

NXT Heatwave 2024: Over The Expectations

Heatwave 2024

Date: July 7, 2024

Location: Scotiabank Arena, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Booker T.

It's the last show of a busy weekend with a card that is only looking so strong. There isn't much on this card, with the NXT Title being defended in a four way and Roxanne Perez defending the Women's Title against Lola Vice. They could make it work but this isn't the best starting point. Let's get to it.

Kickoff Show: Jacy Jayne/Jazmyn Nyx vs. Arianna Grace/Karmen Petrovic

Evil vs. Canada. Jayne takes Grace into the corner to start but it's Petrovic coming in for the strikes. A running neckbreaker gets two on Nyx and it's back to Grace for a front facelock. Jayne comes back in off a blind tag for a running clothesline though and the villains take over on Petrovic. Jayne's Cannonball in the corner gets two and a basement superkick cuts off the comeback.

Petrovic manages to low bridge Nyx to the floor and kicks Jayne away, allowing the tag off to Grace to clean house. Petrovic comes back in off a blind tag and it's a Hart Attack (kick instead of a clothesline) for two with Nyx having to make a diving save. Nyx trips Petrovic down and a kick to the face gets two, with Grace having to make the save. Grace Codebreakers Jayne, leaving Nyx to roll Petrovic up. Grace pulls the hair to reverse it though and Petrovic gets the pin at 7:39.

Rating: C. They weren't exactly going for anything great here and there is nothing wrong with that. It was little more than

an ok TV match to warm up the crowd and sometimes that's all you need. Petrovic and Grace might be the new oddball team, but I can go for this just being a one off for the sake of Canada too.

The opening video is designed like a streaming service with the match card being the options, sending us to the hype videos.

North American Title: Oba Femi vs. Wes Lee

Femi is defending. Lee slowly strikes away to start but gets powered into the corner. A few more shots stagger Femi and Lee springboards (albeit with a slip, though he recovered well enough) into an enziguri to rock the champion. A headscissors is blocked as Femi powers him out to the floor and Lee looks a bit shaken. He's shaken enough that he comes back in with a springboard missile dropkick, only to get caught with a release F5 for a very impressive crash landing.

They head outside with Lee being sent into various things, including hard into the ring apron. Back in and a backbreaker puts Lee down again before Femi sends him flying as the beating continues. Lee gets tied in the Tree of Woe but manages to avoid a charge, sending Femi into the post. Back up and Lee low bridges him to the floor, where Femi chops him from the apron in an impressive comeback.

Another backbreaker lets Femi bend Lee's back over his knee for two, meaning it's time to get frustrated. Femi yells at him a lot and gets kicked in the head for his efforts. Lee knocks him to the floor for some suicide dives but a sunset flip is blocked back inside. Instead it's a hurricanrana for two but Lee's springboard is uppercutted out of the air for a rather near fall.

They go up top where Lee's super hurricanrana is countered into a powerbomb, which is countered into something like a super X Factor. The Cardiac Kick gives Lee two so he hits a

frog splash, with Femi popping back up. They go outside again, where Lee's moonsault is countered into a shoulderbreaker. Back in and Femi counters the Cardiac Kick into a hard toss to the mat, setting up a pop up sitout powerbomb to retain the title at 16:21.

Rating: B. This was straight out of the David vs. Goliath formula and it went well, lack of slingshot or beheading aside. Lee bounced off the rather impressive Femi to make the monster look more impressive and it was a very good choice for an opener. Femi is looking like the unstoppable monster and I could go for seeing just how good he could become. Lee should be fine, but it's time for him to do something else.

We recap Kelani Jordan defending the Women's North American Title against Sol Ruca, which is a battle of rather athletic people.

Women's North American Title: Kelani Jordan vs. Sol Ruca

Jordan is defending and they trade flips and reversals to start. Jordan's middle rope crossbody lands a bit low before she misses a flipping legdrop. Back up and Ruca drop toeholds her into a headlock to grind away a bit. Jordan fights up and gets one off a splash, only for Ruca to come back with an X Factor for two.

Ruca grabs the rather appropriate surfboard for about as long as you would expect, with Jordan fighting up for a hurricanrana. Back up and Ruca hits a springboard forearm into a springboard flipping clothesline (think a Buckshot Lariat from the top) for two. Jordan blocks a kick to the ribs and hits a spinwheel kick to the head.

A poisonrana sends Ruca outside for an Asai moonsault but she's right back up with a moonsault of her own. Back in and they trade rollups for two each until Ruca powerbombs her for two more. Jordan gets in a knockdown of her own and goes up, only to land on raised knees. The Sol Snatcher is blocked

(that's a first) for two and a super poisonrana takes Ruca back down. One Of A Kind retains the title at 11:39.

Rating: B-. This was good enough but it was far from smooth with multiple parts where it felt like they were trying to get into position for whatever they had planned next. It makes sense with the stereo gymnastics backgrounds, but it didn't make for the best looking match. Jordan needs some wins to establish herself and the title though and this accomplished both feats.

Respect is shown post match.

Gallus is ready to fight Tyriek Igwe and Tyson DuPont over their lack of respect.

We recap the Kickoff Show match.

Arianna Grace is ready to keep the team with Karmen Petrovic going, but Ava changes it to a singles match between them on NXT instead.

Tag Team Titles: Axiom/Nathan Frazer vs. Chase U

Axiom/Frazer are defending but have been having issues lately. Chase and Axiom trade rollups to start, with Chase getting to describe this as a TEACHABLE MOMENT. Frazer comes in to pick up the pace and gets in a cheap shot on Chase to give Axiom two of his own. Stereo basement superkicks give Frazer two and we hit the chinlock. Back up and Chase pulls Frazer out of the air for a Side Effect but Axiom is back with an ankle lock.

That's broken up and Hudson gets the tag to start the house cleaning. The double Chase U elbows to the head and it's a gutbuster/backsplash combination (that was impressive) for two on Axiom. Everything breaks down and the champs hit the back to back suicide dives. Back in and Hudson gets armdragged out of the corner, only to come back with a Stratusphere of all things. The swinging layout Rock Bottom gets two on Frazer,

who is back with a springboard missile dropkick.

Hudson is sat on top for a super Spanish Fly. The Phoenix splash connects but Chase makes the save and hits a Canadian Destroyer on Axiom for the save. Chase and Axiom slug it out until Frazier accidentally superkicks Axiom, giving Chase two and leaving everyone out of breath. The spelling stomps get two and Chase goes up, only for Frazer to superplex him into Chasing the Dragon. Frazer flip dives onto Hudson and the Golden Ratio retains the titles at 16:50.

Rating: B. This started slowly but got going near the end, as everyone just went nuts and did a bunch of near falls and saves. Chase U continuing to be this over years after debuting is a near miracle and somehow they still don't seem to be slowing down. Heck of a match here, with Axiom and Frazer overcoming their issues, at least for now.

Post match the champions are happy together.

Wes Lee is shaken up by his loss and doesn't know where to go from here.

We recap the NXT Women's Title with Roxanne Perez defending against Lola Vice. Perez is the rather evil champion while Vice is the new force who runs through everyone. Vice also wants to win the title for her mother, which Perez doesn't care for all that much.

NXT Women's Title: Lola Vice vs. Roxanne Perez

Perez is defending and we get Big Match Intros. Feeling out process to start with Vice knocking her down but not being able to get the cross armbreaker. The spinning backfist misses as well as Perez bails out to the floor. Vice takes her down with a flip dive from the apron and that means some dancing.

Back in and Perez takes over, including some choking on the ropes. Vice strikes away to send her into the corner but it's

too early for the hip attack. Instead Perez sends her into the corner for a running uppercut, only to get caught in a choke. That's reversed into a rollup for the break but Vice is right back with the choke again. They go outside, where Vice's backfist hits the post, allowing Perez to grab a quick hammerlock suplex to bang up the fist even more.

Back in and Perez goes after the hand again, with a belly to back suplex dropping Vice. A quick triangle choke gives Vice a breather and she hits the backfist, which sends Perez outside. Back in and Vice kicks away but Perez grabs Pop Rox for two, leaving Perez stunned. They go outside where another Pop Rox onto the announcers' table connects to give Perez two back inside. The crossface on the bad arm has Vice in more trouble but she slips out, leaving Perez to hit three more Pop Rox to retain at 13:07.

Rating: B-. They were playing up the idea of Vice losing one of her big weapons with the hand injury but geez that was a lot of Pop Rox (some of which weren't exactly great) to end things. It doesn't help that when you see a move that many times, it stops looking like something with snap and power and is instead just kind of a fast sunset flip. They were trying here but it didn't exactly get to that next level.

Video on the Brooks Jensen situation.

Tony D'Angelo is fine with defending the Heritage Cup against Lexis King on NXT.

We recap the NXT Title, which has Trick Williams defending against three challenges. Je'Von Evans won the title shot in a battle royal, but then Ethan Page beat him. Then Shawn Spears beat Williams, meaning it's time for a four way.

NXT Title: Ethan Page vs. Shawn Spears vs. Je'Von Evans vs. Trick Williams

Williams is defending. Evans and Page go to the floor to

start, leaving Williams to slam Spears back inside. They head outside as well, with Page and Spars sending Evans and Williams into the steps. Back in and we get the villains' handshake, only to have them both go for a poke to the eye. Evans and Williams show respect before going at it, with Williams sending him outside.

Spears brings in a chair but Williams clears the ring with some Booker T. style side kicks. Evans springboards back in with a high crossbody to Spears and Page, only to walk into a Rock Bottom to give Williams two. Page suplexes Evans onto Spears and Iconoclasms Evans onto Williams and Spears for a big crash. We get something like a Doomsday Device/DDT combination to give the villains two each, leaving Williams and Page to slug it out. Spears grabs a chair to clean house (including a NASTY chair shot to Evans' back) and a C4 onto the chair in the corner gets two on Williams.

An exchange of superkicks leaves all four of them down for a needed breather. Page loads up the announcers' table but gets cut off by Williams, only to get caught by a HUGE flip dive from Evans, who breaks the barricade. Back in and Spears catches Evans with a super C4 but Page comes in and steals the near fall. Evans is back up with a super Spanish Fly to Page, followed by a top rope cutter for two with Williams making a diving save.

Evans and Williams slug it out until Evans knocks him to the floor. Spears breaks up a big dive but gets taken down by a top rope cutter. The twisting splash gets two with Williams making ANOTHER diving save. Evans loads up a springboard but Williams shoves him HARD through the announcers' table, leaving him with a look of "sorry but I had to".

Spears avoids a kick and gets a Sharpshooter on Williams, with Page having to make a save. Page hits the Ego's Edge on Williams but Evans puts the foot on the rope. Williams is back in with a Trick Shot to Evans and another to Page...who falls

on Evans, with Spears holding Williams back so Page can win the title at 17:23.

Rating: A-. This was WAY better than I was expecting and some of the near falls had me wondering where it was going. It was also pretty much all action, with everyone doing whatever they could. The ending was a great touch as well, with Williams clearly being the best of the four but getting caught by the numbers game. It doesn't hurt Williams whatsoever and lets Page be the bragging champion who is in over his head for a little while. Excellent main event here that way overdelivered.

Page wakes up and is awarded the title, allowing him to give a great "well, I knew that would work" look.

Joe Hendry pops up on screen to end the show.

Overall Rating: B+. To say this show overdelivered would be an understatement, as there was nothing bad and a great main event. At the same time, it's still a show where, outside of the main event, nothing really noteworthy happened. The titles were defended but other than the Women's Title match, none of them were exactly must see showdowns. I can certainly go for an awesome show with a bunch of good or better matches though, especially with that last match going that far above expectations.

Results

Arianna Grace/Karmen Petrovic b. Jazmyn Nyx/Jacy Jayne – Rollup to Nyx

Oba Femi b. Wes Lee – Sitout powerbomb

Kelani Jordan b. Sol Ruca – One Of A Kind

Axiom/Nathan Frazer b. Chase U – Golden Ratio to Chase

Roxanne Perez b. Lola Vice – Pop Rox

Ethan Page b. Shawn Spears, Je'Von Evans and Trick Williams – Trick Shot to Evans

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NXT Heatwave 2024 Preview

We're already back to another big time NXT show and in this case the card is feeling a bit weak. There are some big names on here but it's not exactly looking like a great card. It's also coming at the end of the big WWE weekend in the same venue and that could be a problem for the fans. Hopefully the wrestlers can overcome the issue so let's get to it.

Kickoff Show: Karmen Petrovic/Arianna Grace vs. Jacy Jayne/Jazmyn Nyx

This was added at the last minute this week on NXT and it makes for a perfectly fine choice for a warm up match. Grace and Petrovic are your latest oddball team, while Jayne and Nyx are the resident midcard villains. That should make for a good enough match as Nyx and Jayne are rather annoying together and Grace if agreeing to help Petrovic because...well because Grace doesn't get it a lot of the time.

I'll go with Petrovic and Grace to win here, as NXT certainly loves its random pairings who wind up being good together. Jayne and Nyx are the kind of team who can bounce back after a loss without much trouble and they very well may have to do it again here. The match isn't likely going to be anything special, but for a glorified tv match, it should be perfectly acceptable.

North American Title: Oba Femi(c) vs. Wes Lee

This is the David vs. Goliath match as you have the monster Femi defending against Lee, who isn't exactly a big guy in the first place but has the big heart to fight for his title. That's a story that has worked forever in wrestling and always will. Lee is going to have some fans behind him and if they can get into his near falls and hope spots, we could be in for a heck of a reception.

I can't see a way Femi loses the title here, as there isn't much of a reason for Lee to get the belt back. He's already held it for such a long time and having him beat Femi would seem rather counterproductive. Go with what makes sense here, which is having Femi win by mostly destroying Lee in the end. It has the potential to be fun, but Femi needs to hold onto the title.

Women's North American Title: Kelani Jordan(c) vs. Sol Ruda

The title is still pretty much brand new and there is only so much that you can get out of a title that has only been defended so many times. Jordan winning the title via a ladder match is still working against her as she is still trying to show just how good she is. Another win might help that, but I'm not sure if this is going to be a big enough opponent to make that happen.

I'll go with Jordan retaining here, as Ruca is an athletic marvel, but she'll be popular for a long time due to the cool finisher with the Sol Snatcher. Jordan feels like ore of a

long term project and having her win here would be a bit of a boost. NXT is going to need to work to really establish the title and that is going to take time, along with a string of wins. Jordan can add to that here.

Tag Team Titles: Axiom/Nathan Frazer(c) vs. Chase U

This is a story of two teams who aren't in the best places at the moment. Axiom and Frazer are arguing over whether or not they should focus on being a team or on Frazer's singles career. At the same time, Chase U is having to deal with cheating from Ridge Holland, who is not allowed to be around for the match. That makes for a complicated situation for the titles, which could make the ending a bit more clear.

I'll take the champions to retain here, as it feels like they need a win to keep things going well while Chase U will have issues without the cheating being around. I'm not sure if that makes a ton of sense, but it should make enough sense for what we have here. The match itself should be good and while I'd love to see Chase U winning the titles back, I don't think I can see it happening here.

Women's Title: Roxanne Perez(c) vs. Lola Vice

This was set up by a rather emotional speech from Vice, which is odd as she has been incredibly cocky in the previous weeks. Vince has talked about wanting to do this for her mother and her heritage, which is one of those things that should make for a layup win, though it isn't like Vice needed that in the first place. Perez is a rather awesome champion, but I'm not sure if that is enough.

In this case, I'll go with it being enough for Vice, who seems to be the perfect choice for the next big star in the division. Perez has already shown how good she is and there is little reason for her to hold onto the title. Vice's emotional speech should be enough to get her there, as NXT has certainly built her up for the last few months and that should be a sign

that she is getting the big win.

NXT Title: Trick Williams(c) vs. Shawn Spears vs. Ethan Page vs. Je'Von Evans

While this match is the main event and certainly has a lot of people involved, I'm not sure if I would call it a match that feels big. It really comes off as Williams defending against three people who happen to be in the match with him rather than great challengers. He's already beaten Page so there isn't even much drama in one of the three. That makes for a bit of an issue and it also should lead to the obvious.

As you might have guessed, I'll take Williams to retain here, as I can't imagine any real reason for him to lose the title. Williams is the biggest star in the promotion and there is no reason to take the title from him right now. While I'd like to believe there is a chance that NXT could lose their minds and give Evans the title so soon, it feels like it should be Williams winning in what would be the right move.

Overall Thoughts

I wasn't overly interested in this card when I started looking at the whole thing and that isn't much better now. It just isn't that interesting of a show and while it could still very well wind up working out, it feels like a show that is there because it has to be. Maybe they will outperform their hype (it certainly wouldn't be the first time) but this isn't one of their strongest efforts, at least on the way in.

NXT – August 22, 2023 (Heatwave): That's A Hot One

NXT

Date: August 22, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Booker T., Vic Joseph

It's time for another special with Heatwave, which will be our big time TV show for August. That includes Carmelo Hayes defending the NXT Title against Wes Lee, plus a Trick Williams vs. Ilja Dragunov showdown. NXT has had some success with these bigger shows so maybe they can continue it here. Let's get to it.

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

The opening sequence features Tony D'Angelo and Stacks in a pool, talking about the matches tonight. Big Ang comes in with some of her friends to join in and the guys think the more the merrier. More previewing ensues, with Stacks getting a bit distracted.

Ilja Dragunov vs. Trick Williams

This is the more serious Williams and they start fast with a strike off. Dragunov gets the better of things by chopping him around the ring until Williams blocks a boot. Williams gets in a shot to the face of his own and they head outside, where Dragunov sends him into the apron. We take a break and come back with Dragunov chopping away in the corner, with Williams telling him to bring it.

Dragunov does bring it, and seems to regret that decision. Williams blocks a chop and kicks him down though and the fans seem to approve. Some shots to the face strike Dragunov down against the ropes but he tells Williams to bring it on. Fans,

seemingly singing: "TRICK'S GONNA BEAT YOUR A**!"

One heck of a knee puts Dragunov down again but he pulls Williams into a DDT. Back up and Williams catches him with a super Rock Bottom (that was cool) for two of his own. Dragunov knees him down and hits a powerbomb as the fans are WAY into this. The middle rope fist drop finally finishes Williams at 12:49.

Rating: B. This wasn't so much about the technical side of things but rather two guys beating the fire out of each other as the fans got into it. If that crowd reaction is any indication of what they are going to do with Williams, his future just got a heck of a lot brighter in a hurry. Williams has a charisma to him and enough in-ring ability to back it up. He wasn't ready to beat a star like Dragunov here, but they beat each other up really well on the way to the loss.

Tyler Bate is trying to recover from his Dabba Kato beating last week when Nathan Frazer comes in. Bate is ready to see Frazer show he's the true Heritage Cup Champion, but Frazer would like him to be his second tonight. And yes, Bate will get the first shot after Dar is vanquished. Deal.

Dominik Mysterio and Rhea Ripley are warming up for their mixed tag tonight when Mustafa Ali comes in. Ali can't wait for Dominik to be gone so the North American Title can be free but Ripley threatens violence if Ali isn't gone in ten seconds. Ali: "Ten seconds? Sounds like something you guys are used to."

Ava vs. Ivy Nile

Schism is here with Ava, who sends her into the corner for a running splash to start. A scorpion kick puts Nile down again but a slam attempt is countered into the Diamond Chain Lock to make Ava tap at 2:11.

Post match the masked Schism members come after Nile, who

fighters them all off until Ava is pulled away.

A banged up Ilja Dragunov comes in to see Wes Lee, saying he is next for the NXT Title. Lee says he'll be champion at the end of the night and he'll face Dragunov after he wins the title.

Heritage Cup: Noam Dar vs. Nathan Frazer

Frazer, with Tyler Bate, is defending while the rest of the Meta Four are here too. This is of course under Heritage Cup rules so round one begins with Frazer working on the arm. Dar takes him down into an armbar of his own but Frazer reverses into a headlock as they stay basic to start. Some kicks to the ribs have Frazer staggered a bit but he rolls Dar up for two. Back up and they both miss a few shots, allowing Dar to get in a slap to the face. Frazer hammers away until the round ends and we take a break.

Back with Dar up 1-0 as Dabba Kato came out to attack Bate, allowing Dar to roll him up for the fall. Round three begins with Bate being carried out and Frazer grabbing an STF on Dar. With that broken up, Dar gets in a shot of his own and counters an enziguri into an ankle lock. Frazer breaks that up and sends Dar outside for a suicide dive. A running shooting star press gives Frazer two as the round ends, though Dar gets in an elbow after the bell.

Round four begins with Frazer kicking him down but missing the phoenix splash. Dar elbows him in the face again for two but Frazer catches him on top with a superplex. The Final Cut ties us up at 1-1 at 1:45 of the round and 12:25 overall. We take a break and come back with Frazer hitting a dive onto Dar but Lash Legend slows the count down. Frazer gets a very close two as the round ends.

Round six begins with Frazer forearming him down but Dar gets in some kicks from the mat. Frazer misses a kick in the ropes and gets struck down, only to have Dar miss a top rope stomp.

Dar counters a kick into the kneebar but Frazer kicks his way out as we have a minute to go. Frazer goes up top but another distraction means the phoenix splash misses. The Nova Roller gives Dar the cup back at 2:45 of the round and 19:41 overall.

Rating: B-. These matches do have a unique feeling with the rounds, but when you miss most of two of those rounds, the special part kind of goes away. Other than that, this was a back and forth match, though Dar getting the Cup back is a bit depressing. He's great in the role, but we've seen it for so long that it stops being so fun.

Ava says Ivy Nile tried to hurt her but couldn't do it. If she wants to try again, come give it a shot.

Here is Tiffany Stratton to say it is the end of a hot summer. She won the Women's Title and now the fall is going to get even better. She's already a perfect champion so how much better can it get? Bayley promises to be a better champion than anyone in NXT history, including Becky Lynch (who never won the NXT Women's Title).

Cue Gigi Dolin to say she wants the title. Cue Kiana James to say she wants the title. Cue Blair Davenport to say she wants the title. Insults are hurled and Tiffany tries to leave but cue Roxanne Perez to hit Tiffany in the face. The brawl is on with Tiffany leaving. This was every horrible "HEY, WHAT ABOUT ME" parade style promo you could ask for and that is not a good thing in any way.

Charlie Dempsey and Damon Kemp are training when Miles Borne comes in to talk to Drew Gulak. Borne has done his chores but Dempsey chokes him from behind. Despite Borne tapping, Gulak says Borne needs to work harder.

Ava is still waiting on Ivy Nile. Cue Ivy, with Ava telling the masked men to take her out. They unmask as the Creeds, who say that if Schism wants Ava back, the Dyad has to face them next week. In a cage, and if the Creeds win, they're back in

NXT.

The Meta Four are celebrating Noam Dar's win when he is presented with a letter from the Heritage Cup committee. Next week, a #1 contenders tournament begins to find his new challenger for No Mercy. All Dar hears is he isn't defending for five weeks so they're off to California!

Judgment Day vs. Lyra Valkyria/Dragon Lee

Lee and Dominik start things off with Dominik hammering away before they trade standing switches. Lee hits a dropkick so it's off to Ripley vs. Valkyria, with the latter jumping up or a headlock. Ripley powers her down but gets kicked from the mat before the threat of a roundhouse kick sends Ripley running. Valkyria slips out of a suplex attempt and strikes away before it's back to the men, with Lee kicking Dominik in the head. Judgment Day is sent outside for a dropkick through the ropes and a dive as we take a break.

Back with Ripley holding Valkyria in a bodyscissors and screaming a lot. Valkyria manages to turn it over and fires off forearms so Ripley suplexes her down. Ripley tries it again but this time it's reversed into a DDT for a breather. The roundhouse kick connects for Valkyria but Ripley is knocked into the corner for a tag.

Lee drapes him over the top for a double stomp to the back and a near fall. Dominik misses a 619 attempt and gets planted with a sitout powerbomb for two. Valkyria's hurricanrana off the apron is pulled out of the air but cue Raquel Rodriguez to go after Ripley. The distraction lets Lee hit a flipping reverse DDT for the pin at 14:05.

Rating: B-. Another good match on the show as Judgment Day continues to feel like the biggest stars anywhere when they're around. Dominik oddly gets more heat out of being North American Champion on the main roster shows but around here he plays it a bit more seriously, which is quite the change. Lee

is all but guaranteed the next title shot and that should make for a solid showdown, with a title change feeling a bit more likely than last time. Throw in Valkyria doing well enough against Ripley and this was a nice use of TV time.

Carmelo Hayes and Trick Williams have a reunion and are all ok with each other.

Tiffany Stratton has gotten all the mentions and no, Becky Lynch was never NXT Women's Champion. As for the other four, they're in a four way match for a future title shot.

We look back at Thea Hail losing last week due to Andre Chase's mistake.

Hail rants about how Chase cost her when Jacy Jayne came in to say Hail has improved a lot in the last year. Jayne talks about how everyone has been let down before, but people like them always get through it.

Von Wagner vs. Baron Corbin

Corbin jumps him during the entrance and sends Wagner (with Mr. Stone) into the steps. Wagner gets in a few shots but is sent into the steps again and it's time to load up the announcers' table. Stone tries to make a save, allowing Wagner to get up...and get speared down by Bron Breakker. No match.

Schism is down to face the Creeds, as long as they get Ava back.

Dijak is ready to hurt Eddy Thorpe.

Becky Lynch has sent out a tweet saying she has never been NXT Women's Champion. Yet.

NXT Title: Carmelo Hayes vs. Wes Lee

Hayes is defending. They flip around a bit to start and then bounce back to their feet for a standoff. Lee takes him down

for a fast two before they trade dropkicks into nipups. A double knockdown sends us to a break as they're mostly mirroring each other to start. We come back with things having slowed down a bit and Hayes hitting an enziguri into the corner. The Fade Away connects for Hayes and they're both down again.

They slug it out until Hayes drops him for two, with some frustration setting in. Back up and Lee hits a standing Meteora for two, followed by Spiral Tap for two more. Hayes counters the Cardiac Kick into a suplex cutter though and Lee gets planted for two more. They head outside with Hayes DDTing him through the announcers' table. Nothing But Net misses back inside though and Lee hits the Cardiac Kick, only to have Hayes roll outside. Lee misses a big dive and barely beats the count, leaving Hayes to hit Nothing But Net to retain at 12:08.

Rating: B-. Hayes is a weird case as champion as he does all the things that make him feel like a star but his matches rarely hit that higher level. That was on display here as the match was good, but it wasn't anything close to great. What matters is Lee got the chance and the ending, with him going a bit too far, could open him up for a rematch. Ilja Dragunov seems to be next for Hayes though and that should be a showdown.

Overall Rating: B. This definitely felt like a big show and the card was rather stacked. What matters here is getting things out of the way so the road to No Mercy can start up next week. The opener was the best match of the show and the rest were good enough, along with stories being set up for the future. That's a well done two hour special and I had a good time throughout the whole thing.

Results

Ilja Dragunov b. Trick Williams – Middle rope fist drop

Ivy Nile b. Ava – Diamond Chain Lock

Noam Dar b. Nathan Frazer 2-1

Dragon Lee/Lyra Valkyria b. Judgment Day – Flipping reverse DDT to Mysterio

Carmelo Hayes b. Wes Lee – Nothing But Net

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NXT – August 16, 2022 (Heatwave): Time For A Crossover

NXT

Date: August 16, 2022

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Wade Barrett, Vic Joseph

It's time for another special as NXT presents Heatwave. There are a few title matches here, including Zoey Star challenging

for the NXT Women's Title and Bron Breakker defending the NXT Title against JD McDonagh. Other than that we have a heck of a grudge match as Roxanne Perez faces Cora Jade. Let's get to it.

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

Paul Heyman narrates the voiceover, hyping up the big matches in an old ECW style voice. He's still got it.

North American Title: Carmelo Hayes vs. Giovanni Vinci

Hayes, with Trick Williams, is defending and the fans seem to be behind him. An armdrag takes Vinci down and a chop rocks him in the corner. Back up and Vinci hits some rather loud chops before they hit stereo clotheslines for a double knockdown. We take a break and come back with Vinci pulling Hayes out of the air and hitting a slam, setting up a middle rope moonsault for two.

Hayes is right back with the Fade Away for a breather and a suplex into a cutter gives him two of his own. Vinci backdrops him to the floor and hits a heck of a springboard dive, followed by a double jump moonsault for two back inside, with Williams having to put a foot on the ropes. One heck of a clothesline connects but Vinci has to powerbomb Hayes onto an interfering Williams. The distraction lets Vinci powerbomb Williams but Hayes reverses into a hurricanrana to retain at 11:50.

Rating: B-. Pretty nice opener here as Hayes gets another win under his belt and looks smooth doing it. They're creating a situation where a win over him is going to be a big deal and that is the point of something like this. Williams is good as the trash talking lackey and they compliment each other well. Vinci has the tools, but still needs to actually beat someone to get to the next level.

Toxic Attraction arrived earlier and ran into Bron Breakker,

who seemed to catch their eyes.

Julius Creed watched the Diamond Mine's eight man tag and there is something that has caught his eye.

Mr. Stone brags about Von Wagner, who promises to end anyone smaller or weaker.

Here is the Diamond Mine for a chat. Julius Creed talks about how much they have done to get this far and become the Tag Team Champions. There is someone trying to take Diamond Mine down though and that is....RODERICK STRONG! That is immediately denied, with Strong saying that he would put the Creeds up against the Usos, with Julius saying the Usos can bring it. Brutus Creed asks if Julius is sure and then standing behind him.

We see a clip of Strong accidentally kneeing Julius, but Julius points out Tony D'Angelo tapping the mat, which he thinks was a signal to Strong. Again Strong denies everything...and here is Gallus (from NXT UK) to jump the rest of the Diamond Mine. Gallus looks at Strong and then beats them down too. Green lights come on with Gallus posing. Of note: that green light with the Diamond Mine down was what Apollo Crews saw in his vision last week. That's certainly a way to go, and I like that Gallus didn't bother siding with Strong in a swerve.

Roxanne Perez is ready to take out Cora Jade for good.

Roxanne Perez vs. Cora Jade

Perez starts fast and the beating is on. Jade gets knocked outside for a suicide dive but a second attempt is knocked away. Instead Jade hits a suplex on the floor and we take a break. Back with Perez fighting out of a double arm crank and hitting some running forearms.

They hit stereo running boots in the corner, setting up a

Russian legsweep for two on Jade. A shot to the face drops Perez though and Jade grabs the stick, which is quickly taken away by Jade. Perez thinks about it too long though and a DDT onto the kendo stick finishes for Jade at 11:44.

Rating: C+. That was a bit of a weird ending as a DDT onto a stick doesn't seem like the biggest knockout move, but at least they had a good enough fight. Jade is being primed to be something bigger around here and while she's a step above Perez at this point, Perez is more than talented enough to be right there with her. This feud is likely far from over and that's a good thing.

Josh Briggs/Brooks Jensen get into a fight with Gallus and have to be separated.

Long recap of Tony D'Angelo vs. Santos Escobar, setting up one more fight for Legado del Fantasma's future.

Bron Breaker is warming up when Apollo Crews comes in, looks at the NXT Title, and leaves.

Santos Escobar vs. Tony D'Angelo

Street fight. If Escobar wins, the rest of Legado is free, but if D'Angelo wins, Santos is gone for good. Legado walks in from the street and Escobar is wearing his mask. Before the bell, Escobar chairs D'Angelo down and scores with a hurricanrana through the chair for two. The chair is wedged into the corner and Escobar knocks him down again as Stacks takes out the rest of Legado on the floor.

The suicide dive is cut off with a trashcan lid to Escobar's head though and we take a break. Back with D'Angelo crushing Escobar's arm with the steps and then suplexing him on a pile of chairs on the floor. A Falcon Arrow and a trashcan lid shot to the head gets two on Escobar but he's right back with a headscissors.

Legado drops Stacks on the floor and Escobar grabs a rollup for two on D'Angelo. Escobar tells Elektra Lopez to hand her a crowbar but D'Angelo runs her over and doesn't think much of it. They get back in and look at each other before going after something. Escobar gets D'Angelo's whistle but D'Angelo gets the crowbar and knocks Escobar silly for the pin at 12:41.

Rating: C+. Another not so great ending aside, this is the result that makes the most sense. This feud has gone on for what feels like the better part of ever and it is nice to see them FINALLY wrap things up. In theory this sends Escobar up to the main roster, where he should have been for a long time now. Either way, what matters is that the feud is over and they can both move on to ANYTHING else.

Indi Hartwell congratulates Kayden Carter and Katana Chance on their win but misses the good old days. A woman comes up and gives Hartwell a letter....from Dexter Lumis. She's rather happy, but NXT UK's Blair Davenport comes up and takes it away. Davenport says she's going to be NXT Women's Champion. That's a nice debut.

Video on Tiffany Stratton vs. Wendy Choo, which will take place again next week in a lights out match.

Women's Title: Zoey Stark vs. Mandy Rose

Stark is challenging and the rest of Toxic Attraction is here too. Rose gets knocked outside to start but manages to send Stark's bad knee into the announcers' table. We take a break and come back with Toxic Attraction getting caught tripping Stark and ejected. Cue Nikkita Lyons to take them out but Rose grabs a half crab. That's broken up and Stark strikes away, including a clothesline.

An enziguri gives Stark two and the flipping knee to the face connects, with Stark not being able to follow up. Instead Rose crawls to the floor and ties the bad knee up in the ropes. Back in and Stark grabs a rollup for two but Rose hits her

running knee...for two more. With nothing else working, Rose puts Stark's knee brace on and hits another running knee to retain at 11:40.

Rating: C. I'm not sure I get this one as Rose is running out of challengers to beat. They seemed to be building up to the Stark win here and then Rose just beats her again. That's certainly one way to go, but I'm starting to wonder who takes the title from Rose. This seemed to be the most logical way to go and yet here we are with the reign continuing.

Quincy Elliott, the Super Diva, is coming and doesn't mind being different.

Grayson Waller doesn't like Apollo Crews but invites him on the debut of his talk show next week.

NXT Title: JD McDonagh vs. Bron Breaker

Breaker is defending and uses a sledgehammer to break a table that says JD. Must not be a Scrubs fan. McDonagh spins out of a wristlock to start and forearms him in the face, only to get gator rolled into a delayed vertical suplex. The spear misses though and McDonagh gets in a shot of his own as we take a break.

Back with McDonagh hitting a neckbreaker over the turnbuckle to send Breaker crashing out to the floor. Breaker fights up again but misses another pear and goes shoulder first into the post. Something like a Crossface goes on but Breaker is right next to the rope. Breaker's arm is fine enough to hit a Frankensteiner for two but McDonagh is back with a Spanish Fly.

A brainbuster connects for two and now it's McDonagh getting frustrated. Breaker is back with the spear but McDonagh rolls outside. Another spear connects and Breaker takes the straps down but McDonagh pops up and smiles. A third spear into the gorilla press powerslam retains the title at 13:11.

Rating: B-. This was pretty much Breakker 101: he gets hurt, fights through it, and then wins with raw power in the end. That's not the worst way to go, but at the end of the day it is something they've done more than once now. Breakker is still a project, but this feud didn't do him many favors. He needs something to make him feel like a big deal again and this wasn't it.

Post match Tyler Bate (with the United Kingdom Title, which is CURRENTLY VACANT ON NXT UK TV and being decided in a tournament WHICH INCLUDES BATE) comes out for the staredown. There's your upgraded feud.

Overall Rating: C+. I liked the show for the most part, but at the end of the day, nothing really happened during the matches. It was one of those shows where they hyped up a bunch of matches and all of the champions retained, but then they made up for it with everything else. This show more or less said that NXT UK is done after they run out their current shows and honestly, that might be better for everyone. NXT needs the boost and it was certainly an eventful show, so well done on that front.

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