

ECW on TNN – June 9, 2000: He's Still Just Scotty Riggs

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Date: June 9, 2000

Location: Alario Center, New Orleans, Louisiana

Commentators: Joey Styles, Joel Gertner

Maybe a trip down to New Orleans can speed things up a bit. As was the case coming into last week, the stories are interesting but they almost never go anywhere. Jerry Lynn as the wildcard in the big stable war has potential though, especially if he gets to be the one that goes after Rhino or Credible next. Scotty Anton continues to be death though and I think everyone knows it. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

Joey and Joel do their entrance (the rhyme is about something going in a woman's eye) and bring out hometown girl Jazz for a chat. She starts talking about how awesome she is until Justin Credible jumps her from behind with the Singapore cane. Justin has to drag Francine off of Jazz before saying he's doing this because of Tommy Dreamer. If Tommy wants it to stop, come out here and fight. Cue Dreamer but everything is broken up.

Cyrus gives Scotty Anton a match with Raven, suggesting that he give Raven the Clap.

Paul Heyman has been banned from the show but he's talking on ECW's website.

Raven wants Anton to know that the world is filled with kings and queens.

Joey and Joel mock TNN's response to the comments last week.

Scotty Anton vs. Raven

Before the match (and thankfully after a commercial), Cyrus offers Raven

a spot in the Network because he used to be a ratings draw. Raven wants to know if he's going to get some promo time. That's not possible so Cyrus says he's going to shake Anton's hand and then Evenflow him. The match is on fast with Raven pounding away in the corner (Joey: "And the fans counting the viewers in Rollerjam after this show!").

They head outside with Raven hitting him in the face but missing a middle rope elbow through a table. Back in and Anton slowly stomps away because he's not talented enough to do anything more interesting. Anton works on the leg which he wraps around the post a few times. At least there's an idea here. Raven comes back with a few shots to the face and a running knee lift, followed by the drop toehold into the chair. Anton gets out of a backslide though and puts on the Clapper for the surprise tap out.

Rating: C. This was actually better than I was expecting with Anton keeping things simple enough and letting Raven walk him through the match. There's actually an interesting story with the Network deciding that someone who used to work in WCW had star power but there's just NOTHING to back it up in the ring.

Da Baldies grew up on the streets and now they want to beat up New Jack. Again.

We get a WAY too long video on Justin Credible/Francine, as in over four minutes straight. I still do not get the appeal here.

The main event is a mystery partner tag match with Justin Credible and Tommy Dreamer both getting to pick a surprise partner. Cyrus comes out to offer Rhino's services to Justin, who may be an annoying character but he's not stupid. Dreamer has someone of his own though and this really shouldn't be all that surprising.

Justin Credible/Rhino vs. Tommy Dreamer/Sandman

The brawl starts on the floor (duh) and it's actually Rhino vs. Dreamer in the ring as I can't imagine we see an actual tag match. A neckbreaker puts Rhino down and we've already got a ladder. Dreamer and Rhino fight into the crowd, leaving Sandman to be whipped into the ladder. Justin gets the same treatment as the other two come down the steps to get back

inside.

A bulldog sends Justin into the ladder and all four are inside for the first time. Sandman drops Rhino with a super hurricanrana but here's Steve Corino to break up a superplex on Justin. Tajiri comes out for the save, allowing Sandman to suplex Justin onto the ladder. Now it's Anton to make it 4-3 as we're waiting on Van Dam. That seems to happen a lot around here. Van Dam comes out a few seconds later and takes out Rhino with a really awkward looking Van Daminator with Rob bending down in front of him for a few seconds until someone throws Rhino a chair. A Five Star Frog Splash lets Sandman pin Rhino.

Rating: D+. Standard wild brawl here with the same people fighting to end the show that always end the show. That's still the problem around here: it's always "wait until next week" but next week is always more of the same. They need to actually get somewhere and hopefully that doesn't mean waiting all the way until Heat Wave.

The Network beats the good guys down with a HORRIBLE Clapper on Van Dam ending the show.

Overall Rating: D+. Here's the problem with the main event booking: all this happens every single week and it's clear that Van Dam is gearing up for a huge match at Heat Wave. Who did he wind up getting? Scotty Anton. ECW is fighting for its life and their biggest star is facing Scotty Anton on a pay per view.

I get the idea of building something up but the title matches of Sandman vs. Rhino and Dreamer vs. Credible had been done before. At this point, they might as well have just put the World Title on Van Dam and built to their big title vs. title match. Wasting Van Dam on Anton was just another bad booking choice though and it's caught up with ECW.

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