

# NXT – January 25, 2012 – Can Someone Explain What A Heel Is To Titus?

## NXT

Date: January 25, 2012

Location: Tucson Arena, Tucson, Arizona

Commentators: Josh Matthews, William Regal

We enter the second century of episodes of this show and apparently the time has been moved to 10pm EST now. Not that there was any notification of that but an article on there mentioned tuning in then to find out. Anyway, the wedding is over, Bateman and Maxine are together again, and Titus is now a heel. Let's get to it.

Here's Titus in an awesome looking suit to open things up. We get a clip of his rant last week against the fans. Titus talks about an apology but means the fans owe him one. The people are booing so this is at least somewhat effective. He says he did everything the fans asked for like taking pictures and he's gotten nothing out of it. Titus talks about how he's the big dog and the man around here.

Cue Watson who says he's been there for Titus since day one. Now Titus wins one match (that's a stretch isn't it?) and he's turning his back on everyone? Watson says the people love Titus and Titus doesn't buy that. He says the fans don't love him. Percy loves him, but not the people. Titus says this is just business and he did all the meaningless points and such and now even Percy is dragged into it with the stupid talk show.

He invites Percy to join the dark side because together they're unstoppable. Percy declines because that isn't winning. Percy says Titus sounds like Darren Young and that

doesn't sit well with O'Neil. Titus says there's one option: be with him or against him. That would be two but I'm no NXT rookie. Percy says he's not with him and drops the mic. Titus drops him so Striker comes out and makes the main event.

In the back, Hawkins and Reks want to know why they're not in the main event. Striker says worry about the Usos tonight and he'll worry about NXT.

### Usos vs. Tyler Reks/Curt Hawkins

You can really see the issues with tag team wrestling at this point. You only have room for one successful tag team at a time and right now, that's Primo/Epico so a team like the Usos who are very solid aren't allowed to get any wins on the main TV shows. It's a shame too because it'll probably be a few months before that happens. Jimmy vs. Hawkins to start as Regal talks about dancing.

Reks tries to jump Jimmy which doesn't work at all. Hawkins tries to come in but has to duck a superkick. The heels take over and my goodness this place has gone silent. It's almost eerie. Reks takes over on Jimmy with a quarter nelson and it's back to Hawkins. Suplex gets two. Reks hammers away and the announcers talk about how every star is eligible for the Rumble. I'm not entirely sure what that means. I believe it means champions but I'm not sure.

Jimmy finally gets a shot to the ribs and the fans wake up for the tag to Jey. He jumps and spins around a lot as he hits the running hip attack in the corner, which ISN'T RIKISHI'S MOVE!!! Everything breaks down and Hawkins hits kind of a mat slam for two. The cane is brought in but Jey superkicks Hawkins for the pin at 5:20.

**Rating:** C-. I'm sure you all know the drill here: this match has happened so many times and it's still not interesting. There's nothing being gained from these matches and the Usos aren't going to get on TV other than anything as guys that get

to lose to Primo/Epico so the champs can continue to bore people to death.

Bateman is very happy when Kaitlyn asks why Bateman would go back to Maxine. He says if I have to be here, be here with a hot chick. Curtis is here too apparently, because saying THIS ENDS doesn't end a thing.

### Heath Slater vs. Trent Barretta

Regal says Trent makes him want to compete again. Slater takes over early and knocks him to the floor as Regal talks about being a world champion. Slater keeps control and loudly calls spots as he sends Trent into the corner. A charge misses and Trent takes him down with an enziguri. A running knee gets two. Northern lights suplex gets the same. He goes up and Slater runs the ropes and gets a powerslam off the top for two. That was pretty cool. Trent sets for a DDT but Slater escapes and charges at Trent, jumps around him and pulls him down in kind of a jumping spinning sleeper drop for the pin at 4:41.

**Rating:** C-. Not bad again and if I remember right, that's Slater's first win since something like July. He's a jobber so that's to be expected, but over Barretta? Why? Anyway this wasn't bad, although I'm really getting tired of these annoying finishers which have mostly sucked anymore. Doesn't anyone use basic moves anymore?

We get a clip from the wedding last week and Maxine rejoining Bateman. Here's Curtis but Bateman interrupts him. Maxine complains about being stuck here, Striker says get over it because we have to get along. Maxine makes them shake hands and they get slapped. That's it.

Rumble by the Numbers. That's always cool.

### Titus O'Neil vs. Percy Watson

Percy controls to start but Titus beats him down and throws him to the floor. He's still in purple and does the dog bark so there isn't much different here. O'Neil pounds him down into the corner and hooks a chinlock. Titus hammers him in the corner and hooks a chinlock. Some of you may be noticing a pattern here. Oh wait Titus told the fans to shut up. He must be evil then. Watson gets his first offense in including a clothesline, a splash and a shoulder block. Spinning splash gets two. Persecution is countered and a very bad looking Clash of the Titus ends this at 5:49.

**Rating:** D-. What a miserable match. Titus is just not cut out to be a heel, or at least he's really bad at it. The problem is that he's the same guy that he's been the entire time now and he's still stuck here so nothing has changed, which means the turn didn't really do anything. Terrible match and basically a squash.

Titus beats him down even more until Alex Riley makes the save. I like that style: just bring in random people for basic stories and matches as a result.

**Overall Rating:** D+. This wasn't horrible but it's very much about the same things we've seen all the time. Bateman and Curtis didn't do anything of note here and I really hope it doesn't turn into yet another tag team. Without titles, there's no real point to them all fighting because there's nothing to fight over. Not a terrible show, but until the major problems are fixed, this show isn't going anywhere.

### Results

Usos b. Tyler Reks/Curt Hawkins – Superkick to Hawkins

Heath Slater b. Trent Barretta – Jumping Sleeper Drop

Titus O'Neil b. Percy Watson – Clash of the Titus

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