NXT LVL Up — September 2, 2022: These People Have Hope

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Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Sudu Shah, Nigel McGuinness

We're reaching another point where I am running out of ways to talk about this show. One of the only things of note is that Javier Bernal, a regular around here, is now on NXT as a more annoying version of himself. At least that gives me a reason to believe that we might be seeing some of these people on a bigger stage sooner rather than later. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

<u>Duke Hudson vs. Myles Borne</u>

Hudson takes him down to start but spends too much time posing, allowing Borne to pull him down. With that not working for Borne, he grabs an armbar to put Hudson down instead. The armbar stays on Hudson's arm but he catches Borne on the middle rope to take over. A loud chop in the corner sets up a shot to the ribs but Borne comes back with some dropkicks. The straps come down and Hudson's high crossbody gets two. That's too much for Hudson, who hits a big boot for the pin at 5:47.

Rating: C. I've always liked Hudson but it doesn't seem like he has the greatest future at the moment. You can only do so much when you are stuck around here after a pretty uninspiring NXT run. Maybe Hudson can find something else to do, but it isn't quite working here. Then you have Borne, who is at least starting to turn it around a bit after a very dull start to his career.

Dante Chen is ready for Xyon Quinn because he has Singapore in his corner.

<u>Arianna Grace vs. Erica Yan</u>

Grace armdrags her down to start but Yan comes back with a snapmare and does a little….gesture? That's broken up and Grace gets her to the mat and stomps away. Yan's rollup gets two but Grace kicks her to the mat and grabs an arm crank. Yan fights up and hits an atomic drop, setting up a facebuster. Grace gets sent into the corner though and it's a Wasteland for the pin at 4:46.

Rating: C-. This was a bit sloppy in parts but it seems that Grace is going to be the next star in the division. I still don't get the appeal of her and the beauty pageant stuff isn't working, but maybe NXT sees some value in a Santino Marella cameo. Yan hasn't been around in a bit so it was nice to have her back, even in defeat.

Dante Chen vs. Xyon Quinn

Quinn starts fast and drops Chen face first onto the top turnbuckle and hits a backbreaker. A splash to the back gets two and Quinn whips him hard into the corner. The bearhug goes on for a bit, followed by Quinn picking him up for an even bigger bearhug. Chen fights back and hits a kick to the head for two but a Death Valley Driver cuts him down. The running punch finishes for Quinn at 5:55.

Rating: C. I still like Quinn but at the end of the day, this is about as good as he is going to be doing for the time being. You would think that he would get somewhere because of his great look but that still isn't getting him very far. Hopefully he gets a chance at some point, but it really doesn't seem to be happening anytime soon.

Overall Rating: C-. This was more along the lines of a show built wrestlers who should be something but just aren't there

yet for whatever reason. The problem at this point is that they just aren't very good or didn't do well in their first chance around here. I'm not sure if they are going to get better, but for now, this is really all they're going to be able to do.

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