

NXT – November 1, 2022: Punt, Perhaps In A Baseball Sense

NXT

Date: November 1, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Booker T., Vic Joseph

We are into the final two months of the year and heading towards Deadline in December. It would seem that JD McDonagh is on his way towards the next shot at Bron Breaker, where he is probably a favorite to win the title. Now though the question is who shows up from the main roster this week. Let's get to it.

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

Here is Bron Breaker to get things going. He talks about how great a night Halloween Havoc was, and not just for him. We hear about Wes Lee winning the North American Title, but here is Pretty Deadly to interrupt. They don't think much of Breaker retaining his title again but Breaker mocks their accents.

Cue Wes Lee to praise Pretty Deadly's hair and Breaker is willing to let Pretty Deadly have the spotlight. Pretty Deadly poses for a picture (meaning a lot of hip thrusting) but Breaker says someone is going to interrupt. That would be Breaker and Lee, who want the Tag Team Titles. Prince: "There is no way this night could get any worse." Cue R-Truth and yeah it's worse. This was a bit of an out of nowhere title challenge, which makes me think the change in the World Series schedule might have messed up NXT's plans.

R-Truth vs. Grayson Waller

Waller gets sent into the corner to start but comes out with a

shoulder. A mock of You Can't See Me earns Waller a trip down and Truth grabs a headlock. Back up and an STO drops Truth but he rolls away before Waller can try the elbow. They head outside with Truth hitting a big flip dive and we take a break. We come back with....the match being stopped due to an injury to R-Truth at 7:13. Truth didn't quite clear the ropes on that dive and hurt his knee. Oh that's never good to see.

Rating: C. Oh that doesn't look good. You never want to see anyone get hurt in any way and a knee is one of the scariest possibilities. It doesn't help that Truth is in his late 40s and probably doesn't have much time left in the ring. Hopefully he isn't severely hurt and only needs some ice, but we could be waiting for a long time before he's back out there.

Post match Waller brags about his win (which came on his own) over a 20 year vet.

We get a sitdown interview with Schism, with Ava Raine saying no one but Schism ever took the time to get to know her. She got hurt early in training and no one who had "known her for years" checked on her. The rest of the team talks about how much they care and can't help what people think about them. And no, Raine isn't brainwashed, but she will help Joe Gacy against Cameron Grimes next week. You mean the lack of a Get Well Soon card means we have to sit through MORE Schism???

Javier Bernal talks to Edris Enofe and Malik Blade outside of Shawn Michaels' office. He was told to be here to find out about his match tonight, but Odyssey Jones comes out. Jones will face Bernal tonight.

Kiana James gives her assistant an envelope.

Indi Hartwell and Zoey Stark get in one of those "only WWE women argue like this" arguments and a match is set for later.

Andre Chase gives Thea Hail a pep talk before her match but

she doesn't feel right. There is no Bodie Hayward, but Duke Hudson breaks through a wall and offers to carry the flag.

Thea Hail vs. Kiana James

Andre Chase and Duke Hudson are in Hail's corner. Hail is rather fired up to start but James takes her to the mat for an early armbar. It takes Hail a bit to fight back but she sends James into the corner, setting up the running flip neckbreaker. Back up and James hits her running reverse Sling Blade for two, as Hudson puts the foot on the rope. That's too much for Chase, who ejects him on principle. Another reverse Sling Blade finishes Hail at 4:18.

Rating: C. The Chase University story was one of the best things in NXT and while Chase can still do some very funny things, you can feel that some of the energy is gone and the idea is starting to fall off. It doesn't help when you have Duke Hudson, who is good but not the most exciting, guy there to bring it down (which does seem to be the point) and Hail losing, but hopefully they can figure out something to salvage it in some way.

Post match Charlie Dempsey returns and jumps Chase from behind, drawing Duke Hudson out for the save. Hail isn't sure if she can trust Hudson but seems to enough.

Josh Briggs/Brooks Jensen/Fallon Henley are ready to watch the main event. Kiana James' assistant comes up to deliver the envelope from earlier to Henley. The trio reads the papers but don't say anything about them.

Mr. Stone interrupts Wes Lee and Bron Breakker to ask why Von Wagner hasn't gotten a title shot. Breakker tells him to get out.

Odyssey Jones vs. Javier Bernal

This is Jones' first match in several months after a knee

injury. Jones runs him over to start and then does it again for a bonus. Bernal gets smart by going after the legs to take the much bigger Jones down, setting up a sleeper. With that broken up, Jones has had enough and grabs a swinging Boss Man Slam for the pin at 4:21.

Rating: C. I'm not quite as all in on Jones as some but he does make for a good big man to crush people like Bernal. Jones is someone who could be a rather nice addition to the roster in some places and that is a good thing to have. Bernal...I know you need jobbers, but was he really the best that they had available?

Here is Toxic Attraction to celebrate Mandy Rose reaching one year as NXT Women's Champion. Jacy Jayne and Gigi Dolin both congratulate her, talking about how she has beaten everyone and turned Toxic Attraction into one of the most important factions in the history of NXT. They send us to a video looking at her rather long title reign.

Rose: "Not bad for a piece of eye candy huh?". She knows no one can stop her and thanks Dolin and Jayne for helping bring Toxic Attraction to the top. The numbers don't lie and she wants some respect on her name. Anyone in the locker room knows where to find her so here is Alba Fyre. Dolin is put through a table and Fyre says Jayne is next, with Rose to follow.

Apollo Crews thinks NXT wants to see him face Bron Breaker because Crews is a matchup problem for anyone. Crews thinks Breaker is running from him, but Von Wagner comes in to say he's next for Breaker. Please no.

Scrypts calls the Performance Center again and says being in NXT almost feels like home. We also see security footage of him spray painting his name on the wall.

Indi Hartwell vs. Zoey Stark

Nikkita Lyons is here with Stark, who gets caught by the wrist to start. Back up and Stark hits a springboard spinning crossbody as the lights go out for a bit (seems a bit planned). The lights come back up (after not going all the way out) as Stark works on Hartwell's arm for a change. Stark gets clotheslined to the floor and the frustration is on as we take a break.

Back with Stark stomping Hartwell down in the corner, even as Lyons tells her to cool it. Stark teases taking her outside for a powerbomb through the announcers' table but Stark talks her out of it. Back in and Stark kicks her in the face, setting up a clothesline to the back of the head for the pin at 9:48.

Rating: C+. The reheating of Hartwell continues and I'm still not sure how interesting Starks really is. Having her lose her temper isn't quite an enticing story and having her with Lyons doesn't exactly help things. Maybe they can get somewhere with her, but it's not quite clicking yet.

The man who appears to be T-Bar talks about how this is his authority.

Valentina Feroz wants Sanga in his corner but Veer comes in to interrupt them. Sanga says he can't do it as Wendy Choo watches from behind.

Nikkita Lyons has to calm Zoey Stark from going after the taunting Kayden Carter and Katana Chance.

Valentina Feroz vs. Cora Jade

Feroz looks rather upset on the way to the ring but she's fine enough to take Jade down. A running knee sends Jade outside and Feroz sends her right back inside. Jade gets in a shot to the face and we hit the choke. Feroz breaks that up but misses a high crossbody, allowing Jade to hit a DDT for the pin at 3:38.

Rating: C. This was quick as it should have been, as Jade is rising up the heel side and Feroz is best known for being part of a tag team that is on the shelf at the moment. The lack of Sanga seemed to shake Feroz up and somehow they have set the story up so that makes a good bit of sense. There was no way Feroz should have won here, but at least the loss was logical.

Post match Jade goes after Feroz with her stick but Wendy Choo makes the save.

Stacks tells Tony D'Angelo that he took care of that thing. D'Angelo sees Stacks like his own son getting started. Elektra Lopez comes in to say she's her own boss now and will be even more dangerous.

Tag Team Titles: Pretty Deadly vs. Wes Lee/Bron Breaker

Lee and Breaker are challenging. Lee sunset flips Wilson to start and then rolls him up for two more. Wilson gets annoyed when Lee flips away from him so it's off to Prince. Breaker comes in for a backdrop and running clothesline to drop him hard. Stereo Frankensteiners take the Champs down and we go to a break.

Back with Lee dropkicking Prince through the ropes to the floor but Wilson jumps him from behind. Lee is thrown back in and elbowed down by Wilson so the beating can continue. A quick shot allows the tag off to Breaker though and a Steiner Bulldog puts Prince down. Breaker suplexes both of them and nips up, meaning it's back to Lee and everything breaks down. Cue Carmelo Hayes for a distraction though and Lee gets rolled up to retain the titles at 12:00.

Rating: C+. This felt like something you would see at a house show and that isn't a bad thing for a thrown together TV main event. Singles champions vs. team champions is a fine way to go, though I could have gone without Lee taking a pin. At least they had some shenanigans with Hayes interfering, but I also don't need Hayes going after the North American Title

again.

Lee and Hayes fight away and it's Von Wagner coming in to jump Breakker.

Apollo Crews is watching in the back when JD McDonagh comes up. McDonagh doesn't see Crews' vision of being NXT Champion coming true.

Overall Rating: C+. The more I think about this show, the more I think that they pulled back a bit because baseball was moved into the time slot. That's fine for a one off show as they didn't know they were going up against the World Series until yesterday. Punt things until next week when you have a bigger audience and make this more of a stand alone show with previews for next week. For what it was, this was perfectly acceptable, but it's not worth your time.

Results

Grayson Waller b. R-Truth via referee stoppage

Kiana James b. Thea Hail – Reverse Sling Blade

Odyssey Jones b. Javier Bernal – Swinging Boss Man Slam

Indi Hartwell b. Zoey Stark – Running clotheslines to the back of the head

Cora Jade b. Valentina Feroz – DDT

Pretty Deadly b. Wes Lee/Bron Breakker – Rollup to Lee

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