

BATTLE OF THE CENTURY

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A suburban family battles it out around the dinner table while announcers call the fight.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The action done by the Kimball family is pantomimed. The two sports announcers are "calling the action" of the family fight, so all of their actions should occur before the announcers comment on them.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4M, 2F

THEME: Family, Parenting, Youth

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Ephesians 6:1-4

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Seeker Services; Sermon Illustration

CHARACTERS:

Pat — sports Announcer
Bob — sports Announcer
Mom Kimball
Dad Kimball
Bobby Kimball
Sally Kimball

PROPS: An announcer's table with two microphones, a family dinner table w/ chairs and a spaghetti dinner, keys (unless the family scene is pantomimed entirely without real props)

COSTUMES: Contemporary

SOUND: Wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Unspecified

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Spotlights on dining room table, center stage, and the announcers' booth, stage right. The announcers are already seated.

PAT: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome. We're coming to you live from the Kimball family dinner table, where we will be bringing you an exciting two-on-two match-up: Mom and Dad Kimball versus their children, Bobby and Sally.

BOB: It's always a treat when the Kimball family locks up. It's usually a no holds barred fight. Should be a good one.

PAT: I couldn't agree more, Bob. Mom and Dad are of course the undefeated household champs, but Bobby and Sally are solid competitors.

BOB: It looks like we're almost ready to begin. Mom has brought in tonight's dinner.

PAT: Looks like spaghetti, Bob.

BOB: I believe it is spaghetti, Pat. That should make for a nice Italian setting reminiscent of the Godfather movies.

PAT: I agree. And now it looks like Dad has come in the room, followed by Bobby and Sally. They're all sitting down now. Are they going to say grace? No! No, Dad has bypassed the blessing and started right in on Bobby about forgetting to put the garbage out.

BOB: That's an old favorite first attack strategy of Dad's. I'm not surprised he went for it so soon.

PAT: Bobby responds quickly by telling him to get off his case. Now Mom is going after Sally for wearing Mom's sweater without her permission. This is definitely everything we thought it would be! Now Dad is arguing with Bobby about his car privileges.

BOB: Sounds like Dad wants to restrict his car privileges because of his grades.

PAT: Bobby retaliates by arguing that grades are stupid.

BOB: Ohh... That's a disappointing maneuver by Bobby. He needs to regroup and try another tactic.

PAT: Meanwhile Mom and Sally are really going at it about Sally's boyfriend. Mom just forbid her from going out with him this weekend and Sally is on fire! I've never seen her this animated!

BOB: No doubt about it. Sally has come prepared to fight tonight. But, Pat, I am really disappointed with Bobby. We've seen him give some outstanding performances in the