

NXT LVL Up – August 26, 2022: It'll Do For Now

NXT LVL Up

Date: August 26, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Sudu Shah, Nigel McGuinness, Matt Camp

The show continues and I'll go with the faint hope here this week. There have been a few stories going on and with Hank Walker on NXT, maybe it means he won't be around here to bring the show down again. It's likely going to be another show that is all over the place this week so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Edris Enofe/Malik Blade vs. Bronco Nima/Lucien Price

Blade gets tossed into the corner by Nima to start and then tossed right back out to keep things balanced. Nima gets taken into the corner to cut him off though and the good guys start taking turns on the arm. Enofe has to knee his way out of the corner to drop Price but Nima gets in a cheap shot from the apron to take over.

To really crank things up, Nima RIPS OFF BLADE'S SWEATER VEST and STOMPS ON IT before tossing him down again. A double running forearm in the corner rocks Blade and we hit the neck crank. Blade flips out of a suplex though and the hot tag brings in Enofe to pick up the pace. Something like a Sling Blade hits Price and a top rope elbow gets two. Price comes back in and walks into the Climax for the pin at 5:58.

Rating: C. Even though there is nothing to suggest that they're going anywhere, I still see potential in Blade and

Enofe. They're smaller guys who can move well in the ring and that is always going to work in one way or another. Putting them over a young power team was a good way to go here and it would be nice to see them move (or level) up soon.

Nathan Frazer looks up to Ikemen Jiro but he's ready to win tonight. He is here because of soccer, though someone throws him a basketball by mistake.

Amari Miller vs. Kiana James

James shoves her down to start and brags about being smart, which rarely goes well. Miller grabs an armbar and drops down into her smiling pose. A missed elbow frustrates James again and Miller rolls her up for two. That's enough for James, who sends her into the corner and starts stomping away. Something like a gutbuster gives James two and we hit the chinlock with a knee in Miller's back. Trash talk lets Miller sneak in a rollup for two and a basement Downward Spiral gets the same. Back up and James gets in a shot, setting up something like a reverse Sling Blade into an X Factor for the pin at 4:59.

Rating: C. These two both need work but you can feel that bubbly personality in Miller and James comes off as a bit of a killer. I could go for more of them, but they are going to need a lot of development each. What matters is that NXT is trying to actually turn them into something, which is where ring time will help. Get them on the NXT house show loop and get something out of them, because this version is just potential and nothing more.

Ikemen Jiro vs. Nathan Frazer

Jiro grabs a wristlock to start but gets reversed into a headlock as they're still in first gear. Frazier hits a very fast running dropkick before armdragging him into an armbar. Back up and Jiro elbows him in the face but Frazer rolls him into a Boston crab. Make that an STF and then a bulldog choke as Frazer does a decent Samoa Joe impression. Jiro bends the

fingers for the escape and hits the Jacket Punches, only to get caught with a springboard missile dropkick. Another kick to the face sets up the Phoenix splash to finish Jiro at 6:32.

Rating: C+. Frazer continues to be fun to watch and Jiro can work well with anyone. That's all you need for a good match a lot of the time and they did by far the best stuff on the show this week. I still don't know if Frazer has breakout star potential, but he is going to feel like a bigger deal than most of the names you see on this show.

Respect is shown to end the show.

Overall Rating: C. Slightly better than normal this week as the action was good and they had enough variety. There was nothing in the way of angles or stories, but at least we had watchable matches, which isn't always the case. Cycling in a bigger name here or there would be nice, but that might be another ship that has long since sailed around here For now though, a passable enough week.

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