

# Thunder – October 25, 2000: Goldberg Fell Down

## Thunder

Date: October 25, 2000

Location: Alltel Arena, Little Rock, Arkansas

Commentators: Tony Schiavone, Stevie Ray, Mike Tenay

It's the final show before Halloween Havoc and hopefully Sting vs. Jeff Jarrett gets a little more time this week. This show is now being taped after Monday Nitro so there's a chance that some of the guys might not be up to their usual speed. On top of that there's the chance that WCW could manage to put on a show full of errors that could defy all logic and intelligence. Let's get to it.

Opening sequence.

The opening video focuses on the three big matches at Halloween Havoc. They're building those up very well.

## Hardcore Title: Reno vs. Kwee Wee

Reno is defending because this title is still a thing for reasons that I don't quite get. Kwee Wee brings out pink garbage cans. Where would you get one of those? They start slugging it out with the trashcan lids with the champ getting the better of it and dropping a knee onto the lid onto Kwee Wee's head. To sum up the value of the title, Stevie points out that Reno wasn't brought to Australia for the two week tour. Yeah a champion wasn't brought in for two weeks and I don't think anyone noticed he was gone.

Kwee Wee tries to load up a table but gets hit in the face with a trashcan for his efforts. Well that's what he deserves. They fight into the crowd but are quickly up to DJ Ran's booth. I feel like I'm back up in 1999's area. That goes nowhere so they come back to the ring where Paisley breaks up a Roll of the Dice. Not that it matters as Kwee Wee misses what looked like an elbow drop, setting up the Roll of the Dice to

retain the title.

**Rating:** D. What do you want me to say here? One uninteresting guy beat up a slightly interesting guy with a bunch of nothing weapons shots as the announcers talked about how no one missed the Hardcore Champion being gone for over two weeks. This division needs to die in a hurry because it's so uninteresting by now.

Post match Paisley gets a Roll of the Dice until AWOL (challenging for the title at the pay per view) comes out for the save.

Buff Bagwell insists that he and Stacy Keibler are just friends. He's the stuff though.

Here are the Thrillers, minus Stasiak, with something to say. Problem #1 with the Thrillers: they're picking Shawn Stasiak to turn face out of all the options they have. Nash calls the Thrillers the future and wants Stasiak out here right now. Shawn does as he's told and says that Nash is like Bobby Knight, making him at least the second and probably twentieth person to make that comparison. Nash isn't going to tolerate this and says that Shawn needs to assume the position for a cricket bat spanking. For some reason Stasiak does as he's told again but Palumbo blocks the bat from connecting...and that's that. Ok then.

### Buff Bagwell vs. MI Smooth

Smooth is still a thing? Buff poses a lot to start so Smooth kicks him in the ribs. Now why has no one else ever thought to do that? Well apparently Buff has because Smooth makes the mistake of posing and gets kicked in the ribs as well. They keep up their slow offense with Buff avoiding a splash in the corner and hitting the double arm DDT. A Blockbuster puts Smooth away in a hurry.

David Flair comes in to go after Buff's blood but eats a DDT.

Here's the Cat with Miss Jones to challenge Mike Sanders to a mixed tag. "You can bring a woman or put one of the Thrillers in drag." Well they've been humiliated enough times otherwise so why not. Sanders brings out Leia Meow and tells her she can either wrestle or lose her job.

## The Cat/Ms. Jones vs. Mike Sanders/Leia Meow

The guys get things going and Cat kicks Sanders right in the face to knock him outside, meaning it's already off to the women. To be fair, they're more interesting than anything the men were going to do. Meow is annoyed at Mike though and rides him around while Cat puts a cup over Sanders' face. Mike gets up for a sunset flip, earning him a shot to the face and a double pin from the women. This would be another match where they tried to be funny and failed about as hard as they could have.

Booker T. and Sting are ready for their six man tag tonight.

The big interview this week is with Goldberg, who spends a good deal of time sucking up to the Australian fans before moving on to talk about the Streak and Starrcade 1998. That brings us back to the new Streak and Goldberg knows how he's going to beat Kronik. Of course he won't tell us how he's going to do that because he'd rather tell us how he regrets beating up David Flair, though it had to be done. Praise for everyone who has gotten him here and a plug for his book ends this mostly worthless interview.

## Big Vito vs. Vampiro

This could be fun. They actually go to the mat to start with Vampiro getting the better of it (that's not surprising) before just stopping to stare at the crowd. Vito doesn't attack because he's not an MI Smooth fan, meaning it's time for a slugout with Vito getting the better of it (of course).

They head outside with Vito sending him into the barricade before dropping the top rope headbutt for two. It wasn't quite a swan but maybe an ostrich with a bad limp. The top rope elbow gets the same and it's off to a sleeper of all things. You don't often see that on a heel. Vampiro fights out (because it was a sleeper) and gets in a spinwheel kick for two of his own. A legdrop gets the same for Vito but his top rope splash hits knees. The Nail in the Coffin puts Vito away.

**Rating:** C. Fine enough but Vito has fallen through the floor since Russo left. Vampiro was fine but he better lose to Awesome on Sunday if Awesome

is getting a World Title match the next night on Nitro. Vito is fine in this jobbing role but right now they need new names. To be fair though, was anyone thinking that it was going to be Vito?

#### Lance Storm/Elix Skipper vs. Corporal Cajun/Lieutenant Loco

Storm is still ticked off about the parody which wasn't very funny in the first place. Cajun starts with Storm and hits a reverse White Noise for no cover as Storm is right back up. Well so much for that. It's off to Skipper who eats a clothesline, only to have Storm enziguri him from the apron.

Tenay's big news of the match: Elix Skipper DID NOT play in the Canadian Football League. Remember when Mike did a five or six part documentary series on lucha libre? Now this is what we're stuck with instead. A quick X Factor gets Cajun out of trouble and it's a double tag to bring in Storm and Loco. Everything breaks down and Duggan has to be taken out by Rection and AWOL. Gunns accidentally hits Loco with the Canadian flag but Loco rolls through for a pin on Storm anyway.

**Rating:** D+. There were some decent spots in there but I'm so sick of seeing these teams fight. I can't believe that The Gunns thing is even an issue anymore as they stopped trying to make her Canadian (and to make the male fans drool over her) a long time ago. Storm has lost almost all of his momentum, though a lot of that is due to fighting a guy named General Rection.

Jeff Jarrett and Kronik say they'll win tonight.

Halloween Havoc video.

#### Disco Inferno vs. Rey Mysterio Jr. vs. Sean O'Haire

Same idea as Monday and there's nothing wrong with that. O'Haire takes over with some big right hands before both smaller guys get in shots to the head through the ropes. Disco trips and pulls Sean to the floor for some posting before dropping Rey with a bulldog. Rey's moonsault is caught in midair for a powerslam, only to have Disco get in a shot to take over again.

Disco can't launch Rey high enough for a hurricanrana but it looks enough like a dropkick to work. Rey takes Disco to the floor with a hurricanrana as the partners start fighting outside. Kidman climbs the post to bulldog Disco but Rey dives on Jindrak instead of covering. Back inside and it's Sean with the springboard Seanton Bomb on Disco for the pin.

**Rating:** C. This wasn't as fun as the match on Monday but that's due to having inferior talent here. I'm liking the idea of splitting up the triple threat tag match into two triple threat singles matches as it gives you something to keep the build going while not having any team actually lose. It's almost like whoever is running this show has a better idea of how wrestling works without needing to use a lead pipe or whatever brilliant idea the writers have thought of this week.

#### Jeff Jarrett/Kronik vs. Goldberg/Booker T./Sting

Makes as much sense as any other main event they could put on. Jeff talks some basic trash before the match. Booker's comeback is to tell Jeff to shut up because he isn't the best talker in the world. Booker and Jarrett get things going with a couple of kicks putting the champion in early control. Goldberg comes in and gets to face Adams as Mike says the Streak can be broken if Goldberg gets pinned here. I can go with that.

A single right hand puts Adams down so it's off to Sting vs. Clark with the painted one avoiding a knee in the corner. There's a very early Deathlock but Adams makes a save. It's already back to Booker who scores with a spinning forearm, only to eat a DDT. Jarrett comes in but takes a swinging neckbreaker to put both guys on the mat.

Booker is smart enough to tag in Goldberg and Sting at the same time as everything breaks down. Goldberg's spear hits the post but he easily kicks out of Clark's cover. High Times plants Goldberg but Sting comes in with a low blow. Seriously? That's our hero? Scott Steiner comes out to go after Booker, allowing Sting to hit the Death Drop on Jarrett for the pin.

**Rating:** C-. Not bad here with the pace being kept up throughout and an actually clean(ish) pin. I'm not sure on having Sting pin Jarrett this close to a pay per view but you take what you can get where you can get

it. At least Goldberg didn't get to kick out of High Times just yet, though you know he's going to no sell the thing on Sunday.

Post match Steiner hits Booker with the pipe, allowing the heels to destroy their upcoming opponents to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** D. This could have been a lot worse but they're doing a miserable job of setting up Halloween Havoc. Even after watching this show, I'm still not sure what the majority of the card is supposed to be or why I'm supposed to care. The three main events are fine enough but there's a firm limit on how far those things can carry a show with a DNA match (whatever that is) on the card as well.

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