

NXT – December 4, 2012 – Alex Riley Is Back!

NXT

Date: January 4, 2012

Location: Verizon Arena, Little Rock, Arkansas

Commentators: Josh Matthews, William Regal

It's a new year and it's the same old show here. NXT will continue to defy all odds and reach new levels of worthlessness, and I'll still be here to watch it because...uh... someone has to do it I guess. Anyway we're inching closer to the 100th episode of this show and somehow, this season has been almost half of those. Let's get to it.

We open with Striker who hypes up the 100th episode. He brings out The Natural Michael McGillicutty. Striker offers him a handshake but Hennig (seriously, just call the guy Joe Hennig and let him be Curt's son) says this show sucked and that it gave him nothing. He became part of the Nexus, the most dominant faction in WWE history. That's hilarious but we'll move on.

Everything he's accomplished has been because of his own abilities. Cue...ALEX RILEY??? He's got his varsity jacket again and REGAL IS BACK!!! Sorry for shouting but you have to take what you can get with this show. They argue and start fighting. Striker shouts to get a ref here and it's match time.

Alex Riley vs. Michael McGillicutty

Regal can't pronounce McGillicutty's name. He asks about any new year's resolutions Josh may have made. Regal had his toes amputated so he can be closer to a bar. McGillicutty sends him to the floor and Riley is in trouble. He laughs as we take a break. Back with him in control still and it's off to a quick

chinlock. This match is going nowhere but it's not that bad. Backbreaker gets two. Here's a longer version of the chinlock.

Riley fights up and starts his comeback as Regal talks about how he had years in WCW before he got here. That's such a huge difference in today's product: there really are no major places to learn your craft other than FCW so you see so many styles that are the same. That's what I like about OVW: you got a nicer variety to pick from. The inverted DDT is countered into a Saito Suplex for two from McGillicutty. McGillicutty goes up but gets crotched and caught in something like a super-butterfly suplex for two. TKO attempt is countered into a McGillicutter attempt which is countered into the TKO for the pin at 9:30.

Rating: C+. Better match than I was expecting but the part before the break was pretty dull. Riley is a guy that I like what I see out of but for some reason he was thrown off the main shows for whatever reason. He'd be a guy you could throw into Vickie's stable really easily but instead he's back here on NXT, hopefully as a regular if he's not going to be on Raw anymore.

We get a video from last week where Maxine left with Curtis.

Bateman is talking to Kaitlyn who calls him Derrick Sweet Meat Bateman. Maxine and Curtis come up and it turns into a big argument. Maxine yells a lot and then kisses Curtis. After Maxine and Bateman both leave, Curtis hits on Kaitlyn.

Kaitlyn vs. Maxine

Maxine has a cousin is a part time pilcher pickler from Portland and is married to a Peruvian pygmy who is a purveyor of fine pot-bellied pigs and peacocks. Josh: "You can get all that out of her but you can't say McGillicutty?" Anyway Kaitlyn uses her power to control but Maxine counters into a slam into a dragon sleeper minus the arm trap with a bodyscissors for the tap at 1:55.

Here's the Raw ReBound.

Yoshi and Barretta are in the back playing WWE 12 when Hawkins and Ryder show up. Trent invites them to jump in on their game and apparently Yoshi put superglue on the controller so Reks is stuck. Yeah...comedy.

Royal Rumble moment from 1988.

Trent Barretta vs. Curt Hawkins

When Hawkins was coming out, Curtis' Tron video popped up for a split second. We talk about how Yoshi is always smiling. Regal: "You should always have a smile on your face. You make a better corpse that way in case you die." We wish JR a happy birthday as the match is very basic to start. You hear that a lot anymore in WWE. Regal talks about coming to America and seeing JR as the first thing he saw on American TV. Suplex gets two for Hawkins.

We've gotten Norman Smiley and Gordon Solie references so far. The commentary is more fun than the match. All Hawkins so far. Regal and Josh won a Slammy for best announce team according to Josh. Regal wants cash instead of a trophy. Trent hits an enziguri and a running jumping elbow in the corner. Out to the floor and Trent hits a gorgeous flip dive to the floor. Back inside a tornado DDT gives Trent the win at 6:02.

Rating: C. I'm a big Trent fan and this was a great example as to why. He's so smooth in the ring and can go from one thing to another with seemingly no effort at all. The dive was absolutely perfect and the DDT had a great spike to it. It's a shame he doesn't get more time, even just a spot fest with someone like Kidd. Still fun though.

We recap Titus vs. Young, which resulted in a bunch of brawls. O'Neil will be back next week.

Darren Young vs. Derrick Bateman

They have just over 4 minutes left in the video so this isn't going to last long. They start fast and Bateman gets a quick two count. They go to the floor and Young hits an atomic drop kind of move onto the apron, taking the advantage. Back in Bateman sends him into the post shoulder first and we're running out of time very fast. A running missile dropkick takes Young down. Maxine pops up and says in two weeks, she and Curtis are getting married in Vegas. Young hits his gutbuster for the pin at 3:30.

Rating: D. This was nothing other than a way to make the announcement about the wedding in a few weeks. I couldn't be happier it was short either as these two are just not interesting at all, especially Young. He's just boring and offers nothing at all of note. He never has and I can't imagine him ever doing so.

Overall Rating: C. Much better show than usual but two of the matches were long and had people in them that I like so I'd think that has something to do with it. The two shorter ones were just there and the main storylines continue to bore me on this show. The love triangle thing has been played out for months now and it's going to continue until they have their own network. Decent show from a wrestling perspective though.

Results

Alex Riley b. Michael McGillicutty – TKO

Maxine b. Kaitlyn – Standing dragon sleeper

Trent Barretta b. Curt Hawkins – Tornado DDT

Darren Young b. Derrick Bateman – Fireman's Carry into a gutbuster

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