

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 Morreux'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 Morreux 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 Morreux – Reverse DDT to Bernal

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NXT LVL Up – April 19, 2024: It Means Nothing For Next Week

NXT LVL Up

Date: April 19, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

It's time to finally get caught up on this show as I've been a few weeks behind. Things have not been their sharpest around here lately as it has certainly felt like the way the show has been going for a very long time. Hopefully that changes this week, as a dull LVL Up is among the least interesting things in all of wrestling. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Kale Dixon vs. Riley Osborne

Dixon shrugs off an early wristlock and sends Osborne outside, meaning we get a bit of respect on the way back in. Osborne hits a quick dropkick out to the floor and this time he lets Dixon come back in. Dixon isn't having that and decks Osborne, who knocks him right back down. Some kicks to the chest keep Osborne down and Dixon chops him in the back. The chinlock goes on but Osborne fights up and hits a jumping elbow. A knee to the face sets up a shooting star press to give Osborne the pin at 6:17.

Rating: C. Osborne gets a win here, though there is only so much that he is going to get from beating Dixon. While Dixon has a good look and enough ability, he is running with the anchor that is his first name. WWE can't expect him to go far

with that kind of a name, yet here we are anyway, with Dixon continuing to be stuck in limbo, at least partially due to being named after a vegetable.

Karmen Petrovic is ready for Wren Sinclair.

Karmen Petrovic vs. Wren Sinclair

Petrovic grabs a headlock to start and grinds away but Sinclair kicks away for a standoff. Another headlock goes on to keep Petrovic in control and she grabs a running basement Blockbuster for two. Sinclair pulls her down into a chinlock and even gets the knees into Petrovic's back to make it worse. Petrovic fights out and makes the clothesline comeback, setting up a spinning kick to the back of the head for the pin at 4:59.

Rating: C. I don't know if they're building up Sinclair's first win as a big deal or something else, but it's almost weird to see her lose so often despite being good enough to do something. On the other hand you have Petrovic, who has a cool gimmick but is going to need something more besides being able to kick people.

Respect is shown post match.

Drake Morreaux/Javier Bernal vs. Hank Walker/Tank Ledger

Ledger powers Bernal into the corner to start and it's quickly off to Morreaux, who runs Ledger down. Bernal comes back in and is promptly slammed by Walker, setting up Ledger's slingshot splash for two. With Morreaux down, a double slam puts Bernal onto him for a rather nasty crash. Morreaux takes Walker down though and Bernal gets to stomp away.

The chinlock doesn't last long and it's Ledger coming back in to clean house. Everything breaks down and Morreaux knocks Walker outside, allowing Bernal's top rope splash to connect for two. Back up and Walker and Ledger knock Morreaux to the

floor, setting up a running powerslam/forearm to the back of the head combination to finish Bernal at 6:29.

Rating: C+. Match of the night here though that's not saying much. At least Morreaux, who has some promise, didn't take the loss here, as Bernal is the definition of expendable. Ledger and Walker are becoming LVL Up guys and that isn't the best thing, as they're only so interesting in the first place.

Overall Rating: C. Pretty nothing show this week and unfortunately you just have to be used to that around here. The main event was the best match if that means much, as this was just another thirty minutes that came and went without much happening. Completely average edition here, and that means nothing about what is to come around here.

Results

Riley Osborne b. Kale Dixon – Shooting star press

Karmen Petrovic b. Wren Sinclair – Spinning kick to the back of the head

Hank Walker/Tank Ledger b. Drake Morreaux/Javier Bernal – Running powerslam/forearm combination to Bernal

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NXT LVL Up – March 15, 2024: This Wasn't Drek

NXT LVL Up

Date: March 15, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

Things almost have to be better after last week's rather dull show. As usual, the show's interest level hinges on the star power involved and there was almost none to be seen last week. That needs to change here but you never know if that is going to be the case. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Lola Vice vs. Carlee Bright

Bright's mom is in the audience. Vice takes her to the mat without much trouble to start and grabs the waistlock. That's reversed into a headlock from Bright, followed by a running crossbody for two. Vice is right back with a spinebuster and we hit the neck crank. That lasts as long as the average neck crank, with Bright grabbing a backslide and small package for two each. Vice isn't having that though and grabs a headscissors choke for the tap at 4:24.

Rating: C. Vice continues to feel like someone who is turning into something around here and she is probably going to be a project going forward. There is value there and WWE seems to know it. On the other hand you have Bright, who is another young athletic star who has been dropped into the division

without having anything that makes her stand out.

Javier Bernal, now with the rather large (and debuting) Drake Morreaux, is ready for their tag match against the D'Angelo Family. Morreaux is very, very Cajun.

Javier Bernal/Drake Morreaux vs. D'Angelo Family

Stacks and Bernal fight over arm control to start until Stacks runs him over with a shoulder. Morreaux comes in and for some reason it's off to Crusifino, who is powered into the corner. Crusifino is run over without much effort and it's back to Bernal for the front facelock. A springboard elbow drop gives Bernal two but Crusifino ducks Morreaux's running shoulder. Stacks comes back in and everything breaks down, allowing Stacks to hit Cement Shoes to finish Morreaux at 5:26.

Rating: C. I know it's just LVL Up but was there no other way to go than having the new monster take the fall here? A former champion beating a goon like Bernal doesn't feel like that big of a stretch but instead it's the new monster losing. The good thing is almost no one sees this show as otherwise, that would be a good way to cut Morreaux's legs off right at the beginning.

Wren Sinclair vs. Sol Ruca

The fans are glad to have Ruca (now with new tattoos) back and respect is shown before we get going. They fight over arm control to start until Ruca cartwheels away from a sunset flip attempt. Ruca takes her down out of the corner and we hit the headlock takeover. Sinclair reverses into a quickly broken headscissors before stereo crossbodies leave both of them down. Back up and Sinclair knocks her down again, setting up a chinlock. That's broken up as well so they trade rollups for two each. Ruca scores with a dropkick and the Sol Snatcher finishes Sinclair at 6:02.

Rating: C+. The rest of the match was just ok but dang that

Sol Snatcher is one of the coolest looking finishers you'll see anywhere. Ruca's athleticism is rather impressive and it's great to see that she can still do her big move after her injury. Sinclair continues to lose over and over but she's certainly not getting crushed out there.

More respect is shown post match.

Overall Rating: C+. It really is amazing what happens when it feels like the people on the show matter. Having Ruca, the Family and Vine around made this such a more engaging show and that was glaringly absent last week. The show wasn't exactly great, but I'll certainly take this after last week's drek.

Results

Lola Vice b. Carlee Bright – Headscissors choke

D'Angelo Family b. Javier Bernal/Drake Morreux – Cement Shoes to Morreux

Sol Ruca b. Wren Sinclair – Sol Snatcher

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NXT LVL Up – March 1, 2024: The Right Path

NXT LVL Up

Date: March 1, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're just over a month away from Stand & Deliver and that means we get to see people who will have nothing to do with that show. LVL Up is back to its old self with little in the way of interest, but at least we could be in for a surprise, which the show has had over its history. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Stacks vs. Kale Dixon

Riz is here with Stacks and Dixon is back after about eight months away. Dixon powers him into the corner to start so Stacks wrestles Dixon down to the mat. An armbar into an armdrag has Stacks down and Dixon sends him outside. A baseball slide lands Dixon in the ring skirt though and Stacks hammers away. Dixon gets a boot up in the corner back inside, only to get hit in the face. Cement Shoes finishes for Stacks at 5:22.

Rating: C. Stacks isn't the biggest name in the world but he's a bigger deal than you usually see around here. That's a nice little bonus around here, even if it is just for a week, and helps a good bit. At the same time, Dixon is back and his name is still Kale Dixon, meaning I think you know how far he is getting around here.

Je'Von Evans is happy to be back and ready to go in another

try against Javier Bernal.

Lola Vice vs. Wren Sinclair

They fight over wrist control to start until Sinclair gets her down to work on the leg. Vice isn't having that though and takes her into the corner to start in on the arm. Some right hands in the corner put Sinclair down and Vice cranks on the arm again. Back up and a legdrag has Vice down and Sinclair rolls her up for two. Vice shrugs it off and hits a spinning backfist for the pin at 4:45.

Rating: C. What matters here is that I could see this match taking place on a regular episode of NXT. Vice was challenging for the Women's Title not too long ago and Sinclair has been something of a featured name in recent weeks. It wasn't exactly a great match but it felt like something a bit more important than usual and I'll certainly take that.

Je'Von Evans vs. Javier Bernal

Bernal works on the arm to start and shrugs off a dropkick attempt. Back and Evans snaps off a headscissors but Bernal knocks him down again. A knee to the ribs cuts off Evans' comeback and Bernal gets in a shot on the apron. Back in and they slug it out with Bernal hitting a jumping kick to the head. Evans' springboard clothesline gets two but Bernal's DDT gets the same. Some rollups give Evans two each and he kicks Bernal down. A springboard spinning splash gives Evans the upset pin at 6:23.

Rating: C+. At some point, if you're going to make these new wrestlers into stars, you have to do something like this. Evans certainly has a certain something to him and giving him a win over someone like Bernal is a nice start for him. He has a long way to go but at the end of the day, at least he has a win under his belt and that is the right first step.

Overall Rating: C+. Egads this show cannot pick what it needs

to be most of the time but at least in this case they went with the right choice. There was more star power here and Evans got his big win. Good enough show here, as it felt like something you might want to see rather than something that is just kind of there.

Results

Stacks b. Kale Dixon – Cement Shoes

Lola Vice b. Wren Sinclair – Spinning backfist

Je'Von Evans b. Javier Bernal – Springboard spinning splash

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NXT LVL Up – February 9, 2024: Mini Mystery

NXT LVL Up

Date: February 9, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

This show was interesting and entertaining for a few weeks but that has been knocked out again. Instead we're back to the same old LVL Up crew who aren't going anywhere and are having the same matches we've seen them have for the better part of ever. NXT has the talent to make this work but instead they go with not doing that instead. Quite the shame. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Kelani Jordan vs. Stevie Turner

Jordan starts fast by taking her down for a basement crossbody but has to flip around to get out of a wristlock. Turner is back up and hits her from behind, setting up a neckbreaker for two. A running knee gives Turner two and we hit the chinlock with a knee in Jordan's back. Jordan is back up and hits a Rob Van Dam step over spinwheel kick, setting up the split legged moonsault for the pin at 4:36.

Rating: C. Turner is one of the more interesting stories in NXT as she feels like she has all of the tools to be a star and then just never is. There have been multiple times where I forget she even exists, which is not a good sign for any kind of a star. Turner needs either a complete reset or a new start in another promotion because this isn't working for her.

Javier Bernal is ready to give us a new viral moment.

Javier Bernal vs. Keanu Carver

The huge Carver shoves him down before Bernal hurts his shoulder by bouncing off of Carver. Bernal avoids a charge though and kicks Carver's leg in the ropes to take over. A Downward Spiral gives Bernal two but Carver is up to run him over a few times. One heck of a Pounce sends Bernal flying...but he sweeps the legs for a rollup (with feet on the ropes) for the pin at 3:54.

Rating: C+. They kept this short as Carver is still a rather raw rookie, but when you look like that with that kind of power, there is only so much that you need to do. As usual, this was about Bernal though and he made it work by being such a weasely heel. It works to see him get beaten up and then cheat to win as it makes you want to see him get beaten up again. Nice match here and it worked well.

Tavion Heights vs. Myles Borne

Borne is a surprise opponent as it was only said to be a member of the No Quarter Catch Crew. They fight over a lockup to start until Heights takes him down without much trouble. A fireman's carry drop puts Borne down again and it's time for a breather on the floor. Back in and Borne grabs a suplex for two and we hit the chinlock. Heights fights up and hits a quick Sling Blade, only to have the Crew offer a distraction. Borne grabs a powerslam for the pin at 5:21.

Rating: C. While I like the idea of adding something with the mystery opponent, it only means so much when any of the four would have been about the same. The match itself was only so good with neither of them exactly doing anything of note. The Crew is a good enough idea for a team but when you only have basic matches, you're only going to get so far.

Overall Rating: C. It was slightly better than last week, but at the same time it was more of the same kind of things we've been seeing on this show in recent weeks. The matches come and go and it isn't like anything ever feels like it's changing. That's kind of the point around here but it also doesn't make for a great show all of the time.

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NXT LVL Up – January 12, 2024: Happy Anniversary

NXT LVL Up

Date: January 12, 2024

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Vic Joseph

I've lost track of what I think about this show at the moment as it is still so all over the place that there is almost no way of knowing what is coming. The most recent edition did feature some new gimmicks for various wrestlers though and that could be an interesting way to go. At the same time, expect to hear some bragging about Oba Femi. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Joe Coffey vs. Tavion Heights

Heights wrestles him down to start and hits a running clothesline to the back of the head for two. Back up and Coffey takes him into the corner for two and we hit the grappling again. A backdrop gets Heights out of trouble and a

belly to belly gives him two. All The Best For The Bells misses and Heights pulls him into an ankle lock. Coffey breaks out of that and headbutts him into the corner, setting up All The Best For The Bells for the pin at 5:18.

Rating: C. They keep giving Heights these short matches and they're working well enough. You can tell that WWE sees something in him and it is pretty clear that they are bringing him along slowly. Heights has the size and the abilities to make something of himself, but he's going to need more than a five minute match on LVL Up.

Since this is the 100th episode, here's a look at former LVL Up stars who have moved up to the main roster.

Amari Miller vs. Jaida Parker

Parker grabs a headlock to start but Miller comes back with one of her own. A headlock takeover out of the corner takes Parker down before Miller knocks her down on the apron. Miller hits some knees to the back but Parker slams her out of the corner. Parker puts her on the middle rope and sits down on the ribs, setting up the double arm crank. Miller fights up but Parker grabs the knee brace, setting up a belly to back slam for the pin at 5:28.

Rating: C. It's still kind of weird to see Miller losing over and over as she was getting on a roll before her knee injury. Maybe the return to prominence comes later but for now it's more about her putting people over. Parker is starting to show some promise but we're still miles away from seeing her doing anything of note.

Joe Gacy vs. Javier Bernal

Gacy shoves him into the corner to start and snaps off an armdrag into an armbar. Back up and Bernal sends him into the corner, where Gacy hangs upside down and smiles. A running Downward Spiral works a bit better for Bernal and we hit the

chinlock. Gacy gets up and sends him to the floor, where Gacy asks if Vic Joseph still loves him. Back in and Bernal grabs a neckbreaker over the apron and the chinlock goes on again. Gacy fights up and slugs away, only to get caught in a full nelson spinning faceplant for two. Gacy is back up again and hits the Upside Down for the pin at 5:59.

Rating: C+. They had a bit more energy than most LVL Up matches and that shouldn't be a surprise as these were the two most experienced stars on the show. Gacy is a lot easier to tolerate when he's just there rather than doing his cult stuff. I'm still not sure what NXT sees in him, but keeping him around here would be the best option if he has to be here.

Overall Rating: C. For a 100th episode, they didn't exactly treat this as anything important. That's kind of appropriate too, as there isn't much of importance about LVL Up. The big appeal here was a Joe Gacy match, which should tell you everything you need to know about this show. Nothing to see here and it was another easy skip.

Results

Tavion Heights b. Joe Coffey – All The Best For The Bells

Jaida Parker b. Amari Miller – Belly to back slam

Joe Gacy b. Javier Bernal – Upside Down

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NXT LVL Up – December 22, 2023: My Goodness I Had Fun

NXT LVL Up

Date: December 22, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're going into the Christmas weekend and I'm not sure what that is going to mean around here. With NXT taped in advance for a few weeks, either this show or next week's show is likely to be a bit different than the norm. Last week's show had a nice surprise in the main event so maybe they can keep it up here. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Axiom vs. Damon Kemp

This should be good. Kemp wrestles him to the mat to start and Axiom needs an early breather in the corner. Axiom tries to wrestle his way out before settling for a dropkick instead. Back up and Kemp drops him hard out to the floor, followed by some nice stomping back inside.

A waistlock and then a bearhug have Axiom in trouble, followed by a swinging slam (thankfully with a Norman Smiley reference on commentary). Axiom is back with another dropkick, with Kemp getting smart by heading outside. Naturally that means a suicide dive from Axiom as we actually get a LVL UP chant. The

Golden Ratio finishes Kemp at 6:18.

Rating: C+. Axiom continues to feel like the definition of someone who could go somewhere if given the chance, but for now he seems to be settling to be the guy who can get a nice match out of anyone. That's not a bad role to fill either and Axiom does it rather well. Kemp should be fine as the technical star and putting him in there with the rest of the Catch Crew is a nice fit for him.

Javier Bernal welcomes the new interviewer to NXT and has his own Christmas list. He runs into Mr. Stone, who is on the naughty list. Everyone else, pay attention.

Roxanne Perez vs. Brinley Reece

Reece grabs a headlock to start before shifting into a headscissors. Back up and Perez can't armdrag her over so Reece grabs a drive into the corner. A running shoulder to the ribs staggers Perez and a TKO gets two. We hit a chinlock with a knee in Perez's back but Perez is back up with a basement dropkick. The middle rope spinning crossbody sets up Pop Rox to finish Reece at 4:53.

Rating: C. This was a bit of a surprise as Reece, who hasn't done much around here so far, got in all kinds of offense on an established star in Perez. That is where you can see younger wrestlers benefit from being around here and it is nice to see Perez giving her a boost. Do that more often and the show could get that much better, while the bigger name wrestlers get to stay in the ring as well.

Here is Javier Bernal for a chat. He wishes us a very Javi Christmas and wants to help someone backstage, so get someone out here.

Javier Bernal vs. Von Wagner

And Wagner is dressed as Santa Claus. Bernal bails to the

floor to start but comes back in to jump Wagner as he tries to throw his hat to the crowd. Instead, Bernal throws the hat at Stone and hits a bulldog for two. We hit the chinlock but Wagner fights up, meaning the destruction is on. With the hat back on, the Wagner Bomb finishes Bernal at 4:05.

Rating: C. This was a good example of a fun main event and they didn't do anything strange here. Bernal is a loud mouth and the fun Christmas guy got to beat him up. The hat made for a nice little joke in the match and it was completely fine. Who knew Wagner would be a success as more of a Sid type?

Wagner throws out candy to the fans to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. The wrestling was only so good, but it's another episode where they seemed to be putting the effort in here and that makes all the difference in the world. You had some bigger names and a fun main event, which made things that much better. It's just a case of actually trying and it isn't like they're lacking the resources to make this work. Nice job here and I could go for more of this as a quick show every week.

Results

Axiom b. Damon Kemp – Golden Ratio

Roxanne Perez b. Brinley Reece – Pop Rox

Von Wagner b. Javier Bernal – Wagner Bomb

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NXT LVL Up – December 15, 2023: Well Hello There

NXT LVL Up

Date: December 15, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're done with Deadline and that means pretty much nothing around here. Instead, we are now in the Breakout Tournament, which is pretty much the LVL Up All Stars getting their first chance on the main NXT show. We might be getting some fresh LVL Up names as a result so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Scrypts vs. Javier Bernal

Scrypts, with OTM and wrestling in a shirt, slides between Bernal's legs to start. Bernal's headlock doesn't get him very far so he shrugs off an OTM distraction, only to get choked on the ropes. A kick to the head gives Scrypts two and a jumping neckbreaker gets the same. The neck crank doesn't last long for Scrypts as Bernal sends him outside. Back in and Bernal hits an enziguri and a bulldog, followed by a spinning full nelson faceplant for two. OTM breaks up a rollup with feet on the ropes though and a rolling cutter gives Scrypts the pin at 6:12.

Rating: C-. I wasn't feeling this one as they weren't exactly working well together. Granted it doesn't help that Bernal hasn't been around in a good while and was a loudmouthed heel the last time he was around. Scrypts continues to be a guy there to do all kinds of flips, which doesn't make for the best heel run. Not much to see here and a pretty weak match.

Amari Miller is back to beat Valentina Feroz and show that her knee is fine.

Valentina Feroz vs. Amari Miller

The fans are happy to have Miller back. Feroz takes her down for a quickly broken headlock so Miller is back up to work on the arm. A quick backplash gives Miller two but Feroz goes for the knee to take over. With said knee in trouble Feroz switches to a hammerlock, complete with some armdrags. Back up and Miller strikes away, setting up a running knee. Feroz kicks her in the face though and hits a middle rope Meteora for the pin at 4:01.

Rating: C. I'm a bit surprised that Feroz got such a clean win over Miller here, as Feroz hasn't been around much lately and Miller was an up and comer when she got hurt. The match didn't have much time to do anything, but maybe Miller needed some time to get back in the swing of things. Then again a win might help that more than anything else and we'll have to wait on that.

Tony D'Angelo/Stacks vs. Charlie Dempsey/Drew Gulak

Non-title and this is a big match for around here. Dempsey slams Stacks down to start and hands it off to Gulak to work on the arm. Stacks fights up and takes Gulak into the corner so D'Angelo can come in. D'Angelo drops Stacks onto Gulak for two, followed by the tag back to Dempsey. A backbreaker gets Dempsey out of trouble and the villains take over in the corner.

Stacks gets a pair of boots up in the corner though and, after slipping out of a suplex, brings D'Angelo back in to clean house. Everything breaks down and a pair of suplexes gets two on D'Angelo with Stacks making the save. D'Angelo slams Dempsey off the top though and the champs hit stereo clothesline to put Dempsey/Gulak on the floor. Stacks nails a big dive, setting up Bada Bing Bada Boom to pin Gulak at 6:20.

Rating: C+. It's amazing how much better this felt having a match with some names that mattered. The titles weren't even on the line here but the fact that the champions and a team who could be realistic challengers at some point made this feel big for around here. With so many names on the NXT roster, I have no idea why something like this is such a rare treat.

Overall Rating: C. The main event helped a lot and it was nice having Miller back, but that first match dragged things back down a bit. We'll call it right in the middle for this week, but I like where things might be headed. We're getting further away from the really lame formula that dominated this show for such a long time and while the show might not be great, it's certainly a lot better than it was.

Results

Scrypts b. Javier Bernal – Rolling cutter

Valentina Feroz b. Amari Miller – Middle rope Meteora

Tony D'Angelo/Stacks b. Drew Gulak/Charlie Dempsey – Bada Bing Bada Boom to Gulak

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NXT LVL Up – October 6, 2023: I Don't Know What This Means

NXT LVL Up

Date: October 6, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're back to the point where there isn't much to say about this show. There is no reason to believe that much of anything of importance is going to take place around here. It's all the more frustrating when you see WWE trying something around here and then just dropping it as fast as they can. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Kelani Jordan/Valentina Feroz vs. Izzi Dame/Tatum Paxley

Paxley and Feroz lock up to start and neither gets the better of things, meaning it's an early double tag. Jordan gets knocked down against the ropes so it's Dame coming in to stomp away. A double elbow sets up Paxley's splash for two, followed by Paxley grabbing a bodyscissors. Jordan finally kicks her way to freedom though and it's back to Feroz for some rapid fire armdrags. Everything breaks down and Paxley grabs a Psycho Driver for the pin on Feroz at 4:33.

Rating: C-. What are you supposed to get from a match like this? It's four women paired off with nothing to set up the match and no reason for them to be fighting. At the same time, they only had about four and a half minutes to get anything going, which doesn't work so well for people without much experience. Matches like these make me wonder what the point of this show is supposed to be, because this didn't do much.

Dante Chen is ready to face Drew Gulak. Tonight it's Singapore style, though Chen doesn't know what that means.

Javier Bernal/Luca Crusifino vs. Tyriek Igwe/Tyson DuPont

DuPont faceplants Luca to start so it's off to Bernal, who gets slammed down. Bernal's headlock doesn't do much so it's Igwe coming in to splash Luca in the corner. Luca manages a hiptoss neckbreaker for a breather and Bernal comes in for a headscissors. That doesn't last long and DuPont hits a backdrop. It's back to clean house, including a superkick to Bernal. Luca makes the save and gets tossed, allowing Luca to grab a rollup for the pin at 4:44.

Rating: C. You know, it is ok to let these young guys score a quick win over two "bigger" names who aren't a regular team and are hardly top level stars in the first place. The match was mostly a squash for Igwe and DuPont but then they lost to a fluke rollup to protect Bernal and Luca? That's quite the odd choice.

Drew Gulak vs. Dante Chen

Myles Borne, Damon Kemp and Charlie Dempsey are here with Gulak. Chen grabs a headlock to start and snaps off an armdrag into an armbar. Back up and Chen hits a backdrop for two before dropkicking him out to the floor. Gulak comes back in and stomps away on the ropes before grabbing a neck crank. That's broken up and Chen chops him out to the floor, setting up a big dive. Gulak's cronies offer a distraction though and Gulak picks Chen up and hits a kind of powerslam piledriver

for the pin at 5:43.

Rating: C+. It was better than the other matches but that doesn't really clear a high bar. Chen continues to be little more than a person who happens to be on the show over and over again without really doing anything important. Gulak is still someone who could be used in a slightly bigger way and he only got to show so much of his skills here.

Overall Rating: C. Oh this was LVL Up alright, as there was almost nothing going on and a bunch of the normal lineup having matches that didn't change anything and won't lead anywhere. In other words, there is no reason to watch this show again, and there is nothing to suggest that it is going to get better.

Results

Izzi Dame/Tatum Paxley b. Kelani Jordan/Valentina Feroz – Psycho Driver to Feroz

Javier Bernal/Luca Crusifino b. Tyriek Igwe/Tyson DuPont – Rollup to Igwe

Drew Gulak b. Dante Chen – Powerslam piledriver

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NXT LVL Up – September 1, 2023: Best In Months

NXT LVL Up

Date: September 1, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

Believe it or not, we actually have something important on this show! This week will see a match in the Global Heritage Invitational, as Duke Hudson will face Akira Tozawa. It isn't going to be the biggest match, but what matters is that it matters for a change, which hasn't been the case in a very long time. Let's get to it.

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

In Memory Of Terry Funk and Bray Wyatt.

Opening sequence.

Javier Bernal vs. Riley Osborne

Osborne is making his debut and works on the arm to start. Bernal reverses and does the same but Osborne runs up the corner for the armdrag escape. Another armbars has Bernal in trouble but he scores with a hiptoss into a sliding lariat. Bernal rolls through a high crossbody and drops a leg for two. A butterfly suplex gives Bernal two more and we hit the chinlock. With that broken up, Osborne comes back with a nice slingshot shoulder for his own near fall. Osborne dropkicks him to the floor for a running flip dive, followed by a shooting star press for the upset pin back inside at 6:16.

Rating: C+. Where the heck did that come from? Osborne is one

of the few newcomers to actually win their debut and that is nice to see. Bernal might not be a big star but he is someone who has been around long enough to have a bit of a reputation. Osborne looked good in his debut and while he needs some polish, this is a heck of a way to start for his career and that is great to see.

Stevie Turner has been watching and now she's ready to beat Valentina Feroz in her return.

Valentina Feroz vs. Stevie Turner

Yulisa Leon is here with Feroz. They go with the grappling to start and Turner cranks on a hammerlock. Feroz flips her way to freedom and works on a hammerlock of her own but gets sent face first into the turnbuckle. An armbar doesn't last long so Turner scores with a neckbreaker for two instead. Feroz fights back and sends her into the corner for the running knees but another charge only hits buckle. Turner hits some running knees to the back (Feroz holding the ropes and leaning backwards helped) for the pin at 4:16.

Rating: C. That was certainly a Stevie Turner match as she seems like someone who should be interesting yet she just isn't for whatever reason. The knees in the corner felt like an impromptu way to finish the match and that's a nice thing to see, but Turner has never quite lived up to what should be a cool character. Granted there is only so much you can get out of a one off four minute match, but this was only so good.

Global Heritage Invitational Group B: Akira Tozawa vs. Duke Hudson

Andre Chase is here with Hudson. Tozawa tries a leg dive to start but gets pulled into a headlock instead. That's broken up for a standoff, allowing Tozawa to get some rollups for two each. Tozawa even pats Hudson on the head and that is a step too far. A top rope hurricanrana into a dropkick sends Hudson outside, where a dive is cut off.

Back in and a good German suplex gets two on Tozawa and we hit the chinlock. Tozawa fights up and hits a running knee for two but the kicks to the chest just wake Hudson up. The big boot looks to set up a Razor's Edge but Tozawa rolls through for two off a sunset flip. Tozawa's top rope backsplash hits knees though and the Razor's Edge finishes for Hudson at 6:56.

Rating: B-. I had fun here as Tozawa is someone who can work well with anyone but rarely gets the chance to show it. At the same time, Hudson is starting to figure out how to be a bigger guy and that made for a nice showdown. As usual, the star power helps here and even if Tozawa is a lower level Raw star, he still feels like something special around here.

Group B Standings

Joe Coffey – 1-0-0 (2 points, 2 matches remaining)

Duke Hudson – 1-0-0 (2 points, 2 matches remaining)

Nathan Frazer – 0-1-0 (0 points, 2 matches remaining)

Akira Tozawa – 0-1-0 (0 points, 2 matches remaining)

Overall Rating: B-. That's the best LVL Up in awhile and a lot of that is due to the main event and the opener. What mattered here is it felt like they were doing something different and that stood out a lot. LVL Up feels like a show with nothing happening most of the time and it was nice to see them mix it up like they did here. Not a great show, but for thirty one minutes and the minor league's minor league show, I had a good time.

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