Resistance Pro Report

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The Big News: Harry Smith defeats “Lonesome” Jay Bradley to continue his run as Resistance Pro champ.

Show Analysis:

The show began with a new intro with new music and a few new clips. Zach Thompson appeared and briefly talked about the company's Fair Warning show from July 27. The first match that he discussed was John "Morrison" Hennigan vs. Robert Anthony. Anthony was then shown talking about the match before the show. He said he hates Hennigan because he has a bigger bank account than him, and since he (and everyone else) knows Hennigan wasn't going to come back to Resistance Pro, he was going to beat him to make a point, to gain respect, and for Hennigan to know that he shouldn't enter a ring again. Of course we know that, Anthony, but is it necessary to point it out?

John "Morrison" Hennigan defeated Robert Anthony. Several times during the match, the commentators referred to Hennigan as "John Morrison." They seemed to be trying to come as close as possible to promoting him using his WWE name without actually doing it. Interestingly, despite being the heel, Anthony had more cheers at times. Morrison ultimately won the match with a Starship Pain. After the match, the two shook hands. This match ended up being about 28 minutes, which (in my opinion) was too long. Besides the last couple minutes (which were exciting to watch) a couple neat spots outside the ring, and a few of Hennigan's moves (like the Moonlight Drive and a moonsault), there were plenty of times where the match plodded along. They could've cut the length by half and had a better paced contest.

After the match, a vignette for RPW Women's Champion was shown Melanie Cruise was shown. She talked about how she had been teased and bullied growing up, and now she was more powerful than them. She also talked about Nikki St. John, saying that she shouldn't have raised her hand to her, and now she was going to be destroyed. Presumably their match is going to be at the company's next show, "Just a Game."

After a promo for "Just a Game" was shown (the show is on September 14th), Zach Thompson returned and talked about the match between "Lonesome" Jay Bradley and Harry Smith. He noted that both of them had defeated most of the opponents that came in their way. After that, Bradley was shown cutting a good backstage promo about how Smith got opportunities to

wrestle in New Japan, the main roster in WWE, and in the initial title tournament for the RPW Heavyweight Title over him. He also said that as a Chicago boy, he had the cards in his favor. It was a great way to quickly tell the story of the hard working good guy who never got a break versus the privileged bad guy who had everything handed to him.

Harry Smith defeated "Lonesome" Jay Bradley. Smith was accompanied by Lou D'Angeli and Raven (who wasn't wearing the ECW belt). For much of the match, Smith was in control or escaped when he was about to lose it. When Bradley was in control near the end of the match, Kyle Matthews came out and saved Smith from taking a broomstick clothesline. Bradley later took control again, but while D'Angeli distracted the ref, Smith gave him a low blow and won the match with a sitout powerbomb. The three men celebrated afterwards. This match was about 17 minutes, so it wasn't too long like the previous match. I liked the ending, as it helped develop Smith as a heel champion who resorts to dirty tactics to win.

Zach Thompson once again appeared to hype up the "Just a Game" show. He noted that the show's guest star will be Gene Snitsky, who he noted once kicked a baby into the crowd on Raw. He mentioned the $20 tickets for general admission and $10 for valet parking, and the show signed off with another promo for the show.

Final Thoughts:

Out of the three Resistance Pro shows, this one had the most wrestling. However, I would've preferred that the time spent on the first match be broken up into two shorter matches or one match and a few more promos to hype the next show.

As for some of the positives, it was nice to see that there was no mention of Billy Corgan on the show. Hopefully the shows won't have an authority figure as a match player going forward. Furthermore, I also liked the promos. They gave me more interest in checking out the show than the matches (since they were the show's big matches, there didn't seem to be much of a reason to order the DVD for the rest of the matches from that show). All in all, while this wasn't necessarily an awesome show, it was fine for what it was.

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