NXT – November 14, 2012: The Good, The Boring, And Bray Wyatt

NXT

Date: November 14, 2012 Location: Full Sail University, Winter Park, Florida Commentators: Jim Ross, Tony Luftman

We have a world title match scheduled now and we have to get to that match, which may be tonight. They weren't really clear when the match would be going on but tonight would be a bit soon I'd think. Other than that we've got Vickie holding a bounty over Big E. Langston's head, which is good as he needs a story of some kind. I've been loving NXT for the last few weeks so hopefully it stays this good. Let's get to it.

Mahal is in the back to open the show and talks about how awesome he is. Bo Dallas is called a nobody and comes up to challenge Mahal to a fight. Dallas says since he's so easy to beat, put up the title shot. Mahal: "Why would I do that?" Dallas: "Why not?" Apparently it's on and the title match isn't tonight.

Ascension vs. Yoshi Tatsu/Percy Watson

This would be a good place for Tatsu to remind people what he's capable of. Cameron and Watson start things off but it's quickly off to a now nearly bald O'Brien. Ascension does their very fast tagging with the quick striking offense ala Demolition. Conor puts on a hard headlock to keep Watson down even longer. Watson finally escapes and it's off to Tatsu vs. Cameron as things speed up. Ascension turns up the awesome and hits the Fall of Man (Total Elimination) for the pin on Tatsu at 2:54. Total squash and Ascension looked great. Aksana and Layla have one of those stupid Divas moments in the back about Layla's hair looking bad.

Corey Graves vs. Oliver Gray

They fight over an arm hold to start as we hear about Gray being a former lumberjack. So he made his living filling in a spot around the ring for a match no one wanted to see? How do I get that job? Graves works on the knee as the fans cheer for him, despite him seeming to be a heel. JR gets Tony's name wrong (Tom) as Graves stays on the knee. Off to an Indian Deathlock by Graves as we go back to the 1970s. Graves hooks a cool looking rolling leg lock for the tap out at 4:13.

Rating: C-. Not much to see here but Graves looked good which is what NXT has been good at lately. They've built up a few guys and it's hard to say who is better than whom. In something I can't say about WWE or TNA at the moment, I buy this show as having a chance at not screwing this up. Good squash here.

Video on Big E. Langston

Here's Langston for a special interview. SWEET this should be good. He talks about how he's worried about Vickie's bounty. Worried for the other people that is, because the E stands for their end. Langston has five reasons why he's awesome but Camacho jumps him from behind. He hits Langston once then holds up five fingers.

Layla vs. Aksana

A quick rollup gets two for the British chick (Layla) but Aksana MESSES WITH THE HAIR!!! Aksana puts her down and crawls along the apron for no apparent reason. A baseball slide puts Aksana on the floor and a few rollups get two each for Layla. Layla gets pulled off the middle rope and pounded on a bit and it's off to a triangle choke from Aksana. That goes nowhere so they get into a modified catfight. Aksana takes over and does the slow sexy crawl again which lets Layla make her comeback with clotheslines (arms to the chest according to Tony. He's trying at least) and a high kick for the pin for Layla at 5:21.

Rating: D+. This wasn't horrible but at the end of the day, Aksana just isn't that good. Layla is one of the fun Divas and there's nothing wrong with that at all, but it kind of limits where she can go. Aksana tries out there and there's nothing bad about that sexy crawl, but the whole idea of them fighting over hair and then having a not very good match isn't going to help shake the stigma this division has.

We go to a field with Bray Wyatt, talking about how he's a monster and he's never told us a lie. He's been around for centuries and has been worshiped by every civilization and if you want to find the sign of him, follow the buzzards in the sky. I have no idea what he's talking about, but the delivery is so awesome it's hard not to stop and watch him, which is what promos are supposed to be about.

Roman Reigns vs. Chase Donovan

Reigns throws him into the corner to start and hooks a cravate. JR calls Reigns the LeBron James of the WWE. That's a bit of a stretch I'd think but JR hasn't cared in years so why should I? A spinebuster puts Donovan down and it's off to a nerve hold. Reigns lets that go, roars a lot, and hits the belly to back slam for the pin at 2:41.

Reigns makes Byron Saxton announce him as the Thoroughbred Roman Reigns twice because he wasn't happy with just being announced as the winner.

<u>Jinder Mahal vs. Bo Dallas</u>

The winner gets the shot at Rollins. Feeling out process is won by Mahal and it's off to a top wristlock. Dallas hooks a headlock and they slow

things down a lot. They're using the formula usually reserved for the long and big matches even though there isn't a ton of time left here. Dallas sends Mahal into the corner but misses a dropkick. Mahal's camel clutch doesn't work so Jinder hits the floor as we hit a break.

Back with Dallas hammering away in the corner but getting caught by a running knee in the face for two. Off to a double arm trap hold by Mahal which goes on for a good while until Dallas flips him over for two. Backslide gets two for Dallas so Mahal kicks him in the head a few times. A knee to the ribs gets two and Dallas is in trouble. Dallas gets knocked to the apron but he comes back with a kick to the head and a slingshot clothesline for two. Dallas misses a charge into the buckle and there's the camel clutch for the tap at 9:03 shown of 12:33.

Rating: C. This wasn't that interesting of a match. They started off slowly and usually once the break is over, things would pick up but in this case it never got into a higher gear. Dallas is a guy that gets a good reaction but he just isn't that good in the ring. Mahal isn't bad as a heel but he doesn't really have much of a character other than he's Indian and rich. Granted this is before 3MB started so that's a moot point.

Mahal attacks Dallas post match but Rollins makes the save to end the show.

Overall Rating: C. This was one of those shows that only kind of worked. The stuff on it that was good was good but the stuff on it that was dull was quite dull. The main event didn't work that well at all but they had to have something to fill in the time before the title match. I liked Graves and the Ascension stuff and the Wyatt promo as well, but I'm not sold yet on Reigns. The character development here is light years ahead of WWE and TNA at the moment though.

<u>Results</u>

Ascension b. Yoshi Tatsu/Percy Watson — Fall of Man to Tatsu Corey Graves b. Oliver Gray — Rolling Leg Lock Layla b. Aksana — High Kick Roman Reigns b. Chase Donovan — Belly to Back Slam Jinder Mahal b. Bo Dallas — Camel Clutch

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