

NXT – November 23, 2011 – Same Old Stuff Here

NXT

Date: November 23, 2011

Location: Mohegan Sun Arena, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Matt Striker, William Regal

It's the Thanksgiving week show and the show is somehow back up to three finalists. Only this show could go from two finalists to three to two to three again and take a few months to do so. This is the 38th episode of the season, putting this on the verge of being as long as the first three seasons combined. I thought just the third was ridiculous but this passed that long ago. Let's get to it.

Here's Young to open the show with I believe new music. We get a clip of Young beating up O'Neil and his finisher is called the Gut Check. It's the fireman's carry into a double knee to the ribs. Young says this is his show and wants to know where the people were last week when he beat O'Neil down. Is there a difference between being beaten up and being beaten down? He says his usual stuff about how he's done a ton of stuff and how O'Neil hasn't done anything.

Cue Reks and Hawkins of all people who say that the only thing Young accomplished was jumping Titus, which they've done a bunch of times. They're impressed with Young and say they're very similar. They think he has the It Factor but here are O'Neil and Watson. They make fun of Reks' lack of charisma and cut Young off. Titus talks about getting eliminated a year ago in this town but he's back to show his agenda. There's the brawl but Striker makes O'Neil/Watson vs. Reks/Young.

Yoshi Tatsu vs. Johnny Curtis

Bateman and Maxine are on commentary for no apparent reason.

We talk about the wedding and then realize that's stupid so we talk about Johnny Curtis. That makes it stupider so let's talk about the wedding again. Regal offers to explain the misery of being married, since he's been married 16 times. Regal talks about Bateman's mother in law and implies sex. He even admits they're ignoring the match. Can't fault him for lying.

Curtis goes to the apron for a slingshot legdrop and shakes his hips at Maxine. Regal: "I think that was for me. At my age you have to take what you can get." Suplex gets two for Curtis. Bateman makes another joke about Curtis and Maxine dating so they walk off. The wedding is in eight weeks, which I guess means we'll be here until January. Yoshi fires off the chops and a spinwheel kick puts Johnny down. The top rope spinwheel kick ends this at 4:35.

Rating: C. This was fine. Yoshi is a solid hand while Curtis....well he's Johnny Curtis. That should summarize this match as well as I can put it together. Not much to see here but it advances Bateman vs. Curtis I guess because we need to see it right? Not much to see here but Yoshi's stuff is always fun to see.

Bateman goes to the ring post match but doesn't attack Curtis.

Maxine and Bateman argue more in the back about what Curtis did during the date. She cancels sex until future notice. Curtis comes in and implies Maxine wants him.

Here are the Usos who do their dance before their promo. Jimmy talks about being nervous every time they come out here. They represent every Samoan ever in wrestling history. Jey talks about people like Yokozuna, the Wild Samoans, Umaga (didn't expect to hear that name) and Rikishi. They talk about how Uso means brother but saying Us (pronounced Oos) can mean friend, close person, etc. They start a call and response chant with the audience of we say Us, you say O, which gets a surprisingly strong response. The fans like these guys.

This brings out JTG and Tamina, who says this isn't about heritage because she's an independent woman. Let's have a match.

JTG vs. Jimmy Uso

Jimmy knocks him to the floor quickly so he can glare at Tamina a bit. Off to a chinlock by JTG as we list off the huge Samoan family tree. Stinger style splash in the corner hits JTG and there's the running him smash in the corner, which is credited to Rikishi but it's an Umaga move I believe. A superkick and frog splash are enough for the pin at 3:50.

Rating: C-. Why are the Usos on NXT? The fans like them, they're decent in the ring, they have a gimmick, and they're on NXT. I have no idea what the thought of this company is about them, but they're more than good enough to be something on one of the main shows, but they're not getting that at all here. It's WWE I guess.

Percy Watson/Titus O'Neil vs. Darren Young/Tyler Reks

Young vs. Watson gets us going. My goodness what a difference a gimmick change makes for Watson. O'Neil comes in and Young runs. He's now the Big Deal Titus O'Neil. Reks talks trash so Titus hammers him in the face. This goes on for awhile until Watson comes in and cleans house. The heels go to the floor so Percy dives onto them as we take a break. Back with Titus getting two on Reks off a move we don't see.

Back to Watson who doesn't do as well. We talk about Bateman getting a Smackdown contract and we hear about how this season is about getting to one of the main shows. So at least there's no talk of season 6. Regal talks about WWE 12. "I HAVE ABS!!!" Young hooks a chinlock on Watson to eat up some time. Gordbuster gets two for Reks. There's your double tag to Young and O'Neil but Hawkins throws in the cane, so that the Gut Check can end Titus at 11:00.

Rating: D+. Boring main event here with neither team being interesting in being out there it seems. We have a heel team now I guess which is fine, but I'll spare you the drill here on "but where is this going". We've been past that for a very long time and there's no point in saying it all the time. Too long of a main event though.

Overall Rating: D+. Pretty ho-hum stuff tonight with not much going on of note. This was more of a show about advancing the existing storylines rather than adding anything new to the mix. In other words, if you liked the rest of the storylines, you'll like this. Nothing to see here for the most part though and it wasn't much of a show.

Results

Yoshi Tatsu b. Johnny Curtis – Top Rope Spinwheel Kick

Jimmy Uso b. JTG – Frog Splash

Darren Young/Tyler Reks b. Percy Watson/Tyler Reks – Gut Check to O'Neil

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