

Main Event – August 9, 2018: The Talking Is Strong With This One



IMG Credit: WWE

Main Event

Date: August 9, 2018

Location: Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena, Jacksonville, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness, Percy Watson

We're coming up on Summerslam and since he was on Raw last week, there's no Brock Lesnar to be seen this time around. There is however Roman Reigns, who I have a feeling we'll be hearing from here. Hopefully there's some more stuff from Smackdown though, as that show was great. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

Opening sequence.

No Way Jose vs. Curt Hawkins

Jose has the Conga Line to make him look a little better. Hawkins' shoulder doesn't do much good as Jose headlocks him and grabs an atomic drop. A shot to the ribs puts Jose on the floor and Hawkins is rather pleased. Back in and we hit the chinlock, followed by a snap suplex into the second chinlock. Hawkins misses the elbow though and Jose slugs away,

followed by a fireman's carry flapjack for two. The Pop Up right hand finishes Hawkins at 5:30.

Rating: D. I'm not sure how many times we can see this match but I'm sure WWE is willing to try and find out. Hawkins losing over and over, at least in this form, stopped being interesting a few months ago and until things actually change up, there's not much interest to be had in him. Granted the same is true for Jose, but that's a little less surprising.

From Raw.

We get a sitdown interview with Reigns to talk about his match with Lesnar. We go through their whole history, including the great Wrestlemania XXXI match, the pretty bad Wrestlemania XXXIV match, the stupid Greatest Royal Rumble match and then last week's Lesnar segment, which really had nothing to do with Reigns. He's sick of Lesnar using WWE and disrespecting the fans, so Lesnar is learning a lesson at Summerslam.

This was a long recap of their story, and did little more than tell us that it's been going on for a very long time. Your stat of the night: Lesnar has held the title 487 days. He's had five televised title defenses and three of them have been against Reigns. Two of them have also involved Samoa Joe and Braun Strowman. In total, four different people have gotten title shots in 487 days.

From Raw again.

We get a sitdown interview with Paul Heyman, who doesn't know where he stands with Brock Lesnar. Brock has disconnected his phone number and won't respond to intermediaries. Heyman looks like he's about to burst into tears as he says Lesnar is just going to get annoyed at this interview. He considers Lesnar a friend and this isn't how he pictured it ending.

They had talked about riding off into the sunset together with the Universal and UFC Heavyweight Championships on his shoulders. Heyman starts crying but says just do it. When asked about any potential new clients, Heyman says it would be inconceivable just a week ago, but doesn't say year or no. He still picks Lesnar, because he's never been so

angry. Reigns doesn't stand a chance. This was the best thing on the show tonight, mainly because it was actually different.

From Smackdown.

Byron is in the ring to interview Miz, who pops up on screen instead of coming to the ring. He calls Byron a bad announcer and plugs the success of Miz and Mrs., which doesn't have a single bad review on Rotten Tomatoes. Byron keeps asking about the match with Bryan but Miz ignores him to plug the show. Tonight he learns CPR, which would be a good idea for Bryan because he needs to resuscitate his career. Miz finally mentions it, saying he's become a star while Bryan has been working in a garden.

Bryan needs this match while Miz needs to be recognized as WWE Champion. Miz is here night after night while Bryan has been off in bed crying. He's not hiding from anyone and at Summerslam, Bryan is getting exposed as being beneath Miz. Go talk to Bryan about it because he's probably off eating kale and talking about his wife. Bryan runs into the room, beats up security and punches Miz a few times until a potted plant to the back of the head lets Miz escape. The string of good promos continues tonight, but that kind of goes without saying for these two.

Heath Slater/Rhyno/Chad Gable vs. Ascension/Mike Kanellis

Slater forearmms Kanellis down to start and it's Gable tagging himself in to crank on the arm. Viktor comes in and gets his arm twisted around as well, followed by Gable spinning all over the place into a crucifix. Everyone comes in and the good guys clean house as we take a fast break.

Back with Kanellis kicking Gable in the face for two, followed by Viktor dropping a fist for the same. Gable dives over Konnor but still can't get over for the tag. Konnor knocks Slater off the apron so Gable rolls underneath the clothesline to tag Rhyno. Everything breaks down and Kanellis tries a rolling German suplex, only to be reversed into the Rolling Chaos Theory for the pin at 9:05.

Rating: C-. Still not a great match but it was fast enough to make things work. I'm not sure why Slater/Rhyno/Gable can't make it onto the main

show more often, or why Slater/Rhyno haven't been sent over the Smackdown where they need some fresh blood in the tag team division. Kanellis...just hope your wife's injury doesn't last much longer.

Video on Ronda Rousey vs. Alexa Bliss, including Rousey going nuts and getting suspended. They meet for the title at Summerslam.

From Raw again.

Ronda Rousey vs. Alicia Fox

Natalya and Alexa Bliss are the seconds. Before the match, Bliss is asked about Rousey and mocks the interviewer for not being able to come up with something better. Fox shows a clip of herself beating up Rousey last week and talks about how great Rousey is at everything else. Was she the captain of the Raw Survivor Series team? Bliss cuts her off and thanks Fox for everything she's done. Rousey can deal with what's left of Rousey in Brooklyn and here's Rousey to cut her off.

We get the Big Match Intros and Fox chills in the corner at the bell. Rousey isn't impressed by the trash talk and shoves her to the floor. Back in and Fox bails right back to the floor again. A Bliss distraction doesn't work very well as Natalya cuts her off, only to be posted. Fox tries a charge at the distracted Rousey but the referee stops her for some reason.

Fox pounds away in the corner...and there's the death stare. The rights and lefts have Fox rocked and the judo throws have Fox rocked. Fox bails for the third time but Rousey follows her for a whip into the barricade. Back in and Fox gets suplexed with ease, followed by the armbar (with a lot of shouting to Bliss) for the tap at 3:47.

Rating: C+. The stuff where Rousey was smashing Fox was fun but this would have been better served as bell, armbar, bell. To be fair though, it's kind of hard to complain when Rousey beating the heck out of people is some of the most entertaining stuff WWE can do. Maybe not as fun as WWE trying to turn Fox into something worthy of the spot but still fun nonetheless.

Post match Rousey gets interviewed by Bliss tries a sneak attack. Rousey flips her over and gives Bliss a look saying "are you kidding me?" Bliss bails and Rousey promises to win the title.

Overall Rating: C-. The talking was strong with this one and that's the best thing that could have happened. This week's TV was better than usual with the promos being entertaining and making me want to see Summerslam. On the other hand you have the pretty worthless original matches but at least they kept those short so they didn't waste much time. Check out Smackdown instead of watching this though.

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