

# 205 Live – July 25, 2017: I Knew Clowns Were a Bad Idea

## 205 Live

Date: July 25, 2017

Location: Richmond Coliseum, Richmond, Virginia

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Corey Graves

Tonight is more about the midcard as we have a “big” tag match between TJP/Tony Nese and Cedric Alexander/Rich Swann to advance the Swann vs. TJP feud. Other than that Ariya Daivari is facing Neville for reasons that I really don't understand. If Daivari is the best they can do for an upper midcard heel going after the heel champion, they're in bigger trouble than it seemed. Let's get to it.

Neville is really not pleased with Daivari messing with people above his level. That was a critical error by thinking that Neville's kingdom was open to a hostile takeover. Daivari did well last night but tonight he's learning the difference between an injured animal like Akira Tozawa and the King of the Cruiserweights.

Opening sequence.

### Ariya Daivari vs. Neville

Non-title with Akira Tozawa on commentary. Daivari dedicates this to another Iranian Olympian and promises to hurt Tozawa later. Ariya heads straight to the floor to start and then does it again as there's no contact in the first minute. They do the same thing a third time until Neville goes after him, only to be sent into the barricade and LED ring skirt. The frog splash gets two back inside as Neville hasn't had any actual offense yet.

The hammerlock lariat is broken up though and there's a superkick to put Neville in control. A missile dropkick puts Daivari on the floor where Neville whips him into various things. Neville stops to yell at Tozawa so Daivari sends them into each other. Neville can't beat the count and gets

counted out at 4:36.

**Rating:** D+. I was liking the match more than I was expecting to until we got to the lame ending. That ending doesn't make Daivari look like anything special but keeps him around Neville due to getting a win. Daivari did look better than he does otherwise but he's really not interesting enough to warrant this spot.

Neville and Tozawa are about to go at it but the referees break it up for the sake of Tozawa's shoulder.

We look back at Mustafa Ali vs. Drew Gulak's 2/3 falls match last week.

Here's Brian Kendrick for a chat. He's tried to help us over and over but all he gets are attacks, both physically and on social media. Why can no one see the difference between fighters like him and clowns like Jack Gallagher? Kendrick puts Gallagher's picture on the screen and talks about various features such as Gallagher's hair or eyes....which are replaced by clown features instead. Gallagher finally comes out to chase Kendrick off. This was really, really stupid.

Swann and Alexander are in the back with Cedric talking about how he's glad that the crazy ex-girlfriend is gone. Nese and TJP come up to brag about how awesome they'll be with Nese saying Alexander is a consolation prize. A brawl is cut off by TJP's music starting up.

#### TJP/Tony Nese vs. Cedric Alexander/Rich Swann

Swann is now in long tights instead of trunks and starts with Nese. Actually hang on a second as Tony drops to a knee and poses, saying everyone can appreciate that for a second. They exchange leapfrogs until Swann flips over Nese and scores with a dropkick. Cedric comes in and spins Nese around by the arm before handing it right back to Swann. A double dropkick to the back gets two and it's off to TJP. That means a little dabbing, followed by a PLEASE STOP DABBING chant.

Cedric ankle scissors him into a dropkick and the villains are sent outside. You know two good faces aren't going to let that go, meaning it's a running flip dive from Cedric and a Phoenix splash dive from

Swann. Back in and Cedric works on an armbars, which for some reason warrants a weak CM Punk chant. A Nese distraction lets TJP run Cedric over though, mainly because good guys aren't that bright at times.

Nese ties him into the Tree of Woe and drops to his back for some situps and kicks to the ribs. Tony isn't pleased with getting small packaged for two so he hammers away with quite the aggression. Back to TJP for a foot to the face and more dabbing. A chinlock sets up the spinning springboard forearm (no nipup though) for two. Alexander fights out of a double arm crank and takes TJP down, setting up the hot tag to Swann. Not that you would know it was hot as the fans barely react but take what you can get.

Swann and Nese strike it out until Rich jumps over a legsweep and kicks him in the head. It's already back to Alexander for a quick running C4 as everything breaks down. Nese throws Swann onto the announcers' table, leaving Alexander to hit his handspring enziguri for two more. Nese breaks up the springboard forearm though and TJP steals the pin at 12:21.

**Rating:** B. I liked this a lot more than I was expecting to as they were given time to set things up and go on to the ending. I could have gone for a few more minutes, which isn't something that I often get to say around here. Swann vs. TJP is a solid feud and the blowoff match should be good, especially if TJP goes full heel on the way there.

**Overall Rating:** C+. That Gallagher/Kendrick segment aside, this was a rather solid effort from the smaller guys, though some of the talent involved still drags down what would be an otherwise better show. Daivari doesn't do much for me and Kendrick's stuff was just stupid. Other than that though, good show this week.

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