

Best Of 2018: Spot Of The Year



IMG Credit: WWE

See spot on highlight reels? These are the kind of things that you are going to see over and over again and for a very good reason. These are designed to be short bursts that can be played over and over again at a rapid pace, usually because they're so fun to watch. At the same time, they're the kinds of things that you can show to people and see just how cool wrestling can really be. So what's on tap from 2018?

Velveteen Dream's Elbow From The Ladder – Takeover: New Orleans

I was there for this one and my goodness did he ever get some height on this thing. There was nothing special to the move that he did but it was so high in the air that it looked incredible. It's one of those spots where the guy might be dead but you can't quite tell. Incredible visual here and Dream was the only one who could pull it off.

Ricochet Moonsaults Off A Falling Ladder – Takeover: New Orleans

From the same match and a moment where you can't believe he actually did that. Ricochet is one of the best high fliers of all time and can control his body at a level that few have ever approached. When I saw him do this, I said out loud "Sure, why not", because you believe that he actually can pull something like this off. The timing it took to make

this work was amazing, and is actually more impressive to me than getting height or another rotation.

Will Ospreay's Counter vs. Kota Ibushi

I'm not sure when this was from but it was a show where New Japan had its production at the top notch. Ibushi tries a middle rope hurricanrana but Ospreay snaps forward and lands on his feet. The camera then zooms in on Ospreay's face and he gives one of the best glares you'll ever see. Cut to Ibushi slowly looking over his shoulder and not believing what he's about to see. It's a great spot, with the camera work pushing it way over the edge.

Ricochet's Moonsault Off The Top Of The WarGames Cage – Takeover: WarGames II

It's Ricochet doing a big flip off of something onto a bunch of people. That's kind of a required spot on a list like this and there isn't much else to say. Ricochet can just do these things and there are very few people in the world who can approach his level. There's a reason he's going to be on this list so many times, with a few more to come.

Tommaso Ciampa Throws Away Johnny Gargano's Wedding Ring – Takeover: Chicago II

The title of this one pretty much says it all and that's because of the emotions that came with it. Ciampa and Gargano already hate each other but Ciampa took it up a notch by doing something like this. That wouldn't have had the same impact from any other pairing but here, it was another act that furthered their already amazing war.

Adam Cole Superkicks Ricochet Out Of The Air – Takeover: Brooklyn IV

This is one that I completely underrated when I was watching it live. I've looked back at this a few times and the timing that Cole showed on this was something else as he nailed that to perfection. It's hard enough doing something like that right side up but Ricochet was upside down at the same time. That's not normal and something you almost never see, because not many people would actually try to pull it off.

But then there's this.

Ricochet Flips In Front Of Velveteen Dream And Lands On His Feet

I saw this as it happened and couldn't believe what I was watching. Since then I've gone back and watched at various times and it just does not get old. From the flip itself to Ricochet's face to everything in between, this is as good as it got for me. Ricochet is on another level with all of this stuff and he's doing things that shouldn't be able to be done. Incredible visual here and the coolest thing I saw this year.

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Best Of 2018: Worst Match Of The Year



IMG Credit: WWE

We're continuing the down part of the year with this one, which is one of the bigger picks of the year. You know the kind of matches I'm talking about here: the matches that leave you in awe of how bad they are while having nothing positive come out of them. These are fewer and further between, but oddly enough some names keep coming up in these options.

Roman Reigns vs. Brock Lesnar – Greatest Royal Rumble

What the heck was that? I mean really, what the heck was that? They can't even get the ending right with the whole whose feet hit first bit. The problem here is the same as it was with every other Reigns vs. Lesnar match: they don't bother to build anything up and just hit their finishers over and over. That's fun every now and then, but when it's all you do every single match, the interest goes away in a hurry and we were LONG past that point here.

Roman Reigns vs. Samoa Joe – Backlash

This is the BEAT THE TRAFFIC match where the fans completely ripped it apart, and with good reasoning. Samoa Joe had come back the night after Wrestlemania and Reigns beat him here in a match that he didn't need to win. It also came at the end of a show that went about forty five minutes long and advanced almost nothing. This was the wrong match at the wrong time in front of the wrong audience with the wrong ending. What else could have gone wrong?

D-Generation X vs. Brothers of Destruction – Crown Jewel

There's a really good chance that this is going to win for a lot of people and I can get that. The thing for me though is...well what did you

expect? The youngest person in here was HHH, who got injured during the match. There was no way this was going to be good no matter what they did and it's now just a footnote in Shawn's career, which didn't need to happen. That's the match in one statement: a footnote that didn't need to happen. The guys were trying but they were fighting against time, which has an unbeaten record. It was bad, but it could have been worse.

Like this match was worse.

Roman Reigns vs. Brock Lesnar – Wrestlemania 34

This is a case where it's the booking instead of the wrestling, which was watchable enough. The problem here is they needed to just pull the freaking trigger on Reigns but instead we had to drag this out for another four months when no one wanted to see this match in the first place. Reigns getting ANOTHER coronation in the main event of Wrestlemania wasn't on anyone's wish list and then Lesnar just beats him to keep things going. I guess it was supposed to be a surprise, but there are times when you should just go with the logical choice and that's what they needed to do here. It was the wrong moment, and that's the worst of the year.

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Best Of 2018: Worst Wrestler Of The Year



IMG Credit: WWE

This one is something that I had to think about a few times. It takes a lot to go from just not very good to one of the worst around and that's what we have here. This is a shorter list as there are only so many possibilities to choose from, but the ones that are bad really are fairly terrible, at least more often than not.

Shane McMahon

I'm only putting him in the nominees because Shane isn't around very often and when he's there, he puts in a pretty solid effort. Now at the same time, when he is around, it's in a bunch of spots that he REALLY doesn't deserve because, at the end of the day, Shane is almost 50 years old and takes up a spot that could help someone else's career. He's more of an annoyance than anything else and that really never stops.

Curt Hawkins

Losing every match for a year (plus) has to qualify you for something like this. How does he survive the nearly weekly performance reviews that Stephanie loves to have?

Baron Corbin

Now this is one where your definition of wrestler can vary. Corbin is perfectly watchable in the ring. I mean, he's certainly not good or anything and he goes completely nuts with the arm trap chinlocks, but he can work a match. On the other hand if you go with the character work, Corbin is about as badly written of a character as you can get and one of the worst ideas all year. We'll get to that one later, but there are worse people for this list.

Dolph Ziggler

This is a name that shows up on these lists a lot and I can see both sides of it. First of all, Ziggler is talented and I don't think there's any real argument to be made otherwise. He's won several titles and can put on an entertaining match. The problem though is he never changes and if you've seen one Ziggler match, you've seen them all. He hasn't evolved in years and it's become a chore to watch him every week. You might get a good match out of him every now and then, but the stuff in between those matches are a near nightmare.

Now you might be wondering why Nia Jax isn't on here. The thing about Jax is she can do something that no one else can do. She's a giant and has size that no one else approaches. I get sick of her, but I can see why she's around so often, at least from WWE's perspective. That's not the case with the winner.

Tamina

WHAT IS THE POINT OF TAMINA??? She's the oldest woman on the roster, she's the daughter of someone that WWE has basically erased from history, she gets hurt a lot, she's downright terrible in the ring, and she's basically a mini Nia Jax. Is she really just on the roster for the sake of giving Nia a lackey? Every time I see her I don't understand why she's there as it's not like she adds a single thing to any match she's in. This was easy for me and has been the case for a long time.

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Best Of 2018: Most Improved Of The Year



IMG Credit: WWE

This one is going to be open to a simple question: how good was the person coming into 2018? If you were that good already, it's kind of hard to see top level improvement. It's not impossible, but it's going to be a lot more difficult to pull off. At the same time though, there are some people who went from good to great or even higher than that, which is why

some of these people might feel all over the map.

Elias

While Elias is far from perfect, he had a remarkable 2018 with the singing/guitar playing going further than it had any right to. He's getting bigger spots and feuds on the card, while also putting out an album and getting sponsored by Fender. That's not bad at all considering his whole deal is singing stupid songs about other wrestlers. He wasn't exactly great down in NXT but now he's a mainstay on the Raw roster. That's pretty good, and I could see him lasting with this for a long time.

Nikki Cross

There's an old Chris Rock line that says "whatever happened to crazy". Well it turns out that it's become a Scottish wrestler named Nikki Cross. You often hear wrestlers described as crazy or a lunatic, but what exactly does Dean Ambrose do that's crazy? It's really a lame gimmick most of the time because it's often in name only. Cross on the other hand seems completely insane at times and makes it work to perfection. A lot of that happened this year, with the HE'S COMING stuff working wonders.

Dakota Kai

Despite not having a Team Kick to captain, Kai has turned what sounds like a fairly simple and goofy name into something that works. Kai is downright adorable and yet still makes the kicks look great. I know she's down with an injury at the moment, but there are very few who can make what she does work. Give her a few big wins and she could be ready for a title run down the line.

Shayna Baszler

Dang it's been a good year for developmental women. Baszler is a little older than most of the people on this list but she's become one of the most consistent performers in NXT or WWE for that matter. The submission stuff works and she has an ability with her promos that just makes her sound dangerous. She was ready for the main roster six months ago, which

didn't seem likely just a year ago. Not bad for twelve months.

Johnny Gargano

This would fall under the category of "used to be great, now incredible". I don't think anyone really doubted that Gargano was going to be someone who would go from a successful tag wrestler to one of the best in the world, but I don't think anyone thought it would come that fast. Gargano is in the running for Wrestler of the Year and that wasn't looking likely a year ago. There's a big difference between good and outstanding, which is what this year did.

Tommaso Ciampa

Everything I said about Gargano? Replace it with Ciampa.

Since I can't pick between those two though, I'll go with a different choice and someone that I think you see coming.

Becky Lynch

Yeah of course it's Becky, because she went from one of the run of the mill women on the roster (as in talented but not getting anywhere) to the most popular person on the roster. Lynch is someone who could be a huge star for years to come and the star that the division has been looking for for years now. She has all the tools and has started to put them together, which seemed to happen overnight. That's an improvement of the year if I've ever heard one.

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Best Of 2019: Surprise Of The Year



IMG Credit: WWE

I bet you didn't see this one coming. As the name suggests, this one is about the best moment you didn't expect throughout the year, which could be either good or bad. It might have been a turn, a win, a result or something else, but there are a few options to pick from over the course of 2018.

Note that I'm intentionally omitting Roman Reigns' Leukemia announcement. The idea of a man telling us he has what could be a life threatening illness doesn't scream SURPRISE to me for a variety of reasons.

Who's That Entering The Rumble?

We'll start with an easy one here. Every year someone returns

in the Royal Rumble and it can be rather well done. This was Mysterio's first match with WWE since 2014 and it's really nice to see him back. He's healthy and is moving better than he has in a long time. That's the kind of big return that the Rumble needs and it didn't exactly what it was supposed to do: pop the crowd and give the match some energy.

There's something about Mysterio that is always going to work. He's high energy and the kind of star who is going to blow the roof off the place every single time he shows up. The fans see him as a superhero with the mask on and while he did some good stuff in the indies (including Lucha Underground), he's the kind of guy who belongs on the big stage, especially in the twilight of his career.

Ronda Rousey Is Awesome

Now notice the way I worded this. Given Rousey's background and love of the sport, I don't think anyone expected her to truly be terrible. She's a natural athlete and could just do judo/MMA stuff to get by for years. That's not what we got though. Instead, she showed up at Wrestlemania 34 in front of 65,000 people and beat the heck out of HHH (not so lucky with noted armbars defensive specialist Stephanie McMahon but I'll take what I can get).

Think about all the rookies that have shown up over the last several years, especially in the women's division. Sasha Banks was just a person, Bayley was a superfan, Charlotte was sloppy and Dana Brooke...has actually gotten worse. Rousey showed up, gets to fight HHH in her rookie match, and has taken to wrestling like few I've seen in a long time. That's a surprise if I've ever seen one, because she's great.

Daniel Bryan Turns Heel

This would fall under the "SERIOUSLY???" category on paper, as Bryan is the biggest face since John Cena's initial push.

Armed with the amazing YES chant, there's a reason why Bryan got pushed to the moon and back in 2014. The idea of having the fans book him sounded ridiculous, yet WWE not only went there, but made it work rather well. The explanation made sense and Bryan is NAILING the new character.

It's proof that you can indeed turn someone back the other way no matter how good or bad they are. Bryan was the cleanest, most natural face ever and now he's this hippie environmentalist who you want to see get hit in the face. That's a hard character to pull off and yet Bryan is doing it incredibly well. I couldn't believe that WWE would pull the trigger on this, let alone have it hit the target.

Shawn Michaels Returns To The Ring

This one ties into the winner, but there's something here that holds it back: I believed it could happen one day. Shawn retired back in 2010 and there was little reason to believe that he would ever come back. His retirement match was great and it came on the grandest stage of them all, so why would he do it again? Well when your best friend runs the company and the paychecks became what they were, you had to believe he could one day.

And then he actually did. While I didn't believe I'd ever see it, I wasn't actually shocked when it happened. It was in a tag match though, which is the kind of match he had mentioned wanting to return for. Yeah the match was bad, but it's not like it meant anything at the end of the day. It's going to be little more than a footnote in the history books, but there was always a glimmer that it could happen.

But that's not true with the winner.

Daniel Bryan Returns To The Ring

I didn't believe it. I did not believe that this was going to happen and I didn't think there was any chance of it ever

happening. And yet, somehow it did. Over the years, Bryan talked about going to one doctor after another and getting good reports, but not good enough for WWE. That sounded like the kind of thing where WWE would never say yes...and then they freaking said yes.

I can't believe that Bryan actually got back into the ring because there was no reason to believe it other than Bryan saying it could happen. That's what the kid in Angels In The Outfield kept saying and this is no whimsical Disney comedy featuring Tony Danza. It's something I never thought I would actually see and yet it's been better than...well I can't say expected because I didn't have expectations. This was the surprise of the year, because I don't believe what I saw.

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Best of 2018: Finisher Of The

Year



IMG Credit: WWE

Your tastes may vary here as what you might think is a good finisher could be a little different from everyone else's. My biggest criteria is does it actually finish things. There are some moves that are used time after time to put someone away, and that doesn't exactly scream finisher to me. These are the better moves and the most devastating, in one way or another.

Phenomenal Forearm – AJ Styles

You don't hold a title for over a year without a good finisher. This was a middle of the card move for AJ back in TNA and it's the kind of thing that works very well for someone like him. It looks like someone flying like a superhero and that's a great way to go with Styles. The move looks awesome, can be hit on anyone, and has piled up a ton of wins. That works for me, which is kind of the point here.

One Winged Angel – Kenny Omega

Sure we can get some Japan in here. Not only does this move have a great name, but it's the kind of move that actually finishes a match. No one has ever kicked out of it in New Japan and given how many finishers it takes to win a big match over there, that's quite the record to hold. The great name makes it that much better, which is saying a lot given how devastating it looks.

630 Splash – Ricochet

Ricochet is one of the best high fliers of all time, which you have to expect from a Kentucky boy. This is one of the flippiest flips in a world of flippy flips and Ricochet makes it look effortless. The thing comes off fast and hard, which makes it all the more impactful. Ricochet can fly a lot but this is his big one, as he doesn't bust out the double moonsault all that often. He wrestles like a superhero (a popular idea) and this looks like a superhero move, making it a great fit.

Claymore – Drew McIntyre

As Bobby Heenan said of the Mafia Kick: "HE KICKED THE MAN IN THE HEAD!" That's the simple idea of the Claymore, yet it's one of the best finishers around. Drew McIntyre is a star both in the making and at the moment and that's one of the best finishers he could have. His size and power makes the move look even better and when he hits it full blast, no one is kicking out of the thing.

Super Collider – AOP

Sure let's throw in a tag finisher too. The AOP (still can't believe they changed the name like that) are a couple of monsters who can hit each other really hard. What better finisher to give them than something where they pick people up, ram them together and slam them down? The move is especially devastating on jobbers, which is where the AOP specialize. It's certainly better than the Last Chapter, which felt like something an old midcard NWA team would have used.

054 – Mustafa Ali

A lot of people can do a 450, but how many people can actually do the thing backwards? I mean, that's just not normal. Ali has been the heart and soul of 205 Live for a long time now and the fact that he's already getting to be a big deal on Smackdown makes me very happy. One day he's going to win a huge match with that thing and it's going to be a cool moment. The wrestler makes the move most of the time, but in this case

it's a little bit of both.

But then, there's only way to finish this.

Black Mass – Aleister Black

I really love this move because it's almost everything put together. Not only is it devastating and can be used on anyone, but it's the kind of thing that looks tailor made for Black. He has the kickboxing background and strikes all the time, but this is the kind of move that looks like the big finale of everything he does leading up to it. It wouldn't work for everyone but when Black does it, my goodness it's something great. I could watch him kick people's heads off for a long time and it's earned the top spot here.

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Best Of 2018: Angle Of The

Year



IMG Credit: WWE

It's the beginning of a new year and that means it's time for one thing: me to take way too long to put up my Best Of 2018 awards. This year the plan is to put up two a day for the next ten days (or less if I change my mind about some of the categories). Note that the options here are based on what I've seen, so if I left off something the likelihood is that I didn't see it or didn't see enough of it to have a strong opinion (read as: most New Japan/indy stuff). As usual, I'll list off the runners up in no particular order and then the winner. Hopefully these are a bit better than my previous efforts so let's get to it.

Now this is something that is always interesting because they're the things that make wrestling go round. Without the storylines that make things work, the wrestling is just a bunch of people having matches for the sake of action. A story doesn't have to be big, but without a good one the shows don't work all that well. The big stories were kind of lacking in 2018, but there were some awesome options.

She's The Man

We'll start with the hottest thing in the company at the moment: the rise of Becky Lynch. This isn't something that WWE seemed to have planned but it wound up being one of the best things to happen to the company in a very long time. The fans have gotten behind her and all roads seem to lead to a major match, if not the main event, of Wrestlemania 35. If

that's the case, it won't only be historic, but it could also be a huge deal just as a regular story.

Above all else, Lynch has been nailing the character work. She's channeled this entire idea that she's the best to perfection and it comes off like she believes every word. You don't get that in wrestling often enough and she's doing it as well as anyone I've ever seen. She's not the next Austin (because there can't be another Austin) or the next Punk (because there can't be another Punk). Instead she's being herself, and it's working very well.

Full Circle

Anyone who has followed me for any reasonable amount of time knows that I'm a Miz fan. He's one of the best villains WWE has had in a long time and the fact that they keep coming back to him should tell you all you need to know about how great he really is. His lifelong nemesis is Daniel Bryan, both due to their history and the two of them being polar opposites. It was the dream match we never got due to Bryan's injuries...but those are long gone.

The two of them picked their feud up again and had a really good match at Summerslam, but it didn't quite feel complete. The next step, in a story we'll be revisiting later, saw Bryan turn heel with Miz almost drooling at the idea of Bryan admitting that he was right all along. It was the teacher becoming the teacher all over again and Miz sold it to perfection. Bryan's heel turn has been awesome, but his stuff with Miz was as good as it got.

The Gall Of That Man

Back in October, Roman Reigns was forced to vacate the Universal Title due to his Leukemia returning. It was as emotional and real of a moment as you'll see in WWE, but the night wasn't over yet. Later that same evening, Dean Ambrose and Seth Rollins won the Raw Tag Team Titles in honor of their Shield mate. We still weren't done though as Ambrose

turned on Rollins to end the Shield and become the biggest heel on the roster.

I loved this, because it's the kind of thing WWE doesn't do very often. This was taking a real life story and turning it into something. The turn had been teased for over a month and this was finally the time to pull the trigger. It put incredible heat on Ambrose and it couldn't have been done much better. The follow up didn't work, but my goodness it was an amazing moment when they actually went with something like this. It was great, but it should have been incredible.

Whodunit

Aleister Black was injured at a house show and had to go on the shelf. Since NXT knows what they're doing, they turned it into a several months long whodunit mystery, as the question became who actually attacked Black. Everyone was a suspect and in the end, Johnny Gargano was revealed as the attacker as he gave in to evil to try and stop Tommaso Ciampa.

What made this story so great is that it fell into NXT's lap and they ran with the thing. Not only did you get the reveal, some great promos and Black vs. Gargano, but you also got the excellent Ciampa vs. Velveteen Dream match as Dream accused Ciampa of being behind everything. That's the kind of storytelling you don't get every day and NXT made the most of a bad situation.

When I started writing this, Whodunit was the runaway winner. Then I realized it was only part of the real Angle of the Year.

Welcome To The Dark Side

In a name you're going to hear a lot in these things this year, Johnny Gargano's heel turn/descent into evil was second to none. What started as an incredible year with Gargano doing everything imaginable other than winning the NXT Title turned into a nightmare as Gargano became obsessed with ending Tommaso Ciampa's reign of evil. That evil consumed Gargano, who took out his aggression on Aleister Black in a horrible assault, which saw Gargano become everything he hated in the name of stopping Ciampa.

This is the story of the year because it has a beginning, middle and ending. Gargano turning was foreshadowed when he couldn't tell William Regal he didn't do it and, as usual in NXT, the fun part was watching everything play out from there. This story isn't over yet, but the ride they've taken us on so far has been magical. Gargano has gone from the light to the darkness, and now the question is whether it destroys him or if he comes out the other side. That's great storytelling, and it's the best of the year.

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Ranking The Shows

So this is something kind of interesting. A few weeks ago, someone asked me to rank the current wrestling shows that I watch from most to least enjoyable. I've heard of worse ideas so let's take a look. Keep in mind that these are only the current shows and the only ones that I watch, so you won't see many surprises in here.

1. NXT

Like it was going to be anything else. This show is the most enjoyable

thing that happens to wrestling fans and one of the best weekly TV shows ever. They never get boring, their worst show is still better than almost anything anyone else produces, and it somehow keeps getting better. They've figured out exactly how to do the one hour a week wrestling TV show and I look forward to seeing it every time. This was #1 by a few laps and nothing is in its universe.

2. Smackdown

The more I think about Smackdown, the more frustrated I get at Raw. This show is proof of what WWE is capable of doing and how well they can still put together a big show. While it's certainly not great, it's a show that is both entertaining and well done, which is a rare sight on the main roster. The wrestling is good, the promos are better, and there's a fun feeling here that you don't get on Monday. Smackdown is very good, and evidence that WWE still knows what it's doing.

3. 205 Live

If Mustafa Ali was still around, this would have been second. What used to be a terrible show that was little more than a chore to watch has turned into one of the best things going in WWE today. The action ranges from solid to great and it has the best non William Regal boss in WWE with Drake Maverick (must be a British thing). They bring in new talent and have a formula that works very well. Plus Maria Kanellis and that's never a bad thing.

KEEP GOING!

4. Fusion

I know I talk about this show a lot but it's become a well done wrestling show. It's nothing that's going to blow you away but for about fifty minutes a week, you get a nice blend of action in front of an entertained crowd with some talent you might have be overly familiar with. They've put something together in just a few months and it's a perfectly enjoyable show. Check these guys out if you haven't, as their show goes

up on YouTube every Saturday night.

5. NXT UK

This place gets a hard time, but it's really not that bad. The problem is the way the show is scheduled rather than what they actually do, and that's not their fault. The other main issue is calling it NXT, which comes with a very heavy burden. It doesn't offer anything that a show like Progress doesn't do better, but the WWE production helps a lot. This is far from bad and cutting it back to an hour a week is going to do wonders for them.

6. Impact Wrestling

Yeah seriously. I know the show has the worst reputation in wrestling and a lot of that is justified, but they've gotten a lot better in the last year and a half. It's still not a masterpiece or even a great show most of the time, but it's watchable and the stories make sense. That's a fine place for them to be and if they can continue taking the little steps forward, they might be able to rewrite some of their legacy. Just find a way to make the main events feel epic and they're well on their way.

JUST AROUND THE BEND!

7. Ring of Honor

This show is the definition of feast or famine. When they're on, they're very on and can produce some of the best shows around. When they're off though, it feels like a low rent promotion took a TV station hostage and ran their show. The women's division is still a disaster and some of their other stuff isn't that much better, but they know how to do the wild matches and athletic displays quite well. It's a watchable show, but not something I really look forward to most of the time.

8. Main Event

Yes a recap show is somehow not on the bottom of the list. This show

actually offers a nice service by showcasing the shortened version of the WWE week. The original wrestling occasionally will be entertaining but this is all about giving you a quick look at Raw and Smackdown. It's fine for what it is, and that's all it's supposed to be.

9. Monday Night Raw

What is there even to say here? I've literally never missed an episode of Raw and I don't remember a time when it felt this hopeless (not bad, but hopeless). It's like they're always content with not trying anything and would rather just coast until Wrestlemania season, do the Shakeup, and then get back to coasting again. Feuds go on forever with few people getting elevated, and that leaves you with a bunch of uninteresting people fighting for nothing, because the Intercontinental Title is the top title on the show. Without getting into another Lesnar rant, his absence is killing the biggest wrestling show in the world. That shouldn't happen, and we're almost to year three of it being the case. Fix that already, because it's Raw and not Main Event.

What could be lower than this?

Yeah there's nothing else here. Nine shows a week is enough and nothing is beating Raw.

On The Priscilla Kelly Incident

So this has kind of blown up the wrestling world in recent days.

For those of you who have missed it, Mae Young Classic competitor Priscilla Kelly pulled a bloody tampon out of her trunks at a show over the weekend and shoved it in her opponent's face. You can imagine how

this went over with some wrestlers and how it went over with others at the same time. I think you can also imagine my reaction to it.

I'll be nicer this time and say this isn't exactly my kind of wrestling entertainment. It was at a 21+ show, but that doesn't mean that as someone over 21 that I want to see it happen. This is little more than a shock value moment, just like the crazy death match stuff with explosions and all the barbed wire and whatever else they come up with that day. If you need something like that to get over, maybe you need to work on your skills or character more, because no other talented wrestler need to go that far to get a reaction.

This isn't some terrible, horrible thing. It's just stupid and someone throwing something out there to get a reaction out of people instead of putting in the effort to earn one. There are people who will defend it by calling it performance art or creativity and all that jazz and that's fine. I'd question why those people rarely make it on the highest levels of wrestling but that's just me.

Oh and Road Dogg being the one to defend this from WWE made the whole thing that much funnier. Was a true standard bearer like Billy Gunn or X-Pac not available?

Go Nominate Things For End Of The Year Awards

<https://steelcageforums.com/showthread.php/649-SCF-2018-Year-End-Awards-Nomination-Thread>

I'll be using a lot of these for the End of the Year Awards on here.