NXT - December 6, 2022: Something About This Show

NXT

Date: December 6, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Booker T., Vic Joseph

It's the go home show for Deadline and I'm not exactly expecting much tonight as a result. The card is mostly set, though we do need to determine the final entrants in each Iron Survivor Challenge. That means a pair of triple threat matches and they at least have some stakes going in. Let's get to it.

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

<u>Iron Survivor Challenge Qualifying Match: Axiom vs. Von Wagner vs. Andre Chase</u>

The rest of Chase U is here with Chase. A running boot rocks Wagner at the bell but he's fine enough to headlock both of them at once. That's broken up and a double shoulder puts Wagner on the floor. Axiom loads up a dive but gets rolled up for two by Chase. That's enough for Wagner to get back up and send them both outside as we take a break. Back with Chase hitting a top rope superplex on Axiom near Wagner, who was either out of position to get knocked down or was trying to help with the crash.

Either way, Axiom heads to the floor and it's a slugout between Chase and Wagner. A Russian legsweep drops Wagner to set up the spelling stomps, followed by a tiger driver to give Chase two on Axiom. Wagner comes back in but gets triangle choked by Axiom. That's broken up and Wagner plants Chase for two. Chase DDTs both of them at once but Axiom shoves Chase to the floor and superkicks Wagner for the pin at 11:58.

Rating: C+. It was fast paced and that's one of the best things that can be said about something like this. On top of that, at least Chase didn't take the fall, even if it would be nice for him to actually win something for a change. The fans are into him and for some reason that seems to be enough for NXT for whatever reason. Also it was someone other than Wagner, which is a positive.

Julius Creed's knee is cleared for him to compete but Ivy Nile asks the trainer to check his ribs. Those are banged up, and he won't be able to compete because of them. Brutus Creed isn't happy, but Nile says she's protecting Julius.

Cora Jade is ready to do whatever it takes to become #1 contender.

Bron Breakker is about to go fishing when Apollo Crews shows up at the doc to join him. Crews compliments the boat and Breakker shows him how to cast. They praise each others' athleticism, with Breakker admitting he copied the standing moonsault from him. Crews asks if this really calms you down, with Breakker talking about the pressure that comes from being champion.

Crews catches a fish, earning some praise from Breakker, before throwing it back. They agree that Deadline should be a good one and shake hands. Crews says today wasn't Breakker's day with fishing and Saturday won't be his day at Deadline either. These vignettes have been different enough to make the feud interesting and that's a nice change of pace.

Bryson Montana is in the ring for a match but Indus Sher takes him out. Cue Montana's opponent.

<u>Javier Bernal vs. Bryson Montana</u>

Actually hang on as Bernal has a sudden hamstring injury so he's out. Indus Sher says they won't fight the Creed Brothers unless they're 100%, so the challenge is turned down for now.

Cue the Creed Brothers but Ivy Nile and some referees hold them back. No match.

Duke Hudson is trying to console Andre Chase when a very excited Thea Hail runs in to say she's facing Isla Dawn tonight. Hudson doesn't think it's a good idea because Dawn is scary, but Chase says go do it. Chase isn't happy when Hudson questions his decision.

Sol Ruca danced on Tik Tok at a live event but Brooks Jensen/Josh Briggs and Malik Blade/Edris Enofe got in an argument behind them. A tag match was set.

Tony D'Angelo vs. Xyon Quinn

Stacks is here with D'Angelo, who is getting quite the positive reaction here. Quinn drives him into the corner to start but D'Angelo slugs away at the ribs. A suplex drops Quinn again Quinn's Samoan drop sends D'Angelo outside, only to run him over back inside. D'Angelo hits something close to John Cena's ProtoBomb for the pin at 1:49.

Post match D'Angelo says he's back and he wants Wes Lee and the North American Title. Cue Lee to say the Don is back and the champ is ready for him. Dijak took Lee out recently though so if D'Angelo wants the title, he'll have to wait until Lee takes care of some business. That doesn't work for D'Angelo, who says his business comes first. Dijak pops up on screen to say he's going to decimate NXT and take the title. Then Stacks jumps Lee, who shoves Stacks down and bails from the numbers advantage.

Last week, Hank Walker talked to Charlie Dempsey and says he wishes he could have followed in his father's footsteps. Walker wants respect and they can do this if they need to. Dempsey says he'll show Walker that he doesn't belong.

Scrypts looks at his debut match and talks about how he needs to change things up, starting with the chosen ones. He writes his name down while surrounded by crinkled papers.

Hank Walker vs. Charlie Dempsey

Dempsey slaps him in the face to start so Walker takes him into the corner. There's a big hiptoss to send Dempsey flying and a slam makes it worse. Dempsey grabs a gutwrench suplex but here is Drew Gulak of all people for a distraction. The Kimura keeps Walker in trouble abut he fights out and hits a Thesz press. That's fine with Dempsey, who dragon screw legwhips him down but a half crab attempt is broken up. Dempsey cranks on the knee instead and ties up the face at the same time to make Walker tap at 4:02.

Rating: C. This was quick and to the point, as there is no reason to believe that Walker, who is little more than a brawler, could hang with a technical monster like Dempsey. I'm glad to see Dempsey taking someone apart, and having him do that to Gulak in a technical off could be very entertaining. Or Gulak mentors him, which might not be the best idea as Gulak last won anything....when?

Zoey Stark talks about timing and knowing how none of the people in the Iron Survivor Challenge can touch her.

Grayson Waller is ready to win the Iron Survivor Challenge because everyone is scared of him going in.

And now, Pretty Deadly as Santa and an elf in a Christmas set in the ring, for the real meaning of Christmas. They both sit in the throne (yeah there's a throne) and read the book, which talks about their bulging sacks overflowing. They'll never lose the titles and never be bruised so they have a Merry Christmas hug....and here is New Day to interrupt.

Kofi Kingston talks about how Pretty Deadly has beaten everyone, so let's have a title match at Deadline. The fight is on and New Day clears the ring without much effort, including having presents put on Pretty Deadly's heads. That's a big surprise and Pretty Deadly will benefit from the win.

Isla Dawn is ready to hurt Thea Hail.

Javier Bernal is going to leave and suddenly remembers he's in pain when McKenzie Mitchell shows up. No, he is NOT scared of Indus Sher, who don't want any of him. He accuses Mitchell of being biased and wants someone more fair. Cue Ikemen Jiro, who Bernal trusts. Jiro calls him a chicken and Bernal isn't pleased.

Thea Hail vs. Isla Dawn

Chase U is here too. Dawn shoves her down to start and hits a running shot to the back. Hail fights up and slugs away, including a running shot in the corner. There's a t-bone suplex to Dawn, who is right back with a sitout reverse DDT. A second one finishes Hail at 2:50.

Post match Alba Fyre pops up to go after Dawn but gets held back by referees. Fyre charges anyway and a referee gets misted by mistake.

Kiana James is ready to be smart and win the Iron Survivor Challenge.

Lyra Valkyria is here next week.

<u>Josh Briggs/Brooks Jensen vs. Malik Blade/Edris Enofe</u>

Odyssey Jones is here with Blade and Enofe. Jensen gets knocked into the corner to start and Blade hits a heck of a dropkick for two. That's broken up and it's Jensen working on the arm as Kiana James' assistant shows up with a letter for Jensen. Blade hits a big moonsault on the floor onto Briggs (and almost misses), leaving Enofe to hit an old Dean Ambrose standing top rope elbow for two on Jensen. Von Wagner shows up to brawl with Jones and it's the high/low to give Briggs the pin at 3:25.

Rating: C. It might not be the best idea to have multiple people getting involved or interfering in a match that doesn't even last three minutes. I like both teams but it would be nice to have Blade and Enofe win something for once. The tools are there, but eventually they just feel like losers and that is a hard stigma to overcome.

Respect is shown post match.

Roxanne Perez is ready to prove herself because she keeps getting screwed over. But how do you prepare for a match that has never taken place before? She looks in a mirror to talk herself up and seems to buy it.

Shawn Michaels runs down the concept of the Iron Survivor Challenge.

<u>Iron Survivor Qualifying Match: Indi Hartwell vs. Wendy Choovs. Fallon Henley</u>

In the back, Brooks Jensen opens the envelope from the assists, which contains VIP tickets to Deadline from Kiana James. Hartwell starts fast but Choo headlock takeovers Henley. A double rollup gives Hartwell two as Toxic Attraction is watching. Back up and Henley flips both of them down at once, with Hartwell being sent outside. Hartwell kicks Henley down on the floor though and we take a break.

We come back with Choo in the Tree of Woe with Hartwell kicking away, only to get rolled up by Henley. With Choo free, Hartwell is sent outside and Henley is suplexed, with Hartwell having to make the save. The Tower of Doom leaves everyone down and Choo splashes Henley. Then Hartwell sends Choo outside, decks Henley, and steals the pin at 10:15.

Rating: C+. Hartwell was the focal point of the match and is the most established star so her going forward makes sense. I still like Henley a lot but she might be better suited as the manager/friend of the team rather than a featured star. You know what you're getting with Choo, though to be fair she has toned down A LOT of the silliness and it's a big improvement. Hartwell was the right call here though.

Toxic Attraction says of course they'll be at Deadline but Indi Hartwell comes in to say Saturday is her night.

Deadline rundown.

Here is Grayson Waller for the Grayson Waller Effect, with the rest of the Iron Survivor entrants (JD McDonagh, Carmelo Hayes, Axiom and Joe Gacy) as his guests. Waller insults all of them but Hayes says he's ready to show that he is the A Champion again. McDonagh asks about Hayes losing the North American Title twice, but Hayes says that doesn't matter right now. McDonagh is sure he can go 25 minutes, which Waller would never understand.

Waller shrugs that off and asks Gacy about this group. Gacy says individuals are selfish and will step over each other to get what they want. Axiom talks about how you have to evolve to win and that is where he excels. Hayes: "NERD!" We get a question from a fan: which spot would you want to enter the match?

Axiom says first or second so he can maximize his falls, but that doesn't appeal to anyone else. Gacy promises that he'll win but Hayes says he won't miss. Waller says you never know when someone is going to strike first, earning himself a headbutt from Gacy. The fight is on and everyone but Waller heads to the floor, leaving Waller (with camera) to flip dive onto everyone else. The big brawl ends the show.

Overall Rating: C+. This could have been worse, as they did make the Iron Survivor Challenge feel like a big deal. That is kind of hard to do when it's nothing but a heavily gimmicked #1 contenders match, but they pulled it off here. There wasn't much else of interest on the show and Deadline is looking like a pretty unimportant card, but they made the featured matches

feel bigger and that's the important thing.

Results

Axiom b. Von Wagner and Andre Chase — Golden Ratio to Wagner Tony D'Angelo b. Xyon Quinn — Belly to back slam Charlie Dempsey b. Hank Walker — Leg trap crossface Isla Dawn b. Thea Hail — Sitout reverse DDT Josh Briggs/Brooks Jensen b. Malik Blade/Edris Enofe — High/low to Enofe Indi Hartwell b. Fallon Henley and Wendy Choo — Running forearm to the back of Henley's head

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