Collision – March 9, 2024: Yes, Again

<u>Collision</u>

Date: March 9, 2024 Location: Gas South Arena, Duluth, Georgia Commentators: Nigel McGuinness, Tony Schiavone

We're still near Atlanta for the third show of the week, though this show is going to be a bit of a follow up from Dynamite. In this case we have the first match for the new Elite, as the Young Bucks and Kazuchika Okada are now the new big evil trio. Other than that, we have a street fight, because that's what we do around here. Let's get to it.

<u>Here is Dynamite if you need a recap.</u>

Opening sequence.

Shane Taylor vs. Bryan Danielson

Lee Moriarty is here with Taylor, who backs Danielson into the corner to start. The test of strength goes to Taylor of course but Danielson kicks away at the chest. That only goes so far so Danielson goes for the leg and uses the ropes to slow Taylor down. Nigel: "He's using the ropes! That's illegal!" Tony: "You never used the ropes during your career?" Nigel: "Of course!"

Taylor's leg is tied up in the ropes so Danielson hits a running dropkick but a right hand sends Danielson outside (and us to a break). Back with Taylor hitting the apron legdrop for two but missing a splash in the corner. Danielson ties the leg around the post and kicks away to put Taylor down back inside.

The big kick to the head gets one and Danielson can't believe the kickout. The running dropkicks in the corner just wake Taylor up though and it's a big clothesline for two on Danielson. Taylor's cannonball misses so he tries a powerslam, only for Danielson to take him down for the kicks to the head. The running knee finishes for Danielson at 14:00.

Rating: B-. Danielson is this generation's wrestler who can get the best out of any opponent and that is amazing to see. Taylor had a good match here and wrestled like a power monster should, which made for a good showing. You could see Danielson trying to take him apart out there and it worked well in the end. Good opener.

Post match Will Ospreay comes out and says he's here for a chat. After praising Danielson and Taylor, Ospreay praises...the sandwiches backstage before talking about how so many people are in awe of Danielson. Ospreay then calls him a "cheeky little slag" for interrupting him on Dynamite and wonders if Danielson has a question for him. Danielson praises Ospreay's match with Konosuke Takeshita, but he's also heard Ospreay talking about how great he is the best in the world, so the challenge is on for Dynasty. Ospreay is in.

Young Bucks/Kazuchika Okada vs. Jon Cruz/Liam Gray/Adrian Alanis

Nick and Cruz start things off but it's Okada coming in instead. Okada takes him up against the ropes for a pat on the head to start so the bigger Alanis comes in. The forearms just annoy Okada so he hits the dropkick, followed by the Rainmaker to pin Gray at 2:03. That's what it should have been.

Post match Eddie Kingston runs in and gets beaten down so here is Penta El Zero Miedo…who gets beaten down as well. Cue Pac to come in and stare up at Okada (Nigel: "TAKE MY MONEY! TAKE MY MONEY! TAKE MY MONEY!") before striking him out to the floor. Pac says he's here to look for trouble and a six man is set up for Dynamite.

Video on Darby Allin vs. Jay White on Dynamite.

<u>Mariah May vs. Trish Adora</u>

May works on a wristlock to start as Nigel completely swoons over Mariah's…well everything. Adora takes her down a few times without much effort but May grabs a running headscissors. A running dropkick puts Adora on the floor and we take a break. Back with Adora hitting a pump kick into a backsplash for two. Adora grabs a German suplex from her knees, only to have May hit a running knee. May Day finishes Adora at 6:13.

Rating: C. I'm not sure why a match that barely breaks six minutes needs a break but unfortunately that's the AEW women's division for you. May's rise continues and having her dressed as rocker Toni Storm could be going in a few different directions. Not much in the way of a match, but what are you supposed to do with so little time and so much of that in a break?

Post match here is Toni Storm to present the first ever Toni Award (Storm: "That's Toni with an I so we don't get sued."). May is the only nominee and she does indeed win. Cue Deonna Purrazzo to go after Storm but May lays her out with a DDT.

Video on Riho vs. Willow Nightingale.

Nick Wayne vs. Adam Priest

The rest of the Patriarchy is here too. Wayne starts fast and hammers away before sending Priest outside. A running boot rocks Priest again but he fires back, only to get a glare from Luchasaurus. Back in and Wayne chokes on the ropes, setting up Wayne's World for the pin at 3:12.

Rating: C. More or less a squash here for Wayne, who still doesn't have much in the way of interest. He's Christian's secondary lackey but having him beat up a relative unknown for a few minutes is hardly the worst thing. They kept this short and that's the right way to go for a match like this one. Post match someone in a mask pulls Cage into the crowd (Tony: "Is this a luchador? Is this someone from CMLL?" That's a perfectly reasonable reaction and you don't get many of those in wrestling today.) before diving onto the Patriarchy. It's Adam Copeland, who gets in the ring and grabs the TNT belt, plus a metal case. Copeland opens it and Cage sees it (we don't see what's in there), making him back up. The match seems ready for Dynamite March 20.

Jeff Jarrett says Mark Briscoe can trust him tonight. Mark isn't sure but they'll fight together.

Chris Jericho vs. Titan

Jericho wastes no time in pulling him into a surfboard, which is broken up just as fast. Back up and they chop it out until Titan knocks him to the floor. That means a big suicide dive to drop Jericho and a whip sends him into the steps. Back in and they both go up, with Jericho hitting a super faceplant for two as we take a break. We come back with Titan kicking him out to the floor, setting up another dive.

That bangs Titan up a bit though and it's a butterfly backbreaker to put him down again. The Lionsault misses though and Titan grabs a springboard tornado DDT for two. Titan's top rope double stomp gets two but his leglock is countered into a failed Walls attempt. The Judas Effect misses as well and Titan grabs a spinning Death Valley Driver for two. Titan tries a springboard hurricanrana but gets pulled into the Walls for the submission at 11:59.

Rating: B. I liked that a good bit more than I thought I would have and Jericho hung in there with the younger high flier well enough. That being said, I'm still waiting on some kind of a point to these CMLL guys being around other than "here they are". They had the feud with the BCC but that seems to have mostly wrapped up (thanks to the visa situation). Are we just going to have random matches like this with nothing

really happening?

Post match the Gates Of Agony run in to beat down Jericho but Hook makes the save.

Here is FTR for a chat. Things didn't go how they wanted at Revolution but that's life. They're officially throwing their names into the hat for the Tag Team Title tournament but they know it's going to be difficult. Harwood isn't sure they belong in the tournament but they will give everything they have if they get a chance. Cue the Infantry to interrupt, with a quick introduction. They say the tag division needs a revival and we get some of the old Revival theme song. Harwood: "The revival is dead and if we meet you in the tournament, you will be too." Well that was efficient.

<u>Mistico vs. Angelico</u>

Serpentico is here with Angelico. They fight over wrist control to start and Angelico gets up for something of a dance. Mistico grabs some armdrags for a standoff and we take a break. Back with Mistico hitting a 619 into a springboard missile dropkick, followed by a slingshot hurricanrana to the floor. A slingshot corkscrew splash gets two on Angelico and a Swanton is good for the same. Angelico grabs la majistral for two and they trade running clotheslines in the corner. Both of them are knocked down but Mistico is back up with a very spinning rollup for two. La Mistica finishes Angelico off at 9:26.

Rating: B-. Again, nice match but it's kind of hard to get interested in Mistico, as big of a star as he is, facing someone the caliber of Angelico. It's a match that came and went with some nice high flying, but it doesn't seem to have any connection to anything else going on. That's fine once in awhile, but this is the second match on the show with the same stuff. It would be nice to have this tied into something, as otherwise it's just wrestling for the sake of wrestling.

Respect is shown post match.

House Of Black vs. Mark Briscoe/Jeff Jarrett/Jay Lethal

Street fight. The brawl starts on the floor with Briscoe and Black slugging away inside. The good guys start in with the dives before it's time to set up some tables. Lethal sends a charging King into an open chair but King is back up to crush Lethal through a table. Briscoe and Matthews slug it out until Briscoe's dive off the top completely misses a table, hitting chairs instead.

We take a break and come back with Matthews pouring lighter fluid over a table but Sonjay Dutt offers a distraction. Cue Julia Hart with gasoline, which Matthews pours on Dutt. Karen Jarrett cuts off the whole murder thing so Hart gives her the mist. Lethal and Jarrett hit the Infantry's Boot Camp (Russian legsweep/running big boot combination) to put King down but he's back up with the sleeper to Lethal.

Jarrett makes the save with a heck of a guitar shot, only to walk into the End from Black. Hart slips in the spike but Briscoe blocks a stabbing and Jay Drillers Black. Briscoe's big flip dive is pulled out of the air and the table is set on fire. The powerbomb puts Briscoe through said table and Black gets the pin at 12:47.

Rating: C+. Yeah it was another big brawl and had the spots and carnage but how many of these hardcore matches are we supposed to be interested in? This one had the fire theme but there was so much going on that it was just another big wild fight than anything else. It kept my interest but it feels like we get some kind of big weapons brawl every few weeks. Slow down with them already.

Overall Rating: B-. They were going back and forth from stuff that felt important to stuff that felt like it was just there to fill in time, which makes for a rather long two hours. The show was good enough, but after a pay per view on Sunday and

three hours of AEW since then, the two CMLL matches, another brawl and a quick Elite match isn't quite enough to make this a great show.

<u>Results</u>

Bryan Danielson b. Shane Taylor - Running knee Young Bucks/Kazuchika Okada b. Jon Cruz/Liam Gray/Adrian Alanis - Rainmaker to Gray Mariah May b. Trish Adora - May Day Nick Wayne b. Adam Priest - Wayne's World Chris Jericho b. Titan - Walls Of Jericho Mistico b. Angelico - La Mistica House Of Black b. Jeff Jarrett/Jay Lethal/Mark Briscoe -Powerbomb through a flaming table to Briscoe

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