

## = WrestleMania X =

WrestleMania X was the tenth annual WrestleMania professional wrestling pay @-@ per @-@ view event produced by the World Wrestling Federation . It took place at Madison Square Garden in New York , New York on March 20 , 1994 . The central focus of the pay @-@ per @-@ view was the WWF World Heavyweight Championship , which was defended in two matches . Lex Luger challenged champion Yokozuna first but was disqualified for pushing the referee . Bret Hart faced Yokozuna later in the evening and won the championship by pinning Yokozuna . This led to a lengthy worked feud between Bret and his brother Owen , who had defeated Bret in the opening match of the pay @-@ per @-@ view .

Several other major feuds were also highlighted at this event . Razor Ramon defeated Shawn Michaels in a Ladder match to resolve an angle in which the two had argued over the rightful holder of the WWF Intercontinental Championship . Bam Bam Bigelow gained revenge against Doink the Clown , with whom he had been feuding , by teaming with Luna Vachon to defeat Doink and his partner Dink . Randy Savage also settled his feud with Crush by defeating him in a Falls Count Anywhere match .

WrestleMania X was the first edition of the event not to feature Hulk Hogan , who had been seen as the public face of the WWF ; following Hogan 's 1993 departure , that role had shifted to Bret Hart . The card also marked Randy Savage 's last televised match for the company . This also mark the final play by play by Gorilla Monsoon at Wrestlemania as he called the action along with Chet Coppock on commentary for Radio WWF ( the last pay @-@ per @-@ view to be broadcast on radio )

## = = Background = =

The storyline surrounding the WWF World Heavyweight Championship began at the 1994 Royal Rumble when the final two wrestlers , Lex Luger and Bret Hart , simultaneously eliminated each other . After a disagreement between two referees , Jack Tunney , the WWF President , declared Luger and Hart co @-@ winners . Tunney announced that both wrestlers would get a WWF World Heavyweight Championship match at WrestleMania , the prize given to the winner of the Royal Rumble match , and both wrestlers would have to wrestle two matches for the pay @-@ per @-@ view .

Tunney announced that a coin toss would be used to decide who faced Yokozuna for the belt first . If Luger won , he would face Yokozuna first . Hart would then wrestle his brother Owen Hart before facing the winner of the Luger @-@ Yokozuna match . If Hart won the coin toss , he would get the first title shot , and Luger would wrestle Crush earlier on the card . On the January 31 , 1994 episode of Monday Night Raw , Luger won the coin toss and the right to face Yokozuna first .

Bret Hart was booked to face his brother Owen , with whom he was in the middle of a feud . The storyline between the Hart brothers began at Survivor Series 1993 , where they were competing on the same side of an elimination match . As Owen was fighting in the ring , Bret , who had sustained a kayfabe injury , was staggering along the ring apron . Owen ran into Bret , causing Owen to lose his focus and get eliminated from the match . After the match , Owen returned to the ring and had a confrontation with Bret . In the following weeks , Owen demanded a match with Bret , but Bret refused to accept the challenge . Eventually , the storyline had the brothers reunite to face The Quebecers at Royal Rumble 1994 . During the match , Bret sustained another kayfabe injury , causing the referee to end the match . In a planned turn , Owen got upset by the loss and attacked Bret to restart the feud .

Luger 's feud with Yokozuna began on July 4 , 1993 , at the Yokozuna Bodyslam Challenge . In June , Mr. Fuji , Yokozuna 's manager , challenged all American athletes to attempt to bodyslam Yokozuna on the deck of the USS Intrepid . After several athletes failed , the storyline saw Luger arrive by helicopter and successfully bodyslam Yokozuna . This began a strong push for Luger , who was then scheduled to challenge Yokozuna for the WWF World Heavyweight Championship at SummerSlam 1993 . Luger won the match by countout but did not win the title . The WWF claimed

that the match stipulations did not allow Luger a rematch . The storyline saw Luger campaigning for entry into the 1994 Royal Rumble , as he wanted the title shot that would be given to the winner . Luger was eventually entered into the match , although The Great Kabuki and Genichiro Tenryu were also entered , on Mr. Fuji 's behalf , to attempt to prevent Luger from winning . Kabuki and Tenryu were unsuccessful , however , as Luger won the match and gained a match for the WWF World Heavyweight Championship .

The storyline leading to the match between " Macho Man " Randy Savage and Crush focused on the supposedly strained friendship between the two wrestlers . On the July 12 , 1993 , episode of Monday Night Raw , Crush challenged Yokozuna for the WWF World Heavyweight Championship . At the end of the match , Yokozuna performed the Banzai Drop to win the match . After the match , he performed three more Banzai Drops while various wrestlers ran to the ring to stop the attack . Savage eventually came to the ring to help Crush . Following the match , Crush was not seen on televised matches for several months , although he continued to appear at house shows . On October 18 , Crush appeared on Monday Night Raw accompanied by Yokozuna and Yokozuna 's manager , Mr. Fuji . Crush criticized Savage for not intervening sooner during the July 12 match . In a worked promo , Crush announced that he had turned against Savage and the United States in order to align himself with Yokozuna and Fuji . He then attacked Savage by dropping him on the ringside guard rail . Yokozuna performed the Banzai Drop on Savage before a group of referees came to the ring to break up the fight . During the November 8 , 1993 episode of Monday Night Raw , Savage left his position as commentator to attack Crush . The following week , Jack Tunney announced that Savage was suspended from commentating as a result of the previous week 's attack . The feud intensified at Survivor Series 1993 when Savage and Crush caused each other to be eliminated from their respective matches .

Bam Bam Bigelow and Doink the Clown were engaged in a feud that began in the fall of 1993 . Doink annoyed Bigelow with a series of pranks , such as throwing water and confetti on him and tripping him with a broom . Bigelow retaliated against Doink and Doink 's midget sidekick Dink . A match was booked for Survivor Series 1993 , but Bigelow was unable to get revenge because Doink did not compete . Instead , the WWF prolonged the feud by having Bigelow 's team face was The Bushwhackers and Men on a Mission dressed as Doinks . The feud eventually culminated in a match scheduled for WrestleMania X. In the match , Bigelow and his storyline girlfriend Luna Vachon competed against Doink and Dink in a Mixed tag team match .

The feud between Razor Ramon and Shawn Michaels also dated back to the fall of 1993 . Jack Tunney announced that he was stripping Michaels of the WWF Intercontinental Championship for not defending the title often enough . There have been reports that the real reason for vacating the title was because Michaels refused to drop the belt . Ramon won the title after competing in a battle royal and defeating Rick Martel , the other finalist in the match . In the angle , Michaels refused to acknowledge the title change , however , as he insisted that he was the true Intercontinental Champion . To gain revenge against Ramon for taking the belt , Michaels attacked Ramon and helped Irwin R. Schyster to steal Ramon 's gold chains .

= = Event = =

In a dark match before the pay @-@ per @-@ view aired , The Heavenly Bodies faced The Bushwhackers . Near the end of the match , The Bushwhackers gained control when they performed the Battering Ram on Jimmy Del Ray . Tom Prichard , Del Ray 's partner , attacked Bushwhacker Butch before he was able to pin Del Ray . This allowed Del Ray to recover and pin Butch to win the match . As the broadcast began , Vince McMahon and Jerry Lawler were introduced as commentators for the event and Little Richard sang " America the Beautiful " .

The first televised match was between Bret and Owen Hart . The beginning of the match went back and forth with neither wrestler gaining a strong advantage . The tension between the two was demonstrated by Owen 's bragging and Bret 's refusal to let Owen leave the ring . Owen eventually gained momentum by using a camel clutch on Bret and performing suplexes and a Tombstone piledriver . When Owen stood outside the ring to recuperate , Bret jumped over the top rope to

attack him . Bret landed awkwardly , however , and suffered a kayfabe injury to his knee . Owen used a figure four leglock to capitalize on Bret 's sore leg . Bret was able to recover , and he kicked Owen in the back of the head and used a Bulldog and sleeper hold to weaken Owen . Owen regained the advantage , however , and applied the Sharpshooter on Bret . Bret was able to escape and perform a Sharpshooter on Owen . Bret then attempted to end the match with a victory roll , but Owen blocked it and pinned Bret to win the match .

Sy Sperling , the president of hair restoration company Hair Club for Men , appeared in the ring before the next match . He announced that he was at WrestleMania to introduce one of his latest clients , ring announcer Howard Finkel . Finkel came to the ring wearing a toupée , showing off his new hair while the crowd applauded . The match then began , as Bam Bam Bigelow and Luna Vachon came to the ring to face Doink the Clown and Dink . Bigelow attacked Doink at the beginning of the match with a dropkick and a powerslam . When Dink entered the match , the rules stated that Bigelow had to tag Vachon into the match . Dink ran around the ring avoiding Vachon , but she eventually caught him . She kicked him and powerslammed him , but she then missed a moonsault attempt . Doink and Bigelow re @-@ entered the match , and Doink performed a DDT on Bigelow . Bigelow reversed the momentum to win the match after a diving headbutt on Doink . Bigelow pinned Doink to win the match , and he and Vachon then attacked Dink .

The next match was a Falls Count Anywhere match between Randy Savage and Crush . The rules stated that any time a wrestler was pinned , he then had to make it back inside the ring within sixty seconds or he would lose the match . Savage tried to attack Crush before the bell rang , but Crush reversed the attack . He used a tilt @-@ a @-@ whirl backbreaker to injure Savage and then dropped Savage across the guard rail to get the first pinfall . While Savage was returning to the ring , Mr. Fuji hit him with the Japanese flag to stall him . Savage made it back to the ring with two seconds remaining , so the match continued . Inside the ring , Crush tried to throw salt in Savage 's eyes , but Savage countered by throwing the salt in Crush 's eyes . Savage then performed a diving elbow drop and rolled Crush outside of the ring for the pinfall . Fuji helped revive Crush , which allowed Crush to return to the ring before the count had expired . Savage and Crush then brawled down the aisle and into a room backstage . Savage scored a pinfall and tied Crush 's legs to a pulley . Crush was left hanging upside down and could not return to the ring , so Savage was declared the winner .

Alundra Blayze defended her WWF Women 's Championship against Leilani Kai in the next match . Blayze began the match by using a leg sweep and two sunset flips . Kai came back with a powerslam and a suplex . Blayze got the win , however , by pinning Kai after performing a German suplex .

In the next match , Men on a Mission challenged The Quebecers for the WWF Tag Team Championship . Although The Quebecers attacked Men on a Mission before the bell , Mabel quickly recovered and clotheslined both Quebecers . The Quebecers used several double @-@ team moves against their opponents , but Mabel reversed the momentum after Pierre missed a senton bomb . Mabel eventually missed an Avalanche , allowing The Quebecers to suplex him . The Quebecers performed an assisted senton on Mabel but did not get a pinfall . Men on a Mission regained the advantage , prompting The Quebecers ' manager , Johnny Polo , to pull his wrestlers out of the ring . Men on a Mission won the match by countout , but they did not win the belts .

The first WWF World Heavyweight Championship match came next , as Lex Luger challenged Yokozuna . Mr. Perfect was revealed to be the special guest referee for the match , while Donnie Wahlberg was the guest ring announcer and Rhonda Shear was the guest timekeeper . After a verbal confrontation between Luger and Yokozuna , Luger gained the early advantage by knocking Yokozuna out of the ring . After getting back into the ring , Yokozuna removed the turnbuckle padding from a corner of the ring . Yokozuna used a nerve hold and a belly to belly suplex to wear down Luger . As he tried to throw Luger 's head into the exposed turnbuckle , however , Luger blocked him and hit Yokozuna 's head into the turnbuckle . Luger then performed clotheslines and a powerslam on Yokozuna before knocking Yokozuna kayfabe unconscious with a running forearm smash . Yokozuna 's managers , Mr. Fuji and Jim Cornette jumped onto the ring apron to distract Luger , and Luger pulled them into the ring and attacked them . Luger covered Yokozuna , but Mr.

Perfect was tending to the fallen managers and did not make the count . When Luger pushed him , Mr. Perfect disqualified Luger and left the ring , thereby turning heel .

Adam Bomb and his manager Harvey Wippleman entered the ring for the next match , and Wippleman criticized Finkel 's new hair and tore the pocket off Finkel 's suit . Earthquake came to the ring and attacked Bomb from behind . He powerslammed Bomb and performed the Earthquake splash to get the pinfall victory in thirty @-@ five seconds .

For the Ladder match , the Intercontinental belts belonging to Razor Ramon and Shawn Michaels were both hanging above the ring , and the first wrestler to use the ladder to reach both belts would be declared the winner . Ramon began the match by chokeslamming Michaels . Michaels recovered , however , and performed a neckbreaker on Ramon . Michaels then threw Ramon out to the ringside , where Michaels ' bodyguard Diesel clotheslined Ramon . Referee Earl Hebner responded by ordering Diesel to return to the dressing rooms . Ramon pulled up the padding from the concrete floor , but he was later thrown onto it after Michaels reversed Ramon 's attempt to perform the Razor 's Edge . While Ramon was lying on the floor , Michaels brought the ladder to the ring and used it to hit Ramon in the stomach , chest and back . Michaels tried to retrieve the belts , but Ramon stopped him from climbing the ladder . Michaels then set the ladder up in the corner of the ring and performed a splash onto Ramon . Ramon recovered and Irish whipped Michaels into the ladder . He then hit Michaels with the ladder several times before both men tried to climb up to get the belts . Ramon suplexed Michaels off the ladder and tried to reach the belts . Michaels dropkicked the ladder , which caused Ramon to fall off . Michaels performed a superkick and a piledriver on Ramon and then propped the ladder up in the corner of the ring . Michaels climbed the turnbuckles , jumped onto the ladder , and used his weight to push it down across Ramon 's chest . Michaels tried to retrieve the belts again , but Ramon pushed him off . Michaels fell into the ropes and got tangled up , allowing Ramon to get the belts and win the undisputed Intercontinental championship .

A ten @-@ man tag team match was supposed to take place next , but it was canceled due to time constraints . The kayfabe reason given was that the heel team ( Irwin R. Schyster , The Headshrinkers , Rick Martel and Jeff Jarrett ) could not agree on who would be the team 's captain for the match . Their opponents were scheduled to be the face team of the 1 ? 2 ? 3 Kid , Sparky Plugg , Tatanka and The Smoking Gunns . Bob Holly ( " Sparky Plugg " ) , stated in his 2013 autobiography The Hardcore Truth that the timekeeper backstage repeatedly told the referee over his earpiece to end the ladder match , but Michaels and Ramon ignored him , and kept wrestling until officials were forced to cancel the tag team match .

The final match of the night and main event was the WWF World Heavyweight Championship match between Yokozuna and Bret Hart . The guest referee for the match was " Rowdy " Roddy Piper , while the guest ring announcer was Burt Reynolds and the guest timekeeper was Jennie Garth . Yokozuna attacked Hart before the bell , and Hart attempted a couple of comebacks in vain . Eventually , Yokozuna made a mistake and allowed Hart to knock him to the mat . Cornette tried to distract Piper , but Piper punched him and knocked him off the ring apron . Yokozuna performed a leg drop on Hart but then missed an Avalanche attempt . Bret maintained the advantage for a little while , but Yokozuna came back with a belly to belly suplex . When Yokozuna attempted the Banzai drop , however , he lost his balance and fell to the mat . Hart quickly pinned Yokozuna to win the title . He celebrated in the ring with several of the face wrestlers including Lex Luger , " Rowdy " Roddy Piper , Razor Ramon , Tatanka , The 1 ? 2 ? 3 Kid , Sparky Plugg and " Macho Man " Randy Savage . Others who joined in the celebration included Burt Reynolds , Rhonda Shear , Donnie Wahlberg , and WWF commentators Gorilla Monsoon and Vince McMahon . Owen Hart stood in the aisle , glaring at Bret , then quickly left .

= = Aftermath = =

Men on a Mission continued to challenge The Quebecers for the tag team belts . Men on a Mission won the title on March 29 , 1994 . This is said to have been an unplanned title change , as Mabel accidentally fell on Pierre to get the pinfall . This title reign lasted only two days , however , as The Quebecers won the titles back in a rematch .

Lex Luger and Mr. Perfect were scheduled to face each other in a series of matches on the WrestleMania Revenge Tour . Mr. Perfect was replaced by Crush , however , and Mr. Perfect did not appear again in the WWF until Survivor Series 1995 .

Adam Bomb and Earthquake had a rematch on the April 4 , 1994 episode of Monday Night Raw , which Earthquake won . The feud did not progress any further , as Earthquake left the WWF for World Championship Wrestling in May 1994 . Wippleman and Finkel wrestled a series of Tuxedo matches in 1994 that culminated in a match on the January 9 , 1995 episode of Monday Night Raw . Finkel defeated Wippleman in a final Tuxedo match to end the feud .

A few weeks after the match between Shawn Michaels and Razor Ramon , Diesel begin to challenge Ramon for the Intercontinental championship . Michaels helped Diesel defeat Ramon for the title on April 13 , 1994 . This win began a push for Diesel that saw him win the WWF 's Triple Crown Championship in one calendar year .

The ten @-@ man tag team match took place on the April 4 , 1994 edition of Monday Night Raw . The heel team won , as Irwin R. Schyster pinned the 1 ? 2 ? 3 Kid to win the match .

Bret and Owen Hart continued their feud throughout 1994 . At King of the Ring , their real @-@ life brother @-@ in @-@ law and Bret 's former tag team partner Jim Neidhart became involved in the angle by helping Owen win the tournament . During the coronation ceremony , Owen announced that he wanted to be referred to as the " King of Harts " . At SummerSlam , Bret successfully defended his title against Owen in a Steel cage match but was attacked after the match by Owen and Neidhart , prompting another brother @-@ in @-@ law , Davey Boy Smith , to get involved on Bret 's side . At Survivor Series , the storyline saw Owen partially responsible for costing Bret the WWF Championship . Bret faced Bob Backlund in a match with the stipulation that the winner would be declared when a competitor 's cornerman threw a towel into the ring to signify a submission . After Owen caused Smith to knock himself unconscious , Owen pretended to feel sympathy for Bret . While Backlund had Bret in a crossface Chickenwing , the angle had Owen convince his mother Helen to throw in Bret 's towel , enabling Backlund to win the match and the title . After the match , Owen celebrated with Backlund and showed that he was faking the concern for his brother .

= = = Reception = = =

The event was attended by 18 @, @ 065 people , who paid a total of \$ 960 @, @ 000 in admission fees . The buyrate for this pay @-@ per @-@ view was 1 @. @ 68 , down from the 2 @. @ 0 buyrate that the previous WrestleMania had achieved .

The event received positive reviews from various websites and wrestling publications . In 2010 , Rob McNew of 411mania gave the event an overall score of 9 @. @ 0 out of 10 @. @ 0 and noted that WrestleMania X " may lack a lot of historical significance due to being during a relatively down time for business , but this show kicked all kinds of ass . " He further noted that " Bret @-@ Owen and Razor @-@ Shawn were both coin flip choices for not only match of the year , but match of the decade as well . " He concluded the review citing how WrestleMania X was " easily one of the top five Wrestlemania ? s ever . "

Much of the praise towards the event was aimed at the ladder match between Shawn Michaels and Razor Ramon . McNew of 411mania cited the match as " downright groundbreaking for the time " and an " amazing match that put the ladder match on the map . " It was one of the few matches in North America to receive a five @-@ star rating from Dave Meltzer and also to be voted Match of the Year ( 1994 ) by readers of his Wrestling Observer Newsletter publication . Pro Wrestling Illustrated readers also named that match PWI Match of the Year ( 1994 ) . It was placed # 3 on IGN 's Top 20 Matches in Wrestlemania History and described as " one of the most ground @-@ breaking matches in wrestling history " .

The opening match between Owen Hart and Bret Hart has also garnered acclaim . McNew described as the " best opening match in professional wrestling history " . It was also # 4 on the list of IGN 's Top 20 Matches in Wrestlemania History ; writer Jon Robinson described it as " the best opening match in pay @-@ per @-@ view history . " Multi @-@ time world champion Chris Jericho stated : " For me , the best match on [ WrestleMania X ] was always Bret vs. Owen , and it kicked off

the show and it was hard to follow ... the story was amazing , it was kind of Owen 's coronation ? it was a great moment " .

= = Results = =