

NXT – June 1, 2010 – Back When The Seasons Actually Ended

NXT

Date: June 1, 2010

Location: American Airlines Center, Dallas, Texas

Commentators: Michael Cole, Josh Matthews

We come at last to the grand finale and the last episode of NXT that I haven't reviewed yet. I'm kind of excited for this as the ending of the first one had me very interested indeed. Anyway, the finalists are Justin Gabriel, Wade Barrett and David Otunga. Otunga is probably the weakest one but maybe I'm wrong. Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of the entire season which is always cool to see. The first season of this show was actually pretty good. This show is live for once.

Striker points out the previously eliminated rookies who are here tonight. Here are the Pros as we're filling in a lot of time here. Now we bring out the finalists. There will be two eliminations tonight and up first it's a triple threat match!

Before that though we need to introduce some rookies for next season! First up is Husky Harris who is a third generation star. His pro is Cody Rhodes. He isn't Dashing yet. Maybe just jogging lightly at this point.

Monday is Viewer's Choice Raw.

Another Pro is John Morrison who has Eli Cottonwood who is kind of odd.

Justin Gabriel vs. Wade Barrett vs. David Otunga

We've got elimination rules here too just to make it awesome. Finally we get going after 9000 announcements. Barrett gets sent to the floor early as Otunga beats on Gabriel. Wade back in now as Gabriel hits the floor. We're told that in the second season of NXT there will be a 50/50 split between the Pros and the fans which is important. Otunga vs. Gabriel at the moment.

Really bad powerslam puts Gabriel down. Barrett can't stay in the ring here for too long which is kind of funny. Gabriel puts Otunga down and gets the 450 but Wade pulls him out to get the pin on Otunga instead. We take a break as we're down to one on one. Back with Gabriel breaking up an armbar on the mat. Off to an abdominal stretch by Barrett. He's working on the ribs so that the 450 is less of a weapon. Wouldn't the knee be smarter then?

If nothing else this is a rematch from last week which is kind of good for some reason. Gabriel gets some nice kicks and a cross body for two. Wasteland is countered into a sunset flip for two. Gabriel gets him down and it's 450 time again. SICK counter as Gabriel lands on the knees of Barrett. That looked incredible. Small package is academic for Barrett.

Rating: B-. This wasn't bad at all from an in ring perspective, but the idea here was that Barrett looks good. That's exactly what was supposed to happen here and it worked perfectly well. Fun match and it's cool to see them all in the ring at once in straight competition. This worked exactly like it was supposed to so I can't complain.

The Pros are getting ready for the new Poll.

MVP introduces Percy Watson who likes to party. I didn't like the idea of Watson at first but he had insane charisma and was definitely someone that caught my attention which was very good.

Zach Ryder introduces Titus O'Neil who really wasn't all that bad I didn't think.

The rookies are in the ring so it's time for the first elimination. First though we're going to hear the predictions of the eliminated rookies. Tarver says himself. Yeah he was a bit out there. Bryan says Otunga can't wrestle and Gabriel can't talk so Barrett should win. Sheffield says he doesn't care. Young says Barrett should win because he's strong mentally and physically. Slater says Barrett due to what he's proven tonight.

Time for the poll.

1. Wade Barrett. No shock at all.
2. David Otunga
3. Justin Gabriel

REALLY disagree here as Otunga had nothing but a celebrity wife going for him. Gabriel had a very flashy finisher going for him which was something that would make me want to stop and see what that was. He says he'll be back like almost everyone else has said. Matt says Justin is like him. Oh dang he's screwed.

Laycool have Kaval. Let the internet explode.

Mark Henry has Lucky Cannon. Henry is somehow the more talented one. It sounded like Cole gave Lucky a first name which sounded like Jesson or Jason.

One last rookie showdown as both get 60 seconds to tell the other why they should be gone. Otunga says Barrett is ugly. He makes fun of Barrett's physique so Wade does a mini-pec dance. Basically Otunga says he's more charismatic which is pretty much true.

Barrett says he's ugly because he's a fighter. Barrett says

Otunga has the IT factor because there's nothing else that Otunga has going for him. Wade was definitely more insulting here but made better points I think. The final Pro's Poll is next.

Kofi Kingston is a Pro and has Michael McGillicutty who was my favorite from last season.

It's time for the announcement of the winner, but Miz has something to say. He'll be back as a Pro next week with his rookie Alex Riley. Riley talks about how awesome he is for a bit.

We delay the vote again as the Pros get into an argument. Regal thinks it's over before the announcement and congratulates Jericho and Barrett. He asks anyone to do something about it so Truth does his stupid dance. Christian says sit down because he hasn't won a match in a year. Punk leaves. Jericho tries to calm Regal down but says that Barrett is winning because of Jericho, not because of Barrett's own talents. Regal says he's always like Jericho's two moves. This is hilarious stuff so Striker cuts us off.

Naturally Barrett wins as he certainly should have. Otunga says he's the real star and thinks he's being Punk'd. Barrett says he told you so which he did. He warns the Pros that this is the beginning of a new era and talks about the Winds of Change. Is Wade Barrett an Obama fan?

Overall Rating: B. This was a good way to close out the season. The match was good and more importantly: the right man won. Barrett dominated the entire season and other than Bryan has been the best since, which granted no one knew going into the show. Anyway, this was a good finale and I remember enjoying it as I watched it live. Good stuff indeed and this set up the following Monday, which was the Nexus.

So that's the last of NXT. We're most of the way done with Season 4 as I'm writing this and the first season is still by

far and away the best. The talent was there, the intrigue was there, the challenges are far more interesting and the drama worked. Also the poll was a nice touch. Either way, this was good stuff and it worked better than anything else they've done yet. Check these shows out as for the most part they're rather entertaining.