Monday Night Raw — October 21, 2024: That Ho-Hum Feeling

Monday Night Raw

Date: October 21, 2024

Location: Wells Fargo Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Joe Tessitore, Wade Barrett

We're closing in on Crown Jewel and the show is going to need some help. At the moment, the only things announced for the show are the two Crown Jewel Title matches and those aren't exactly setting things on fire. Maybe we can boost things up this week, with the Intercontinental Title being on the line as well. Let's get to it.

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

Various people came to work, including Bronson Reed, with Seth Rollins attacking him but quickly being separated.

Here is Rollins in the ring and calling out Reed for a fight right now. Reed plows through security so Rollins hits a dive, with Adam Pearce's security not being able to hold them apart again. Reed knocks him down but it's too early for the Tsunami. Security is taken out again but the Tsunami off the barricade only hits announcers' table.

Damage CTRL is ready for Lash Legend and Jakara Jackson but Liv Morgan, with Raquel Rodriguez, interrupts to say she's taking out Nia Jax at Crown Jewel. Damage CTRL is ready for a fight tonight and one seems to be on. Morgan, who isn't that big in the first place, towered over Damage CTRL.

Video on Jey Uso vs. Bron Breakker.

Apparently Samantha Irvin has left WWE and Lilian Garcia is back. That's out of nowhere and is kind of a downgrade.

<u>Tag Team Titles #1 Contenders Tournament First Round: New Day</u> vs. Authors Of Pain

The rest of the Final Testament is here too. Kofi headlocks Akam to start and it's off to Woods for a basement clothesline. It's off to Rezar to knock Kofi outside for a beating though and here is Miz to watch as we take a break. Back with Kofi coming back in to take over on Akam. The Boom Drop connects but Rezar fights back up, only for R-Truth to come in and take out Miz. The distraction lets Kofi grab a rollup for the pin at 9:37.

Rating: C+. This was one which could have gone either way and it gives New Day a bit of a bridge to the next step in their issues. The team is still good enough to hang in there in a match like this and possibly even get the title shot, but things are not going to go well or them. At the same time, it's another loss for the Final Testament, who still do not have the best track record.

Post match Miz and the Final Testament beats R-Truth down. Kofi wants to go help but Woods holds him back. The beatdown is on but the Wyatts are back to wreck the villains and brawl with them into the crowd. Miz is left alone in the ring....and it's Uncle Howdy behind him. Paul Ellering takes the Mandible Claw for him.

Bronson Reed and Seth Rollins brawl in the back again.

We recap Jey Uso's issues with the Bloodline and Roman Reigns/Jimmy Uso on Smackdown.

Jey says what happened on Smackdown is what it is, but tonight it's about retaining the Intercontinental Title.

Raquel Rodriguez says Rhea Ripley isn't getting any kind of revenge on Liv Morgan. Ripley cost them the Women's Tag Team Titles and now Ripley needs to walk away. Since Ripley won't end this though, Rodriguez will.

Damage CTRL vs. Liv Morgan/Raquel Rodriguez

Lash Legend and Jakara Jackson are at ringside. Damage CTRL strikes away on Rodriguez to start and some double dropkicks have her in trouble. Back up and Rodriguez backdrops Sane over the corner (for a nasty landing but Sane saved it) before Rodriguez picks both of them up with ease. A double elbow misses though and Sky gets two off a rollup. Rodriguez drops Sky with a hard shot of her own though and we take a break.

Back with Sane escaping an over the shoulder backbreaker. Sky comes back in to clean house, including a dragon screw legwhip to Rodriguez and a springboard dropkick to send Morgan into the corner. Sane's pop up elbow gets two with Rodriguez having to make a save. Rodriguez misses a charge into the post with Sky following her out to the floor. Sky goes after Jackson and Legend, with the latter decking her for the DQ at 12:13.

Rating: C. The Jackson and Legend run continues as they are likely set up for another big match with Damage CTRL. That isn't the most appealing match, but I definitely do approve of the idea of having more teams to go after the titles. There hasn't been much of a division in a long time so this is at least a step in the right direction.

Post match Damage CTRL gets laid out the four villains have a staredown. Cue Rhea Ripley, with Legend and Jackson bailing. Rodriguez goes after Ripley and is quickly taken out, only for Morgan to hit a quick Codebreaker. That earns her a knee to the face and Ripley grabs the Prism Trap. A dropkick cuts Rodriguez off again but Dominik Mysterio runs in to break up the Riptide. That earns Dominik a Prism Trap of his own with Dominik having to bail out to the floor. This was a good way to make Ripley look awesome again, which is overdue.

Bronson Reed and Seth Rollins get into it AGAIN but Adam Pearce yells at them, saying they can fight at Crown Jewel. They could have just asked and saved a bunch of time. The War Raiders burn their viking armor and are ready to get the gold back.

Judgment Day has a meeting in the clubhouse and Finn Balor is worried about Damian Priest. The idea of Dominik Mysterio getting a World Title shot is floated, with Carlito laughing about the concept. Carlito is asked what he does around here, but he'll go take care of something.

<u>Tag Team Titles #1 Contenders Tournament First Round: LWO vs.</u> <u>American Made</u>

The rest of the LWO and Chad Gable/Ivy Nile are here too. Lee chops away at Julius and it's quickly off to Rey for two off a headscissors. Brutus comes in to whip Rey hard into the corner, meaning it's time to take the straps down. Everything breaks down in a hurry and Lee hits a heck of a suicide dive as we take a break.

Back with Julius suplexing Lex down and grabbing a chinlock. Lee fights up and sends him into the corner, allowing the tag off to Rey for a tornado DDT. It's back to Brutus to take Rey down setting up back to back moonsaults to give Julius two. Lee ties Julius in the Tree Of Woe for the top rope double stomp. Everything breaks down and the 619 into Lee's frog splash is good for the pin at 10:59.

Rating: C+. Maybe it's Dragon Lee not being interesting but I could not get into this one. The match felt long and it's hard to imagine that either of them are going to win the title match next week. For now though, it's a perfectly fine match between two teams who aren't exactly lighting the world on fire.

Adam Pearce promises Damage CTRL that he'll take care of this. Carlito comes in to suggest that Dominik Mysterio gets to challenge Gunther next. Pearce cracks up and says Dominik has done NOTHING. Carlito begs, so Pearce says if Dominik can beat a former World Champion next week, he'll think about it.

Bron Breakker is ready to get the Intercontinental Title back.

Gunther doesn't think Cody Rhodes bringing up his (as in Cody's daughter) was necessary because the Crown Jewel Title is a big enough prize. Rhodes is a great champion, but his title's legacy has long since been established. Gunther will be at Smackdown on Friday...but here is Damian Priest to say he has no issues with Gunther. His issues were with Judgment Day but those are done, so next up, he wants his title back. Priest is willing to earn it, and he'll even wait for Gunther to be done with Crown Jewel. Gunther doesn't seem impressed.

<u>Intercontinental Title: Bron Breakker vs. Jey Uso</u>

Breakker is challenging. We get the Big Match Intros and Uso wastes no time in knocking Breakker to the floor as we take a break less than a minute in. Back with Breakker ramming him into the post, followed by a backbreaker for two. A standing moonsault gives Breakker two more but Uso fights back with some right hands. Uso goes up top but gets pulled down with a super Frankensteiner as we take another break.

Back again with Uso getting in a knockdown for a needed breather and they both have to pull themselves up. Cue the Bloodline and some front row tickets so Uso goes outside to yell, allowing Breakker to get in some cheap shots. Uso has to superkicks the Tongas down and Breakker spears Solo Sikoa by mistake. That brings Jacob Fatu over the barricade so Breakker takes down the straps and the fans REALLY like this.

Uso cuts that off with a dive onto both of them but the Superfly Splash hits raised knees. The spear is cut off by a pair of superkicks and Uso hits own spear. The Superfly Splash connects for two so the Tongas gets back on the apron. Adam Pearce and company come down to break it up but the distraction lets Fatu get in a superkick to Uso. A Samoan drop onto the announcers' table leaves Uso laying and another spear gives Breakker the title back at 19:35.

Rating: B. They weren't exactly hiding where this was going from the second that Uso showed up on Smackdown last week. That's not a bad thing either, as I would rather have a logical but predictable moment rather than something that makes no sense and is there for the sake of shock value. The other benefit here is that it shows there are still short title reigns in WWE. One of the criticisms is that it's hard to believe a title reign can end shortly but here is something to show that isn't guaranteed. That's important.

Overall Rating: C+. The title change was big and they set up a grudge match for Crown Jewel, but this show was lacking something throughout. Maybe it was the focus being on setting up a #1 contenders match for next week, but long stretches of this show did not feel overly interesting. It wasn't a bad show by any means, though it let me with a bit of a ho-hum feeling.

Results

New Day b. Authors Of Pain — Rollup to Rezar
Damage CTRL b. Liv Morgan/Raquel Rodriguez via DQ when Lash
Legend interfered
LWO b. American Made — Frog splash to Julius
Bron Breakker b. Jey Uso — Spear

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