

# Monday Night Raw – May 30, 1994: Get Me Out Of Here

## Monday Night Raw

Date: May 30, 1994

Location: Struthers Fieldhouse, Youngstown, Ohio

Attendance: 1,500

Commentators: Randy Savage, Vince McMahon

Thank goodness we're wrapping the month up here because I don't think I can take much more of the build towards King of the Ring. The last few weeks have been nothing short of dreadful and there is no reason to think that it is going to get any better in the near future. Maybe they can wrap it up on a nice note so let's get to it.

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

We open with a recap of the qualifying matches so far and there is one spot left. For some reason it is Tatanka vs. Crush instead of Jimmy Del Ray, as announced last week (which was taped the same night as this show). I'm thinking....common sense stepping in?

Opening sequence.

King of the Ring Qualifying Match: Crush vs. Tatanka

Crush has Mr. Fuji while Tatanka has Chief Jay Strongbow, meaning Vince gets to talk about the Hall of Fame. This means the bizarre situation of Vince mentioning Bobo Brazil, which is quite the clash of the generations. Feeling out process to start with Crush getting sent into the corner for a consultation with Fuji. This actually seems to work as Crush gets in a shot to the face, only to get clotheslined over the top.

We cut to Strongbow, who looks so bored you would think he was watching a Chief Jay Strongbow match. Back in and Crush misses a charge into the corner, allowing Tatanka to hit a middle rope clothesline for two. Hold on though as Tatanka has to break up a battle of the old managers as we

take a break. Back with Crush holding a bearhug, as per WWF back from commercial laws.

A belly to belly gives Crush two and a rake to the eyes cuts Tatanka off again. Crush makes the mistake of ramming him into the buckle though and it's time for the warpath. Tatanka faceplants him and a top rope chop to the head gets two. Strongbow decks the interfering Fuji but Crush drops Tatanka as well. That means Crush has to go after Strongbow and his overly large pants. Tatanka goes for the save and it's the world's fastest double countout at 11:05.

**Rating:** D+. Not much to see here, as too much of the focus was on Strongbow vs. Fuji. I get the idea, but how much interest was there in either of them in 1994? Strongbow looked so miserable out there and I don't know if anyone has really cared about Fuji for the better part of ever. This wasn't very good in the first place, and odds are something happens to get one of them into the tournament anyway. Great way to start the show.

The brawl stays on post match until referees break it up.

It's time for another King of the Ring Control Center, which works fine as a one off but egads these are rough in a marathon. That being said, I do need Todd Pettengill's KING OF THE RING 1994 shirt (It even has the date!). Anyway, we go to Roddy Piper at home in Oregon, where he says he isn't interested in talking trash because all he wanted to do is help the kids. He's no king.

Todd goes over the brackets as we know them so far, including Owen Hart, who already has thoughts on Crush vs. Tatanka going to a double countout. He should just get a bye and move on to the next round! Todd tells us to have fun on Father's Day but make sure to save enough energy to turn on your TV for the show. How complicated is that TV?

Ted DiBiase is in a funeral parlor and thinks it smells like money. He has been in contact with the Undertaker and the two of them will be getting together again soon. When that happens, the rest of the WWF will be resting in peace.

### 1-2-3 Kid vs. George South

Feeling out process to start as commentary talks politics. South forearmms him in the back and gets in more jobber style offense until Kid scores with some kicks. A headlock is countered into a belly to back suplex to drop Kid again. Not that it matters as a sloppy la majistral finishes South at 2:33.

It's time for the King's Court, meaning Lawler gets to insult the crowd as a Memphis heel can do. With that out of the way, Lawler gets to the point with his "Stu and Helen Hart are really, really old" jokes before bringing out Bret Hart as the guest. Lawler brings up the King of the Ring from last year and asks if Bret remembers it, or did all of the oil on his head make it slip his mind.

Bret gets a bit more serious but Lawler brings out the other two guests: Shawn Michaels and Diesel. Lawler asks if Bret is crazy for thinking he can beat Diesel, sending Bret into his usual response to Diesel. That doesn't seem to bother Diesel, who promises the VIP treatment for Bret: Very Intense Pain. The Jackknife plants Bret in a hurry and the triple stomping is on. Pretty standard segment here but Diesel is a fresh player in the main event, at least partially due to the lack of anyone to challenge Bret at the moment.

### Smoking Gunns vs. Reno Riggins/Austin Steele

Bart and Reno trade knees to the ribs to start and it's quickly off to Billy for a crucifix. A swinging neckbreaker drops Riggins but Bart misses the elbow. Steele, looking like a Buddy Landel tribute, gets whipped into the corner over and over and there's a top rope bulldog from Billy. Hold on though as Randy Savage needs to read the ad for Firestarter, airing later this week on USA. A dropkick/suplex combination drops Steele again and the Sidewinder (powerbomb/top rope elbow) gives Bart the pin at 3:31.

**Rating:** D+. The Gunns were the best team of this era but it isn't like that means a lot. They are good enough to be consistently in the title hunt, though pretty much any two people thrown together could fit that description at the moment. Just a squash here, which isn't exactly

inspiring a lot of the time.

The official decision on Tatanka vs. Crush: a rematch next week, but it's a LUMBERJACK match, because you want all of the 1994 roster in one place!

Come to the Wrestlemania Revenge Tour!

### Jeff Jarrett vs. Chris Hamerrick

Hamerrick was around in the midcard in the dying days of ECW. Some armdrags take Jarrett down to start as we hear about the Arsenio Hall Show coming to an end. Vince: "Does Jeff Jarrett resemble Barney Rubble from the Flintstones?" Jarrett comes back with some stomping into a slingshot suplex, followed by the middle rope fist drop. The chinlock goes on as we talk about anything but the match. Hamerrick gets in a dropkick (with Vince pointing out how little contact it made) but a missed charge lets Jarrett grab the Figure Four for the submission (over the WE WANT DOINK chants) at 3:53.

**Rating:** D. Jarrett as the country singer was not good in any way and I don't think there is any way around that reality. He's talented in the ring but this whole gimmick just feels lame. It doesn't help that Jarrett is the definition of a solid hand rather than someone who is going to have an exciting match, leaving us sitting through a bunch of stuff like this: technically fine, but really boring.

Jerry Lawler suggests that Roddy Piper will be on the King's Court last week without actually saying his name. It would be a Piper impersonator to really hammer in the joke.

**Overall Rating:** D-. The big story of this show was the Crush vs. Tatanka verdict and they somehow got a decision together in the span of about thirty minutes. I don't believe Jack Tunney could tie his shoes in that amount of time, so this was a stretch in more ways than one. Another rather bad show here, but you kind of have to expect that coming in.

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# Monday Night Raw – May 23, 1994: Hit The Random Button On Trash Day

## Monday Night Raw

Date: May 23, 1994

Location: Struthers Fieldhouse, Youngstown, Ohio

Attendance: 1,500

Commentators: Randy Savage, Vince McMahon

We're thankfully onto a fresh taping cycle so maybe things can get a little bit better. It's not like you can get much worse than what we've had in recent weeks so hopefully this is a step in the right direction. We are about a month away from the King of the Ring and that means more qualifying matches in the coming weeks. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a recap of last week's sumo match with Earthquake defeating Yokozuna. As a result, Yokozuna and Crush destroyed Earthquake on the Wrestlemania Revenge Tour, writing him out of the promotion. It also writes him out of tonight's King of the Ring qualifying match, meaning Owen Hart needs a replacement.

Opening sequence.

### King of the Ring Qualifying Match: Owen Hart vs. Doink The Clown

Doink has Dink with him. Owen jumps him to start but gets sent into the buckle for his efforts. That earns Doink a rake to the face paint and the belly to belly suplex makes it even worse. Doink fights back up and grabs a backdrop as Dink has to stand on the steps to see the match. With Owen sent outside, Dink gets in to dance a bit as the pandering is on a roll.

We hit the stall button for a bit and the WE WANT BRET chants have Owen even more annoyed. Back in and Owen gets him into the corner for some right hands, only to be sent outside. This time Dink offers a distraction, allowing Doink to catch Owen with a clothesline. That's quite a heelish sequence for Doink but he was better when he was evil anyway. Owen finally gets smart by pulling Doink down by the leg and wrapping it around the post. We take a break and come back with Owen grabbing a chinlock to keep things slow.

Back up and Owen's always good looking belly to belly gets two and we hit the camel clutch (not a Boston crab Vince). Doink fights up and takes him down for a breather, meaning it's time for the comeback slugout. An overhead belly to belly gives Doink two for a change and a neckbreaker...gets no count as here is Jeff Jarrett to kidnap Dink. The distraction lets Owen grab a rollup for the pin at 12:33.

**Rating:** C. This was a decent match, as Owen kept getting frustrated by Doink and even needed some cheating to move on. I think they actually saw something in Doink, as Vince was trying to get "The Doinkster" over on commentary. Not exactly a classic, but Owen getting some time was always going to be worth a little something at worst.

It's time for the King of the Ring Report, with Todd

Pettengill explaining the tournament. I know this stuff is basic, but you're going to have someone who doesn't know how it works and this could hook them in. We run down the brackets and the remaining qualifying matches (including Tatanka vs. Jimmy Del Ray!) before moving on to the rest of the card. This includes Diesel talking about how Bret Hart was up against a monster. To put it mildly, Diesel is really, really bad at talking here as it sounds like he's reciting lines and not very well at that.

The Headshrinkers are defending the Tag Team Titles against Yokozuna and Crush, plus Roddy Piper vs. Jerry Lawler because reasons. Roddy even stops training to talk about how he needs the fans to send money to the kids. Lawler called Piper Jurassic Park, but that's the biggest film of all time so he'll take that as a compliment. Piper couldn't be less interested in this match if it was his time in WCW.

We get a WWF Unbelievable (ad campaign) video, with a loudmouth saying he can beat everyone up and then being more and more damaged. Come see the WWF abuse people?

### Duke Droese vs. Barry Horowitz

This is Droese's Raw debut and he shoves Barry around to start. There's a hiptoss into a slam as this is feeling squashish. Another hiptoss has Savage wondering if Droese can do anything besides be big, fast, strong and wrestle. Barry manages a shot to the face of his own and gets in a middle rope ax handle. Droese's arm is sent into the corner and the armbar goes on to make it worse. That's broken up and it's a spinebuster to plant Barry. A jumping elbow finishes for Droese at 2:57. Yeah, but he's still a wrestling garbageman. This wasn't going to work.

Here's what the Wrestlemania Revenge Tour looks like. Jonathan Taylor Thomas from Home Improvement gets a cameo because...well because 1994 isn't good. Also, we're about three months

removed from Wrestlemania. How much revenge do you need?

### IRS vs. Gary Sabaugh

Sabaugh is a bit better known as the Italian Stallion from the NWA. The eternally sweaty IRS sends him outside to start as commentary talks about politics. An elbow to the face drops Sabaugh back inside and we hit the chinlock. A legdrop sets up another chinlock as the IRWIN chants begin. Commentary talks about basketball as the hammerlock keeps Sabaugh in trouble. IRS hits a butterfly suplex to set up a third chinlock, which shouldn't happen in a twenty minute match, let alone a Raw match like this one. Back up and a hot shot cuts Sabaugh off and the Write Off (running clothesline) finishes at 4:12.

**Rating:** D-. Yes it's a running clothesline and yes it's called the Write Off. It isn't like there is much else that you can expect from a wrestling tax agent, so just try to survive the match most weeks. IRS was pretty firmly hitting the extent of his usefulness at this point, meaning he was fine as a midcard heel. Just stop giving him so much time.

We look at Crush costing Lex Luger his King of the Ring qualifying match on Superstars. A brawl ensued.

It's time for the King's Court, with Jerry Lawler mocking Randy Savage, but even he isn't as bad as Roddy Piper. For now though, here is Lex Luger as this week's guest. The USA chants begin and WOW this place is small. It feels like a small high school gym and that's not what you think of for Raw. How could you think this feels like Raw? This place is full! Anyway, Lawler talks about Luger's bad luck at Wrestlemania, including his first Wrestlemania (where Luger won, as Lawler's history seems off).

After threatening Lawler, Luger talks about how Crush cost him his King of the Ring chances and promises to damage him. Lawler doesn't think Luger would say that to Crush's face so here is Crush in person. His arm is in a sling though, and no



one seems to have heard about it. Crush claims Luger jumped him from behind because Luger knows he can't win face to face. He would totally take Luger out right now if he wasn't hurt so Luger takes the jacket off.

Lawler says Luger wouldn't hit an invalid, so Luger clotheslines Crush to the floor, revealing that the arm is fine. Luger was quite evil here, as he didn't know for sure that Crush was faking it. Then again the feud was thrown together because Mr. Perfect is gone so this is as good as they could do on short notice.

### Nikolai Volkoff vs. Matt Hardy

It feels like a randomly generated match on a Wrestling Legends game. Ted DiBiase is on commentary as Volkoff hammers away on the mat and then catches Hardy on top. Forearms to the chest and a knee to the ribs has Hardy down again. Hardy gets in a few shots to the face but a kick to the ribs cuts him off. The Boston crab finishes for Volkoff at 2:32. Volkoff feels so out of place here, and not just because he needs a haircut.

Next week: Bret Hart is on the King's Court, which has Lawler and Savage rather excited.

**Overall Rating:** D. They continue the awful path to the even worse King of the Ring and this is getting harder to watch. The wrestling isn't good and the character stuff is downright awful, with stuff like the garbageman, Volkoff in 1994 and Doink as a good guy all combining to make the shot terrible. I'm looking forward to wrapping this month up because it really is that bad these days.

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# Monday Night Raw – May 16, 1994: It Certainly Is Wrestling

## Monday Night Raw

Date: May 16, 1994

Location: Memorial Auditorium, Burlington, Vermont

Attendance: 2,500

Commentators: Randy Savage, Vince McMahon

Let's have some sumo wrestling. That's the big story this week as Earthquake and Yokozuna will have a sumo match with the ring ropes taken down. Why that is supposed to have my attention for an hour long show is beyond me, but maybe we can get another King of the Ring match to fill the time. Let's get to it.

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

The opening video looks at the sumo match, with both guys being big and good at sumo. Earthquake as a face still just feels wrong.

Opening sequence.

Commentary runs down the show but Vince seems to mistime things a bit and is left standing there for a bit before the camera cuts away.

King of the Ring Qualifying Match: Bam Bam Bigelow vs. Sparky Plugg

Bigelow has Luna Vachon with him and wastes no time in hammering away.

Plugg ducks a dropkick though and dropkicks him to the floor as the racing jokes abound. Back in and Bigelow has had enough of this and runs him over again, setting up a headbutt for two. A charge into the corner hits Plugg's boot so Bigelow enziguris him down for two. The chinlock goes on, even though it seemed like they were wrapping up.

Bigelow cuts off a comeback with a knee to the ribs and drops another headbutt. Plugg avoids a charge though and grabs a bulldog into a DDT. The high crossbody is good for two more on Bigelow as the fans are excited as you're going to see for a Plugg comeback. Luna grabs the foot though and it's a clothesline into the Swan Dive to give Bigelow the pin at 6:29.

**Rating:** D+. This didn't work very well and that shouldn't surprise you. The main point of the match was to get in as many racing jokes as possible. When those dried up, you were left with a pretty dull Plugg match and I think you can figure out how well that went. Cut off about two minutes here and it's a lot better.

Here's the King of the Ring Report. Todd Pettengill gives us a quick rundown of the tournament before moving on to Bret Hart vs. Diesel and Jerry Lawler vs. Roddy Piper. This time around, they have an address where you can send donations for the children's hospital that brought Piper out of retirement. We also get a quick look at who has qualified for the tournament so far.

#### Diesel vs. Mike Moraldo

Diesel's Intercontinental Title isn't on the line. Diesel knocks him down to start and sends Moraldo flying outside to make it worse. Back in and some kicks to the ribs set up the bearhug with Diesel just dropping him hard. There's a side slam to plant Moraldo again and Snake Eyes connects. Commentary talks about celebrities and Diesel picks him up (after a camera cut) for the Jackknife and the pin at 3:10.

**Rating:** D. What does it say that you had to cut something out of a completely one sided match that barely broke three minutes otherwise? Diesel was starting to get better but he didn't have the most thrilling squashes so far. Then again, maybe he just needs a long match with Bret

Hart on pay per view.

A guy at a gas station saw the Undertaker.

It's time for the King's Court with Jerry Lawler saying that the fans would find their own picture if they looked up the word repulsive. Lawler moves on to Roddy Piper, who was drafted into the army when he turned 18. He didn't want to go so he put on a dress and high heels. It didn't get him taken into the army, but it got him taken out by a doctor. After a break, here are this week's guests, with Ted DiBiase and Nikolai Volkoff of all people. DiBiase explains things in a hurry: Volkoff is broke, so now DiBiase owns him (there's a "you broken it, you bought it" joke in there somewhere). Volkoff: "I hate you."

Lawler says DiBiase looks like a million bucks but Volkoff looks like ten cents. DiBiase agrees, so we have some new gear for Volkoff. We'll start with some "Property Of The Million Dollar Man" trunks, followed by a tuxedo shirt, with Volkoff hating everything about this. McMahon talks about Volkoff being an Olympic weightlifter, "Just like Mark Henry today." DiBiase and Lawler laugh a lot to wrap this up. All this for Nikolai Volkoff in 1994? There was NO ONE else to do this?

### Owen Hart vs. Tony Roy

Vince ignores the match to talk about the Hall of Fame induction ceremony as Owen takes over to start. Owen knocks him down and drops a middle rope elbow to keep up the beating. A knee to the ribs cuts Roy down again as Savage reads copy about an upcoming USA movie. Owen gets in a gutwrench suplex and finishes with the Sharpshooter at 2:19.

Post match Owen rants about how much better he is than Bret Hart. Owen sends Roy outside and puts some Bret sunglasses on him. Isn't that just saving him money at the merch table?

Duke Droese is sleeping in a dumpster and is grateful for the

wake up call. You have a guy in a dumpster and Nikolai Volkoff on the same show. How is this supposed to work?

The ropes are being taken down so Vince tells us to call somebody. I called a local beekeeper. He wasn't thrilled with me telling him about a 27 year old sumo match on Raw and then screamed a lot because the bees went nuts over the phone ringing. I'm visiting him in the hospital later.

### Yokozuna vs. Earthquake

It's a sumo match with the ropes gone. The first person to shove the other out of the ring wins. They take their time getting ready, tease the start a few times, and then stand back up. That goes so well that they do it again as we are now a few minutes into the stalling. They finally collide and grapple, with neither going anywhere. Yokozuna headbutts him and starts driving Earthquake back before they wind up back in the middle for some standing. Earthquake finally switches places, shoves him down, and wins at 6:03.

**Rating:** D. I get the idea here but egads they didn't exactly make this interesting. It's a case where it might be accurate, but it wasn't interesting. This almost has to be it for Earthquake and uh...what a great way to go out I guess. It's certainly an idea, but you're only going to get so far with this kind of an idea.

House show ads.

Recap/preview wrap us up.

**Overall Rating:** D-. This was pretty awful with nothing worth seeing on the whole thing. The sumo deal at the end wasn't so much bad as much as it was a big miss. The most interesting thing on this show was the mention of a weightlifter who wouldn't be in WWE for about two years. I think that sums up the whole night as well as anything else, as the horrible stretch continues.

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# Monday Night Raw – May 9, 1994: Please Let It Stop

## Monday Night Raw

Date: May 9, 1994

Location: Memorial Auditorium, Burlington, Vermont

Attendance: 2,500

Commentators: Randy Savage, Vince McMahon

We're on the way to the King of the Ring and that means it is time for some qualifying matches. Your tastes may vary on those, but at least they'll have a purpose. You don't watch these shows for match quality most of the time so giving them a reason is more interesting than the random squashes. Let's get to it.

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

We open with a recap of Earthquake challenging Yokozuna for a match.

Opening sequence.

We run down the card.

### King of the Ring Qualifying Match: Razor Ramon vs. Kwang

Kwang is the future Savio Vega under a mask as a far east martial arts expert (with Harvey Wippleman). They fight over arm control to start until Razor elbows him in the face. With that not working, Kwang chops away in the corner but Razor shows him some better technique. A running clothesline puts Kwang on the floor so he gets back up, earning himself a right hand to the face.

Kwang snaps him throat first across the top though and there's a hook kick to the face (a Savio Vega trademark). Razor gets a backslide for two before avoiding a charge to send Kwang's shoulder into the post. It's time to start working on the arm, including some slaps to the back of the head. Kwang is back up with another kick to the face for no cover as he would rather crank on the neck.

Razor's lip is busted and Vince promises to go to a wide shot if it gets bad for the sake of children watching. The fact that I can't actually see which part of his lip is busted because there is almost no visible blood makes me think this might be overcautious. Ramon fights up and strikes away until a shot to the nose (which might be the bleeding part) takes him down.

We take a break and come back with Razor grabbing a chokeslam for a delayed two. The belly to back superplex is countered so Kwang tries a spinning high crossbody, with Razor rolling through for two more. Razor has finally had it with Kwang and tries the Razor's Edge but can't muscle him up. A missed spinwheel kick is enough to set up the Razor's Edge to finish Kwang at 15:03.

**Rating:** C+. The time and chemistry made this one work as both guys were working. Kwang might have been a goofy character (with a worse name) but he could do some very good things in

the ring. Nice long match here, and it is always nice to see something like that on this show.

It's time for the King of the Ring Report, with Todd Pettengill talking about how the tournament works and what it meant for Bret Hart. On top of that, we have Roddy Piper accepting Jerry Lawler's challenge for a match. He has nothing left to prove, but he does not like what Lawler has been saying about some sick children in Toronto. A portion of the proceeds will be given to a children's hospital and I'm sure it will be an incredibly large portion as well. Todd: "We're working on an address for the hospital so you can donate as well." How do you work on finding an ADDRESS? It's a hospital, not a traveling salesman.

### Crush vs. Raymond Roy

Mr. Fuji is here with Crush, who is not impressed with Roy to start. Crush goes to talk to Fuji, allowing Roy to grab a quick rollup for two. Some kicks take Roy down and a legdrop makes it even worse. There's a backbreaker so Crush can sneer a bit and it's the delayed gorilla press. The Heart Punch finishes Roy in a hurry, even cutting off Savage's copy read.

**Rating:** D. This was about all you could have expected here as Crush was being hyped up for his house show feud with Lex Luger. That isn't much to get excited about, but Luger still has a little momentum after Wrestlemania. Nothing match of course, which is what you should be expecting from this era of Raw.

Come to the Wrestlemania Revenge Tour! Assuming it's near you! Or even if it isn't!

Duke the Dumpster Droese is coming. It's that time.

We see Jerry Lawler and, ahem, Doink, pieing and silly stringing Dink on Superstars but it's Jeff Jarrett in disguise. Jarrett said he was going to take control of the



situation and that is exactly what he did.

### Doink the Clown vs. Mike Terrace

Dink is here with Doink as Vince teases that Jeff Jarrett might sing during the upcoming house show tour. Before we can get too far into the match, Jarrett calls into the show to talk about how bad commentary is. Doink takes Terrace down and runs over to the corner to rub Dink's head. Dink comes in to roll onto Terrace while Jeff says he is the best clown in the world. Back up and Terrace wants a test of strength but gets taken down in a hurry. A backbreaker and elbow keep Terrace in trouble and the Whoopee Cushion (with sound effect) finishes for Doink at 2:28. This feud sums up 1994 pretty well and that's not a good thing.

We get a video on Earthquake's sumo career, complete with some pretty cool photos of his 24-0 career. Then he became a WWF wrestler and the rest is history, but he has a lot left to do.

It's time for the King's Court with Jerry Lawler, who mocks Roddy Piper's movies and calls him a coward for not being here. With that out of the way, here are Yokozuna, Mr. Fuji and Jim Cornette to address Earthquake. Cornette talks about the old newsreel footage of Earthquake's sumo days and says that Earthquake represents the traditional fat American.

Earthquake (the Canadian) the arm chair quarterback who thinks he can play football because he watches it every Sunday. Cornette explains that the name YOKOZUNA means grand sumo champion so of course they'll accept the challenge. We'll make it a sumo match with the ropes taken off of the ring. Lawler promises to find out if Undertaker is in.

A trench digger found Undertaker sleeping in the trench. Then Undertaker walked into the woods and disappeared.

### Mabel vs. Mike Bell

Oscar is here with Mabel. Bell jumps him from behind to start so Mabel slaps him in the chest a few times. The big clothesline puts Bell down as Savage gets an anonymous note, saying Earthquake is in for the sumo challenge. Mabel works on a short arm scissors of all things before dropping the big leg. The splash in the corner sets up the Boss Man Slam to finish Bell at 2:27.

Earthquake is in for next week.

**Overall Rating:** D+. The opener was good and that's it for the positives. The King of the Ring stuff is fine for a reason for these people to be fighting but there is a firm limit to how interesting it could be. Throw in a sumo wrestling deal because they're both big and that's the extent of the major stories around here. Add in the bad stories and you can see why 1994 has its reputation.

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# Monday Night Raw – May 2, 1994: Change

[Monday Night Raw](#)

Date: May 2, 1994

Location: Memorial Auditorium, Burlington, Vermont

Attendance: 2,500

Commentators: Randy Savage, Vince McMahon

It's time for another new month as I keep trying to finish up 1994. This time around we are in between Wrestlemania X and King of the Ring, putting us halfway between an all time classic and one of the worst shows in recorded history. I'm not sure what that is going to mean at the moment but maybe we can get something good out of this one. Let's get to it.

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

Last week, Captain Lou Albano was WAY too excited over the Headshrinkers getting a Tag Team Title shot this week. Johnny Polo (soon to be known as Raven) came out to yell so Randy Savage held him for a shot from Albano. The Quebecers ran out and it was such a mess that we had to go to the opening sequence. Did seem like a fairly hot ending though.

Opening sequence.

Tag Team Titles: Quebecers vs. Headshrinkers

The Quebecers are defending and have Johnny Polo here to balance out Afa and Albano. Pierre and Fatu start things off in a match that would be incredibly different today. Fatu runs him over without much effort and then drops Pierre with a headbutt. Jacques comes in and gets headbutted by Samu as everything breaks down. The champs are clotheslined out to the floor in a heap and it's time to walk to the back with Polo. Hold on though as we get the old "either come back and fight or lose the titles" announcement, which Savage calls the ONLY decision. Savage doesn't quite know what ONLY means and we take a break.

Back with Fatu slamming Pierre for two and a big chop lets Fatu pose a bit. A clothesline Fatu outside though and Jacques

sends him into the steps. That shouldn't hurt but a clothesline/STO combination seems to. Pierre is slammed onto Fatu for two and we take another break.

Back again with Samu coming in off the hot tag to clean house but misses the charge and gets his head caught in the ropes. The piledriver plants Samu and for some reason Vince thinks that would work. Instead of covering it's the Cannonball though, with Samu rolling out of the way. Afa and Albano beat up Johnny Polo as Jacques hits Pierre by mistake. Pierre hits Jacques back and it's back to Fatu for the double Stroke. Fatu's top rope splash connects for the pin and the titles at 20:14.

**Rating:** C. The match was a lot longer than it needed to be but I've always liked the Headshrinkers so it was good for a smile. They were never going to be the next big thing (though they held the titles until September) but this was still in the early days of Raw when a title change was still a big deal.

King Of The Ring report, with Todd Pettengill explaining the tournament and talking about how hard it is to win. There are some qualifying matches starting this weekend with only eight spots available. The show is going to be even better with Art Donovan making a special appearance. I don't think special is the right word.

Chief Jay Strongbow talks about how Tatanka is on the warpath. He sounds like he's reading announcements at the local library.

### Tatanka vs. Derek Domino

Make your own Eric Clapton jokes. Tatanka starts fast by ramming him into the corner a few times and snaps off a belly to back suplex. Domino hits a loud chop, which just annoys Tatanka again (you NEVER annoy Tatanka). IRS calls in to explain that he destroyed Tatanka's headdress because there

were gift taxes due. A head fake sends Domino down and a middle rope chop drops him again.

Some whips into the corner rock Domino again and a suplex has him falling over like a row of...never mind. Commentary does its pop culture stuff before moving on to Doink wanting revenge on Jeff Jarrett. We hit the armbar, because this match needs an armbar almost four minutes in. Domino gets in a few more shots but Tatanka goes on the war path to start the comeback. The Papoose To Go finishes Domino at 5:18.

**Rating:** D. This was a good bit longer than it needed to and it isn't like Strongbow means very much in Tatanka's corner. The armbar in the middle made me wonder how in the world this could have kept going, but that's 1994 WWF for you. The jobber didn't do much good either, as Domino didn't have much of an effect.

House show rundown.

It's time for the King's Court, with Jerry Lawler running down Piper's Pit to start. Piper isn't around anymore but he does have a new hobby: collecting dust. Speaking of relics, you have Razor Ramon, who is living life in the PAST lane. That brings us to his guest, the man who defeated Ramon for the Intercontinental Title: Diesel.

Lawler asks about the lack of Shawn Michaels, but apparently Shawn sacrificed himself to help Diesel win the title. We see a clip of Diesel knocking Shawn off the top rope (by mistake) in the title match but he'll be back soon. As for Razor Ramon, he wasn't quite bad enough to hold onto the title. Diesel needs something else to do though, so he wants Bret Hart and the WWF Title at King of the Ring.

Fans have been seeing the Undertaker in various places. Like...outside on a slide!

Yokozuna vs. Mike Davis/Scott Taylor

Yokozuna has Jim Cornette and Mr. Fuji with him as usual. Yokozuna knocks Davis down to start and drops the leg as Savage reads a copy about a "world premiere movie encore". A swinging Rock Bottom plants Taylor (the future Scotty 2 Hotty) and he gets sent outside, which Cornette says is the Yokozuna Delivery Service. Yokozuna throws Davis in the general vicinity of the rope instead of over it, leaving Taylor to get planted with a belly to back. Back in and commentary talks about wacky things in baseball because this isn't exactly going anywhere. A double Banzai Drop wraps it up.

**Rating:** D+. It could have been worse, but this was a rather slow paced squash with Yokozuna being a bit beyond the point where this was impressive. It was hardly terrible but you're only going to get so much out of a match like this. At least Cornette was there for a good line with the delivery service.

Post match Davis gets his own Banzai Drop, with Yokozuna sitting on him for a bit longer. There's another for Taylor as well, with Savage begging for someone to get Yokozuna a chair. Cue Earthquake to clear Yokozuna out.

Post break Earthquake is sick of hearing about being asked when he'll face Yokozuna so the challenge is on.

**Overall Rating:** D+. The opener helped a lot as it was a fairly decent match with some time to go along with the title change. We're on the way to the King of the Ring, which is going to be a long haul because a lot of the show can't be advertised, though Earthquake vs. Yokozuna in a total freak show match could be a bit of fun. The rest though...egads this could be rough.

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