

205 Live – June 6, 2017: I Guess Neville Isn't a Gamer

205 Live

Date: June 6, 2017

Location: Blue Cross Arena, Rochester, New York

Commentators: Tom Phillips, Corey Graves

It's actually time for a new challenger this week. Neville retained his Cruiserweight Title at Extreme Rules and that means Austin Aries is finally in his rear view mirror. Now it's time for TJP to get his shot in exchange for all the help he's given Neville over the last few months. Neville didn't take kindly to his claim at a shot and attacked him in advance. Let's get to it.

The opening recap looks at TJP helping Neville with Aries and then being attacked anyway. It didn't feel like a face turn though, making tonight more heel vs. heel.

Opening sequence.

Here's Noam Dar for a match, though he doesn't have Alicia Fox with him. Well so much for this one being interesting. As a VERY loud fan keeps asking about Fox's whereabouts, Dar talks about Cedric Alexander losing Fox to him, the better man. Fox is at home recovering but she wants Cedric to move on already. Cedric cuts him off and we're ready to go.

Noam Dar vs. Cedric Alexander

Cedric goes after the arm to start so Dar goes to the ropes, screaming in faux agony. Dar's headlock works a bit better until Alexander pops up and dropkicks him to the floor. Back in and Cedric gets kicked off the middle rope before it's time to work on the arm. A kick to the chest doesn't work as well though and Alexander kicks him in the face.

That just earns Cedric another kick to the leg and things slow down again. An awkward looking rollup gives Dar two and another kick to the

face gives him the same. You might notice a pattern in Dar's offense here and that's not a good thing. Alexander charges into a boot but is still able to reverse the running kick into the Lumbar Check for the pin on Dar at 7:07.

Rating: C. Dar continues to be one of the most annoying talkers (in a good way) and weaker in-ring performers on the brand. He's just not interesting to watch in the ring and that's going to catch up with him. I can't get interested in someone who does a bunch of running kicks to the chest and works on armbars for the rest of the match. He's good on the mic but at some point, the bell has to ring.

Cedric says they're done.

Video on TJP winning the inaugural Cruiserweight Classic.

TJP says Neville has a TJP problem.

Mustafa Ali vs. Louie Valle

Ali grabs the wristlock to start but gets his throat snapped across the top rope. A hard ax handle to the chest gives Valle two and Louie stomps away in the corner. Ali comes right back with a kick to the head and the rolling neckbreaker but cue Drew Gulak with a siren before the inverted 450. Drew: "SAFE AND SOUND! FEET ON THE GROUND!" Not that it matters as Ali reverses a cradle into the pin at 3:34.

Rating: D+. This was just a way to give Ali some momentum back and continue his feud with Gulak. I'm not sure where they're going to wrap things up but I'd have Ali join him for a bit. At some point just having Gulak on his own doesn't work and he's going to need some followers. I know I say that every week but it's still a problem that needs to be fixed.

Gulak keeps talking on his bullhorn until Ali hits a running flip dive to take him down.

Video on Rich Swann's rise to the Cruiserweight Title and eventual partnership with Sasha Banks.

Swann is speaking Japanese with Akira Tozawa when Titus O'Neil comes in and asks to speak to Tozawa alone. Titus wants to spread his Brand international and says Tozawa should talk to his best friend Apollo Crews about the opportunity. As usual, Tozawa seems confused but that might be due to Titus imitating his barking/shouting/grunting thing.

Neville isn't worried about TJP because TJP was just a means to an end.

Cruiserweight Title: TJP vs. Neville

TJP is challenging. After the Big Match Intros, Neville takes him straight into the corner and slaps TJP's head a bit. That earns him a front flip and some head slapping of his own so Neville grabs a headlock to slow the pace a bit. TJP wristlocks him down into an armbar. They take turns flipping out of holds until TJP grabs something like a Sharpshooter/Figure Four hybrid, which sends Neville right to the ropes.

A Tarantula keeps Neville in trouble but he pulls TJP to the floor and stops to glare at the announcers. TJP is in big trouble back inside and a missile dropkick makes things even worse. The champ gets too cocky though and a backdrop sends him outside for a corkscrew dive and a big crash.

There's the slingshot dropkick into the double chickenwing gutbuster for a close two and the shock sets in on the kickout. Neville misses a knee so TJP kicks it out, only to charge into a superkick. The Phoenix splash misses as well and the kneebar goes on but Neville rolls into the Rings of Saturn to retain at 14:07.

Rating: B. This was better than I thought it would be as TJP set up the leg as well as he could have. They're really pushing the idea that Neville is clearing out the division, which is going to make whoever takes the title all the bigger deal. It's almost hard to believe that he's only held the title for five months. Let him do his thing and then move up to the main roster, like he should have been all along.

Overall Rating: C+. The main event helped a lot and helped this show as more of a stand alone episode rather than something that moved the main story forward. Neville needs a new challenger, which he can get in the next few weeks. In theory that would have been Tozawa but he's getting to

deal with Titus O'Neil for reasons of general nonsense. Not a bad show this week but it's nothing you need to see.

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