

205 Live – October 31, 2017: This is Halloween

205 Live

Date: October 31, 2017

Location: Norfolk Scope, Norfolk, Virginia

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

It's time for another night of cruiserweights, which really could go anywhere. We're also on a rare holiday show, which should mean some Halloween style shenanigans. Of course that's not how things work in WWE world, where they had the Halloween style match on Monday instead of Tuesday. As in the Tuesday that was HALLOWEEN. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of Drew Gulak's dreams of a Drewtopia being derailed by Akira Tozawa. This didn't sit well with Drew, who attacked Tozawa, including hitting him in the throat with the NO CHANTS sign. We also look at Gulak defeating Gran Metalik and Tozawa saving Metalik from a knee injury.

Opening sequence.

Drew Gulak comes out for a match and asks where his ghouls are. We're still not ready though, because Drew has some ideas for a better Halloween in the form of a POWERPOINT PRESENTATION! First up, no candy, as it gives us fat children. Second, no trick or treating because it sounds like chanting, which doesn't need to exist. Slide #3 gets cut off though and it's time for a match.

Drew Gulak vs. Akira Tozawa

Tozawa wastes no time in kicking Gulak in the face, followed by another one to the chest for good measure. Some stomps in the corner look to set up a dive to the floor but Gulak moves before Tozawa can jump. Back in and Tozawa headfakes him into a right hand to the face. A charge only hits boot though and Gulak slowly stomps away.

It's off to something like a camel clutch with a neck crank until some kicks get Tozawa out of trouble. Tozawa loads up the top rope dive but Gulak rolls outside, meaning it's a suicide dive for two instead. The injured throat flares up though and Tozawa can't capitalize. A shot to the throat gives Drew a near fall but a kick to the head puts him down again. Now the top rope backsplash gives Tozawa the pin at 6:00.

Rating: C. I can't imagine this is the last match between the two, even though Tozawa won completely clean. Gulak has something with this gimmick but he needs a few more wins to go with the idea. There's a long list of talent on the show but for some reason they're not used as jobbers all that often. Try that for a change and maybe you'll get some results.

We recap Brian Kendrick and Jack Gallagher telling Cedric Alexander to drop Rich Swann before they drop him for Cedric.

Swann and Cedric are ready for whatever Kendrick and Gallagher have for them. If they want a clown, that's what Swann will give them. Swann has a clown nose and this can't end well.

Mustafa Ali talks about Trick or Treating. It's Halloween you see.

We look at Kalisto easily defeating Gulak last night, only to get beaten down by Enzo Amore.

Kalisto gets another Cruiserweight Title shot at Survivor Series.

Brian Kendrick vs. Rich Swann

And yes, Swann and Alexander are clowns, with Swann having a full on clown suit, the Doink music and a Doink Titantron video. How do I know this is going to be a long match? Swann dances a lot before easily taking Kendrick down and making him slap himself in the back of his head.

We get a big clown wig (to go with the big clown gloves, which are bigger than Swann's head) but Kendrick knocks it off Swann's head. A poke to the eye (How did it fit in with gloves that big?) has Kendrick in trouble as the fans don't seem pleased. Kendrick finally manages to send him outside so Gallagher can get in some cheap shots. Back in and Kendrick gets two off a suplex as the crowd is rapidly dying.

Swann fights back with some clotheslines and a super hurricanrana for two. With the fans chanting what sounds like something about the Joker, Kendrick grabs a reverse suplex for two of his own. A butterfly superplex of all things gives Kendrick two more but the kickout barely gets a murmur from the crowd. That's enough for Swann who scores with a dive, followed by a spinning kick to the head. The Phoenix Splash ends Kendrick at 9:33.

Rating: C+. The match was good enough but egads the crowd dying like that wasn't a good sign. To be fair though, can you blame them? When Swann comes out like a clown, thereby completely leaving out the most popular part of his character, how are they supposed to react? Good match, but bad idea in general.

Gran Metalik is ready to win the main event.

Mustafa Ali vs. Gran Metalik vs. Ariya Daivari vs. Tony Nese

One fall to a finish with a bunch of Halloween decorations around the ring, much like Monday's tag match. Before the match, Daivari sucks up to Enzo (not here) and runs down Norfolk. Ali counters by offering everyone candy, which Metalik raises his mask to eat. Nese slaps the candy out of Ali's hands (makes sense) and we're ready to go. Metalik launches Ali into a dropkick to put Nese down so the good guys go at it, making sure to not run over the pumpkins on the apron.

A handspring armdrag is reversed and it's an early standoff for some applause. The villains return though and it's time to head to the floor for some weaponry. Back in and Ali chucks a pumpkin at Nese's face (McGuinness: "It's complex carbs. He's ok with that.") before trying to force a piece of candy into Nese's mouth. Daivari comes back in with a spinebuster for two on Ali as Metalik makes the save.

With Ali down, Daivari heads outside and throws some candy out of a bowl but finds a Gran Metalik mask. Daivari puts it on and does some flips, earning some slaps from Ali. The villains get together with a candy corn kendo stick and tie Ali in the Tree of Woe. Instead of the situp kicks though, Nese uses pumpkins like medicine balls and throws them at Ali's ribs. Ok that was pretty clever.

Metalik's save is knocked out of the air by a stick shot and an angry Daivari pours candy over Ali. The expected heel miscommunication sees both guys go down so it's Metalik hitting a reverse powerbomb for two on Ali. A quick Tower of Doom puts Ali down, allowing Daivari to hit the frog splash for a very near fall. For some reason Daivari brings in a table, only to be laid on it in short order.

Nese blasts Metalik with the stick and pulls out a black bag. He pours the bag onto the table and finds...candy corn instead of tacks. Funny bit there. Metalik is ready with a sunset bomb through the table but Daivari breaks up the cover. Ali is right back with a pumpkin to Daivari's face, followed by a guillotine legdrop (with a broom of course) for the pin at 12:56.

Rating: B-. For a completely goofy match, this was perfectly acceptable and even a lot of fun at times. They were working hard and that's about all you can ask for in this kind of situation. Ali is someone they've protected for a few months on here and while he's not going to get anywhere, he's getting something out of it, which is more than most people can say.

Overall Rating: C+. This felt like a throwaway show but it was certainly entertaining. It's about an hour with three good to quite good matches that don't really mean anything but at least they made them quite fun. If nothing else it was nice to have a show without Enzo dominating everything, which is the case far more often than not anymore. Good show here.

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205 Live – October 24, 2017: The Show's Anchor

205 Live

Date: October 24, 2017

Location: Bradley Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

Things have changed again as we're back to the Enzo Amore Era. Amore won the title back from Kalisto on Sunday in a match with a grand total of no drama or surprise whatsoever. Now it's time for a rematch which is required to take place before we can get on to anything fresh for a change. Let's get to it.

Long recap of Amore getting the title back.

Opening sequence.

Rich Swann/Cedric Alexander vs. Noam Dar/Tony Nese

Swann and Alexander are coming off a win at TLC. Cedric and Swann start things off and we hit the posing. That just earns him a headscissors down as the announcers talk about Swann and Alexander as a tag team. A perfectly fine idea, but then he says they should stay on 205 Live.

Right there you have the problem with this show being its own thing: is it out of the question that Swann and Alexander could give some heavyweight teams a run for their money? Of course not, as Seth Rollins isn't much bigger than either of them. But Rollins is billed as a heavyweight and therefore people care about him more. It's a bad idea, especially when the tag division could use some fresh talent.

Swann comes in and scores with Rolling Thunder before we hit the chinlock. It's off to Dar but Nese tags himself right back in behind Swann's back, allowing a charge to take Rich down. The alternating beatings begin with the focus on Swann's knee. Nese puts him in the Tree of Woe for the crunch kicks but doesn't approve of Dar laying on the mat for his kicks. Swann hits his spinning kick to the head, only to have Dar trip him from the floor.

Another kick to the head allows the hot tag to Alexander and everything breaks down. The handspring kick to the head (the Neuralizer) gets two on Dar and here are Brian Kendrick and Jack Gallagher on the stage. Dar grabs a front facelock on Cedric and Nese breaks up the hot tag attempt. Swann makes a save with a superkick though, allowing the Lumbar Check to end Dar at 9:01.

Rating: C. As mentioned, Alexander and Swann have the potential to be a very nice tag team and there's nothing wrong with that. They're entertaining and work well together, but having them on 205 Live for the majority of the time isn't going to do them any good. I have no idea why only one or two cruiserweights can be pushed at once but it makes no sense, much like the division as a whole.

Post match Gallagher and Kendrick tell Alexander to join them and live up to their potential. He needs to dump Swann and do everything he's capable of doing. Gallagher says that he was dancing around for these people just a few weeks ago before he saw the light. He isn't one to be pressed for time so next week, they're coming for Swann. Alexander can join them or be destroyed.

Here's Drew Gulak to vent some frustration over having his PowerPoint presentation taken off the WWE Network. Therefore, before he silences Akira Tozawa one day, we're having a refresher course on his POWERPOINT PRESENTATION! Drew only gets through one slide (no jumping off the top rope of course) before he's cut off by an opponent.

Drew Gulak vs. Gran Metalik

Gulak: "YOU STAY ON THE GROUND!" A technical sequence sets up a test of strength with Metalik getting the better of things. Metalik starts

spinning around to start and Gulak is livid over all the flips. Gulak is sent outside for a heck of a rope walk moonsault. Back in and Drew grabs a cobra clutch to slow him down.

Metalik gets off of Drew's knees and grabs a snapmare before walking the ropes for a dropkick. Back up and Metalik walks the ropes again for a splash, followed by a sunset flip for two. A super hurricanrana brings Gulak down for another near fall, only to get pulled down into a dragon sleeper to give Gulak the win at 6:55.

Rating: C-. It's nice to see Gulak get a win for a change as he's been nailing the character stuff and then losing almost every match. That dragon sleeper could be a heck of a finisher if they let him beat some people with it, though it's not going to mean anything if he loses almost all the time.

Post match Drew goes after Metalik's leg but Tozawa makes the save.

Kalisto says he's ready to take the title back.

Cruiserweight Title: Kalisto vs. Enzo Amore

Amore is defending and has Ariya Daivari in his corner. Before the match, Enzo still can't talk so Daivari does it instead. Kalisto dropkicks him to the floor to start and Amore bails towards the ropes. Some stomping has Amore in trouble until he backdrops Kalisto over the top in a heap.

The ankle is banged up and we already have a story for what is likely to be a short match. Back in and they head up top with Kalisto getting crotched but managing a Death Valley Driver on the apron. They barely beat the count back in and it's an enziguri into a tornado DDT to plant the champ. Not that it matters as Enzo kicks the referee for the DQ at 6:12.

Rating: D. And that's the problem with Enzo's matches: everyone has to slow down so he can keep up and it makes for some very boring matches. Kalisto is capable of having an awesome match but instead, let's have him do his basic stuff because Enzo's high spot is an Eat Defeat. Bad match here, and I can't say I'm surprised.

Post match Kalisto lays Enzo out. Enzo declares himself still champion to end the show.

Overall Rating: C-. It's kind of amazing how much this show falls apart when Enzo gets in the ring. He's a great talker and has a ton of charisma but his in-ring production is nothing short of horrible. The rest of the show was your normal 205 Live fare, but there's no reason to believe that the show is going to take off anytime soon.

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205 Live – October 17, 2017: The Zo Show, Fresh Prince Edition

205 Live

Date: October 17, 2017

Location: KeyArena, Seattle, Washington

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

It's probably the last show of Kalisto's title reign, which means it's

time to shift things back to Enzo Amore for the sake of getting people to watch the show. Amore also suddenly has a small army backing him up, despite spending weeks ripping on them for being worthless. 205 Live is a funny place at times. Let's get to it.

The long opening recap looks at Kalisto taking the title from Amore and Amore sending his goons to take Kalisto out.

Opening sequence.

Here's Enzo to open things up. Enzo asks if you can smell it, because it smells like team spirit. He brings up the help he had last night (Noam Dar, Tony Nese, Ariya Daivari and Drew Gulak) and says Kalisto is only going to be jumping from channel to channel in a hospital. Kalisto is going to be in there for a long time too so he can log onto the wi-fi and watch the Zo Show on the WWE Network.

Enzo has built this place up and he's an original who was only handed a microphone. This is all about charisma and you can't teach that. You can love this or hate this but you can't get above this. Enzo doesn't like Kalisto playing it so safe (Huh?) so here's Kalisto for a springboard missile dropkick, sending Enzo bailing.

Long recap of Cedric Alexander vs. Jack Gallagher/Brian Kendrick. Rich Swann has joined Cedric's side to even things out.

Jack Gallagher vs. Rich Swann

Kendrick and Cedric are the seconds. Swann flips over the suited Gallagher to start and a quick hurricanrana takes him down again. Gallagher heads outside and the referee is so busy keeping an eye on Cedric that he misses Kendrick taking Swann down to the floor. Back in and Jack slowly hammers him down until Swann flips out of a suplex. That just earns him another dropkick to the face for two with Gallagher grinding his forearm into the face. We hit the neck crank for a bit before Gallagher starts in on the leg.

Swann fights back up but has to punch his way out of an electric chair. Instead it's a tiger driver for two on Jack but the fight heads to the

floor where the seconds get involved. Gallagher is all kinds of aggressive in beating Cedric on the announcers' table. Cedric fights back with Swann loading up a Phoenix splash but Jack and Brian bail. The match was thrown out somewhere in there, say around 7:30.

Rating: C. This was just a preview for Sunday's tag match and that's fine. I'm glad that they didn't have either of them lose as there's no point to making one of them look weak going into Sunday's match. It might not be a big match on the card but it's cool to see the cruiserweights get to have a non-title feud getting some pay per view time. Good little match here too.

Here's Drew Gulak with the NO CHANTS sign for a chat. He sees himself as his father and the Drewtopia as a safe space from dives and unnecessary chanting. We see a clip of Gulak attacking Akira Tozawa last week and calling it tough love. If Tozawa wasn't spending so much time chanting, he might have seen slide #9 of the POWERPOINT PRESENTATION! Proposal #9: No Defying Authority.

Despite what you might have heard from the Beastie Boys or the Fresh Prince, rules are not made to be broken. The fans chant that this is boring (kind of the idea in this story so it's not so bad) but Gulak promises to be on the Kickoff Show with a special refresher course on his plan for a better 205 Live.

Quick look at the cruiserweight stuff on Sunday's show.

Mustafa Ali/Kalisto vs. Enzo Amore/Ariya Daivari

Daivari rants in his language but Enzo says they speak the shared language of money. Enzo hides from Kalisto to start and brings in Daivari instead. The trash talk doesn't get Daivari very far and it's a double dropkick to put him down. A slingshot hilo keeps Daivari in trouble but an Enzo distraction lets him knock Kalisto outside. The bad landing messes up Kalisto's back and Enzo throws it into the corner. A Downward Spiral and the baseball right hand combine for two.

Daivari comes in for his turn at some stomps and sends Kalisto outside. Some right hands drop Enzo but Daivari is right back up with a

clothesline. Kalisto reverses a suplex into a DDT though and there's the hot tag to Ali. Everything breaks down and Ali kicks Enzo in the head to set up the rolling neckbreaker for another near fall. Ali sends Daivari outside for a big flip dive, leaving Kalisto to end Amore with the Salida Del Sol at 9:22.

Rating: C-. Alas, this is likely the end of Kalisto's title reign as they did the standard of having the future champ lose. To be fair though it's not like it matters all that much in Enzo's case as he loses to almost everyone. Ali is still one of the more consistent performers in the division and could be a big deal, though I'm not sure he has the personality.

Kalisto dives onto Enzo and Daivari again, sending Enzo bailing up the ramp to end the show.

Overall Rating: C. It's amazing how much more I like this show with Enzo as the big bad that the good guys are trying to keep from taking the belt hostage again. That's a much better story than "let Enzo do whatever for an hour" and if Kalisto can get some more backup, there's a good Survivor Series match in there. It would probably need a stipulation, but at least there's a story here, which is more than we've had in a long time.

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205 Live – October 10, 2017: It Won't Last Long

205 Live

Date: October 10, 2017

Location: Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

It's suddenly a different era on 205 Live as Kalisto won the Cruiserweight Title last night in a big surprise. On the downside though, it seems that we've lost Neville for the time being as he might be leaving the company due to not being happy with a variety of things. Hopefully things get better for both the division and the show so let's get to it.

We open with a four and a half minute recap of last night's events.

Opening sequence.

Renee Young brings out Kalisto for a chat. Kalisto is fired up to have a luchador as champion and brings up dedicating the match to Eddie Guerrero. Cue Enzo and Ariya Daivari to say this party needs the Zo. He put the division on his back but Kalisto just used it like a backpack. Enzo isn't cool with the people he's been carrying lifting Kalisto on his shoulders like it was the end of Rudy.

Then Mustafa Ali attacked him like a guy who needs to stay out of his bag. He accuses Kalisto of stealing the title, just like Eddie Guerrero would have done. Kalisto says he did just what Enzo said to do and that's win at any cost. Enzo says Kalisto is making the title look as disgusting as whatever is underneath the mask and the new champ doesn't have the money that Enzo does. The rematch is on for TLC but the brawl is on right now. Ali runs out for the save and the good guys clean house.

Rich Swann is ready to take TJP out once and for all because their friendship is done.

TJP vs. Rich Swann

2/3 falls. Swann wastes no time with a flip dive to the floor as the fight starts before the bell. TJP is right back by sending him into the barricade though and now we head inside for the opening bell. The match officially starts and they're already back outside less than fifteen seconds later.

Back in and we hit the kneebar but Swann quickly reverses into a rollup for the first fall. TJP is livid and hammers away for some early near falls. A dropkick staggers Swann but TJP stands around for too long, allowing Rich to hit one of his own. TJP's springboard forearm sets up the chinlock before going into a cross between a Cloverleaf and a Sharpshooter. It's too close to the ropes but at least the move looked good in the first place.

The Detonation Kick is broken up as well and Swann's spinning kick to the head drops TJP again. There's a tiger driver for two more on TJP but the running 450 hits knees. TJP is right back up with a slingshot dropkick to the ribs but is too injured to follow up at first. Back in and Swann kicks him down again, only to get caught in a fireman's carry.

It's the kneebar instead of the Detonation Kick this time though and Swann is in trouble. He tries another rollup but TJP drops down into a cradle for a near fall of his own. Swann grabs a quick Michinoku Driver and a cartwheel into a running Phoenix splash gets two more. The regular version puts TJP away at 11:46.

Rating: C+. This was a good way to wrap up the feud but it wasn't exactly a thrilling ending. I do like the idea of Swann winning 2-0 as it makes him look like the definitive winner, though it didn't feel like a big deal as the fans were expecting a third fall. Good enough, but nothing all that special.

Enzo and Daivari are ready for their tag match later with Amore making a bunch of Lion King jokes. Drew Gulak comes up and seems to agree with

Enzo's anti-Kalisto stance.

Akira Tozawa comes out for a match but Gulak jumps him from behind and hits him in the throat with the NO CHANTS sign.

We look back at Cedric Alexander vs. Jack Gallagher/Brian Kendrick.

Alexander doesn't buy what Kendrick says and will be ready for whatever they bring at him.

Enzo Amore/Ariya Daivari vs. Mustafa Ali/Kalisto

Enzo does the insults before we're ready to go. Ali and Daivari start things off with Mustafa being smart enough to stay away from the corner. Instead it's off to Enzo, who gets punched in the face a few times and kicked in the head for good measure. Daivari takes Ali down from the apron though and Enzo adds a Downward Spiral for two. The double teaming ensues with Daivari getting two off a spinebuster.

Nigel starts singing an Aladdin song about Ali and there's a spinwheel kick to knock Enzo silly and bug his eyes out at the same time. The hot tag brings in Kalisto for the house cleaning and a hurricanrana driver plants Daivari. There's the double dive to take the villains down but Enzo posts Ali. Not that it matters as the Salida Del Sol ends Daivari at 6:59.

Rating: C. Ali was doing most of the work here though I'm glad they didn't pull a surprise by having Kalisto lose in his first match as champion. You can pretty much pencil him in for the loss from here and while that's rather annoying, it's nice to have a break from Amore for the time being.

Overall Rating: C+. Like I said, it was nice to have Kalisto get the focus for a bit, but I'm not even going to pretend that Enzo isn't getting the title back at TLC. He's clearly the star of the show and WWE is going to push him well beyond the point of people getting sick of him. The rest of the show was just kind of there, but that's the point anymore.

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205 Live – September 26, 2017: Game of Thrones and Drewtopia

205 Live

Date: September 26, 2017

Location: Gila River Arena, Glendale, Arizona

Commentators: Byron Saxton, Vic Joseph

We're officially in the Enzo Amore Era here and that makes me shudder in fear. The big story coming out of last night is Enzo turning heel and Neville seemingly turning face again, which could be a big waste of everything Neville has been doing in the last few months. However, it's the only way to do anything with Amore and that's all that matters around here. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of last night's ending segment with Enzo turning heel and pretty much the rest of the division turning face, at least for one night.

Opening sequence.

Here's Enzo on a crutch to open the show. He apologizes for taking so long to get into the ring and says he's going to smile through the pain. Enzo hasn't called in sick a day in his life and he's the same guy backstage and in front of the camera. That guy is the same one who put 205 Live on the map and you know he's right. Do you people realize that Neville has to look in the mirror every day? Enzo: "That was the punchline. He's ugly."

We see a clip from after Raw with Braun Strowman and the other cruiserweights decimating Enzo, which is still the most beautiful thing I've seen in longer than I can remember. Fans: "YOU DESERVE IT!" Enzo agrees that he does deserve the title but his mother was in the front row to witness that beating.

Those same people cheering for the beating probably thought Neville was a knight in shining armor but Neville is no Jaime Lannister (Game of Thrones reference). The thing is though, Neville can put this title on ice because of the no contact clause for his celebration because none of the people from last night are allowed to have a shot now. Neville was the first to attack him though and that makes him as s-a-w-f-t as the cookie dough that elf is playing with.

Akira Tozawa vs. Tony Nese

Drew Gulak with his NO CHANTS sign is on commentary and defends Nese's ab counting as NOT showboating. It's his thing you see. More posing starts until Nese runs him over with an elbow. Gulak: "I LOVE YOU BABY!" Tozawa takes over with some kicks and the standing backplash but takes too long heading up top.

Nese cranks on the neck for a bit before we hit the Tree of Woe crunches. In a change of pace, Tony lifts Tozawa up for a delayed suplex but throws him onto the ropes for a big crash. Tozawa fights out of a torture rack but it's still too early for the backplash. Back up and Nese nips up to avoid a clothesline (always cool) but it's a spinning kick to the head to set up Tozawa's backplash for the pin at 8:00.

Rating: B-. Tozawa continues to be one of the better performers in the division and Nese can hang with just about anyone. I'm not sure how interesting Gulak vs. Tozawa is eventually going to be but at least they have a story. It would be nice if there was something else for Gulak to criticize besides the chanting but I'll take what I can get, especially if it's more Gulak.

Post match Gulak blows his bullhorn and says Tozawa is in violation of proposal #3. He's also violating #7, which we haven't seen quite yet. Therefore, let's hit that PowerPoint presentation! Idea #7 is no celebrating because Drew has a vision of a Drewtopia where everyone treats everyone with respect. The AH AH AH chants make the fans sound like sheep...but Gulak gets his head kicked off before he can go anywhere else. Quick question: is there a reason why so many of Tozawa's feuds involve itemized lists?

Ariya Daivari sucks up to Enzo, saying Amore could be a big star out of WWE. Enzo agrees to be in Daivari's corner tonight.

TJP vs. Lince Dorado

And never mind as Rich Swann jumps TJP from behind during Dorado's entrance. No match as TJP bails into the crowd.

We look back at Jack Gallagher helping Brian Kendrick beat down Cedric Alexander.

Gallagher and Alexander will face off next week.

Gallagher says he and Kendrick are going to show how cruel they can be and they'll start it next week.

Neville vs. Ariya Daivari

Before the match, Neville promises to keep beating on Amore until 205 Live is free of him. Neville bails to the floor to stare at Enzo but Daivari jumps him from behind to take over. A pair of backbreakers gives Daivari two and Enzo is still running his mouth. Something like a hiptoss sends Neville into the corner and his back is in even worse shape. Daivari stomps away in the Tree of Woe and hits a hanging reverse DDT for

two. Neville fights up and kicks Daivari into the corner but goes after Enzo. Daivari's cheap shots go nowhere as the hammerlock lariat is countered into the Rings of Saturn to make Daivari tap at 5:16.

Rating: C-. This was almost all storyline instead of action and that's fine. It's pretty clear that the now face Neville will be getting a shot sooner or later (I'd bet on a loophole that says the title can be put up in a ladder match or something) so having him get a win like this makes sense. It's a fine enough match but definitely more there for the advancement of the story than anything else.

Enzo destroys Neville from behind with the crutch (Enzo: "YOU DESERVE IT!") to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. The Enzo Era is on us fast and hard but the question now is how long can it last. Enzo can get REALLY annoying in a short time and I'm not sure how long he can play the Honky Tonk Man role. You can do that when he's only seen every few weeks but when he's on Raw every week and is on 205 Live multiple times, it's going to die in a hurry. Still though, good start so far.

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205 Live – September 19, 2017: More Than One Way To Cruiser Some Weights

205 Live

Date: September 19, 2017

Location: Oracle Arena, Oakland, California

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

It's the go home show for No Mercy and its one cruiserweight match. As usual it's for the Cruiserweight Title and as usual it's Neville defending the title. This time it's against Enzo Amore and they'll be going face to face tonight. Other than that we have the fallout from Jack Gallagher turning heel to join Brian Kendrick last week. Let's get to it.

We look at Enzo's debut and rise to the top of 205 Live, despite the fans starting to sour on him at least a little bit. This also includes Braun Strowman attacking him last night and leaving Neville to pick the bones.

Opening sequence.

Cedric Alexander vs. Brian Kendrick

Kendrick tries an early boot but gets elbowed in the face to start, followed by a baseball slide for good measure. Back in and the springboard clothesline misses so Kendrick knees him in the face for two. A butterfly suplex sets up a chinlock on Cedric for a bit, followed by a Japanese armdrag to send him into the corner again. That means a straitjacket hold but Cedric fights up again and hits the springboard clothesline. Kendrick is right back up with a kick to the ribs and Sliced Bread #2, only to have Cedric reverse into a rollup for the pin at 5:27.

Rating: C-. Not bad here and Cedric winning was the right call. Cedric continues to be one of the best stars around here and a nice addition to any show. Kendrick and Gallagher could be a good heel tandem but Gulak seems to be the star instead of Kendrick, which isn't the biggest

surprise in the world.

Post match Kendrick runs his mouth, allowing Gallagher to run in for the double beatdown.

Post break, Gallagher says he saw the scars on his face after his loss to Kendrick and realized he would rather be a winner than a joke.

Here's Drew Gulak, with new music (thank goodness) to complain about his time in fashion jail last week. Breezango will be hearing from his attorney, which happens to be him. That brings him to last week, where he was interrupted while explaining his vision for a better 205 Live. After comparing himself to Galileo (another genius whose brilliant theory was held down), we continue the PowerPoint presentation! Slide #6 (of 277): no cell phones! Cue Akira Tozawa to cut him off again though and it's time for a match.

Noam Dar vs. Akira Tozawa

Gulak is on commentary and ripping on Titus O'Neil. Tozawa starts fast with the backplash but Dar kicks the legs out and starts working on the leg (Gulak: "NOW he has a reason to scream!"). Tozawa fights up without too much effort and sends Gulak outside for a suicide dive. A running European uppercut gives Dar two but an enziguri puts him right back down. The top rope backplash puts Dar away at 4:01.

Rating: D+. Too short to mean much here but it advanced the feud well enough and it's not like Dar means anything in the first place. Tozawa is still one of the top stars on the roster and can be used to make someone like Gulak, who hasn't had the most success. At least he has a character now and that could go somewhere if they use it properly.

We recap Rich Swann defeating TJP last week.

TJP congratulates Swann for the win last week and says they have great chemistry together. Swann agrees but thinks they'll get a bit too intense. He already has Lince Dorado tonight anyway, which TJP understands.

Rich Swann vs. Lince Dorado

And never mind as Dorado is laid out in the back. Swann goes to see what's up and gets taken out by TJP. He even rips out part of Swann's hair and drops him over the barricade.

Here's Neville for the big closing talk. He talks about this Sunday's card, which will include some big matches and one comedy match as he destroys Enzo Amore once and for all. Enzo thinks he's ready to step up to his world and it's time for Neville to knock him down. Cue Enzo with a taped up shoulder but Neville cuts him off, accusing Enzo of "spelling like a chicken".

Enzo thinks Neville is jealous, which Neville finds funny when he's better in every conceivable way. That's true actually, but Enzo is twice the superstar that Neville will ever be. The fans aren't sure what to think of that so Enzo rants about all of his merchandise and hanging out with celebrities.

Neville is a big fish in a small pond and Enzo is the shark that's invaded the water. Neville doesn't care about any of that because Enzo just can't fight. Enzo says that's true and kicks Neville low to end the show. So to recap, Enzo says he can't wrestle and doesn't really care about winning things because it's all about making money and hanging with celebrities. And he's the good guy in this whole thing?

Overall Rating: D+. Not a great show this week but it sets up some stuff for the future. Above all else, there are multiple stories going on at the moment and it makes for some good stuff. I'm worried about Enzo winning the title as all signs seem to point to it, though I'm really not sure if they'll go through with it. I know it sounded great on paper for the last several months but sweet goodness it's not doing much for me in reality. This wasn't the best show but it laid some much needed ground work, which is much more important.

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205 Live – September 12, 2017: Deck Chairs on the Cruiserweight Show

205 Live

Date: September 12, 2017

Location: Thomas & Mack Center, Las Vegas, Nevada

Commentators: Nigel McGuinness, Vic Joseph

This is a slightly delayed episode as it's taking place after the Mae Young Classic Finals and since we can't just cancel the show for a week, let's have WWE going for three hours and fifteen minutes on back to back nights. Tonight's big match is Rich Swann vs. TJP in what should be their big blowoff. Let's get to it.

Rich Swann is in the back to talk about beating TJP in their first match. TJP comes in to show a video of their second match where he beat Swann. This included TJP acting quite a bit more heelish, which didn't sit well with Swann. Tonight, TJP can't handle this.

Opening sequence.

Rich Swann vs. TJP

You can see the empty seats throughout the arena. Swann headlocks him down to start for a good while, which isn't the best move in the world for a crowd that is rapidly dwindling. Back up and Swann tries his flip

over TJP but gets pulled down into a quickly broken kneebar. Instead TJP is sent outside for a flip dive from the apron, followed by a hard kick to the back.

TJP takes him down without too much effort though and rips at Swann's face for a bit. A basement dropkick gets two and we hit the chinlock on Rich. That goes nowhere so it's a hard belly to back suplex into a slingshot hilo for two more. Swann fights back with his series of kicks but TJP catches him with the springboard forearm.

Back up and a double kick puts them both down again as we have another breather. The second kneebar works a bit better but TJP has to settle for the chickenwing gutbuster for two instead. The weakest THIS IS AWESOME chant you'll ever hear doesn't change much so they hit a pinfall reversal sequence. Swann's Fantastic Voyage gets two but the Phoenix splash puts TJP away at 12:05.

Rating: B-. Good match with a nice story of them knowing each other so well and being pretty much even until the ending but the dead crowd hurt them a lot. Throw in the fact that neither of them is going near what's soon to be Enzo's title and this didn't have any meaning to it. At least it was good though.

TJP eventually shakes his hand though it's not a long one.

We look back at Enzo becoming #1 contender with Cedric Alexander cleaning house until Enzo stole the pin.

Mustafa Ali asks Alexander how he can be so calm after last week. Cedric wants to rip Enzo's head off but it doesn't do anything because Enzo caught him sleeping. Brian Kendrick comes in to ask where Cedric wants to be. Cedric's attitude reminds Brian of Jack Gallagher: spineless and lacking what it takes.

Drew Gulak is in the ring and it's time to complete the PowerPoint presentation! Last week he was cut off by Akira Tozawa, who isn't even here tonight. Since there's no chance of him being interrupted, we get to slide #3 (of 277): no chants. Gulak: "Even Mr. McMahon's music says no chants!" Drew demands complete silence before moving on to slide #4: no

elaborate ring gear (with the picture clearly being inspired by Kazuchika Okada).

Slide #5: no interruptions! They're very rude...and here's Breezango for a cameo. That certainly wakes the crowd up with a loud BREEZANGO chant. They bring up the Captain Underpants nickname and you know what the fans are chanting now. Gulak denies it so Fandango threatens to treat him like the perp that he is. He gets rather close to Drew's face and Gulak seems a bit disturbed.

They've received complaints about someone walking around in underpants. Breeze: "We like underpants." He lists off a variety of them with Fandango liking this discussion far too much. Gulak goes to leave so Fandango cuffs him. Breeze lists off his rights (to remain stylish, to have everything you wear seen in a mirror, to a fashion consultant) but Gulak escapes to the floor for a chase. Fandango trips him down and Breeze declares the case closed. Breezango instantly looked like bigger stars than anyone not named Enzo and show just how badly this show is lacking charisma.

We look back at Miz destroying Enzo both verbally and physically last night. I can't believe they would actually show that on this show.

We look back at Brian Kendrick beating up Jack Gallagher two weeks ago.

Cedric Alexander vs. Brian Kendrick

Kendrick knocks him into the corner to start so Cedric dropkicks him away. The springboard clothesline gets two and a back elbow sends Kendrick outside. A big flip dive takes Brian down again but he sends Cedric throat first into the bar between the turnbuckle and post. Cue Jack Gallagher with William III though...and he attacks Alexander for the DQ at 3:42.

Rating: D. This didn't have time to go anywhere and was all about the heel turn anyway. In theory this sets Cedric up against Kendrick and Gallagher, which is yet another feud for him where he's not fighting for the title. Gallagher turning might do good things for him but he's going to need something a bit more than that to really make it work.

Gallagher destroys Cedric as Brian is stunned. They shake hands to end the show.

Overall Rating: C. This show going so late into the night hurt things and the fans were clearly leaving before the show started, with even more of them being gone by the end. It still doesn't help to have everyone aside from the champion and #1 contender feel like deck chairs being rearranged and that's what the whole place feels like most of the time. The first match was good but they need something more than just a bunch of people running around until the next #1 contender shows up.

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205 Live – August 29, 2017: Proof That It's Working

205 Live

Date: August 29, 2017

Location: Verizon Arena, Little Rock, Arkansas

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Corey Graves

We're officially in the Enzo Amore Era on 205 Live and that makes me

think doing my own dental surgery sounds like a good idea. It's pretty clear that Enzo is going to be the next big challenger to Neville and the title, which actually gives me a mixed reaction. He's already the biggest star on the show but that means he's around more often and egads that sounds like torture. Let's get to it.

The opening recap looks at Brian Kendrick vs. Jack Gallagher and the buildup to their No DQ match tonight.

Opening sequence.

The announcers chat for a bit.

Brian Kendrick vs. Jack Gallagher

No DQ and Gallagher is in street clothes. Kendrick says he's a fighter as Gallagher stands perfectly still. They stare each other down for the better part of a minute before Jack uppercuts him into the corner and scores with a headbutt. Gallagher even breaks an umbrella over Kendrick's back to put him outside as the violence starts cranking up. Some hard shots to Brian's face sets up a whip through some equipment cases.

The beating knocks Kendrick down the aisle as Gallagher looks completely calm the entire time. It's almost eerie really. Kendrick gets thrown onto the announcers' table for some hard right hands to the head. The announcers' table is loaded up but Kendrick comes up with a kendo stick to the ribs.

Brian sends him into the steps before tying Jack's foot in the wires underneath the ring skirt. Now it's time for the beating with the stick and Jack is busted open pretty badly. We stop for the medic to tend to Gallagher's head and Kendrick has to stand around for a bit. Kendrick drops him with a DDT onto the bell and puts on the Captain's Hook with the stick for the submission (though Gallagher is out) at 7:30.

Rating: C+. This needed more time but there's a good chance that it was cut off due to the cut. It was nice while it lasted though and showed a different side of Gallagher, which he really needs to show. At the same time you need to have Kendrick get a bigger win once in awhile as him

putting everyone over isn't going to work forever. Good brawl, cut short by time.

Noam Dar, Drew Gulak and Tony Nese are ready for the six man tag tonight. Dar insists that he beat himself for having a bit too much fun the night before. Gulak thinks Enzo is going to tarnish the 205 Live. He believe in a better 205 Live and you can bet your bojangles that Enzo isn't going to be a part of that. Nese says Enzo isn't on his level.

Rich Swann vs. Ariya Daivari

TJP, still on crutches, is out for commentary. Daivari dedicates this to another Iranian wrestler. They fight over a wristlock to start with Swann dancing/nipping up to escape. Swann's front flip into a dropkick gets two but Daivari starts in on the back. TJP talks about how he and Swann are both former champions.

The fact that he had to beat five people to become champion while Swann only beat one is just a detail. Swann's running flip Fameasser gets two and something like Rolling Thunder gets the same. They head outside with Daivari getting the better of it and stealing TJP's crutch, only to get small packaged for the pin at 4:08.

Rating: D+. Angle advancement instead of much of a match here as TJP vs. Swann continues. You know they're heading to a big match down the line, even if it isn't likely to mean anything. Well, at least until Enzo becomes the Cruiserweight Champion to turn the whole thing into a big comedy act.

Post match Daivari goes after TJP, who fights back with a variety of kicks and his knee appearing just fine. Swann watches all this in disbelief before handing TJP his crutch and leaving. TJP hits Daivari with the Detonation Kick.

Enzo comes in to see Cedric Alexander and Gran Metalik, offering some coaching tips on a dry erase board. Alexander says this isn't the same as Raw and the two of them have more experience. This turns into a discussion of Enzo's mother's cooking and Gran Metalik being named Pepper Jack. He's really not going to be able to stay a face long, or at least

he shouldn't.

Drew Gulak/Noam Dar/Tony Nese vs. Enzo Amore/Cedric Alexander/Gran Metalik

Before the match, Enzo calls this the realest in-ring debut in the history of 205 Live. Drew looks like Captain Underpants and Nese works at Chippendale's. Enzo and Gulak start things off with Drew imitating the dance. It's not like it's hard to make fun of. Gulak starts talking trash as he cranks on an armbar, sending Enzo bailing to the corner. There's no tag though so a front facelock takes Enzo down again.

Now it's off to Alexander as Neville is shown watching from the back. Tony comes in to pose a bit but Cedric speeds things back up into a headscissors and dropkick to take over. It's back to Enzo to eat a dropkick as the heels take over for the first time. A Downward Spiral gets Enzo out of trouble but everything breaks down with Metalik and Alexander hitting (well maybe as the camera went down too) stereo dives.

That leaves Nese to run Enzo over before he can dive (Corey: "I think, in a roundabout way, Tony Nese just saved Enzo's life.") and mocks the dance as well. Just in case you needed any more proof that Enzo is the star of this show and everyone else is chasing him. Cedric springboards in with a clothesline but gets sent outside so Gulak and Nese can hammer away while Enzo has the referee for reasons of general stupidity.

Cedric fights out of a chinlock and hits the handspring enziguri for a breather. The hot tag brings in Metalik for a superkick to Nese and the rope walk dropkick. Gulak saves Nese from a Swanton so Alexander takes Drew down, allowing for the hot tag off to Enzo. Eat Defeat (now the Jordunzo because of course it is) drops Dar (I had forgotten he was in this match) and a rollup with feet on the ropes pins Nese at 9:48.

Rating: C-. I'm not sure how to take this. For one thing I've talked for the better part of a year now about how I thought Enzo as a cheating cruiserweight would be great but sweet goodness now it's actually happening. The character in this form has a short shelf life but if they put the title on him and make him the Honky Tonk Man of the division, he'll be fine.

Here's the way you can tell it's working at the moment though: when else have I ever talked about someone on 205 Live this much? As you knew he would be, Enzo is instantly the biggest personality on the show and draws the most attention. If they could find some more people like him, this show could take off a bit more. As it is, it's Enzo, Neville and everyone else a few miles beneath them.

The winners dance to end the show.

Overall Rating: C. This show flew by and that's one of the better things you can say about 205 Live. They don't have the most interesting stories in the world but if they get in, do their stuff and get out, it's quite the entertaining way to kill most of an hour. The No DQ match was good and TJP vs. Swann is kind of interesting, though it would be nice if any of this stuff was going to mean anything. If Enzo gets the title though, those people will be getting a lot more attention in a hurry. Fine show this week though nothing worth going out of your way to see.

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205 Live – August 15, 2017: Neville Needs a Hobby

205 Live

Date: August 15, 2017

Location: Dunkin' Donuts Center, Providence, Rhode Island

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Corey Graves

Things have changed in a hurry around here as we now have a new Cruiserweight Champion. Last night Akira Tozawa defeated Neville for the title in quite the surprise. Their rematch is this Sunday but tonight we have Tozawa's official celebration, because celebrations need to be well regulated. Let's get to it.

As you might expect, we start with a look back at Tozawa winning the title.

Opening sequence.

Cedric Alexander/Gran Metalik vs. Drew Gulak/Tony Nese

Drew gives a speech about how Nese might be a show off, but he's a show off who is the picture of health and fitness. Nese starts with Alexander but hang on a second as we need to hit that bicep pose. A crossbody gives Cedric two and we hit the near fall exchange. Gulak comes in and eats a dropkick to the ribs before it's off to Metalik for a nice backflip. Metalik springboards into an armbar but one heck of a slap only seems to tick Drew off.

It's Metalik in trouble until a spinning bulldog and dropkick drop Nese. Tony bails outside so Metalik walks the ropes for a moonsault. You know, just because. Back in and Gulak offers a distraction to let Nese take over but Metalik is right back with a hurricanrana. The hot tag brings in Cedric as everything breaks down. A spinning elbow to the jaw drops Gulak for two and there's the springboard clothesline to Nese. The Lumbar Check ends Gulak at 7:40.

Rating: C. I'm digging this Alexander vs. Nese feud as Alexander is easy to relate to, which isn't something that happens too often around here. It's easy to get behind the idea of someone getting annoyed over someone obsessed with their physique. Metalik is entertaining as well, but unfortunately Gulak has lost all of his steam without the No Fly Zone, which now seems to be completely dead.

Ariya Daivari, Noam Dar and Lince Dorado are talking about how Neville lost the title. Cue Neville of course, sending all three away without another word. Neville throws a chair.

Brian Kendrick vs. Mustafa Ali

This is over Kendrick interrupting an Ali interview earlier today (which they don't even bother showing us). Kendrick looks very nervous as he comes to the ring and he looks underneath said ring for signs of Jack Gallagher. Ali takes him down to start and Kendrick seems panicked over the idea of a basic move. A dropkick gets two on Kendrick, followed by a crossbody out of the corner for the same. The announcers are pushing the heck out of the fact that Kendrick isn't himself, which makes me think he'll win anyway.

Ali gets shoved off the top but rolls through a sunset flip anyway. The inverted 450 is broken up with Ali landing HARD on the turnbuckle, setting up the Captain's Hook. Ali hangs on way longer than he should be able to and makes the rope. Back up and a hard kick to the head sends Ali outside with Kendrick sending him into the LED apron. Kendrick wedges Ali's foot into the steps and loads up something, only to have Gallagher run in for the DQ at 5:02. Hey I was right.

Rating: C-. There's an idea here but I'm really not sure where it's going. Gallagher could really use a change of pace and this might be the right way to go, though they can't quite go back to his usual stuff after it's over. Ali got in some good offense here but looked pretty defeated by the end. At least it wasn't a squash by a distracted Kendrick though.

Gallagher chases him off.

Rich Swann is ready for his victory dance over TJP but Ariya Daivari

comes up to say he's facing Swann instead for not given reason.

Ariya Daivari vs. Rich Swann

Rich ducks a shot in the corner and dances away, as is his custom. A headlock slows Daivari down (not that he was going very fast in the first place) until they head to the apron. Swann kicks him to the floor but charges into something like a Stun Gun onto the apron for a painful looking crash.

Back in and we hit a seated full nelson to stay on the neck. Swann fights out and hits a running flip Fameasser, only to get caught in a reverse DDT. Daivari misses the top rope splash though and it's time for the Phoenix Splash...only to have TJP come out with his leg in a cast and using crutches. The distraction sets up the hammerlock lariat to give Daivari the pin at 5:06.

Rating: C+. I liked this one more than I was expecting to and that's always a nice surprise. Swann got in some good offense but Daivari was even more of a surprise than expected. TJP vs. Swann needs to wrap up soon, though I'm not sure how likely that is with the leg being banged up like that (assuming it's real of course).

Kendrick is getting out as fast as he can, but not before mentioning a potential duel with Gallagher.

Here's Titus O'Neil to introduce Tozawa for his championship celebration. Tozawa talks about this was his dream for so long and calls it easy. Titus tells Tozawa thank you for making their dreams realities. Dancing ensues but here's a somewhat disheveled Neville to interrupt. He talks about bringing honor to the title but then it was all gone in one day.

With his voice cracking, Neville promises to make everything better in less than a week. A clock comes up on screen counting down to Summerslam, which is how long Tozawa has left with that title. Neville charges the ring but gets dropkicked down from the apron. Tozawa beats him up on the floor and then kicks him off the apron for good measure. The champ sits on Titus' shoulders to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. Better show than usual this week but it makes me think that Sunday's Cruiserweight Title match isn't going to do much for me. Neville vs. Tozawa is already starting to feel played out and like something that doesn't need to be on Summerslam. The rest of the show was entertaining though and that's more than you can get out of 205 Live these days. Good show, but firmly under the 205 Live dome.

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205 Live – That's What You Have to Expect

205 Live

Date: August 8, 2017

Location: Air Canada Center, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Corey Graves

We're north of the boarder this time around and the big story is TJP vs. Rich Swann, who have been having "friendly" competitions for weeks now. This week though it's a little less friendly as they're facing off in the main event. There's likely some more about the Cruiserweight Title match

but I'm sure we'll be getting development on the 205 Live exclusive stories as well. Let's get to it.

We open with a long recap of TJP vs. Swann with TJP talking about how Swann can't handle losing, including in the Cruiserweight Classic. Swann beat him a few weeks back and TJP has gotten a bit more sinister since then as he tries to get things even.

Opening sequence.

Tony Nese vs. Cedric Alexander

Nese does his long posing entrance on the ring again and the counting abs thing is starting to grow on me. Hang on a second as Nese needs to pose some more. Cedric takes him down with a leg trip and kicks Nese away, setting up a dropkick and his own bicep pose. Alexander sends him outside for a dive but gets caught in a gutbuster back inside.

Tony ties him in the Tree of Woe for the crunch kicks to the ribs, which is becoming one of my favorite spots. We hit a bodyscissors to stay on Cedric's ribs for a bit, only to have Alexander fight up with an enziguri. The springboard clothesline gets two on Nese and a fan starts chanting boring. Nese ducks a clothesline and nips up, only to eat an elbow to the jaw. They fight over a rollup until Tony grabs the trunks for the pin at 7:24.

Rating: C+. Nese has grown on me in recent weeks and the gimmick is getting better and better every time he's out there. He's a perfectly acceptable power heel, which isn't something you have many of out here. On top of that you have Alexander, who continues to be one of the most naturally smooth wrestlers around here and I still don't know why he's not in bigger matches.

Post match Nese says you saw the difference between a great athlete and a premiere athlete. This sounds like they're setting up something more going forward.

Brian Kendrick doesn't think much of Jack Gallagher attacking him last week as it only proves that Gallagher is a fake. Besides, all that

matters is he won. Gallagher comes in from behind and beats the heck out of Kendrick again.

Noam Dar vs. Mark Thomas

Before the match, Dar says he's been watching Thomas for years, which just seems to confuse Thomas. Somehow Thomas is still chasing the dream, which Dar can't relate to because he's a WWE superstar at 24. Thomas punches him down to start and Dar needs a breather on the floor. Back in and Dar unloads on him with shots to the back and a European uppercut. The running enziguri (Nova Roller) ends Thomas at 1:51. Just a squash.

Corey Graves brings out Akira Tozawa for a sitdown interview. Before he can answer any questions though, here's Neville to say this should be his interview. Neville isn't happy with his old friend Corey trying to hype his match without talking to the hype himself. Tozawa isn't competition for the King of the Cruiserweights but he takes off his tie. He asks Neville what he thinks he's doing before dropping Neville with a shot to the head. Neville bails before Tozawa can try the top rope backsplash. That's fine with Tozawa who decks Neville again for good measure. This was perfectly acceptable.

TJP vs. Rich Swann

Swann is back in his old trunks. TJP takes him to the mat to start but gets headlocked for his efforts. Back up and they trade flips over the other before catching stereo kicks to the ribs. Swann chops him down again and gets in a clothesline to put TJP on the floor, setting up a corkscrew dive from the middle rope.

Back in and we hit the hammerlock on TJP as the fans chant for Graves for some reason. A pair of suplexes give TJP two and he grabs a bow and arrow hold for some extra punishment to the back. It's back to an armbar and that BORING chant starts up again. That goes nowhere so they both miss middle rope dives but Swann is able to catch him with a dropkick to knock TJP off the ropes.

Swann's double underhook is countered into the kneebar but Rich is right next to the ropes. A kick to the head sets up a standing moonsault for

two and Rich is getting frustrated. The Phoenix Splash misses though and Swann winds up on TJP's shoulders for an electric chair into the corner. The Detonation Kick ends Swann at 10:29.

Rating: B-. Nice match here and that electric chair looked great. TJP winning clean is interesting and likely sets up one more match as Swann won the initial match. These are two of the better talents in the division and I'm liking TJP mostly being a heel again. It naturally suits him and that's what the show needs at this point.

Post match TJP gets in Swann's face to brag about the win before doing Swann's dance. After some replays, TJP catches up to him in the back and asks what's wrong. Swann isn't cool with that victory celebration and is starting to know who TJP really is.

Overall Rating: C+. The show has found its groove but at the same time, it's not exactly the most entertaining thing in the world. The best thing I can say about 205 Live is that it's not the worst show in the world and that's really not a good place to be. It's no secret that this show doesn't need to exist and that's not a good thing. I'd be surprised if the show is around in another few months and that's probably for the better.

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