

WCCW TV – March 29, 1986: That 80s Match

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Date: March 29, 1986

Location: Dallas Sportatorium, Dallas, Texas

Commentator: Bill Mercer

I liked the previous show so let's take another look at the Dallas boys. As usual it's just another random show and that means there is no way of knowing what we have coming up. I can go with more of that in a promotion I'm not overly familiar with, so hopefully they live up to the expectations I have from an unrelated show about fourteen months ago. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

Mercer runs down the card.

Steve Regal vs. Brickhouse Brown

Say it with me: not that Steve Regal. Brown is a lot smaller than you probably would expect and grabs a headlock to start. A sunset flip doesn't even give Brown one and it's time to fight over the wristlocks. Brown elbows the arm but gets caught in a top wristlock for his efforts. Back up and Brown isn't having this being sent face first into a buckle, meaning it's time to crank on Regal's arm again.

The armbar goes to the mat and Brown drives some knees into the arm. Regal gets up and pokes him in the eye before stomping in the ribs. We have two minutes left in the ten minute time limit as Regal knees him in the ribs. Brown knocks him into the corner and then pulls him right back out for a crash. A dropkick into a legdrop gets two on Regal as the time limit expires at 10:00 (or 9:40, which is pretty good for the 80s).

Rating: D. This was the stereotypical match from this era with both guys working on the arm for about eight minutes and then remembering that they

were supposed to try to win the match. That doesn't make for an interesting match when you can tell what they are going for from the start, making it just a boring use of most of the time until you get to the finish. Neither was exactly exciting here either, making this a rather lame way to open the show.

Post match Brown wants to keep going but Regal bails. Smart man as that arm work can be treacherous.

From earlier this month.

Six Man Tag Team Titles: Von Erichs vs. Fabulous Freebirds

The Freebirds are defending and we're joined in progress with Kevin putting Gordy in a sleeper and then a bodyscissors to make it worse. It's off to Lance (erg Lance), who gets caught in a camel clutch from Hayes. We hit the ten minute call as Hayes elbows him in the face and hands it back to Gordy for the Oriental Spike (that's the name).

Kevin and Kerry come in for the save and it's back to Hayes, who gets caught in a suplex. Kerry and Roberts get the double tags as everything breaks down again. A rollup should finish Roberts but Gordy comes in to make the save. Roberts is able to get the cover on Kerry to retain at 5:59 shown. I won't rate a match with so much time missing, but it seemed like a hot match, as tends to be the case with these people. Except Lance.

Steve Simpson vs. Rick Rude

Rude's WCWA (same company as WCCW) World Title isn't on the line and he has Percy Pringle (Paul Bearer) in his corner. Rude's tights don't have any painting on them but they do have pockets for a unique look. Feeling out process to start with Rude throwing him around but getting caught in a monkey flip. Simpson grabs a headscissors to take Rude to the mat and doesn't even let him go down there.

Rude headlocks his way to freedom as commentary tells us how to vote for Rude's next challenger. A northern lights suplex drops Simpson for two and we hit the abdominal stretch. That's broken up in a hurry and Simpson

unloads in the corner but a monkey flip is blocked. A DDT (known as the Rude Awakening here) finishes Simpson at 6:18.

Rating: C-. Not much to this one as Rude was still getting the hang of things and was nowhere near the star that he would become. It's impressive to see how fast he became such a star because you could see elements here, but he had a long way to go before he would hit that next level. Simpson looked great but didn't showcase himself all that well. Granted that wasn't the point of this one.

Here's what's coming next week.

We see Bruiser Brody interrupting a main event to challenge Terry Gordy to a fight. Gordy came out and the fight was on as the main event was completely forgotten.

Fantastics vs. John Tatum/The Grappler

The brawl is on before the bell with the Fantastics clearing the ring as we're told this is under Texas Tornado rules. They do manage to get in the introductions, with Sunshine in the Fantastics corner and Missy Hyatt with the villains. The Fantastics pull them back in and then throw Tatum right back to the floor. Grappler doesn't like them going after his mask and Fulton is sent into the corner. An atomic drop puts Rogers down but Fulton is back up to clean house. Missy grabs Rogers' foot though and the catfight is on with Sunshine covering her with ketchup. The distraction lets Fulton roll Grappler up for the pin at 4:18.

Rating: C. As usual, the Fantastics know how to work up an audience but this was much more about Sunshine vs. Precious, who had some of the most entertaining catfights of their day. Taking some fries and ketchup to Missy's face would drive her crazy and the fans reacted as a result. Sometimes you don't need to make things more complicated than they need to be and that was the case here.

A quick preview of next week's show wraps us up.

Overall Rating: C-. The opener brings this down a bit but the rest of the show was fun enough. As tends to be the case with World Class, it feels

like you need to watch a good bit of the shows to really get the hang of things, but what we got here was still good enough. They don't exactly fill in the backstories, but it's like Memphis: you don't need much of a reason to watch people fight in front of a crowd this hot.

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