

This is Gerald, head writer and editor of the weekly CRWL Newsletter since the CRWL's inception in 1998. Over the past two years, the CRWL has witnessed many superstars come and go, but very few the likes of Devon Dawson. Throughout his CRWL career, Dawson has been a captivating character and the stories of him and his career are endless. Of all of the CRWL greats, Dawson's lifelong story is filled with so many interesting twists and turns, ups and downs not just in the CRWL but in his entire life.

Since becoming the World Champion back in February, Dawson's personality went from lovable to despicable. However, the fallout in fan support has not damaged his ego or his ability. Riding the crest of a 14-match winning streak dating all the way back to January, Dawson has been on a tear comparable to nothing else in league history.

Despite all of the success that he's been enjoying over the past six months or so, there are still so many unanswered questions in his life. His past, his present and his future are all interesting tales in their own individual ways. After being asked to do this assignment by the CRWL front offices, I anxiously agreed to the unnerving task of interviewing Dawson in an exclusive four-part interview.

The four parts will be aired over the next four Saturdays with the final piece coming out the day before SummerSmash 2000. The four sections of this interview have been carefully put together in chronological order. The first part, which you will hear today, deals with Dawson's life before the CRWL. The second part focuses on his beginnings in the CRWL. The third airing will deal with the more current events in his career. Finally, the last part will deal with his future.

It has been said that Devon Dawson, despite his apparent arrogant outlook, is a man who keeps a lot of things to himself. Over the course of this four-part interview, you will see a side of Devon Dawson that you've probably never seen before. I feel that what I got from him was, if not always friendly, at least sincere. Here now, the first installment of The Interview with Devon Dawson.

Me (Gerald): Devon, before I even get started with the questions, I'd just like to thank you for agreeing to do this four-segment interview.

Dawson: Look Gerald, I'm not particularly fond of you as a reporter, but I've known you longer than anyone else on the staff of reporters, so I accepted. Don't get the idea that I like you, though. I don't, and from the things I've heard from you lately in the newsletter, you aren't exactly a supporter of me either. So let's not even allude to us being buddies, got it? I'm here to conduct this interview and that's all. I'm not here to make friends with you or the rest of the world.

Me: Good enough. Let's start right from the beginning. Born Devon Daniel Dawson on October 25, 1975 in Los Angeles, California, you were never a stranger to big city living, were you?

Dawson: Not at all. From the day I came home from the hospital, I was an attention getter. Whether it was my parents', my brother's, my sister's, or someone else's attention, I was always the main attraction wherever I went. Crying, laughing, it didn't matter. I was born to entertain.

Me: You mention your family, tell me about them? How many people were in your family?

Dawson: I was the youngest of three kids. I have an older brother, Will, who is now 30 years old and an older sister, Sarah, who is three years younger than Will. Neither has ever had any involvement in my wrestling career and to tell you the truth, I haven't been real close to either one of them for years now. I don't have any problems with them, I'm just busy.

Me: I guess that's understandable, but what do they think of your recent behavior in the CRWL and how do your parents feel of your claims to immortality?

Dawson: Both siblings think I've got a few screws loose, but I'd like to remind them of who's the one bringing home the seven-figure salary every year. As for my parents, they divorced when I was four. Like any kid, I blamed myself, but in the years to follow I came to realize that it was their problem. I lived with my mom most of the time, as my dad didn't take much interest in me. He'd

always be too busy doing something with his friends. To this day, I don't really have any kind words to say to my dad. As for my claim to immortality, it's not a claim but truth. They don't believe it, but neither does anyone else.

Me: From the sounds of things, your family life wasn't exactly perfect and it appears much hasn't changed. Seeing as how your family situation wasn't ideal, how'd you make out with friends as a kid?

Dawson: Are you kidding me? I had more friends than Jermaine Konrad has had injuries. No, I didn't spend a whole lot of time with my family, but that was their loss. I was always out having fun of my own.

Me: In a big city like L.A., you had to come in contact with some people you'd rather not have met.

Dawson: That I will agree with. I had a lot of exposure at a young age to things most kids never even think about. Drugs, sex, violence, it was all there, but I was able to keep myself out of all of that. Otherwise, I'd never be able to be sitting here today. That I know for sure.

Me: Wow, things really must've been tough on you.

Dawson: Well, I didn't live the childhood of your average kid, but I took the cards I was dealt with and made something of them. I didn't end up on a street corner or worse yet as another statistic, I made it. Now it's not like I lived in the ghetto. I had a decent house and plenty enough food and things. I'm just saying that I was never handed anything on a silver platter. I had to make some really tough choices and watch some friends make the wrong ones. I didn't have the worst environment to grow up in, but I was far from growing up like Shane MacMahon.

Me: It's been well documented that one of your childhood friends was Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad. Tell me a little about growing up with the former Chat Room Wrestling League World Champion.

Dawson: I think everyone knows by now that J and I do not see things eye to eye anymore, but I guess I'll save all that for a later segment. J and I grew up together. I met him when I was like 5 years old and we soon became best friends. We had a lot of good times together and we stayed best friends all the way until the CRWL, but like I said, I'll hold that off for the time being.

Me: So it is a true story that you and Jermaine were childhood friends?

Dawson: Yes, we lived right across the street from each other since I was the age of 5.

Me: Growing up in Los Angeles, what did you want to be when you got older? What did you see yourself doing several years down the road?

Dawson: When I was real little, I wanted to be a movie star, but about the age of 8 or 9, I can honestly say I had a dream of becoming a pro wrestler. I'm not just saying that to sound good, I've got photos of me dressing in homemade wrestling attire and watching some of the legends of the 80s.

Me: That's very interesting to hear that you've been pursuing this career for so long. Was there any particular wrestler that you modeled yourself after? Or any one organization that you cared for above the rest?

Dawson: I didn't envision myself to be like someone else. I wanted my own uniqueness and I feel I've got that now that I'm in the CRWL. It wasn't really one organization but one event that really made me realize that I was meant for wrestling and that was WrestleMania I. Yes, it was a creation of Vince MacMahon, but it transformed wrestling and that was the date in history that made it apparent to me that pro wrestling was my destination.

Me: Obviously right now there appears to be something brewing between you and the wife of Ryan Grieve, Buffy, but what about Devon Dawson as a teenager? Were you a ladies man?

Dawson: Unlike you, I did get a lot of girls. I never really had a steady relationship with anyone in particular, but over the years I've had some good times.

Me: I'm not going to investigate into that one any further. My next question to you is your athletic background. You obviously didn't just jump right into pro wrestling with no previous athletic achievements, did you?

Dawson: Not at all. In grade school I took part in basketball and football. In high school, I lettered in three sports: basketball, football, and track in my sophomore, junior, and senior campaigns. Despite this, I got very few scholarship offers to attend colleges.

Me: With all of that success, you received only a few offers? Why so, Devon?

Dawson: Well, I never understood it, but I've listened to many others voice their opinions. I intended on playing both football and basketball at a Division 1 University. However, many of the basketball coaches didn't want me because they didn't want to risk me getting injured in football. And while most of the football coaches weren't as concerned about me playing hoops, they thought that I was too small to handle collegiate level football.

Me: At 6'2" or 6'3" and about 240 pounds, I've got to question how they could see you as being too small. What's the deal on that?

Dawson: Coming out of high school, I was not quite fully-grown at around 6' tall, but more than that I lacked the muscle and build that I have now. I probably weighed no more than 190.

Me: Well, that sheds a little light on the situation. What did you end up doing coming out of high school?

Dawson: I graduated in the summer of 1994, nearly 19 years of age. Rather than going right into four more years of college I opted to take off a year and see what the world had to offer me. It was in January of 1995 that my dreams of becoming a professional wrestler came back into my mind. Jermaine, who was a little more than a full year older than me also decided not to go directly to college after graduating high school. For the year or so after he graduated, he got into the indy circuit and started out in wrestling. He didn't make much or get noticed by anyone, but he said he was enjoying it, and after I decided to take some time away from school, he convinced me to join him for a local show in a small school gym.

Me: Jermaine was the one to bring you into the wrestling world? That's something I definitely did not know. Well, I guess the next question I've got to ask is where did you go from there in your wrestling career?

Dawson: After a little over a year of wrestling here and there and everywhere, I finally signed a deal with a little known federation, whose name I cannot mention. It was there that I first met Ryan Grieve. We were in that league for a short time apart before we struck a conversation and before we knew it, we became aligned as a tag team. Together we went on to capture that fed's Tag Team Titles.

Me: So Jermaine brought you into the game and you met Grieve in your first full time fed? Did you ever have any second thoughts and wish that perhaps you would've opted to finish school and enter a different field of work?

Dawson: To be honest, at first I did. I was barely making enough money to support myself. In fact, I often found myself working odd jobs to bring in just a little extra spending money. My wrestling career then was almost more of a hobby than a profession. I knew that I couldn't possibly last

more than a few years in that type of situation. It just wasn't a high profile organization the likes that I need to be satisfied.

Me: How long exactly did you spend in that organization? And what did you learn from your first few years in wrestling?

Dawson: Well, I signed on there in 1996 for a four year deal, but I eventually got out of the contract in August of '98. That federation wasn't what you'd call top notch, but it had its good points. Being so young, I took a lot of abuse in and out of the ring from some of the aging veterans who either never made it or were long past their prime. They never eased up on a newcomer and it's still that way today. They want everyone to wake up with the same aches and pains they had. However, if there's one thing I can say that I learned most from my early years it is that you have to be able to market yourself.

Me: By marketing yourself, do you mean creating a gimmick?

Dawson: Gerald, let me make one thing clear. I've never bought in to the whole gimmick thing. I am who I am. What you see every day in the CRWL is what you'll see when I leave the arena and go back home. Devon Dawson is 3-D. Call it confidence, call it cockiness. I just don't really give a damn. The fact of the matter is that I've been able to be so successful because I don't have to worry about fitting into a gimmick. I don't change anything. When I say marketing myself, I mean getting my message out. In this day and age in wrestling, a bunch of submission holds or some cool entrance music isn't going to cut it. You have to be able to work the mic and, whether the people like you or hate you, you have to be able to be so good that they listen to you whether they really want to or not.

Me: When did this realization come about?

Dawson: It was during my time in that fed. Grieve and I both knew that there was no way any wrestlers in the so-called major federations had anything on us when it came to in-ring ability and the desire to make it. However, at that time, we were both young and unaware that we were nothing when it came to personalities. In the later stages of our run with that fed, we finally began to be able to perform just as well outside of the wrestling ring as we did inside of it.

Me: Well, it appears that we've just about led into segment two of this interview, which will air next Saturday. Is there anything you'd like to add before we conclude tonight's session?

Dawson: Yes. My life before the CRWL was one filled with a lot of different ups and downs. I lived a life perpendicular to my family and I did things mostly without them. My friends were what I had growing up. High school was a time that I enjoyed. The early stages of my wrestling career were shaky, I had a lot to improve on, but I definitely was being told that I had a bright future. I knew that the league I was a part of in '98 just wasn't ever going to break through into mainstream USA. When Ryan Grieve's contract ended he bolted to the newly formed Chat Room Wrestling League. Some say that I followed him there, but the truth is that I was recruited there by two men who you may have heard of, Dan Dykes and Michael Manette. To sum up life before the CRWL, let's just say I keep it as the past and nothing more.

Me: Thank you for your time. I appreciate you taking the time to answer these questions and look forward to the remaining portions of this interview.

That concludes part one of this four part interview with the man that holds the CRWL World Heavyweight Title, Devon Dawson, better known as 3-D. Look for the second part of this interview to air sometime next Saturday dealing with Devon's beginnings in the CRWL, how he got here and what he did to make a major impact on the league and the entire wrestling world. Until then, this is Gerald saying goodnight.

The Interview, Part 2 of 4

This is Gerald speaking to you from sunny Los Angeles, California. Many of you know me from my work on the weekly CRWL Newsletter, but this whole ordeal is not about me. I'm here tonight in the home of the CRWL's current World Heavyweight Champion for the second segment of an in depth, exclusive interview with "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson.

Last week in the first piece, I talked to Devon about his life prior to the CRWL. The whole world for the first time saw a part of his life that they never knew of before. He talked of his family as being in no way close. He also told us that he had a brother and sister, neither of whom has entered the wrestling business. Furthermore, he went on to talk about the daily challenges he fought in his life, the struggle to survive and not to get caught up in all of the evils of L.A.

Although he no longer is adored by the millions of fans that he once knew, and he has openly stated that he doesn't plan on changing that state of mind for this interview, he has agreed to answer any question that I ask him to the best of his ability. Despite personally not caring too much for his outlandish way of life and his constant putdowns of some CRWL greats, I do respect him for what he's accomplished in his career and for willingly accepting this interview offer.

Most CRWL superstars are reluctant to get into their personal histories and instead like to live in their own fantasy worlds under their wrestling name, but with Devon that is far from the truth. His real name is indeed Devon Dawson and he does not hesitate to speak about any subject from his past no matter how hard it may be to do so. I appreciate that much about him, if nothing else.

Here now tonight is the second segment of my exclusive, one-on-one interview with Devon Dawson. Tonight's piece talks about Devon's beginnings in the CRWL. You'll find out how he got here, why he came, and you'll hear, in detail, the makings and breakings of The Franchise and more. This segment will enlighten you on all that went on in Devon's career up to the point where he turned on The New Franchise at Just 4 U-D Day this past February. Without further ado, I give you The Interview, Part 2.

Me (Gerald): Last week's opening segment finished up with you talking about your time in an unnamed federation where you starred along with Ryan Grieve. You briefly touched on how you got into the CRWL, but you didn't really give any detailed information. First of all, I believe it was Ryan that entered the league first, correct?

Dawson: Yes, that is correct. Grieve entered the Chat Room Wrestling League in the first week of August 1998. The league was less than a month old. I did not make my first appearance until mid-September.

Me: So then you basically followed Grieve from that other federation to the CRWL?

Dawson: Not at all. You're just as stupid as everyone else. Why don't you shut the hell up for a moment and let me explain. Now everyone likes to say that I followed Grieve into the CRWL, but I didn't go there to be a part of The Ryan Grieve Bandwagon, which was the first lame-ass stable in CRWL history. No, the truth is that both Ryan and I were recruited by the CRWL, but his contract with the other federation ran out before mine did. Once my time was served, I made the obvious choice and came here.

Me: You said that you both were recruited. Was there anyone in particular that you were recruited by or was it sort of anonymous?

Dawson: Back then the CRWL really only had two scouts. One was "Mr. Canada" Michael Manette, who also jobbed for a while in the league, and the other was "The Man With the Plan" Dan Dykes. Both scouts saw Ryan and I as potential main eventers, but each had their own opinions as to which one of us would eventually make it big time.

Me: Well, I guess the obvious follow-up question is which one was on your side?

Dawson: How damn stupid are you? That shouldn't be too difficult to figure out, but I guess I'll say anyway to clear things up for you. While Manette, who has since taken up the name Mr. X, was high on Grieve, Dykes saw a lot of star power in me. That pretty much explains why when I first entered the CRWL I didn't come alone. Dykes was originally brought in as my manager and I believe that was an answer to a trivia question on the CRWL Website.

Me: Yes, I believe it was. So, you entered the CRWL in September with "The Man With the Plan" Dan Dykes by your side. What were your intentions when you first arrived on the scene here in the CRWL.

Dawson: To be quite honest, my main objective was to get rid of Ryan Grieve right from the start. He had his whole "Dark Angel" moniker going and had started up a stable known as "The Ryan Grieve Bandwagon," which in reality was basically just a bunch of scrubs that followed him around like he was a god. I came in ready to put a stop to his sudden success.

Me: Earlier today I was leafing through some papers when I came across the CRWL Newsletter from September 18, 1998. It was the first newsletter issued since you'd entered the league and it also included the results to the finals of the World Heavyweight Title Tournament. I'm sure you recall that Andre the Giant ended a surprising streak of Ryan Grieve in that finals matchup. What else do you recall about your first week in the league?

Dawson: I most certainly do remember Andre squashing Grieve and ending his hopes of gaining the World Title so soon. That was great. I also remember that on that day, Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad made his CRWL debut with a victory. I also turned down an offer to join the IV Horsemen, which included Ric Flair, Chris Benoit, and Psycho Mike. They later added Bret Hart instead. Avoiding a connection with them may have been the greatest move I ever made.

Me: Well considering the success you had with The Franchise and New Franchise, I'd have to agree with you there. The following week you made your CRWL debut at the pay per view entitled Just 4 U-Electric Explosion. There you lost in a handicapped match against HBK and The British Bulldog. You followed that up with losses to Sting and Billy "Highlight" Riel before recording your first victory in the league on Wednesday, October 7, 1998. Why the early struggles in the CRWL?

Dawson: When I first lost the matches, I came up with all of the excuses you could possibly imagine but, looking back, the reason I struggled early on was simply a lack of focus. In other words, I didn't have my 3-D vision just yet.

Me: You may not have had your 3-D vision, but you did have a vision of something big in The Franchise, a stable that was started when you and "The Dark Angel" Ryan Grieve decided to join forces rather than continue to be rivals. How did the whole idea of The Franchise come about?

Dawson: The story goes back to right when I entered. I started a group known as "The Devious Delights" and it soon consisted of "Prime Time" Lawrence Christain, The Rock and me. I built the stable as a sort of protection against "The Ryan Grieve Bandwagon," but on Sunday, September 20, 1998, I got a much better idea. At that time, I was actually more concerned about getting rid of The IV Horsemen than about Grieve's group, so I gave him a personal call.

Me: Obviously Grieve accepted the offer, but how exactly did you persuade him to dump The Ryan Grieve Bandwagon and start up The Franchise?

Dawson: Ryan and I hadn't really communicated since we left that other fed, but when I gave him a call, basically what I said was that rather than each of us trying to end the IV Horsemen separately, why not team up and have twice the power? He seemed to like my idea and just like that The Franchise was born with Ryan and I at the helm along with Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad from his stable and The Rock and "Prime Time" Lawrence Christain from mine.

Me: It is well documented how the original Franchise changed the CRWL forever. Besides the original group, it also included the likes of "Triple-H" Hunter Hearst Helmsley, "HBK" Shawn

Michaels, and The British Bulldog. The group picked up a number of titles, but more than that it garnered more attention than perhaps any stable in CRWL history. However, after months of ruling the stable scene, things began to fall apart. Explain what went on within The Franchise.

Dawson: Gerald, it's a simple law of man that he cares more about himself than the group. Despite everyone's good intentions for The Franchise, eventually our own individual will to be the best got the best of us. Everyone started bickering about who the real leaders were, who was the best wrestler, and so on. If anyone was going to save the self-destruction of The Franchise, it would have to be either Ryan or me, and once we started getting on each other's nerves, there was only one solution. One of us had to go, and we both knew it.

Me: Well, Grieve seemed to sense the dissent in The Franchise as well. In fact, he left The Franchise and went solo, which seemed to foreshadow you two getting involved in a match somewhere down the road. That proved true as you challenged him to a retirement match at the November Just 4 U-End of the Line. We all know what happened then, but briefly describe the scenario in your own words.

Dawson: Yeah, I challenged him to the retirement match. It was my first main event and it didn't turn out quite the way I had planned. Just as I was setting him up for my finisher, 3-D Vision, the lights went out, and that was the beginning of a whole new chapter in CRWL history. When the lights came back on, I was out cold with a tape recorder lying next to me. Grieve played it and it whispered "Demon." Then Grieve covered me for the three count, effectively ending my CRWL career.

Me: Ryan Grieve went on to win the World Title at the 1998 Battle of the Best, Meanwhile, the Demon saga was one of the most mysterious and confusing times in the CRWL's entire two year history. During the span of about six months from that night in November to Just 4 U-Critical Condition in May, you (as Demon) wreaked havoc on many CRWL competitors. It's hard to even begin questioning about the whole Demon ordeal, so I'll just let you explain it all.

Dawson: I figured that'd be too much for your lame ass to handle. Well, when I was originally "demonized" on that November night, what happened is unexplainable. All I can say is that I lost all control of my thoughts, words, and actions, and they were all replaced by Clovis, the vilest thing in CRWL history. When the CRWL finally caught up with Devon Dawson after the loss, I blamed the whole Demon thing on Grieve, who at the time was into a role as leader of the dark, mysterious Brood. Over time, Demon became more and more involved, attacking Brood members week after week. All along Grieve had no idea what was happening, but all of the fingers were pointing in his direction.

Me: You're exactly right with that statement. Everyone, including me, believed that Grieve and Demon were one in the same, but during the last event of 1998, Grieve was attacked by Edge and injured so severely that he not only had to forfeit his title but also retired from the ring. Were you involved in any way in that attack on Grieve?

Dawson: No, I, Devon Dawson had no part in it. It was all part of the plan of Clovis. He had nearly demonized Edge, but not quite. Still he had enough power over him to entice him to brutally attack Grieve.

Me: After that attack, Edge and Bret Hart went after the World Title in an unprecedented match that featured many dangerous obstacles. In the end, Demon and Vince MacMahon would be the cause of Hart's victory. Soon thereafter, you returned as 3-D in a role as Commissioner, only to join MacMahon's Corporation with Bret Hart. Was that part of Clovis' plan or did you do it alone?

Dawson: Like I said, I had no control over what I did then, so even though it looked like me, it was really Clovis manifested in me. The whole thing with me in The Corporation was all part of his master plan.

Me: The Demon situation remained unclear throughout all of January and February before you (as Demon) battled Kane in a first ever Losers Weepers, Finders Keepers World Title match with The Big Red Machine. What happened in that match?

Dawson: Well, as if you didn't know, the match ended very controversially. Kane had knocked me unconscious and began following Vince MacMahon (they were the newest Corporation) to where they believed the title was. MacMahon then yelled to Kane to go open the trapdoor. Kane did so and went in search of the title, but when a body emerged from the trapdoor, it was not Kane, but instead it was Demon. Demon then unmasked to reveal not I, but Ryan Grieve, the Commissioner at the time.

Me: I don't know how Grieve got in there or why he was dressed as Demon, and I still do not know today, but it did set up a memorable rematch at WrestleFest I between you and The Big Red Machine. You won the World Title on that night, in the most mysterious way, but it was in the months that followed that the confusion really escalated. Care to explain?

Dawson: Oh, why not? It's obvious you don't know a damn thing. After winning the World Title in May, I somehow slowly began to regain a little bit of control of Demon but not too much. At the April PPV, Just 4 U-Code Red, it was a mirror image of the retirement match with Grieve except this time I lost to The Rock. The similarities were that once again the lights went out, and again there was a tape recorder. However, this time the message said "Code Red begins." The Rock, confused but not concerned, covered for the three count, thus ending my World Title reign.

Me: According to your past statements, that was the beginning of the end of you as Demon. What exactly was Code Red and what was the significance of it?

Dawson: Code Red was the code name of the undemonization process, perhaps you call them exorcisms. Whatever the case may be, I was slowly beginning to regain power, which of course Clovis was losing. Then, at Just 4 U-Critical Condition, I took on Clovis for his World Title. The match, however, was not at all about the gold. After I delivered a Power Bomb, the lights went out, which had come to be known as the universal signal of Demon. Then some red lights began flashing, but not bright enough to see anything. When the lights came back on in the arena, Clovis was wearing the Demon mask and costume. On my chest it read Code Red is finished. On Clovis's back there was an inscription <•Demon> •>Demon<•. Clovis screamed in painful realization of what was happening, then covered me for the three count. He then removed the mask and it read UnDemonization Complete. In short, that is the story of Demon under Clovis' power.

Me: Although you explained it pretty thoroughly, the whole Demon situation can never truly be understood, at least in my estimation. Moving on now in your career. After Critical Condition, you made a return to the CRWL as "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson much to the delight of the CRWL fans. In your first interview back, you explained the Demon situation, but something else you did then has stuck with you to this day. Do you remember what?

Dawson: Honestly, I can't say I've held onto much at all from my first interview back.

Me: Well, you certainly must be forgetting because that was the day when you first introduced your famous quotation, "Do you see in 3-D?". How exactly did that come about?

Dawson: OK, let me explain this. Last week you learned that growing up in Los Angeles, I was faced with a lot of choices, some which could've led me astray. Then, just when I was starting to come into my own as a wrestler, the whole Demon scenario came about. Basically, by the time that I came back as 3-D, I had seen so much that I had developed a unique vision, unknown to anyone else. That vision helped me create The New Franchise.

Me: Yes, I was just about to get to that. You formed The New Franchise on June 3, 1999 with help from Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad. Some people have said that the group you soon assembled

was even better than the original Franchise. What are your thoughts in comparing the two stables?

Dawson: Gerald, there are a lot of different aspects that go into the making of an elite stable and after watching The Devious Delights and The Franchise crumble, I basically was the master of the stable game when I decided to start The New Franchise. During my time as leader of The New Franchise, names of stable members included Jermaine, Ryan Grieve, Jeff Hunter, Sean Christain, Adam Grieve, and HBK. So yes, in my estimation I'd have to rate The New Franchise ahead of The Franchise.

Me: OK. Now, let's get back to the scene. The summer of '99 was huge for The New Franchise as Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad went on to win three titles at once. However, The New Franchise was by no means alone in the stable game throughout the summer. Many stables tried to play the villain and end your group's illustrious one, but no feud compared to that of the one between The New Franchise and The Corporation. That feud lasted well over three months and it included many memorable moments. One move that could've changed the complexion of the rivalry never took place. I think you know what I'm talking about, your involvement at 1999 SummerSmash.

Dawson: I know exactly what you're getting at. I was to take part in a tag match against Buffy & Chyna, but I refused to fight Ryan's wife. However, I did bring out an envelope marked CONFIDENTIAL. Right then and there, I shared the angle with the world-MacMahon had me turning on The New Franchise and joining The Corporation, but I said that I would have none of it.

Me: That clearly shocked everyone, but what about the main event at SummerSmash?

Dawson: For those who don't remember back one year ago. The Main Event at 1999 SummerSmash was CRWL World Heavyweight Title Cell match. The New Franchise's Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad was challenging "Triple-H" Hunter Hearst Helmsley for the title. But, in addition to that, the retired Rock was special guest referee. However, I quickly added my name to the ticket as a second special guest referee to even up the sides. The Rock was obviously going to join The Corporation, but The New Franchise would not be outdone. When the cameraman got involved and side superkicked Triple-H, it was apparent that something was up. I then counted the three on Triple-H making JTPK the new World Champ. The cameraman turned out to be The New Franchise's own, HBK.

Me: 1999 SummerSmash was certainly a big moment in the historic New Franchise/Corporation rivalry, but one month later everything was on the line as the two stables met in a match where the losing stable had to disband, never to form again. Vince MacMahon took that opportunity at Just 4 U-When World's Collide to introduce The Destroyer, who virtually took out your entire stable. In fact, he did dispose of all three current New Franchise members in TIE, JTPK, and yourself, but that was not the end of it as you were saved by none other than "The Legend" Ryan Grieve.

Dawson: Yeah, yeah, everyone likes to award Grieve the Medal of Honor for that deed, but he just happened to be in the right place at the right time.

Me: It seems to me that you're a little jealous that Grieve saved The New Franchise, the group you created. Is that true?

Dawson: I'm not jealous. I just know how he works. He picked the perfect spot to make his return and the end result was, of course, he was glorified yet again, but I don't need to talk about that anymore. The New Franchise ended The Corporation and that's that.

Me: Alrighty then, moving along. Let's talk about the 1999 Battle of the Best Tournament. In '98, you forfeited in the tournament because of losing that retirement match. However, in '99 you made it to the quarterfinals before being defeated by your protégé, "The Iron Eagle" Jeff Hunter. What are your thoughts on that tournament?

Dawson: First of all, I had to go through like five matches before I even got to TIE while he just rested. Sure I lost, but I had already won the Continental Title after he got it stripped, so I think he knew that I was better.

Me: December was a rather cold month for you. Despite The New Franchise's Fab Four of you, Grieve, Konrad, and Hunter, you remained out of the picture and did not even take part of the final pay per view of the millennium, Just 4 U-Y2Kaos. Meanwhile, Ryan Grieve was making a run back at the World Title in a classic feud between he and "The Impact Player" Sean Christain. Can you explain briefly your thoughts on the way these two sent the CRWL into the new millennium?

Dawson: Grieve and Christain liked to call their little one-month skirmish and final match the main event of the millennium, but that's far from the truth. New Franchise/Corporation topped that any day plus it lasted thrice as long. As for Christain, the New Franchise reject, I still don't know where he ended up, but I suppose he's probably in some foreign land trying to restore his name.

Me: The year 2000 looked to be a bright and prosperous one for The New Franchise. This proved true in the month of January, which was capped off at the Royal Rumble with an all-New Franchise main event between "The Iron Eagle" Jeff Hunter and Ryan Grieve. Heading into the match, TIE was supposedly in cahoots with Vince MacMahon. He even came down to the ring for that World Title match with MacMahon, but when MacMahon opened the door for TIE to cheat and nail Grieve with the title belt, he turned around and clocked Vince. Grieve eventually won the match, but it appeared that everything was right with The New Franchise. That wasn't so though, was it?

Dawson: All I can say is that I was getting a little fed up of taking a back seat to Grieve, Jermaine, and even the unproven Jeff Hunter for months and months. But as I said, February was 3-D Month and Just 4 U-3-D Day would prove it for all to see.

Me: Leading up to that February PPV, Just 4 U-D Day, no one knew who would be the number one contender for the World Title held by Ryan Grieve. That would all be settled at D Day in a number one contender's fatal four-way cell match between "The Impact Player" Sean Christain, you, "Triple-H" Hunter Hearst Helmsley, and a mystery man who would turn out to be Ken Shamrock. Tell us about what happened in this extremely controversial match.

Dawson: I remember the match began with just us three: SC, Triple-H and me inside of a cell. Then all of a sudden Vince's voice was heard and he said something about the fourth guy coming soon. Then he popped out from under the ring and decked Christain with a chair shot. He then snuck up behind Triple-H and leveled him with a chair shot. Finally, I saw Vince and went after him, but I also heard someone coming from behind me. When Vince yelled, "Swing!" I instinctively ducked and Shamrock knocked MacMahon out. I then Double Arm 3-DT'd Shamrock, headed over to Christain and got the three count.

Me: That match was an amazing four-way battle, but the biggest challenge lay ahead. Just two matches later, you and Ryan Grieve, co-leaders of The New Franchise, long time friends, and full time competitors were to give the fans what they wanted in an all-New Franchise mega main event for the CRWL World Heavyweight Title, but what happened in that match and even more so afterwards, was not at all what I, the fans, or anyone ever imagined.

Dawson: I said that it would be 3-D Day and I made good on that promise. No one can deny that fact.

Me: No they cannot. We'll talk about that match and the rest of the story of how you've come to where you are now in next week's segment.

Dawson: I'm anxious to talk about it because that's the part where I really explode into the limelight and become The Devious One that I am today.

That concludes part two of The Interview with CRWL World Champion, "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson. Dawson's experience in the CRWL has been a most remarkable one. He's been a part of perhaps the two biggest stables in CRWL history in The Franchise and New Franchise and has taken some part in many of the CRWL's biggest matches. His past CRWL career is unlike that of any other, as you've seen from this interview. Next week you'll learn about the present day Devon Dawson. Good night from Los Angeles.

The Interview, Part 3 of 4

Hello once again, everyone. I'm Gerald, head writer and editor of the CRWL's weekly newsletter. I'm here today to speak with the CRWL's World Heavyweight Champion, "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson as part of an exclusive four-part interview. This is the third segment of this interview.

In the first piece, Devon discussed his life growing up in Los Angeles, California. We learned of his childhood friends and his somewhat unstable family situation. He also talked about his athletic background and his beginnings in wrestling in an independent federation that he did not name. That led into the second segment that aired last Saturday.

In that piece Devon talked about his arrival in the CRWL, his initial struggle in the ring, and the beginnings of The New Franchise. He then analyzed his CRWL career from the retirement match with Ryan Grieve in '98 through the whole Demon ordeal all the way to the creation of The New Franchise in the summer of 1999. He then talked about The New Franchise's big rivalry with The Corporation and the rest of '99 including the Ryan Grieve/Sean Christain feud.

Finally, he touched on winning the World Title number one contender's match during Just 4 U-D Day in February, which set up a colossal all-New Franchise main event later that night between he and the World Champion, Ryan Grieve. That concluded the second session of this in-depth interview with the longest-reigning World Champ in CRWL history.

Tonight, I'll talk to Devon about that night in February when he turned his back on the world and about the rest of his career up until today. It is sure to be an interesting time, as this portion of the interview covers his career when he was the least popular but yet the most successful. I'll also ask him a few questions about why he decided to dump the fans, friends, and fellow New Franchise members just for the gold.

He's had a more captivating, more controversial CRWL career and perhaps life than anyone else I know. He has gone from the top of the fans' list, to one of the most hated individuals in the wrestling business. Here now is the third installment of this exclusive four-part special chronicling the life of "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson.

Me (Gerald): If you recall, we ended last week's segment with your triumph in the fatal four-way match to determine a number one contender for what was, at the time, Ryan Grieve's World Championship belt. That brings us now to the main event spectacle between you and "The Dark Angel" Ryan Grieve.

Dawson: Just 4 U-3-D Day was a day that I foresaw as the day I made myself recognized. For all my life up until that day, I'd tried to fit in and go with the flow. I tried to be the peacekeeper and let everyone take their turn before me, but after a while I came to realize that no one gives you anything in this world. If I was ever going to get the World Title, I was going to have to take it.

Me: The match with Grieve was a real back-and-forth battle between two fan favorites. Grieve even managed to reverse your trademark submission hold, The Devious Deathlock. But after delivering your patented finisher, 3-D Vision, you covered and got the three count. What was going through your mind after hearing the ref slap the mat for the third time?

Dawson: Quite simply, I was thinking, "Finally." Not "Finally I beat Ryan Grieve" because I had been beating him week in and week out on the mic, and I would've beat him in September of '98 if

not for Demon. I was thinking, "Finally, I am THE man. I am THE champ. I am THE World Champion, and no one can deny that."

Me: Well, despite losing, Grieve showed true sportsmanship and offered to shake your hand after the match, thinking that The New Franchise would move on unharmed. Obviously, you had different ideas. Why did you attack Grieve with a 3-DT and then apply The Devious Deathlock?

Dawson: Why? It's very simple why. I knew exactly what Grieve was trying to do, and it's the same thing he's always done. Despite losing, he was going to toot his own horn and try to make himself look like the better man, the hero, by offering a congratulatory handshake. Gerald, that was all a bunch of bulls---! Grieve was as pissed off as could be, but rather than just accepting the fact that he lost to the better man and let me have my moment in the sun, he tried to thrust himself into the spotlight—my spotlight—yet again. I was just sick and tired of Ryan doing everything for Ryan, and I let him have it.

Me: You did indeed let him have it, but as you cinched in The Devious Deathlock, the other members of The New Franchise came to Ryan's aid. First, Jeff Hunter tried to stop you, but you gave him a low blow. Then, Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad rushed the ring and ran head-on into a power bomb. Finally, Ryan's wife, Buffy, entered the ring. Throwing away any chance of being forgiven by Grieve or The New Franchise, you gave her 3-D Vision. What were you trying to prove?

Dawson: When I attacked Grieve, I initially planned on retaining my role as leader of The New Franchise, but as soon as I saw that TIE, Jermaine and Buffy were all blinded by Ryan's act, I cancelled that thought and terminated my ties with the group. You think what I did was harsh under the circumstances? Well, you don't know all the crap that I took from them as leader of The New Franchise. They all deserved what they got and, if they were a little smarter, they would've known they had it coming.

Me: What about Buffy? She received 3-D Vision from you and yet nowadays she's practically joined at the hip with you. What's changed?

Dawson: You wouldn't understand. No one would understand. It's a matter only understood by those with the vision and, unfortunately for you and the rest of the world, that exclusive club has just two members—Buffy and me.

Me: Anyway, as if turning on The New Franchise was not enough, what about the fans? For so many months, you were the people's choice so to speak. No one garnered more fan attention than you, and no one sold more merchandise than you while you were a part of The New Franchise. You even referred to them as Franchites. How then could you just leave them in the dust so suddenly?

Dawson: I figured you'd get to this one since all of those dear CRWL fans are watching this. Now as much as everyone hates to admit it, like me or not, I still attract more attention and cause more commotion than anyone in the CRWL. Wrestling is about two things: winning matches and winning titles, and the fans didn't help me do either. Nowadays, I don't have to worry about whether or not what I say will please the fans because it just really doesn't matter. I say whatever I want. I do whatever I want. And the fans can boo me all they want because I'll still have the World Title.

Me: That much is true, but let's backtrack a little bit now to the time just after you captured the World Title. Within just a couple of weeks, the CRWL shut down and you were left as the World Champion of a non-existent league. Some people have even put the blame on you for the CRWL's collapse back in the spring. What are your thoughts about those accusations?

Dawson: Listen Gerald, I've been around long enough to hear plenty of garbage, and that's just another load. People can talk all they want about me as the source of the problem, but I'm not listening. The reason the CRWL collapsed was not me. It was the simple fact that, other than me,

it had no one. Vince MacMahon ruined his own federation by failing to bring in some big name competition and letting the talent he had go to waste. If you're blaming the CRWL's fall-out on me, then why now that the CRWL is atop the ratings am I still World Champion? Try to answer that one, Gerald.

Me: I think I'll stick to asking the questions and let you answer them. Now that the subject of the CRWL's closing is out of the way, what were your thoughts when the league re-started in June? Did you expect to see the CRWL come back and what about The Mission as the new power in the CRWL?

Dawson: There's no question that I was thrilled to see the CRWL back on its feet in June. I was just about ready to give up on it and find myself a new employer when it was announced that it was coming back. I never expected the CRWL to return, but that's because I thought it would always be under the control and direction of Vince MacMahon. When I learned that the power had shifted to The Mission, Scott Suplex and Mr. WrestleFed, I wasn't jumping for joy or anything, but I was definitely content with them or anyone other than MacMahon at the helm.

Me: In the first few weeks of the CRWL's return you were inactive. One week, rather than appearing at Wild Wednesday Wrestling, you wound up in Jamaica. Then, in your first match back, you got pulverized in a 5-on-1 handicap match against The Mission's Edge, Cornerstone, Shamrock, Triple-H, and Chyna. Did you ever think that maybe the three-month-plus layoff might have hindered your wrestling ability?

Dawson: What the hell kind of question is that? Hinder my skills? I wasn't booked in a match on the first card in June. Then, on the second card, Suplex had me set up to face Triple-H and Shamrock in a tag match where I didn't even know my partner, so I decided to pull out and visit warm, sunny Jamaica for a couple of a days. Then, the next week, I lost to five people. Was I supposed to beat five people? My skills were sharp as ever. I was just not getting the right opportunities. Plus, I hadn't cleared my vision yet.

Me: Oh yes, that brings me to my next question. Throughout the early months of your title reign on into June, many observers said that you had lost a thing or two both in the ring and on the mic. You claimed that it was blurred 3-D vision. Can you elaborate on that?

Dawson: Well, that is exactly what it was. Somewhere in between winning the title and the end of the CRWL's "old era," my 3-D vision became a bit foggy and I lost my edge over everyone else. I was still as good a talker, dresser and wrestler, but I lacked the 3-D vision that put me over the top. However, I knew the key to making the vision crystal clear and I would reveal it as my special surprise at Wrestle Simsation 2000.

Me: Indeed you would. It was just a little less than two months ago that you were set to make your first World Title defense in the "new era" in a fatal four-way match that also had "The Iron Eagle" Jeff Hunter's Continental Title up for grabs. In addition to you and Jeff, the match also included two Mission members, "Triple-H" Hunter Hearst Helmsley and Ken Shamrock. To sweeten the pot for The Mission, Chyna was on the outside and the special guest referee was President Suplex. Jeff Hunter brought Buffy to the ring to keep an eye out for him. That would prove to be a costly mistake though, wouldn't it?

Dawson: Yes it would, but Jeff knows all about mistakes. After all, that's what he was known as to his parents and relatives. But that's another story. As for Wrestle Simsation 2000, the short explanation is that Buffy took out Chyna, Shamrock, Triple-H and even President Suplex, which left me and TIE in the center of the ring. Thinking that he was finally going to make something of his life, TIE delivered The Eagle Drop and covered me as Buffy put on the referee shirt and counted one...two...but she never did get the three. Instead she flipped the bird and turned Jeff's lights out with The Slayer Strike. I then covered and got the three count. My surprise was none other than Buffy and just like I said, she elevated my game to another level as I defeated three other men in one match.

Me: I'll admit that she helped you out albeit unfairly. Regardless of how you did it, you were the Continental and World Champion, but you chose to drop the Continental Title and put it up for grabs in an eight-man tournament. Why not try to hold onto both titles?

Dawson: Try? There would have been no trying to hold onto the titles, I would have. Just like my everlasting World Title reign, I could've kept the Continental gold forever, but what fun would that be. I enjoy seeing those second-rate wrestlers vie for the Continental Title, and I couldn't have cared less to see it go. All I cared about was the World Title, and I set my mind to being the best damn World Champ ever. Even you cannot deny that I've lived up to that.

Me: Well, you have defended it successfully and more frequently than anyone in CRWL history, but I'm not going to say best World Champ ever because ever is a long time. Moving right along, let's talk about the first couple of weeks after Wrestle Simsation when President Suplex gave his Mission members, Shamrock and Triple-H a second opportunity at you and your World Title since you didn't exactly win fairly at the pay per view.

Dawson: What is there to talk about? The one week I kicked Shamrock's mute ass and then the following Wednesday I did the same to perhaps the worst wrestler—other than Poddo—in CRWL history, Triple-H. Afterwards, The Mission finally came to their senses when they literally kicked Triple-H's ass and at the same time figuratively were kicking him out of The Mission.

Me: What surprised me and a lot of people was that after being forced to defend the World Title at three consecutive events, you came out and challenged Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad for the CRWL's commemorative 2-year anniversary show. Why defend again and why JTPK?

Dawson: I don't know how many times I can say it, but I'm not afraid to go out every week and put the gold on the line. I know that I'm the best of the best and, therefore, I have no worries that I'll ever lose it. As for why I picked JTPK? Well, let's just say he has a reputation as a main eventer and he was one of the few whom I hadn't defeated during my time as World Champ, but I added him to the list just the same.

Me: You followed the defense against the former triple-crown champion with a match against the CRWL's most prolific loser of all-time, "Ice Cold" Ben Poddo. Now obviously this match was for you to extract revenge from a shocking loss you suffered against him back in 1999, but was there anything more to it than that?

Dawson: No, there was nothing more to it. I was simply clearing up any doubts that the match with Poddo back in '99 was a total fluke. I think I did just that with how badly I dominated him in that matchup.

Me: Just one week later, and only three days prior to Just 4 U-Revelation, you took on "The Supreme" Being Alex Banks, the United States Champion at the time, in yet another World Title defense. You did defeat Banks, but not without an assist from Buffy.

Dawson: I won that match just like I won every other match, and don't even try to deny it, Gerald. I hear people complaining all the time that Buffy did this or Buffy did that, but the truth is far from that. Buffy didn't help me win that match with Banks or any other match for that matter. She only helps with clearing up my vision—not winning individual matches. People say that she cheats. She does not. If they think they saw her pull back the ropes, then obviously it was in the wrong place and she was simply helping out. No further comment.

Me: Speaking of Buffy, she was the main reason that heading into the July pay per view, Just 4 U-Revelation, "The Iron Eagle" Jeff Hunter specifically said he wanted no part in the main event with you or that World Title of yours. Despite that, you sent out a challenge to him anyway. Why Jeff Hunter?

Dawson: There are a number of reasons why I chose Jeff Hunter as my opponent for Revelation. First of all, I wanted to make sure that he knew for sure that I wasn't lying when I said I was the

World Champion everlasting. Second, I was sick of listening to him complain about how afraid of Buffy he was and how much of a paper champion I was. I put the gold on the line every week and, in case he didn't notice, I figured throwing him right into the fire would grab his attention. Third, I was just running out of material to beat up, but he's young enough that he can survive several thrashings and still be dumb enough to come back for more.

Me: World Champions usually do not have the privilege to pick their own opponents, especially for pay per views. However, Scott Suplex didn't seem to have any problems with you booking yourself and Jeff Hunter. Looking back, you and The Mission seemed to work pretty well together when Triple-H was kicked out of the group. And, at Just 4 U-Revelation, you (as Demon) and President Suplex appeared together in the 125 blue sports car parking lot match. Is there a connection between you and President Suplex?

Dawson: If I were a part of The Mission, I think it would've been announced by now, but why in the world would I want to hang around a couple of goof-offs like Edge and The Cornerstone? There is no relationship, no connection between President Suplex and me. I don't consider us friends at all. I simply have been able to convince him on a couple of occasions that my way was the best way.

Me: But that still doesn't explain how the two of you were together as the blue bandits. How can you explain Demon and President Suplex together?

Dawson: No one, except those that have known Demon personally, can ever even fathom any of the ways or actions of Demon. It's unrealistic to even start to think that just any old Joe could understand Demon. Therefore, I won't even begin to try to explain anything like that.

Me: Fine then, let's move on to the main event at Just 4 U-Revelation. It was the CRWL's first ever "Unleash the Cage & Unlock the Rage" match between you and Jeff Hunter. For those that do not know, there were two small cages in opposite corners outside of the ring. In one corner was 3-D's manager, Buffy and in the other was Jeff Hunter's friend and Buffy's husband, Ryan Grieve. A key was suspended 20 feet in the air. The object of the match was to climb a ladder and get the key. Once the key was brought down into the ring, both pinfalls and submissions were legal, however, a third option was to unlock your "teammate's" cage and go on with the match in a 2-on-1 environment. Would you like to discuss the match?

Dawson: Sure. It was yet another triumph for me.

Me: That's clearly not what I meant. How do you explain what transpired in that matchup? Jeff Hunter had you in The Iron Inferno in the center of the ring and then all of a sudden the lights in the arena went out. When they finally came back on, you were out of The Iron Inferno and Buffy was out of the cage. From there you went on to defeat TIE with help from Buffy. How can you possibly explain that?

Dawson: I have nothing to explain. The rules in the match made it perfectly legal to end the match 2-on-1. If you had the vision, the darkness would not blind you from the obvious. I did exactly what I had to do to win, and it was all perfectly legal. I defeated Jeff Hunter yet again, simple as that.

Me: Well there is obviously more to it than that, but I don't think we'll be able to get anything out of you. August 2nd, just days after controversially retaining the World Title against The Iron Eagle, you stepped into the ring with another former stable mate, "HBK" Shawn Michaels. It is well known that HBK was a childhood idol of Ryan Grieve's, but what are your thoughts on The Heartbreak Kid?

Dawson: I don't think HBK's all that people make him out to be. He was undersized and overhyped. Just take a look at The Rockers. He and Marty Jannetty—they were equally talented. But thanks to Vince MacMahon, one got screwed and the other benefitted greatly. HBK, if he was

ever great, is many years past that point of his career. The best advice I can give him now is give up or get out.

Me: You touched on Vince MacMahon in that last statement. Recently he's been making headlines in the CRWL by making good decisions: reversing bad calls, restarting matches that ended cheaply. In fact, he even got involved in one of your matches just ten days ago against Davey Dream. Some people are already labeling it as match of the year but, before we get to the match, what do you have to say about the new attitude Vince MacMahon?

Dawson: New attitude my ass, that's what I have to say. Anyone that's been around MacMahon long enough knows that there are two things MacMahon always does: talk too much and screw people over. I've been involved in more than my fair share and that is why I am not buying into his whole new attitude. The only thing I approve of about the new Vince MacMahon is that he's kept his trap shut, and it better stay that way.

Me: Let's talk about the match then. The match before the match was the mic war between you and Davey Dream, which was one of the most explosive ever, but then when you two hit the ring, the fireworks really went off. For you, the World Title was at stake, but for Dream two months of his career were gone if he lost. During the match, the referee was inadvertently knocked unconscious, which led to Vince MacMahon's arrival as the replacement ref. What was going through your mind when you saw him?

Dawson: I was thinking one thing and that was to continue kicking Davey Dream's ass. If MacMahon was going to try to screw me, I'd be ready, but I wasn't going to let him distract me from taking care of business. Miraculously, Vince didn't get physically involved, which is why I won the match easily and sent Dream packing for two months.

Me: I don't think I'd call taking a Dream superplex and then rolling over to get on top for the three count easily, but you did win the match, which has put Dream on the shelf for two months. However, Dream clearly took something out of you as you chose not to defend your title this past Wednesday and instead took a week off. Was Davey Dream really that much of a challenge?

Dawson: Davey Dream had absolutely nothing to do with why I took a week off. I was just getting a little bored of the same old thing each and every Wednesday, so I decided to do something different and not worry about finding an opponent for a week. If I wanted to, I could've set up another match and won it, but I just didn't think it was necessary.

Me: Are you planning to make a return to the ring this Wednesday and, if so, against whom?

Dawson: I'll be there defending the title in Philadelphia. I don't know who I'll pick as an opponent, but one week off is plenty enough for me.

Me: Well, that's big news for Philadelphia as a World Title match is coming their way. Perhaps just as big, a win would mark your 16th win and tie Ken Shamrock for the CRWL's all-time longest winning streak. Yours dates back all the way to January 19th. Have you ever stopped to think about the record, especially now that you're so close.

Dawson: I don't need to think about the record because being the World Champion forever basically means that the record is already mine. No one is ever going to stop me, and that is a fact that no one will ever admit to even if they do realize that it is true. So this week is number 16? The numbers don't matter because they'll go on for an infinite amount of time. Don't believe me? Just ask the others on the list. I remember them all like they were yesterday. January 19th it was "Stone Cold" Steve Austin. February second it was the young Alex Banks. February 10th I defeated the only man who's registered a win against me in the year 2000, B.J. "Sweet Diamond" Vicks. February the 16th I took care of Test and seven days later I dismissed Scott Hall. At Just 4 U-3-D Day on February 26th, I became World Champion with a victory over "The Dark Angle" Ryan Grieve. Then in the "new era" I got things started off with TIE, Shamrock and Triple-H all on June 25th at Wrestle Simsation 2000. The next two weeks, the 28th of June and 5th of July, I

knocked off Shamrock and Triple-H yet again. I followed those wins up with a defeat of Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad at the CRWL's commemorative 2-year anniversary show on July 12th. Then, at Thursday Warfare, July 20th, I destroyed "Ice Cold" Ben Podd. Back on July 26th at WWW, I beat Alex Banks for the second time during this streak. July 29th at Just 4 U-Revelation, TIE tasted defeat. To get August started off on the right foot, I kicked HBK's washed up ass at Wild Wednesday Wrestling on August 2nd. And most recently, I put Davey Dream on the shelf for two months when I finished him off on August 9th. There you have it Gerald. That is the streak.

Me: Well, that brings us right up to where we want to be for segment four, which will air next Saturday, just one day prior to SummerSmash 2000 where we touch on the present but mainly focus on the future of your career. Any final comments to add?

Dawson: No, Gerald, I think I've made all of my points perfectly clear, and I see no need to expand on anything that I said. We're through.

That is all for part three of this exclusive four-part interview with "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson. Today we learned of Dawson's most recent and current situation in the CRWL. Be sure to tune in next week when I talk to the World Champion about his upcoming matches and prospective future here with the Chat Room Wrestling.

The Interview, Part 4 of 4

Hello everyone. You probably know me by now. I'm Gerald, head writer and editor of the CRWL's weekly newsletter. For the past three weeks, I've taken you on a journey through Devon Dawson's past right up to the present. I hope that you have learned as much as I have about the CRWL World Champion.

"3-D" Devious Devon Dawson is not at all the most popular wrestler nor my favorite to work with, but I do think he has the most interesting story of anyone I've ever met. You, the fans, like I, do not like him for his arrogance, his disrespect for some of the legends of wrestling and his overall bad attitude. But yet everyone still knows that he means business.

Today, in my fourth and final segment of this interview with Devon Dawson, I will talk with him about what's going on in his life right now as well as the near and distant future of "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson. It is very likely that Devon may be a bit on edge to answer a few of the questions I plan to ask, but I will try to pry open any doors leading to information that I possibly can.

His personality is not friendly or refreshing, but he has at least freely opened up and answered just about every question I've thrown his way so far, which is a good sign. Hopefully none of that will change during tonight's fourth and final segment. Before I begin the piece with Devon, I'd like to announce that a full copy of all four segments of this interview is available. If you're interested in obtaining a tape, contact me, Gerald.

Well, I hope you've enjoyed the first three segments of this four-part interview with CRWL World Champion, "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson. With that said, I still think that this final piece will be better than all of the others combined. Like I said earlier, it deals with what is happening right now as well as the future. Here now is the fourth and final part of this exclusive interview with the one and only Devon Dawson.

Me (Gerald): Here we are now, Devon, with the final installment of The Interview just one day before SummerSmash. Last week we left off with you talking about your winning streak, which we thought would have been tested this past Wednesday against the legend, Ryan Grieve. That never came to pass, however, as you backed out on a monumental matchup. Why did you back out after accepting the match yourself?

Dawson: You obviously don't pay a whole lot of attention to what I say, now do you, Gerald? If you did, you would've heard my brief but concise explanation of why I couldn't face Grieve. It was unexplainable was basically my explanation. I signed my name to the match ready to add

Grieve's name to my list on the streak a second time like I did Alex Banks, Triple-H, Shamrock, and Jeff Hunter. But, when it came close to match time, my vision allowed me to see that I just simply could not go through with the match. No one really can understand the reasoning behind that.

Me: Well, a lot of people have their own opinion as to why you backed out of the match. They say, point blank, that you are afraid of Ryan Grieve. They think that you know he could end your winning streak and thus your claim to immortality.

Dawson: First of all, I haven't cared about what other people think for a long time. They can go right ahead and label me the worst World Champion of all-time, and I won't be fazed because I know that I have done more than enough to prove the exact opposite true. As far as being scared of Ryan Grieve. that's a bunch of BS. I've done battle with him twice before, never hesitating to step into the ring. And if you really want to talk about fear, I've got plenty to say. Growing up in a less than stable family in L.A. will teach you a thing or two about fear. Going straight from Mr. Popular in high school to an arrogant young buck in the dangerous game of pro wrestling will give you a look at fear. You think when I was taken over by Clovis and had my thoughts, words, and actions replaced by those of <•Demon•>, I didn't know fear? Damn it Gerald, I've lived fear! So, as far as me being afraid of stepping into the ring against Ryan Grieve, that's totally out of the question.

Me: There's got to be a reason, Devon. You don't just suddenly back out of a match after a 15-match win streak and a six month title reign. That's just not normal.

Dawson: This isn't about normal, Gerald. I think you and everyone else will agree that I am not normal. I am unlike anyone else you've ever seen before. I am the longest lasting, fightingest World Champion in CRWL history and, quite simply, I am the only invincible wrestler the world has ever known.

Me: That's questionable, but you still continue to avoid what everyone wants to know. The entire world was anxiously waiting to see you and Ryan Grieve go at it at Wild Wednesday Wrestling and instead they saw nothing. If you won't explain why you couldn't face him at WWW, can you answer this? Will you ever face Ryan Grieve in the future.

Dawson: If my vision shows me a different picture than perhaps I will but, right now, what I see prohibits Ryan and me from wrestling. Maybe sometime down the road that will change.

Me: So then, you will not be choosing Ryan Grieve as your opponent in the main event this Sunday at SummerSmash?

Dawson: That is exactly right. A possible third match between us is out of the question for SummerSmash. I'll say it time and time again that I will not face Ryan Grieve for the World Title now. I just won't. There's nothing more to say about that. Next question.

Me: All right. If not Ryan Grieve, then who are you considering as a possible opponent for SummerSmash tomorrow night? Many of the CRWL's top superstars are already booked for a match, which basically eliminates guys like Jeff Hunter, Jermaine Konrad, and Kurt Angle from being the opponent. Can you give us any information on who you will be facing or do you even know yet?

Dawson: I have an image embedded in my mind as to exactly who I will choose as my mystery opponent tomorrow night. However, I'm not going to tell you who it will be because that would sort of end the mystery, don't you think? All I can say is that you will be surprised at my choice and it will be a good match. In the end, however, I will once again reign supreme and continue my World Title reign.

Me: As usual, you seem very confident that you will walk out of New York City this Sunday still wearing the World Title around your waist. Is it reasonable to believe that your opponent is not quite as much of a threat as say a Davey Dream or Ryan Grieve?

Dawson: First of all, why do you even have to bring Davey Dream into this matter? I showed a few weeks ago that he was in no way a threat to my title. Whether I beat him in a minute or finished him off after an hour is irrelevant. All that you need to concern yourself with is that he took on The Devious One and lost and is now on the shelf for a couple of months. As for Ryan Grieve being a threat to the gold, that is also not true. I am 1-0 against him in legitimate matches. The retirement match would've been won by me if not for Demon and the February match went to me, so he is the one left with something to prove—not me. As for my opponent at SummerSmash being a cakewalk, of course he'll be. That's no different from everyone else I've faced. No matter how great they may seem, they're all nothing compared to me.

Me: Well, you obviously don't seem like you're going to let us onto anything that would possibly inform us about your main event matchup at SummerSmash, so let's move off of that subject for the time being and talk about something else. Your winning streak currently stands tall at 15 matches. With a win this Sunday, you will move into a tie for the CRWL's all-time longest winning streak of 16. To add even more prestige, you've done most of it as a World Champion. What are your thoughts on Ken Shamrock, the current holder of the longest streak?

Dawson: I've done battle with Shamrock on several occasions and, if I'm not mistaken, I think I've won each and every time. Maybe there was a loss in there somewhere, but the point is that I've won the ones that mattered most. As for the streak, I remember very well when Shamrock and Jermaine were battling head to head for the streak. Shamrock eventually came out on top at a time when J and me were really close. Nowadays I could care less about Jermaine—young and already washed up—or Shamrock and his leave of absence. Shamrock may be known as a classic battler, but he has no marketability and when it comes down to it, nobody cares about him good or bad.

Me (with sarcasm): Obviously you'll have no trouble ending one of the most talked about facets in the CRWL—the winning streak. You wouldn't ever even think twice about kicking Shamrock out of the record books, would you?

Dawson: No, of course I wouldn't. Anyone in their right mind would do the exact same thing. This business isn't about making friends, it's about making yourself heard. So what if Shamrock's streak is a heralded mark, I couldn't care less. I'll break the record soon and keep going with it because I am the World Champion forever, which means that I cannot and will not lose at all.

Me: That brings me to my next question. For months now you've been talking about how you are the three I's: invincible, immortal, and incomparable. Despite your constant plugging trying to get people to believe that, most of them are not, and who can blame them? What happens when someone finally defeats you, knocks you from your throne and beats some sense into you that you are not what you say you are?

Dawson: I would love to answer that question, Gerald, but since I never will be defeated, I cannot possibly do so. I've already stated several times that whether you or anyone else listens to my sayings or not doesn't matter to me. All that matters is that I know what I say is like gospel and as of now that is all true.

Me: For crying out loud, Devon, who do you think the CRWL fans are? Idiots? They don't buy into any superhuman powers or claims to invincibility. You make yourself up to be a superhero, but you honestly can't believe that you're that much better than everyone else, can you? I'll admit that you're one of the CRWL's best World Champions ever but immortal is not the right adjective, Devon. You're starting to become a regular narcissist.

Dawson: Gerald, you're starting to get on my nerves. I really don't mind people not caring for my views or whatever, but I do not appreciate corporate assholes like you getting up in my mug and

telling me that I'm not what I say I am. So you better sit back in your chair and take a sip of that damn coffee and just ask questions. No stupid little remarks about what you think of me. This isn't about you, it is about The Devious One, The Champ. So keep your own ridiculous misconceptions to yourself. You got one thing almost right. I'm not one of the best—I am THE best World Champion, period. As far as making myself out to be a superhero goes, no way. I don't run around trying to solve crime or protect the innocent. I'm doing everything for myself—not for the good of the human race. I'm not overhyping myself, I'm telling it like it is. No one likes to be inferior, but the fact of the matter is that when put in juxtaposition with The Devious One, that's how you end up no matter who you are. When I say that I am something, I mean it. And over the past few months I have proven to be every bit as dominant as I made myself out to be.

Me: I'll admit that you've been on quite a tear lately, but I still do not agree with most of what you said. I know you say you will never, ever lose a match, but for this question's sake let's just say by some fluke you did. How would you go about something like that if it were to occur sometime in the future?

Dawson: You really don't know when to stop, do you? You're going to keep pushing this subject until I finally give in. Well, quite simply I am sick of your pathetic begging for me to comment on the subject so I'll go ahead and answer, but don't even think about entering any other realm that I tell you not to. Do you understand me, old man?

Me: Yeah, I got you. Please Devon, I just want you to answer the question.

Dawson: If I were to lose...oh it cracks me up just to say it...I'd go right about business as usual. A loss for me would most certainly be a freak accident, something like the Ben Poddio match or B.J. Vicks earlier this year. I'd remain all that I am and, if the World Title went away with the loss, I'd go right back out the next week and snatch it back because it is supposed to be...and will be...mine forever. Enough make believe, let's talk reality here, Gerald.

Me: OK, it's interesting to hear your take on the situation of a loss, but I'll move on. The CRWL, being just a little over two years old, has been built around a core of young talent. Right in the very center at the foundation is you and Ryan Grieve and Jermaine "The Pain" Konrad. In the CRWL's brief but illustrious history, it has been primarily the young guns that have made the biggest impact. Granted some veterans like HBK, Andre the Giant, and Bret Hart have made lasting contributions, but youth has been the real symbol of why the CRWL is so great. There is always a constant cycle of up-and-comers coming in and young guys that just couldn't quite make it going out. Recently, another strong new crop of young talent has arrived in the CRWL, and I'm sure some will make it, and others will fizzle out, but I'd like your take on the way the CRWL brings in talent.

Dawson: I'll give credit where credit is due. The CRWL scouts are the best in the business. They've manufactured a long list of champions and, although I believe some of them like Grieve and Sean Christain were overhyped, they helped the league grow. Guys like Dan Dykes, Michael Manette, Sr., and the booker known as Matt do a lot of the recruiting, and I do believe they are a big reason for the CRWL's success. However, I must not mislead anyone. Without a doubt, I am the main reason that the CRWL has become such a huge hit. Like me or not, I am the man in wrestling nowadays.

Me: You kind of twisted that question around into another promo for yourself, but what I was trying to get at was the CRWL's fresh new crop of rookies, some newer than others. Guys like Tristan Phoenix, Jason Jarvis, John Ratt, Shawn O'Neill, and Ryan Jacobs. What are your take on these rising stars who are most likely the top five prospects among the CRWL's most recent additions?

Dawson: OK, you want to hear my views on the fab five freshmen so to speak? I can do that. It wasn't all that long ago that I was new in the wrestling business or, even more recently, the CRWL myself. However, in that short while I've learned more than in the rest of my life altogether. Overall, this group is very similar to the crop of kids that come in every so often. You know the likes of whom I'm talking about. Most of these guys will probably turn out to be another Jack

Slash or Alec Christain, guys who can win titles but see themselves out of here in just a few short months. O'Neill and Jacobs sort of fit that mold. John Ratt is a unique character in that he's at least trying to take a different route to ultimate glory by taking over the Hardcore Division. I don't know what he's got as far as mat skills, but at least he's not following the same path that everyone else tries to take. Jason Jarvis may be skilled, but he's not smart. He proved that by throwing away his potential and joining the steadily declining New Franchise. Trust me, Jarvis. I started them up and Jeff Hunter is in no way capable of keeping it running the way it once was.

Me: What about the controversial Tristan Phoenix? You and he have been exchanging words ever since the CRWL came back.

Dawson: Tristan and I may not have seen eye to eye on many, if any, subjects for quite some time. But when he came to his senses and dropped TIE and The New Franchise like a bad habit, even I had to applaud him. TP is a loose cannon and a sure bet to tick off the censors every time he speaks, but at least he's not as dull as Jeff Hunter. I'm still waiting to get my hands on Tristan for a lot of things, but until that time comes, I hope he enjoys toying around with Mr. Eagle Eyes.

Me: Speaking of Jeff Hunter, he's got as much potential as anyone in the CRWL. Despite being one of the youngest competitors in the league, he's racked up a bunch of titles including his current reign as Continental Champ. There is no doubt in my mind that you and he will be rivaling against one another for some time. What do you see happening between you two?

Dawson: Jeff and I used to be real close, but now we're just real close to bashing each other's heads in. Like just about every other wrestler in the CRWL, I am absolutely sick of his repetitious "Through the Eyes of an Eagle" promos. Each and every time he comes out and uses The New Franchise name to get himself some fans, I just cringe because I know that, in a way, it is all my fault. I infected him with The New Franchise. He knows that if The New Franchise ever officially dies, so does he. Unlike everyone else from me to Grieve to JTPK to Sean Christain and on down the line, Hunter's been unable to separate himself from The New Franchise and prosper. He's tied down to the stable and cannot let go despite everyone's desperate cries to put the overused, even abused, name out of its misery. I'm sure Jeff and I will have several more meetings in the ring, and they'll probably end just the way they have in the past—with me winning.

Me: Jeff Hunter is one of the top young superstars poised to make a run at the World Title. There are a couple of others that have never won the World Title who are looking more and more ready to try and do so. Two names come to mind: Davey Dream and Kurt Angle. What are your thoughts on these two rising stars possibly coming after your World Championship?

Dawson: Dream has already tried and failed. Some are calling it the match of the year. I'm just calling it win 15. Either way, I disposed of Dream like the nightmare from hell piece of trash that he truly is. Kurt Angle may be vastly improved, but he'll have to improve greatly more to ever even be considered World Title material. United States Champion may fit the Olympian good for a while because he wouldn't want to lose to The Devious One anyway. You're nothing but a pushover, Angle. Really, it's true. It's true.

Me: We've talked for a while about much of the competition you may be going up against here in the CRWL, but what about your own future. What do you see 3-D doing one year, five years, 20 years down the road?

Dawson: Using 3-D Vision, I could tell you what colored shirt I'll be wearing twenty years to the day, but that won't be necessary. I'm not going to go into detail as to what I'll be doing because you are most definitely not worthy of seeing in 3-D. I will tell you a little bit though. In one year, I'll not only be the World Champion, but I will have finally proven to the world that my immortality was no gimmick. Five years down the road, I'd like to say I'd still be in the CRWL, but there's a chance that that may not be true for reasons better left undisclosed. Twenty years in the future I'll be going on 45 years old. Unlike the Hulk Hogans, Ric Flairs, and Bret Harts of the wrestling world, I plan to finish up at an age when I'm not yet over the hill.

Me: If that is the case, then what are your plans after wrestling both personally and professionally?

Dawson: I've never ruled out the possibility of going to college once I finish up wrestling, but I've got other things to worry about. There's always a chance that I may stay in the wrestling business in some other form as a manager, announcer, booker or perhaps even an owner. As far as my personal life goes, I'll worry about that myself.

Me: What about you and Buffy? She and Ryan are clearly going to file for a divorce with all that's transpired. The rumors circulating around make it sound as if marriage would just be an official tag on you and Buffy's relationship.

Dawson: Rumors. Take your damn rumors and shove 'em. Buffy and I have a special relationship beyond the mind levels of folks like you. Together we make the other person invulnerable. I'm not going to go into detail about Buffy and I—that is off limits for you and the rest of the world, end of story.

Me: Such avoidance of a topic only leads everyone to believe that there is something much more than meets the eye between you and Buffy. I'd speculate that you to are more than just professional partners.

Dawson: And I'd speculate that you're about to get your ass handed to you on a platter. I told you once before not to nag on about subjects that I didn't feel like discussing publicly. This is your final warning, Gerald. Once more and you will be shut up for good.

Me: Well, now that I've covered just about everything else of importance, let's get back to the event on everyone's mind right now, which is SummerSmash. Two years ago, it was the league's first ever pay per view, and it has traditionally been a real big card for the CRWL. What do you think of Sunday's lineup?

Dawson: All in all it looks to be another big night for the CRWL. The league is hoping to really send-off summer with a blast and SummerSmash has the potential to do just that if everything goes as planned.

Me: What exactly do you mean by "if everything goes as planned"?

Dawson: I'm simply saying that as long as the wrestlers do their part to make their match exciting, the card will be a success. Don't try to read between the lines because nothing is written. I know you're trying to get me to accidentally blab out something about a plan or an angle or my opponent for Sunday, but it's not going to happen. I have nothing at all to tell you about anything regarding SummerSmash.

Me: I can understand that you want to keep your mystery opponent a mystery, and I can see why you don't want to let me onto anything that you may or may not have planned to go down tomorrow night. So my question isn't a who or what, but a how. How can you, a wrestler, have the authority to book a Continental Title match, and then book your own opponent for a pay per view main event, especially right before the match?

Dawson: That is where I must not venture to speak. The Devious One has power indeed. Some of it comes from within, some from Demon, some from Buffy, some from 3-D vision, and who knows what other outside sources. All that you know is that I do have some authority because when I speak you listen. The Continental Title match is a very simple way to kill three birds (or one bird, the long lost 6th member of the Jackson 5, and a psycho) with one stone. The World Title opponent announcement may seem important to someone like you, but it's really not a big deal. Whenever I announce whoever I announce, they'll still lose.

Me: I don't know if you caught it or not but earlier today we heard from Ryan Grieve. He had a lot of things to say and made some interesting points. One of the things that really jumped out at me

was that he says he knows your opponent for SummerSmash and is confident you will lose. Do you have any words of response?

Dawson: It's very much like Ryan to come out in his hometown and finally speak some real words. Well, if he's thinking that I'm going to surprise everyone and choose him as my opponent, he's wrong. Grieve, I guarantee that I will not name you as my opponent tomorrow night at SummerSmash. You think you know, but you are misled. You think he'll beat me? You are confused. Ryan, you know not of what you speak, so don't act like you do.

Me: OK, I'd finally just like to see if you can't try once more to explain why we cannot see Dawson/Grieve III from New York City at SummerSmash?

Dawson: You are a fool, you know that. We already covered this earlier and I said that I cannot put it into terms you'd understand. It's impossible for me to get the point across, so just lay off the issue already.

Me: I still have a feeling that you are in some way holding back on us all, but I won't risk injury in inquiring any further. We've just about come to the close of this fourth and final segment of what has been an interesting interview. Before I close this up, is there anything you'd like to add about today's piece?

Dawson: Not too much. I'd just like to make it clear that I am perfectly able to face Ryan Grieve other than the fact that I just cannot permit it to happen. As for SummerSmash, I'll be ready to extend the streak to a record-tying 16 matches. My future, as you can see, is looking even brighter than my past, which strikes fear into all of y'all. Now that this interview is through, I've got just one question left for you. Do you see in 3-D?

Me: Devon, the past four weeks have really shed a new light on you as far as I'm concerned. I don't know if I've come to necessarily like you more, but I would like to thank you for taking part in this amazing four-piece interview. It's been a very interesting four weeks worth of Q&A, but I've honestly enjoyed it all.

Thanks to everyone that took the time to watch this first ever four-part interview with the CRWL World Heavyweight Champion, "3-D" Devious Devon Dawson. It was, to say the least, a very memorable experience for me, and I hope it served its purpose in informing you on the life and ways of the CRWL's most unique personality. From birth to his beginnings in wrestling, from the CRWL debut to the World Champ, from tomorrow's SummerSmash to 20 years into the future, chronicling Devon Dawson wasn't an easy task, but it was an educational one. Thanks for tuning in, and I hope you enjoy all of the CRWL happenings as much as I do.