

On This Day: May 25, 2010 – NXT: To The Final Three

NXT

Date: May 25, 2010

Location: Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland, Ohio

Commentators: Josh Matthews, Michael Cole

It's the next to last episode and we get down to the final three tonight. This should be good as all four are good guys, and yes that includes Slater. Either way this should work for the most part. I'm half asleep at this point so I might be a bit off here. Let's get to it.

We open with recaps of Tarver and Bryan going home, including part of Bryan's rant. Ah make that we recap all of the eliminations.

Striker brings out the Pros to start the show. Punk was shaved at Over the Limit so he's not here. Truth is the new US Champion. I think Miz had it back by next week if not a bit after that. Now it's time for the rookies to come out. Next week is the finale and this is the rookies' chance to tell the fans why they should win.

Barrett says Gabriel isn't a man, Otunga is like Benny Hill and the Ginger Ninja should leave because of his hair. Gabriel says Otunga should go because he's bad in the ring. Otunga says Gabriel who is a glorified gymnast that can't talk. Slater says Barrett because his nose is crooked. Nice knowing you Heath. Striker says it's time to express yourselves physically so here we go.

Heath Slater/Christian vs. R-Truth/David Otunga

Slater vs. Truth to start us off here. Slater uses speed to start and it's off to Otunga. I keep expecting to hear 12 Stones start us when they're in there now. Christian vs. Otunga now. Pro vs. Pro now as Truth kicks Christian's head off. Truth won the title as Bret Hart vacated the title due to being named GM. Chinlock by Otunga to Christian now.

Jumping back elbow takes Otunga down and it's off to Slater again. Running dropkick to Otunga who was sitting in the corner. Neckbreaker gets two. Slater goes up and comes off with a cross body but Otunga rolls through for a rather abrupt ending. Not like they had anything going but it was abrupt.

Rating: D+. Pretty weak match here as neither rookie had anything going at all here. Slater was a guy I liked back in this season but he slowed down a lot towards the end. Anyway this was pretty weak and was just to get the guys in the ring. The problem is the better two rookies were in the other match. Pretty weak but not horrible.

Daniel Bryan is up next.

Back with Cole in the ring with security. We see a clip of the rant/beatdown last week. Cole says either he apologizes or Cole will sue him. Bryan says he'll apologize and there's no need for the security. The security leaves and Bryan shakes his hand. Bryan goes off on him and they get into a shouting match with Bryan saying he's awesome and Cole says stop blaming anyone but himself. Cole actually gets some very solid points in here. He says Bryan has no heart and Bryan lunges into security. Bryan gets at Cole eventually though and it's on all over

again. Miz gets on Bryan as he leaves and there's another brawl!

Back and Striker takes over for Cole on commentary.

Wade Barrett vs. Justin Gabriel

This should be good. Barrett is the dominant best at this point so this shouldn't be much of a problem for him. Jericho yells at the announcers about Barrett. Jericho: "ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT BARRETT?" Josh: "Yes!" Jericho: "WELL DO IT MORE!" Big boot takes Gabriel down. Gabriel speeds things up and takes him down with kicks and a Roaring Elbow. Springboard cross body gets two. A Sunset Bomb out of the corner sets up the 450 for the totally clean pin. I'm rather surprised by that actually, which is sad as I've seen it before.

Rating: C+. Not terrible here but it didn't have much time to get going. Gabriel getting a win there is a good thing as it gives him momentum going into the final week of the show. Barrett losing is rather surprising also but either way this was fun. Good little match but nothing great given the very limited time they had.

American Bang who does the theme song for NXT, is here.

Raw ReBound wastes some time.

It's Pro's Poll time.

1. Barrett

2. David Otunga

Down to the future tag champions and to the shock of no one, Slater is gone. Was there ever any doubt really? Christian says the deck was stacked against him but he has a big future. Miz says Slater never gave us everything he had. Truth says Slater did nothing wrong. Jericho would rather talk about Barrett. There's no difference to who got eliminated tonight because Barrett is winning anyway. Barrett can't be losing like this again though. That's something a coach would say. Slater talks about his accomplishments and mainly beating Jericho clean. The Encore is coming though. Not a bad go away speech.

Overall Rating: C. Not bad here but this was really just a setup to get to the final show of the season with the clear three best. Not a bad show but there was little point to it. We knew Slater was last so they at least got that right. Decent show but now it's time for the final, which is what we're getting to next. Not bad, but kind of a throwaway show.

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