Match of the Week: Wade Barrett vs. Sheamus - WWE Main Event

If you haven't started tuning into WWE Main Event on a regular basis by this point, it's about time you start now. Those that have watched weekly since its premiere last month would know that the match between Wade Barrett and Sheamus stole the week away, occurring on Barrett's home turf of England no less. Main Event has featured some solid action since its debut in early October, but this was by far the best match we've seen yet on the Wednesday night program. We've seen some amazing match-ups between the two fighting European brawlers in the past, but this was truly the best of their series up to this point. Not only was the action in this match awe-inspiring, but World Heavyweight Champion Big Show's strong verbal work on commentary only enhanced the bout, showing signs of anger and frustration during the course of the contest. Barrett had declared in the past that he had to be defeated in England, and although Sheamus snapped that streak here, the evil Englishman looked strong in defeat. Here's hoping we see these two fighting once again at some point in the foreseeable future but with the World Heavyweight Championship also up for grabs.

Superstar of the Week: Wade Barrett

As WWE travels across the pond to Birmingham, England this past week, England's own Wade Barrett managed to make an impact on all three of WWE's weekly televised programs in some form on fashion. Firstly, Barrett entered to a massive hometown hero's welcome on Monday Night Raw before defeating Brodus Clay in impressive fashion. The following night on a special edition of Super SmackDown Live, Barrett teamed with World Heavyweight Champion Big Show in a successful effort against arch-rival Sheamus and fellow Brit William Regal. With that being two victories in a row in England, it was only a matter of time before he scored a mark in the loss column, which he did on Wednesday's WWE Main Event program against Sheamus. As stated above, his match with the Celtic Warrior was so well wrestled to the point where I'll excuse the loss and just accept the fact that he looked strong in defeat. It's only a matter of time, before Barrett is wearing World title gold around his waist.

Show of the Week: Super SmackDown Live - November 6, 2012

You know you're in for an enjoyable viewing experience whenever WWE travels overseas to England to tape their weekly programming. I had set high standard for this past week's Monday Night Raw after all the monumental moments we've seen occur in England in recent years, but I was ultimately let down by the end of the broadcast. While the show wasn't bad by any means, the mind-boggling booking they did for their upcoming Survivor Series pay-per-view left me in a confused state of mind once the broadcast concluded. Thankfully, WWE redeemed themselves by providing an excellent Super SmackDown Live special the following night, also in Birmingham, England. While the night featured only a mere four matches, each match was booked brilliantly and included some exciting action. SmackDown doesn't have the best track record with live specials, but this was undoubtedly the best one yet. The electric England environment only helped enhanced the show and made the two hours surprisingly fly by. This week's Main Event program was also entertaining, but that night's rather boring R-Truth vs. Heath Slater match cost it from being the Show of the Week.

Other Notable Highlights and Low Points

This Week's Highlights

* **England crowd**: Every time WWE travels overseas to England to tape their weekly televised programming, the electric environment and audiences always have the tendency to make any lackluster show into an exciting one. WWE travels to England semi-annually, so it's understandable as to why their such a lively crowd. This week was no different, as their loud chants and rave reactions made some of the less entertaining segments much more enjoyable. Fingers crossed we see WWE hold a live pay-per-view event there at some point in time.
* **Wade Barrett's hometown pop**: Speaking of the England crowd, they gave Wade Barrett one of the loudest reactions in recent memory when he entered for his match against Brodus Clay this past week on Raw. Being from the England area, it made sense for the live crowd to cheer for their hometown hero, but what's shocking about it is that WWE didn't opt to edit out the massive cheers he received since he's a heel. They've edited out cheers for the evil Englishman in the past when they're taped in England, so I'm glad they didn't do that this time around and instead allowed him to receive a natural, well-deserved reaction from his hometown crowd.
* **Kofi Kingston vs. The Miz**: As we've seen in the last month, Kofi Kingston and The Miz never fail to provide extremely entertaining matches, and their most recent clash over the Intercontinental Championship on Super SmackDown Live was no exception. Kingston lit the England crowd on fire with his exciting offense, while Miz told a solid story inside the squared circle by repeatedly targeting Kingston's leg throughout the match. Sure, Kingston successfully retaining his title was predictable, but it came after one of the best matches of the week.
* **William Regal returns to the ring**: Being the huge William Regal mark that I am, his various appearances on Monday Night Raw and Super SmackDown Live this past week were the ultimate highlights for me. While I enjoyed his brief cameo appearance on Raw during a backstage segment with Sheamus, it made more sense the following night on SmackDown when he and Sheamus teamed together against Big Show and Wade Barrett in tag action. Regal received his rightful spotlight that he deserves to get on his home turf, and he even managed to connect with his Knee Trembler finish on the World Heavyweight Champion. Of course, he took the pin-fall for his team, but one can only hope that this isn't the end of Regal's time on television going forward.
* **Randy Orton vs. Alberto Del Rio**: Another marvelous match that made Super SmackDown Live worth watching this week was the Falls Count Anywhere main event match pitting Randy Orton against Alberto Del Rio. The ruthless rivals have had an enjoyable feud over the last month, and this was the best way to conclude it. It received fantastic time and the closing moments were very well done. This is another match that you should go out of your way to watch again if you haven't already done so.

This Week's Low Points

* **Confusing Survivor Series build-up**: This past week's edition of Monday Night Raw had all the tools to be great, but WWE screwed that opportunity up by throwing their Survivor Series build-up into complete disarray. Everything that was build towards the previous week was made to be forgotten about this week, which left me in a confused state by the end of the show. While the matches on the current card do have the potential to be excellent, I haven't enjoyed the build-up to this point, especially with three weeks in between the Hell in a Cell and Survivor Series events.
* **Brad Maddox promo**: I strongly dislike to hate on certain segments that could end up being good, but Brad Maddox's promo on Raw this week where he explained his actions from Hell in a Cell was bland and boring. I understand the story behind it and it's logical, but this promo didn't do anything but kill the hot crowd and my excitement for the remainder of the show. Again, it could end up being something worth watching down the line, but as of now, I'm not all anticipating Maddox vs. Ryback on next week's Raw.
* **AJ/John Cena story-line**: Here's another story that isn't all that enjoyable at the moment. It was intriguing at first, but with the lack of substantial evidence that Vickie has presented thus far, it's just simply stupid. It could easily be worse, as the bright side could be that it seems to something fresh such as an AJ-Ziggler pairing by the end of it. Only time will tell as far as that goes. On the bright side, the England crowd made the Cena and Vickie segment from this past week entertaining with their various hilarious chants and sound effects during the video clips.