

NXT LVL Up – July 7, 2023: Thank Goodness It's Short

NXT LVL Up

Date: July 7, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Byron Saxton, Blake Howard

It's another short form show this week as the Fourth Of July schedule made things a little weird. In a way, these shows are a bit better as they don't overstay their welcome or feel repetitive in the slightest. Last week's version worked rather well and it would be nice to have that be the case again here. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Fallon Henley vs. Tatum Paxley

Henley grabs a headlock to start as commentary talks about how far apart these two have gone since debuting together. A legdrag out of the corner gives Henley two but Paxley sends her neck first into the ropes. Paxley hits a jumping elbow (which is called "innovative" by commentary) and some trash talk gets one. The abdominal stretch goes on, followed by a waistlock to keep Henley down. Henley gets tired of getting beaten up and comes back with some forearms, followed by a Shining Wizard for the pin at 5:55.

Rating: C. It really is kind of astounding to see Henley fall this far. She was never a top star or anything close to one, but you would think that she would have been able to do something better than being relegated to LVL Up. Henley hasn't been involved in anything important in months, but it isn't like Paxley has been doing much better. They're both talented,

though neither is doing anything whatsoever at the moment.

Kale Dixon is ready for Scrypts but seems a bit confused as he talks about telling a great story.

Kale Dixon vs. Scrypts

They trade headlocks to start until Scrypts snaps off a dropkick. Dixon's headscissors is countered into a headlock, followed by a slingshot crossbody for a fast two. Dixon powers him off though and stomps away before hitting a knee to the face for two. We hit the chinlock but Scrypts pops back up and strikes away. The Molly Go Round finishes Dixon at 5:52.

Rating: C-. This wasn't working as neither exactly seemed to know how to keep things flowing. Instead it was a bunch of kicking and stomping until Dixon took over. Scrypts' comeback took all of a few seconds and it wasn't exactly interesting. Dixon has a solid attitude but nothing to back it up while Scrypts is an incredible athlete but not interesting. That doesn't make for a good combination and that was obvious here.

Overall Rating: C-. I wasn't feeling this one and the only saving grace was the fact that it was so short. Henley was the biggest star on the show and she hasn't done anything in months. Nothing to see here, as this was one of the lamer editions of the show in a rather long time.

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NXT LVL Up – June 23, 2023: Is A Feud Too Much To Ask?

NXT LVL Up

Date: June 23, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Tampa, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

Things took a bit of a turn back to the norm last week as we didn't have much in the way of star power or anything interesting. In other words, it was nothing more than the usual LVL Up with almost nothing worth seeing. Hopefully they can make it better here again as LVL Up can be a snappy enough show when it gets the chance. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Stacks vs. Kale Dixon

Dixon goes with a headlock and some right hands to start but Stacks runs him over without much trouble. What looks to be Shattered Dreams is broken up so Stacks goes with an atomic drop instead. Back up and Dixon sends him throat first into the middle rope, followed by a running knee for two. A gutwrench faceplant gets two and the abdominal stretch keeps Stacks in trouble. That's broken up and Stacks kicks away before ducking an enziguri. Cement Shoes finishes Dixon at 5:51.

Rating: C. Stacks isn't doing anything revolutionary in NXT but it's cool to see someone on this show who has a story going on at the moment. The reveal of whodunit should be good and Stacks is going to be in the middle of the whole thing. Dixon isn't supposed to be beating someone of Stacks' caliber yet so the winning streak coming to an end (at one) is acceptable.

Tavion Heights is ready for Luca Crusifino and wants to bring the same energy he brought to the Olympics.

Tavion Heights vs. Luca Crusifino

Heights takes him down by the arm to start and he armdrags Luca to cut him off. Luca fights up and runs Heights over a few times before getting one off a slam. The reverse chinlock doesn't last long so Luca grabs a suplex for two instead. Luca rips at his face until Heights fights up to dropkick his way out of trouble. An overhead belly to belly sends Luca flying and Heights loads up the Doctor Bomb, only to have Luca grab the rope for the rollup pin at 5:57.

Rating: C. Luca is a weird case where he is getting better in the ring, but the gimmick stuff that makes him stand out is going by the wayside. It is something that could be done in a few different ways but instead we are just seeing him go out there and doing basic stuff, which is only so interesting in the first place. Heights is another name on a long list of people who feel like potential stars but need something to make them stand out.

Ivy Nile vs. Jacy Jayne

Nile takes her to the mat for an armbar to start before snapping off a hurricanrana. Jayne is right back and gets in a charge in the corner, followed by a neckbreaker for two. We hit the chinlock for a bit but Nile fights up and hits the running kick in the corner. The Diamond Chain Lock is blocked so they trade superkicks, followed by Jayne hitting a discus

lariat for the pin at 5:15.

Rating: C+. Slightly better here and again having the bigger names on the show helps a lot. Jayne and Nile are fairly regular features on the main NXT show and it's nice to have them around here. The star power, at least in Jayne, helps a lot as you feel like you're watching someone who matters. Do something like that around here and the show feels that much more important.

Overall Rating: C. Not much to see here and the main only helps things to a certain extent. As usual, the show is about half an hour long and the wrestling is decent enough, but a feud that goes over a few weeks might be nice. I'm not sure how much you get out of having one off matches like this, but that's what you're getting and there is nothing that is going to be done about it anytime soon.

Results

Stacks b. Kale Dixon – Cement Shoes

Luca Crusifino b. Tavion Heights – Rollup while grabbing a rope

Jacy Jayne b. Ivy Nile – Discus lariat

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NXT LVL Up – June 2, 2023: Coming Attractions

NXT LVL Up

Date: June 2, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Byron Saxton, Blake Howard

I have no idea what to expect from this show and I'm not sure if that is a good thing or not. LVL Up is a show that can offer something and it is cool to see some of these young up and comers getting a chance. The problem is it can take time for that to really make an impact. Maybe that is different this week so let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Quincy Elliott vs. Kale Dixon

Elliott grinds away on a headlock and adds a kind of Old School wristdrag. Something more similar to a regular Old School connects but Dixon knocks him down and hits a running knee to the face. A few running shots to the face stagger Elliott again and we hit the nerve hold. Back up and Elliott hits a foot to the face, only to miss a charge into the corner. A rollup with feet on the ropes gives Dixon the pin at 4:53.

Rating: C-. What does it say about your career when you lose to a guy named Kale? Elliott is rather flashy and I can see the appeal, but I'm not sure what kind of ceiling he really has. It wasn't exactly a huge return for Elliott, but then

again he has never been pushed as any kind of a major star so I can't imagine this going very far.

Post match Dixon gyrates and gets punched down for his efforts.

Bronco Nima and Lucien Price are ready for Tank Ledger and Hank Walker. That's the most LVL Up main event I can imagine.

Kelani Jordan vs. Kiana James

Jordan's early armdrag annoys James, who grabs an armbars to blow off some steam. That's reversed into Jordan's armbars, which doesn't sit well with James. A running forearm drops Jordan but she's right back with another armdrag. Back up and James sends Jordan's arm into the buckle to take over and the armbars goes on again. Jordan fights up and hits a dropkick but James has had it and grabs the 401K for the pin at 4:35.

Rating: C. Well they have the armbars stuff down pretty well. There wasn't much to see with this one, as Jordan is brand new and James is only so good with her limited experience. James winning isn't a surprise, but Jordan is another young star with all kinds of athleticism which could come in handy down the road.

Tank Ledger/Hank Walker vs. Bronco Nima/Lucien Price

Nima and Ledger lock up to start, with Nima shoving him away. It's quickly off to Walker for a double shoulder and a solo headlock. Price comes in and gets shouldered down, only to have Price run Ledger over with a clothesline. A jumping knee keeps Ledger in trouble and Nima is back in for the chinlock. That's broken up and it's back to Walker to clean house as everything breaks down. Price superkicks Walker and a gordbuster into a kick to the face gives Price two. A double clothesline gives Walker a breather though and the hot tag brings in Ledger. Nima gets caught in a double belly to back suplex of all things for the pin at 6:24.

Rating: C+. It was a nice power fight and that's all it needed to be, as Walker and Ledger are the much more established team. Let them go in there and get a win over a rather imposing pairing for the show's main event. Nima and Price are about the same as they have been or a long time now, which isn't exactly saying much for the developmental side of things.

Overall Rating: C. It was nice to have some different names than we have been seeing in recent weeks around here and that made for an easier watch this time around. The show is turning into more of a coming attractions version of NXT and that makes for an interesting episode from time to time. This was an acceptable edition, but as usual, there isn't anything worth seeing.

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NXT LVL Up – May 19, 2023: They're At It Again

NXT LVL Up

Date: May 19, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're getting closer to Battleground and that could be quite the shakeup for NXT. That is something LVL Up could use, as the show tends to be in a rather similar mold a lot of the time. It might be helpful for the wrestlers around here, but that doesn't make things all that entertaining. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Eddy Thorpe vs. Kale Dixon

Feeling out process to start with Thorpe's headlock not working all that well. Back up and Dixon runs him over with a shoulder, followed by some forearms to the spine. The neck crank and chinlock go on until Thorpe is up with a dragon screw legwhip. A Saito suplex out of the corner gets two on Dixon and the jumping elbow finishes him off at 4:52.

Rating: C. Thorpe continues to beat up lower level competition and Dixon continues to be Dixon. In other words, it was exactly what you would have expected from these two on this stage. It wouldn't surprise me to see Thorpe getting a push on the main NXT show, but it might take some more seasoning to get him ready.

Kelani Jordan and Wendy Choo are ready to team together against Elektra Lopez and Lola Vice. Apparently karma is a

bi...scuit.

Kelani Jordan/Wendy Choo vs. Elektra Lopez/Lola Vice

Lopez powers Jordan around without much effort to start and it's Vice coming in for a double shoulder. Back up and Jordan takes Vice over to Choo for an assisted moonsault. A tornado DDT hits Vice but she brings Lopez in off a blind tag to take over. Jordan gets knocked hard into the corner and a gutbuster sets up a body vice to stay on the ribs. A quick kick away allows the tag off to Choo as everything breaks down. The Snooze Button gives Choo the pin on Vice at 5:36.

Rating: C. I can see why WWE wants to push Jordan, who has the impressive athleticism and appeal to become something down the line. She needs experience though and getting her feet wet on this show is a good start. Jordan has a long way to go, but at least she is getting started with a solid base.

Dante Chen vs. Luca Crusifino

They fight over a lockup to start as we get a LET'S GO LAWYER chant. Chen goes for the hammerlock to take over before some armdrags into the armbar have Luca in more trouble. Back up and Luca grabs a neckbreaker for two, followed by the double arm crank. With that broken up, Chen hammers away in the corner but the threat of the double chop sends Luca outside. Luca loads up the briefcase but when it's taken away, a thumb to the eye lets him roll up Chen for the pin at 5:15.

Rating: C. I'm sorry what now? A young up and comer beat Chen? I'm not sure how to handle this but it's nice to see for a change. As usual, Chen is fine enough in the ring and certainly not bad, but he has such a history of running people over and I do not get the point having him beat so many people without actually going anywhere. That being said, Luca is a bit of a weird case and I could go for having him around a bit more in the future.

Overall Rating: C-. It says a lot when your star power is comprised of Thorpe, Choo and Chen, which isn't exactly top level talent in NXT. The wrestling was completely watchable and the show is less than thirty minutes from beginning to end so it isn't like you feel you're wasting your time. In other words, this was the weaker end of LVL Up and that's not exactly thrilling stuff.

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NXT LVL Up – May 5, 2023: There They Are Again

NXT LVL Up

Date: May 5, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We're done with the Draft and that means it is time to get on to the new NXT. Since there are so many wrestlers gone from NXT, it might be time for some of the new generation to rise up. NXT might find some of those new names around here as has been the case before. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Oro Mensah vs. Kale Dixon

Mensah takes him down by the wrist but Dixon reverses into a wristlock of his own. With that broken up, Mensah snaps off an anklescissors but Dixon forearms him in the back. Some backbreakers give Dixon two and we hit the hair pull on the mat. Mensah is back up with a kick to the head and a standing Lionsault. The running spinwheel kick in the corner drops Dixon for the pin at 4:35.

Rating: C+. Nice enough match here as Mensah manages to get a win after all of those losses. Granted it was against someone as low level as Dixon but a win is better than another loss. This was quite the run of mill LVL Up match, as you had two fairly talented stars who are not going to get a chance on the main show anytime soon.

Boa is back and ready to show who he is against Eddy Thorpe.

Thea Hail vs. Lola Vice

Duke Hudson is here with Hail. Vice runs her over to start and thrusts her hips a bit, only to get taken down. Hail misses a standing moonsault but goes after the arm instead. Some kicks send Hail into the corner for the running hip attack and we hit the cravate. Hail fights up with some forearms out of the corner and a headlock driver finishes Vice at 4:08.

Rating: C. Vice continues to show off her charisma, with that fire in her eyes likely being more than enough to give her a chance. Hail is the same way, as she leans into the whole crazy college girl idea so well. It might not have been a classic, but you can see the charisma and talent on display here.

Boa vs. Eddy Thorpe

Thorpe has to duck away from some kicks to start before grabbing a headlock takeover. Back up and Thorpe hits a quick spinning crossbody but Boa kicks him in the chest to take over. Boa stomps away for two and grabs a butterfly suplex for two. Boa's chinlock with a bodyscissors is broken up but Boa puts it right back on to keep Thorpe down. Back up and Thorpe grabs a Saito suplex but gets kicked in the face for two. Thorpe fights up again, setting up a snap German suplex. A jumping elbow of all things finishes Boa at 7:09.

Rating: C+. Thorpe continues to look like someone who could do something in NXT as he has a unique gimmick and look while also being able to back it up in the ring. On the other hand you have Boa, who has not stood out in the slightest since he debuted and that continues to be the case. Pretty decent match though as Thorpe keeps up some of his momentum.

Overall Rating: C+. The action was a bit better than usual here but the lack of bigger names didn't help things. Mensah, Hail and Vice are as run of the mill as you get around here and it left me wanting to see someone more interesting. Thorpe is growing on me decently enough, though he needs to be on the main show instead of this one. Decent week here, but it's still full of the same problems it has always had.

Results

Oro Mensah b. Kale Dixon – Running spinwheel kick in the corner

Thea Hail b. Lola Vice – Headlock driver

Eddy Thorpe b. Boa – Jumping elbow

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NXT LVL Up – April 21, 2023: This Can't Be The New Cast

NXT LVL Up

Date: April 21, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton, Mr. Stone

Who knows what we're getting around here, but less of Schism would be nice. I know they're names but egads they can suck the life out of a show like no other. It would be nice to see some other stars who don't get the TV time having a shot, but that isn't likely to take place. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Wendy Choo/Valentina Feroz vs. Jakara Jackson/Lash Legend

Jackson headlocks Choo to start but gets taken into the wrong corner for her efforts. It's off to Feroz for a headlock of her own but Legend comes in to drop her on the ropes. Feroz can't slip out of a suplex so Legend gets to pose as she put a foot on the chest for two. An elbow to the back gets a less arrogant near fall and Jackson comes back in for an aggressive

chinlock. That's broken up as well and it's Choo coming in to take over. Everything breaks down and Choo hits a full nelson slam to pin Jackson at 5:19.

Rating: C. It's nice to have Choo back, but there is only so much that can be done with her returning in this spot. She is one of the most unique gimmicks around, but she has to be used in the right way or it won't work out. The other three were their usual selves, and it isn't a surprise that Choo got the focus here, as she is by far the biggest star.

Javier Bernal and Kale Dixon are ready for the main event, though Bernal wants Dixon to work on his physique.

Oro Mensah vs. Damon Kemp

Kemp easily wrestles him to the mat but takes too long swiveling the hips, allowing Mensah to grab an ankle scissors. Mensah sends him to the apron but gets his throat snapped across the top to put him back in trouble. Back in and Kemp elbows him down before swinging Mensah around by the neck for a crash. A bridging German suplex gives Kemp two and we hit something like a seated abdominal stretch. Mensah fights up and gets two off a rollup, followed by a kick to the face. That's fine with Kemp, who grabs an electric chair into a suplex for the pin at 5:08.

Rating: C. I still like Kemp and there is something for him to do somewhere in NXT. He has the general heelish nature that makes you want to see him get beaten up and the amateur credentials to back it up. Mensah continues to be little more than "that guy who used to be a bit of something in NXT UK but never does anything here", which might be his ceiling at the moment.

Edris Enofe/Malik Blade vs. Javier Bernal/Kale Dixon

Enofe takes over on Dixon's arm to start and hands it off to Blade for a knee to the ribs. A facebuster from Enofe gives

Blade two and it's off to Bernal. Blade misses a kick in the corner and Bernal starts in on the leg, with Dixon getting in some cranking of his own. Bernal's half crab is broken up and the hot tag brings in Enofe to clean house. Bernal is sent outside, leaving Dixon to walk into the Climax for the pin at 5:09.

Rating: C. Commentary was talking about how Enofe and Blade always feel like they could be the next team to break through but you can only be that for so long. There is a lot of truth to that, as the team has always been on the cusp but beating a makeshift heel team isn't likely going to be their springboard. They could be something, though that isn't going to matter if they never get a real chance.

Overall Rating: C. Choo's return aside, there wasn't much to see here as it was a lot of the familiar faces from LVL Up. By that I mean a bunch of people who don't do anything on the main NXT show and there is no reason to believe that most of them are going to be much in the near future. Maybe one or two get to move up a bit if the Draft guts NXT, but that still sounds like quite the long shot.

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NXT LVL Up – April 14, 2023: Those Are Stars

NXT LVL Up

Date: April 14, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton, Mr. Stone

Last week's show saw Schism main event and this week almost has to be better than that. It was nice to have some bigger names come down, but there is only so much you can get out of having those people around here. Maybe we get to see some fresh stars for a change, as they might have a future in the main NXT. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Hank Walker vs. Kale Dixon

Walker tries to power him into the corner but Dixon flips him in instead, much to Walker's surprise. One heck of a chop has Dixon screaming though and Walker starts in on the arm. Dixon gets in a cheap shot to take over though and an old school swinging neckbreaker gets two. Walker isn't having that and slugs away, setting up a Thesz press and right hands (like that would ever get over). A jumping back elbow finishes Dixon at 4:58.

Rating: C. Walker is the definition of someone who isn't that great in the ring but the fans get behind him, meaning it makes sense to leave him around. He isn't exactly polished but there is a charisma to him and that is something that can

serve him well. I can't imagine him getting very far, but this is already a step that a lot of stars don't have.

Elektra Lopez and Lola Vice are ready for Kayden Carter and Katana Chance. Vice says they aren't ready for Latina Heat.

Xyon Quinn vs. Tavion Heights

Quinn doesn't look impressed but Heights powers him into the corner to change his attitude. They trade rollups for two each before Quinn takes him into the corner for the stomping. A double stomp to the ribs sets up a backbreaker for one and Quinn is already getting frustrated. Heights fights out of a double arm crank but gets forearmed straight into the ropes. Back up and Heights grabs a fireman's carry slam for two but Quinn ax handles him down. The running punch finishes Heights at 5:14.

Rating: C. Quinn is the opposite of Hank Walker, as he was treated like someone who should be the big star but it never came together in any way. He has the looks and some of the charisma, but there is only so much that he can do for whatever reason. Unless something clicks in a big way, I don't see his status changing, though he is good enough for a spot like this one.

Kayden Carter/Katana Chance vs. Lola Vice/Elektra Lopez

Vice isn't impressed with Carter to start and takes her down, meaning it's off to Lopez vs. Chance. Lopez isn't having any of this Chance picking up the pace thing and knocks her out of the air. Vice kicks Chance in the corner and it's back to Lopez for a torture rack of all things. Chance flips out of a double belly to back suplex though and Carter comes in to clean house. The running boot to the face in the ropes gets two on Vice and it's a slingshot legdrop/moonsault combination for the same. Everything breaks down and Chance Codebreakers Lopez. The 450/neckbreaker combination finishes Lopez at 6:35.

Rating: C+. This picked up a bit more and was the best match of the night, partially because Carter and Chance have some more experience together. It made for a better match and I'll take that over the same kind of singles match that we get around here so often. Not a great match, but it was big enough for a main event on this show.

Overall Rating: C. They took the star power away here and went with the same people that we see around here most of the time. Carter and Chance were your big names and that isn't quite enough to make up for focusing on Quinn and Walker in the first two matches. Just not a very interesting show, as it just came and went again.

Results

Hank Walker b. Kale Dixon – Jumping elbow

Xyon Quinn b. Tavion Heights – Running punch

Kayden Carter/Katana Chance b. Lola Vice/Elektra Lopez – 450/neckbreaker combination to Lopez

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NXT LVL Up – March 24, 2023: The Short Form Short Form

NXT LVL Up

Date: March 24, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

We are just over a week away from Stand & Deliver and in this case, that is not going to make the slightest bit of difference to this show. There is still no way of knowing what to expect around here from week to week but hopefully we have a few bigger names. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Odyssey Jones vs. Kale Dixon

Jones powers him around to start and grabs a large headlock before hitting an atomic drop. Dixon goes to the eyes and hammers away so he can send Jones face first into the buckle. Some dropkicks give Dixon two and we hit the quickly broken chinlock. Jones clotheslines him down, setting up the rolling splash. A swinging Boss Man Slam finishes Dixon at 4:38.

Rating: C-. This was a squash for Jones and that's all it needed to be. Dixon hasn't shown much outside of a decent look so in this form, he isn't ready to give someone like Jones a run for his money. Jones is a big man with the ability to move and it makes sense for NXT to want to try to use him for something. Now if they could just find out what that something is.

Lola Vice is ready to dominate NXT and show then what real power is like.

Kale Dixon says he could beat Odyssey Jones if he had the same experience because he has the biggest upside around here. These promos can actually do something for the people around here. More of these things.

Malik Blade/Edris Enofe vs. Tavion Heights/Damon Kemp

Kemp headlocks Blade to start and they go to the mat with Kemp getting the better of things. Enofe comes in for a reverse Sling Blade to Heights, only to get punched out of the air. The villains take turns hammering on Enofe, including Heights cranking on both arms. With that broken up, Kemp grabs a bridging German suplex out of the corner. Enofe slips away though and it's back to Blade to clean house. Everything breaks down and Enofe's top rope splash sets up Blade's top rope elbow to finish Heights at 5:52.

Rating: C. Better match than the opener here, as Blade and Enofe still have all kinds of energy and enough charisma to back it up. I'm still not sure why they haven't gotten a better chance on the main NXT show but maybe that can happen one day. Kemp is the latest partner for one of the multiple big, strong newcomers around here and I don't see much of a future for the team.

Overall Rating: C. This show was almost ten minutes shorter than most editions so either something was cut or they didn't do as much due to NXT being taped in advance. What we got was little more than some ok at best dark matches, so aside from the very short run time (and that second promo) there wasn't much to think about here.

Results

Odyssey Jones b. Kale Dixon – Swinging Boss Man Slam

Malik Blade/Edris Enofe b. Tavion Heights/Damon Kemp – Top rope elbow to Heights

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NXT LVL Up – February 24, 2023: Exercise Show

NXT LVL Up

Date: February 24, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Blake Howard, Byron Saxton

It's another LVL Up and again I'm not sure what to expect. The best formula around here seems to be having some midcard NXT stars in the main event and the younger stars filling in the rest of the show. That has worked well in the past, but you never know what direction the show is going to take. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

Axiom vs. Kale Dixon

Dixon works on the arm to start but Axiom reverses into an armbar of his own. A springboard kick to the side of the head drops Dixon but he's right back with some clubbing forearms. They trade kicks to the ribs until Dixon gets two off a delayed vertical suplex. Axiom strikes his way out of a chinlock and there's a high crossbody. The Golden Ratio finishes for Axiom at 4:35.

Rating: C. Axiom is starting to find his groove and that was on display here. He's getting smoother and smoother in the ring and that Golden Ratio is starting to look good. Dixon is someone who has a good look but not much else to back it up, though getting to more than about five matches might be a good start.

Myles Borne and Tank Ledger are different on paper but they can win together tonight.

Sol Ruca vs. Lola Vice

Ruca takes the arm to start and fireman's carries her into an armbar. Vice fights up and knees her down, setting up the sleeper. That's broken up as well with Ruca starting the comeback, setting up the Sol Snatcher for the pin at 4:29.

Rating: C. Ruca is still almost all about that finisher but to be fair, it's a pretty incredible looking finisher. She has such a unique style and it makes sense to push her every chance WWE has. That was the situation here, though Vice has a certain fire to her as well that makes it easy to want to watch her.

Tavion Heights/Damon Kemp vs. Myles Borne/Tank Ledger

Ledger and Heights grapple over a rollup to start with Heights being suplexed over, meaning it's off to Kemp. Borne comes in to work on Kemp's arm but Kemp hits him in the face. It's back to Heights for a suplex and Kemp grabs a chinlock. Borne fights up and hits a dropkick, with Heights knocking him into

the corner for the tag. Ledger splashes Heights for two and everything breaks down. Ledger rolls Kemp up for two but walks into a Rock Bottom neckbreaker for the pin at 7:48.

Rating: C. This was a weird one as there was one even slightly important name in the match and that didn't help anything much. It felt like four people who were thrown together for a main event and then told to figure it out for themselves. Not bad by any means, but it came off more like a Performance Center training exercise than a match we needed to see.

Overall Rating: C-. Not the best show here as Axiom was the big name and wasn't exactly in much danger. The other two matches existed for the sake of a finisher and getting people on the show. This felt more like the LVL Up of old and that is not the best thing to see after it was starting to make some progress.

Results

Axiom b. Kale Dixon – Golden Ratio

Sol Ruca b. Lola Vice – Sol Snatcher

Damon Kemp/Tavion Heights b. Myles Borne/Tank Ledger – Rock Bottom neckbreaker to Ledger

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NXT LVL Up – February 10, 2023: What It Should Have Been

NXT LVL Up

Date: February 10, 2023

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Byron Saxton, Blake Howard

So somehow, we're coming off what was an actually entertaining episode last week. If they can keep up that energy this week, it should be another breeze of the show. What makes it more confusing is that it shouldn't be hard to send in another middle of the road star to boost things up a bit. Let's get to it.

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

Opening sequence.

We meet new commentator Blake Howard.

Tank Ledger vs. Kale Dixon

They trade wristlocks to start until Ledger takes him down with an armbar. An armdrag sets up another armbar and a World's Strongest Slam gives Ledger two. Dixon manages to send him into the corner though and a neckbreaker gets two. Ledger fights out of a chinlock and a cartwheel into a splash gets another near fall. The running powerslam finishes Dixon at 4:59.

Rating: C-. Just a step beneath a squash here for Ledger as he might be new but he's still further along than Dixon. I like

the idea of putting two younger stars like this out there and letting them do their thing, as it lets them get a win without some big upset. Not a great match or even a good one, but at least it accomplished something.

Axiom isn't sure how to deal with a masked man like Scrypts, but he'll figure it out.

Dani Palmer vs. Lash Legend

Legend powers her into the corner to start and blocks a sunset flip attempt with a right hand to the face. Palmer's headlock doesn't work but she can kick her way out of the corner. Legend plants her back down though and then does it again by the hair for a bonus. A corner clothesline and faceplant have Palmer in more trouble, with a chinlock making it even worse. Back up and Legend misses a charge, allowing Palmer to hit some dropkicks. Those are shrugged off and Legend bends Palmer over her back, setting up a spinning faceplant for the pin at 5:21.

Rating: C-. It wasn't great, but Legend's new look and presentation have been big upgrades for her. I'm more than a little surprised that she beat Palmer, who has been getting some TV time as of late, but at the same time, that was the story they were telling and it would have been weird for Palmer to pull it off. Not a good match, but an improvement over what Legend has been doing.

Axiom vs. Scrypts

Scrypts flips away from a snapmare to start so they trade wrist control with Axiom taking him down. Stereo nip ups give us a staredown so Axiom hits a dropkick to send him into the corner. Scrypts is sent outside but comes back in with a kick to the face to block the dive. Something like a spinning crossbody gives Scrypts two and the chinlock goes on.

Axiom fights up for the running shots to the face but a

superplex is broken up. A moonsault press gives Scrypts two but Axiom kicks him in the chest for the same. The Golden Ratio misses though and Scrypts superkicks him down. Axiom kicks him out of the air though and the Golden Ratio finishes Scrypts at 6:40.

Rating: C+. This was exactly what you would have expected as the two of them went out there and did everything they could have been asked to do. It was a bunch of flips and kicks in an entertaining match, but what matters the most is that I wasn't sure who was winning. You never get that feeling around here and it was a very nice change of pace.

Overall Rating: C. The main event helped a lot, but there was only so much to be seen with the first two matches. As usual though, the best thing that can be done on this show is to send in some bigger names who aren't doing anything on the regular NXT show. Axiom and Scrypts aren't big stars most of the time, but they certainly are around here. Nice enough show here, with a rather fun main event.

Results

Tank Ledger b. Kale Dixon – Running powerslam

Lash Legend b. Dani Palmer – Spinning faceplant

Axiom b. Scrypts – Golden Ratio

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