NXT LVL Up - April 28, 2023: Where Did He Come From?

NXT LVL Up

Date: April 28, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

The first night of the Draft is over and that is not going to mean a thing around here. As usual the show was taped far in advance of this one and that doesn't mean much in the way of major developments. Other than NXT getting some names called up and some LVL Up stars taking their place, this show is more or less immune from the Draft. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

<u>Tyler Bate vs. Luca Crusifino</u>

Ok that's not someone I was expecting. Luca offers Bate a business card to start as commentary talks about what a big deal it is to have Bate here (yeah pretty much). Bate takes him down and stretches the legs before luring him in with the business card to over stretch Crusifino even more. Crusifino manages to take him down and grabs a quickly broken chinlock. Bate is back with the long form airplane spin, setting up the Tyler Driver 97 for the pin at 5:11.

Rating: C. This is the kind of thing LVL Up needs to do: throw out someone who isn't working on the regular NXT show that week and have them work a short match. Bate being here made the show feel more important, or at least interesting, and it isn't like having him work five minutes is going to hurt anything. Nothing match of course, but Bate being there is enough of a benefit.

Hank Walker and Tank Ledger are old friends (they met over some nice meatloaf) and now it's time to face the Dyad ("the green beans of the NXT tag team division").

Ivy Nile vs. Lola Vice

They fight over a rather aggressive lockup to start until Nile rides her to the mat. Vice is right back with a kick to the ribs, followed by a running hip attack in the corner. A double arm crank is broken up though and Nile kicks her down again. Nile grabs a gutwrench suplex and the Diamond Chain Lock knocks Vice out cold for the win at 4:18.

Rating: C+. Vice has all of the tools in the world to be something, including the charisma that makes her feel like a star. Throw in the MMA background and all of the potential is right there. On the other hand you have Nile, who still feels like she could be something in the division as soon as she is given the chance.

Dyad vs. Hank Walker/Tank Ledger

The rest of Schism is here with the Dyad. Walker shrugs off Reid's headlock to start and sends Reid flying into the corner. Everything breaks down and it's off to Walker to slam Fowler. Reid comes back in to whip Ledger hard into the corner but the chinlock doesn't last long. Walker fights up and brings in Ledger to clean house, including a hard shoulder for two on Reid. Everything breaks down again and a wheelbarrow into a reverse X Factor (cool) plants Reid for two more. Walker is pulled outside and the double Codebreaker finishes Ledger at 7:06.

Rating: C+. The match got a little more time than most matches around here and it made things that much better. Other than that, the Dyad got to showcase themselves a bit, even if they do not seem likely to be long for the promotion after their recent release requests. Ledger and Walker could be decent as a working man team, though that isn't likely to work all that

well with Josh Briggs and Brooks Jensen around.

Overall Rating: C+. Better show this week, with the bigger names helping move things on a bit. You have Bate and the Dyad as bigger than usual names, plus the usual offering in the women's match. That makes for a slightly better than average show, but as usual it is absolutely nothing that you need to see.

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