

Main Event – July 5, 2018: History Has Been Made



IMG Credit: WWE

Main Event

Date: July 5, 2018

Location: Denny Sanford Premier Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Commentators: Nigel McGuinness, Percy Watson, Vic Joseph

Oh come on already. Do I really need to watch Monday Night Raw all over again? Anything related with that show is going to be a chore at this point but that's what we have to work with here. Well that and the Smackdown stuff which was perfectly watchable, although not exactly great. In other words I'm not sure what to expect here but it might not be the best thing in the world. Let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Ascension vs. Heath Slater/Rhyno

The ECW chants start up but switch to HE'S GOT KIDS in a hurry. Viktor can't do anything with Slater so it's off to Rhyno vs. Konnor for a power battle. A flying shoulder puts Konnor down but Rhyno charges into the buckle to put him in trouble. The fans get behind Rhyno but Konnor's running splash into Viktor's jumping knee doesn't make things much

better. The belly to belly gives Rhyno a breather and it's back to Slater off the hot tag. Everything breaks down and Rhyno is sent to the floor, leaving Slater to take the Fall of Man for the pin at 5:07.

Rating: D. Just a Main Event match, but that's the first time Ascension has won a match since February 7, 2017 in a twelve person tag. It's their first two on two tag win since Superstars in February 2016. That's getting up there in Curt Hawkins territory and I have no idea why they weren't given at least a mini push at some point. Make them a one off challengers for the titles or something but don't let them sit around doing nothing. What's the point of calling them up in the first place?

From Raw.

Roman Reigns/Seth Rollins vs. Dolph Ziggler/Drew McIntyre

Ziggler and Rollins start with an early cradle getting two on Seth. Another rollup gets the same so Seth dropkicks him into the corner. Drew comes in to run Rollins over and a shove by the throat puts him down again. It's off to Reigns who is powered into the corner so Drew can punch him in the head.

The Samoan drop is broken up and McIntyre runs Reigns over again. A superkick gives Ziggler two but one heck of a right hand knocks him out of the air. That's enough for the hot tag off to Rollins as the pace picks up. A suicide dive hits McIntyre and an apron kick into the frog splash gets two with McIntyre diving in for the save. Rollins and Ziggler exchange rollups until Dolph is sent to the floor.

That means a dive off the post to both villains and we take a break because the match needs to keep going instead of going home after a hot ten minutes. Back with Rollins fighting out of Ziggler's sleeper and sending him into the corner. McIntyre is right around the other side to pull Reigns off and break up the hot tag, so Rollins kicks him in the face. Now it's time for the hot tag but the Revival pulls Reigns off the apron for the DQ at 15:49.

Rating: C+. Good match here and they got the ending right. You don't want the champ, McIntyre or Rollins taking a fall here and Reigns isn't going

to lose so the DQ is as good of an idea as you can get. This was starting to rock before the break and would have been great if they just wrapped it up there but I'll take what I can get.

Post match the Revival beats Reigns down as Rollins takes the Claymore/Zig Zag combo. Reigns takes a Shatter Machine for a bonus.

From Raw again.

Revival vs. Bobby Lashley/Roman Reigns

Reigns and Dawson start things off with Roman powering him into the corner. Dawson takes a breather on the floor and Reigns refuses to tag Lashley in. Back in and Dawson punches away at Reigns' ribs, which were banged up earlier tonight. Some stomps set up a bodyscissors to keep Reigns in trouble as he can't get anything going.

A gutbuster gives Wilder two and another shot to the ribs cuts off Reigns' comeback. There's a hard whip into the corner to cut Dawson off but Reigns still won't tag. Instead it's Lashley coming in without a tag for a pair of spinebusters but Reigns shakes off the offer of a tag. Revival unloads on him in the corner and that's a DQ at 7:11.

Rating: C. It was much more about the angle than the match but I'll take the Revival not looking like a pair of losers for a change. I could go for a lot more of the Revival, but that just doesn't seem to be in the cards around here. Reigns vs. Lashley should be fine and if they make Revival look a little more valuable in the process, so be it.

Post match Lashley walks away while Reigns takes another Shatter Machine and a top rope splash. Fans: "ONE MORE TIME!"

From Smackdown.

Usos vs. HELL NO

If the Usos win, they're added to the Tag Team Title match at Extreme Rules. Bryan drop toeholds Jimmy down to start and puts on the surfboard. A corner dropkick seems to wake Jimmy up for some reason so it's off to Jey, who gets dropkicked as well. Kane comes in and misses an elbow but

shoves both twins over the top at once. They pull Kane out with them though and it's back to back dives to drop Bryan and Kane as we take a break.

Back with Bryan speeding up things up and hitting another running dropkick on Jey in the corner. There's a super hurricanrana and the YES Kicks have Jey in even more trouble. The Usos finally get their stuff together and take Bryan down with Jimmy stomping away in the corner. A backbreaker/middle rope chop combination gets two and the Usos make a wish on Bryan's legs.

Back up and a double clothesline allows the hot tag to Kane but he's kicked to the floor without much effort. Jey charges into an uppercut but it's time for the superkicks. Back to back double superkicks put Bryan down and get two on Kane and it's time to go up. The Double Us is caught by the throat, allowing Bryan to knee Jey down and Kane to chokeslam Jimmy for the pin at 12:38.

Rating: C. Kane looked REALLY bad here, barely able to move and not doing much of anything other than being knocked back a few steps and signature stuff. The guy is 50 years old and barely even wrestles part time anymore, but his talking and character stuff is still more than enough reason to have him around. Bryan worked most of the match and was his usual self, but the important thing was they got the finish right.

Bryan and Kane do the YES pose and hug, only to be cut off by the Bludgeon Brothers. A big staredown ends the show.

Quick look at Rusev attacking AJ Styles on Smackdown.

Jinder Mahal vs. Zack Ryder

Mahal works the arm to start but walks into a dropkick to put him on the floor. Back in and Ryder's backslide gets two but Mahal kicks him in the face. A faceplant and corner forearm look to set up the Broski Boot, the threat of which sends Mahal bailing to the floor as we take a break. Back with Mahal choking in the corner and grabbing a chinlock. Mahal's suplex gets two and it's right back to the chinlock. Ryder fights up with the usual, including the middle rope dropkick. A Sunil Singh distraction

breaks up the Broski Boot and the Khallas gives Mahal the pin at 10:13.

Rating: D. I'm not sure why it took over a year for WWE to figure out but this is pretty much Mahal's comfort zone: boring matches against lower level competition with no chance of elevation. He's just not that good and having him in a prominent position on television doesn't work for anyone but him. I'm hoping the experiment is over, just for the sake of my sanity.

We look at Braun Strowman wrecking Kevin Owens' car.

From Raw.

Kevin Owens vs. Braun Strowman

Owens gets shoved down, rolls outside and runs away for the countout at 51 seconds.

Strowman gives chase so Owens runs into his car, only to not have his keys. Instead, he hides in a well placed portable toilet as Strowman arrives. The fans try to tell Strowman where Owens is as Strowman looks into the car window. He teases going back inside but puts the pieces together. Using a falsetto voice, Strowman asks if anyone is in there and Owens gives himself away.

Strowman wraps duct tape around the thing to seal Owens inside before dragging the toilet and Owens back into the building. We watch as Strowman drags him all the way back into the arena (which takes a good few minutes) and up onto the stage. Of course it's knocked off the stage and Owens emerges covered in blue liquid. If you listen carefully, you can hear Vince dying with laughter about Owens being "COVERED IN BLUE STUFF" for the next five hours to end the show.

Overall Rating: D-. Oh now you knew they were showing the whole ending to Raw here. For them that's comedy gold and while I have no idea how that can be seen as the best idea, there's a good chance that we're going to be hearing about it more over the next few weeks. This was a dreadful show after a dreadful Raw with even the clipped version not being worth seeing.

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up the paperback edition of the NXT The Full Sail Years Volume III (also available as an e-book) from Amazon. Check out the information here:

<http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2018/05/25/new-book-nxt-the-full-sail-years-from-dallas-to-new-orleans/>

And check out my Amazon author page with cheap wrestling books at:

<http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6>