Written by Rian Scalia Friday, 13 May 2011 15:41 - Last Updated Sunday, 22 May 2011 23:19



The third bout on the main card features a heavyweight class between world class heavyweight Daniel Ghita

and a man looking to make a name for himself, Fikri Ameziane.

First, let's get straight to the backstory of how this fight came to fruition. Daniel Ghita was originally supposed to be facing Paul Slowinski . Slowinski got injured and was forced out of the contest. In stepped

Anderson "Braddock" Silva

. Just last week, Silva had gotten injured and once again, Daniel Ghita was left without an opponent. It's Showtime frantically searched for an opponent on 9 days notice and Fikri Ameziane was the man who stepped up to the challenge.

Facing Daniel Ghita just in itself is a tall task but on 9 days notice it's unheard of. Ghita has risen to the top of the sport in the last few years, starting with his dominant run-through of the K-1 World Grand Prix 2009 in Tokyo Final 16 Qualifying GP. Since then he's been battling it out with the top fighters in the sport making a name for himself. Fans have started to associate him with the upper echeleon of the Super Heavyweight division alongside names such as Semmy Schilt

and

Badr Hari

. Ghita is doing the right thing in staying active, with another fight on It's Showtime's June 11 card in Warsaw, Poland

against Erhan Deniz on his schedule. A win over Ameziane just means it's on to the next one for Daniel Ghita.

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It's Showtime Lyon: Daniel Ghita vs. Fikri Ameziane Preview

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Fikri Ameziane is fighting out of the Siam Gym, alongside It's Showtime 70MAX World Champ Chris Ngimbi

and trainer Mekki Benazzouz. Ameziane is young at the age of 22 and this will by far be his biggest and toughest test to date. Up until now, his biggest fight has been against Nikolaj Falin which he won via third round knockout from a high kick. You might remember Falin as being the guy

Gokhan Saki

absolutely destroyed. The fight was mostly even with it looking like Ameziane was hurt by Falin in the second. In the third, Falin gassed and Ameziane took advantage and got the finish. With Daniel Ghita infront of him, Ameziane can't afford to get hurt in this fight as it's likely Ghita will be quick to end his night.

Ameziane is a small heavyweight and sports a lot of fat on him, especially in the midsection. Ghita has shown time and time again that his kicks are absolutely vicious and if he can repeatedly hit Ameziane there for a round, I think Ameziane will be done by the second. Ghita's hands have been improving also and look for him to set them up while Ameziane anticipates incoming kicks.

And then comes the question. Has Ameziane been training? Is he in shape? We don't know but to be honest I don't think Ghita would have any trouble with a 100% ready Fikri Ameziane. While Ameziane's physique is deceiving, I expect Ghita to wear him down in the body and legs while finding a place for the hands in the second round where Ameziane is overwhelmed by Ghita's power and gets stopped.