

Quick Thoughts On All Of This Week's Big WWE News

So I kept meaning to do one of these things earlier in the week but then it was one big story after another so I kept putting it off. Now with everything that came out today, I kind of need to cover this before John Cena become King of Lichtenstein on Friday.

Monday Night Raw To Netflix

This is the big story of the week (at least the first half) as the show is leaving USA at the end of September and moving to Netflix in January 2025. The deal is reportedly worth about \$500 million a year, or just shy of TEN MILLION DOLLARS A SHOW. I have no idea how Netflix is supposed to make money on this, but WWE continues to make absolute bank on everything they touch.

Now there is something on the downside, as having the company's flagship show behind a paywall is going to be more than a bit weird. That is going to rub some people the wrong way, but ultimately this is the way things are going in television. Of WWE's three major shows, only Smackdown is going to be on cable starting next year. Also I'm assuming that Netflix/WWE are assuming that a lot of people already have Netflix so it's not like some big change that everyone is going to have to make. Either way, WWE has a home for a good while and all kinds of money to go with it, which checks their two major boxes.

Smackdown Possibly To Tuesdays

During an interview with Pat McAfee, Nick Khan said that Smackdown will begin on the USA Network on October 1, which is a Tuesday. That means NXT will be moving elsewhere, which has me wondering what the other shows are going to do. At the very

least, it makes me hope that Collision could move off of its death slot on Saturday night. This is something where we'll have to wait and see, but it does appear that changes are coming.

The Rock Joins The TKO Board

This is something that might be more for show than anything else, but he did get the ownership of "the Rock" trademark. I'm curious if this is part of the lawsuit that came down against Vince McMahon, but at the very least, it makes me wonder what this might mean for Rock coming back to the ring. If he's tying himself even more to WWE, it makes me think that he has that much more of an investment in the company's future.

Vince McMahon Wall Street Journal Article

If you haven't seen the details I'll spare you from reading them here, but McMahon is being sued by a former employee who claims he sex trafficked her around the company. The details and alleged texts from McMahon are downright disturbing and sickening, to the point where if this is true, McMahon has to be done in the wrestling world. Right now it's more a matter of waiting for the other shoe to drop, as this is some horrendous stuff that paints McMahon as the monster he has long been accused of being.

Kevin Patrick Gone From WWE

Yeah who cares. Michael Cole will be doing Smackdown this week and then we'll find out about the permanent replacement.

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Watched Main Event

This is the first WWE film with Netflix and much like the weekly show of the same name, there isn't much positive about the whole thing.

The idea is basically a wrestling version of Like Mike: a kid finds an item (a wrestling mask in this case) and it gives him special powers. He enters a tournament for money and a WWE contract and the rest of the movie is him fighting wrestlers. Seriously that's about it.

There is very little worth watching in this thing, though to be fair it seems to be something for kids rather than adults. The powers are of course completely absurd, with the kid being able to jump from one turnbuckle to another and lift rather large wrestlers. You can predict the entire movie the whole way through and while that's not the worst thing, it does get a little tiresome in a hurry.

I'm already running out of things to talk about with the movie because that's how little there is to the thing. The comedy relief is a grandmother with an Instagram following, but the weird part is she is probably about fifty years old, making the grandmother part a little hard to buy. Sure someone her age could be a grandmother, but she looks young enough to be the main character's mother.

The wrestling cameos are fine, with Corey Graves and Renee Young as the match commentators and Miz as host, plus Keith Lee as someone else trying to get a contract. As usual, a WWE

produced movie can't get the basics right though, as they mention a match being on Raw and show it with blue ropes. Why this is so difficult to figure out is beyond me, but even WWE can't figure it out.

Overall, this isn't worth your time and the only thing that offers a bit of interest are some of Young's lines on commentary. This came out around the same time as the Big Show Show and as bad as that was, it's WAY more entertaining than Main Event. Don't waste your time on this as it feels like something that was written in about a day and the wrestling cameos aren't enough to make it work. It could be worse, but you're better off watching one of the Marine movies or something else of high quality.

Checked Out The Big Show Show

This came out a few weeks ago on Netflix and I was actually a bit surprised.

The show is basically a look at Big Show at home, or at least pretty close to one. He's playing a fictionalized version of himself where he's a retired wrestler whose daughter moves in with his wife and his two other daughters. It's a simple premise and that works well for a simple show.

So what works? Big Show is good at the physical comedy and playing himself (as you might expect), Allison Munn is good as his slightly wacky wife and Renlynn Caster (its her first significant role) works as the oldest of three daughters. The show has some continuity with stories running throughout the season, making it a lot easier to watch than some shows that just have random plots with nothing giving them any order.

As for what doesn't work, the show just isn't very funny. You might

chuckle once or twice (three unnamed wrestlers singing a Backstreet Boys song was funny) but for the most part, it's a show with a bunch of easy jokes that don't work very well (the middle daughter knows someone named Taylor Swift (who uses a lot of Swift songs/lyrics) and Big Show always thinks it's the real one). That being said, you know what you're getting into with this so it's not like it's some huge disappointment.

Overall, the show isn't great but it's not trying to be. You can watch the whole thing in about three and a half hours (eight slightly less than a half hour episode). I watched it in a day and to be fair, I certainly wasn't begging for each show to be over or checking the clock every two minutes to see how long was left. If this had more episodes, it would be a perfectly fine show for a seven year old to watch or as background noise like Full House.

The point here is to get Big Show in front of a camera and that works well enough. I don't know if it's going to get a second season, but if it does, then it's just going to be one less year before you get to have this conversation:

"Remember when Big Show had a sitcom?"

"Yep."

End of meaningful discussion about the show.

Oh and the guy who played Urkel is in a few episodes. He's not funny.