

Monday Night Raw – September 12, 1994: They Don't Get Irony Do They?



IMG Credit: WWE

Monday Night Raw

Date: September 12, 1994

Location: Lowell Memorial Auditorium, Lowell, Massachusetts

Attendance: 2,300

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Randy Savage

It's another month here and this time around we're starting in the middle, as the US Open Tennis Tournament took away the first week of September. We're a long way off from Survivor Series so we don't have much to build towards at the moment, but that tends to be the case in 1994 anyway. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

Undertaker vs. Kwang

This is Undertaker's first match on Raw since January and Kwang is Savio Vega under a mask with Harvey Wippleman as a manager. They stare at each other a lot and Kwang makes the mistake of going after him, meaning the beating can start in a hurry. Kwang hits him in the back and gets stared

down, followed by a slam for a bonus. The Stunner over the top sets up Old School back inside as we take a break.

Back with Kwang hammering away before Undertaker pretty easily wins a slugout. Kwang scores with a superkick and clothesline to the floor...but Undertaker lands on his feet because that's what he does. Back in and Kwang spits mist at him, only to have Undertaker spit it right back at him. The chokeslam is good for the pin.

Rating: D+. This was your "welcome home" return match and that's all well and good. Undertaker looked pretty dominant and that's what they need from him after such a long absence. Kwang is fine for a midcard villain and I don't think there is anyone who believed he was ever going to be anything more than that. 1994 wasn't a great time for midcarders and that wasn't going to get any better for a long time.

Highlights of Bret Hart vs. Owen Hart in a cage at Summerslam, plus the post match fracas.

Jim Neidhart vs. Tim McNeaney

Owen Hart is here with Jim. Neidhart throws him around with ease and then tosses him outside. A forearm to the chest brings McNeaney back in and Owen tells Neidhart to hurt him a little more. Another slam sets up the camel clutch to give Neidhart the easy win.

Rating: D. The whole Neidhart vs. Bret feud is a good example of how chemistry means so much. Neidhart is not all that interesting on his own but he has a history with Bret and that makes things all the better. It makes things that much better and saves us from boring squashes like this one.

Post match the hold goes on again and Owen puts some Bret glasses on McNeaney.

We look at Jerry Lawler popping Dink's balloons. Doink looked furious and you never want a crowd swearing vengeance.

It's time for the King's Court. After Lawler insults some fans, he holds up a letter from Jack Tunney demanding that he apologize to Doink and

Dink. Therefore, Lawler will be the bigger man than Dink, so the clowns can come out here. This includes Dink in a Burger King crown, which is not going to end well. Doink and Lawler make fun of each other's clothes before Lawler gets in some more short jokes about Dink.

The clowns just want to make things right so they have a present for him. Vince thinks it's a box of WWF Magazines with Doink and Dink on the cover, because that's a heck of a gift. Lawler is scared of what's in there so Doink opens it for him. It's....a trashcan, because Lawler is facing Duke the Dumpster Droese next week. Lawler kicks the trashcan, which just happens to have metal weights inside. I hate that I laughed at that one.

Come to the Hart Attack Tour!

Diesel/Shawn Michaels vs. Tony Devito/Paul Van Dale

The fans chant for Diesel as Shawn slaps Devito in the face early on. A Diesel distraction lets Shawn knock him outside and it's off to Diesel for a hard forearm to the face. It's already back to Shawn for a chinlock but he lets it up in a hurry so Van Dam can come in. That's fine with Diesel, who plants him with a big boot. The Jackknife sets up Shawn's splash from on top of Diesel's shoulder for the easy pin.

Rating: C. This was an entertaining little squash and that's all it needed to be. Shawn and Diesel are cited as the best big man/little man combination for a reason: they're really good at what they do and that's what we saw here. Van Dale wasn't much, but his daughter was a little more fabulous. You probably know her as Carmella.

We look at Ted DiBiase trying to buy Adam Bomb but Bomb got in a fight with Bam Bam Bigelow instead.

Adam Bomb vs. Dwayne Gill

Bomb is now in blue and yellow for a change of pace. Gill gets shoved down to start and then bounces off of Bomb's shoulder. Some kicks out of the corner and something like a bulldog onto the top turnbuckle have Bomb in trouble for all of a second before he's back with a dropkick. A side

slam connects and Gill's missed crossbody sends him outside. Back in and the slingshot clothesline into the pumphandle slam finishes Gill with ease.

Rating: D+. I've always had a soft spot for Bomb so this was a fun match. Bomb was someone with the size and athleticism to make it work but it's not like he had that high of a ceiling. His southern hick voice didn't help things but I thought he could have been fine as a midcard star and maybe even an Intercontinental Title challenger. Or maybe he could go nowhere while the WWF came up with one horrible idea after another.

A man goes to confession but his priest is watching wrestling. Dig the New Generation. Voiceover: "Put your faith in us."

Bushwhackers vs. Barry Hardy/Burt Centino

Now you know as well as I do that the WWF doesn't get the irony of going from a New Generation ad to THE BUSHWHACKERS in 1994. Butch and Hardy start things off and the latter is already in trouble. A bite of the trunks connects as Knuckleball Schwartz is on strike in the crowd. Centino and Luke come in with the latter hitting a clothesline for no count as Hardy comes in. Butch shoves Hardy onto Centino and counts two, which is too far for the referee. A chop staggers Centino and the Battering Ram is good for the pin.

Rating: D. The Bushwhackers in the last match on the show in 1994? For the life of me I don't get why this took place but that's what you get around this time. It wasn't even a good squash as it was mainly comedy, but what else could be expected here? At least it was short, and that's the signature line about any horrible match.

We end with a preview of next week's show, with Duke Droese vs. Jerry Lawler listed twice for some reason.

Overall Rating: D. As usual, Shawn and Diesel were the highlights here and they weren't exactly thrilling. This is a horrible time for the company and the New Generation still wasn't taking off yet. They needed something to get them a breath of fresh air and that would wind up being Diesel. Based on the reaction he got here, you can't blame them. You can

blame them for the rest of the show though, which was pretty horrible.

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