

ECW on TNN – October 6, 2000: Finally

ECW on TNN

Date: October 6, 2000

Location: Roy Wilkins Auditorium, St. Paul, Minnesota

Attendance: 4,600

Commentators: Joey Styles, Joel Gertner

We've finally arrived here and this show can't wrap up fast enough. Raw is on the same channel, the show is turning into a bunch of previously aired matches and the stories aren't interesting. ECW is mostly done at this point and to no one's surprise, they wouldn't last another six months. Anarchy Rulz saw Jerry Lynn get the World Title and little more so let's get to it.

We open with the end of Sunday's main event, which saw New Jack coming out to beat up heel referee Danny Daniels because that's still going. Lynn won with a cradle Tombstone. Limp Bizkit playing over this (in the same video that ended Sunday's show) doesn't help.

We'll see Cyrus vs. Joel Gertner from Sunday in full tonight.

Hotline ad. WCW might have been sold.

November To Remember ad.

Nova vs. Bilvis Wesley

Wesley has Tom Marquez and the Prodigette with him. It's not a good sign when the ring still has the pay per view logo right in the middle. They trade headlocks to start until Nova sends him outside for a double baseball slide. Back in and Prodigette trips Nova so Wesley and Marquez can get in some shots behind the referee. Bilvis' superplex is broken up and Nova hits a good Swanton for a two count. An even better looking enziguri gets the same, followed by Novacaine (Downward Spiral) with Prodigette pulling the referee out. Back up and Kryptonite Crunch ends Wesley.

Rating: D+. Yeah whatever. Here's the thing: these are guys (well Nova at least) who should have been fighting for a title but since the TV Title is basically a co-World Title, they're stuck running around with nothing to do. That's the case for WAY too many people

on the roster as ECW really didn't need to have a lot of them around. Like for instance, what did Marquez and Prodigette ever add? So at Anarchy Rulz, Gertner was supposed to fight Cyrus. However, Cyrus said Gertner had to beat EZ Money to get the scheduled match. Matchmaker Spike Dudley came out and said Kid Kash would fight Money in Gertner's place. Now of course this isn't important enough to explain on the TV show but here's the match from Sunday (copied from the pay per view review because I've put WAY too much time into this show already).

Kid Kash vs. EZ Money

If Kash wins, Joel gets to fight Cyrus. Money jumps Kash before the bell but Kash comes back with some fast armdrags to send Money out to the floor. Hamrick and Dinero get nailed as well but the distraction lets Money sneak in from behind. Money picks up Kash for a suplex but lets him fall backwards and crash down to the mat for two. A charge goes badly for Money as he falls onto his partners, setting up huge springboard flip dive from Kash to take out everyone.

Back in and Money flips over the top rope into a clothesline for two and we hit the chinlock. Joel is screaming for Kash to get up with more emotion than he ever showed as the Dudleys' manager. Money spends a bit too much time swiveling his hips and gets rolled up for two. A running tornado DDT gets the same for Kash but Money comes back with a spinning suplex neckbreaker (Electric Dreams, named after Elektra) for no cover.

Kash nails something like a Whisper in the Wind for two before they trade pinfall attempts for two each. There's the Money Maker but Elektra distracts the referee, allowing Dinero to take Kash down. A double suplex has Kash in trouble and Hamrick adds a top rope legdrop for two. Money gets crotched on top but still manages to try a super bomb, only to have Kash reverse into a weak hurricanrana for the pin.

Rating: D+. The spots weren't bad but if you've seen one Kid Kash match you've seen the all. As usual it was obvious that Kash was going to win here as Joel vs. Cyrus was almost guaranteed. If nothing else, Hot Commodity (Dinero/Hamrick/Money) could be a decent midcard heel stable and is far better than the Dangerous Alliance.

Post match Hot Commodity beats on Kash until Spike tries to make a

save. They go after his leg and put him in a Figure Four but Sandman makes the real save. Elektra tries to seduce him but Sandman pours beer on her chest and shoves Gertner's face onto the beer.

Joel Gertner vs. Cyrus

Joel jumps him to start before taking off his shirt to reveal Kamala (old Ugandan savage) chest paint. Cyrus trips him up and chops in the corner but Sandman spits beer in his face, allowing Gertner to get a rollup for the fluke pin. This was harmless fun.

Kash, Sandman, Gertner and Spike drink beer.

Rhino is the man Rob Van Dam never beat.

The FBI isn't sure what to think of the Unholy Alliance but it doesn't matter because they can beat the Alliance. Mamaluke was doing an Adam Sandler impression for no apparent reason.

The Alliance wants their titles back.

New Jack says he took himself out and wants Francine as his next trick. Oh and Rhino will wear a dress. This goes on WAY too long and the fact that I understood him makes it even worse.

Corino says it's a man's world and he wants another shot at the title.

Dawn Marie doesn't have much to say.

Jerry Lynn is ready to defend the title every time he wrestles but here's Justin to say he respects the new champ. Francine hits Jerry low and a beatdown takes us out.

Overall Rating: D+. Is there really a point in rating a six minute match and almost nothing else new? That's it for ECW on TNN and really, the show probably should have ended six months ago. This was nothing to see and it felt like a last gasp from a promotion that knew it was dying and really didn't care.

So that's ECW on TNN and the show is hardly worth remembering. It kept ECW around for probably another year or so but that doesn't mean it's a good thing. ECW was WAY past its peak at this point and this entire series is far from what ECW was all about. The problems here are fairly clear but the lack of star power star power really hurt things. When everything is about hitting people with chairs and there's almost no one to care about, no one is going to watch your show. TNN didn't do the show any favors but ECW was hardly worth

saving by the end.

At the end of the day, it's just not a good show. So much of it was about ripping on TNN for not supporting them enough and while it's true that the WWF was coming in no matter what, the show was often more about airing Heyman's issues and not about the wrestling company. The Network angle wasn't interesting for the most part and it was hardly worth following because very little ever happened. Overall though, it's just nothing worth seeing because there's better ECW out there. Watch some stuff from 1995 and forget that this show exists.

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ECW on TNN – August 25, 2000: Evil Referees Are Dumb

ECW on TNN

Date: August 18, 2000

Location: ECW Arena, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Attendance: 1,400

Commentators: Joel Gertner, Joey Styles

The big story continues to be the upcoming Tag Team Title tournament which is taking place a week from this show. You would think they

could schedule it sooner but the belts have already been vacant for four months so it's not like it really makes much of a difference at this point. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

Joel and Joey are doing their thing when we cut to Rhino, who grabs Francine by the hair to show us her broken nose. Justin Credible gets in his face so Rhino says he'd be champion if he had the chance. Injuries are promised and we get no explanation for who hurt Francine, though it's treated like something we're supposed to know.

Jerry Lynn vs. Bilvis Wesley

Lynn is suddenly #1 contender. Actually hang on a second as the referee grabs the mic. Apparently he's not happy with Lynn for running into him every single time he referees Jerry's matches. There's a bounty on Jerry so the referee might want to claim it. The referee gets dropped so here's Rhino to Gore Jerry Lynn through a table and then leave. Jerry fights off Tom Marquez before the cradle piledriver knocks Bilvis silly. The original referee gets up though and calls a DQ for Jerry hitting him again.

The Prodigette tries to interfere and gets a piledriver of her own. I have no idea what the point of any of this was.

Tajiri vs. Psicosis

This is from Hardcore TV for reasons that aren't entirely clear. They're quickly on the mat with Tajiri putting on a Brock Lock but getting flipped into a cover for two. The match is clipped (Why is this happening?) to a fast sequence and a bunch of one counts. Another clip takes us to a sweet pinfall reversal sequence and a third takes us to Psicosis crashing out to the floor thanks to a missed dive.

Another clip means we see Psicosis diving over the top to take Tajiri out again. Clipped, yet again, to a baseball slide into Psicosis' face as he's caught in the Tree of Woe. Tajiri hits a Stunner for two and....well you know what happens by this point. Clipped again to a Psicosis getting two off a guillotine legdrop, setting up some kicks to give Tajiri the pin. WAY too much clipping here for it to be rated but what we saw was fun.

Tajiri is in Sinister Minister's clothes as Minister talks about crossing a line. Mikey Whipwreck comes in with balloons on his hands

and sounding like Chris Farley. This show makes my head hurt very badly. Thankfully Tajiri and the Minister are confused as well.

More Hardcore TV clips of Roadkill/Danny Doring/Tommy Dreamer vs. CW Anderson/Simon and Swinger. There's more clipping here but less action as the match was cut off for a posedown, including Roadkill doing Hogan's poses. A wild brawl broke out and the Buggy Bang puts Swinger away.

Justin Credible/Rhino vs. Kid Kash/Rob Van Dam

Apparently Francine's nose was broken last night at a house show. Well that's more of an explanation than I was expecting. Kash and Credible start things off and a headscissors sends the champ off to a tag to Rhino. That means it's time for Kash's first hurricanrana which staggers Rhino far more than it should. Rob gets the tag and fires off some kicks before Kash has to save him from a gorilla press.

Back to back dives to the floor take the villains out again and everyone is down. Justin gets in his one non-finishing move, the superkick, to take over on Kash before handing it off to Rhino to do the work. Kash finally moonsaults onto Justin to put them both down and slides over for the tag to Van Dam. That means it's time for a chair as everything breaks down, only to have Rhino clean house again.

Van Dam kicks Rhino in the face and drops Kash into a legdrop for two. A low blow breaks up Justin's superplex on Kash and sets up a HORRIBLY botched super hurricanrana as Justin is dropped onto his head. The Five Star gets no cover as Rob goes up again, only to get caned by Justin. The Moneymaker plants Justin and there goes the referee. Rhino piledrives Kash through a table and of course here's Sandman because this feud just won't end. Sandman canes Rhino a few times until Justin canes Sandman from behind. Now it's Steve Corino coming in to superkick Rhino, setting up the Van Terminator for the pin.

Rating: D. So the big deal is that Van Dam finally pinned Rhino and it only took four people to do it. If this is the best thing ECW can come up with, then they're in more trouble than I was thinking coming in. It's also going to be even harder to care about Van Dam vs. Rhino on pay per view as we've seen it twice on free TV already but that doesn't seem to matter to the company.

Overall Rating: D-. I'm really not sure what this show was supposed to be. We had a weird angle at the beginning, two clipped matches from another TV show and a long main event with an angle that doesn't really mean much. We've got about six weeks before Anarchy Rulz and I'm really not sure what I'm supposed to be excited about. Jerry Lynn getting a World Title shot in his home state? That's the best they've got? Is there any reason we're not getting Rob Van Dam as World Champion already? Bad show this week as they're getting more bizarre than better.

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