

NXT LVL Up – March 11, 2022: They Can Do That Around Here?

LVL Up

Date: March 11, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Sudu Shah, Nigel McGuinness

We're in a new NXT era as Dolph Ziggler won the NXT Title. That was a bit of a surprise when it took place but now it seems like all roads lead to Bron Breaker getting his title rematch at Stand & Deliver next month. With a few weeks to go, it is now time to see how this NXT show has nothing to do with any of that. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Trick Williams vs. Guru Raaj

Carmelo Hayes is here with Williams and sits in on commentary. Williams grabs a headlock to start as Hayes talks about how he is a bigger star than the NXT Champion (who he doesn't mention here, as this was filmed before NXT). Raaj sends him into the corner but comes back with a kick to the face. A running corner clothesline connects and it's time for something like a standing Disarm-Her. Raaj fights out and hits some running forearms, setting up the COME ON to the crowd. Williams is back with a spinning kick to the head and a running neckbreaker finishes Raaj at 4:09.

Rating: C-. Pretty dull squash here, but what mattered was Hayes on commentary, making this match feel like a much bigger deal than it had any right to be. Hayes is one of the best people on the NXT roster today as his matches are smooth and he sounds good when he talks. Williams is fine for a

bodyguard/lackey/partner, but Hayes doesn't need anyone to talk for him.

Ivy Nile vs. Brooklyn Barlow

Malcolm Bivens is here with Nile and the debuting Barlow looks a bit like Tiffany Stratton. Nile wastes no time in hitting a spinebuster but Barlow wristlocks her down into an armbar. A sunset flip out of the corner gives Barlow two so Nile hits her in the face. A standing reverse cravate has Barlow in more trouble but she makes the clothesline comeback. An Oklahoma roll gives Barlow two so Nile Dragon sleepers her for the win at 3:53.

Rating: C. Nile continues to look like a monster and someone who could become a major title threat in the short or long term. There is always room for someone with the submission work like her and that was on display here. As for Barlow, she is another blonde who is going to need to find something to make her stand out. Being in the ring for about four minutes is no way to determine what she can do, but at least she got her toes wet.

Josh Briggs/Brooks Jensen vs. Grizzled Young Veterans

A rather fetching woman stares at Jensen during his entrance and he certainly notices her. Gibson gets double shouldered down to start but Briggs gets dragged into the corner for a shot from Drake. Briggs shrugs that off and knocks him into the corner, allowing Jensen to come back in for the snap jabs. Some double teaming takes Jensen down though and Drake grabs a chinlock. Jensen belly to back suplexes his way to freedom as Nigel keeps making Freebirds references.

The hot tag brings in Briggs to clean house and everything breaks down. A missile dropkick/Downward Spiral combination gets two on Briggs as Jensen is still down on the floor. Drake misses a running corner dropkick and it's Jensen coming back in to take over. Hold on though as the woman in the crowd

distracts Jensen, allowing Drake to counter a suplex and fall on top of him as Gibson holds the foot (ala Bobby Heenan) for the pin at 7:06.

Rating: C. Again, it makes all the difference in the world when you have some names you might care about on the show. Briggs and Jensen are one of the easiest gimmicks to book and they looked decent here. The Veterans should have been a breakout team a long time ago but for now, this is about all they're going to be good for, as sad as it might be.

Post match Fallon Henley comes out to yell at the Veterans and Briggs/Jensen take out Drake to end the show. Hokey smoke was that an angle on this show?

Overall Rating: C+. This is the definition of false hope but I'll take what I can get with the angle at the end of the show. Yes it's just a quick thing with some teams who aren't going to matter but if it actually goes somewhere, it is an improvement over what this show has been doing so far. The star power was better this week too and it was a completely easy show to watch. Nice job, and hopefully they do it again.

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