

UFC FIGHT NIGHT 23: Fight for the Troops 2 LIVE COVERAGE

By: Mike Coughlin

FiveStarRadio8@aol.com

Mike Coughlin here. Someone with more seniority will be by later to take care of the main card, but until then y'all get me recapping the prelim fights. It's available on Facebook, because Dana White needs more friends or something. Oh well. It's two more hours of fights, so who can complain about that? I'll try to keep the editorial comments to a minimum. Enjoy!

Quick Results at the very end.

AMILCAR ALVES VS. CHARLIE BRENNEMAN

Turned on the feed and this fight was randomly being shown. All that was seen was the last thirty seconds of round one. Rogan indicated that Brenneman won the round. So, we'll start with round two.

ROUND TWO

Brenneman trying for the takedown, but Alves fighting his way to his feet. Clinching against the cage, little work. Brenneman with a nice takedown off of a body lock half-way through the round. Alves fights his way back to half guard while Brenneman drops some decent elbows. Brenneman mounts with a minute remaining. Alves regains full guard but it's too little too late as the round ends.

Brenneman 10-9

ROUND THREE

Alves shrugs off a weak takedown attempt a minute in. A takedown from Brenneman at the 3:20 mark; Brenneman holding side control while throwing knees to the body. Alves regains guard and throws a few elbows. Rogan just claimed that Brenneman's "gorgeous mop of hair" protects him from elbows. Brenneman is keeping busy enough that the ref isn't standing them up. Mr. Mop Top just hopped to half-guard then mount. And that's that.

Brenneman 10-9

OFFICIAL DECISION: CHARLIE BRENNEMAN d. AMILCAR ALVES 30-27

WILLAMY "CHIKUERIM"; FREIRE VS. WAYLON LOWE

ROUND ONE

Lowe with a big takedown to start the round. Freire is trying for a kimura from full guard. Neither guy has done much but Lowe is in danger at the moment if Freire can pop the arm out. Mirgliota just stood them up and Rogan went ballistic. Lowe looks to have clipped Freire with a right hand and now he's back on top inside the guard, trying to pass to half-guard but having no success.

Lowe 10-9

ROUND TWO

Lowe rushes in with a flurry of punches that puts Freire on his heels. Lowe unsuccessfully attempts a takedown. Lowe gets the takedown, Freire with a close Triangle, and Lowe slams him down to escape! Good exchange. With the exception of the triangle attempt, the round is mostly the same as the first: Lowe on top, not doing much, but landing enough shots to score points. Ref stands them up. Several good inside leg kicks by Freire. Lowe leaps in with a lunging left hook that connects and then transitions into a takedown.

Lowe 10-9

ROUND THREE

Lowe misses a takedown a minute and a half into the round. Lowe is on his knees taunting Freire to knee him. The Brazilian responds by punching, but it looks like it was to no avail as Lowe seems to have baited him as he shoots in. Wait! Freire reverses and ends up on top! Freire is landing some hard elbows while on top. He's doing more damage here than has happened in the entirety of the fight. Lowe uses an underhook to stand up. Lowe with an easy takedown and that could be the fight. Freire looking for a kimura but isn't going to get it.

Freire 10-9

Fight wasn't particularly exciting. If you missed it, you didn't miss much.

****OFFICIAL DECISION: WAYLON LOWE d. WILLAMY "CHIQUERIM" FREIRE 29-28****

MIKE BROWN VS. RANI YAHYA

ROUND ONE

Brown is walking down Yahya, who is responding by throwing a bunch of unorthodox kicks while trying to keep his distance. Yahya dives in for a single leg takedown. Brown is doing everything in his power to avoid being on the bottom of the world champion grappler but Yahya has managed to smother him down. Yahya looking to soften up Brown's ribs in an attempt to pass. Brown tries to wall walk but Yahya responds by going for a guillotine. Brown breaks Yahya's grip. As Brown tries to stand, Yahya drags him back to the ground. Brown is being controlled here as Yahya is all over Brown. Yahya takes his back just as the clock runs out.

Yahya 10-9

ROUND TWO

Round two opens just like round one, with Brown stalking and Yahya dancing away. Yahya jumps to a guillotine; Brown responds by keeping them standing as Yahya holds on. Brown finishes the takedown but Yahya is back attacking the neck with the guillotine. Yahya attempts a crazy looking sweep and they both (slowly) scramble to their feet. Brown looks tired. Yahya again going for the guillotine. Brown lands a few knees from inside the clinch. Yahya goes for broke on a takedown but Brown easily stuffs it. Brown is now fighting for a choke but the clock runs out. Tough round to score, as no one did much damage. Brown had the takedowns but Yahya had the failed submission attempts. Could go either way.

Brown 10-9

ROUND THREE

Yahya comes out of the gates and immediately bull rushes Brown in going for a takedown. Yahya gets the takedown and is on top with four minutes to go. Yahya thinking kimura but opens up and takes Brown's back. It honestly looks like Yahya is going for the dragon sleeper. Brown is flattened out and Yahya is throwing non-stop punches. Brown pushes back and Yahya is going for the rear naked choke. Brown again flattened down and he's getting pounded hard. But, Ref Yamasaki just stood them up telling Yahya that he was hitting the back of the head. Bad break for Yahya. Yahya shoots, Brown stuffs, but Yahya pulls off a nice reversal and gets on top. Yahya dominated this round.

Yahya 10-9

Very good performance by Yahya.

OFFICIAL DECISION: RANI YAHYA d. MIKE BROWN, 30-27, 29-28, 29-28

An hour into this experiment and I'd say it's mostly a success. The video quality is generally good and outside of the weirdness of seeing what appear to be commercial breaks with no commercials and a few early hitches with the audio, everything is running smoothly enough.

MIKE GUYMON VS. DAMARQUES JOHNSON

ROUND ONE

Guymon shoots right off the bat, Johnson stuffs it and get his own takedown. Johnson lands a big elbow. Johnson with a nice mount, Guymon gives up his back, and Rogan informs us that Johnson is off to a "wicked start." Body triangle by Johnson. Eventually, Guymon taps! From the body triangle. You don't see that every day. Honestly, the way Johnson arched it was almost a Camel's Clutch. Rogan said it looked like Guymon popped a rib.

OFFICIAL DECISION: DAMARQUES JOHNSON d. MIKE GUYMON by SUBMISSION

Johnson just said that the fight was "like foreplay without orgasm - no finish." Alrighty.

I'm glad I mentioned how smoothly this was all going and now the feed is frozen.

YVES EDWARDS VS. CODY MCKENZIE

If McKenzie wins with the guillotine, everyone should go crazy and buy a puppy in celebration. Cody is coming out to We Will Rock You by Queen. This man is a star - well, except for the part where he may not be a great fighter.

ROUND ONE

Cody shoots for a takedown and gets it but Edwards immediately stands up. Cody diving in on a single leg again but not getting it. Edwards is countering nicely with punches. Edwards is now outclassing Cody on the feet, picking him apart with strikes. Rogan just said it looks like Cody is drunk. Cody tries a takedown and it ends up with Edwards mounting but now Cody is going for some sort of reverse upside down body triangle. Cody is a weird dude. Cody is doing everything he can to get this to the ground but he's having no success.

Edwards 10-9

ROUND TWO

Edwards with a beautiful hand combination. Cody simply cannot hang with Edwards on the feet. Edwards is letting everything fly: hands, knees, kicks, elbows. Cody tries a spinning elbow. Then another one. Cody finally drags Edwards to the ground and takes his back. Edwards spins out but Cody maintains side control. Edwards stands up, but Cody drags him back down again, and again gets rear control. Crowd is chanting, "CODY! CODY! CODY!" Cody has absolutely dominated Edwards on the ground. Edwards stands, Cody - AGAIN! - drags him down and takes the back! Edwards escapes, gets to side control, then slides right into mount. Cody gives up his back, Edwards slips his arm under the neck, this choke is deeeeeep and he's out! Edwards literally choked Cody unconscious.

OFFICIAL DECISION: YVES EDWARDS d. CODY MCKENZIE by SUBMISSION

Edwards-McKenzie was very entertaining and the second round in particular was excellent. Enjoy the Spike broadcast everyone!

QUICK RESULTS

Charlie Brenneman d. Amilcar Alves by unanimous decision, 30-27

Waylon Lowe d. Willamy Freire by unanimous decision, 29-28

Rani Yahya d. Mike Brown by unanimous decision, 30-27, 29-28, 29-28

Demarques Johnson d. Mike Guymon by submission, body triangle (really)

Yves Edwards d. Cody McKenzie by submission, rear naked choke