

NXT LVL Up – May 20, 2022: Why Are They Here?

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Date: May 20, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Sudu Shaw, Nigel McGuinness

We're off a pretty hot ending on Smackdown and hopefully at least a little bit of that can carry over here. Other than that though, there is always the chance to run down Sasha Banks and Naomi again, because doing it on national TV wasn't enough. And there might even be some wrestling thrown in. Let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Javier Bernal vs. Bryson Montana

Montana was the last man standing in Ivy Nile's challenge a few weeks back. They fight over arm control to start with Montana flipping out and staring at Bernal a bit. A side slam plants Bernal but he fights out of an over the shoulder backbreaker. Some kicks to the leg put Montana down and a Codebreaker finishes Montana at 4:11.

Rating: C. This was all about Montana, which makes the loss a bit more annoying. Montana is certainly a physical beast and it is a bit questionable to have him lose here. At the end of the day, Bernal isn't someone who has done anything of note in NXT but he can beat Montana in a short match. Maybe they see something in Bernal, but it hasn't exactly been showcased so far.

Ivy Nile vs. Yulisa Leon

Valentina Feroz is here with Leon. Feeling out process to start with Nile winning a test of strength without much effort. Nile takes her down into a headscissors and drags Leon away from the ropes in a smart move. Leon slips out and fires off some forearms against the ropes, which seem to stagger Nile for a change. A neck crank is reversed into a neckbreaker though and Nile hits a running forearm in the corner. Leon comes back with a slam but Nile rolls through and grabs the dragon sleeper for the tap at 5:19.

Rating: C. They were trying something here with Leon but it is pretty clear that Nile is on her way to the top of the division so she isn't losing here. Leon getting in a few shots to the face to rock Nile was a little surprising though they were only going to get her so far. Now just get to the point with Nile, who shouldn't be on a show like this one.

Josh Briggs vs. Quincy Elliott

Brooks Jensen is here with Briggs. Elliott takes him into the corner for some hip gyrating but Briggs manages to get Elliott on the middle rope. The running right hand rocks Elliott but Briggs makes the mistake of high fiving Jensen and hurts his hand on the cast. Back in and Elliott runs over and a quickly broken neck crank goes on.

The splash to the back sets up a waistlock but Briggs is up again. One heck of an elbow to the face rocks Briggs, setting up an abdominal stretch. With that broken up, Briggs avoids a Banzai Drop and hits a big boot into a side slam. Back up and Briggs hits a lariat for the pin at 7:21.

Rating: C-. I still don't get nearly as much out of Elliott as NXT seems to but maybe there is something to him that I'm not getting. He is big and can move, but the dancing and gyrating is only going to get him so far. I'm still not sure Briggs and Jensen haven't gotten much further, though it isn't surprising to see them sticking around as they're good at what they do.

Overall Rating: C. Another week that just comes and goes, which shouldn't be that much of a surprise. The wrestling is completely adequate without being something that is going to make me interested most weeks. We see a lot of these people on NXT every week and they aren't that great in the first place. It is still hard to get that annoyed at a 29 minute show, but it's also one of those shows that has no impact whatsoever.

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