

NXT – June 5, 2013: Serious Langston Is Awesome

NXT

Date: June 5, 2013

Location: Full Sail University, Winter Park, Florida

Commentators: Tom Phillips, Brad Maddox

We have a new #1 contender after Bo Dallas won the battle royal last week, earning him a shot at Big E. Langston's NXT Title. On top of that we've got Corey Graves/Kassius Ohno continuing their feud with the Wyatt Family. The big story tonight though is the beginning of the NXT Women's Title Tournament to crown the first champion. Let's get to it.

Welcome Home.

Here's Jim Ross to host the contract signing between Langston and Dallas. Both guys come out as we see some exclusive footage of them staring each other down after the battle royal last week. Langston is in street clothes which don't quite suit him. Big E. signs but Dallas has something to say. He didn't like Langston looking down at him last week like a joke. Since Langston won the NXT Title, he's moved on to bigger and better things like hanging out with Dolph Ziggler and debuting at Wrestlemania.

Dallas thinks he should be doing those kinds of things but he isn't because he's not NXT Champion. He needs to be champion and is about to sign a contract that could change his life. All he needs are three seconds to change his life and make history. Dallas goes to sign but Langston says Dallas isn't a joke. Langston started to respect Dallas when he fought Big Show, even though he got knocked out.

Dallas wants to be like Langston but Bo is a geek who probably lives at home with his mama and never stops smiling no matter what he's doing. Bo was talking about three seconds, but Langston will crush his dreams in five. Dallas signs and walks away. Great stuff here from Langston but Dallas continues to look and sound like nothing special.

Corey Graves says his match tonight isn't just about winning the tag titles but about taking the Wyatt Family down. Bray Wyatt likes to play mind games, but in Graves' mind, they're not playing games. Graves says he doesn't like Ohno and doesn't care what Kassius does in the match tonight.

NXT Women's Title Tournament First Round: Tamina vs. Paige

I really like the look of the new belt as it's very basic but classy looking. The centerpiece is oval shaped with the letters NXT in the middle and side plates coming off the centerpiece. Tamina shoves the much smaller Paige down with ease and chokes her down in the corner. A hair toss sends Paige flying and it's off to a chinlock.

A knee drop gets two for Tamina and it's back to the chinlock. Tamina slams her down for two more and it's off to chinlock number three in a three and a half minute match. Paige fires back with some elbows in the corner but Tamina hits a superkick to drop Paige again. The Superfly Splash hits Paige's knees, giving her a rollup to pin Tamina at 4:20.

Rating: C-. Paige did win, but I'm not sure having her get in a counter and a rollup for the pin is the best way to go about things here. It's hard to imagine Paige not being in the tournament's final and a win over a WWE Diva isn't going to hurt her, but she could have looked much stronger here with the same result.

Kassius Ohno says his plan of attack is to attack. He's bringing mayhem at the Wyatt Family fortress to get at Bray himself. Kassius doesn't care what happens to Graves because Graves has proven he can't handle three monsters by himself before. Tonight, it's a war.

Colin Cassidy vs. Mason Ryan

Colin is a big guy who probably stands close to 7'0 tall. Cassidy pounds away at Ryan but is taken down by a single punch. Mason pounds away in the corner with right hands and a few headbutts before the Torture Rack neckbreaker ends Cassidy at 2:00.

Sami Zayn says it was a big deal to beat a WWE Tag Team and US Champion

on the same night and maybe he could do it again. Cesaro comes up and says that was a cheap win. Zayn says that the only cheap thing that night was the cheap shot from Cesaro after the match. Cesaro wants a rematch and Zayn is up for it, as long as Cesaro tells him where he got his sweet man purse. The brawl is on but referees quickly break it up.

Alex Riley vs. Conor O'Brian

Conor easily runs Alex over a few times to start before throwing him into a headlock. Riley fights up but his chops get him nowhere. A dropkick puts O'Brian down and a top rope clothesline gets two but Alex gets caught by a splash in the corner. O'Brian flapjacks him down and puts Alex in the Stockade, a kind of seated Octopus Hold for the submission at 2:12. Riley looked good while getting squashed.

Tag Titles: Kassius Ohno/Corey Graves vs. Wyatt Family

Wyatt says he isn't afraid of snakes or disease or fire. He's only afraid of himself but the two guys in the ring aren't scared enough of him. His name is Bray Wyatt and he is the eater of worlds. The men behind him are his brothers but tonight they're going to give him an introduction of their own. Ohno starts with Rowan and puts on a cravate to take over. Erick can't even slam his way out of the hold so he throws Kassius into the corner instead.

Off to Graves vs. Harper with Luke carrying him to a neutral corner like a rag doll. Why you would carry a rag doll to a neutral corner is beyond me but it's not the best simile in the world. Graves armdrags his way out of a hiptoss before it's back to Ohno to crank on Luke's arm. It's back to Rowan as we take a break. Back with Rowan holding KassiuH in a cobra clutch before it's back to Harper who gets two off an uppercut. Ohno escapes a powerslam by Erick and takes him down with a jawbreaker.

The hot tag brings in Graves to take out Rowan's leg with a chop block but a Harper distraction prevents the 13th Step from going on. Luke kicks Graves in the head to give Erick a two count before dropping a knee for two of his own. The Family keeps tagging in and out with Rowan getting two off a backbreaker. Off to an over the shoulder backbreaker for good

measure (Maddox: "He's going to break his back!" The name fits the move if nothing else) before it's back to Harper who says yeah yeah yeah a lot.

Graves counters a suplex into a small package for two and a crucifix gets the same. Harper has a powerbomb countered with a backdrop and it's off to Ohno to clean house. Ohno hits a series of forearms to Harper and gets two off a senton. A Bray Wyatt distraction doesn't do his Family much good as Ohno hits a rolling headbutt for two. A clothesline from Graves sends both he and Rowan to the floor but the distraction allows Wyatt to blast Ohno in the head. Graves takes out Bray but Harper pins Kassius to retain at 10:00 shown of 13:00.

Rating: B-. They had me believing something the titles were in jeopardy at the end which is the right idea for a match like this. This match went a long way towards strengthening Ohno and Graves in their war with Wyatt which will definitely continue. The Family looks great in the ring for a pair of monsters with Harper having a lot of potential after the team eventually splits up.

Overall Rating: C+. This was a return to form for NXT after last week's show. The main event for next week is advanced, we get a tournament match and a decent tag title match with a few squashes mixed in. What more can you possibly ask for in a forty five minute show? The title match next week has a better hype than I was expecting and Langston showed that he can be serious when he needs to be. Good show this week.

Results

Paige b. Tamina – Rollup

Mason Ryan b. Colin Cassidy – Torture Rack Neckbreaker

Conor O'Brian b. Alex Riley – Stockade

Wyatt Family b. Kassius Ohno/Corey Graves – Rollup to Ohno after interference from Bray Wyatt

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