight division and that's not a good thing. There's no particular reason for these four to be fighting (or teaming together for that matter) but they had ten minutes to do their thing, which wasn't all that impressive. It's certainly not bad but nothing you'll want to see again.

And now from the end of Raw.

Here's Strowman to finish what he started last night. Roman's music starts but is quickly replaced by a gong because here comes Undertaker. The fans are WAY into this staredown but Braun bails into the crowd as the fans cheer for Undertaker. As Undertaker goes to leave, cue Reigns for the real staredown. The fans aren't quite as into this and boo Reigns out of the building as he says this isn't about Undertaker. Reigns says it's his yard now (that's all this match needed to set it up) and that earns him a chokeslam. We get a shot of the Wrestlemania logo over Undertaker's shoulder before he walks out to end the show.

Overall Rating: C-. In what's becoming a horrible trend, there's nothing to talk about with the original stuff, which becomes a rather irritating problem. The good thing is that we had a strong Raw to balance things out and give us some good clips. I know there's a reason for this show to stay around but the lack of effort is getting really tiresome.

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