

# Thunder – May 31, 2000: Now They're Beating Children

## Thunder

Date: May 31, 2000

Location: Idaho Center, Boise, Idaho

Attendance: 5,438

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Tony Schiavone, Bobby Heenan

This is the third straight TV show where we're coming in with a new World Champion, which isn't even counting the mid-show title change from this past Monday. Maybe tonight we can start slowing things down a bit for a change. If we're lucky, we might even get in some more Vince Russo stories! Let's get to it.

We open with a recap of the multiple World Title changes from Monday. That really shouldn't be a thing.

Opening sequence.

The ramp is on the left hand side. I don't remember the last time that's happened in WCW.

## Hardcore Title: Terry Funk vs. Chris Candido

Funk is defending and Candido comes in dressed like Terry for no apparent reason. Before the match, Candido praises Bischoff for giving him the chance to become champion. Well you have to get that praise in there or else he might start feeling bad. Funk comes out and chairs him in the head to start and they're already in the back, drawing boos because A, the live fans are getting ripped off again and B, they don't have a camera ready back there. Was it so hard to say "hey we're going backstage early so have a camera ready."? Or better yet, and more likely "hey, they're going backstage early so have that pretape ready."

Funk dumps trash over both of them before hitting Candido in the head with a chair again. Terry throws him on the back of a flatbed truck and

drives it away (car thief). It's back to the announcers because they have no idea what else to do now. A camera crew finally catches up to them and they're near a stable. Well of course they are.

Candido has had time to recover and he sends Funk into a bail of hay, the water trough and then some manure. They go into a horse stall and Funk grabs a piledriver but they have to leave before the horse almost kicks Candido in the head. Tony calls that the high spot of the night. And now, because we're in a Vince Russo booked company and nothing has to make sense, there's a table next to the stall. Terry slams him through it...and hits the referee with a trashcan. Then Funk wakes him up and counts the pin to retain.

**Rating:** D. Ok, first and foremost, this is a big upgrade over a lot of the hardcore matches because it was something different. Instead of the usual "I hit you, you hit me, we do a finish" formula, they actually mixed this up a bit and went outside the walls a little bit. That being said, they still did a table spot at a stable. That felt so stupid and out of place that it crippled whatever they had going. Was there nothing else you could do, like piledrive Candido on....I don't know.....THE GROUND?

Russo puts Cat in charge for the night. I think I could live with this.

The Flair Family arrives. How Ric got them back isn't made clear of course.

Kimberly arrives and gets the paparazzi treatment.

Here are the Flairs with something to say. After some WOOing, Ric talks about how it took Russo and a ball bat to get the title off of him this past Monday. This is the first time his family has been in the ring with him but there's no David. Instead, David is in the back somewhere with Russo despite having the chance to be someone in this business. Not because of his abilities or anything, but because of his last name.

Ric is going to have his chance to give David the beating he deserves soon enough, but tonight he wants Russo in this ring for a match. Cue Russo, David and security with Vince in sunglasses because he didn't want his New York friends to know he's in Boise. Eh good line. He had to have

one in all the time he jabbers. Russo talks about returning the champ (meaning Reid) and the witch to Ric. He has a cold tonight but he's still here, unlike Flair who took a week off with a headache.

Ric swears a lot and calls David even worse than Russo. Vince ignores him and talks to Beth, bringing up the John Lennon song Imagine, because Beth needs to imagine what it's going to be like when David retires Ric at the Great American Bash. Ric beats up security guards and asks if Russo wants a fight tonight. Russo offers a father/son vs. father/son match instead and Reid agrees. The guards hold the Flairs back and David gets in a cheap shot with the bat and Russo adds a slap because Russo is cool like that. WAY too long here to get to the point but they had to get in Russo's funny lines.

Kimberly yells at Cat over not having her needs met tonight. Cat stares at her chest and eventually gives her Mike Awesome to manage tonight for some TV time. For some reason Awesome is excited when Kimberly asks if he's good at massaging her feet.

Back from a break and Cat comes into his office, only to find Kidman in his chair. They argue over Horace because we're still not clear if Horace and Kidman are friends or not. Cat makes Kidman vs. Horace vs. Sting tonight and Torrie doesn't seem happy for some reason.

Here are Awesome and Kimberly with something to say. Awesome promises to hurt Page even worse than he hurt Canyon and that means being worse than a broken back. Kimberly suggests that the people applaud her and get annoyed when it's not loud enough. She runs her mouth even more until a plant runs in and gets beaten up. Was there a point to any of this and I'm just missing it?

Cat gives Shane Douglas a World Title match as a thank you for all of his hard work lately. Ok, the title change streak has to end here right? I know the company is crazy but they're not going to put it on Shane freaking Douglas.

Horace Hogan vs. Sting vs. Kidman

Wait is this a handicap or a three way? I know Cat said it was a three

way but it's never clear if the people making the matches know what they're talking about. Sting charges down the ring and dives over the top to take out both guys. They head outside with Sting getting double teamed, allowing Kidman to do the Hogan hand to the ear. There's a legdrop for two as Horace seemed fine with potentially losing the match.

Sting fights up and sends Horace to the floor but can't get the Deathlock. Horace adds a Death Valley Driver but Kidman is smart enough to break it up at two. It's table time but Horace hits Kidman by mistake. Sting comes back with Splashes and throws Kidman through the table, followed by a long run down the ramp to drive them both through the table again. Kidman is out so the Scorpion makes quick work of him to give Sting the win.

**Rating:** D. This was one of the more coherent matches I've seen from WCW in a long time and it was still a mess. Kidman vs. Horace is such a lame feud and I'm still not clear why they're fighting. I mean, I know it's because Torrie went with Horace that time, but has that ever been explained or addressed since? Not that it matters as Sting and the other Millionaires keep beating both guys and making them look like even bigger losers than they already are.

Kidman and Horace argue until Mike Awesome comes down to break it up.

Tank Abbott and Rick Steiner are ready for Nash and Scott tonight. Abbott hypes up his showdown with Goldberg on Monday. That's the translated version at least as neither can talk to save their life.

Jarrett doesn't like having to defend against Shane tonight and rants to Russo about it. Russo says don't worry about it.

Ralphus and Norman still can't find a job after their lawn mowing and babysitting endeavors have both failed. However, they see a sign for a backyard wrestling federation and the lightbulbs go off again.

WCW World Title: Jeff Jarrett vs. Shane Douglas

Jarrett is defending but it's not clear which title, as his graphic says he's the US Champion. Even technology can't keep up with Russo's booking.

Tenay and Schiavone talk about how they don't recommend backyard wrestling. Heenan is more worried that Ralphus is loose in a neighborhood. Jeff cuts Shane off from talking and I'm suddenly a bigger fan. Shane stomps away in the corner and catches him in an atomic drop for no cover.

Cue the Cat to applaud Shane but Jeff steals his scarf and chokes Shane out. A powerslam and backslide get two each for Shane but the referee and Cat get in a fight. Shane hits the Pittsburgh Plunge but Cat throws a chair at the referee. With the ref down, Cat kicks the chair into Shane's face, setting up the Stroke to retain the title. So Cat just fixed a problem he caused in the first place. You know what? I'll take it. It makes more sense than most stuff they do around here.

Page sits down with Tenay and talks about his history with Bischoff, but he doesn't know how they split so far apart. He never saw this coming with Kimberly but not the person she's become now. After talking about his book a bit (didn't that come out like a year or more ago?), Page promises revenge against Awesome. Tenay suggests that maybe Page has caused all these problems and Page leaves. Well to be fair Hogan caused most of his own problems and is supposed to be worshiped in WCW so why can't Page get the same treatment?

Cat gives Stasiak and Palumbo a Tag Team Title shot tonight and just for fun, the titles can change hands on a DQ. Shane runs in to yell at Cat, who says the devil made him do it.

Nash and Scott are on exercise bikes as the Freaks watch.

#### Tag Team Titles: Kronik vs. Shawn Stasiak/Chuck Palumbo

Kronik is defending and remember that the titles can change hands on a DQ. Adams and Stasiak start as Heenan talks about being on the radio where everyone was talking about Goldberg. I know it's stupid and I know no one buys it, but points to Heenan for trying to make WCW sound important. We've spent months hearing WCW announcers rip on the company and basically treat the fans like idiots, but at least Heenan is trying to do SOMETHING positive.

Stasiak gets beaten down and it's off to Clark vs. Palumbo. Tony calls him Palumbi as Chuck kicks Clark in the chest for two. As the announcers talk about Columbo (as in the cop show from the 70s), Clark's tilt-a-whirl backbreaker winds up being a tilt-a-whirl back of the head breaker which thankfully didn't break Chuck's neck. Palumbo clotheslines Adams and brings in Stasiak who mostly misses a jumping back elbow. The not hot tag brings in Adams to clean house and there's High Times to Stasiak but Adams hits Palumbo with the exercise bar like an idiot and we have new champions.

**Rating:** F. Other than Heenan, this was one of the worst matches I've seen WCW have in at least a week. For once though it's more because of the blown spots and poor execution rather than the terrible booking. This was one of the only realistic ways to get the belts off Kronik and I like that they're giving it to a new team....but Stasiak is still really boring and I don't see that getting any better.

Kronik chokeslams the referee to blow off some steam.

This Week in WCW Motorsports. I think this is one of those things WCW has forgotten they're paying for and it just keeps going because no one watches Thunder.

Back to the backyard wrestling where Norman is mistake for Booker T. Norman asks the champion champion (probably 14 years old) if he knows anything about amateur wrestling. That would be no of course so Norman offers to share some of his amateur background. After some basic technique, Norman demonstrates a three quarter nelson...and demands that Ralphus count a pin, making Norman the new champion. Norman and Ralphus run off with the title as the kids chase after them. These two continue to be hilarious and continue to go nowhere. Well other than up the street with the paper belt of course.

We get another sitdown interview with Eric Bischoff over whatever made he and Russo miss Thunder two weeks ago. Bischoff talks about making news and says we'll find out at Great American Bash and McMahon can't stop it. I'd love to see McMahon watching this show and chuckling while his pay per view for this month had Rock vs. HHH for an hour with Undertaker

making his return with a new gimmick, Jericho vs. Benoit in a submission match and a triple threat with the other Radicalz. You have all that but WCW has another GAME CHANGING idea.

#### Vince Russo/David Flair vs. Reid Flair/Ric Flair

This is going to be ugly. Ric and David start (thank goodness) with the dad chopping away in the corner. He rips David's shirt off for more chops (what a horrible father. I know Russo has ruined this company but I almost want to cheer for him over Ric.) but stops to yell at Russo. Since we're in the middle of a match and Ric is a horrible father, he offers to let Reid have a three minute match with Russo. If Reid can't pin him, Ric will leave the business.

The freakshow continues as Reid takes Russo down. There goes Russo's jacket as Reid takes him down two more times in a row. After about two minutes, Ric comes in and beats on Russo, only to have David come in with more chops and a suplex. Ric and David fight to the floor, allowing Russo to smash a Statue of Liberty over Ric's face. Back inside and some quick double teaming sets up the Figure Four on Reid, allowing Russo to cover him for the pin.

**Rating:** F. For the second time tonight, a grown man has pinned an adolescent. Not only is Russo coming up with nonsensical ideas but he's repeating them in the same hour. For some reason though, I'm liking this better than having women being stupid and getting kidnapped over and over.

Ric wants Russo in a cage on Monday and threatens to call Ted Turner to get the match made.

#### Kevin Nash/Scott Steiner vs. Rick Steiner/Tank Abbott

The Cat is out for commentary as the good guys clean house to start. Scott suplexes Tank to the floor but that's too much time without an announcement: whoever gets the fall here is #1 contender to the World Title. Rick kicks his brother low for two but we cut to the back to Jarrett, who says there's going to be a DQ here. So this match has DQ's as well? Rick's cobra clutch is as lame as you would expect a Rick

Steiner cobra clutch to be but his belly to belly is a little bit better.

Tank comes in for some punches (yes punches) before Rick comes back in to continue that cobra clutch. Scott finally grabs a side slam for two and makes the tag off to Nash for some house cleaning. A big boot gets two on Tank but Rick hits him low, setting up the third cobra clutch in five minutes. Cue Jarrett with the guitar to break up the Recliner on Rick but Cat makes it No DQ. A belt shot only gets two on Nash (of course) and he kicks a chair into Rick's face, setting up the Jackknife for the pin and the title shot.

**Rating:** D-. Another horrible match and another way for Nash to look like a world beater, even though I have no reason to believe he'll hold the title if he wins it at the pay per view. Also, Nash vs. Jarrett is really the best idea they can go with? As much as I hate to admit it, yeah it probably is.

**Overall Rating:** D-. Somehow that's one of the better shows they've had in a long time. They toned down some of the insanity in the first hour, but after Ralphus and Norman invaded a backyard wrestling federation (that was awesome), Vince Russo got to pin a twelve year old and treated it like a major win. The Great American Bash now has a BIG SURPRISE planned, thereby guaranteeing that it's going to be underwhelming. Anyway, as usual here, the more Russo a show has, the worse it gets.

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# Monday Nitro – May 22, 2000: Help Yourself

## Monday Nitro #241

Date: May 22, 2000

Location: Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Attendance: 6,530

Commentators: Tony Schiavone, Scott Hudson, Mark Madden

So Flair is World Champion but the forces of bad health don't want us to have some sanity in WCW and Flair collapsed to end last week's Thunder. This was a legitimate inner ear issue that screwed him up and not like that time where they had Ric Flair have a heart attack that wasn't referenced again outside of a one off moment. Odds are this is going to change the title status so let's get to it.

It probably won't matter but this show aired an hour earlier due to the NBA Playoffs.

We open with a recap of the New Blood falling apart. Remember: as soon as Bischoff and Russo were gone for a single night, the whole team started falling apart. They need that strong and MANLY influence of Vince Russo to keep them in line.

Russo, Jeff Jarrett, David Flair and Liz arrive behind a hearse. They're all in black and it's time for the funeral of Ric Flair's career. Russo has the World Title for reasons that aren't clear.

## Booker T. vs. The Cat

Weapons match. The announcers explain that it's just martial arts weapons so Cat brings in a chair. Some martial arts sticks to the back put Booker down and Mark Madden says Cat is Eric Bischoff's son Garrett's martial arts instructor. Cat dances a bit and keeps hitting Booker with the

sticks as this is already boring. Booker starts his comeback but Cat hits him in the head with one of the sticks.

Some kendo stick shots have Booker in even more trouble as this just keeps going. A quick Book End gives Booker a breather and he hammers away with the kendo stick. Cue Shawn Stasiak to help Cat with the beatdown (I guess his fists count as weapons?) and Cat cartwheel kicks the chair into Booker's face for the pin.

**Rating:** D-. Was there a point here that I was missing? This was a big waste of time as Cat still doesn't have much of a personality yet. Also I love that their idea of pushing Booker is to have him lose matches because that's going to get him over so quickly. Bad match because it was barely a match, though some of Cat's stick shots looked good.

The Misfits come out for the save. Major Gunns loads up CPR for Booker but here are Bischoff and Kimberly to interrupt. The fans chant some swearing at Bischoff and it keeps getting censored, making it sound like Bischoff's mic keeps cutting out. Bischoff talks about some business deal in California that is going to change the face of the New Blood. Eric offers the Misfits a spot in the New Blood but they tell them what he can kiss. In case he doesn't get the idea, Major Gunns lowers her shorts for a visual.

The Millionaire's Club, minus Nash, arrives. Hogan: "Nash is late again." Sting: "That's his gimmick. That's his giz-immick."

Post break, Bischoff fires Booker but can't fire the Misfits for reasons that aren't clear.

Russo and company are around Ric's casket, which contains his robe and a huge nose. Everyone is all sad over this and I'm more sad that this idea was later used by TNA for Team 3D in one of their funniest segments ever. Why am I not watching that instead?

Madden cries as Terry Taylor arrives with Ric Flair's son Reid.

Terry Funk held a press conference earlier today and might be retiring later tonight.

Here's Daffney to say that Crowbar knows she's the real Cruiserweight Champion so come out here right now to talk about this like reasonable adults.

### Cruiserweight Title: Daffney vs. Crowbar

They're co-champions coming in as part of another story that hasn't had a chance to go anywhere and is being blown off a week after it started. They thumb wrestle to start before Crowbar gives her an Indian burn. Cue Miss Hancock as Crowbar won't hurricanrana Daffney off the top. She'll give him one though, causing Crowbar to give her a slingshot splash. Crowbar immediately apologizes but here are Chris Candido and Tammy to attack him. Candido dropkicks a chair into Crowbar's face and piledrives him onto the chair, giving Daffney (called Daffney Unger by Tony) the pin and the undisputed title.

**Rating:** D. What was wrong with Candido holding the title? He's 28 here, a veteran and talented. Therefore, it's time to put the belt on ANOTHER comedy act because that's what Russo thinks is best for it. The cruiserweights were such an important part of WCW's heyday so obviously the solution is to turn them into a joke right? Oh and male vs. female. That should be a drinking game: take a shot anytime a woman is attacked by a man. You'll have a good buzz every week and it might even make the show go faster.

The Kid Cam is back and we see Torrie Wilson on Horace's back giving him a massage.

Booker tells the Misfits to stay tuned next week.

Ralphus and Norman are washing cars for \$1 apiece.

Kidman yells at Bischoff and company about Horace. Eric: "You're the one that wanted to hang on to the hot looking blonde." They come up to Torrie and make her referee. Eric beats up a referee and takes his shirt to give to Torrie. Kidman and Horace start brawling and I guess this is their match.

### Kidman vs. Horace Hogan

Torrie is guest refereeing and wearing a referee's shirt that looks like a short dress on her. They come out to ringside and of course Bischoff jumps in on commentary, calling this internal politics. Kidman takes over inside and the camera keeps cutting to Bischoff, the real star of the match. Hogan comes back with a big boot and grabs a table. Cue Hulk as Kidman counters a powerbomb. Horace is placed on the table so Hogan throws Kidman off the top and through his nephew. Torrie is forced to count the pin.

**Rating:** D. I'm sick of this story and it's getting worse every single week. I'll give them credit for trying to do something with Kidman and Horace but the two of them are being treated like big pawns (ok maybe bishops) in the Hogan vs. Bischoff feud. As usual, the story is so convoluted and messy that I have no idea what the point is even supposed to be.

Hulk says Bischoff used to be a cool guy but now he's heard Bischoff is going to have a special referee at the pay per view. He doesn't care who it is because he'll beat them up anyway. Oh and Eric is something censored. Is there a reason Hulk won't say the pay per view's name?

Jarrett and Russo make jokes around the casket.

Taylor asks Reid if he's ok with everything.

The Filthy Animals arrive in a bouncing car and the Misfits take notice.

Here's Terry Funk in a tuxedo for a major announcement. His daughter (who he calls Old Blue) is here in the front row. Funk's family thinks this announcement is way overdue but Bischoff tells someone to go to the ring. He's told his aunt Eleanor and uncle Dutch (Madden: "DUTCH???" Tony: "Yes, Dutch Funk.") to watch tonight but here are Shane Douglas and some New Blood lackeys to interrupt. The announcement: Terry is a grandfather! Oh and he's retiring June 1.

Make that June 1, 2001 because his contract was extended for another year. This brings the New Blood members to the ring and Terry is quickly beaten down. Two piledrivers onto the chair knocks him out and Funk's daughter tries to come in, only to get shoved down. Shane covers him and

Cat counts the pin (with Funk not even keeping his shoulder down after that kind of a beating). Douglas takes the title and knowing WCW, that counts as a title change.

The Misfits come out to help Ralphus and Norman was the Animals' car. Gunns distracts Ralphus and Stash changes the buckets.

Clip of the Kanyon interview from Thunder.

Here's Mike Awesome in a wheelchair and with a halo around his head and neck. He mocks Kanyon for being out of wrestling and says he wants Page to come out here for some reason. Instead he gets the Wall and it's time for a tables vs. ambulance match. Tables vs. amb....WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN??? It sounds like Russo was watching Frankenstein vs. the Wolfman one night and camp up with this match while he was falling asleep. Let's get this over with.

#### The Wall vs. Mike Awesome

Wall kicks him in the face to start and scores with a powerslam. Not that it matters as Mike backdrops him through a table and wins it in less than 90 seconds. So it was a tables match. In Russo's world, tables + ambulances = tables. Therefore, ambulances are in fact worthless.

Wall pops up and goes after Awesome but Shane Douglas runs out with a steel pipe. They fight into the back and Page pops out of an ambulance (because he was just in there) and everyone brawls.

We cut to the casket bring brought to the ring....with Shane and Awesome in different clothes walking alongside it. This doesn't even surprise me anymore.

Norman and Ralphus pour on whatever is in the new bucket. It looks like paint or paint remover.

It's time for the Ric Flair funeral. We see a clip of Ric collapsing on Thunder and Russo goes on about how he told Ric to retire. The fans think he suck but Russo says he has the belt, which he returns to Jeff Jarrett for his third World Title in thirty six days. Russo pulls out Flair's Rolex to throw in the casket and you know exactly what's about to happen.

Naturally Kevin Nash pops out of the casket because we haven't seen him in a long time. He takes the title just in case you hadn't forgotten those horrible days.

Post break Russo tells Nash that he has 45 minutes to give the title back or it's a no holds barred match. The champ was in the background here and, again, this was all about Russo.

Here's Scott Steiner with the Freaks dressed as University of Michigan cheerleaders. Steiner talks about the dark side of the moon rising and something that is bleeped out. As for the point tonight, Scott is now bringing his own circular cage called the Asylum and you can only get out by submitting.

#### Scott Steiner vs. Rick Steiner

Non-title because the US Title hasn't meant anything in months. They start fighting as the cage is slowly lowered, making the gimmick even less important. Scott belly to bellies him down and puts on the Recliner but Scott falls for the Tank Abbott Goldberg entrance all over again. He lets go of the hold (after three minutes according to Madden) as Tank comes out with bolt cutters. Those don't work so he beats up the guy that controls the cage and raises it up to help Rick beat Scott down. This brings out Nash (again) to help save Scott.

Pamela Paulshock, the new fake chest with a pretty blonde interviewer attached, asks Nash about what he just did. Nash wants a title shot tonight.

#### Chuck Palumbo vs. Diamond Dallas Page

Liz is here with Palumbo along with the security. Page gets a quick two off a belly to belly, followed by a Batista Bomb for the same. Elizabeth slams Palumbo into a rollup for two before a double clothesline puts both guys down for an eight count. Cue Kimberly to hit Liz in the back with a ball bat so the referee leaves the ring, allowing Awesome to come in with the halo. Page looks at Awesome and stands there so Mike can hit him in the face. Palumbo racks Page for the win.

Luger comes out and takes a beating of his own. Palumbo hits him in the face with the exercise bar and Luger has to go out on a stretcher.

Kimberly blames Liz for what just happened to her. I'm having a lot of trouble feeling sorry for Liz when she hasn't taken one of her 948 chances to escape.

Here are Terry Taylor and 12 year old Reid Flair, the latter of whom wants his brother David to come out. David and Daffney come out and Reid apologizes for whatever he's done because the family needs David. Daffney hits Terry with the Statue of Liberty but Reid, an amateur wrestling champion, double legs David down. David pops back up and puts him in the Figure Four until security breaks it up.

#### Vampiro vs. Hulk Hogan

Remember when this was a thing a few months ago? Well this time Vampiro comes out with a blowtorch and a can of gasoline. Vampiro jumps him to start and knocks Hogan out to the floor. A superkick knocks Hogan up against the barricade but he comes right back with punches to the face.

Hogan chairs him in the back and beats up the table for a bit before it's weightlifting belt time. Madden runs down WWF's finishes as Hogan slams Vampiro down. Madden: "I'm orgasmic!" Hogan kicks him low and drops the leg but opts to punch instead of cover. This brings in Kidman to hit Hogan in the head with the blowtorch to give Vampiro the pin.

**Rating:** F. Weapons, run-ins, Mark Madden's orgasms. Pick a reason why this was bad and go from there.

Sting saves Hogan from being set on fire (little reaction) and lays Vampiro out.

It was in fact paint remover, triggering another brawl between the Misfits and the Animals. Major Gunns has to reluctantly give Ralpus mouth to mouth. Naturally she winds up getting tongue, which Tony finds hilarious.

#### WCW World Title: Jeff Jarrett vs. Kevin Nash

It's not clear if Jarrett is defending or if the title is vacant coming in. Before the bell rings, cue Russo to knock out the referee and take over his job. That's very manly of him. Jeff hammers away to start but walks into Snake Eyes. Tony casually throws in that this is falls count anywhere. Russo's slow count is good for one and Jeff pops up for a chair to Nash's head. Nash no sells it of course and follows Jeff to the floor.

Another Snake Eyes on the apron is good for one as Russo crotch chops Kevin instead. A belt shot barely puts Nash down and Russo maces him to break up the Jackknife. There's a bad looking Stroke but cue Steiner to beat Jeff down. That earns Steiner mace as well, allowing security to handcuff him to the ropes.

Nash starts choking Russo as he covers Jeff but it's only good for two. They head outside with Nash loading up a powerbomb on Russo, only to have the blood fall.....next to them. Nash is nice enough to take a step to the side so it at least touches him, allowing Jarrett to guitar him down and get the pin for the title. Or maybe to keep it as it's not really clear.

**Rating:** D-. The fact that WCW still doesn't seem to know whether or not that's a new champion or a title defense sums up the show quite well. As usual it was way too much at once and the whole thing came off as a big mess that was thrown together instead of anything that I might want to watch.

Bischoff comes out to say that's just the beginning for Nash. The people can bite them. Jeff declares himself the Chosen One again to end the show. That's a cry for attention if I've ever heard one.

**Overall Rating:** F. This show was such a disaster that I don't even know where to start. There were way too many gimmick matches (many of which ranged from stupid to nonsensical), plot devices flying by in minutes instead of over a week, ridiculous editing errors such and WAY too much Russo. That continues to be the biggest problem: Russo is all over this show and everything is about him. There's almost nothing good about this show and it's the same problems over and over again. WCW is beyond one saving grace at this point and it's creating more problems for itself every single week.



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