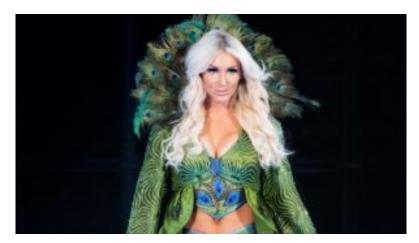
## Main Event — March 8, 2018: All I Can Ask For



IMG Credit: WWE

## Main Event

Date: March 8, 2018

Location: BMO Harris Bradley Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

We're now on the Road to Wrestlemania and that could be interesting from a Main Event perspective. I mean, I'm not sure how interesting it could be as Main Event doesn't exactly have the best prospects, but at least we could see some good highlights from the important shows. Let's get to it.

Here's last week's show if you need a recap.

Opening sequence.

## Apollo vs. Curt Hawkins

Where would we be without Hawkins? They don't waste time and hit an early wrestling sequence until Apollo (I still want to say Crews) scores with a jumping back elbow. Hawkins bails and tries to kiss Dana Brooke, which goes even worse than you would expect. Back in and a Stunner over the ropes ropes Apollo and Hawkins stomps away. Apollo is right back with the jumping enziguri and standing moonsault for two. The Toss Powerbomb is countered into a rollup with a handful of trunks for two more in a not

bad false finish. Back up and the Toss Powerbomb connects to end Hawkins at 5:18.

Rating: C. Not too bad here but it's the same thing we've seen so many times now. The thing is, it's not like Hawkins needs really needs to do anything with the losing streak. It's a good idea and something they can continue with for months on end. Go with what you can get out of it and that's all that can be asked.

From Raw.

Here's Kurt Angle to get things going. Kurt is serious this week because he got sucker punched last week. HHH hit him right in the jaw and while Kurt has swallowed his pride before, he's calling HHH out right now. The jacket comes off and here's a swaggering Stephanie (the obvious response) instead. Stephanie asks about Angle's five kids and ex-wife, meaning he likely has an alimony payment. She advises Kurt to stick with what he does for a living and here's Ronda Rousey to interrupt.

Rousey talks about the people who brought her here not being what they said they were but she's dealt with that before. Stephanie laughs this off and says people don't often understand their bosses' decisions. What Rousey needs to remember is that she signed a contract with WWE and that puts her under Stephanie. Ronda remembers something about that contract: she's allowed to pick her opponent. That opponent would be Stephanie, so here's HHH to keep his wife from a bad case of death.

Angle brings up that Stephanie also has a wrestler's contract (Why?) so the match is on. She's not the only one with a wrestler's contract because HHH has one too. That's why the mixed tag match is on for Wrestlemania. HHH leaves so Stephanie loads up the slap on Angle, only to have Rousey grab the arm. HHH comes back in for the save and the fight is on with Stephanie knocking Rousey down from behind. The stare sends her bailing as HHH is put in the ankle lock. Stephanie comes back for the save but gets pulled back into the ring for a not great Samoan drop from Rousey.

Video on New Day vs. the Usos.

From Smackdown.

Charlotte and Ruby Riott are brought out for an opening chat. Ruby cuts Dasha Fuentes off and says this started on November 14, 2017 when Charlotte won the Smackdown Women's Title. Charlotte is the perfect person to be the top star of the women's division but then Ruby saw the myth fall apart. It was a week later that Ruby started the Riott Squad with the sole purpose of destroying Charlotte's myth.

Charlotte talks about how just being good isn't enough because she has to transcend everything. That's what she's done and now she's become the best ever. Ruby says that's all on the line Sunday and when Charlotte loses, she'll be just another bleach blonde with a famous last name. The Squad gets in the ring but here's Bobby Roode to scare them off and to do commentary on the next match. Good promo here, but it should have been for a Wrestlemania match instead of a Fastlane match.

## <u>Gran Metalik/Kalisto vs. Ariya Daivari/Tony Nese</u>

Back to the old 205 Live style, which isn't the worst thing in the world. Daivari and Kalisto get things going with the latter grabbing a bunch of rollups for two each. It's off to Nese for the posing so Kalisto dropkicks him down without much effort. A hurricanrana sends Nese outside and that means a big flip dive to both villains as we take a break. Back with Metalik missile dropkicking Kalisto for two as everything breaks down. A superkick drops Daivari and Metalik's top rope elbow is good for the pin at 9:38.

Rating: C+. Totally standard Main Event cruiserweight match here and that's all it needs to be. It's a good idea to have the cruiserweights get out there in front of the live crowd as they're certainly exciting enough to fire the fans up. Just go with something like that and see what you can do to get us ready for the important stuff.

From Raw.

Here's Paul Heyman to respond to Roman Reigns' comments last week. Heyman lays the title down, saying he's allowed to do it because Brock Lesnar allows him to. Roman came out here last week and criticized Lesnar's

schedule. The biggest win of Reigns' career is defeating the Undertaker last year at Wrestlemania. Brock Lesnar did that too and Lesnar is Brock Lesnar 365 days a year.

After Wrestlemania, Brock may let Heyman come out here and lay the title down again. Then maybe he'll lay the UFC Heavyweight Championship next to it. At Wrestlemania, Reigns is coming for the title but that's just not happening. Heyman: "And Afa Wrestlemania, you can Sika new title to challenge for, because this one is going home with Brock Lesnar." Heyman goes to leave but stops to hold up the title. Last week Reigns said Lesnar was a b\*\*\*\*. The reality is the title is Lesnar's b\*\*\*\*.

Brock does what he wants with it and looks at it whenever he wants but Reigns has been looking at it. The title, which isn't a belt or a strap but proof that Lesnar is the best in the universe, is going to have to be pried out of Lesnar's hot, active fingers. Reigns wants to be champion because it's his bloodline, but the title is what matters most to Lesnar. If Reigns wants to be the Universal Champion, he can't go home if he finds out something happened to his father, because someone has to be there to defend and present this title the night after Wrestlemania.

Reigns isn't the man to take the title from Lesnar and there's no way around it. Now Reigns knows that he shouldn't shoot from the hip with Heyman and he shouldn't shoot in the ring with Lesnar. Heyman goes to leave again but now it's Reigns coming out to interrupt. Reigns says this is proof that what he said is right: all he did is sent Heyman for his rebuttal. All the fans want is for their champion to show up and want to be here. Brock is going to be in Detroit next week so he better be dressed for a fight. Heyman gets out as fast as he can to end the show.

It's a good promo from Heyman, albeit a little long. The problem though is all the cheering for Reigns comes to a crashing halt as soon as Brock shows up. If it doesn't happen on Raw, it's going to happen at Wrestlemania. It's a story we've tried before and I have no idea why we're stuck doing it all over again. At least it should be over soon though and the promos have been solid so far.

Some short form highlights of Smackdown's five way wraps things up.

Overall Rating: C. Pretty standard Main Event show here and there's nothing wrong with that. They showcased the big stuff from Raw and Smackdown while giving us some fine original matches. I know I've said something similar over and over but it's the Main Event formula to the letter. Good enough show here, as is almost always the case.

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