

NXT – February 15, 2012 – Regal Is In Charge, Kaitlyn Is Hot, Kidd Is Awesome

NXT

Date: February 15, 2012

Location: Save Mart Center, Fresno, California

Commentators: Josh Matthews, William Regal

Fifty shows. We've somehow hit FIFTY shows. There have been 104 shows in the history of NXT and nearly half of them have been in this season. Anyway, nothing of note has been happening lately as the rookies (can you be classified as a rookie in your second year on the show?) have been losing more lately other than Titus. Oh and Hawkins/Reks beat up Striker last week. Let's get to it.

Here are Hawkins and Reks to open the show. Hawkins says it should have been their moment but instead it wasn't. Reks says they should be on the main shows instead of begging for matches here. Hawkins runs down Striker and wants to know what a host does around here. The NXT roster is full of talented superstars so it needs change. He pulls back his vest and reveals an Obama style shirt.

Here's Striker who says this is all ridiculous. He's given everyone a chance to shine. Hawkins says come here and say that but Striker says he isn't as stupid as Hawkins looks. Striker has called an old friend to help him. Call him a substitute if you will. And it's Regal. Regal is now in charge of things, at least for tonight. Hawkins has a match right now and Reks is banned from ringside. Reks: "Why me?" Regal: "I don't like you you scruffy thing. Go and have a bath or something."

Curt Hawkins vs. Tyson Kidd

Awesome sequence to start as Hawkins throws him over the top but Kidd skins the cat. Hawkins slides under him and Kidd teases a dive. He lands on the apron and runs to the post, jumps around it and catches Hawkins in a hurricanrana. That looked great. Kidd is looking more muscular now. Hawkins rams him into the apron and we take a break.

Back with Hawkins getting two off a suplex. Hawkins is wrestling in the shirt which is a better look for him. Hawkins works on a chinlock which is broken pretty quickly. Kidd fires off some kicks and sends Hawkins to the outside. Tyson hits a slingshot dropkick and a running knee smash off the apron which gets two back inside. Hawkins counters what looked like a suplex into an inverted DDT for two.

Kidd goes to the apron and tries a sunset flip but spins in mid-air to land in a reverse victory roll for two. He tries a Rocker Dropper but Hawkins suplexes out of it which also gets two. We go to the corner and Kidd fights out of a superplex attempt. In a great and subtle move, Kidd uses a victory roll (ala Bret, who Regal said Kidd had been training with) into the Sharpshooter for the submission at 7:37.

Rating: B. I really liked this match and it was very entertaining. When you give young and talented guys some time, this is what you can get. I loved the victory roll part at the end with the Bret nod, which is a fine lesson in what an announcer can do. Regal set that up and the ending to the match paid it off. Perfect.

Titus O'Neil vs. Yoshi Tatsu

The way the announcers are talking, Regal is permanent boss. The power controls to start this power vs. speed match. Titus yells at Yoshi that no one cares about Yoshi because it's all about Titus. Yoshi takes more punishment but avoids a charge in the corner and fires off some kicks. A running knee to the chest gets two. Not that it matters as Titus hits him in the

back and a very good Clash of the Titus gets the pin at 3:22.

Rating: C. This was Titus' best performance as a heel so far. The Clash looked great and he had some mannerisms that would make you believe he was a jerk instead of the same guy but frowning like he's been for the last few weeks. I could get into the idea of Regal sending guy after guy to fight him until it's Regal himself in a big match.

Titus yells at Regal that he wants competition in the form of Alex Riley. Here's Riley who says he'll come say it to Titus' face. Alex says let's do it right now and Titus rolls to the floor to escape.

Alicia and Kaitlyn want Bateman and Maxine to break up. Kaitlyn insists they're just friends. Curtis comes up to hit on them. A guy with flowers and candy comes up after the girls leave saying he's looking for Bateman. Curtis says that's him and there's a card for Maxine. He says it's like stealing candy from a Bateman.

Percy Watson vs. Michael McGillicutty

McGillicutty has a big beard now. Michael takes him to the mat to start but Percy nips up. I don't think the crowd knows who Michael is. Whoever he is he hooks a quick chinlock and Percy is in trouble. Percy comes back with a modified version of the spinning DDT Rock did when he was Rocky Maivia. A dropkick and clothesline put Michael down but the Heisman lands on knees. Not that it matters as Persecution ends this at 4:02.

Rating: D+. The announcers build this up as some huge victory but both of these guys lost on their season of NXT. To be fair though, McGillicutty has had some success in the WWE while Watson has been on NXT the entire time. Not a terrible match but Watson needs something to do other than just being athletic.

Maxine finds a box of chocolates addressed to Kaitlyn and

signed by Derrick. She isn't happy.

Raw ReBoutd is about Cena/Kane/Ryder.

Kaitlyn is on commentary for this.

Derrick Bateman/Justin Gabriel vs. Heath Slater/Johnny Curtis

Kaitlyn says that she and Bateman watch Full House together. Justin and Curtis start off and Curtis is kicked to the outside. Bateman dives on Curtis and we take a break. Back with Slater working on Justin's knees. Apparently Curtis has been asking Regal if he was breastfed. Ok then. Curtis works over the knees as Regal hits on Kaitlyn. Justin gets two off a quick rollup. There's the hot tag to Bateman and he cleans house. Everything breaks down and the falling bulldog (the Sweet Meat Sizzler according to Kaitlyn) gets the pin on Slater at 5:37.

Rating: D. Very uninteresting match here and that's the problem with the main event stuff (if you can call it that) on this show: it's BORING. Bateman and Curtis have a good story going with Maxine and Kaitlyn but they're so terribly uninteresting and bad at acting that there's nothing that makes me care about this at all. That's a big problem, or at least it would be if more than 5 people watched this show.

Post match Maxine comes out and hits Kaitlyn with the chocolates. She rams Kaitlyn into the barricade and Bateman tries to stop her so she shoves him too. Bateman carries Maxine out as Curtis smiles.

Overall Rating: C+. This was a good episode for the most part. With the new directions the show has been going in there's an improvement and that's helped a lot. However as I said above, Bateman and Curtis are less interesting than dried paint. When you have hot women fighting and you can't make the guys they're fighting over interesting, there's something wrong with them. Good ideas, not the best execution this week.

Results

Tyson Kidd b. Curt Hawkins – Sharpshooter

Titus O'Neil b. Yoshi Tatsu – Clash of the Titus

Percy Watson b. Michael McGillicutty – Persecution

Derrick Bateman/Justin Gabriel b. Heath Slater/Johnny Curtis –
Sweet Meat Sizzler to Slater

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