

# NXT – February 18, 2025: They're Doing Something Right

## NXT

Date: February 18, 2025

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Booker T., Corey Graves

We're done with Vengeance Day and that means it is time to start getting ready for Stand & Deliver in about two months. The big story from Vengeance Day seems to be Jordynne Grace coming after the two Women's Titles, which could lead to some big showdowns. Other than that, Oba Femi will need a new challenger so let's get to it.

[Here is Vengeance Day if you need a recap.](#)

Long Vengeance Day recap, including four Performance Center wrestlers attacking Oba Femi and Fraxiom.

Here is Oba Femi and he wants the four guys to come get him now. Instead, here is TNA X-Division Champion (and fellow monster) Moose for a big man staredown. Moose says this has to happen and Femi seems ready for the whole thing. They stare each other down and hold up their titles. Works for me.

Earlier today, Kale Dixon and Uriah Connors invited Ava and Eddy Thorpe to their after party. That's a no from both, with Thorpe saying they should be at Chase U. That sets up a match for later tonight.

Jaida Parker vs. Karmen Petrovic vs. Kelani Jordan

Ashante Thee Adonis is here with Petrovic. Jordan and Parker slug it out until Jordan sends the other two outside for a dive. Back in and Parker chokes Jordan on the ropes before a snap suplex gets two. We take a break and come back with

Parker hitting a reverse suplex on Jordan but Petrovic jumps Parker in the ropes.

Jordan hits a standing legdrop for two on Parker (no Booker, that isn't innovative, as Big Show did it before) but Parker runs Petrovic over. Jordan breaks up the cover with a frog splash and everyone is down. They slug it out from their knees until Parker hits a Hipnotic on Jordan. Adonis pulls Petrovic to the floor and Parker hits the Tear Drop on Jordan...but Petrovic grabs a rollup to pin Jordan at 11:32.

**Rating:** C+. They were doing well here with everyone getting in something, as Parker continues to feel like a future star. There is something of an "it" factor to her which is carrying her a long way and makes me wonder where she's going. Other than that, Petrovic kind of steals a win, though the stuff with Adonis is still not doing much for me at all.

Post match Fatal Influence runs in to beat Petrovic down as we take a break. Back with Fatal Influence beating down Giulia and Stephanie Vaquer but Jordynne Grace runs in for the save. Grace clears the ring and issues the challenge for the six woman tag later tonight.

Stacks tells the rest of the D'Angelo Family that he has to deal with Shawn Spears on his own tonight.

### Sol Ruca/Zaria vs. Meta Four

Ruca and Legend miss kicks to the face to start and it's off to Jackson for a quick dropkick. Ruca takes Jackson down just as well though and moonsaults into a Meteora for two. Legend and Zaria take turns exchanging gorilla presses until Jackson missile dropkicks Ruca to the floor.

We take a break and come back with Ruca fighting her way out of trouble, allowing the tag to Zaria for the house cleaning. Zaria suplexes Jackson for two and Ruca comes back in for a superkick. A running hurricanrana and armdrag drop Jackson and

we get the big Zaria vs. Legend showdown. Zaria muscles her up but can't keep a fireman's carry. Jackson comes back in and gets speared into an F5. The Sol Snatcher finishes for Ruca at 11:39.

**Rating:** B-. This was better than I was expecting as Zaria and Ruca work well enough together. I can go with Zaria being put into a team if Vaquer and Giulia are already doing something in the singles ranks. It lets Zaria do something else and that's better than nothing. I'm not wild on the Meta Four getting pinned, but I can't imagine they're long for NXT anyway.

Wes Lee and company are talking about how things are wild around here but the still unnamed Ricky Starks pops in to say he'll answer your questions out in the arena.

Here are Ava and Ricky Starks for the contract signing. Starks is glad to be here and he's ready to take this place by storm and win everything there is to win. The revolution is ready to begin and he's ready to sign but Ethan page interrupts. Page says Starks is following his playbook and is probably guaranteed a title match in his contract.

Starks doesn't buy this and is ready to take the show to a new level but Page isn't convinced. Starks thinks Je'Von Evans will be coming back to get his revenge on Page...and here is Evans to jump Page and brawl with him to the back. Now it's Wes Lee interrupting the signing so Starks offers to face him next week. Lee tries to cut off the signing but gets clotheslined to the floor. We see the contract and his name is officially Ricky Saints. Eh I've heard worse.

The No Quarter Catch Crew interrupts Fraxiom...and call out the Hardys (the TNA Tag Team Champions) for next week in Cincinnati.

Ricky Saints has gone to the back...and a bunch of people (Hank And Tank, Josh Briggs, Yoshiki Inamura and perhaps others)

have been attacked. Saints: "D\*\*\*, this place is crazy."

### Shawn Spears vs. Stacks

Spears' associates and the D'Angelo Family are here too. Starks starts the fight on the floor and hits a running boot to the face inside. Spears sends him to the apron though and grabs a hanging DDT. A regular DDT plants Stacks again and Spears hammers away on the mat. Stacks comes back with a slingshot Codebreaker for a breather as the goons almost get into it on the floor. A spinebuster gets Stacks out of trouble but Spears brainbusters him onto the knee. The C4 gives Spears the pin at 5:08.

**Rating:** C+. They were speeding through this and it seems like we are gearing up for a big Spears vs. Tony D'Angelo title match down the line. That should make for a nice showdown, though I'm still not overly interested in whatever Spears talks about most of the time. At least this is getting into more of a normal feud, which should go better for him.

Lexis King introduces himself to Moose and doesn't like what he has been doing so far. Moose says if King wants an X-Division Title shot next week, he's on.

Andre Chase is almost fired up over what Eddy Thorpe said but comes back to reality.

### Andre Chase vs. Eddy Thorpe

Thorpe stomps away in the corner to start but Chase snaps off a hurricanrana. Chase takes him out on the floor as well but gets dropped back inside. Cue Uriah Connors and Kale Dixon in Chase U shirts to cheer Chase on from the student section, which is enough for Chase to fight back up. A big boot and Russian legsweep look to set up the spelling stomps but Chase can't do it. Thorpe hits a German suplex into the impaler DDT for the pin at 4:26.

**Rating:** C. This was the next step in the story of Chase, as you can see that the magic is still in there but something is going to have to pull it out. That very well may be the return of Thea Hail down the line but I'm not sure how that is going to go. It's a long term story, but for now it would have been a stretch for Chase to beat someone who took out Trick Williams over the weekend.

Post match Trick Williams pops up on screen to say this isn't over with Thorpe.

Ethan Page interrupts Ava and Ricky Saints to complain about Je'Von Evans. Wes Lee and Evans come in so Ava makes it a tag match next week.

The Hardys are down to face the No Quarter Catch Crew next week and invite Fraxiom to watch.

#### Stephanie Vaquer/Giulia/Jordynne Grace vs. Fatal Influence

Vaquer rolls Henley up to start before it's Nyx coming in to face Giulia. Nyx's right hands don't work as Giulia takes her down, allowing Grace to come in for a German suplex. Everything breaks down and it's a six way brawl with the villains being sent outside. Grace hits a big dive but Jayne pulls Vaquer down by the hair back inside. Henley grabs a quick distraction and Jayne drops Vaquer as we take a break.

Back with Vaquer fighting out of a chinlock, setting up a rollup for two. The tag attempt is broken up and Henley kicks Vaquer in the face. Jayne gets in another shot and mocks Grace before the tag, only for Vaquer to get over for the tag a few seconds later. Everything breaks down and Grace MuscleBusters Nyx for two with Jayne making the save. Jayne is back with a running knee for two on Grace and Henley adds a Blockbuster. Giulia plants Jayne and grabs a belly to back suplex, followed by a dive from Vaquer. The Grace Driver finishes Nyx at 13:03.

**Rating:** B-. This was about giving Grace her first win as part

of the NXT roster and it worked out well. Grace got to run through some people here and Fatal Influence are just good enough to feel like a challenge for her. Odds are Grace will be put into a bigger story sooner than later, but for now, she's off to a nice start.

The winners post and Grace looks at the titles.

There is a brawl in the parking lot and Ava's office has been trashed. Mr. Stone is down and the words "NO ONE IS SAFE" have been painted on the wall. Ava isn't sure what happened to end the show. She's not overly bright is she?

**Overall Rating:** B. This show did a nice job of making me want to see what is going to happen next week, while also giving us a nice cliffhanger to end the show. I was worried about the lack of impact from the four guys but they got involved well enough at the end. The action was good enough, but more than that, I'm interested in where things are going. That's a sign that they are doing something right, so we'll call this a rather nice success.

### Results

Karmen Petrovic b. Jaida Parker and Kelani Jordan – Rollup to Jordan

Sol Ruca/Zaria b. Meta Four – Sol Snatcher to Jackson

Shawn Spears b. Stacks – C4

Eddy Thorpe b. Andre Chase – Impaler DDT

Stephanie Vaquer/Jordynne Grace/Giulia b. Fatal Influence – Grace Driver to Nyx

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# **NXT – January 21, 2025: When Titles Aren't Enough**

## **NXT**

Date: January 21, 2025

Location: Capitol Wrestling Center, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Vic Joseph, Booker T., Corey Graves

We're less than a month away from Vengeance Day and that means it is time to start getting ready for the show. So far we don't have a card set for the show but we should be able to start adding some things this week. On top of that, we have three title matches so let's get to it.

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

Corey Graves is back. That's good to see, as he's far too talented to blow up his career.

North American Title: Tony D'Angelo vs. Ridge Holland

D'Angelo, with his Family, is defending and after the Big Match Intros...we talk about Booker T.'s time as a TNA Legends Champion. Graves: "I believe in Joe Hendry." Even after this partnership has been going on for months, this still feels

weird. D'Angelo runs him over early to start but Shawn Spears comes out for a distraction as we take an early break.

Back with D'Angelo fighting out of an armbar and taking over, with a fisherman's suplex getting two. The spinebuster is broken up so D'Angelo goes with a spear for a knockdown instead. Cue Nico Vance and Brooks Jensen to go after the Family, but Izzi Dame comes in to kick Holland in the head. The spinebuster retains the title at 7:26.

**Rating:** B-. That was a heck of a spinebuster at the end, but what was more impressive was they had a good match with so little time. You can only get so much out of a seven and a half minute match with a break in the middle. For now though, the important thing is D'Angelo continues to look like a big deal and it would not surprise me to see him being NXT Champion by the end of the year.

Wes Lee, with Tyriek Igwe and Tyson DuPont, aren't happy with Dion Lennox. Trick Williams comes in and Lee mocks him, earning an immediate right hand in a funny bit.

Here is Bayley for a chat. She's here to talk about her issues with Roxanne Perez, who could be great but slapped her in the face. Perez thinks Bayley is like Natalya or CM Punk, but that might be a compliment? Last night, Perez interfered on Raw and that makes Bayley think Perez just isn't ready. This women's division has a lot going on and with a champion like Giulia at the top...and here is Giulia to say she certainly respects Bayley.

Giulia hopes to hold the title with as much honor as Bayley did. Bayley is appreciative as Roxanne Perez and Cora Jade interrupt to insult her. The fans boo them out of the building and suggest that Bayley wants the Women's Title, because this era has exceeded the Four Horsewomen era. The brawl is on and the villains are quickly cleared out. Odds are this sets up a tag match, though I'm not sure I can imagine Perez or Jade as

a serious threat to Giulia.

Jaida Parker and Kelani Jordan argue but Karmen Petrovic interrupts and gets in a fight with Parker over Ashante Thee Adonis.

Bayley and Giulia are still brawling with Jade and Perez.

### Wes Lee vs. Dion Lennox

Lee is ticked off after being slapped by Trick Williams (Joseph: "Williams slapped Lee so hard he thought his name was Desmond.") and jumps Lennox to start, knocking him to the floor. Back in and Lennox runs him over, setting up a spinebuster for two as they're going fast so far. That doesn't last long though as the Cardiac Kick gives Lee the pin at 2:24. They're trying with Lee, but I just can't picture him as a top star.

Post match Lee calls out Trick Williams for next week so here is Williams to chase him off and accept.

We recap Lexis King winning the Heritage Cup for good last week.

Stephanie Vaquer wants the Women's North American Title and doesn't care who has it.

### Heritage Cup: Lexis King vs. Charlie Dempsey

King is defending and Round One begins with a technical off going nowhere. King snaps off a dropkick into an armbar to work on the arm. They trade rollups for two each and it's a standoff, with King trying another rollup. That's reversed into a choke and then a crossface chickenwing but the round ends before a tap.

We take a break with King having gotten a pin in the second round to go up 1-0. Round Three begins with King working on the arm until a quick shot lets Dempsey take over. Dempsey

gets two off a rollup and cranks on the arm some more before a bridging butterfly suplex ties it up at 2:28 of the round and 9:31 overall.

Round Four begins with King pulling out some brass knuckles but throwing them down with a shake of his head. Dempsey goes after the arm but gets suplexed out for his efforts. King hits a high crossbody for two, only to get suplexed for the same. Another tease of the knuckles doesn't go anywhere so King knocks him outside for a big flip dive. Back in and the referee almost gets crushed in the corner, allowing King to get in a low blow. The Coronation retains the Cup at 2:50 of the round and 12:56.

**Rating:** C+. They're definitely telling a story with King and his efforts to be good but getting pulled back into the dark side. That being said, this story feels like it is going to continue, even though it isn't the most thrilling. Both of them need to move on to something else, though that low blow is likely going to result in another match.

Naomi and Bianca Belair are ready for Meta Four next week.

Andre Chase tells Hank And Tank to break up now because all teams split. As Kelani Jordan walks in the background, Chase goes to another room and sees people watching a Chase U video. Kale Dixon says Chase was great but Chase says Chase U is dead and leaves. Dixon: "But it doesn't have to be." It could be a long road from here, but dang the idea of Chase restarting the school and winning the NXT Title could be an all time NXT moment.

#### Karmen Petrovic vs. Jaida Parker

Ashante Thee Adonis is here with Petrovic, who takes him down by the arm to start. Parker catches her in an electric chair drop out of the corner and then hits the Tear Drop in the corner. A quick rollup gives Petrovic two and a Sling Blade gets the same. Parker gordbusters her down and loads up the

Hipnotique, only to have Kelani Jordan come in for the distraction. Petrovic grabs a rollup for the pin at 5:09.

**Rating:** C. I'm still not sure what the appeal of Petrovic and Adonis is supposed to be but the story is probably the least interesting thing in NXT at the moment. I can go for more of Petrovic as she has something about her, but Parker losing isn't the best thing to see. Not much of a match either, and it's part of a less than interesting story.

Sol Ruca and Zaria give Meta Four something of a pep talk before next week's Women's Tag Team Title match. As usual, this sounded so scripted that it was painful.

### Brooks Jensen/Nico Vance vs. D'Angelo Family

It's a big brawl to start and a Stacks is hiptossed over the top onto Jensen and Vance. We settle down to Jensen suplexing Crusifino for two. Everything breaks down and the Family fights up, only for Crusifino to be sent outside. Back in and a spinwheel kick into a lariat from Vance finishes Stacks at 4:25.

**Rating:** C+. They kept this moving and it was nice to see a new team getting a chance. That being said, it's also quite the big step for them to beat the D'Angelo family so soundly. It wasn't a great match, but it did a good job of saying that Jensen and Vance, with Shawn Spears controlling them, could be a threat.

Fraxiom is happy with their win last week and they're ready to go to Impact to defend against the Rascalz. Josh Briggs and Yoshiki Inamura interrupt to say they want a title shot. OTM runs in and the brawl is on.

Dion Lennox is annoyed and throws a bunch of stuff.

The D'Angelo Family isn't happy with Tony D'Angelo not being out there but he blames Izzi Dame for not shutting up.

D'Angelo says Stacks has been the underboss for two years. He can do something on his own. Fair point.

Ethan Page is happy with hurting people and likes the sounds of people screaming in pain, including Je'Von Evans.

Je'Von Evans wants to fight Ethan Page but Ava says no due to his injury. Cedric Alexander comes in and is ready to face Page next week. Evans and Alexander leave but here is A-Town Down Under, who are supposed to be here next week. They want to offer the NXT Champion a spot on the Grayson Waller Effect next week. Maybe with some extra security. As for tonight, they'll be watching the main event.

Here's what's coming next week.

Diamond Dallas Page is here.

NXT Title: Eddy Thorpe vs. Oba Femi

Femi is defending and powers him into the corner to start, only to miss a charge. Thorpe's quick kick staggers Femi for two but he glares up at Thorpe for quite the look. One heck of a backdrop sends Thorpe flying but he gets in a dropkick off the apron. A-Town Down Under is watching from the balcony as we take a break.

Back with Femi powering him away again and hitting a heck of a spinebuster for two. A chokeslam is countered into a triangle choke and Thorpe even adds a hurricanrana for a near fall of his own. Thorpe stuns Femi with a Stunner and drops a top rope elbow for two more. Back up and Thorpe hammers away, including a slingshot German suplex for two. Femi powers up and hits a chokeslam for two of his own, only to miss a charge into the post. Thorpe tries to slug away but gets tossed with ease. The Fall From Grace retains the title at 10:18.

**Rating:** C+. I'm not sure I get this one, as it was mostly the monster Femi selling for Thorpe, who has cheated his way into

everything he has. Femi won in the end, but he's not the kind of champion who should be fighting from underneath for so long. It's a good enough match, but I'm really not sure I get the thinking behind what they were doing. Also, you might want to not promote "the winner gets to be on the Grayson Waller Effect" over "the winner is the NXT Champion."

Post match Trick Williams comes out for a Trick Shot to Thorpe before staring Femi down to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C+. This show had a big card with three title matches and Bayley as a guest star, but it didn't feel like a great show. They kept hyping up next week's show in Atlanta and how big everything on that show was going to be and that didn't keep me interested in what they were doing this week. It's far from a bad show, but for what was included, it should have been better.

### Results

Tony D'Angelo b. Ridge Holland – Spinebuster

Wes Lee b. Dion Lennox – Cardiac Kick

Lexis King b. Charlie Dempsey 2-0

Brooks Jensen/Nico Vance b. D'Angelo family – Lariat to Stacks

Oba Femi b. Eddy Thorpe – Fall From Grace

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