**ARE WE RECORDING?**

* **SYNC AUDIO**

**NXT STARTS WITH JOHNNY FREAKING WRESTLING**

* **He kind of has The Rock’s heel gimmick. He doesn’t know he’s a bad guy.**
* **“Success around here is measured by wins and championships. It doesn’t matter how hard you try or how good of a person you are. In 2019, Johnny Gargano will become a champion.”**
* **Johnny mentions Tommaso Ciampa and the crowd chants for DIY.**
* **Johnny tells the crowd, “Don’t get confused about the moment in the cage that meant nothing. That was a one-time thing and it will never happen again. As far as Ciampa’s concerned, he’s still a piece of trash with a championship that I want.”**
* **However, he likes the idea of taking the North American Championship, so out comes Ricochet.**
* **Ricochet asks Johnny, “Are you going to take my title from me face to face like a man, or are you going to take it from me after attacking me in the parking lot?”**
* **“You may call yourself Johnny TakeOver now, but at TakeOver Phoenix, there will be one and only man who walks out the North American Champion, and you’re looking at him.”**
* **Tommaso Ciampa walks out but Johnny tells him shut up and get out of here this isn’t about you.**
* **Then, Aleister Black’s music hits, but he appears on the Titantron telling Ciampa, “I hope you’re more concerned with me than grooming your little dog of war…because unlike him I pose a real threat to you. At TakeOver Phoenix, I will make you fade to black!”**
* **The lights go out, but when they come back on, Black is standing behind Ciampa and attacks him.**
* **Ciampa runs to the back, Aleister chases after him, and then Gargano cheap shots Ricochet with a Superkick.**
* **Can a wrestling show start any better than that?**

**WILLIAM REGAL ANNOUNCES VIA TWEET**

* **Kyle O’Reilly & Roderick Strong will defend the NXT tag titles against The War Raiders at TakeOver Phoenix.**

**BIANCA BELAIR VS NIKKI CROSS**

* **Good match**
* **Nikki hits the Swinging Neckbreaker but Bianca rolls out of the ring.**
* **In the end, Nikki goes for a Crossbody off the top rope, but Bianca moves out of the way and hits Nikki with her finisher to get the win.**

**STREET PROFITS UPDATE**

* **Angelo Dawkins is giving a beat with his mouth and Montez Ford singing that they will takeover in 2019. By the way, they said the same thing last year.**
* **They did say that they “evolved” last year…because they won the Evolve Tag titles.**
* **This went on way too long.**

**FABIAN AICHNER & MARTEL BARTEL VS TWO JOBBERS**

* **Aichner & Bartel are basically the heel version of Lorcan & Burch**
* **Wasn’t a complete squash, the jobbers got the hot tag and got some moves in.**
* **Aichner & Bartel won with their finisher. It’s a Powerbomb into a German Suplex.**

**OUTSIDE THE ARENA**

* **Cathy Kelley tracks down Ricochet who says, “All the respect I had for Johnny Gargano before, he Superkicked away. Now I’m going to take him out.”**

**BACKSTAGE**

* **Sarah Schreiber interviews Keith Lee who challenges Kassius Ohno to a match next week because he beat up his friend Matt Riddle.**

**EC3 VS ADAM COLE**

* **In a perfect world, EC3 would be the 5th and final member of The Undisputed Era.**
* **EC3 is a giant next to Adam Cole.**
* **Pretty good match, but the 3 stooges distracted EC3 in the end so Cole could win with The Last Shot.**
* **They continue to attack EC3 after the match, until The War Raiders show up and clean house.**
* **One of them Powerbomb and bodyslams Strong & Fish.**
* **They hit their tag team finisher on O’Reilly and The Undisputed Era retreats.**

**WORST DRESSED:**

**BEST DRESSED: Bianca Belair**

**WORST MOMENT: Street Profits**

**BEST MOMENT: Gargano Superkicking Ricochet**

**NEWS**

* **This was Nikki’s final match in NXT. WWE’s Performance Center YouTube channel posted a special goodbye video for her. They showed the crowd chant “Thank You Nikki!” and they showed her hugging everyone backstage including Triple H.**
* **Triple H was in London celebrating the Grand Opening of the WWE Performance Center UK. Triple H spoke with Inside the Ropes and said that some talent will stay in NXT or rotate through territories as this expands to the rest of the globe. He mentioned the Middle East, India, Japan, South America.**
* **WWE announced the first ever Worlds Collide Tournament at Royal Rumble Axxess. The tournament will feature superstars from NXT, NXT UK, & 205 Live. NXT will have Adam Cole, Velveteen Dream, Dominik Dijakovic, Keith Lee, & Otis Dozovic.**

**MOVIES/TV SHOWS**

* **Aquaman – How many movies? Dolph Lundgren’s hair**

**FAN QUESTIONS**

**TAKEOVER PREDICTIONS?**

* **Thanks Fabio Morabito**