

NXT UK – June 3, 2021: The Good Before The Important Good

NXT UK

Date: June 3, 2021

Location: BT Studios, London, England

Commentators: Andy Shepherd, Nigel McGuinness

It's time for a grudge match as Joe Coffey gets to face Rampage Brown in a hoss fight rematch. What more could you really ask for from a show than that? Well in this case we will also be getting Ilja Dragunov vs. Noam Dar and Pretty Deadly defending the Tag Team Titles. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Here's what's coming tonight.

Ilja Dragunov vs. Noam Dar

Dar actually takes over on the mat to start but it's a quick break to let them both up. This time Dragunov down but he holds himself back from going nuts. Instead Dragunov wrestles him back to the mat without much time and cranks on the arm. A big boot staggers Dar again but he is right back with a cradle for two. Dragunov tries the Constantine Special but the knee gives out, allowing Dar to knock him outside in a hurry.

Back in and Dar starts working away on the arm but Dragunov pulls him into an armbar of his own. Dragunov fights up for a German suplex until the knee gives out, though he manages to hold on anyway. The half crab is broken up in a hurry so they slug it out, with Dragunov nailing an enziguri.

Back up again and now the Constantine Special can connect for two on Dar. Dragunov misses a middle rope knee and Dar is right there to bar that knee. The rope gets Dragunov out of trouble so Dar strikes away...which wakes Dragunov up. Something like a fireman's carry slam into a gutwrench suplex gets two on Dar. An elbow staggers Dragunov though and Dar loads up the Nova Roller, only to walk into Torpedo Moscow to give Dragunov the pin at 13:36.

Rating: B-. This was two guys beating each other up and trying to pick the other apart. When the technical and submission stuff wasn't working for Dragunov, he resorted to a flying headbutt to the chest. Dragunov as the man to dethrone Walter is not impossible and this was a good showcase of why it was possible. Dar held up his own end as well, as he can deliver when he is given the chance with the right opponent.

Video on Aoife.

Jordan Devlin is back and Sid Scala is glad to see him. Before Devlin is back for good though, he has some demands: a private dressing room, someone taking care of his Mustang and a spot on Supernova Sessions. I hope he itemized that list.

Tag Team Titles: Pretty Deadly vs. Jack Starz/???

Pretty Deadly is defending and this is fallout from the two of them mocking Starz. The mystery partner is...Nathan Frazer, which should work rather well. Stoker drives the much smaller Starz around without much effort to start, followed by a front facelock. Howley comes in to whip Starz hard into the corner but Starz jumps over him for the hot tag off to Frazer.

A very quick armdrag into an armbar doesn't last long on Howley, as he takes Frazer into the corner as well. It's back to Stoker and Frazer is tossed hard out to the floor. Frazer is back in rather soon and dives over for a hot tag of his own. Starz gets to clean house as everything breaks down. Something like a slam faceplant gives Starz two on Howley but

Frazer is sent outside. That leaves Starz to get jumped, setting up Spilled Milk to retain the titles at 7:10.

Rating: C. This wasn't exactly strong when it came to drama but it felt like a one off match more than anything else. The good thing here was that I never thought they would have Frazer take the loss here, because thankfully NXT UK is smart enough to know better than to do something so stupid. Throw in Pretty Deadly being a rather snappy heel team and this worked fine.

Tyler Bate is doing some blindfolded training and meditation, while saying anyone can come after the Heritage Cup.

Flash Morgan Webster vs. Joseph Conners

Jinny is here too. Webster works on a wristlock to start and some leg trips set up a standing inverted flip backsplash. That's a bit too much for Conners, who unloads on Webster to take over. Some quick rollups give Webster two so Conners cuts him off with a backbreaker.

For some reason Webster decides to slug it out with Conners and actually gets the better of things, including knocking Conners outside. That means the big running flip dive on the floor. Back in and they stagger each other again so Jinny grabs Webster's helmet. The referee deals with that, allowing Jinny to crotch Webster on top. The hangman's neckbreaker gives Conners the pin at 5:03.

Rating: C. This was pretty quick and mainly a way to establish Conners as more of a threat. That's all well and good, though Mark Andrews would seem to be the bigger accomplishment. Subculture is a group that works well together, even if it is a team we have seen for months now with a woman added. Not a bad match, but it seems to be setting up more for later.

Post match Subculture runs in for the save.

Walter is back next week. That's an upgrade.

Video on Kay Lee Ray vs. Meiko Satomura before their rematch for the title next week. Satomura almost has to win there, but I'm not sure she will, which is a hard trick to pull off.

Rampage Brown vs. Joe Coffey

Rematch from a few weeks ago where Brown won. No seconds here and they go straight to the power off, as you might have guessed. Coffey goes for what might be banged up ribs before getting dropkicked out to the floor. They slug it out on the apron before going inside, where Brown stomps on Coffey's hand. That doesn't work for Coffey, who knocks him outside for a dive into the barricade.

Back in and Coffey unloads on the ribs, including rights and lefts into a side slam. The running shoulder to the ribs in the corner have Brown in even more trouble, followed by a belly to belly. A double jump moonsault gives Coffey two more and some rapid fire right hands in the corner keep Brown down. Brown blocks a superplex but and rives off the top to drop Coffey again but the ribs give out. Coffey misses a spinning high crossbody and comes up favoring his knee.

They crash outside again with Coffey getting the better of things, though they both break the count. Then they go right back to the floor to slug it out, with Brown being sent into the steps. Back in and Coffey hits a missile dropkick, followed by a bridging German suplex for two. Brown can't hit the Doctor Bomb so Coffey hits a pair of running headbutts to put him in the corner. All The Best For The Bells finishes Brown at 11:38.

Rating: B-. There is nothing wrong with having two big power guys beating each other up until one of them couldn't get up. Brown losing actually feels like a bit of a big deal so they have done a good job building him up. Coffey needed a win to boost him back up after not doing much for a little while.

Good power match here, which was about all you could have expected.

Respect is shown post match and they both seem up for a rubber match. Cue Ilja Dragunov to stare them both down to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. I liked the show again and I can't say I'm even a bit surprised by that these days. NXT UK has figured out the formula with a pair of good matches wrapped around some just ok ones. That is something that is going to work, and my goodness Walter returning and the Women's Title showdown for next week sound like a great core for the show. This was good, but the big one is next week.

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205 Live – May 28, 2021: So Nice I Didn't Even Notice

205 Live

Date: May 28, 2021

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Tom Phillips, Nigel McGuinness

So...we're going to try this one again, as I accidentally watched the May 21 edition a second time and had no idea until the ending. The fact that I had no idea that I had already seen the show is rather telling, but so is me saying "It wasn't a terrible or even a bad show, but you could replace most editions of this show with any other for several months and not notice the difference.". Hopefully this one stands out more. Let's get to it.

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

Asher Hale vs. Tony Nese

Hale goes to the wrist to start and Nese has to roll to the ropes to avoid getting rolled up. Another wristlock sends Nese to the ropes for the second time so Hale tries a headlock instead. This time Nese suplexes his way to freedom but Hale hammers away, setting up a half butterfly suplex of his own. The rapid fire kicks in the corner have Nese in trouble but he's right back with a running elbow to the face.

A spinning kick to the face drops Hale for two but the Running Nese is countered into a Downward Spiral into the middle turnbuckle. Nese is back up with a running palm strike but they both crash out to the floor. Back in and they slug it out with Hale sweeping the leg and nailing an enziguri. The tornado DDT is blocked so Nese kicks him down, only to miss the Lionsault. Hale grabs a bully choke for the tap at 8:54.

Rating: C+. Hale has grown on me a lot in recent weeks as he has a kind of scrappy style to him that works out rather well. Beating Nese still means a little something around here, though Hale isn't likely to get very far on this show. At least they are starting him out well, which is about as important of a move as they can make.

Ari Sterling vs. Ariya Daivari

The fans seem to be behind Ari, though Nigel things it's DAIVARI, which isn't that far off. Sterling slugs away to start but gets sent outside,

setting up a chop block. A whip into the barricade has Sterling in trouble and it's time to crank on the knee back inside. Sterling fights up and hammers away in the corner until Daivari drops him face first onto the buckle. The knee is sent into the post a few times and we hit the Figure Four.

Sterling gets out and hits a pair of enziguris, setting up the running flip ax kick. A running hurricanrana out of the corner gives Sterling two more but Daivari catches him on top. Another Figure Four is countered though and Sterling hits a double springboard moonsault. Daivari takes out the knee again back inside and the half crab goes on. Sterling makes the rope and knocks him off the top though, setting up a Spiral Tap for the pin at 9:23.

Rating: C. Sterling not being able to sell his knee is getting really annoying. It is rather tiring to watch someone work over his knee for so much of a match and then get up and do his flips and kicks without much effort. If he isn't going to put the work off the leg injuries, what's the point in trying anything with them? I'm glad to see Sterling win, but there are some areas he needs to fix up.

Overall Rating: C-. As usual, it's nice to see the younger guys getting a chance, but it isn't going to matter if you keep doing the same things over and over. These guys have been around for a few weeks now and while they are still fresh blood, it doesn't help to have them on the same treadmill over and over. In other words, as usual, they need something to build towards or there is little reason to get invested. Would a one off title shot be that much to ask for? Even if it's a squash loss on NXT? Just something already, and it might help quite a bit.

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Daily News Update – June 3, 2021

It's kind of a one story day.

Two More Matches Confirmed For NXT Takeover: In Your House.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/two-matches-confirmed-nxt-takeover-house/>

BREAKING: WWE Releases Six Names, Including Top Raw Star.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/breaking-wwe-releases-six-names-including-top-raw-star/>

Possible Reason For Braun Strowman's WWE Release.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/possible-reason-braun-strowmans-wwe-release/>

Released WWE Stars React, Wrestling World Weighs In On Moves.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/released-wwe-stars-react-wrestling-world-weighs-moves/>

WWE Hall Of Famer Confirmed For Takeover: In Your House.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-hall-famer-confirmed-takeover-house/>

WWE May Have Been Planting Seeds For Huge Return.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/ww-may-planting-seeds-huge-return/>

Monday Night Raw Sets A New Record (And It's Not Good).

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/monday-night-raw-sets-new-record-not-good/>

What The WWE Locker Room Is Saying About Company's Future.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/ww-locker-room-saying-companys-future/>

As always, please check out all of the videos if you can, hit up the comments section and [get on the Wrestling Rumors Facebook page.](#)

Impact Wrestling – May 27, 2021: By Design

Impact Wrestling

Date: May 27, 2021

Location: Skyway Studios, Nashville, Tennessee

Commentators: Josh Matthews, D'Lo Brown

We're on the way to Against All Odds and that means we are going to be seeing more of Moose vs. Kenny Omega as they set up their World Title match. I'm kind of curious to see the match, even though I don't quite see a ton of drama involved. Hopefully they can live up to the hype and we can get some more matches set up this week. Let's get to it.

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

The opening recap looks at Heath being involved in the Call Your Shot gauntlet match at Bound For Glory, with Rhino ultimately winning. Then last week, Rhino cashed in the contract to win the Tag Team Titles with Violent By Design.

Eric Young says that the change was foretold and last week it came to pass. Now they prove that it is real.

Opening sequence.

Here is Sami Callihan to have a seat in the ring for a chat. Callihan isn't happy with what Kenny Omega has done around here because Omega and the Good Brothers have ruined this place. You can't plan for someone like Callihan and Don Callis knows it. Let's lay this to rest right now, so Omega can come out here right now. Cue Moose to say that no one cares about Callihan, because he didn't win at Under Siege.

Callihan knows that Moose is a physical specimen but he isn't dangerous. Cue the Good Brothers to say praise the Lord a lot and say they are on Moose's side here. Maybe Callihan needs to stay out of Moose's way, but Moose doesn't want them on his side. The brawl is on and the Brothers are cleared out in a hurry. Anything that involves them talking less is a good thing.

The Good Brothers go to the back, where Don Callis makes the tag match.

Post break Callis is asked if he is allowed to make a match. Of course he can, though Scott D'Amore comes up to express his shock.

Commentary talks about what is coming tonight, plus the issues between Callis and D'Amore.

Petey Williams/Josh Alexander vs. TJP/Fallah Bahh

TJP has paid off Bahh's debts at Swinger's Palace so the team is back. Bahh shoves Alexander into the corner to start and we hit the front facelock. Alexander gets punched in the face but goes after the leg and grabs a front facelock of his own. TJP comes in for the Paisan elbow but Bahh can't quite nip up.

A double splash gets two but Williams comes back in to slow Bahh down. Alexander adds a top rope shoulder and we take a break. Back with Alexander driving shoulders into Bahh's ribs in the corner. Alexander comes back in for a kick to the ribs but makes the mistake of hitting Bahh in the head.

Bahh brings TJP back in to pick up the pace, including the Facewashes to Williams in the corner. The TJP vs. Alexander slugout goes to the former but it's a double knockdown to set up another double tag. TJP counters the Canadian Destroyer from Williams, who is crushed by Bahh's crossbody. A Samoan drop crushes Alexander and the Mamba Splash gives TJP the pin at 11:08.

Rating: C. It's kind of nice to have the oddball team back together again as they have always worked well together. TJP pinning Alexander is a fine way to set up their title match at...well whenever the match takes place. Williams' employment continues to confuse me a bit, though he is perfectly serviceable for a spot like this.

We get a sitdown interview with W. Morrissey, who mocks everyone for being so happy to your face and then stab you in the back. Some may call him bitter and people have kicked him while he was down. They even recorded him having a seizure instead of calling 911. People didn't talk to him in years but once he came back to wrestling, they were right there telling him how happy they were for him. He mocks the idea of Rich Swann and Willie Mack being friends and asks who is laughing now. Cue Swann to jump him for the brawl.

Video on the Knockouts, which feels like an ad you would see

when watching another channel.

Tenille Dashwood needs a replacement for a Knockouts tag and Rachael Ellering suggests Jordynne Grace. Dashwood isn't sure but Grace comes up, saying she doesn't want to be a substitute. Ellering talks her into it.

Fire N Flava/Kimber Lee/Deonna Purrazzo/Susan vs. Rachael Ellering/Havok/Jordynne Grace/Rosemary/Tenille Dashwood

Kaleb With A K is in the latter's corner and Grace is replacing Taylor Wilde who is missing due to....well in theory we'll find out in a bit. Lee charges into Havok's boot to start so Susan comes in to get kicked down as well. Hogan comes in and gets caught in Ellering's release gutwrench suplex. A backsplash connects but Hogan gets over for the tag to Steelz. That's fine for Ellering, who hits a sliding kick to the side of the head.

Dashwood tags herself in and takes Steelz down, much to Ellering's annoyance. It's quickly off to Grace, with the referee actually getting rid of Ellering because she was in the ring too long. The distraction lets Steelz snap Grace's neck across the top and we take a break. Back with Steelz dropping an elbow on Grace to cut off a hot tag attempt. Grace jumps over Hogan in the corner though, allowing her to backflip over into the corner for the tag off to Rosemary.

The Upside Down is broken up in a hurry and some double teaming puts Rosemary in trouble for a change. Susan takes Rosemary up and bites her head, only to have Havok turn it into a Tower of Doom. Purrazzo comes in and gets dropped by Ellering as everything breaks down. Susan throws her shoe at Havok to little success so Rosemary hits As Above So Below to finish Purrazzo at 12:42.

Rating: C. These things are really hard to pull off as there

is only so much that can be done with so many people in there at once. Rosemary will be a fine challenger for the title as she is one of the more established names in the division. This did its job, but you would think they could have done about the same with four or so fewer women included.

Flashback Moment of the Week: Eric Young beats Bobby Roode to become King of the Mountain Champion.

Josh Alexander is ready for all challengers so here are TJP and Fallah Bahh to interrupt. Scott D'Amore comes in to make a sixty minute Iron Man match for the title next week on Before The Impact. Well that's certainly a way to get people interested.

Video on the history between Rohit Raju and Jake Something....which apparently exists. They were friends for years and Raju doesn't know why Impact has treated Something as such a star. Something says this isn't the Raju he has known for years. A showdown seems to be looming. It's a bit of a random feud to give a story but points for doing anything with a midcard feud.

Here is Violent By Design to brag about their win last week. Eric Young talks about how scary violence is to everyone else but to them, it is a tool. He needed people who knew the sickness existed and that it needed to be removed. Joe Doering was his first choice and his vision is clear.

Then you have Deaner, who needed a guide and now is the most diabolical and violent version of himself. Finally you have Rhino, who is back as the War Machine. They did everything to set up last week by design. FinJuice is back in Japan and can't use their rematch....by design. Cue Satoshi Kojima to stare Doering down and then issue the challenge for Against All Odds. And then he leaves.

We look at Brian Myers laying out Matt Cardona last week, including sending him face first into a camera.

The Impact doctor says Cardona is out for twelve weeks when Myers comes in to laugh. Sam Beale interrupts and a match is made for later.

Joe Doering accepts Satoshi Kojima's challenge for Against All Odds. Decay interrupts and talks about Deaner still being in the shadows. Deaner doesn't like that and I think we have a title match impending.

Decay vs. Johnny Swinger/Hernandez

Alisha is here with Swinger and Hernandez. Swinger's hammerlock doesn't last long on Crazy Steve so Black Taurus comes in for a double back elbow. A backsplash gets two and it's back to Steve for an armbar. That's broken up in a hurry and it's off to Hernandez for something like a reverse Samoan drop. Swinger climbs onto Hernandez's shoulders but then drops down and hits a standing splash for two instead.

That doesn't last long either so it's back to Taurus to clean house. Steve backdrops out of a piledriver and goes up for the middle rope DDT...which is botched so badly that I had to rewind it a few times to see what happened. Steve jumped right but Swinger didn't fall down, instead standing there until Steve hit the mat and then falling onto his back. As bad as that is, it's good enough for to give Steve the pin at 3:58.

Rating: D. The match was your usual TV match but that ending was so bad I had to rewind it a few times and put it in slow motion to figure out what the heck happened. I'm not sure how you can have that kind of miscommunication but they pulled it off here. How hard can it be to fall on your face when someone hits a big move off the top? Nothing match, but that ending was memorable in all the wrong ways.

Here's what's coming next week.

Don Callis gives the Good Brothers a pep talk.

Slammiversary ad, featuring teasers of debuts.

Good Brothers vs. Sami Callihan/Moose

Callihan jumps Anderson to start and snapmares him down in a hurry. Some clawing at the head has Anderson screaming and Moose comes in for a slam. The Brothers take a breather on the floor and we take a break. Back with Callihan working on Anderson's arm but Moose tags himself in. Callihan does that right back so it's off to Gallows for the weird punching in the corner. After a trip to the floor, Callihan tells Gallows to punch him more so Gallows takes him down for a chinlock.

Back up and Callihan jawbreaks his way to freedom and it's a double tag so Moose can beat up Anderson. The spear is loaded up but Callihan tags himself in. Callihan loads up the Cactus Special, only to have Moose kick him in the face. Anderson rolls him up for two so Callihan kicks Moose off the apron. Anderson uses the distraction to hit a spinebuster into the Magic Killer for the pin at 9:01.

Rating: C-. This was a storyline match with the Good Brothers happening to be there too. Moose vs. Callihan would be a good warmup match for Moose before his title shot, assuming they don't turn it into a three way. The match was fine enough and advanced the biggest story on the show, but it wasn't exactly must see.

Moose spears Callihan to end the show.

Overall Rating: C-. Not their best show, but they did some stuff to set up Against All Odds. There wasn't much to see here in the way of wrestling though and it wasn't the most thrilling two hours. Violent By Design's segment didn't exactly go very far, though at least they did some stuff with the main event. All in all, a skippable week this time.

Results

TJP/Fallah Bahh b. Petey Williams/Josh Alexander – Mamba Splash to Alexander

Rosemary/Jordynne Grace/Rachael Ellering/Havok/Tenille Dashwood b. Fire N Flava/Kimber Lee/Deonna Purrazzo/Susan – As Above So Below to Purrazzo

Decay b. Johnny Swinger/Hernandez – Top rope DDT to Swinger

Good Brothers b. Sami Callihan/Moose – Magic Killer to Callihan

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Monday Night Raw – January 1, 2007: It's Coming

Monday Night Raw

Date: January 1, 2007

Location: American Airlines Arena, Miami, Florida

Attendance: 15,169

Commentators: Jim Ross, Jerry Lawler

It's the first show of the year, along with being the go home show for New Year's Revolution. That means things are going to pick up in a hurry, so we'll start with...the Kevin Federline match. The best thing we can hope for here is that it is over in a hurry so we can move on to anything else, as the fifteen minutes have to be long past up. Let's get to it.

[Here are the most recent results if you need a recap.](#)

We open with a recap of John Cena vs. Kevin Federline. He has been a good celebrity but egads it feels bottom of the barrel.

Opening sequence.

John Cena vs. Kevin Federline

Non-title and they aren't wasting time with this one. Federline comes out in a boxing robe and announces that Jonathan Coachman has made this No DQ. Therefore, here is Johnny Nitro to be in Federline's corner, which does make sense. Nitro gives Federline his mouthpiece but hang on again as Federline has to put on his gloves. Hang on again as Federline needs some headgear and NOW we're ready to go.

Federline's headlock is broken as quickly as you would expect so there go the gloves. Hang on again though as Federline has an idea: let's make this a Masterlock Challenge! Cena has a seat in the chair but Federline changes his mind. Instead it's a test of strength...with Federline pulling him into a cross armbreaker of all things. That's countered into a powerbomb but Nitro comes in, allowing Federline to hit a low blow. Cue Umaga and Armando Alejandro Estrada to beat Cena down, including a belt shot, to give Federline the cocky pin.

Rating: C. Yeah this was completely fine and nothing unexpected. Federline did a bunch of the classic hits here and that is all it needed to be. This was MUCH better than having Federline try to work a match and it added some heat to Sunday's title match. There was no need to try anything more

complicated and this could have been much, much worse.

Post break, Maria tries to talk to Federline but Melina isn't having any of that. Melina isn't having any of that because Maria called him K-Fed. Instead they can have a match later, but Melina gives her a slap for a preview.

DX talks strategy in the back, I'm guessing for a chess tournament.

We go to Kevin Federline's celebration, complete with Johnny Nitro, Melina and a bunch of women. Coach comes in to make a four on one handicap match with John Cena facing Armando Alejandro Estrada, Umaga, Nitro and...Coach himself. Of note: Coach reminds us that Nitro has an Intercontinental Title shot at the pay per view, which has been mostly forgotten since the match was announced.

Some members of the Miami Heat, including Shaquille O'Neal, are here.

Cryme Tyme/Highlanders vs. Shelton Benjamin/Charlie Haas/Lance Cade/Trevor Murdoch

Cryme Tyme says hi to Shaq during the entrances. Cade charges into Rory's elbow in the corner to start so JTG comes in to dance around a bit. That earns him a kick to the ribs and Haas comes in for a butterfly suplex. Benjamin and Murdoch don't seem to be on the same page so Cade drops a leg instead. A missed middle rope elbow gives JTG a breather and the hot tag brings in Shad to slug away. Shad's belly to back suplex gets two and everything breaks down. A jawbreaker sends Murdoch into the ropes with JTG snapping the back of his neck over the top for the pin.

Rating: D+. Nothing to see here but Cryme Tyme getting another pin is a good idea. Above all else, the tag team division needs some fresh teams and Cryme Tyme has been built up rather well. The rest of the teams are just kind of there, though

Haas and Benjamin should take all of eighteen seconds to reheat if needed.

Wrestlemania Recall: the biggest match in the history of professional wrestling.

Jeff Hardy vs. Rob Conway

Non-title. Before the match, Conway says that he is sick of losing around here and if he loses again, he's done with Raw. Conway then loses in about 20 seconds to a sunset flip in his last televised match in WWE.

Post match Conway is still in the ring and here is Vince McMahon for a chat. Vince talks about how many people break their New Year's resolution, just like Conway already did. He isn't breaking his though, which includes not being nice and letting people take advantage of him. That means he isn't going to be like his good friend Donald Trump, who is having trouble with Rosie O'Donnell, who he refers to as Yokozuna. Speaking of Trump, Vince doesn't like him stealing his catchphrase, so Conway is FIRED.

Kenny Dykstra says Ric Flair offering a handshake wasn't about Flair, but about himself. They say deaths come in threes, but tonight he's going to make it four: James Brown, Gerald Ford, Saddam Hussein and Ric Flair's career.

We look at Rated-RKO attacking Ric Flair a few weeks ago, leading to DX wanting revenge. Then Rated-RKO destroyed DX on the last Raw of the year.

Here is DX for a chat and they seem rather chipper despite being taken out two weeks ago. Shawn says he can't pretend what he just saw didn't happen but they are out of competition. They have beaten a bunch of people who are either gone or jerking the curtain somewhere else. Now they have Rated-RKO show up and finally you have two guys who have a set. Then they took out Ric Flair and beat him within an inch

of his life. They one upped themselves by laying out DX, which is someone no one has ever done before.

That's why the violence is coming at New Year's Revolution. HHH says Rated-RKO thinks they have them in the palm of their hands, but remember when Vince McMahon thought that? It's because DX is like....Frosted Mini Wheats? They have two sides: the sweet and sugary side (Shawn: "I like the sugary side!") and the other side, who is going to make Rated-RKO bleed. This was some weird mix of goofy and serious and it only kind of worked.

Melina vs. Maria

Melina is in workout gear for some reason and Victoria comes out for commentary. Maria knocks her into the corner to start and hammers away as the catfight is on. Victoria rants on the lack of spots because of people like Mickie James as Melina snaps Maria's neck across the top. Maria gets a boot up in the corner and hammers away as Victoria wants her to just go back to the beach already. A rollup goes badly for Melina so she stacks Maria up (with nothing in between) for the pin.

Post match Victoria goes after Lilian Garcia but Mickie James runs out for the save.

Video on Tribute to the Troops, set to a Goo Goo Dolls song.

Ric Flair/Carlito vs. Kenny Dykstra/Chris Masters

Torrie Wilson is here with the good ones. JR: "Now Kenny has a last name. And a hometown!" Masters tags Kenny in rather than facing Carlito (the hair is frightening) but comes in after Kenny takes him down. It's quickly off to Flair for a chop block to Masters but Kenny breaks up the Figure Four in a hurry. We take a break and come back with Masters taking Carlito into the corner and Kenny grabbing the chinlock. It's back to Masters for some chops in the corner and a chinlock of his own.

There's a gorilla press for two but Carlito is back up with a springboard elbow to the face. Kenny is smart enough to go outside and knock Flair off the apron, leaving Carlito to get Masterlocked. Flair comes back in for the save as everything breaks down. The hot tag brings Flair back in to chop away but Masters clotheslines him down. Carlito and Masters fight to the floor as Kenny sends Flair into the buckle and grabs a rollup with feet on the ropes for the pin.

Rating: C-. Pretty basic match here, though the ending didn't exactly do much for anyone. Above all else, it continues the Kenny push and it is only working so well. The fact that JR is mocking him for getting a last name and a hometown should tell you everything there is to know about his development. Kenny needed to go away for a long time to get rid of the Spirit Squad aura, but this isn't a complete disaster yet.

Post match Flair says this isn't over but here is Rated-RKO to take Flair out, including another Conchairto. I'm guessing DX stepped out for stroganoff. Flair is checked on, and after a break, he is still being checked on.

New Year's Revolution rundown, including Kenny vs. Flair and Carlito vs. Masters.

Here's Kevin Federline to say he told us so. He shocked the world earlier and it was so fun that he is going to have a seat at ringside. John Cena can't see him.

John Cena vs. Armando Alejandro Estrada/Umaga/Jonathan Coachman/Johnny Nitro

Kevin Federline is on commentary. Cena charges in to slug it out with Umaga and low bridges the monster to the floor. Nitro comes in to hammer away but gets release fisherman's suplexed. Umaga is back in for a Samoan drop and Coach gets in a few shots. That triggers the comeback so Cena cleans house, including getting Umaga in the STFU. Estrada brings in a chair but Cena takes it away and hits Umaga in the head for the DQ.

Post match Cena cleans house and grabs Federline for the FU. A lot of posing and staring ends the show.

Overall Rating: D+. Not much of a show here, but it felt like they were scrambling to get through the show while also focusing on the Federline stuff (which went shockingly well). New Year's Revolution feels like something that is just there too, with stuff like the Intercontinental Title match barely being mentioned. Cena vs. Umaga and DX vs. Rated-RKO should be enough to carry the show, but it wasn't exactly a great commercial for the pay per view.

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WWE Releases 6 More Names (So Far)

I'm actually stunned at some of these names.

Braun Strowman

Aleister Black

Ruby Riott

Lana

Santana Garrett

Buddy Murphy

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/breaking-wwe-releases-six-names-including-top-raw-star/>

AEW will get some of them and you can imagine Impact/ROH fighting over the rest. I'm really curious as to what is going on as this is not the kind of thing that WWE does, like ever.

Daily News Update – June 2, 2021

Raw has a lot of baggage.

Huge NXT Title Match Set For Takeover: In Your House.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/huge-nxt-title-match-set-takeover-house/>

New Grudge Match Confirmed For NXT Takeover: In Your House.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/new-grudge-match-confirmed-nxt-takeover-house/>

Eva Marie Denies Reports About Her WWE Return.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/eva-marie-denies-reports-wwe-return/>

RUMOR: Backstage Reaction To Monday Night Raw Debut.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/rumor-backstage-reaction-monday-night-raw-debut/>

VIDEO: Andrade Suplexes Ric Flair Into A Pool.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-andrade-suplexes-ric-flair-pool/>

WWE Roster Undergoing Special Training Before Return To Touring.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/wwe-roster-undergoing-special-training-return-touring/>

Interesting Note On Monday Night Raw Main Event.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/interesting-note-on-monday-night-raw-main-event/>

Monday Night Raw Changed Due To Segment Running Extra Long.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/monday-night-raw-changed-due-segment-running-extra-long/>

As always, please check out all of the videos if you can, hit up the comments section and [get on the Wrestling Rumors Facebook page.](#)

New Column: And Then What?

The fans are going to save WWE....for a little while at best.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/kbs-review-and-then-what>

NXT – June 1, 2021: That's In The Script?

NXT

Date: June 1, 2021

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Beth Phoenix, Wade Barrett, Vic Joseph

We have less than two weeks to go before Takeover and that means it is time to start setting up the card. One of the most important matches will be made tonight as we have a triple threat match between Kyle O'Reilly, Pete Dunne and Johnny Gargano to find out Karrion Kross' next challenger. Let's get to it.

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

The opening video looks at the triple threat match, with all three participants getting to say why they can win.

Pete Dunne vs. Kyle O'Reilly vs. Johnny Gargano

The winner gets the title shot against Karrion Kross at Takeover. They start fast with Gargano being sent outside, leaving Dunne to work on O'Reilly's arm. Gargano comes back in to tie up O'Reilly's leg at the same time, which is broken up in a hurry. The rather sore O'Reilly rolls outside, leaving Gargano to miss an armdrag on Dunne, who ties up the legs. O'Reilly comes back in to kick Dunne to the floor so O'Reilly can work on Gargano's arm.

That's fine with Dunne, who comes back in to crank on one of

their arms at the same time. Dunne gets sent to the floor and Gargano drops O'Reilly for two as we take a break. Back with O'Reilly kicking away and throwing some suplexes. O'Reilly hits a running knee off the apron to drop Dunne but Gargano hits a suicide dive each. The slingshot spear gets two on O'Reilly but Dunne is back in for the X Plex for two on Gargano.

Dunne grabs an armbar on O'Reilly with Gargano making the save. Gargano sends Dunne to the floor and O'Reilly grabs a kneebar, leaving Dunne to come back in for the save. The Lawn Dart gives Gargano two on Dunne but O'Reilly gets back in, leaving everyone to knock each other down for a breather. O'Reilly chokes Gargano so Dunne chokes O'Reilly, who drops Gargano as a result.

Gargano breaks that up with the Gargano Escape on Dunne as O'Reilly is sent outside. Dunne manages to snap the fingers for the escape and hits the Bitter End, only to have O'Reilly make the save with the top rope knee. O'Reilly follows Dunne outside for a double clothesline...and here's Adam Cole to chair both of them down. A livid William Regal comes out with security to get rid of him, though Cole throws in another low superkick to Cole as he leaves in a great move. We'll say it's a no contest at about 18:00.

Rating: B. This was all action and that's what it needed to be, though the Cole ending is a little surprising. O'Reilly seemed to be the perfect choice to get the title shot at Kross here and I'm hoping that they don't just do a rematch later on. A four way isn't out of the question, though I'm not sure where that leaves Cole. Odds are we get something by the end of the show, but this was kind of a weird way to go.

Post break Regal ejects Cole from the building, with security dragging him out.

Ember Moon is in the ring and demands Raquel Gonzalez get out

here right now. Cue Gonzalez and Moon superkicks her straight back out to the floor. Regal and security hold them apart but Dakota Kai runs in to take out Moon from behind. Regal checks on a downed Moon.

Santos Escobar gives Legado del Fantasma a pep talk before their Tag Team Title shot tonight. It's going to be their coronation, because that is what they do.

Earlier today, Hit Row interrupted Drake Maverick and Ever Rise, the former of whom is called a clown. Killian Dain came in and a tag match seems to be set up.

LA Knight vs. Jake Atlas

The camera follows Knight from the back, with Knight talking about how he is going to drop Atlas and prove that he is the one worthy of the Million Dollar legacy. Atlas armdrags Knight down to start and grabs a springboard armdrag for two. The armbar keeps Knight down but he fights back up and nails a hot shot. Cue Ted DiBiase to watch as Atlas grabs a springboard sunset flip for two. Knight slams him down though and hits a fist to the face, followed by a slingshot shoulder.

We take a break (ok then) and come back with Atlas hitting a crossbody for two but getting sent over the top. Knight hammers away back inside but Atlas punches him out of the air (with Knight doing the front flip bump that DiBiase would do back in the day). Atlas strikes away as Cameron Grimes is out to say he deserves the Million Dollar legacy. Something like a Death Valley Driver into a standing moonsault gets two on Knight so Atlas goes back up. Knight runs the corner but Grimes offers a distraction, allowing Atlas to knock him back down. The cartwheel DDT finishes Knight at 12:35.

Rating: C-. This was a good bit longer than it needed to be, but the worse part was they gave away the ending with the break. There was little reason to have the match go longer other than some kind of a screwy finish. Atlas winning via

interference isn't some death knell for Knight, but this didn't need to go that long for this kind of a finish.

Post match, DiBiase shakes his head at Knight and leaves.

Oney Lorcan chases the camera out of the trainer's room. Lorcan says Adam Cole just cost Pete Dunne the title shot but here is Austin Theory to say that it's Gargano's shot. Shoving ensues.

Ted DiBiase talks about how important it is to have brains and brawn....and Adam Cole walks by so let's follow him to a break. You don't get that kind of spontaneous stuff and it's a nice feeling.

Post break Cole is in the ring to rant about how he just took out three main event stars in one night. That means he wants the NXT Title back because Karrion Kross is just some big musclehead. It's no coincidence that Cole was NXT Champion for 403 days....and here are Karrion Kross and Scarlett to interrupt. Kross says Cole stopped being special as soon as he signed here, but entertain him anyway. Cole: "All right Mr. Overrated."

Cole talks about how NXT has done everything they can to make Kross feel special but all they have to do with Cole is ring the bell. Kross isn't special because he's just a guy who has Cole's property. Cue William Regal to say Cole's plan isn't going to work but Kross cuts him off. Kross wants.....EVERYONE in the match at once, including this kind of weasel. Regal: "Done. Done." Cole gets on the announcers' table to shout at Kross, who mocks him for just talking. With that not working, Cole throws a bottle of water at the two of them and leaves. It's an interesting match, but I'm not big on making the triple threat a waste of time.

Candice LeRae is annoyed that Poppy is going to be back next week but even more annoyed that Indi Hartwell is listening to 80s power ballads on her headphones.

Video on Carmelo Hayes, formerly known as Christian Casanova. He is ready to prove himself tonight against Kushida. You'll see a UFO before you see someone as good as him.

Tian Sha is watching Mercedes Martinez and seems to have a new target.

Dexter Lumis picks up Indi Hartwell's headphones and seems to like what he hears.

Cruiserweight Title: Kushida vs. Carmelo Hayes

Hayes is challenging and gets a pretty big entrance. Feeling out process to start until Hayes snaps off some armdrags into a dropkick. Hayes kicks him in the back of the head for two and ties Kushida in the ropes. That means a springboard legdrop (with Hayes going backwards instead of forwards) for two on Kushida as we take a break.

Back with Kushida knocking Hayes off the apron and hard into the barricade. Hayes comes back in with a springboard....I guess we'll say clothesline, as even commentary isn't sure what to call it. Something close to La Mistica plants Kushida for two so Hayes tries it again, only to get taken down for a basement dropkick. The Hoverboard Lock is countered but Kushida punches Hayes out of the air. Now the Hoverboard Lock can retain the title at 10:58.

Rating: B-. Hayes lost but he looked like a star here as it is clear NXT wants to push him as something serious. He has a good look and the athleticism, but more importantly he has the presence to make something of himself. This was a heck of a surprise and they put on a good one, so well done on throwing this in.

Post match Kushida shakes Hayes' hand and tells the fans to give him some applause. Hayes shakes the hand and gets a nice ovation.

MSK is ready to retain the Tag Team Titles.

Frankie Monet is rather pleased with the reviews of her debut. She is just getting started.

Zayda Ramier/Zoey Stark vs. The Way

Non-title. Hartwell slams Ramier down to start and it's off to LeRae to take it into the corner. The neck crank/chinlock have Ramier in trouble and Hartwell kicks Ramier from a tag attempt. LeRae elbows Stark off the apron but the tag brings her in just a few seconds later. Stark comes in and drops LeRae in a hurry for two before wheelbarrow slamming Ramier onto her for the same. Everything breaks down and start gets sent over the top, with her face landing hard on the apron. Back in and the Wicked Stepsister sets up Pretty Savage (springboard elbow) to finish Ramier at 3:37.

Rating: C-. They did something interesting with Stark here as she was treated as someone to be feared. That's a good way to help make someone feel like a big deal and it was an effective move. The match itself wasn't anything great, but the Way does feel like a team instead of two women who have been thrown together. In other words, they're ahead of most of the teams on the main roster.

Mercedes Martinez isn't worried about being marked as Tian Sha because she has been a marked woman for her whole career. At Takeover, she's running through her, assuming that is official.

Cameron Grimes vs. LA Knight is confirmed for Takeover.

The Diamond Mine is opening soon.

Ember Moon is tired of Dakota Kai and Raquel Gonzalez. That's why it's Kai next week and Gonzalez at Takeover, where Moon is becoming a two time Women's Champion.

Tag Team Titles: MSK vs. Legado del Fantasma

Legado, with Santos Escobar, is challenging. Wes Lee and Joaquin Wilde trade armdrags to start as Escobar has a seat at ringside. Wilde slams Lee down and runs Nash Carter over as well to put the champs in early trouble. Raul Mendoza comes in to drop Wilde onto Carter for two but Carter fights back up. Cue the Grizzled Young Veterans but Timothy Thatcher and Tommaso Ciampa come out to fight them to the back. The champs hit a pair of moonsaults to the floor and we take a break.

Back with Mendoza getting two on Lee and handing it off to Wilde for an armbar. A hard elbow to the jaw sets up a slingshot splash into a Lionsault for two on Lee. Back up and Lee finally gets in a DDT, allowing for the hot tag to Carter. House is cleaned in a hurry and the push moonsault gets two on Wilde. It's already back to Lee but Mendoza makes a blind tag behind Lee's back. That lets him come in with a springboard missile dropkick and a swinging suplex gets two.

Carter gets knocked off the apron and some running clotheslines in the corner have Lee in more trouble. A super hurricanrana into a powerbomb gets two with Lee being tossed outside. Escobar sends Lee into the steps, setting up the running boot/Russian legsweep combination. Carter makes the save and Bronson Reed runs in to crush Escobar against the barricade (that came out of nowhere). The Blockbuster Hart Attack retains the title at 15:26.

Rating: B-. MSK continues to get to showcase their crazy athleticism and there was enough stuff going on here to make it that much more interesting. I wasn't sure who was leaving with the titles here and that is always a nice feeling to have. Thatcher and Ciampa cutting off the Veterans helped and Reed crushing Escobar looked good. It's a good main event and MSK could hold the titles for a pretty long time.

Reed and MSK have the staredown with Legado and pose to end the show.

Overall Rating: B. The main thing I liked about this show, or at least the first half of it, was that it felt spontaneous. So many times a wrestling show feels far too structured and rigid, with segments going from one point to another. This felt like things were happening on the fly, with things like DiBiase's promo just being cut off because something else happened. The action was good as well, making this a rather fun use of two hours.

Results

Pete Dunne vs. Kyle O'Reilly vs. Johnny Gargano went to a no contest when Adam Cole interfered

Jake Atlas b. LA Knight – Cartwheel DDT

Kushida b. Carmelo Hayes – Hoverboard Lock

The Way b. Zayda Ramier/Zoey Stark – Pretty Savage to Ramier

MSK b. Legado del Fantasma – Blockbuster Hart Attack to Wilde

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Daily News Update – June 1, 2021

Molly Holly Broke Her Nose Inside The Cell! Wait....

Here's What Happened After AEW Double Or Nothing.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/heres-happened-aew-double-nothing/>

PHOTO: Former WWE Star At AEW Double Or Nothing.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/photo-former-wwe-star-aew-double-nothing/>

VIDEO: Mustafa Ali Returns To Monday Night Raw With New Story.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-mustafa-ali-returns-monday-night-raw-new-story/>

Tag Out: Tag Team Splits Up On Monday Night Raw.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/tag-tag-team-splits-monday-night-raw/>

Main Event Set For WWE Hell In A Cell.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/main-event-set-wwe-hell-cell/>

Molly Holly May Be Returning To WWE.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/molly-holly-may-be-returning-to-wwe/>

VIDEO: Injury Takes Place During Monday Night Raw.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/video-injury-takes-place-monday-night-raw/>

Hold On: Update On Lio Rush's Contract Status.

<https://wrestlingrumors.net/tommyhall/hold-update-lio-rushs-contract-status/>

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