



Lines

Staples Center (StC)  
Los Angeles, California

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the-w.com

1. Shelton Benjamin v. 2. Christian w Tyson Tomko v.  
3. Chris Jericho

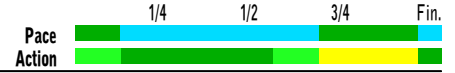
Triple Threat

Intercontinental Championship-Grade I

Really difficult to find any fault on the elements, even with a second or third look. Moreover, match showed no lack of effect. Have to designate the powerbomb-superplex execution from the corner the high mark here with the finishing flying bulldog a bit behind in second. Speaking of the finish, it ran well and was a definite compliment to a match already with merit earned.

1Rw 7:28<sup>98</sup> 88 1,3-3-2-1-2-2-E-3-1\*Mx-3-1↓3

FlyingBulldog-Pin; Moved steadily and actively, kicked strongly 5/8.



1. Edge v. 2. Chris Benoit

Singles

You can almost toss the pace line out completely in considerations of this match as, even if below the Lines par for the majority, it did not detract from this one. Very laden with effect based on Benoit's arm injuries, from the early retreats to the divided Germans to the missed swandive headbutt to the pressing efforts to hold the submissions near the finish. And cannot forget that Edge was all out in his presence here either.

2Rw 15:29<sup>37</sup> 114 Mx-2-2-2-1-1-1-2-E-1|| 1-E-Mx-E-Mx-2-2-1-2

Schoolboy-Pin; Moved moderately, prevalent effect throughout.  
|| Commercial Break.

Best of the Night



1. Randy Orton v. 2. Batista

Singles

A bit amazed that Orton got the string of offense that he did coming off Batista's career crown jewel coming one night earlier. Not to say that he should have gotten any offense though. Batista played his power up well enough and his execution on Orton's shoulder was a plus. That said, more speed was warranted for this one's duration and while one can willingly find merits, fact remains that this was a few levels shy of par.

3Rw 5:09<sup>21</sup> 30 2-1-1-1-2-2-2

BatistaBomb-Pin; Off deliberately, light move 1/2, some effect late.



<b>Breakdowns</b>	Matches	3
	No Contests	0
	Total Match Time	*25:07 <sup>56</sup>
	Pct. of Show	25.97 (96.75)

<b>Interference</b>	1Rw	*Tyson Tomko
	2Rw	-
	3Rw	-

**Title Changes** None.

<b>Match Types</b>	Singles	2 (0 Title)
	TripleThreat	1 (1 Title)

**Character Notes** None.

\* Time Excludes Commercials (Used for Contribution Index)

### Notable Matches

Best of the Night	2Rw	<b>114</b>	Edge v. Chris Benoit
Worst of the Night	3Rw	<b>30</b>	Randy Orton v. Batista

### Notable Segments

Best of the Night	S06	<b>0.50</b>	Stratus preempts a would-be women's title match.
Worst of the Night	S02	<b>0.00</b>	Triple H threatens to ram the title down everyone's throat.

<b>Show Scoring</b>	Match Contribution Index	<b>33.03</b>
	Segment Contribution Index	<b>29.08</b>
	Overall Show Score	<b>62.11</b>

**Assessment** Not a bad posting at all in the M.C.I. for only three matches and the segments held on well enough. While one could ask for more match time, show ran pretty well as structured. Good outing, in context.

### Segment By Segment

●S01 ● Video Recap: Wrestlemania 21 Highlights.	I live in L.A., and I missed it, doh.	NR
●S02 ● TRIPLE H comes out to the ring, admitting his defeat at the hands of BATISTA at Wrestlemania 21 last night, but anyone thinking that such began the 'BATISTA era' is dead wrong because he was only great for one night, whereas he is great every night, and that the belt will gravitate back to TRIPLE H because he owns it. TRIPLE H says the greatest rematch in history will take place, and thereafter, he will be the '11 time World Heavyweight Champion,' and when he does, he will return to jam the title down everyone's throats.	I suppose asphyxiation by title gold is possible, but not bloody likely.	0.00
●S03 ● <u>Wrestlemania Highlights: SHELTON BENJAMIN powerslams EDGE off the top of a ladder.</u>	<u>I'm going to guess that hurt.</u>	<u>NR</u>
●S04 ● Backstage, ERIC BISCHOFF acknowledges BENJAMIN'S big win just now. EDGE agrees, but says it was not as big as his 'Money in the Bank' victory at WM. They make it official as EDGE signs the contract. BISCHOFF asks if he should tell BATISTA that EDGE will exercise his right to challenge tonight, but EDGE says he is money in the bank and he will tell BISCHOFF when he will exercise it ('when [he] is good and ready'). BISCHOFF then assigns EDGE to face CHRIS BENOIT tonight.	Face Batista or face Benoit...hmm that is a tough call.	+0.25
●S05 ● RANDY ORTON comes out to the ring, saying it was supposed to be different than it was and that he came so close to making history by beating UNDERTAKER at Wrestlemania, citing the reversal into the RKO and his tombstone, which he claims was reversed after he heard his left shoulder snap and felt it go numb. ORTON says as he was being treated, seeing the new champion BATISTA made him sick to his stomach. ORTON says he respected UNDERTAKER and TRIPLE H, despite despising the latter, but not BATISTA. He goes on to say he was the future when he was in EVOLUTION and still is the future. He says he, RIC FLAIR, and TRIPLE H would always make fun of BATISTA and that ORTON was always thought to be light years ahead of him. ORTON cites that he has beaten BATISTA twice, so he knows to get the bitter taste out of his mouth, he needs to defeat BATISTA tonight. BISCHOFF comes out, citing TRIPLE H'S and EDGE'S intentions to seek BATISTA'S title, but ORTON says he does not care what BISCHOFF has to do to get the match. BISCHOFF sets the match for tonight.	So what Orton is saying is that the effect Batista has on him is the same effect that seeing insect gorging on Fear Factor has on me?	+0.25
●S06 ● CHRISTY HEMME comes out with LITA for a would-be rematch against TRISH STRATUS for the Women's Championship. However, STRATUS preemptively hits the Chick Kick on HEMME, incapacitating her, then gets into it with LITA, eventually getting the upper hand and assaulting LITA'S already damaged knee.	I guess Trish answered Hamlet's question: not to be.	+0.50
●S07 ● <u>Wrestlemania Highlights: Ecstatic EUGENE is interrupted by MUHAMMAD HASSAN and KHOSROW DAIVARI who decide to make their own Wrestlemania Moment by attacking EUGENE. However, HULK HOGAN makes the moment by saving EUGENE and thoroughly dispatching of HASSAN and DAIVARI.</u>	If Eugene was really Gump, he'd have gone back to help Hogan.	NR
●S08 ● <u>Wrestlemania Goes Hollywood Promo: STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN is 'Gladiator.'</u>	Sweet...	NR
●S09 ● SHAWN MICHAELS limps out to the ring to say 'thank you.' He says one of his loves is to come out and perform for the crowds and has done for for the last 20 years. He says doing what he loved last night at Wrestlemania was an honor and privilege. He admits things did not go according to plan, but decides to ask the crowd for a bit of a favor, asking who would like to see a MICHAELS-KURT ANGLE rematch. The crowd seems into the idea, and MICHAELS admits that is what he hoped for. He says he doesn't know the details, but will do all he can to deliver on that, and that this time, the result will be different. HASSAN and DAIVARI interrupt here. DAIVARI spouts off a lot. HUSSAN recalls that last night the immortal HOGAN returned 'a broken down has been,' yet the fans cheered when HOGAN dispatched him and the fans also cheered when MICHAELS lost. HASSAN says MICHAELS was no showstopper, but a disgrace. He justifies the cheering saying they all fear HUSSAN'S success and heritage and him. He continues, saying MICHAELS proved himself a loser but the fans will still cheer because 'losers love losers.' MICHAELS goes after the two, but ends up succumbing to a two-on-one attack.	I'm not afraid of Hussan's success. I'm actually more afraid that I can't understand a word Daivari says. I'm guessing he wasn't asking Hussan if he wanted pepperoni on his pizza after the show.	+0.50
●S10 ● <u>Boot of the Week: Wrestlemania Ladder Match Highlights.</u>	<u>Ow, ow, OW!</u>	<u>NR</u>
●S11 ● Post 2Rw, EDGE assaults BENOIT, especially BENOIT'S injured arm.	Double 'Ow, ow OW!'	+0.50
●S12 ● SIMON DEAN and MAVEN are in the ring to tout the Simon System. DEAN says he knows Los Angeles is obsessed with looks and can look as good as MAVEN with the Simon System. MAVEN says the idea that Los Angeles is full of beautiful people is not true. DEAN says Los Angeles would rather eat nachos, drink beer, and watch TIVO. He says the system can change lives and defies anyone else to say differently. This brings out AUSTIN who says it is good to be back in Los Angeles and saying he cannot stand DEAN'S shilling of 'garbage' in his ring. He particularly takes issue with DEAN'S having problems with beer drinkers, and insults DEAN'S haircut then tells MAVEN to grow his hair back instead of trying to be AUSTIN. AUSTIN proposes he will try a protein shake in exchange for DEAN trying one of AUSTIN'S beers. DEAN is OK with it so long as it is low-carb beer. AUSTIN offers beer, but DEAN wants a glass. AUSTIN orders him to drink, and DEAN barely sips it, then tries to do push-ups to work off the calories. AUSTIN insults his push-ups, then says he cannot do five more, but DEAN does, and this cycles a few times until AUSTIN tires of it. AUSTIN tries the shake and spits it out, calling it worthless. MAVEN says the shake is a man's drink that AUSTIN cannot handle. DEAN accidentally spills the shake on AUSTIN, which prompts beatdowns, stunners, and beers.	I'm guessing Homer Simpson is more in league with the Austin system than the Simon System.	+0.50
●S13 ● ORTON is heading for the ring when the hallway light goes red. KANE is waiting for ORTON, saying he told him so and that he 'can't beat what [he] can't understand.' ORTON says he does understand and that KANE will know that when ORTON is done with BATISTA. KANE laughs the whole thing off.	UT: lights go cuckoo; Kane: lights go red. Advantage: UT.	+0.25
●S14 ● Post 3Rw, TRIPLE H and BATISTA have a staredown, each claiming that the championship is his.	Possession is 9/10 of the law...	0.00

### Closing Notes

- 1 Must see Wrestlemania...c'mon swift DVD release...because if you don't (shakes fist in air)...
- 2 Well if Kane's wrestling career ever has to go on hiatus, at least we know he can find work as a human spotlight.
- 3 A few have said it already about Benoit's performances the last two nights, but speaking solely on tonight, give that man the Oscar.
- 4 Speaking of acting ability, Stratus' form is incredible. See using title belt as mirror, curtsies to crowd, general presence opposite Lita and Hemme.
- 5 I'm getting into Batista's use of the thumbs up-thumbs down gesture. Less so with Hussan's throat-cutting gesture, but getting into it some.