

# Monday Night Raw – April 13, 2026: Talk Em In

## Monday Night Raw

Date: April 13, 2026

Location: Golden 1 Center, Sacramento, California

Commentators: Michael Cole, Corey Graves

It's a special show this week with the final Raw before this weekend's Wrestlemania. That means we are not likely in for much in the way of the wrestling, but we should be getting a lot when it comes to hyping up matches. If nothing else, it should be the last big push between Roman Reigns and CM Punk. Let's get to it.

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

Roman Reigns joins us to start and talks about how the fans trust him more than CM Punk because he's real with them. We see some of Punk's recent actions and what Pat McAfee has said about him. Reigns is giving Punk one more chance to tell the truth tonight. This was approved by Roman Reigns. Odd ending but ok.

We look at the Brock Lesnar/Oba Femi contract signing brawl from last week.

Adam Pearce is in the ring with HHH to open the show and says tonight, Lesnar and Femi will sign their contract separately. This brings out Paul Heyman, who says no one will get close to Lesnar during Wrestlemania fight week. Lesnar comes to the ring and signs, with a tip of his hat to Pearce. Heyman goes to talk about Femi, but Lesnar takes the mic and says no one will know Femi's name after Wrestlemania. Heyman says there will be a winner and a loser and the winner will be Lesnar.

We look at the setup for the Wrestlemania six man tag.

The Vision is training with IShowSpeed, who is worried due to the whole "I'm not a wrestler" issue. They tell him that it doesn't matter so he gets in the ring with the vision and what appears to be Dante Chen and Edris Enofe. Speed hits a nice high crossbody and a rather aggressive Boston crab before declaring himself ready.

## Charlotte vs. Lyra Valkyria

Their partners are here too. Valkyria takes her down into a headlock to start but Charlotte reverses, only for Valkyria to slip away. Charlotte nips up and Valkyria drops her with a spinwheel kick, much to Bayley's approval. A whip into the corner sends Charlotte to the apron and Valkyria kicks her to the floor. The dive misses though and Charlotte hits a big boot as we take a break.

We come back with Valkyria hitting a top rope ax kick for two but her moonsault hits knees. Charlotte's moonsault connects for two but Natural Selection is blocked. Something like a fisherman's buster gives Valkyria two so Charlotte throws her onto Bayley. Back in and Charlotte tries a rollup but Bayley trips her down to give Valkyria the pin at 10:24.

**Rating:** C+. This was another basic preview for the four (or maybe three) way at Wrestlemania. That's not a bad way to go as Valkyria getting a pin on Charlotte is one way to change the titles. These random matches are about all you can do with the match set up and the match was completely acceptable.

Post match we get a staredown but it doesn't get physical.

LA Knight and the Usos are ready for Wrestlemania but here are Solo Sikoa and the MFT's to interrupt. Sikoa insults Knight and calls him an embarrassment, so Knight wants a six man tag against any of the MFT's tonight.

We look at a clip from the Hulk Hogan documentary, focusing on the original NWO turn.

Here is Stephanie Vaquer for a chat...and Liv Morgan pops up from behind to shove her into Cathy Kelly. Agents break them up and Morgan calls her a little b\*\*\*\*. Vaquer charges in and the brawl is on again before they're separated again, leaving Morgan screaming a lot.

Video on Rhea Ripley vs. Jade Cargill, including Iyo Sky being taken out.

Sky is in the back when the Kabuki Warriors come up. Asuka calls Sky Ripley's sidekick but Sky tries to tell Sane that she doesn't have to listen to this. That's cut off and Asuka makes Sky vs. Sane for tonight. Asuka calls Sane a good girl and they leave together.

### **Usos/LA Knight vs. MFT's**

Jimmy knocks Mateo into the corner to start and it's off to Jey for a running forearm. Jey clotheslines Mateo to the floor for a big dive and we take a rather early break. We come back with Sikoa knocking Jimmy to the floor but Jey fights his way out of trouble. Knight comes in to clean house and Mateo is sent outside. Knight drops Loa but Mateo makes the save as everything breaks down. Jey low bridges Sikoa to the floor, where Sikoa sends him over the announcers' table. Cue Tama Tonga (not here earlier) for a staredown with Sikoa, who isn't pleased with him. During the distraction, Knight gives Loa the BFT for the pin at 6:48.

**Rating:** C+. This was another fine match, though I'm not sure why they needed a break in a match that doesn't even last seven minutes. The good thing is Knight and the Usos have some momentum heading into Wrestlemania. Yeah it's just a celebrity match, but at least it's something a bit unique rather than the same multi team/man stuff we get elsewhere.

We look at Pat McAfee and Cody Rhodes' segment from Smackdown. This resulted in Randy Orton beating up Jelly Roll.

Here is Gunther for a chat...and never mind as Seth Rollins runs in to knock Gunther outside. Rollins heard Gunther say it was personal between them last week and he wants to know why. He offers Gunther a chance to get in the ring and explain (which makes you wonder why he beat Gunther up in the first place) so Gunther grabs a mic.

Gunther goes face to face with Rollins and says it has ticked him off to hear Rollins talk about how he was the best in the world. When Gunther was World Champion and going for the best competition in the world, Rollins became Paul Heyman's servant. Gunther says it's personal to him because he wants to prove he's the best in the world. The fight is on with Rollins knocking him to the floor but Gunther avoids a Stomp on the steps and bails into the crowd. That is a rather basic explanation from Gunther but it's something that makes perfect sense for him.

We get a video narrated by John Cena advertising Club WWE (which has been shown in graphics for the last few weeks), which is a way to get fans exclusive access to various things. No word on how much it costs but I've heard worse ideas.

We see some smoke with red lights flashing over it and...yeah the Demon is officially back to face Dominik Mysterio.

Dominik Mysterio isn't happy with Adam Pearce for letting this happen but he didn't sign to face the Demon so the match has to be canceled. That won't happen, and Pearce doesn't care for Dominik talking about his father like he's a loser. Pearce tells him to go look in the mirror because he'll get what he deserves.

## **Iyo Sky vs. Kairi Sane**

Sane takes her down and pounds away, followed by a running shoulder in the corner. A nice looking top rope forearm and we hit the chinlock. Sky fights up and flips out of a headscissors before taking Sane outside. The moonsault off the

barricade drops Sane again and we take a break.

We come back with Sky's missile dropkick connecting to send Sane into the corner. Over The Moonsault is broken up so they both go up top, with Sky being knocked into the ropes. Sane is knocked down so cue Asuka to send Sky into the post. This brings out Rhea Ripley (Asuka rolls up her sleeves) for the brawl but Jade Cargill runs in to jump Ripley from behind. Sane dives onto Cargill but Asuka breaks up Over The Moonsault again. Sane's rollup gets the pin at 9:57.

**Rating:** B. This wound up being a match with a big angle and I got into what we were seeing. The Asuka vs. Ripley brawl didn't last long but it made perfect sense for all of the run-ins. That's a nice way to build up a few stories at once and it happened to come with a rather good match as well.

Video on AJ Lee vs. Becky Lynch.

Here are Adam Pearce and HHH for the signing with Oba Femi. Cue Femi, who signs the contract without saying a word. Paul Heyman pops up on stage to say he has never seen someone be perceived as the best around as fast as Femi. Heyman says Femi is the most violent person to come into WWE since Brock Lesnar so the fans chant for OBA.

This annoys Heyman again, but he says that everything comes crashing down for Lesnar at Wrestlemania. Don't worry though, because Heyman's door will always be open to him after Wrestlemania. The fans want Femi to beat Heyman up, but Femi says those scars will heal. The emotional beating after he beats Lesnar though? That never goes away. There are twenty five years of history that Lesnar can't be beaten but Femi has four weeks of evidence that he can. It's time to end the Beast and everyone can feel it.

Heyman has been Lesnar's mouthpiece but he has never been an honest one. If Heyman was honest, he would have come out here and said that Lesnar was scared. Femi is the mountain that

Lesnar cannot climb and the Beast is being slayed at Wrestlemania. Femi's delivery isn't perfect (granted he doesn't have much experience) but I believed what he was saying and it sounded like he did too, which is a big part.

We get a Liv Morgan music video for a song called Trouble. This is certainly different, but it's basically just an excuse to have Morgan dancing on TV in various outfits.

### Je'Von Evans/Dragon Lee vs. JD McDonagh/Rusev

McDonagh stomps Lee down in the corner to start and hits a hard clothesline. Evans gets knocked off the apron and it's off to Rusev to keep Lee in trouble. That's broken up and it's off to Evans to make the comeback. Rusev gets low bridged to the floor but McDonagh Asai moonsaults onto Lee. Evans dives onto him but gets fall away slammed onto the announcers' table.

We take a break and come back with Lee's running hurricanrana to send McDonagh into Rusev. McDonagh is able to catch him with a running Spanish fly so Evans is back with a flipping kick to the head. The huge dive over the top takes Rusev out, leaving Lee to roll McDonagh up for two. The Styles Clash puts McDonagh away at 8:13.

**Rating:** B-. This was a fast paced tag match with Rusev playing a good monster. That's something the ladder match has been needing, as it has felt very thrown together. Giving it a bit of attention is a good idea and hopefully they can deliver on Sunday. The problem is that it's still a bit thrown together, but this was the best build it has gotten thus far.

Post match Rusev wrecks the winners, as is his custom. Rey Mysterio runs in for the save attempt but gets taken out. Cue Penta but Rusev clears the ring again, including taking out McDonagh. Rusev grabs the Accolade on Lee and cranks way back.

Wrestlemania rundown.

Danhausen interrupts Adam Pearce and wants to talk to John Cena on the phone. Cena isn't on the phone, though Danhausen hopes that he can see him at Wrestlemania. And then Danhausen disappears.

Here is Roman Reigns for the big closing segment. Reigns takes his time to set up the catchphrase but here is CM Punk, in the crowd, to cut him off. Punk takes his own sweet time to get to ringside, where he gets on the announcers' table. Punk talks about watching the cold open and says stop him when he's telling lies. Reigns says they won't need these mics but Punk says this he hates Reigns because he envies him.

This is all Punk has ever wanted and he is jealous that it was handed to Reigns. He hates that Reigns was champion for so long, because he knows how hard Reigns worked to do that. Punk says the legacy is about how many and he hates how many times Reigns has main evented Wrestlemania. He hates that he feels this way before shifting over to Sika (Reigns' father).

The reality is that Sika was a champion and a great man and a Hall Of Famer. Punk respects the old timers and he apologizes for invoking Sika's name in vain. He hates that there is more than one royal family in wrestling and he hates that he wasn't born into a dynasty. Punk doesn't know what it's like to have that kind of family. He grew up on the streets of Chicago and had to find his family.

Those people were found in barns, bowling alleys, abandoned churches and VFW halls. Punk conquered the indies and then he went to Japan and England and he made wrestling his home and family. Punk hates that he feels this way and he hates that he has to share his first singles Wrestlemania main event with Reigns. Tell him when he's telling lies. He has gold on his shoes and gold around his waist, and on Sunday night after their fight, the gold will be around his head because he'll still be Heavyweight Champion of the World. Tell him when he's telling lies (Reigns has just stared at him during this whole

thing).

Reigns says that's probably the truest stuff he's ever heard Punk say, except for the ending. The truth is he's hated Punk for a long time, but that's because of the relationship Punk has with the fans. He hopes that they chant for him when he leaves. No one can take away the connection he has with the fans and that's his truth. The reality is that the time is up because on Sunday it's not "AND STILL", because it's "AND NEW".

The nostalgia act is through and on Sunday we fix this mess that Punk has made. On Sunday, the Tribal Chief takes over again and you, and everyone else, will acknowledge him. The staredown ends the show. Reigns didn't get to say much but he didn't really need to. This was a money promo and felt like a Wrestlemania go home speech from Punk, who showed some rare vulnerability. There have been some problems with this Wrestlemania build but this hasn't been one of them.

**Overall Rating:** B. The wrestling wasn't much here but that's almost always the case with five days to go until Wrestlemania. This show was mainly focused on talking and the stuff we got worked well, with Punk's speech and Femi's response to Heyman going strong. I want to see their matches over the weekend as the Raw half of the shows are looking good. They mostly stuck the landing here, though the weekend is what really matters.

### Results

Lyra Valkyria b. Charlotte – Rollup

Usos/LA Knight b. MFT's – BFT to Loa

Kairi Sane b. Iyo Sky – Rollup

Je'Von Evans/Dragon Lee b. JD McDonagh/Rusev – Styles Clash to McDonagh

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# Main Event – November 22, 2016: Please Let It Be Here To Stay

## Main Event

Date: November 22, 2016

Location: Air Canada Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Commentators: Tom Phillips, David Otunga

I'm hoping that being past Survivor Series isn't going to change this show's rather entertaining run. A lot of acts weren't on Smackdown this week so it should be interesting to see what we get for original content. The tag teams almost all performed on the big show, which doesn't leave me with the best options. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

We open with...Cathy Kelly in the studios. This isn't going to be the normal Main Event is it?

We see the last few minutes of Seth Rollins vs. Kevin Owens on Monday.

Charlotte is thankful for all her peasants.

With the Gobbledy Gooker walking behind Kelly, she throws us to a clip from the Thanksgiving Smackdown from November 23, 2000 with William Regal ripping on Thanksgiving for being everything wrong with America. Cue the

Rock, who is back home here in Fort Lauderdale. Rock sees nothing wrong with unbuttoning your pants after eating Thanksgiving dinner and thinks Regal is something censored. After telling Regal that it doesn't matter if he's being besmirched, Rock offers to stick a drumstick in a certain place to wrap this up. This was basically "I'm the Rock and I'm awesome."

Package on Brock Lesnar vs. Goldberg.

Here's Goldberg's opening speech from Monday.

Here's Goldberg getting the full entrance to open things up. Goldberg thanks the fans for letting him be Goldberg again. He also thanks his wife and son for putting up with him and he got to be a star again one more time. Last night he ran into Stephanie McMahon who said he did have one more spear and Jackhammer in him (three spears and two Jackhammers if you're counting) but the question is does he have one more title run left in him. The fans go NUTS over that prospect and Goldberg says he's in the Royal Rumble.

Bayley is thankful for the hugs, her best friend Sasha Banks, being on Raw, her New Day sweater and all the fans. She's just so freaking adorable.

Back to Prime Time Wrestling for Thanksgiving 1986 with Gorilla Monsoon on his own...and here's Bobby Heenan as a pilgrim. Heenan, with a graphic listing him as John Smith, talks about planning a Thanksgiving party but Gorilla brings in a turkey named Tommy. Bobby (er...John) is quickly chased off.

Video on the debut of the Gobbledy Gooker, which I believe first aired on an episode of Countdown. After the video, Cathy keeps talking about the Gooker and you can still see him in the control room behind her.

Video on various Thanksgiving feasts over the years and their associated food fights.

Alexa Bliss vs. Naomi

Bliss gets in her face to start and can't believe Naomi would shove her down. That earns her another takedown and Naomi grabs a front facelock.

Bliss gets knocked to the floor and kicked in the face, only to have a trip take Naomi down as we take a break. Back with Bliss standing on the yellow/green hair before stomping away for a bit.

The moonsault double knees get two and we get Alexa's crazy eyes. Alexa runs into some boots in the corner and we get the high speed comeback. Those dancing kicks set up a high crossbody for two on Bliss but she sends Naomi very hard into the buckle. A DDT sets up Twisted Bliss for the pin at 12:05.

**Rating:** C-. The crowd wasn't all that interested but this was actually taped after Smackdown went off the air so there's a good chance that a lot of the fans were leaving. I'd be curious to see if that's the case going forward with the impending debut of 205 Live. Bliss is great at being a villain and has a ton of charisma but there's only so much you can do in front of an uninterested crowd.

**Overall Rating:** B. I really, really hope this is how Main Event starts going as I had a great time with the old school segments. WWE has such an amazing video vault and it's really annoying when they roll out the same handful of clips over and over without changing a thing.

You can do more than the same Gobbledy Gooker and various Survivor Series clips and that's what they actually did here. Have some fun instead of just taking the easy way out over and over again. Hopefully this is how things keep going in the future because it was a lot of fun.

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