NXT LVL Up - March 18, 2022: Two In A Row

NXT LVL Up

Date: March 18, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Sudu Shah, Nigel McGuinness

We are well on the way to Stand & Deliver and believe it or not, something actually happened here last week. Josh Briggs and Brooks Jensen jumped the Grizzled Young Veterans last week to wrap up the show, which was the first time there was an angle of any kind on this show. Now let's see how it is not followed up on this week. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Xyon Quinn vs. Damon Kemp

Respect is shown to start and Kemp can't take Quinn down with a single leg. A test of strength has Quinn down but he bridges on his neck and fights back up. Kemp's crossbody bounces off Quinn, giving us some quality posing time. The cravate goes on as Quinn has a cut on his nose. Kemp reverses into a chinlock and a running shoulder in the corner, setting up another chinlock. Quinn fights up and strikes away, setting up his running punch for the pin at 5:24.

Rating: C. I've liked Quinn for a long time now and it is nice to see him getting a win for a change. That hasn't been the case for a long time now and while he has a lot of work to do, it is a good sign to see things changing around a bit. Kemp is going to be fine because of his amateur skills, though this is the kind of match that he needs at the moment.

<u>Lash Legend vs. Valentina Feroz</u>

Yulisa Leon is here with Feroz. The fans seem behind Feroz but there are some dueling chants to even it out a bit. Feroz goes right after her to start but gets tossed down hard, setting up a rather delayed vertical suplex. The jumping elbow (which looks awkward as well) gets two on Feroz, who is right back with a guillotine choke. Legend powers out and makes the rope before tossing Feroz down anyway. Feroz is right back up with a high crossbody, which is pulled out of the air but Feroz reverses into a choke with her legs. That's broken up as well and Legend kicks her in the face for the pin at 4:53.

Rating: D+. It takes something special to make a jumping elbow drop look weird but Legend is making it work. Legend is just not ready for prime time yet and if WWE just has to have her on television, this is the extent of what she can do. She needs a lot more practice and ring time and this is going to help her more than anything else.

Post match Legend grabs the mic and says you knew this was coming. She throws out a threat to Nikkita Lyons too.

Bodie Hayward vs. Dante Chen

Andre Chase is here with Hayward. They trade wrist control to start until Hayward grabs a headlock to take him to the mat. Chen fights back and takes him down into an armbar. That's broken up as well and Chen charges into a spinebuster for two. A splash to Chen's back sets up a waistlock as Robert Stone comes out to watch. Chen fights up and strikes away, including a running boot to the face. Hayward hits a clothesline and some running shoulders but a Stone distraction lets Chen grab a rollup for the pin at 6:05.

Rating: C. I don't know if the Stone interruption means he is working with Chen, but that would be the most interesting thing Chen has done so far. He is completely fine in the ring, but he is another name on a long list of wrestlers with

absolutely nothing that makes him stand out. NXT really needs to work on that, because there are a lot of faces in the crowd at the moment and that doesn't help anyone.

Overall Rating: C-. This was a bit of a step down from last week, but at least they did have a tiny bit of storyline stuff in the end. That can go such a long way in making the show more interesting and it did so here. The wrestling alone isn't enough to make the show work, so give me a bit of intrigue to make it more interesting. If that's what we're going to be getting going forward, this is a much more appealing show, even with fairly weak wrestling.

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