

Monday Night Raw – October 5, 1998: This Rock Guy Is Going To Be A Big Deal

Monday Night Raw

Date: October 5, 1998

Location: Breslin Arena, East Lansing, Michigan

Attendance: 9,846

Commentators: Jim Ross, Jerry Lawler

It's another week closer to Judgment Day and we have two Raws left before we get there. Tonight we'll likely hear more about the main event for the PPV which is Austin refereeing Taker vs. Kane for the vacant world title. You know that's going to rival a Thesz vs. Gotch classic for basic wrestling skills of course. Anyway there isn't much else announced for that show so let's get to it.

We open with a quick look at Taker and Kane breaking Vince's leg/ankle last week.

European Title: X-Pac vs. D'Lo Brown

Pac is defending and he's coming out before JR can even welcome us to the show. Brown charges right into a spin kick but he comes back with a powerslam. Legdrop hits Pac and a leg lariat gets two. Off to the chinlock and Brown yells at the crowd. He always was good at that. Someone serves Chyna with papers and Henry is smiling.

The champ fights out of the hold and hits a belly to back suplex. His elbow misses and Brown hits one of his own off the middle rope for two. Side slam gets the same. The Low Down misses and it's slugout time. Pac speeds things up and hits the Bronco Buster, but Henry trips him up and rams Pac's back into the post. That and the Low Down gives us a new champion.

Rating: C-. Not bad here but it was more about building up the DX problems as Chyna didn't help Pac out for no apparent reason. Brown would hold onto the title for awhile until the title fell into obscurity. You know, as in more than it already was at this point. I've always been a fan of Brown's work so I can't complain much here. Decent opener.

Vince is in a hospital bed and complaining about getting the wrong kind of juice. OH IT'S THIS SHOW!!!

The Oddities played football earlier today.

Here are the Headbangers who apparently aren't scheduled right now. They call out the Insane Clown Posse and I can easily see why I've never heard them cut a promo before. The Oddities come out but the Headbangers want the Clowns.

Headbangers vs. Insane Clown Posse

Please make it short. The Oddities have to go to the back and the Clowns come in. I'm not sure if this is an official match or not. Shaggy takes a flapjack and it's a double suplex for Jay. There's no tagging so far at all. There's a Super Bomb for Shaggy and Thrasher gets a chair. The Clowns get laid out with chairs and it's a big beatdown until the Oddities make the save.

We see Austin looking for Vince last night with an ax in his hand. He took over the production truck and hacked the feed to Vince's hospital. I mean that literally.

Austin had a metal CD. Ok then.

We get a clip from last week with the Zamboni attack and the announcement of the PPV main event. Vince called the Brothers handicapped (one physical and the other mental) and Taker threatened them. Vince flipped them off and the Brothers destroyed his leg.

We go to Vince's hospital room and the nurse says he has a

large visitor. Vince says no visitors and it's Mankind. Vince's heart rate monitor beeping in time with his panicking is great. Mankind gives him candy and balloons and has a visitor. It's female entertainment. "She does a trick with a dog that you won't believe." It's Yurple the Clown. Vince being given stickers and balloon animals is great. Foley says he has another visitor and it's...MR. SOCKO!!! Vince finally snaps and throws them out.

Sable joins in on commentary.

Vader vs. Marc Mero

Sable says she wants the Women's Title which would come soon enough. The whole Vince is Sable's Boss thing is pretty much forgotten at this point. Vader pounds away on him and they head to the floor where Mero hides behind Jackie. Back in and Vader runs Mero over, sending him right back to the floor. After a Jackie eye rake it's back to the ring and Mero takes over with his usual stuff. Vader beats him down again and a splash gets two. Jackie dives onto Vader and gets caught, but a Mero low blow and the Marvelocity (Shooting Star) gets the pin.

Rating: D. Nothing to see here as Mero was only there as a surrogate for Jackie and Sable. That would tend to be the case for awhile as Mero never really meant much after this. This was also Vader's last match on Raw which is kind of pitiful but he was so far past his prime in WWF that it never quite clicked.

Jackie gets on the mic post match because I haven't suffered enough so far. She challenges Sable who gets in, but Mero distracts her so Jackie can jump her. Jackie cuts Sable's hair.

William Regal makes his own orange juice.

Edge vs. Owen Hart

We hear about Edge's younger brother, which is a new revelation. His name is Christian. Owen comes out in street clothes. Last night he tried to walk out on a match with X-Pac but got rolled up anyway. He's distraught because of the injury to Severn last week. He says he's sorry but he can't wrestle tonight. Owen walks out and it's a forfeit.

Post break Owen says it's over and he's done before leaving the arena.

Kane vs. Ken Shamrock

See, THIS is something you don't get today. These guys have very different styles and it's cool to see them clash. Today almost everyone but two people have the same style so you can plug in anyone. It's something that really is missing today. Shamrock is on the verge of turning heel but he's still a tweener here. He uses his speed advantage and fires off some strikes to take over early.

Shamrock goes for the leg but gets caught in a powerslam when trying a cross body. A dropkick staggers the big man but his rana is caught in a powerbomb. Kane chokes him down and chokes on the mat before a powerslam gets two. Off to a chinlock which Shamrock fights out of but here's Undertaker to watch. Shamrock fires off a bunch of stuff but it takes the rana to put Kane down. Not that it matters as Kane is up to his feet first. Kane goes up top but Undertaker gets up and crotches him, allowing a belly to belly superplex to give Shamrock the pin.

Rating: C-. Like I said the conflicting styles were a nice touch here. That's something you NEVER get anymore. We don't have many power monsters and even fewer MMA style guys, so it's nice to see something like this. Think about it: how many people work the same exact style today and how uninteresting does it get after awhile?

Val Venis finds Terri's wedding ring. Guess where it was.

Val Venis vs. Gangrel

Val talks about Magic Johnson before the match. He starts fast with a powerslam and some knees to the ribs followed by the bump and grind. JR takes a shot at WCW by saying this is action and not two 45 year olds on the microphone. Val hits a big boot and here comes Edge. He gets in Christian's face but Gangrel runs out to DDT Edge on the floor. They stomp Edge and the match is thrown out. Oh ok Val wins by countout. That makes sense.

Val and Terri make out in the ring but a movie usher shows up. He hands Val a gold envelope, the contents of which freak Val out. Cue Goldust's music and the man himself on the screen. Goldust's world premiere is next week apparently.

We get a clip from last night of Austin yelling at Shane on Heat.

Vince is in the hospital and wants another nurse and something for his pain.

Al Snow vs. Jeff Jarrett

They go to the mat and it's a nice technical exhibition to start. Snow is like screw that and catches him with the trapping headbutts. He knocks Jarrett to the floor and grabs a chair but Jeff knocks him down. Slaughter comes out here, demanding the Head from the referee. Snow hits a kind of Air Sabu move against the barricade but as Al goes after Slaughter, Jarrett hits him in the back with a chair. Back in the ring Snow hits an enziguri to come back and goes up but Slaughter crotches him for the DQ. Fun while it lasted but this was about Slaughter vs. Snow, which isn't interesting at all.

Road Dogg vs. Mark Henry

There's no Billy here so Roadie brings in a blowup doll.

Lawler gets the papers that Chyna was served earlier and it's a sexual harassment by Henry. Road Dogg takes over to start and hits the shaky knee for two. He walks into what would become known as the World's Strongest Slam to give Henry the advantage. Brown trips up Dogg and a legdrop to the back of the head half kills him. Chyna comes out and drills Brown, allowing Pac to kick Henry low and hit an X Factor for Dogg to get the pin. Another short match.

Henry chases after DX with a chair post match.

Vince is in the hospital and wants more juice.

We go to McMahon for an interview but he isn't ready, so we look at Austin's Zamboni stuff from last week again. We get the attack on Vince as well.

Vince is getting hit blood pressure taken when Austin, dressed as a doctor, jumps him. Austin pounds on his broken ankle, hits him with a bedpan, and zaps him with the cardiac paddles. To end it he anally rapes Vince with an IV. To quote Punk: "SECURITY AROUND HERE SUCKS!"

The Rock vs. The Undertaker

They have a lot of time for the main event here. Rock is on fire and this is one of his biggest matches to date. He's still listed as part of the Nation here but it's really just in name only at this point. Taker immediately jumps him and the fight starts fast. The jumping clothesline puts Rock down again as it's been all Taker so far. Out to the floor and Rock reverses a whip into the steps.

Here comes Kane to watch the match ala Undertaker in Kane's match earlier. The distraction allows for a powerslam from Taker to stop Rock cold again. Henry and Brown come out but get glared away by Kane. Taker starts in on the arm and here's School. Off to the chinlock which is quickly broken by a belly to back suplex. Rock gets thrown to the floor and the beating

is on in the aisle.

This has still been almost all Undertaker and it continues to be as he slams Rock into the steps. Back into the ring and Rock's comeback is easily stopped by a right hand. Sunset flip out of nowhere gets two for Rock. Again he fires off punches but Taker easily clotheslines him down for two. Rock grabs an O'Connor Roll for two and a clothesline for the same. Big boot takes Rock down for another near fall.

Taker loads up Old School again but since you can't hit the same match twice in a match, Rock arm drags him down. JR declares Rock the #1 contender for some reason. Swinging neckbreaker gets two for the Not Yet Great One. Tombstone is escaped into a side Russian legsweep and the People's Elbow connects. The referee gets crushed in the corner and everyone goes down. Time for Kane but Undertaker sits up. Kane kills Taker in the back with the chair and the Rock Bottom looks to finish but there's no referee. Kane slides the chair in and a Tombstone onto said chair gets the pin.

Rating: B. These two don't do that well on PPV together, but man they were cooking here. Rock was on fire at this point and more or less would stay on fire for the next two years or so. Seeing him get beaten down and then fight back time after time, including hitting a solid Rock Bottom, only to get screwed was a nice ending to a good match. That's how you give someone a rub by the way.

Overall Rating: B-. They're clearly running on all cylinders at this point and it's clear that WCW having stuff like Warrior vs. Hogan is merely a band-aid trying to stop the tidal wave that is Raw. With Rock on the verge of being revealed as the Corporate Champion and Mankind's rise up to the top of the company, this is going to get great and it's going to do it in a hurry.

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