

NXT – December 21, 2010

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Date: December 21, 2010

Location: AT&T Center, San Antonio, Texas

Commentators: Todd Grisham, Josh Matthews

It's week 3 here and I'm pretty sure we're live here for a change due to the whole confusing thing of Smackdown having to be live tonight due to Christmas Eve. Hopefully it's decent like the previous two weeks have been but they need to give the characters a chance to develop a bit as they haven't done that at all for the most part yet. Let's get to it.

This is starting IMMEDIATELY after Smackdown ended which is a bit of overkill indeed.

The opening video is about the obstacle course last week which wasn't as bad as I expected it to be.

Theme song is still good.

Here come the rookies as usual. Sorry if I'm a bit off tonight as this isn't something I want to be doing at the moment. The challenge is a wheelbarrow race and the Soaring Eagle will be inside it. I'm not sure if this is better or worse than Horny.

Curtis goes first and jumps the gun, prolonging the stupidity of this one. His time is 13 seconds. There's nothing to say about this stuff at all other than some weak jokes from the announcers. Grisham is whining like he has a piece of Cole stuck inside him.

Novak breaks the mark at 12.8.

Brodus gets 13.8 and drops the wheelbarrow, sending the Eagle sprawling to the floor.

O'Brian is next and sets the new mark at 12.7. This is REALLY boring if you can't get that.

Saxton wants to warm up and puts on a black glove to get a time of 12.5.

Bateman is last and ties it. Please...no.

We do it again and Bateman throws a flag on the ground that he got from...somewhere. Saxton doesn't CROSS THE LINE as that has to be a rib of some sort. Never mind he did as they keep saying it over and over. GET ON WITH THIS. Bateman goes again and wins this STUPID segment that went on way too long. He gets two points.

Novak vs. Curtis and a six person tag later.

Jacob Novak vs. Johnny Curtis

JTG is subbing for R-Truth here. Dolph yells at Novak as he sends Curtis to the floor. Dolph is in a tie so we talk about that more than anything else. We hit a chinlock as we talk about hitting on Vickie. This match is really, really dull. This whole season has had dull characters. Zigler gets in a cheap shot to Curtis and Novak adds in a big boot to end it at 5:00. Vickie is watching and smiling.

Rating: D+. The match was fine from an in ring perspective, but WOW I could not care less about these two guys. Neither are interesting in the slightest and neither are the majority of these rookies. This wasn't a terrible match, but I could not wait to get to the end of it which is never a good thing at all.

Profile on Bateman who was on Heat once. He says he's Man-Tastic and has the most charisma.

There's a Divas calendar. The PG is slowly slipping away

actually. Just little things like that or a bit more swearing. It's barely noticeable but it's helping somewhat.

Profile on O'Brian who looks like a rat and was an outcast. Yes we get it he has a weird looking face. He says it's time for the Rattitude Era. I hate this guy already.

Bateman and Bryan are training more as Bateman reads the WWE Champion book which appears to be upside down to him. There's a trivia challenge tonight which should be fun.

Trivia challenge time but there's a twist. There will be a category named and you go down the line with each person naming something/someone that fits said category. First up is Undertaker Wrestlemania opponents. Shawn Michaels being mentioned gets the big hometown pop. They don't go on until people are eliminated, as in once 6 are named we move on to a new category.

Second up is King of the Ring winners. Owen Hart is mentioned on TV actually. Bateman goes with Billy Gunn. We go through this again due to no one being eliminated yet. Brodus Clay is the first one out as he thinks Diesel was King. New category is Wrestlemania host cities. Conor says Pee Wee Herman. That isn't a typo. Saxton reminds me of Token on the news anchors episode of South Park.

We stay with it as they're running low on cities. No one has said LA yet surprisingly. Curtis is out as he can't think of anything. New category is any WWE PPV in 2010. Saxton repeats Survivor Series and he's out. Final two are Bateman and Novak. Their category is WWE Champions. BATEMAN TRAINED FOR THIS! Hogan reference. Novak says Miz and gets buzzed for no apparent reason and we keep going. Novak freezes somehow and can't get Cena in time, giving Bateman the win.

We go to the back where Conor comes in to see Alberto as per his request. They get into a semi spat which goes nowhere. Conor wants some of the cheese Alberto is eating. HEY, MAYBE

YOU SHOULD PUSH THE FACT THAT HE LOOKS LIKE A RAT MORE!!!
YOU'RE BEING TOO SUBTLE!!!

Ted DiBiase/Maryse/Brodus Clay vs. Byron Saxton/Chris Masters/???

There's a guest/mystery Diva here to team with Masters and Saxton. And there's no real intrigue/suspense as it's Natalya. Gender vs. gender here as usual. Those who I'd prefer to see topless start us off. Natalya outsmarts her to start and the beating/screaming begins. Off to the rookies now and Saxton can't hurt Brodus. Clay sends him to the floor as we take a break.

Back with some not hot Saxton on DiBiase action. Masters comes in and it's pro vs. pro. Is Clay a face or a heel? I'm not sure. Masters hammers away on the fat man until Saxton comes back in. Clay gets a somewhat awkward looking cover for two. It's hard to describe but he looked odd laying down on Saxton. No one will tag in for Saxton as his bravado is costing him.

DiBiase gets a dropkick for no cover. Oh apparently Saxton wouldn't tag out so here's Masters. Powerslam gets two. Dream Street is countered and Masters gets a spinebuster. Brodus beats on Masters in the corner and Maryse adds a slap. Back to the girls and it's a catfight. The pros go outside to break them up and it's up to the rookies. Powerslam ends Saxton but a Vader Bomb misses and Saxton gets the pin. I forgot to check the clock but it ran about 12:00.

Rating: C-. Not a terrible match I guess and it worked ok as it was supposed to. Getting a 12 minute match on NXT is a nice touch for a change and at least Brodus, one of the only decent rookies, was featured. This redeems Saxton a bit which

I guess is your storyline advancement for the week. Decent enough match I guess.

Overall Rating: D+. Definitely the weakest show of the season so far but I think a lot of that can be attributed to having three straight hours of TV tonight which is WAY too much, especially with this being the stuff we ended on. The trivia stuff was ok but it would have been nice to have it be more actual trivia. The show wasn't horrible, but it's the weakest so far.