

Combat Corner Wrestling
September 27th, 2015
Crockett Coliseum
Dallas, Texas

Hey everyone! Johnny Stevens back in black for another recap of the latest Combat Corner Wrestling show and this one was something special. You could feel it in the air long before the show started. Outside the building, the fans were chanting for their favorites before we even got let in.

Oh yes, it was Quarterfinals night at the Crockett and we couldn't wait to see who was going to make it to the Semis in this tournament to crown the first CCW Champion!

We knew going in that we'd be seeing the four Quarters but what else did the folks at CEE-CEE-DUB have in store for us? We'd all be finding out in a matter of moments. It was a bit of a long show so I'll jump right into it.

Out came the announcers. Man, the Dallas fans love Marcus Broussard. You have to wonder what the future would've held for Broussard if he didn't lose that Loser Leaves Town match all those years ago. He could still be on top of the AWA right now, I think. Harvey Sutton was out as well. They ran down the four Quarterfinal matches but didn't announce anything else. They also talked about the wild CCW segment during the recent AWA Homecoming show at the Crockett which featured seven of the eight guys left in the tournament.

Cue Arawak Jack Veles who came out to a mixed response. He hasn't caught on quite yet like I thought he would. He's mad that he's not still in the tournament saying that Willie Hammer's win over him was a fluke and that he has the skill to choke out ANYONE in the AWA.

Well, he's going to get a chance to prove it as Sammy Carson came through the curtain to a big reaction. The former powerlifter hit the ring and said if Veles was so convinced he could choke him out, Carson would let him hook the hold in to start the match.

MATCH #1 - Arawak Jack Veles vs Sammy Carson

Veles obliged, hooking in a rear naked choke at the outset... but Carson has freaky strength and easily powered out to cheers from the fans. Veles was steaming mad and brought the thunder with his striking, including a

headbutt that split the eyebrow of Carson hardway. Carson was bleeding like a stuck pig all over the ring as Veles continued the attack, using mounted 12 to 6 elbowstrikes in the corner to make the cut even worse.

After a missed senton, Carson started to come back with his power moves including a delayed vertical suplex on the near 300 pound Veles that shook the ring. Carson hit a big splash for a near fall and while he was complaining to the official, Veles hooked the rear naked choke again, dragging Carson down to the mat where the powerlifter eventually had to tap out. Veles scores the win in a fun (but short) opening matchup.

MATCH #2 - Koji Nakano vs Willie Hammer

This one was absolutely ridiculous. Both of these guys are just so much fun to watch. Hammer has this charisma about him that instantly gets a connection with the fans while Nakano continues to get better inside the ring every time that I see him. This was an intriguing match to fantasy book. Who would go over? The guy that many people are calling the Ace of CCW or the guy who already has his spot on the main roster for the AWA?

Hammer and Nakano traded some mat wrestling early on... which Hammer is far better than I ever would've expected at. But a waistlock takedown by Nakano had Hammer bail out to the floor and that's when things picked up in intensity. Hammer came back fighting, trading strikes... not a good idea with Koji Nakano who forced Hammer out to the floor again.

Hammer pulled Nakano out, threw him into the railing, and hit a big somersault plancha to a massive reaction. He put Nakano back in and hit a springboard somersault legdrop that brought the crowd to their feet for a near fall. Hammer controlled the next few minutes with some high impact offense including a samoan drop that he immediately followed with a standing moonsault. The athleticism for a guy that size is nutty! NUTTY, I SAY!

Nakano slipped out of a slam attempt to hook the full nelson set up for the Mantis-plex but Hammer countered into an armdrag to escape before using a flying forearm to drop Nakano. Hammer's attempt to hit the Hammer Time frog splash came up empty though and Nakano used the Mantis-plex on the much bigger competitor to a HUGE reaction to score the three count.

The two fan favorites shook hands after the match with Hammer putting over Nakano as someone he'll see "real soon" on the main roster. Great match to kick off the Quarterfinals.

MATCH #3 - Bonecrusher Boone vs jobber

Sorry, missed the name of the jobber but it didn't take long for Boone to roll right over him, winning with a big splash. He made an Open Challenge for the October show.

Video time!

[Cut to the backstage where His Royal Greasiness, the obnoxious French Canadian Jackie Borassa slimes through the halls, looking for something. He walks past a female intern and casually pulls out his phone. Without breaking stride, he lowers the phone to his waist and snaps a picture of the unaware young intern's posterior and quickly pockets the device.]

JB: Hey, come on guy! Anweille! We got my quarter-final comin' up! Kesse tufai, Jack-sonne?

[He turns a corner and catches his manager, Jackson Hunter, having a very friendly chat with the Agent To The Stars, Ben Waterson at the water cooler.]

ATTSBW: ... Which is why I have a lawyer on retention at all times.

JH: See, I'm cheap; I just have a retentive lawyer.

[They chuckle.]

JB: Tabarnak! Vadontoé! Jack-sonne, you and he, Max Mangum's agent now buddy-buddy, hey?

[Hunter suddenly gets defensive.]

JH: What? No! No!

ATTSBW: Hey, Jax... what's Pierre Poutine's problem?

[Hunter gently nudges Waterson with his elbow.]

JH: I would never let Mr. Waterson know about your many, many, many weaknesses! In fact, Jackie, I'll have you know that I have secured intel into the weaknesses of Mr. Magnum!

JB: Hey, chtedi, I am on a roll, guy; I don't need to know Mad Maxgun's weakness, okay, so cammtoué. Hey, Waterstown! J'm'en câlisse comme de l'an 40!

ATTSBW: Jem... cal... Jax, what the hell is he saying?

JH: I, uh... I'll tell you later, Benny.

JB: Tse, tell your guy Maxnum dis for me: M'a arranger à face! J'm'en fous!

ATTSBW: Jackson, would you tell your client (in whatever moon language he's speaking) that my client will do him the favor of making his imminent demise brief and painless... as long a Mr. Bourassa chooses it to be brief and painless.

[He leans in close to Hunter.]

ATTSBW: [just above a whisper] ...And I know you said it's not your call to make, but if you ever would consider selling me Mr. Zharkov's contract—

JH: [whispering] No worries, Benny; never hurts to ask.

[Waterson exits. Hunter turns to Bourassa.]

JH: [matter-of-factly] Jackie, Benny says—er, Mr. Waterson says that you die tonight.

JB: Tse, Mister Waterman, he says a lot of things. I know I got you in my corner, guy. Toi pis moi, we make a great team!

[Bourassa puts his arm around Hunter's shoulder. Hunter slowly peels it away.]

JH: Are you covered in baby oil? I just had this jacket drycleaned!

[We crossfade from that to pre-taped footage of "Agent To The Stars" Ben Waterson standing in front of a CCW backdrop alongside the hulking beast known as Max Magnum.]

ATTSBW: Like a whisper on the wind, you could hear it for the past few weeks...

"Max Magnum."

"Max Magnum."

"MAX! MAGNUM!"

"Max. Magnum."

[He smirks.]

ATTSBW: Everyone was talking about him. Everyone was saying his name after Homecoming when he showed the world why he IS the monster your Mommy warned you about... why he IS the greatest unstoppable force this business has ever seen... why he IS beyond all others the ONE... TRUE... FUTURE of this sport... and why he IS... the next... and very first... CCW... Heavyweight... Champion.

[The camera zooms in on Magnum, showing his stoic face as Waterson continues to speak.]

ATTSBW: Jackie Bourassa is the man whose name is on my lips right now... but not Max Magnum's. You see, Mr. Bourassa... as talented as you may be... as intelligent as your manager may be... you do not rank on the scale of relevance for my client, Max Magnum, to notice you.

It's like asking a God to notice the gnat buzzing around him.

It does not happen, Mr. Bourassa. It WILL not happen.

Until that bell sounds, you are nothing to Max Magnum but a name.

But when it sounds...

[He raises a finger, smiling again.]

ATTSBW: ...you are nothing to Max Magnum but... next.

[Waterson chuckles as we slowly fade to black.]

MATCH #4 - Jackie Bourassa vs Max Magnum

Blowout, right? Mismatch? Squash? Those are the things that came to my mind when this match was announced but Bourassa and Hunter came in with a gameplan. Bourassa and Hunter were operating under the belief that any win is a win and it didn't matter how they got it.

So, from the outset, Bourassa bailed out to the floor. Waterson kept Magnum from pursuing at first but sooner or later, he couldn't help himself. And that's when Bourassa's gameplan unfolded. He ran... and he ran... and he ran. And when the count hit nine, he rolled under the ropes...

...but Magnum got in too... just barely. Bourassa made a run for it again but Magnum caught him... GERMAN! The freak of nature rolled back up, dropping him a second time. He rolled up again and the third time, he launched him halfway across the ring with a released German. The slaughter was set to begin...

But every once in a while, Bourassa would show a hint of his gameplan... shoving Magnum into the official. Tangling up with Magnum and then falling to the mat, grabbing his groin and claiming a low blow. Shouting about foreign objects.

But it wasn't enough. Bourassa's biggest blast of offense came on a flying kneestrike to the jaw. He quickly went for the October Crisis spinning DDT but Magnum powered out, lifting him up onto his shoulders, and DROPS him in the fireman's carry split-legged slam. One. Two. Three. Two men were in the Semis with two more still to come.

Intermission!

Match #5 - Pretty Hot Stuff vs The Tennessee Kids

I have to admit it. The line was so crazy long at the merch table tonight, I was actually late coming back for this match. But the part I saw was fantastic and the fans really seemed to be into it. Justin Sanders scored the pin with a middle rope sunset flip on Scotty Richardson to give the Kids the victory.

MATCH #6 - John Law vs Alex Urban

You talk about a wild brawl, that was this one to the letter. These two big guys were throwing some serious bombs both in and outside of the ring. Urban started landing a series of stiff forearms at about the six minute mark but Law hooked him by the throat, drove him down with the chokeslam, and

scored the win. Wow! The crowd was stunned by how quickly he scored that victory to move on in the tournament. After the match, Law was putting the boots to Urban, reading him his rights... but Urban started to battle back. They ended up brawling out on the floor where Urban threw Law into the barricade before they both tumbled into the front row with a running clothesline. They were still fighting in the crowd when they disappeared back up the aisle. Whew. I'm guessing we haven't seen the last of that one.

MATCH #7 - Sid Osborne vs Bret Grayson

But first... PROMO TIME!

[Fade up on Bret Grayson, Olympic gold medalist, standing in front of a CGI backdrop of a waving American flag. Grayson's dressed for action in a red, white, and blue singlet.]

BG: I am no stranger to being a champion. High school. NCAA. World. Olympic. It's not just a line on my resume - it's part of who I am.

[He grips his arm.]

BG: It's in the blood that runs through these veins. It's championship blood. And that means that I simply can't help myself when it comes to winning titles. Tonight, I climb into the ring in the Quarterfinals of the tournament to crown the first CCW Champion... and I simply can't help myself when it comes to winning then as well.

[Grayson cracks an egotistical grin.]

BG: But tonight, there's someone who stands in my way - a punk kid with a big mouth. The...

[Grayson's voice takes on a mocking tone.]

BG: ...Sin City Savior.

[He chuckles without humor.]

BG: You show up in MY house - the Crockett Coliseum - and you act like you're the second coming of THE Savior himself... well, pal... let me clue you in because

you're not! You're no Savior. You're no hero. You're no superstar. And after tonight, you're nothing but a guy sitting on the outside of this tournament looking in. You're nothing more than a Charlie Fleming or a Grant Carter or a Hikarimono.

You're nothing.

[Return to the arrogant smirk.]

BG: But me? I'll be on my path... my destined path that says the first stop is me wearing the CCW Championship. But that's just the first stop. Get out the binoculars, Sid... look down the road a bit... look at Bret Grayson making his AWA debut... winning his first title... becoming the World Champion... Main Eventing SuperClash... entering the Hall of Fame...

Did you see it, Sid? Take a real good look.

Because that career you just saw?

[He points to the camera.]

BG: You get to be a footnote in the first few pages.

[Grayson winks.]

BG: You're welcome.

[Fade to black...

...and then back up on a deep purple backdrop with "SIN CITY SAVIOR" scrawled across the CGI screen. Sid Osborne is standing in front of it in a black hoodie with the hood pulled up. We can catch a glimpse of his face underneath.]

SO: Bret Grayson.

[He chuckles.]

SO: The Olympic hero. The future of the sport.

[He pauses.]

SO: You know, there's a lot of "futures of the sport" around these parts. Grayson, Magnum, Nakano. The AWA has stuck a lot of their golden geese into one place hoping that one of them becomes the next Juan Vasquez or Stevie Scott.

And tonight, Bret Grayson...

Tonight, you're facing the guy that isn't the golden goose... you're facing the guy who is the black sheep.

[He pulls back the hoodie.]

SO: I'm the guy that no one wanted. The suits took me because of the people... they demanded it. The marketing people don't want a guy with piercings and tattoos and a jacked-up mohawk. They don't want a guy who used to drown himself in booze and pills and God knows what else. That guy doesn't sell t-shirts, they think. That guy doesn't put asses every 18 inches, they believe. That guy can't headline a SuperClash, they say.

They. Are. Wrong.

[Osborne is getting heated now.]

SO: Bret Grayson's face is made for a magazine cover... until I land a right hand and bust up his pretty nose. Bret Grayson's story is one that he can tell on Fox Sports One while shedding tears... until he gets to the part about how a no account punk rock son of a bitch from Vegas spoiled his coronation party.

Bret Grayson's story might already be written...

[Osborne tugs his hood back into place.]

SO: ...but mine's just getting started.

[Fade to black.]

Main Event time!

How hyped was the crowd for this? The ENTRANCES got "This is awesome!" chants! The fans were pretty evenly split which made for some cool dueling

chants right off the bat as the referee had them in the middle before the bell. And when the bell came?

An epic encounter kicked in.

Now, I'm sure you've heard about it by now but if you haven't, get your ass over to The X's website and check out the match. These two tremendous competitors went 45 minutes and while I won't say it was better than Martinez and Detson in the Iron Man match, it wasn't far off. Everything you could want out of a pro wrestling match went down in this one. Technical wrestling, stiff striking, suplexes, high flying, brawling at ringside... it was insane! This might be the best match I've seen live in years.

I can't even... describing this doesn't do it justice. You just HAVE to go watch it... HAVE to.

And the ending? I totally thought Grayson was going all the way in this tournament so when Osborne flipped out of that German Superplex attempt, landed on his feet, hitting the running palm strike, and then climbing up top, dropping the Stage Dive frog splash on Grayson for a clean three count in the middle. SIN CITY SID is heading to the Semifinals! Nuts!

Both guys got a standing ovation after the match as the show came to a conclusion. No announcement about the next date but the end of October sounds about right to me. There continues to be rumors of a SuperClash weekend date in Houston for the Finals of the tournament but I've also heard a rumor that the Finals might happen ON SuperClash. Both things would be amazing and I'll be roadtrippin' down to Houston for all the action.

Thanks for reading! See you next month!