

205 Live – January 9, 2018: The British Are Sneering

205 Live

Date: January 9, 2018

Location: Legacy Arena, Birmingham, Alabama

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

Another Raw (the show where the real cruiserweight stuff happens) has come and gone and Enzo Amore is STILL Cruiserweight Champion as he retained via countout last night. Enzo also came up with a bad ankle, which means we might wait even longer before getting the title off of him. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of last night's title match with Amore injuring his ankle on a flip dive over the top, setting up the countout loss. You can probably pencil the rematch in for the Rumble and I think my head is going to explode if Enzo keeps the title any longer than that.

Opening sequence.

Earlier today, TJP came up to Gran Metalik and Kalisto in the back to brag about winning the Cruiserweight Classic. I love it when these grown men talk like thirteen year olds (albeit with the standard obsession with specific names and titles).

TJP vs. Gran Metalik

TJP returned last week and Metalik is back after his latest sabbatical for no apparent reason. Metalik now has a black mask which really doesn't suit him very well. The early flip off goes in Metalik's favor and a hard armdrag sets up an armbar on TJP. A basement dropkick has TJP in trouble as the announcers wonder if Metalik's loss in the Cruiserweight Classic final is still bothering him. If he's not over it in a year plus, he's not getting over the thing.

Metalik misses a dive and gets caught with an uppercut on the floor. He's

fine enough to dive off the steps into a hurricanrana though and it's time to head back inside. TJP kicks him in the ribs though and it's off to the Tree of Woe. The running basement dropkick gets two and we hit the chinlock.

Back up and the springboard forearm gets two (minus the nipup, which TJP loaded up and then just didn't do), followed by a belly to back suplex for the same. Metalik gets sent hard into the corner but is right back up with a sunset bomb off the post (cool looking move) to put both guys down. It's Metalik up first though with the rope walking dropkick getting two. The double chickenwing gutbuster gives TJP two but Metalik slips out of the Detonation Kick. Instead he dropkicks TJP into the Metalik Driver for the pin at 9:04.

Rating: C. What was up with the booking here? TJP comes back last week and is losing clean to Metalik here? I like both guys quite a bit but TJP losing here makes no sense whatsoever. If Enzo's booking has taught us anything, it's that 205 Live needs star power more than ever. If that's the case, keep TJP winning and find someone else for Metalik to beat. Or just keep doing what you're doing and wonder why this show is death.

Post match TJP snaps and breaks a bunch of stuff, including the announcers' area. It's nice that they're giving him something, but again STOP DOING IT RIGHT AFTER HE LOSES CLEAN!

We look at Nia Jax checking on Enzo Amore after his ankle injury on Raw.

A banged up Enzo says he's thinking about getting the Ford logo tattooed on his back because he's Ford tough. He'll be back to take care of Alexander but here's Tony Nese to say he wants back on the team. Not only that but he wants to be the top guy (the Bob to Enzo's Joker if you will). Enzo likes the idea but doesn't say yes. Egads can we get to the end of Enzo's title reign so the heels can grow some spines again?

Here's Jack Gallagher to talk about taking Hideo Itami out last week. Itami is out licking his wounds at the moment but as soon as he's back, Gallagher has even more damage in store for him. Gallagher isn't pleased with the fans not caring but shifts back to talks of torturing Itami. This of course brings out Itami, giving us an awesome sneer from

Gallagher. The fight is on with Gallagher taking an umbrella shot to the head to send Jack running off. The fans didn't quite react to this and Itami's "COME ON" didn't help matters. Just be the silent assassin because everything else isn't working for him.

Cedric Alexander is ready to win tonight and Goldust comes in to compliment him on banging Enzo up last night. Alexander promises to hurt Enzo even worse next time and Goldust likes the idea. They almost have to be getting ready to have Goldust screw him out of the title right? I have no idea what that accomplishes but it wouldn't shock me all that much. Whatever gives us more Amore right?

Tony Nese vs. Cedric Alexander

Enzo handles Nese's entrance. After some long posing to start, Nese cranks on the wristlock (way too common of a start in WWE these days). Nese takes him down and makes sure to suck up to Enzo. Cedric is sent face first into the apron and then the barricade before we hit a neck crank back inside. Back up and Cedric's chop doesn't get him very far as a hard whip sends him into the corner. Nese misses a charge though and the slingshot Downward Spiral takes him down.

For some reason he thinks going outside is a good idea, apparently never having watched a Cedric match before. The running flip dive gives Cedric two more and the springboard clothesline is good for the same (at least both looked quite good). The Neutralizer is countered into a gutbuster and Nese takes over. Another fireman's carry is escaped but Cedric hurts his knee. A very fast small package gives Cedric the pin at 8:56.

Rating: C-. Pretty standard 205 Live main event with Enzo running his mouth the whole time and taking away a lot of the focus that the wrestlers could have had. They're doing a very good job of making me want to see him lose but knowing WWE, they won't know when to pull the trigger and we'll be stuck with Enzo bringing this show down until Wrestlemania or so.

Post match Cedric is perfectly fine (and pointing at his brain) as Enzo tells Nese to get out now. Cedric looks down at Enzo's feet and kicks out the good ankle, followed by the Lumbar Check to end the show.

Overall Rating: D+. As is always the case with an Enzo era show, none of this stuff feels like it matters. TJP loses to Metalik and Gallagher vs. Itami continues? Good for them, but none of those four are likely to be near the Cruiserweight Title anytime soon (well maybe Itami) and fans seem to know it. With so much of the time going to Enzo, everyone else gets left in the dust and that's going to be a problem when you don't have Enzo on top anymore. But hey, at least 205 Live cracked the top ten WWE Network shows a few times right?

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