

NXT LVL Up – October 4, 2024: Short And LVL Up

NXT LVL Up

Date: October 4, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

NXT has officially moved over to the CW and, well, things didn't really change that much. I'm not sure what it is going to mean around here, but last week's show was pretty fun so it would be nice to replicate that this week. Then again you never know what you're getting around here so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Adrianna Rizzo vs. Lainey Reid

The rest of the D'Angelo Family (minus Tony) is on commentary as Riz hits a Thesz press and hammers away. Some left hands in the corner don't do much to Reid though, as she slips away and pulls Riz onto the turnbuckle. A hammerlock slam works on Riz's arm but she sends Reid into the corner for two. Riz fights out of the armbar and snaps off a northern lights suplex to start the comeback. A springboard elbow sends Reid out to the apron but she's back with a springboard kick to the face. Reid's twisting suplex gets two but Riz is back with A Taste Of Risotto for the pin at 5:41.

Rating: C. Riz continues to look better and better each week and is becoming something other than the woman of the Family. If she can keep growing at this rate, she could be something in the title picture one day. On the other side you have Reid, who WWE certainly sees something in given how often she's out there these days.

Harlem Lewis is a former college football player and is ready for Dante Chen. Well so much for his career.

Lainey Reid is upset at another loss but Riz says she'll get her next time. This doesn't seem to go well.

Harlem Lewis vs. Dante Chen

Chen works on the arm to start as the fans are already in his corner. Back up and Lewis runs him over and mocks the fans for their fandom. A running neck snap across the middle rope has Chen down again and Lewis hits some shoulders in the corner for two. Lewis' big boot gets two more and we hit the neck crank. Chen fights up but gets suplexed back down for two more. They fight over a suplex until Chen gets the better of things and the comeback is on. A superkick sends Lewis outside for a bit, only for Chen to run him over back inside. The Gentle Touch finishes for Chen at 6:56.

Rating: C. It was a Dante Chen math, meaning it was all about giving Lewis his first chance. I'm not sure what they have with Lewis here, but at least he got the chance to get out there. He was antagonizing the crowd a bit and could easily be seen as unlikable, so maybe there is something there, though you can only get so much out of that with such a short match. In other words, what else are you supposed to get out of about seven minutes?

Overall Rating: C. Not much to see here with the shorter version of the show. Riz continues to look like she could be something in the future but there wasn't much else of note this week. As usual, it's such a guessing game of what you're going to see around here and that was on full display here.

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NXT – August 20, 2024: They Did It In One Night

NXT

Date: August 20, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Booker T.

We are rapidly closing in on No Mercy and the show is going to need a main event. That is what we get to find out this week, with a triple threat match to crown a new #1 contender for the NXT Title, as Joe Hendry, Wes Lee and Pete Dunne face off for a shot at Ethan Page. Let's get to it.

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

Izzi Dame jumped Karmen Petrovic in the parking lot and injured her hand in the process.

We look back at Chase U regaining the Tag Team Titles last week.

Here is Chase U for their championship celebration. Duke Hudson thanks Ridge Holland and admits he was wrong, with

Andre Chase joining in the thank you. Cue Axiom and Nathan Frazier to say they're the best team in NXT, which the fans don't seem to like. Frazier talks about running themselves into the ground, which let Chase U get the perfect time for a title shot.

Now they want a title shot of their own but Holland cuts them off. Holland talks about how he was looking for a way to find himself. That's what he found in Chase U and he worked that hard to become a champion. Hudson suggests himself and Riley Osborne vs. Axiom/Frazier, and if Axiom and Frazier win, they might get a title shot at No Mercy. The workout pants are ripped off and we're ready to go. That was a little heelish from Chase U and I'm not feeling that in the slightest.

Chase U vs. Axiom/Nathan Frazier

Osborne dropkicks Axiom to start but everything breaks down in a hurry, with Hudson putting both of them down on the floor. Osborne hits a big running lip dive and we take an early break. Back with Hudson sending Axiom flying with a German suplex and hitting a swinging Boss Man Slam for two on Frazier.

A wheelbarrow faceplant/flipping faceplant combination gets two with Frazier making the save. Frazier avoids a shooting star from Osborne and hits a springboard reverse Spanish Fly (that was cool). The Phoenix splash misses but Axiom is right there with the Golden Ratio/brainbuster combination to finish Osborne at 9:18.

Rating: C+. Pretty run of the mill idea here and that's all it needed to be. They needed to set up a title match at No Mercy and that should get them there, though I'm a bit surprised that Axiom and Frazier's longstanding issues seem to be just fine. For now though, there is still the chance of Chase U falling apart, which should add some drama to the title match.

Ava says Karmen Petrovic is injured and out of the gauntlet

match. Izzi Dame comes in and says this is Ava's chance to fix the mistake, but Ava isn't going to reward bad behavior. Brinley Reece is in instead. Of note: Kelani Jordan could be seen behind them looking for something.

Brinley Reece is in the gauntlet match but Wren Sinclair comes in to say she's winning.

Wendy Choo vs. Lola Vice

Choo jumps her to start and slowly hammers away. That's broken up with some shots to the face and Vice sends her outside, with some dancing taking us to a break. Back with Choo choking away and shrugging off Vice's rollup. A neckbreaker gives Choo two and we hit the neck crank, with Vice not taking long to fight back.

The rapid fire kicks set up the running hip attack in the corner for two but Choo grabs a sleeper. That's broken up with a backpack Stunner and they're both down. Cue Kelani Jordan...who gets inside for some reason and accidentally gets hit with Vice's spinning backfist. The distraction lets Choo get in a pillow shot for the pin at 11:02.

Rating: C. I'm going to assume the pillow is loaded, but my goodness I cannot bring myself to care about the Choo stuff. It feels like such a try hard with making her weird or whatever and the whole sleep deal was bad enough before her injury. It wouldn't surprise me to see her beat Jordan for the title anyway, even if Jordan feels like she could be something if given the chance (and a lot more time).

Post match Jordan challenges Choo for No Mercy and then hits her with the pillow. Said pillow contains...the Women's North American Title, which Choo apparently stole.

Wes Lee doesn't like Joe Hendry coming in here and trying to seal the NXT spotlight. We go split screen with Hendry not liking Lee talking down about TNA. The Rascalz were back here

to help boost Lee up, but Lee says he'll see Hendry tonight. Hendry says tonight is the biggest match of his life, because a #1 contenders match for the NXT Title is apparently bigger than headlining a TNA PPV for the TNA World Title.

Fallon Henley and Jacy Jayne rant about the lack of respect for the veterans. They only have one person who listens to them, and that's Jazmyn Nyx. They came up together in this business and they are the Fatal Influence. That's not a bad name and it's better than...whatever word salad they use for the new women's group on Raw.

Gauntlet Eliminator

Six women, three minute intervals, elimination rules for the Women's Title shot at No Mercy. Wren Sinclair is in at #1 and Sol Ruca is in at #2 and they exchange arm control to start. Ruca is back up with a full nelson but Sinclair pulls her down into a half crab. Sinclair makes it even craftier with the surfboard but Ruca is up again for a collision. Both of them are down and Adrianna Rizzo is in at #3 with a double high crossbody.

Sinclair is back up with a choke but Ruca drives her into the corner for the break. Rizzo hits something like an AA into a basement Molly Go Round, with Sinclair breaking up the cover (for some reason). Back up and Ruca plants Rizzo for the elimination at 4:58 and we take a break. Back with Brinley Reece in at #4 and hitting (kind of) a flipping double clothesline. Kendal Grey comes in at #5 and starts cleaning house, including knocking Reece silly for the elimination at 10:02.

Grey gets caught in Ruca's electric chair for a faceplant, allowing Ruca to grab the completely logical surfboard. Sinclair is back in but gets caught in an X Factor, allowing Ruca to throw Grey onto Sinclair outside. The moonsault takes both of them down but it's Jaida Parker in at #6 to complete

the field. House is cleaned again and Parker hits her seated senton in the corner to Grey, setting up the gordbuster for the pin at 13:35.

Sinclair rolls Parker up for two, only to have Ruca grab the Sol Snatcher for the elimination at 13:58. It's Ruca vs. Parker for the title shot with Ruca grabbing some rollups for two each. Parker's powerbomb falls down but Ruca's cradle doesn't count as she's in the ropes. A cross arm German suplex gets two on Parker but she avoids the springboard splash, setting up the running hip attack to end Ruca at 15:41.

Rating: B-. That ending sequence did NOT look good as Parker seemed to have the wind knocked out of her. Other than that, there was enough good action to make it work, but the important thing is putting someone new in the title picture. Parker has felt like a breakout star for a long time now and she might have a shot at the title here. At the same time, Ruca continues to feel like the next big thing, and it wouldn't surprise me to see her as the next challenger after No Mercy.

Post match Parker, with OTM around her, says she has next for the Women's Title.

Ethan Page is ready for the main event, when Pete Dunne comes in to talk about how long he holds titles. Dunne is going to break Page's fingers and ego at No Mercy.

Hank Walker/Tank Ledger vs. OC

Anderson drives Ledger into the corner to start and slowly hammers away. Walker comes in for a shot shot of his own and the double standing splash gets two on Anderson. Gallows is up with a big boot to Walker and the beating ensues on the floor. The chinlock goes on back inside but Walker fights up, allowing the tag off to Ledger...who gets booted down by Gallows. The Magic Killer is broken up and Ledger is back up with a springboard spinning clothesline. The powerslam/running

shoulder combination finishes Anderson at 4:24.

Rating: C+. I'm not a fan of either of these teams but points for at least going with someone new. Walker and Ledger have been presented as a bit more important in recent weeks and giving them a win over an established team is a good move. I'm not sure if it leads anywhere (and I hope it doesn't) but at least they're inching in a direction.

Post match Walker (a former security guard) celebrates with security while Gallows and Anderson yell.

Edris Enofe and Malik Blade say they see through Shawn Spears manipulating Brooks Jensen. Spears says they're both lost souls but makes them mad with a reference to Brinley Reece. The brawl is on and the camera goes down, with Spears seemingly getting hit with something made of metal. Jensen runs in for the save.

Here is the No Quarter Catch Crew to celebrate getting the Heritage Cup back. Charlie Dempsey talks about how the Heritage Cup is what the team needs to live and now order has been restored. Wren Sinclair cuts him off and doesn't know who "Lou Robinson or Billy Thesz" are, but if Dempsey likes them, they must be good. Sinclair: "Charles will defend the title against anyone, anytime."

Cue Oba Femi (Sinclair: "I AM SO SORRY!" She's the funniest Sinclair since Earl.) to say he'd love to face Dempsey, but cue the D'Angelo Family to interrupt. Tony D'Angelo says he has his eyes on something else, meaning he stares at Femi. A snap of the fingers has the Family beating up the Crew, and D'Angelo spinebusters Femi to stand tall. I've heard worse ideas.

Ashante Thee Adonis loses the women's attention to Dion Lennox.

Wren Sinclair leaves the Heritage Cup with Je'Von Evans but

Gallus comes up to say Evans knows nothing about technical wrestling. Violence is teased but Cedric Alexander comes in to even things up a bit.

Dion Lennox vs. Ashante Thee Adonis

Lennox hits a dropkick to start and tosses him into the air for a big crash. Back up and Adonis sends him outside for a dive before ripping at Lennox's ears. Lennox fights up and grabs a spinebuster for two but Adonis pulls him off the top and onto the ropes. The Long Kiss Goodnight (Sweet Chin Music) finishes Lennox at 3:41.

Rating: C. This would be in the "and moving on" section as neither of them has done anything of note around here and then they had a completely average match. Lennox is pretty much known only for his glasses while Adonis is known for standing around with the women backstage. I'm not sure how much this enhanced Adonis but it was pretty much just there.

Lexis King is getting his throne polished when the women of Meta Four come in to complain about Fatal Influence. King pops in to say that while Fatal Influence is a cool name, the Meta Two...and that doesn't sit well with them. With King gone, Oro Mensah comes in and everything is ok.

No Mercy rundown.

Joe Hendry vs. Pete Dunne vs. Wes Lee

For a shot at Ethan Page (on commentary) at No Mercy. Lee and Dunne jump the posing Hendry to start but Lee gets knocked out to the floor. Dunne stomps on Hendry in the corner as Lee comes back in, only to be catapulted head first into a low blow on Dunne. Back up and Lee kicks Hendry in the face, only to miss a dive. Dunne misses a moonsault to the floor onto Lee and they brawl until Hendry dives onto both of them.

The grin at the camera takes us to a break and we come back

with Hendry cleaning house. A double fall away slam sends the villains flying but Lee drops both of them with a springboard moonsault. Back up and Dunne cranks on both of their fingers at once but Lee is back up with some kicks to Dunne's head. A middle rope moonsault into a tornado DDT gives Lee two and frustration is setting in. Hendry gets dropped so Lee can hit a frog splash for two more.

Dunne snaps Lee's fingers again but walks into the Standing Ovation, only to have Page pull the referee. Lee gets planted onto the announcers' table but Page cuts off another referee. Dunne hits the Bitter End but Trick Williams runs in with the Trick Shot (in a GREAT bit of camera work as you didn't see him coming) to drop Dunne cold. Hendry gets the pin and the title shot at 12:19 as Page can't make the save in time.

Rating: B-. I really liked that ending as they filmed it perfectly and went with the surprise that actually worked. Other than that, Hendry getting the title shot is certainly a choice and I'm curious to see if they pull that trigger. He's certainly the most interesting of the three options, though if he winds up winning the NXT Title before the TNA World Title, I don't think I could laugh much harder.

Post match Zachary Wentz runs in to brawl with Lee to end the show with the crowd being VERY appreciative.

Overall Rating: B-. The last two minutes or so were rather good and the rest of the show was solid enough. This was a show built around the idea of setting up No Mercy and most of that was taken care of in one big night. The wrestling was passable, but they packed a lot into one show and I can go with that as a way to get things rolling towards the pay per view. That's what NXT does and they made it work again here.

Results

Axiom/Nathan Frazier b. Chase U – Golden Ratio/brainbuster combination to Osborne

Wendy Choo b. Lola Vice – Pillow shot

Jaida Parker won the Gauntlet Eliminator last eliminating Sol Ruca

Hank Walker/Tank Ledger b. OC – Powerslam/running shoulder combination to Anderson

Ashante Thee Adonis b. Dion Lennox – Long Kiss Goodnight

Joe Hendry b. Pete Dunne and Wes Lee – Trick Shot to Dunne

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NXT LVL Up – August 16, 2024: Something About LVL Up

NXT LVL Up

Date: August 16, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

Unfortunately I'm right back to not being sure what to expect

around here, as the show started to change format just enough to draw some interest, only to shift mostly back to the same stuff it had always been. There is some potential to the new version and it would be nice to see it again here. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Mark Coffey vs. Cutler James

Coffey slaps on a headlock to start but gets reversed into the same thing from James. An armbar doesn't last long on Coffey so James clotheslines him down a few times. A wheelbarrow faceplant gives James two and Coffey is a bit shaken up. That doesn't work for Coffey, who hits James in the face to take over.

A forearm to the back of the head gives Coffey two and he shrugs off James' comeback, setting up the chinlock. Back up and Coffey misses a middle rope crossbody of all things, allowing James to grab a suplex for two. Ryback's old Shell Shock (with commentary name dropping it) gets two but Coffey is back up with a heck of a right hand for the pin at 6:53.

Rating: C+. James got in a good bit more offense than I would have expected and it made for a nice enough match. If nothing else, it's strange to see Coffey wrestling a singles match as it doesn't tend to be his forte. Not bad at all here and something different than the norm, which is nice to see.

Earlier this week, Izzi Dame and Adrianna Rizzo got in an argument on Tik Tok.

Cutler James says Mark Coffey's resume doesn't make this loss any easier but it's all about mindset. He'll keep learning and moving forward.

Izzi Dame vs. Adrianna Rizzo

Most of the D'Angelo Family is here with Rizzo, who cranks away on the arm to start. Dame's missed charge in the corner hits the post and Rizzo sends the arm into the rope. Dame is right back with a tilt-a-whirl backbreaker for two and she bends Rizzo's knee around the post. An over the shoulder backbreaker keeps Rizzo in trouble but she slips out and hammers away. Something like a running flapjack gives Dame two but Rizzo is back with a running Molly Go Round for the pin at 4:51.

Rating: C. I was surprised by the result there as Rizzo has only done a little bit around here while Dame was seemingly being built up for a bigger role. It's nice to have something of a surprise though and Rizzo did look solid in defeat. The women's division around here has quite the depth of talent and adding Rizzo to it would make things that much better.

Overall Rating: C. Just two matches this week and it wouldn't surprise me if something was trimmed, as they got out of there in a hurry after the main event ended. If they don't have much to air this week, I would certainly prefer that they just get on with it like this, as stretching things out is rarely a good idea. Not much to see here, but it's only about twenty minutes long so it can only be so bad.

Results

Mark Coffey b. Cutler James – Right hand

Adrianna Rizzo b. Izzi Dame – Basement Molly Go Round

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NXT LVL Up – June 7, 2024: This Show Has Nothing To Do With Battleground

NXT LVL Up

Date: June 7, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

It's time for the most unique WWE show of the week (other than Speed, but one match is barely a show) and I'm not sure what that is going to mean. There have been some bigger names around as of late and that should help a bit. That being said, you don't really watch around here for continuity so maybe we can have a good match or two. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Tank Ledger vs. Tavion Heights

Hank Walker is here with Ledger. They fight over a lockup to start with Heights grabbing a headlock on the mat. Ledger fights up and is quickly put back down with a headlock takeover. Back up again and Ledger fires off some flying shoulders but charges into a backdrop, meaning it's time for a breather on the floor. Heights sends him into the corner a few

times and grabs a Russian legsweep for two, only to get sent into the corner. Ledger knees him in the ribs, setting up an atomic drop and spinning middle rope shoulder. A Bubba Bomb finishes Heights at 4:49.

Rating: C+. Not a bad power match here, though I could go for Heights winning a few more matches every so often. He has a good look and the skills to back it up in the ring, but so far he's little more than a jobber to the stars. Or as big of a star as Ledger is going to be as part of a low level tag team.

Wren Sinclair is still looking for her first win and is ready to face Adrianna Rizzo.

Adrianna Rizzo vs. Wren Sinclair

The D'Angelo Family is here with Rizzo, who works on a hammerlock to start. A dropkick sends Sinclair into the ropes but she's back with an abdominal stretch. That's broken up and they trade rollup attempts for two each until Rizzo hits a running flipping seated senton for the pin at 3:22.

Rating: C. Rizzo hasn't really gotten to showcase herself and it was made even worse by her not being around for a good while. I'm not sure how far she'll go in NXT but she had a nice enough match here. On the other hand you have Sinclair, who isn't exactly doing well when it comes to winning, but she isn't bad at all out there.

Post match Rizzo helps her up to her feet and respect is shown.

Chase U vs. Javier Bernal/Drake Morreux

Osborne and Bernal start things off with the former hitting a leg lariat. Morreux comes in and runs Osborne over with a shoulder to it's off to Hudson as well. A Rock Bottom out of the corner plants Bernal and Hudson drops Osborne onto him for two. It's back to Morreux for a big boot so Bernal can get

two and Morreaux's belly to back suplex gets the same. A flying mare gets Osborne out of trouble, allowing the tag off to Hudson. That means a big boot to put Bernal on the floor for a bit flip dive from Osborne (breaking Bernal's foot in the process) and a reverse DDT finishes Morreaux at 6:46.

Rating: C+. I can always go for some more Chase U, even if it is the lower end of the team like this. Hudson can do rather well when he gets the chance, though unfortunately that is not often the case. Speaking of unfortunately, we have Bernal's foot, which might not let him get back in the ring for a long time. Hopefully he gets better soon, but that really did not look good.

Overall Rating: C. The wrestling was just ok for the most part and that isn't enough to make me that interested in such a show. The biggest deal here is Bernal's foot injury and you don't want to see anyone having to deal with that sort of thing. Other than that, it felt like a pretty bottom of the barrel show, which isn't a great sign around here.

Results

Tank Ledger b. Tavion Heights – Bubba Bomb

Adrianna Rizzo b. Wren Sinclair – Running flipping seated senton

Chase U b. Javier Bernal/Drake Morreaux – Reverse DDT to Bernal

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