

Monday Night Raw – February 22, 1993 (2021 Redo): It Still Feels Wrong

Monday Night Raw

Date: February 22, 1993

Location: Manhattan Center, New York City, New York

Attendance: 1,000

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Rob Bartlett, Randy Savage

Wrestlemania is inching closer and last week saw what felt like the start of a big angle for the show. Money Inc. attacked Brutus Beefcake's face with a metal briefcase, which can cause quite a bit of damage. The bigger story though is the tease of the return of Hulk Hogan, which should get them somewhere. Let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Rob Bartlett finds out that wrestling fans can spell and does a "Live From New York" Saturday Night Live ripoff intro.

Opening sequence.

Commentary runs down the card.

Bam Bam Bigelow vs. Scott Taylor

Taylor bounces off of Bigelow to start as commentary jokes about the chance that Taylor could make a name for himself. Drop the Taylor and add y 2 Hotty and you might be onto something. The beating continues as Bartlett moves on to what sounds like Mickey Mouse talking about the Three Stooges. Bigelow plants him down again and adds a headbutt to the back to make it worse. A butterfly backbreaker sets up the top rope headbutt, followed by a second to finish Taylor at 2:59.

We get a previously recorded sitdown interview with Hulk Hogan (in a black and white ICO PRO shirt and jeans for a very different look) and Vince McMahon, the latter of whom talks about Hulk suggesting he would retire in this same studio last year. Hulk, referring to Vince as Mr. McMahon, says that the people who used to be his fans are now the people he looks up to. There have been a lot of people who have looked into his past and they have found out that he has made mistakes. He has made personal mistakes, business mistakes and peer pressure mistakes.

We're in the 90s and that means the era of tabloid terrorism (oh boy) where people make up whatever they want and don't care what happens to them. If you believe in yourself, you can accomplish your goals and he believes in the youth of our nations. Now there are five demandments: train, say your prayers, eat your vitamins, believe in yourself, and believe in HULK HOGAN. He'll have an announcement tonight.

I'm assuming this is about the steroid issues and what was said on the Arsenio Hall show in 1991, but Hogan never actually flat out said he was wrong, or what the heck he was specifically talking about. Such is Hogan, but this was bizarre to hear (including hearing him refer to himself as a sports entertainer).

Beverly Brothers/Shawn Michaels vs. Tatanka/Nasty Boys

How 1993 of them. It's a brawl to start with the villains being cleared out in a hurry as Bartlett wonders about the rules. We settle down to Knobs faceplanting Blake, setting up the double Pit Stop. A boot to the head slows Knobs down though and it's off to Shawn for an elbow. Knobs manages to faceplant Shawn as well though and scores with a running clothesline, allowing the tag to Michaels.

That means Beau needs to come in rather quickly so Tatanka can crank on his arm. Sags takes his place and the arm is sent

hard into the corner a few times. A shoulder breaker gets two with Beau making the save, finally actually doing something right. Knobs sends Blake into the corner and we take a break. Back with Bartlett saying they stood around looking at each other during the break, only to reveal that he's kidding. Uh, yeah.

Anyway, we come back with Knobs being sent into the steps twice in a row to keep him in trouble. The Shaker Heights Spike gives Shawn two on Knobs as the fans are behind the Boys again. The slow beating continues, including Shawn kicking Knobs in the head. Beau sits on Knobs' back to keep him away from the corner but Shawn ducks his head and gets kicked in the face.

That's STILL not enough for Knobs to make the tag so he collides with Shawn to put both of them down. The hot tag brings in Tatanka to start the comeback and everything breaks down. Tatanka scores with the top rope chop for two with Blake having to make the save. The Papoose To Go gets two more thanks to another save as everything breaks down again (Bartlett: "Aren't there too many guys in the ring now?"). Shawn loads up the teardrop suplex but Tatanka reverses into a sunset flip for the pin at 14:13.

Rating: C-. This wasn't so much good as much as it was long, but it did feel like a bigger match than most of what you would get on Raw around this time. If nothing else, it had some actual names involved and it did feel somewhat important. Not exactly good, but sometimes you just need to make things feel a bit bigger.

BUY WRESTLEMANIA TICKETS!

Crush vs. Terry Taylor

Joined in progress with Crush shoving him down and there's the gorilla press to send Taylor crashing down again. Vince mentions that Hulk Hogan might be heading up the President's

Council on Physical Fitness...so Bartlett calls in and does an Arnold Schwarzenegger impression to complain about Hogan taking his job. Taylor gets in a shot and puts on a chinlock as thankfully the bit is over in a hurry. A neckbreaker gives Taylor two but Crush fights up, leaving Bartlett to make topical Las Vegas jokes. Crush hits the tilt-a-whirl powerslam and finishes with the head vice at 3:37 shown.

Rating: D+. Nothing to this one and Bartlett dragged what they had WAY down. Crush seemed like he was ready to jump up the card in a hurry but what are you expecting him to get out of a feud with Doink? Beating Taylor in a short match didn't help that much either, but at least he got in his finisher for the win. How you don't call that something like THE CRUSH is beyond me though.

We look back at Money Inc. dumping Jimmy Hart and hitting Brutus Beefcake in the face with the steel briefcase a few weeks ago.

Here is Hulk Hogan for his first appearance on the show and my goodness this feels out of place. Hogan, sounding much more like his usual self, sucks up to the fans and talks about waiting to see Brutus Beefcake making his comeback last week. He saw Beefcake outwrestle the Multi Million Dollar Man but then the smile turned to tears as the briefcase hit Beefcake's face. The good news is that Beefcake is ok though and the curled up nose makes him look even more like a wrestler.

Hogan thanks God for saving Brutus and Jimmy Hart (yes he knows this sounds crazy) for putting his body on the line to protect Brutus from another shot. Hogan, calling Vince "Little Dude", says he is back in the WWF and wants to right the wrongs from Money Inc. For now though, Hogan wants Beefcake here in the ring with him so here is Beefcake, with a taped up nose, in a hurry.

Beefcake talks about how he didn't realize he was going to

take the briefcase to the face last week but he thought it was curtains. Then he realized that nothing was going to break his titanium face, but now he has some people to think as well. Just like Hogan, that would be God and Jimmy Hart, but he wants Money Inc. too. With that out of the way, Hogan brings out Jimmy Hart as their new manager, which blew my mind as a kid and is still weird to see now. Hart talks about how great of a day this is because he has always wanted to wear the yellow and red.

Hogan looks a little confused as Hart talks about his success with tag teams but thinks this could be the greatest team ever. Jimmy promises to take his vitamins but thinks Money Inc. needs to say their prayers. Hogan dubs the team the Mega Maniacs and tells Hart to get Money Inc. in singles or tag matches. It's not a good sign when Hogan has been in a team for 14 seconds and is already wanting a singles match. Anyway, a lot of posing ensues. This was rather long and still feels really weird, but what else was Hogan supposed to do at Wrestlemania?

BUY WRESTLEMANIA TICKETS!

They're still posing.

Undertaker vs. Skinner

We're joined in progress and Vince realizes we're running out of time. Then five seconds later we go to a Slim Jim ad, followed by less than a minute of Skinner beating Undertaker up on the floor to end the show at about 1:15 shown. Vince promises to let us see this show next week, plus Bret Hart defending the WWF Title against one of the Headshrinkers. Which one? Eh who cares.

Overall Rating: D+. This was a bit of a tougher one to get through as the big pieces were a not so great six man and a LONG Hulk Hogan/Brutus Beefcake/Jimmy Hart interview. That doesn't leave much to get excited about, but at least they are

getting ready for Wrestlemania. It doesn't feel like a special show, but they are in a new world at this point so it's hard to get things together.

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and head over to my Amazon author page with 30 different cheap wrestling books at:

<http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6>

AND

[Remember to check out Wrestlingrumors.net](http://Wrestlingrumors.net) for all of your [wrestling headline needs](http://Wrestlingrumors.net).