

Raw hits Netflix

By Jay'Mi Vazquez
Managing Editor

WWE Monday Night Raw is now being streamed live on Netflix, and it has been quite the experience.

Before going into 2025, WWE has been plastering its new partnership with Netflix on all social media platforms to gauge enough interest from wrestling fans nationwide to tune into the show.

On Jan. 6, the first ever Monday Night Raw was livestreamed, peaking at an astounding 5.9 million in global viewership according to known wrestling media outlet, WhatCulture.

This change from being streamed live on the USA Network to Netflix has had its pros and cons for viewers and for the company itself.

One of the main advantages would be Netflix's global reach. Netflix has over 200 million subscribers worldwide, which can be good exposure to the sport of pro wrestling. WWE clearly attempted to captivate viewers by having major headlining names on the very first show such as Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, John

Cena, The Undertaker and many more.

Avid fans of the program have been amazed by the production of these shows. Netflix and WWE have clearly invested a lot of money into the actual production of the show, having different camera angles and a drone capturing footage of the in-ring action.

Paul Levesque, also known as Triple H, has been doing amazing things for the storytelling aspect of the characters within the WWE Universe recently, and these Netflix shows are proving that.

The match cards on these first few shows have been amazing, showcasing various talent such as the long-awaited debut of legendary Mexican wrestler, Penta.

Even with these advantages of the show, there have also been several drawbacks since the start of this new era of professional wrestling.

On the first streamed Monday Night Raw, Hulk Hogan was one of the surprise guests that came out to promote his Real American Beer brand. Hogan was booed loudly during his terrible unscripted promo. The

booing partially had to do with his previous racist remarks.

Aspects like this can turn a lot of viewers away from the program, as they are highlighting someone that does not align with the core values of the majority of wrestling fans.

Fans are also concerned that the first show of the year will be the best they have to offer. They pulled out all the stops, having a pretty good Netflix debut.

But this leaves the question of whether they will be able to continue the same level of shows each week. The reality is that the show may get very stale quickly, as having special guests and action-packed match ups will likely fade out.

With all these advantages and disadvantages, Monday Night Raw being streamed on Netflix represents an exciting possibility for the future of professional wrestling.

With the ever-changing landscape of entertainment and sports media, this partnership can redefine how WWE engages with its audience and elevate wrestling to new heights if it continues to be presented to fans correctly.

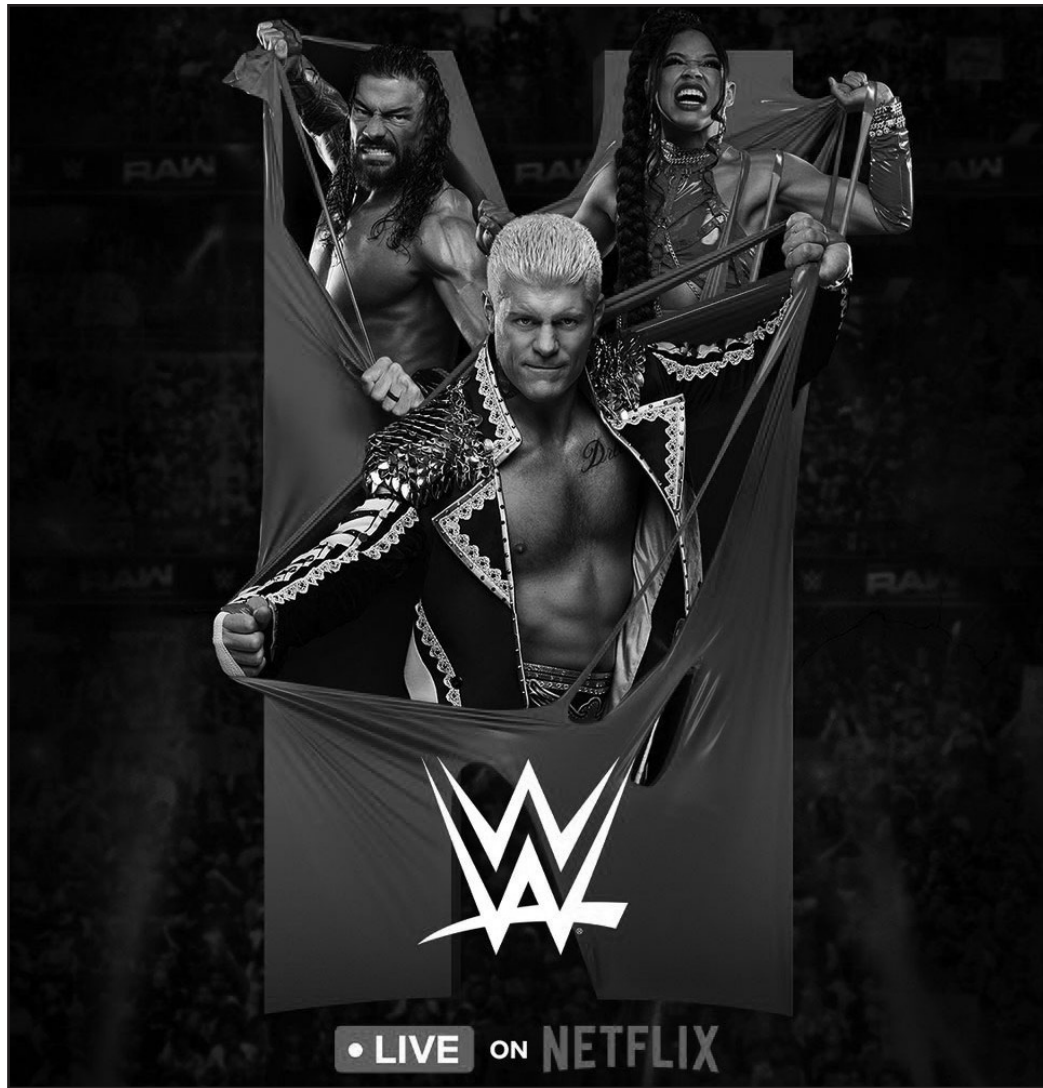


PHOTO | INSTAGRAM

WWE and Netflix's ad for Monday Night Raw being livestreamed on the platform.

The Grammy's were surprisingly good



PHOTO | INSTAGRAM

Beyoncé during her Grammy acceptance speech for Album of the Year.



PHOTO | INSTAGRAM

Doechii during her acceptance speech for Best Rap Album of the Year.

By Solé Scott
Editor-in-Chief

My goodness has this been a whirlwind night as the 67th Grammy awards premiered with a mission to honor the Los Angeles fires.

Sunday Feb. 2 was the most anticipated day so far as musical artists arrived to compete for a golden gramophone.

Nine out of 94 categories were broadcast during the live television slot. The 85 remaining categories were included in the pre-show.

The first winner of the 67th Grammy awards was none other than Sabrina Carpenter for Best Pop Solo Performance.

Now, the start of the award show was moving along swiftly until Kanye West and his wife Bianca Censori made an uninvited appearance on the red carpet.

Censori wore a big fur coat as she posed with West when out of nowhere, she took off the coat to reveal her nakedness. The deplorable action was the biggest reason to kick them out before entering the venue.

Once that fiasco was over, the red carpet continued until another

incident occurred when The Associated Press was interviewing music legend Babyface when one of the interviewers rudely interrupted him mid-sentence to get the attention of Chappell Roan, who they wanted to interview.

My favorite performances of the night were Doechii, Raye, Sabrina Carpenter and Billie Eilish.

Doechii put on a stellar performance where she performed "CATFISH" and "DENIAL IS A RIVER" after winning Best Rap album. She is the third woman to win since 1989.

Sabrina Carpenter mixed comedy with an amazing production as she performed a melody of hits from "Short n' Sweet."

Raye was the best vocalist of the night as she sang her hit song "Oscar Winning Tears." The power of her notes gave me goosebumps.

Lastly, Billie Eilish because she is one of my favorite artists and she, with her brother Finneas, sang "BIRDS OF A FEATHER."

made an impact on music from 2023-2024.

What annoyed me was the host, Trevor Noah. I usually like the comedian but this time I was thrown off by his dull jokes and him constantly obsessing over Taylor Swift and Beyoncé.

Also, I was shocked when Noah revealed that \$7 million was raised during the 4-hour broadcast. I assumed more would be raised considering there were billionaires in attendance and an estimation of \$5-10 billion as a collective.

Finally, Beyoncé won Album of the Year for Cowboy Carter. This is the major award where she has been snubbed since 2009. Now, she joins Natalie Cole, Whitney Houston and Lauryn Hill as the only four Black women to win.

I really wished she would have won for "Beyoncé" or "Renaissance," which seemed like the true winners in her discography for Album of the Year. Nevertheless, she has the award and has extended her record of most Grammys with 35.

These are the opinions of the Southern News Editorial Staff

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