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“UFC TONIGHT” SHOW NOTES – 1/24/12

Show airs Tuesday nights at 10:00 PM ET/7:00 PM PT

Kenny Florian’s Predictions for *UFC on FOX*® Fights, Dana White Comments on Upcoming Matchups; Ariel Helwani Reports on Jon Jones Next Fight

LOS ANGELES, CA – Tonight’s show will include an extensive look at the upcoming *UFC on FOX*® Fights, plus a UFC 101 segment featuring **Jay Glazer** and **Urijah Faber**. Here are specific quotes from tonight’s show:

“UFC Tonight” Host Kenny Florian on *UFC on FOX*®: Evans vs Davis: “This is an interesting fight between two very high level wrestlers. Phil Davis has a different striking style – he tends to use his big leg kicks and sets up his takedowns with them. He comes from a better wrestling pedigree and is a natural champion. Rashad Evans has the edge with better striking and has more experience than Davis. This fight is very interesting. Davis has been out for a year, so who knows what he’s been working on? He might have improved his striking very much and could prove very difficult for Rashad. He also has a reach advantage. It’s very difficult to pick.”

Exclusive interview with Phil Davis who comments on his fight with Rashad Evans: “What makes this fight so interesting is we both come from similar wrestling backgrounds. But we both have unique styles in mixed martial arts. I think it’ll be a style clash. I think it’ll be pretty exciting. Rashad is a step up in competition. He’s a former champion. He’s beatable. I’m fighting for the title here. My greatest strength as a fighter is my mental ability to look past what might seem like a daunting task or what might seem impossible.”

Florian’s predictions for Evans vs Davis: “It’s one or two fights too early for Phil Davis to fight Rashad Evans. Evans’ experience and his ability to put it all together is going to be the difference. He’s going to win and face Jon Jones later this year!”

Florian on Sonnen vs Bisping: “Chael Sonnen loves to use his wrestling. He gets in on your legs and he’ll pick you up and slam you on your head. He has an excellent ground and pound. Mike Bisping likes to keep it on his feet and use his striking and he goes straight for the head and the body. He’s going to want to keep this fight on his feet.”

Florian’s predictions for Sonnen vs Bisping: “Every guy who Chael Sonnen faces, he’s able to take down. Bisping is not going to be able to submit him and Sonnen is going to get the win and is going to face Silva later this year.”

Florian on Maia vs Weidman: “This is another great fight. Chris Weidman has a lot of potential and comes from a very good wrestling background. He’s very dangerous on the ground and has a very good ground and pound. But Demian Maia is one of the best Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu experts and has multiple world championships. It’ll be a great fight of two very different grappling styles.”

Florian’s predictions for Maia vs Weidman: “I’ve got to go against Damian Maia on this one. I’m a huge fan of his, but I think Chris Weidman is going to get it done. His wrestling is going to be the difference and is going to take the win and stay undefeated.”

UFC President Dana White talks about what happens if Chael Sonnen wins his upcoming fight: “I 100-percent, right here, right now, guarantee you that if Chael Sonnen wins his fight, that Anderson Silva will fight Chael Sonnen this summer. It will probably take place in Brazil.”

White talks about what happens if Rashad Evans wins his upcoming fight: “If Rashad Evans wins, and if he doesn’t get injured, he will fight Jon Jones. He’s the guy who gets the shot. He’s been waiting a long time, and he’s the one who deserves it. Should Rashad get hurt, then Dan Henderson will fight next.”

“UFC Tonight” Insider Ariel Helwani’s update on Mark Munoz’s injury: “I spoke to a very upbeat Mark Munoz just 24 hours after his surgery on his right elbow and he said the surgery went great. He’s looking at three months of rehab and is looking forward to getting back in the Octagon. He’s picking Chael Sonnen to beat Mike Bisping.”

Helwani also reports on when Jon Jones will fight next.

“UFC Tonight” is the official weekly news and information show of the Ultimate Fighting Championship, airing every Tuesday night at 10:00 PM ET on FUEL TV. The show is co-hosted by veteran UFC fighter and multiple title contender Kenny Florian and former UFC host and WEC announcer Todd Harris. Two-time World MMA Awards Journalist of the Year Ariel Helwani adds insider news.

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