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Riho

A professional wrestling prodigy, Riho began training at a mere nine years old! She probably wasn't a whole lot smaller than she is now. At 5'1" and 99 pounds she was a heavy (light?) underdog when facing Nyla Rose in October for the privilege of being the very first AEW Women's champion. What chance would a sub-100-pounder have against a 187-pounder who was equally as determined? Well, it's not Nyla Rose in this photo! Riho managed only an honorable mention in the Woman of the Year voting, but get ready for a rematch in 2020. This little lady doesn't like to lose!

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REACHING YOU ...

Pro Wrestling Illustrated—June 2020 (Decade Awards): Digital edition on sale March 5; print edition on sale March 31
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FEATURES

11 ACHIEVEMENT 2019: PWI YEAR-END AWARDS

We'll admit that for time purposes we often do our awards write-ups even before the voting deadline has arrived—as long as we're able to project a clear-cut winner. It especially helps in the category Wrestler of the Year because that gives us a jump on designing the cover. Well, for the first time in a decade, that was not possible. The race between Adam Cole, Chris Jericho, and Seth Rollins came right down to the last day. It was so close that we'd have loved to suggest that the three men get in the ring together to settle it. (Maybe we should stick to wrestling books instead of booking wrestling.)

- 12** Rookie of the Year
- 14** Inspirational Wrestler of the Year
- 16** Most Improved Wrestler of the Year
- 18** Comeback of the Year
- 20** Woman of the Year
- 22** Feud of the Year
- 24** Most Popular Wrestler of the Year
- 26** Most Hated Wrestler of the Year
- 28** Match of the Year
- 30** Tag Team of the Year
- 32** Wrestler of the Year
- 34** Stanley Weston Award

35 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Some of the most incredible photographers in the business traveled the globe to chronicle many of the year's significant title changes.

62 YOUR UNOFFICIAL OFFICIAL AWARDS FOR 2019

Once again, our readers proved that they can be witty, insightful, and downright insulting!

66 TOP 10 STORIES OF 2019

A new era came upon us when the ball dropped in Times Square and All Elite Wrestling made the anticipated announcement that WWE was going to face a serious competitor for the first time in 20 years. That was not the only big story we covered last year. In fact, it was so hard to narrow the list to 10 that we cheated a little and combined some related stories under single headlines.

76 MEMORIES OF 2019: STAFF PICKS

Eight of our veteran writers and editors recall their top moment of the year

COVER PHOTO:

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COVER DESIGN:

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