

NXT LVL Up – November 8, 2024: THEY DID WHAT???

NXT LVL Up

Date: November 8, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're still stuck with the shorter form shows due to the main roster being in Saudi Arabia. That doesn't make a ton of difference around here, but it is at last something to shake up the run of the mill nature of this show. Other than that, we're at least getting some minor continuity, which is more than we've gotten forever. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Dani Palmer vs. Kali Armstrong

Armstrong powers her down by the arm to start but Palmer nips up and grabs an armbar of her own. Back up and Armstrong stomps away in the corner before an elbow drop gets two. The abdominal stretch, with the grab of a leg, has Palmer in more trouble but she fights out in a hurry. An enziguri puts Armstrong down and the moonsault gives Palmer the pin at 4:36.

Rating: C. Not much to this one with Armstrong as a fairly generic "I'm strong and better than you" villain. Palmer is only so much better than that made a fine enough match, albeit rather short. It's not like Palmer has anything going on at the moment though and that doesn't seem likely to change anytime soon.

Dion Lennox, Shiloh Hill and Cutler James are ready for Gallus.

Gallus is ready for their six man tag. This is being treated like an actual match.

Dion Lennox/Shiloh Hill/Cutler James vs. Gallus

Wolfgang hammers Lennox into the corner to start but it's off to Hill for some shoulders to the ribs in the corner. Mark gets taken into the corner by the arm and it's off to James for a wheelbarrow faceplant. The numbers game gets Cutler in trouble though and a Regal Roll gives Joe two. James manages a backdrop though and the tag brings in Lennox to clean house. Some northern lights suplexes put Gallus down but Joe is back with the Glasgow Sendoff. Hill cleans house but gets sent outside, leaving Lennox to grab a rollup for the big upset pin at 6:13.

Rating: C+. And points for the shock here as I never would have bet on Gallus being in anything resembling trouble here but the young guys won. That's an actual upset and something that could genuinely boost them up. Gallus has been treated as a big (well big enough) deal around here and to have a bunch of mostly unproven stars beat them was rather stunning.

Overall Rating: C+. I'm still trying to get over the main event as you just do not see results like that around here. I've been wanting anything important, or at least interesting, to happen on this show forever and, albeit once, they've actually done it. Now do something else to keep it going and turn this into an actual show that has some value for the regulars.

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NXT LVL Up – October 25, 2024: Spicy Continuity

NXT LVL Up

Date: October 25, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

Things took a bit of a twist last week and it made for a fairly interesting show. Granted the show can only get so far as it's still fairly limited in pretty much every aspect. There is always the chance that we could get somewhere different this week, though it could always be the norm all over again. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Mark Coffey vs. Dion Lennox

They trade shoulders until Coffey slaps him in the face, which is enough for Lennox to...grab an armbar. Some right hands stagger Coffey but he kicks Lennox throat first into the bottom rope. Lennox strikes away and grabs a northern lights suplex, followed by a spinebuster for two. Cue Gallus for the

distraction though and Mark hits a right hand for the pin at 4:23.

Rating: C. This was shorter than most of the matches around here and I'm not sure why. Lennox is starting to pop up on the main NXT shows but here he is losing in about four minutes. Yeah there was some interference, but at the same time, it wasn't exactly an impressive showing for Lennox in any way. Kind of a weird match here.

Post match the beatdown is on but Cutler James and Shiloh Hill make the save. I could go for this.

Tyra Mae Steele is ready to beat Izzi Dame for her first win. Dame comes in to doubt it.

Izzi Dame vs. Tyra Mae Steele

Steele powers her back into the corner to start and they go to the mat for a headlock. Back up and Steele wrestles her to the mat again, setting up a rolling shot to the head in the corner. Dame gets in a shot of her own though and stomping ensues to keep Steele down. A Sky High gives Dame two and the chinlock goes on. Steele fights up again and lawn darts her into the buckle, setting up a capture suplex for two. Another rolling something is cut of though and the spinning Side Effect finishes Steele at 5:30.

Rating: C. Steele is still a great prospect but she needs ring time and this is a good place for her to do just that. As much charisma and amateur skill as she has, she has to get more used to doing something new. She looked ok enough here, but that is maybe the third step in a rather long trip.

Uriah Connors and Kale Dixon annoy Drake Drake Morreaux in the gym. Dante Chen comes in and a tag match is set.

Uriah Connors/Kale Dixon vs. Drake Morreaux/Dante Chen

Dixon works on Chen's arm to start but makes the mistake of

talking trash and gets elbowed in the face. Morreaux comes in and gets armdragged but snaps off a slam without much trouble. A belly to back suplex drops Connors and the villains are cleared out to the floor. Chen goes for the chase but charges into Connors' superkick to put him down. Dixon gets to pose on the ropes and thrust his pelvis a bit before Connors gets to strike away. The chinlock goes on but Chen fights out and makes the tag off to Morreaux to pick up the pace. A chokeslam off the top plants Connors and the Gentle Touch gives Chen the pin at 6:15.

Rating: C. There is something fun about having Chen as the superhero (as he was called in the setup) who never does anything anywhere else. I'm not sure I can imagine him ever going anywhere else, but I guess it's better than doing nothing. Speaking of nothing, you have the other three here, who have nothing that makes them stand out in the slightest. Even Morreaux's size is only going to get him so far, but he did well enough here.

Overall Rating: C. This was a show pretty much lacking in anything resembling star power but it did a nicer than usual job of putting the stories together. There is no reason to just have them be the most nothing matches so add in even the slightest something. Even something of a backstage argument better than nothing and it spices things up a bit, which has been needed for the better part of ever around here.

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NXT LVL Up – September 20, 2024: The New Ones Are Better

NXT LVL Up

Date: September 20, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're coming up on the move over to the CW, with only two shows left before the change. While it isn't likely, there is always the chance that this show could undergo some changes of its own. Last week's show was different enough and maybe now we can see things getting better around here. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Lash Legend vs. Lainey Reid

Jakara Jackson is here with Legend. Reid works on the arm to start but Legend powers out and does the same. Legend sends her into the buckle over and over before dropping Reid with a suplex. They head outside with Legend getting posted, setting up the chinlock back inside. That doesn't work for Legend who powers up and plants her down, setting up a fall away slam. A chokeslam gets two on Reid, who snaps off a middle rope hurricanrana for two. Reid goes up but gets kicked out of the air, setting up the back to back faceplant to finish for

Legend at 5:57.

Rating: C+. Reid is starting to make some more appearances around here and that's going to help her out in the long run. She didn't show much in the way of the whole southern belle here but it was her best in-ring effort, which could be a positive sign for her. Legend continues to look smooth in the ring, which is hard to fathom given where she was just a year or so ago.

Kali Armstrong is ready to bring speed and aggression against Brinley Reece. Believe it or not, she's a former NCAA athlete who is trying wrestling.

Kali Armstrong vs. Brinley Reece

Armstrong powers her down to start and chokes in the corner but Reece isn't having any of that. A drop toehold brings Armstrong down and she cranks away on Armstrong's arm. Reece goes up but gets pulled down for a face first crash. Armstrong clotheslines her down and grabs something like a seated crossface chickenwing. That's broken up so Armstrong hits a powerslam, only for Reece to come up with a not great TKO for the pin (ignore her shoulders being down too) at 4:44.

Rating: C. This is a weird one as Armstrong was coming off as the better of the two, with her power stuff working well. On the other hand, Reece just didn't do anything special here and it's a bit surprising as long as she has been around. There's nothing to make her stand out and this wasn't exactly an impressive performance.

Cutler James gives Shiloh Hill a pep talk before the main event. This was as awkward and badly executed as you would have expected.

Shiloh Hill vs. Mark Coffey

Coffey grabs a headlock to start but Hill powers out and

drives him into the corner. Hill works on an armbar and then a headlock but Coffey hits an elbow to the face. The chinlock goes on to keep Hill down, only to have him suplex his way to freedom. A double underhook slam gives Hill two but Coffey hits him in the face for the pin at 5:56.

Rating: C. Hill has impressed in recent appearances and it is a good sign that he is getting this kind of a spot. I could go for seeing him getting another chance, as he is one of the better stars in the new crop of NXT rookies. Losing to Coffey isn't going to hurt him so this was as logical of a main event as you could have gotten.

Hill lost a tooth on that shot to the face.

Overall Rating: C. Hill and Armstrong showed some promise here, which made for something of an odd night as the two bigger names didn't do anything special this week. The show went by quickly though and nothing was too bad, but they need to do something a bit more interesting. If nothing else, it's nice to see some fresh faces on the show and hopefully that keeps up going forward.

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NXT LVL Up – September 13, 2024: New Faces

NXT LVL Up

Date: September 13, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're getting closer to the move to the CW, which isn't likely to have much of an impact on this show. That's what commentary will be talking about though, as it is certainly the biggest thing to take place in NXT in a good while. Hopefully we get some better action to go with the excitement so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Shiloh Hill/Cutler James vs. Uriah Connors/Kale Dixon

Dixon gets elbowed in the face to start and James starts cranking on his ankle. Connors comes in but Dixon gets a blind tag for a cheap shot on Hill and the villains take over. A slingshot hilo gives Dixon two and Hill's backsplash gets the same. Dixon grabs a chinlock with a knee in the back before switching to the regular chinlock. Hill fights up and a double clothesline gives us a double breather, followed by the tag off to James. A wheelbarrow faceplant gets two on Connors with Dixon making the save. Back up and James hits a spinebuster to finish Connors at 5:15.

Rating: C+. This was a perfectly fine tag match but the best part was not knowing who was winning. Both teams are pretty

much thrown together but that gave it a bit of mystery, as neither was the obvious pick. You don't get that very often and it made what should have been a run of the mill match a bit better.

Kendal Grey and Carlee Bright are ready for Grey's match with Tyra Mae Steele'.

Kendal Grey vs. Tyra Mae Steele

Steele wrestles her down to start (as you would expect) and Grey can't sit out. Instead Grey rolls her into a quickly broken cross armbreaker as Steele muscles her up for something like a powerbomb. A snap suplex gives Steele two and she grabs something like an STF. Grey suplexes her way to freedom but walks into something like a Pounce for two. Steele grabs a dragon sleeper but Grey flips out of it and hooks a small package for the pin at 6:02.

Rating: C. Steele continue to feel like a star in the making and more of a matter of time rather than anything else. Getting her some kind of experience is only going to help her and I could go for seeing her do even more. On the other hand you have Grey, who is still desperately in need of something to set her apart.

Niko Vance, speaking very quietly, is ready to prove himself against Luca Crusifino.

Niko Vance vs. Luca Crusifino

Vance is a former football player and rather large. Crusifino can't power out of a headlock to start and Vance grinds away for a bit. An armbar slows Vance down until he fights up and fires off some knees to the ribs. The neck crank keeps Crusifino in trouble as we hear about Vance's football resume. A jawbreaker gives Crusifino a breather though and a running clothesline takes Vance down. Crusifino makes the clothesline comeback and finishes with the Codebreaker at 5:48.

Rating: C. This was much more about giving Vance his first exposure on television and it worked well enough. Vance is the latest in the line of athletes from other sports who look good but need polish in the ring. That's something that can come with time, but for now, he looked passable enough for his first time in front of a camera.

Overall Rating: C+. This was a bit more of what LVL Up felt like it was supposed to be. The biggest thing here was that it seemed to be more about presenting younger, up and coming stars and that is a good thing to do. The opener had four relatively new names, while Steele and Vance are still pretty much unknowns around here. I can go for that kind of show and it worked well enough this week.

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NXT LVL Up – August 30, 2024:

Low Point

NXT LVL Up

Date: August 30, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

It's been a minute since I've done one of these and, well, does it really make that much of a difference? The show rarely changes and other than having a few more interviews here and there, it's basically the same thing you always get. In this case we should be in for some of the usual good stuff so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Hank Walker/Tank Ledger vs. Kale Dixon/Uriah Connors

Walker and Connors start things off with Walker slamming him down and handing it off to Ledger. Dixon comes in for a front facelock but gets broken up with a backdrop. Everything breaks down and Connors jumps Walker from behind to take over. A clothesline gives Dixon two and we hit the chinlock with a knee in the back. Back up and Ledger blocks a charge in the corner to save Walker, allowing him to hand it back to Ledger. Everything breaks down and the Collision Course finishes Dixon at 5:54.

Rating: C. Hank and Tank continue to be a thing, which tends to be the case despite little success on the bigger shows. Maybe that's the kind of buildup they're going for around here but the team still isn't that interesting. Dixon and Connors might as well have been any other villains here, though they were only presented as a certain level of threatening.

Cutler James interrupts Gallus and thinks he learned a lot in

their previous match. Tonight, he wants a rematch and gets Wolfgang.

Uriah Connors wasn't happy with his loss but OTM (I think) came up to say he needs their help.

Wolfgang vs. Cutler James

The rest of Gallus is here with Wolfgang. James armdrags him down to start and cranks on the arm, followed by a gutbuster for two. Wolfgang is sent to the apron for a throat snap across the top but he gets in a shot of his own to take over. The reverse chinlock goes on until James powers out and starts the comeback, including a slam for two. Back up and Wolfgang hits a spear into the Howling for the pin at 5:30.

Rating: C. James has been around for a bit now and this might have been his best performance to date. The most important thing is that he looked more comfortable out there rather than just kind of being around as he tends to be. Odds are he'll get another chance because of his size, but this was a nice showcase for him.

Overall Rating: C-. This was the short form version as they went with the smaller format due to No Mercy taking place over the weekend. That being said, this show could barely have felt less important as it was the lowest of the low part on the roster. Just a nothing show here and they had to know that was coming with what they presented.

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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 – July 26, 2024: The Missing Part

NXT LVL Up

Date: July 26, 2024

Location: Capital Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Blake Howard

Everything changed last week as we had what resembled a more traditional wrestling show, with stories being advanced, feuds being set up and wrestlers talking about what is on their minds. It was so nice to see for once and I could definitely go for that being the new norm around here. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Jaida Parker vs. Layla Diggs

OTM is here with Parker, who runs her over with a shoulder to start and grabs a headlock. Diggs reverses into a chinlock before cranking on the arm a bit. Diggs sweeps the leg and hits a standing moonsault for two but Parker pulls her down by the hair. A running seated senton in the corner looks to set up a suplex but Diggs reverses into a small package for two. Parker isn't having that and cranks on the leg (Diggs clearly taps, which doesn't count as it doesn't seem to be what she was supposed to do), before sending her neck first into the ropes. The running hip attack finishes for Parker at 4:54.

Rating: C. Parker continues to improve in the ring and is starting to put together a signature style. That could take her a long way if she is given the chance, but she is still going to need a signature win. For now, she's doing well enough around here, even making Diggs give up when she wasn't supposed to.

A very polite Cutler James requests and receives a match with Dante Chen.

Uriah Connors vs. Dion Lennox

This is fallout from a brawl last week, as we're actually getting something in the way of continuity around here. Lennox shoves him down to start and then grinds away on a headlock. Back up and Connors snaps the neck over the top to take over

before slowly slapping away. A hard clothesline gets Lennox out of trouble and they trade rollups, with Connors' grab of the rope being caught. Lennox rolls him up for the pin at 4:37.

Rating: C. Not much here but these two are still pretty new around here, meaning the expectations aren't exactly high. Giving Lennox a win is fine, but it isn't going to matter if he's just trading victories with everyone else at his level. You don't necessarily need to give him a push, but if he's just going to trade wins, I'm not sure how much good it is to have him around here.

Layla Diggs hates losing when Riz comes in to say she needs confidence. Riz is keeping an eye on her.

Dante Chen vs. Cutler James

James powers him away to start and then grabs a front facelock to start the grappling exchange. Chen gets in a running shoulder and grabs the armbar to slow things down. A slam puts Chen down for a change and a belly to back suplex gives Chen two. They trade shots to the face for two each until James grabs a reverse chinlock. The regular chinlock makes Chen fight up and jawbreak his way to freedom. Chen chops away but gets caught in a Samoan drop for two. Back up and Chen boots him in the face, setting up the double chop for the pin at 6:18.

Rating: C. Yeah it's still Dante Chen and he's still as uninteresting as you can imagine. There's just nothing there to make me care about him being in the ring and that was on full display here. James has some size to him and looked good enough, but as usual, there is only so much you can get out of a generic match without that much time.

Overall Rating: C. It's nice to have some interviews and week to week story building, but the wrestling wasn't here to back it up. That's kind of an important part and it was missing

this week. As usual, consistency is this show's biggest issue, but I do like that they're actually doing more than just three straight matches week to week. That's a very helpful change and might actually aide the wrestlers in getting used to how WWE TV works rather than having glorified in-ring training sessions.

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NXT LVL Up – July 12, 2024: As All Over The Place As It Can Be

NXT LVL Up

Date: July 12, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

It's another one of these shows and I've again given up trying to figure out what to expect on here. Odds are we'll be seeing

a bunch of the same stuff from most of the same people, but there is still the chance of getting a new face in there somewhere. That at least opens up some doors, though I'm not sure I'll get my hopes up. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Malik Blade vs. Cutler James

Brinley Reece and Edris Enofe are here with Blade, whose early drop toehold attempt is blocked. A monkey flip is blocked as well and James hits a rather nice backdrop. Back up and Blade's rollup is countered into a faceplant as he can't get anything going here. An elbow in the corner sets up a clothesline to put James down though and a middle rope Blockbuster does it again. A frog splash finishes James off at 3:45.

Rating: C-. This was actually a bit disappointing as they were setting up something with James cutting him off over and over but then it just went nowhere as Blade won. I was thinking they might be trying something new here but never mind instead. It's still weird to see Blade on his own, though it's not like the team is going anywhere.

Hank Walker and Tank Ledger use football talk to prep for their tag match.

Layla Diggs vs. Tatum Paxley

This is Diggs' singles debut and she takes Paxley down into an early armbar. Paxley can't nip up her way to freedom as Diggs keeps taking her back down into the armbar. Back up and a Code Red out of the corner gets two but Paxley starts in on the leg to take over. A running crossbody in the corner gives Paxley two and she grabs something like a Stump Puller, albeit with all four limbs tied up (it's a weird one). Diggs fights up but

her knee is hurt...so badly that she cartwheels into a moonsault for two. Possibly offended by the lack of selling, Paxley is back up with the Psycho Trap for the pin at 4:48.

Rating: C. Diggs showed some promise but there are all kinds of women around here with some kind of gymnastics background who are in great shape. That is only going to get her so far and you're only going to get so much out of that in a four minute match. Paxley is starting to get some more ring time too and if she gets elevated a bit as a result, cool.

Dion Lennox and Uriah Connors are ready for the main event, even against better competition. You usually only get one of the main event's participants commenting so this is a nice change of pace.

Uriah Connors/Dion Lennox vs. Hank Walker/Tank Ledger

Walker and Lennox start things off with the former hitting a running shoulder and grabbing a quickly broken chinlock. Back up and Lennox shoulders him down, setting up a backsplash from Connors. Ledger comes in to run Connors over for two and a double running body block crushes him again.

Lennox knocks Walker outside to take over, setting up a belly to back suplex for two back inside. Connors stomps away before Walker hits Lennox, which just annoys him. Walker fights out of the corner though and hands it back to Ledger to pick up the pace. A spinebuster gives Lennox two but Walker and Ledger are right back with the Collision Course for the pin on Lennox at 7:27.

Rating: C+. Lennox and Connors got more in here than I would have expected and that was nice to see. This could have been little more than a squash but they put in some more effort to make it better. Walker and Ledger are treated as a much bigger deal than most acts around here so having them in the main event made the show feel better.

Overall Rating: C. This was as all over the place as LVL Up is going to be as you had a lame opener, a mediocre middle match and a good enough main event. You can only break a show like this down so much as it isn't like there is anything worth seeing most of the time. I could go for more development of personalities and talking segments though, with the second interview being nice to see.

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NXT LVL Up – June 21, 2024: The Dimly Lit Version

NXT LVL Up

Date: June 21, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We are still on the way towards Heatwave and in this case that means very little. Things can go in a variety of ways around

here but there are only so many of them that are very interesting. Hopefully they come up with something to make this show better, but you never can tell. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Tyriek Igwe/Tyson DuPont vs. Cutler James/Dion Lennox

Igwe grabs Lennox's arm to start and works on an armbar before handing it off to DuPont. Lennox manages to get up and bring James in for some arm cranking of his own, this time on Igwe. The alternating armbars continue as they certainly have that idea down. A hammerlock slam gives Lennox two and the armbar goes on again. Igwe fights up and hands it back to DuPont to pick up the pace. The Heartstopper finishes James at 5:19.

Rating: C. Igwe and DuPont are getting better in the ring with the power stuff and that isn't a bad place to be. There is always going to be a team with that kind of strength and a good look and they might as well fill that spot in for NXT. They have a long way to go but at least it's coming together.

Shiloh Hill is ready for his singles debut and he's ready to be tested. He graduated college with a 4.0 though so he knows about being tested.

Shiloh Hill vs. Uriah Connors

Hill shoves him down to start and then does it again to really prove his point. An atomic drop into a slam gets two on Connors, who takes him down for a step up backsplash. Connors hits a hard chop to the back and twists the neck for two, setting up the chinlock. Hill fights up and hits a running kick to the chest but gets sent to the floor. Connors' dive is pulled out of the air and a spinning Samoan Drop (Hunico's old finisher) finishes for Hill at 5:04.

Rating: C. Hill is another case where he might be something

someday but for now, he's just the latest guy who has a nice look and some potential. Connors might be something as a bit of weasely heel due to his size, though he hasn't really gotten the chance to showcase himself either. This was more a pair of people putting their toes in the water and that has to happen to everyone.

Karmen Petrovic vs. Wren Sinclair

The threat of some kicks have Sinclair bailing up against the ropes so Petrovic grabs a headlock. Back up and they both tease throwing a right hand but pull back out of sportsmanship. Petrovic hits a spinning crossbody for two before working on wristlock. Sinclair avoids a charge in the corner and grabs a snap suplex for two.

We hit the chinlock for a bit until Petrovic is back up with a kick to the face. Sinclair pulls her right back down into another chinlock though before switching into a full nelson of all things. Petrovic isn't having that and grabs a faceplant out of the corner. The spinning kick to the back finishes for Petrovic at 7:11.

Rating: C+. Match of the night here, which isn't a surprise as Petrovic is the biggest name on the card. Sinclair is still a perfectly good hand but that's about all so far. The good thing is she is still protected and could be turned into something later on, but for now she's just the person putting everyone else over.

Respect is shown to end the show.

Overall Rating: C. Pretty lame show this week with no star power and a bunch of people who are still getting themselves known around here. That's kind of the point of the show, but it doesn't make for the best show. It's almost like this show doesn't accomplish much and never has, but it's not like it's going to change. Ever. Well mostly ever.

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NXT LVL Up – May 31, 2024: Back To Three

NXT LVL Up

Date: May 31, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Byron Saxton, Blake Howard

We're still on the road to Battleground and in this case we're back to the full length version of the show. In this case that only means about half an hour with three matches, though the level of quality may vary. That's the story of LVL Up and has been for a long time now. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Uriah Connors vs. Cutler James

James throws him away to start and then grabs a headlock to keep Connors closer. A few slams set up a gorilla press drop to put Connors down but he avoids a charge into the post. Connors works on the arm with an it bar but Connors fights back up. The running shoulders in the corner have Connors down and a torture rack drop gives James two. Connors is back up with a rollup through the ropes (cool) into a suicide dive, followed by a top rope elbow for the pin at 5:35.

Rating: C+. I wasn't expecting this to work, if nothing else just because I barely remember either of these two showing up around here. James is a big guy with some energy to him but he is going to need some more seasoning. At the same time Connors is going to probably get a chance due to his heritage, but a name change won't hurt him.

Tyson DuPont and Tyriek Igwe are ready to keep things going against the No Quarter Catch Crew.

Kendal Grey vs. Stevie Turner

Turner grabs the hair to escape a waistlock to start but gets taken down into an armbar. Grey switches to a headlock and cranks away but Turner grabs a neckbreaker for two instead. The seated cobra clutch doesn't last long as Grey fights up and hits some running forearms. A middle rope crossbody misses though and Turner hits a Stroke for the pin at 4:16.

Rating: C. This was the match to get Turner back in the ring before she likely gets wrecked by Jordynne Grace next week on regular NXT. Turner is still someone who feels like she should have gotten a lot further so far but it just never came together. Other than that, Grey is quite the athlete who is still getting her feet wet around here, so there is only so much she is going to be able to do.

Tyriek Igwe/Tyson DuPont vs. No Quarter Catch Crew

Charlie Dempsey and Myles Borne for the Crew (Damon Kemp on

the floor) with the latter starting against Igwe. The fight over a lockup doesn't go well for Borne, who is sent into the corner for the tag to Dempsey. That's fine with Igwe, who slams him down and hands it off to DuPont for the heavy shoulder. DuPont grabs a waistlock on Borne, followed by a kick to the head for two. Dempsey makes a blind tag though and Borne takes DuPont down so the villains can start taking turns on him.

Dempsey's top rope stomp to the knee sets up a half crab, followed by Borne's cranking on the leg. The alternating ankle cranking continues until Dempsey gets kicked away, allowing the diving tag back to Igwe. Everything breaks down and a shoulderbreaker into a splash gets two on Dempsey with Borne making the save. Kemp grabs Igwe's foot though, allowing Dempsey to grab a bridging German suplex for the pin at 7:30.

Rating: C+. Igwe and DuPont seemed like they were starting to put something together on the main NXT but here they are, losing on the minor league minor league show. The Crew seems to be getting somewhere as well, but this is just a warmup for their likely next run at the Heritage Cup. This was a bigger match around here though, and I'll take that over more rookies who haven't done much of anything else.

Overall Rating: C+. The best thing I can say about this show is that it didn't feel like the same things we've seen over and over. There is only so much that you can get out of this kind of a show but I'll take Connors and Grey getting some needed reps. Switching back to the three match version didn't make a ton of difference, but it isn't like much around here changes anything most of the time.

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