Ring of Honor TV — March 20, 2019: In Which Long British Names Don't Make Up For A Boring Show



IMG Credit: Ring of Honor

Ring of Honor

Date: March 20, 2019

Location: RP Funding Center, Lakeland, Florida

Commentators: Ian Riccaboni, Colt Cabana

It's time for things to get a little weird as we have the post-pay per view show taped before the pay per view, meaning we won't be getting any kind of fallout. In other words, it's going to be all about the wrestling and I'm not sure what that's going to include. Hopefully they have something good here so let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you needed a recap.

Opening sequence.

Shinobi Shadow Squad vs. Silas Young/Briscoes

Oh this is going to hurt. Eli Isom and Jay start things off with Eli actually taking over for all of two seconds off a front facelock. A kick to the ribs cuts him down though and it's off to Mark as the announcers

tease spoiling a pay per view that hasn't happened yet in a clever enough chat. Cheeseburger comes in and gets clotheslined as we take a break.

Back with Young clotheslining Burger as well before handing it off to Mark for a camel clutch. A missed charge lets Burger roll away a few times and the hot tag brings in Isom to pick up the pace. White Noise gets two on Jay but it's the Death Valley Driver into the Froggy Bow....for two? The strong pushing of Isom continues and gets even stronger as his brainbuster hits Jay for another near fall. The Briscoes are done with him and come back in for a High/Low into the Jay Driller for the pin at 9:14.

Rating: C-. The more I see of Isom, the more I like him. There's no reason for him to be anything more than a jobber but he's trying hard and getting a bit of a push as a bonus. That's nice to see and the fact that he's an average sized person and not Cheeseburger sized makes it better. There was no way the villains were losing here, but at least there was a nice moment or two.

Rhett Titus is ready to win the NWA National Championship from Willie Mack next week.

Joe Keys and Brian Johnson are in the ring and don't like the ugly women here in Florida.

<u>Joe Keys/Brian Johnson vs. The Bouncers</u>

Keys wants a posedown with Bruiser, who starts a BEER chant instead. A test of strength lets Bruiser hit him in the face and an atomic drop has Keys in the corner. Another chop sends him crawling over to Johnson and the jobbers get Bruiser into the corner for a double stomping. A double slam gets one on Bruiser, who gets over to the corner for the tag to Milonas without any trouble. Everything breaks down and Closing Time finishes Joe at 5:19.

Rating: D. This was a mostly squashy squash and that's not the most thrilling thing in the world. I'm still not wild on the Bouncers but at least they're now just there for the fun matches instead of anything important. This was a fun match for the crowd and while the jobbers got

in a little too much offense, this could have been worse.

Madison Rayne doesn't like Thunder Rosa disrespecting the Women of Honor.

Willie Mack is defending his National Title in all fifty states and next week Florida will be state #5.

Madison Rayne vs. Thunder Rosa

Sumie Sakai and Holidead are the seconds and Rayne charges to the ring and starts hammering away. A running forearm has Rosa in more trouble but Rayne and Sakai have to drop Holidead, allowing Rosa to take over. Back in and a kick to the back has Rayne in trouble and we take a break. We come back with Rayne hitting an enziguri but getting pulled down into a chinlock instead. That goes nowhere so Rayne is up with a spear, followed by another enziguri for two. Rosa hits a Gory Bomb for her own near fall but the reverse DDT gives Rayne the pin at 9:15.

Rating: D+. I still don't care much for the women's division, but at least they're putting out some fresh talent. It's still not the most thrilling in the world and Rayne is leaving, though at least there's someone new out there. Rosa and Holidead should be pushed stronger, even if there's nothing they can do because the Women's Title scene is kind of a mess.

Coast to Coast is back next week.

Rocky Romero vs. Zack Sabre Jr.

Feeling out process to start with Sabre taking over on the arm as only he (and I mean that literally) can. Romero gets out with a dropkick to the floor but Sabre is back in to work on the leg. Make that the arm again as Sabre switches up in a hurry. Another dropkick gets Romero out of trouble again so this time Sabre goes after the neck as we take a break. Back with Sabre still toying with Romero and grabbing a crossarm choke.

Romero reverses into one of his own, followed by a tornado DDT for his first real offense. A springboard crossbody gives Romero two and there's a kick to the face for a bonus. The forever lariats in the corner are countered into an STF but Sabre tries to make it a little too flashy and

Romero makes it to the rope.

Sabre does his cocky kicks to the face so Romero takes him into the corner for a running knee to the ribs. A DDT gets two and Romero wins a slugout, followed by a running Sliced Bread for two more. The Sliced Bread in the corner is countered though and Sabre pulls him down into Hurrah! Another Year, Surely This One Will Be Better Than the Last; The Inexorable March of Progress Will Lead Us All To Happiness for the win at 13:44.

Rating: B-. Sabre is one of those once in a generation talents with some of the most incredible holds you'll ever see. Romero....I don't get it. I know he's a much bigger deal in Japan but I don't ever remember seeing him do anything better than average in the ring. Sabre's insane stuff worked well here, but it was just a one off match for a special main event due to Sabre's appearance.

Overall Rating: C-. These shows are the definition of hit or miss as you never know what you're going to get. This was all about wrestling and it wasn't very good for the most part, including some lame long form squashes and nothing that meant anything long term. It wasn't terrible, but nothing that you needed to see whatsoever.

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up the paperback edition of KB's Complete 2000 Monday Nitro and Thunder Reviews Part 1 (also available as an e-book) from Amazon. Check out the information here:

http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2019/02/22/new-book-kbs-monday-n
itro-thunder-reviews-volume-vii-january-june-2000/

And check out my Amazon author page with cheap wrestling books at:

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