Monday Night Raw — November 21, 1994: Before They Were Stars



IMG Credit: WWE

Monday Night Raw

Date: November 21, 1994

Location: Fernwood Resort, Bushkill, Pennsylvania

Attendance: 1,500

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Jim Cornette

It's the go home show for Survivor Series and that means more towel discussion. Actually it means Razor Ramon vs. Diesel, which should make for a good match as the Kliq always worked well together. Hopefully the Survivor Series matches get some more attention this week as they've been glossed over, albeit in favor of the bigger matches. Let's get to it.

Here's last week's show

Razor Ramon vs. Diesel

Non-title. We waste no time....in not having the match take place as Diesel and the rest of the Teamsters jump Razor in the aisle. No match and we're off to a stupid early break.

Tatanka vs. Chris Canyon

I love seeing future names appearing as nobodies. Tatanka starts fast with chops and a slam set up some jumping elbow drops. A release gutwrench suplex puts Canyon down again and we hear about a fan wanting a 24 hour Portuguese channel. Canyon gets in a spinning crossbody for two, followed by a crucifix for the same. Even Cornette is acknowledging some of these near falls. Tatanka scores with a backdrop and the top rope chop, followed by the Papoose To Go for the pin.

Rating: C-. Canyon looked good here and it's no surprise that he turned into something down the road. He's certainly not a top level talent but he's able to go out there and do something, which is more than you get from most jobbers. Why it took him so long to get a major job is hard to say, but it was clear there was something there.

Adam Bomb vs. Jason Ahrendt

Jason was a jobber for the better part of ever. The powerful Bomb wrestles him down for some reason and gets in a suplex. We hit an armbar of all things as it's time to talk about George Foreman winning the World Heavyweight Championship at 45 years old. Jason's ax handles have no effect and the Atom Smasher is good for the fast pin.

Vince and Cornette play Raw on Sega Genesis. That's a show concept if I've ever seen one.

We get a long and VERY detailed recap of Clowns R Us vs. the Royal Family, down to the introduction of all six minis. Yes, THIS needs a special feature.

It's time for the King's Court with Lawler having all three minis as his guests. Lawler makes the short jokes as only he can until Dink comes out with a water gun. As Jerry blames the other kings, the rest of the clowns come in with their own water guns to soak the kings. Sweet goodness I need to get away from this company.

IRS isn't happy with Undertaker for cheating on his taxes and has found out quite a few things. This time around, he's dug up a casket because the occupant's grave has been repossessed. My goodness IRS and the Repo Man could have been a sweet low level team.

IRS vs. Matt Hardy

Speaking of low level names who became stars. IRS knocks him to the floor as the announcers talk about....hang on a second.....Thanksgiving plans, polls about gaining weight over Thanksgiving and Mary Tyler Moore trying to free a lobster. Matt's sunset flip is broken up and we hit the abdominal stretch. The Write Off (jumping clothesline) ends Hardy as the announcers talk about the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

This week's Survivor Series Report starts with a shot at WCW (saying this won't be another rasslin pay per view) before looking at the World Title match. We see clips of last week with Bret and Backlund letting each other out of their respective holds to play some mind games. On Superstars, Backlund went insane (again), shouting about how it's going to be his again.

We move on to the casket match with a quick video and comments from Undertaker and Paul Bearer. After they say exactly what you would expect, it's a look at the rest of the card to wrap things up. This was at least more complete than anything else and it's nice to keep the title match here instead of all over the show.

<u>Diesel vs. Razor Ramon</u>

Non-title again. The other eight participants in the Survivor Series match are at ringside. Razor slugs away to start and knocks Jeff Jarrett off the apron as well. Diesel gets taken down in a hammerlock before bailing to the floor for a breather. With Cornette comparing Razor to Desi Arnaz, Diesel elbows him down as the pace slows a lot. Shawn Michaels gets in a few hair pulls from the floor and Diesel slams Razor hard into the mat. We hit the sleeper for a good while until Razor is sent outside as we take a break.

Back with Diesel heading outside to glare at the opposing team, allowing Razor to punch him in the jaw. The big sidewalk slam plants Razor for two and it's off to the neck crank. Back up and Snake Eyes keeps Razor in trouble and there's the running crotch attack on the ropes. Razor gets in a knee lift and more of those great right hands. Jarrett is dragged in and it's time for the big brawl as the match is thrown out to end the

show.

Rating: B-. These two work very well together as Razor is big enough to throw Diesel around while still looking impressive. Throw in the fact that they're going to work hard against each other and it's even better. The ending was obvious but in this case, that's perfectly acceptable.

Overall Rating: C. Now that's more like it. This wasn't a great show or anything but it has me more interested in seeing the pay per view than I was before. I mean, not enough to watch it again or anything but at least things were good back in the day. The main event did focus on the Survivor Series matches and that's where things needed to go here. I liked the show, even if some of the wrestling wasn't great. It did what it needed to do though and that's worth a pass.

I should probably redo Survivor Series but....egads no. Here's the latest redo:

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