

# Monday Night Raw – May 18, 2026: Already???

## Monday Night Raw

Date: May 18, 2026

Location: First Horizon Coliseum, Greensboro, North Carolina

Commentators: Michael Cole, Corey Graves

It's the last show before Saturday Night's Main Event and that only means so much for Raw. The big story continues to be Roman Reigns dealing with the force that is Jacob Fatu, though they don't have another match set up just yet. There is still time to add it here, but there is also the option of sending it to Turin for Clash In Italy later this month. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a recap of last week's brawl between Roman Reigns and Jacob Fatu, with Fatu leaving the champ laying.

Adam Pearce stops Reigns as he comes in, saying if Reigns had listened to him last week, none of that would happen. Reigns says that doesn't matter because he's calling Fatu out right now. Pearce wants Fatu fired but they're cut off by Fatu coming to the arena. There were some very loud echoes in this segment for some reason.

Here is Fatu to call out Reigns but he gets the Usos instead. Jey comes out with a chair but Jimmy tries to keep the peace, as is his custom. Jimmy calls out Fatu for not thinking and costing himself last week. Fatu attacked management and now he's about to get fired. Then what? Is Fatu going to go back to being his old self to help his family then? Jey goes after him but gets knocked down, with Fatu grabbing the Tongan Death Grip on Jimmy. Jey's chair shot has no effect so he gets Death Grippped as well.

This brings out Reigns and the big fight is on, with Reigns even throwing in a big boot. The Superman Punch is countered into the Tongan Death Grip and the Usos have to make the save. A Superfly Splash and 1D put Fatu down and the Usos tie him in the ropes. Some Superman Punches and the spear leave Fatu out and here is Pearce. Reigns says something to him and Pearce seems ready to fire Fatu...who wants Tribal Combat. Pearce tries to calm things down but Reigns is in. No word on when that takes place but Fatu winning the title wouldn't be the craziest thing.

Video on Judgment Day turning on Finn Balor, with JD McDonagh wanting revenge on him for turning on him after so many years. This feels a lot like a video they've aired between them before.

### **JD McDonagh vs. Finn Balor**

Street fight so they go right outside with Balor whipping him into various things. The kendo sticks and chairs are brought in and McDonagh gets in a few shots of his own to take over. Balor sends him hard into the chair in the corner and it's time for a table, only for McDonagh to suicide dive him for taking too long. They fight out into the crowd with Balor whipping him into an equipment case. McDonagh drives him right back into it as well and hits a hue moonsault off of the case as we take a break.

We come back with Balor planting McDonagh but walking into a release Rock Bottom onto the chair. A nice looking standing moonsault gives McDonagh two but Balor is back with the Sling Blade. McDonagh is knocked through the table in the corner and Balor goes up. The Coup de Grace misses though and McDonagh knees him down for two. The top rope moonsault hits Balor for two so McDonagh puts him on another table.

That takes way too long though and Balor switches places, only for Dominik Mysterio to run in and break up the Coup de Grace.

A top rope superplex sends Balor through the table for two (and a roar on the kickout). Mysterio loads up the 619 but Balor switches places and McDonagh gets kicked in the face instead. Mysterio is knocked outside and it's a Coup de Grace to a trashcan to McDonagh for the pin at 11:50.

**Rating:** B. This got a good bit better near the end, with McDonagh fighting hard to hang in there with the much more accomplished star. Mysterio's interference costing McDonagh and the team in the end is pretty much par for his course these days and I'm not sure how long that can last. At the same time, I'm not sure what the endgame for Balor is supposed to be. He's already beaten Mysterio, so what is he supposed to finish the feud for good?

We look at Seth Rollins helping the Street Profits last week but they aren't interested.

Rollins says he has to finish things with the Vision and sometimes the best thing to do is run right at your problem. He hasn't had a match on Raw in about nine months so we should remedy that tonight. Tonight he has been given the main event slot and he wants to face anyone on the team. He'd like it to be Bron Breakker, who says he can do it on his own, but what is Breakker? A nepo baby or everything that he is supposed to be? Tonight is Breakker's chance to show Rollins who he really is. This was more intense than usual from Rollins and it worked.

Sol Ruca is excited to have done well in her limited time around here but Becky Lynch interrupts. Lynch doesn't think much of Ruca's efforts thus far and she hasn't even faced the best. Ruca should go back to NXT, which she says she'll do. Lynch calls her a quitter and here is Ruca in the arena.

Ruca is in the ring and gets right to the point by calling Lynch out. This brings out Lynch, who wants to know what Ruca is trying. Ruca wants to face Lynch right here tonight but

gets shot down. Lynch goes into her catchphrase and Ruca is already sick of it, prompting Lynch to start over. After we hear about all of the people Lynch has dealt with already, she agrees to let Ruca face her at Saturday Night's Main Event, with Ruca making it a title match. That's too far for Lynch, who says Ruca hasn't earned a shot yet (fair) so we won't be doing that yet.

The Vision ask Paul Heyman about Saturday Night's Main Event but Bron Breaker comes in to say make the match with Seth Rollins for tonight. Heyman says Austin Theory should do it instead so Breaker asks Theory and Logan Paul to leave. Breaker insists he can beat Rollins and while Heyman agrees, he points out that Rollins will be busy tonight and Breaker will know it in advance. Breaker approves.

### **Original El Grande Americano/Los Hermanos Americanos vs. El Grande Americano/Los Americanos**

Tornado rules and in advance: I'm going to get these people mixed up more than once. Julio strikes away at Rayo to start as the other four brawl on the floor. A fall away slam sends Rayo flying and it's Grande coming in to slug it out with Original. The ankle lock has Grande in trouble but Rayo comes in for the save.

Los Americanos crotch Original against the post and we pause for some dancing. Bravo walks across some backs for a hurricanrana to Bruto but Julio is back up for a dive. Grande and Original hit dives of their own and everyone is down at ringside. Back in and Original hits Bravo with a top rope suplex for two and we take a break.

We come back with Original suplexing Los Americanos at the same time and then suplexing Grande for two. A top rope headbutt gets two on Bravo but Julio's 450 misses. That's enough for Grande and the Americanos to load up their masks but the other three hit stereo German suplexes. Graves: "There

are no Germans in the ring Cole. We have six Mexicans!" A triple moonsault gets a triple near fall on Grande and Los Americanos but Bruto gets headbutted down. Grande's running headbutt, with two more from Los Americanos, gets the pin at 10:38.

**Rating:** B-. This was another wild match, though I have no idea who the good guys were supposed to be. It's perfectly clear in Mexico, but here things aren't as simple. The match was a lot of fun and fairly wild, which made up for trying to figure all of that out. They need to wrap it up though, as this feud is going to start losing steam in a hurry otherwise.

Whataburger delivers to the Alpha Academy. Dang it now I want Whataburger.

We look back at the Bloodline vs. Jacob Fatu brawl earlier. Tribal Combat is set for Clash In Italy.

Video on Tribal Combat.

The Usos know what Tribal Combat is all about but here is LA Knight to interrupt. Jimmy says not now but Knight asks "or what". Knight calls them out for doing the same things the three of them beat up the Vision for doing at Wrestlemania so what's the difference? The Usos aren't happy.

Ethan Page sits down with Michael Cole and brags about himself, including via a pre-written statement. Cole has to praise Page's jawline but can't get over Page wanting to rename the Intercontinental Title as the "Ethan Page Championship". Cole can't do this anymore and asks why Page acts like this. Cole praises Page's skills but thinks his ego will cost him on Saturday. Page calls it confidence rather than ego and he'll prove it at Saturday Night's Main Event. To say Page is nailing it so far would be a drastic understatement. He's slid into this role perfectly and it's working very well.

## Women's Tag Team Titles: Paige/Brie Bella vs. Judgment Day

Judgment Day, with Liv Morgan, is challenging. Paige throws Perez down to start and it's off to Bella, who is knocked down just as fast. Rodriguez takes over and hands it back to Perez, who mocks the YES chant. That just fires Bella up and she fires off the YES Kicks, with Rodriguez breaking them up. Paige's dive is cut off and she's swung into the barricade as we take a break.

We come back with Bella getting the tag and cleaning house but Rodriguez cuts her off. The spinning Vader Bomb is cut off and a double powerbomb brings Rodriguez back down. Perez takes Paige out though and Bella goes up, only for Morgan to shove her off. That's enough for the big ejection so the title is brought in. Bella cuts that off and rolls Perez up to retain at 10:14.

**Rating:** C. And it continues. I know Paige and Bella are set for the title match against the Irresistible Forces but they continue to drain the life out of me every time they're on screen. It's not like they have some big, deep history together and Bella wasn't exactly good on her best days. Now they're the best team in a division which is actually getting pretty good? That's quite a lot to take and it's not exactly working for me.

Post match the Judgment Day jump the champs but Bayley and Lyra Valkyria make the save.

LA Knight comes up to Seth Rollins and says he can do this himself tonight, but it's going to go badly. He needs help, so have fun getting stomped out.

Penta is sick of Ethan Page wanting the Intercontinental Title all for himself. He'll take care of Page on Saturday.

Here is Oba Femi for his open challenge...and BROCK LESNAR RUNS

IN to lay him out with four straight F5's. Well that worked. I wasn't completely sold on Lesnar being gone, but I didn't expect him to come back on a pretty random Raw. Nice job.

Post break Adam Pearce is livid and Paul Heyman comes in. Pearce demands to know what happened but Heyman says Lesnar is retired. Heyman pulls out a contract, already signed by Lesnar, to face Femi at Clash In Italy. Pearce seems confused but interested.

Saturday Night's Main Event rundown.

The Street Profits are ready for the Vision because they have the vision of winning the Tag Team Titles. Angelo Dawkins is distracted though and Montez Ford tells him to go. Dawkins goes over to Seth Rollins to thank him for last week. Rollins thanks him for that and apologizes for Dawkins getting taken out. For now though, he has a match of his own.

### **Seth Rollins vs. Austin Theory**

Rollins jumps the Vision on the floor to start and hammers on Theory inside to start fast. Back in and Rollins stays on Theory, including a buckle bomb to knock him silly. Theory fights back and manages to send the ankle into the post, which should weaken the Stomp. Paul goes after Rollins and Theory crotches Rollins on the barricade as we take a break.

We come back with Rollins chopping away and countering the rolling dropkick into a sitout powerbomb for two. Rollins knocks him down again and loads up a super Stomp, only for Paul to shove Rollins down. Theory's Stomp gets two so Paul slips him the knuckles, with Rollins superkicking Theory instead. Now Rollins gets the knuckles, with Paul pointing them out. Rollins grabs a Pedigree for the pin instead at 12:57.

**Rating:** B-. This was more about keeping the story moving forward than some big match and that's all it needed to be.

The idea was that Rollins was in over his head but at the end of the day, beating Theory in a singles match isn't that difficult. If nothing else, I do appreciate Rollins mixing it up with the Pedigree for the pin for a change. That made sense and it worked.

Post match Paul comes in for the beatdown so here is Angelo Dawkins, followed by Montez Ford, for the save. Ford hits a big flip dive and tries to talk Dawkins out of this, only for Bron Breaker to run in and give Ford a Super Spear. Rollins makes the save but Paul grabs his leg, allowing Breaker to cut him in half as well. Security comes out but Breaker drops Rollins again before finally being pulled away. Adam Pearce threatens the Vision and they leave smiling to end the show. Kind of a weak ending.

**Overall Rating:** B-. This was the "oh dang, we've got two shows in less than two weeks so we need to hurry up" week and it went pretty well. The ending wasn't the greatest, but the matches they set up look good enough. The big appeal here was the Lesnar return though, which was a rare genuine shock and that's a very nice feeling to have. They're blitzing to Saturday and Italy but I'll take a rapid fire build over nothing at all.

### Results

Finn Balor b. JD McDonagh – Coup de Grace to a trashcan  
El Grande Americano/Los Americanos b. Original El Grande Americano/Los Hermanos Americans – Triple headbutt to Bruto  
Brie Bella/Paige b. Judgment Day – Rollup to Perez  
Seth Rollins b. Austin Theory – Pedigree

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