Wrestlemania Dark Match Set: Triple Threat Tag Title Match

Source

It's Epico/Primo defending against Gabriel/Kidd vs. The Usos. I won't be giving my thoughts on this yet because I'm planning on a major WM Preview later tonight with thoughts on all the matches

Thoughts on this?

NXT — March 21, 2012: You Killed Him Didn't You?

NXT

Date: March 21, 2012

Location: Prudential Center, Newark, New Jersey

Commentators: William Regal, Josh Matthews

Back to NXT Land with another episode. I barely remember anything about last week's show and that can't be a good sign. I believe Kaitlyn and Bateman finally hooked up, much to Maxine's dismay. I've basically given up on the idea of Regal doing anything to change the show around, putting the GM change into the column that most of this show would fall under: totally pointless. Let's get to it.

The opening video that they've added the last few weeks is actually pretty good.

Striker is in the ring to open the show and talks about how Regal has made four matches with McGillicutty vs. Kidd capping it off.

Curt Hawkins vs. Justin Gabriel

Justin chops him into the corner to start but misses what looked to be a springboard clothesline. Hawkins takes over after the crash, getting two off a slam. Off to a chinlock which implies this is going to be a very short match. Justin comes back with a jumping back kick off the middle rope, setting up a quick 450 for the pin at 2:23. Not a bad match and not quite a squash, but if Hawkins is going to be one of the top heels on this show he really needs to be fixed up a lot.

Bateman and Kaitlyn hold hands are in the back and are all happy. Tamina comes up to talk about how termites mate for life. She wants to find her termite. Bateman and Kaitlyn leave so Young and Titus come up to hit on her. They make fun of the Usos and Darren starts to ask her out. The Usos come up and Tamina isn't happy with them I don't think. So JTG is just gone I'm guessing? I can't complain about that. There's a singles match later and the Usos leave her with the two of them.

<u>Darren Young vs. Jimmy Uso</u>

Jey sits in on commentary. Jimmy starts off with chops in the corner and knocks Young to the floor. Back inside and they slug it out and Jimmy is sent to the floor. Jey really isn't that great on commentary. We take a break with Jimmy on the floor and come back with Young pounding away from a mounted position. Jimmy manages to send him into the corner but he charges into two boots. Regal talks about his brother being in the biology department at Oxford University. Apparently he's in a jar and has two heads.

Off to a chinlock by Young as the fans are behind the Usos.

The fans always seem to react to them, unlike the tag champions where no one seems to care. That being said, I'd be stunned if the Usos get a title run in the next four months. Jimmy makes his comeback and takes Young down out of the corner. Jey gets off commentary to lead cheers. Jimmy comes back with a Samoan drop and some dancing, followed by the Umaga hip attack in the corner for two. He goes up but Darren gets in some forearms and rams Jimmy shoulder first into the post. The double knee gutbuster gets the pin at 6:25.

Rating: C. This was ok, but as usual the problem with Young is how boring he is. The No Days Off sounds like something a face would call himself. Wouldn't a heel be about finding a shortcut to winning instead of working hard? Either way, nothing significant to see here other than the Usos losing again to people far less interesting than them.

Titus brags to Tamina in the back.

Josh Matthews gets a message on his phone that his car has been stolen and goes to look into it.

We cut to the back where Curtis and Maxine talk about how they faked the message in an effort to get Matthews off commentary, so that Maxine can get on commentary with Regal and talk her way off this show. Insert your THIS IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF A CAMERA line here. Curtis pulls out a chloroform soaked rag (Maxine: WHY DO YOU HAVE CHLOROFORM??? Curtis: Why don't I have chloroform?) and knocks out.....Striker. They throw him in a crate and Maxine seems ok with it. Fox comes up after Maxine leaves and is disgusted by Curtis in a totally pointless scene.

Here's Maxine coming out for commentary. She comes out with a box of gifts: oils and lotions etc.

Percy Watson vs. Tyler Reks

Maxine is flirting with Regal and probably will be for the

rest of the show. Watson tries to get the crowd clapping and it works for about three seconds. Maxine is massaging Regal's feet as Watson takes over and sends Reks to the floor. Reks yells at Watson as Watson dives over the top to take out Reks. We take a break to tell you to check out WWE's new website which you have to be on if you're watching this show in America, and come back with Reks in control.

Regal talks about I think his brother being a professional doughnut stealer. Reks works over the arm and Regal compliments Maxine on her foot massaging abilities. Watson comes back by ramming Reks into the corner. Maxine is rubbing Regal's scalp as Watson hits a dropkick. Heisman gets two. A top rope cross body is rolled through for two for Reks. Persecution ends this at 6:24.

Rating: D+. I wasn't into this one and again it's the lack of any reason to care about Watson or Reks. Reks is a boring heel and Watson is a face that we have no real reason to care about. Both guys are ok in the ring but there's nothing that makes me want to care about them. I wonder if they're hoping that it's just because they're on NXT and the fans (all 15 of them) would be familiar with them and care about them. I've never missed an episode and it isn't working for me.

Matthews is back on commentary.

Raw ReBound thankfully doesn't recap the whole closing segment of Raw. I couldn't sit through that again.

Curtis opens the crate in the back but Striker is gone. Maxine comes up and says let him out but Curtis won't let her open it. Maxine: "You killed him didn't you?" He opens the crate and there's a note saying "we know what you did, we have Striker, we'll come to you with demands." Bateman and Kaitlyn pop up and Maxine accuses them of having something to do with it. They leave and Maxine knocks him into the crate. So we have someone using chloroform and an apparent kidnapping. Do

the words CALL THE COPS mean anything around here?

We recap McGillicutty vs. Kidd which is being treated like a huge match. It wasn't that great of a match in the first place but for NXT, this is a well built feud. McGillicutty beat him, Kidd wanted a rematch, McGillicutty said no, they yelled at each other and McGillicutty said yes.

Michael McGillicutty vs. Tyson Kidd

Kidd starts off with two dropkicks and headscissors McGillicutty to the floor. He hits a slow motion rana to send McGillicutty into the barricade and we take a break. Back in the ring with McGillicutty ducking his head so Kidd can break the momentum with a kick. Kidd misses a charge though and crashes into the ropes and out to the floor. McGillicutty rams him into the table which gets two in the ring.

Off to a chinlock as Regal says these two will be huge stars over the next twenty years. Kidd grabs a quick rollup for two but a clothesline takes him right back down. McGillicutty shouts that Kidd isn't a Hart and it's off to a chinlock again. Kidd comes back with some kicks and a dropkick to the side of the head for two. A dropkick to the ribs puts McGillicutty into 619 position but on the bottom rope.

Kidd hits a slingshot legdrop to the back of McGillicutty's head for two. Michael comes back with a Saito Suplex for two and Kidd is in trouble. Kidd tries an O'Connor Roll but it gets reversed for two. McGillicutty reverses the reversal into a rollup for two. Kidd takes Snake Eyes into the corner but avoids the McGillicutter. Sharpshooter is countered as Kidd is kicked to the apron but he comes back in with a slingshot reverse victory roll (best way I can describe it) for the pin at 8:17.

Rating: B-. Good match and I get that they're going for a big showdown here, but at the same time it wasn't able to reach the level they were going for. A big part of that is due to McGillicutty not being all that great, and the build to the rematch being pretty rushed. Also, the first match wasn't anything incredible so I don't think people were really begging for a rematch.

McGillicutty says Kidd is going to regret that and he'll go after Kidd where it hurts the most: his heart.

Overall Rating: C+. This was a more interesting show than usual and I think a lot of that is due to the focus being off Bateman. He had more or less been the star of the show for awhile and that wasn't doing anything for anyone. An actual story with Striker being kidnapped is interesting at least, although it'll probably wind up being disappointed. That and some pretty good matches made this a good show.

Results

Justin Gabriel b. Curt Hawkins — 450 Splash

Darren Young b. Jimmy Uso — Double Knee Gutbuster

Percy Watson b. Tyler Reks — Persecution

Tyson Kidd b. Michael McGillicutty — Slingshot Rollup

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NXT - February 22, 2012 - Major Announcement Next Week?

NXT

Date: February 22, 2012

Location: BMO Harris Bank Center, Rockford, Illinois

Commentators: Josh Matthews, William Regal

This show still isn't up on WWE.com and I had to find it on Youtube. Apparently if you watch it on here, they cut out all the commercials and the show is about 12 minutes shorter. I think I could get used to this. Anyway this is the 51st episode of this season, making next week a milestone in its own right. Let's get to it.

We open with Striker in the ring but he's quickly cut off by Hawkins and Reks. Let me guess: they want more time. Hawkins has the Obama shirt on still and complains about being put in an impromptu match last week. Tyson Kidd comes out to interrupt and talks about how the fans want to see high impact fast paced offense. Reks and Hawkins can't even get into the main event properly. Reks says the two of them are the future. Striker has authority back apparently and here's a match.

Tyson Kidd vs. Tyler Reks

Reks takes him to the mat and grabs the wrist. Hawkins tries to cheat and is thrown out. Kidd dives on both of them and we take a break. Back with Kidd missing a charge into the corner and off to a double underhook. The match just dies with Reks in control. He ducks his head and Kidd gets a kick to the face to get some momentum. He loads up a sunset flip but winds up backdropping Reks to the floor. A running knee from the apron puts Reks down again. Springboard missile dropkick gets two.

Reks comes back and hits a reverse fallaway slam for two. Tyler goes up top but Kidd runs up to try a superplex. Kidd gets knocked off but he hits a kick to slow Reks down. Tyson goes up again but gets caught in a fireman's carry while Reks is on the ropes. He drops Kidd ribs first onto the buckle for two. In another homage to Bret, Reks drops a leg between Kidd's legs but Tyson grabs the foot ala Summerslam 1991. He pulls Reks into the Sharpshooter for the tap out at 8:36 shown.

Rating: C+. Quick summary of this match: Reks boring, Kidd good. The problem is that Kidd isn't going to get a serious push on either show because he's too small and there isn't room for him on Raw or Smackdown. I'm all for him getting a push though, especially if he's getting time like he has for the last two weeks. Reks is just bad though.

Maxine yells at Bateman who is wearing an American Psycho t-shirt. She's going to find a way off this show. Maxine walks off and Bateman runs into Kaitlyn. Bateman wants to have fun and go win the Intercontinental Title. Please, give me another Godfather reign before that. They have an awkward moment where they're friends that accidentally flirt. Bateman leaves and Curtis comes in to be creepy. She knees him in the groin and leaves. Good grief get some better actors please.

Striker is playing the guitar when Kaitlyn comes in. She thinks he's doing a great job and would like a rematch with Maxine. Maxine comes in and they act all catty with each other. Maxine wants to get out of NXT because she can't be around Kaitlyn anymore. I think the end result is the rematch Kaitlyn wanted.

We get hopefully the only Raw recap video on here: Eve's saga with Cena.

Kidd is on the phone with someone that needs to get back on NXT. Apparently it's Barretta. McGillicutty comes in and says he drove six hours to get here and he doesn't have a match. He talks to Kidd and says that Kidd will never be one of them because he's not a second generation guy. A match is made for next week.

<u>Titus O'Neil vs. Alex Riley</u>

Young is on commentary here. Titus clotheslines him down and starts a Let's Go A-Ri chant. Riley gets up and O'Neil bails for a bit. He ducks his head though and Riley is sent to the floor. Percy comes out to stop Young from interfering. Riley

is rammed into the table and we take a break. Back with Riley in a chinlock as Watson and Young get in an argument. Riley makes his comeback but when he tries ten punches in the corner, Titus powerbombs him out and puts his feet on the ropes for the pin at 4:56 shown.

Rating: C-. Better match here for the most part and I'm starting to buy O'Neil as a heel. However, I'd like to see him use his power more. I'm not saying make him the bald Mark Henry, but use it some. Being the guy who acts the same way but cheats to win instead of doing it through sheer skill is a nice change of pace though.

Striker pops up on screen and says next week is the one year anniversary of NXT. Actually it's the 52nd episode so the anniversary would be the next week but WWE has never been good at complicated things like calendars. Next week there's going to be a huge announcement that will effect everyone on NXT. I won't hold my breath on that.

Don't be a bully! That ends the show.

Overall Rating: C. Well despite Regal not having power anymore, I'm somewhat intrigued by what might be coming from this announcement. There are a bunch of things that could make NXT a lot more interesting, from an NXT Championship to some new faces to someone actually being eliminated to ANYTHING to fight for other than pride. Good show this week as things seem to be shaking up a little bit.

Results

Tyson Kidd b. Tyler Reks — Sharpshooter

Titus O'Neil b. Alex Riley — Pinned Riley after a powerbomb with his feet on the ropes

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NXT — December 28, 2011 — I'd Walk Out Of That Main Event On An Airplane

NXT

Date: December 28, 2011

Location: Conseco Fieldhouse, Indianapolis, Indiana

Commentators: Matt Striker, Josh Matthews

It continues. Anyway here we have another edition in the never ending saga that is the fifth season of NXT. I know I say that a lot, but what else is there really to say at this point? We have a love triangle regarding Bateman, Curtis and Maxine, which would be a bit better if the people in it were interesting. Anyway let's get to it.

Striker is in the ring and says that in three weeks, we'll be having NXT's 100th show. A lot of people got their start here, so here's Justin Gabriel. Before he can say anything though, here's Slater. He talks about carrying Gabriel all the time and reiterates that he's the One Man Rock Band. Someone find out what that's supposed to mean. I'd really like to know. Gabriel asks him just that and Slater says that he plays instruments. Striker makes the match.

<u>Justin Gabriel vs. Heath Slater</u>

Slater hides in the corner as Josh tries to get the nickname Capetown Werewolf over for Gabriel. Striker goes over some of the history of NXT, such as Zack Ryder being the pro for Titus O'Neil back in Season 2. They speed things up and the fans like Gabriel's speed moves. Gabriel works on the arm and the fans aren't exactly thrilled with this. I can't say I blame

them. This has been pretty dull stuff so far. A clothesline puts Slater on the floor and Gabriel hits a big flip dive to the floor as we take a break.

Back with Gabriel breaking Slater's momentum with an STO. He loads up the 450 but Slater crotches him. Justin gets knocked to the floor and is holding his thigh a bit. That gets two back in the ring but the hand hit the mat three times. Time for a chinlock now. Gabriel gets a small package for two and it's back to the chinlock, both of which have been by Slater. Josh says this is his favorite season of NXT. The man has no taste.

Justin fires off some kicks and a springboard crossbody gets two. Striker takes credit for this (with a Barry Horowitz reference) as Gabriel's second 450 attempt gets the same result. They slug it out from their knees and Justin hits an Eye of the Hurricane and a top rope Lionsault for two. You can hear what sounds like the referee saying "go home" and Slater hits a spinebuster for two. They go up to the corner and Slater is knocked throat first onto the top rope. A springboard 450 gives Gabriel the win at 13:02.

Rating: C+. It's really impressive what happens when you give a match more than a minute and a half. I know it's impossible to have matches going 12 minutes every week on TV and I'm not saying that's what should happen, but it's nice to see things like this every once in awhile. Not a classic or anything but it was a pretty decent match.

Raw Recap eats up a few minutes and focuses on Punk and the gauntlet.

Bateman comes up to Maxine in the back and says they're both crazy so they're perfect for each other. Maxine says that she didn't like the weekly pillow fights and having to watch Titanic every week with his head on her shoulder. He says he'll get her back and kisses her. That earns him a slap. They

leave and we see Curtis watching from the shadows and being very happy about what he saw.

Percy Watson vs. Tyson Kidd

Darren Young is on commentary. Watson controls to start and Young complains as a distraction to let Tyson take over. Tyson hammers on him for a few minutes and you can hear individual fans shouting in the crowd. Watson gets a dropkick and makes a comeback. This crowd is almost eerie. Kidd jumps into a dropkick and there's the spinning splash for two. Young gets up and distracts Watson so Kidd can hit a spinning fisherman's neckbreaker for the pin at 4:00.

Rating: D+. Absolutely nothing to see here at all. Young is trying to get into the mind of O'Neil through Watson, which would be more interesting if this hadn't been going on for going on ten months now. Also they waste Kidd on this? He's one of the best regulars on this show if not the best and they waste him here? Seriously?

Aksana comes up to Maxine and and shows her some e-mails she found on Teddy's phone. They're from Bateman and says that he's looking forward to being a Smackdown Superstar but to keep Maxine on NXT because she drags him down.

<u>Johnny Curtis vs. Derrick Bateman</u>

Brawl to start and Bateman takes over with loud clotheslines. They fall to the floor after more beating by Bateman. The crowd sounds like they're at a funeral. Curtis takes over and Maxine takes over again. After a break Curtis is still in control. Clothesline gets two. This is one of the least interesting matches I've seen in years. And then Bateman rolls him up for the pin at 7:10.

Rating: F. Imagine how interesting it is to watch white paint dry on growing grass. You might have a more entertaining day doing that than watching this match. The feud and story is decent but the matches are just dreadful because Bateman is better as a zany face and Curtis is better as a waiter, so the matches suck. Nothing to see here, just like every other week.

Bateman gets on his knee as Maxine gets in the ring. She walks past him and Curtis comes back out. They kiss and leave together.

Overall Rating: D. GAH JUST END IT ALREADY!!!! How in the world do they think anyone cares about these people at this point? There's time for a sixth season before the Network launches. But are they going to do that? No. They're going to keep this up until everyone on the planet is dead from a gunshot to the head after watching Curtis every week.

Results

Justin Gabriel b. Heath Slater — Springboard 450 Splash Tyson Kidd b. Percy Watson — Spinning Fisherman's Neckbreaker Derrick Bateman b. Johnny Curtis — Rollup

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