

Monday Night Raw – November 8, 1993: DOWN GOES VINCE!

Monday Night Raw

Date: November 8, 1993

Location: Fernwood Resort, Bushkill, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Bobby Heenan, Randy Savage

We're creeping towards Survivor Series and hopefully things are better this week after such a disaster last time around. The big story is of course the Foreign Fanatics vs. the All Americans and tonight we'll be seeing Ludvig Borga vs. Scott Steiner in a preview match. Let's get to it.

Borga talks about how much he hates America so Steiner says he doesn't like Borga talking about how much he hates America. Well no one ever accused this of being the most exciting era.

Opening sequence.

Heenan is wearing what looks like a parachute because recently someone parachuted into a big boxing match. As usual, topical jokes really aren't funny. Savage promises to destroy Crush if he gets the chance.

Vince plugs a phone number where you can select Pierre's opponent for next week. Your options are: Doink the Clown, the 1-2-3 Kid or Lex Luger. After that obvious set of choices, Vince pulls the cord on Bobby's parachute, which he has on backwards.

Scott Steiner vs. Ludvig Borga

Borga jumps him before the jacket can come off and scores with a good looking top rope clothesline. Scott demonstrates the American abilities to suplex foreigners, followed by a pumphandle slam to send Ludvig to the floor. We hit the pause button while Borga yells a lot, followed by a shot of Savage yelling about Crush again. Borga grabs a headlock as Savage rants about not caring about legal issues, even promising to slap

Jack Tunney if it means he can get his hands on Crush.

Steiner avoids an elbow drop but here are the Quebecers to offer Borga some advice. Vince: "This is patently absurd!" Back from a break with Steiner suplexing him back inside as Rick Steiner comes out to even things up a bit. Borga finally makes the ropes to break up a Boston crab so Scott goes with a bad looking top rope dropkick for two. Rick gets on the apron for no logical reason and Borga pulls him inside. The Quebecers get in as well and the match is thrown out.

Rating: D+. This didn't go anywhere and you knew they were going to have the big nothing finish as soon as Rick came out there. Borga could have been a great heel if he hadn't been as crazy as he was but he was really cool while he lasted. Scott wasn't a great singles guy anymore at this point but he was still a very appropriate choice to face Borga here.

Jeff Jarrett is still in Nashville and it's time to go to the Grand Ole Opry. Country music is corrupt or something. This turns into a discussion of Undertaker being in shambles. Jarrett just keeps going and it gets worse and worse every minute as no one cares in the slightest.

Men on a Mission vs. Steve Smith/Cory Student

Mable is still dancing when Smith taps him on the shoulder for no logical reason. That earns him a trip around the ring before a double dropkick (with maybe one foot combined making contact) puts him down. Mo's sunset flip gets two on Student (what a name) as the announcers make jokes about an upcoming USA movie. We hit the chinlock for a bit before the double splash puts Student away.

Rating: D. I never know what to say about these squash matches as they're just beatings until we get to the inevitable pin. Men on a Mission were entertaining in a way but they haven't exactly aged well. It doesn't help that Oscar is one of the worst wrestling rappers this side of PN News.

We go to the Survivor Series control center as we run down the card, including the Hart Family facing Jerry Lawler and his Knights, which of course wouldn't happen. Bret can't wait to get his hands on Lawler for everything he's said about the family.

Still in the control center, we see the Headshrinkers finding out that they'll be facing a pair Doinks. Oh just.....no.

Undertaker tells us that drinking and driving is bad. That's not something you expect to see.

Rick Martel vs. John Paul

Martel starts with the usual as Vince speculates that Savage might replace Tatanka on the All Americans team. Paul grabs a headlock but gets suplexed down. Martel ducks a middle rope cross body and the Boston crab wraps it up in a hurry.

Crush vs. Dan Dubiel

Vince immediately has to calm Savage down by waistlocking him but Savage THROWS VINCE DOWN! IN 1993!!! Savage erupts on Crush with referees and suits not being able to break it up.

Bob Backlund vs. Barry Horowitz

How weird is it that Backlund is still around nearly 23 years after his comeback in his forties here? They trade armdrags to start before Backlund takes him down with ease. Cue Savage back to the announcers' desk as the technical display continues. And never mind as we cut to Crush breaking out of his locker room, sending Savage to the back. They fight onto the streets as the match is completely forgotten to end the show.

Overall Rating: D+. It's nice that they have a direction going towards Survivor Series though the ridiculous amount of changes they're making to the card isn't doing them any favors. The big match wasn't exactly thrilling but Savage vs. Crush is a hot angle that they somehow waited five months to blow off. Not much of a show here but 1993 isn't the best time.

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