205 Live - January 7, 2022: So Much For That

205 Live

Date: January 7, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Nigel McGuinness

We're back to the NXT version of Main Event, which seems to have dropped any indication of a new name. That is something that seemed imminent but now nothing seems to actually be taking place. Hopefully they get to the switch already, because there isn't much of a point to this show otherwise. Let's get to it.

Here are last week's results if you need a recap.

Malik Blade vs. Draco Anthony

They fight over some basic grappling to start until Anthony shoulders him down. A headlock takeover keeps Blade in early trouble until he is right back with a dropkick. Anthony slams him out of the corner though and an overhead belly to belly gets two on Blade. The Boston crab stays on Blade's back for a fairly long while but he finally manages to fight out. Some shots to the face put Anthony in trouble for a change and there's a running clothesline in the corner. Blade hits his own suplex and a missile dropkick finally gives him a win at 6:04.

Rating: C. Blade is turning into the feel good story around here and that is kind of nice to see. NXT is designed to build up new stars and letting him win something to move forward, even a tiny step, is the right way to go. Anthony is not exactly off to a great start but NXT has shown that it doesn't care about wins and losses, so it doesn't make much of a difference.

Erica Yan vs. Nikkita Lyons

Yan takes her down with an armbar to start and then switches to a wristlock to keep up the theme. With that not working, it's time to work on the leg for a change, only to have Lyons reverse into a headlock. A catapult sets up a half crab, which Lyons lets go in rather quickly. The double arm crank goes on but Yan fights up and strikes away. There's a jackknife rollup to give Yan two but Lyons kicks her down without much trouble. A DDT finishes for Lyons at 5:25.

Rating: C-. I wasn't feeling this one as much as neither exactly felt like a polished star. They didn't exactly get past second gear, but there is only so much that you can do in a match that doesn't even make it five and a half minutes. Both of these two need more ring time though, and that is what they were getting here.

<u>Ikemen Jiro vs. Ru Feng</u>

Jiro cartwheels to start and avoids a kick from Feng. After coming out of the ropes, Jiro misses a kick of his own but pulls Feng down by the arm instead. An armbar has Feng in trouble and Jiro flips over to make it worse. Feng can't flip his way to freedom and we get a JACKET TIME chant.

Back up and Feng kicks him down, setting up the chinlock. That actually needs a rope break for the escape so Feng knocks him down and grabs the chinlock again. Jiro fights up again and hits a spinwheel kick, followed by the jacket punches. A springboard moonsault sets up the Ikemen Slash to finish Feng at 6:43.

Rating: C. This is your latest proof that WWE has already stopped caring even remotely about 205 Live, as we aren't even getting midcard names in the main event anymore. The main event featured half of a comedy tag team against one of the regular jobbers. If that's all they can do with this show, why am I supposed to want to watch it?

Overall Rating: C-. I can't believe I actually thought they might do something with this show. All you're getting here is a set of dark matches that happened to have a camera turned on. Why bother changing the name at this point? It's beyond obvious that this show exists because of some kind of distribution deal (which is fine, as WWE not wanting to make money would be ridiculous) but any mild hope of it getting better has gone out the window in nearly record time. Another nothing week here, with some ok at best wrestling to fill in 29 minutes.

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