

# **Wrestlemania XXXV Preview: Triple H vs. Batista**

In case it wasn't clear.

I've been pleasantly surprised by this build as Batista has been nearly perfect with being a delusional jerk, which tended to be his strong suit. Triple H's comedic promo responding to him was good, though completely missing the point of the story so far. With Triple H's career on the line, you kind of know what's coming here, again proving that Triple H is the smartest man/best politician in wrestling.

Yeah Triple H wins here because Batista doesn't need to wrestle again and Triple H can still wrestle an occasional match when necessary. The match itself should be a solid brawl because these two know how to do a street fight style match very well. I'm sure it will be entertaining and get a lot of time (because Triple H) and hopefully they don't go too long and ruin things.

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**Wrestlemania XXXV Preview:  
SmackDown Tag Team Titles:  
Usos (c) vs. Aleister  
Black/Ricochet vs. The Bar**

# vs. Shinsuke Nakamura/Rusev

Expect what should be expected.

This is another match that doesn't need to be on the show but is anyway because we need to get these eight people, most of whom have been inconsequential in recent weeks, on the show. It should be a nice little nine minute match at most, but the entrances alone will add close to ten more. I like the Usos but I'd definitely prefer seeing them face the Hardys in an actual dream match.

I'll actually go with Black vs. Ricochet just to mix things up a little bit. The SmackDown tag team division is dying for some fresh blood and it makes sense to have the newer teams getting the titles. That being said, since it makes sense, the Bar or Nakamura/Rusev are probably the favorites. I'll take what I want to see, though with very little confidence in seeing it happening.

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**Wrestlemania XXXV Preview:  
Women's Tag Team Titles: Boss  
N Hug Connection(c) vs.  
Iconics vs. Beth  
Phoenix/Natalya vs. Nia**

# Jax/Tamina

For those of you who think Natalya is a legend.

So we have the first champions, the annoying challengers, not Trish Stratus and Lita and those two monsters who won't stop appearing on every single show for reasons. I'm not sure why we need Phoenix and Natalya on the show but I guess since they came up with the idea of a legends team (Natalya: Legend), they couldn't just drop it and do champions vs. red team vs. blue team.

I'll go with the champs retaining, though the IIconics stealing the titles wouldn't shock me. Bayley and Sasha Banks are way too early into their reign to lose and it's not like there are a ton of teams for either heel team to face anyway. Keep them on the champs and figure out what you want to do with the belts later on.

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## **Wrestlemania XXXV Preview: United States Title: Samoa Joe(c) vs. Rey Mysterio**

Or so it seems.

Now here's one where I'm not sure because it's not clear who's going to be in the match. Mysterio is already injured and might not be able to make the match...and it just so happens that John Cena has been rumored for a match on the show, which has just so happened to have Cena vs. Samoa Joe for weeks. As much as I'd like to see Samoa Joe vs. Mysterio, I think you

can tell where I'm going.

So yeah, I'm going with the theory that the injury is a work and Cena comes out to challenge Samoa Joe instead. I'll go with the champ retaining in a surprise, which doesn't feel right but would be a great way to push him. The problem with putting the title on Cena is that he'd have to lose it, and unless that takes place in the next two nights, I'm not sure I see that happening. Unless....say to someone debuting on Monday Night Raw or SmackDown Live in a US Open Challenge? But what kind of a Freak would you have to be to do that?

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## **Wrestlemania XXXV Preview: Intercontinental Title: Bobby Lashley(c) vs. Finn Balor**

I still don't know if it makes sense.

I'll spare you a long rant about how little this story makes sense, or at least how horrible of a job WWE has done at explaining Balor's use of the Demon. Or how little sense it made to have Balor win the title for a few weeks and drop it back almost immediately. This is the Demon's debut at Wrestlemania and I'm not sure what to expect from it. I don't think the match's result is really in doubt, but the question is how we get to that ending.

Balor will get the title back once and for all, but I'm not sure if it's in a squash or a competitive match. It's one thing to have the Demon destroy Corbin at Summerslam but having him do it to Lashley here doesn't make sense. You don't squash a monster like that and that leaves a dilemma for

Balor. I'm sure he'll win, but if it's too competitive then it doesn't make that much sense.

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# **Wrestlemania XXXV Preview: Roman Reigns vs. Drew McIntyre**

This could go somewhere.

I've been a big McIntyre fan for years now so I'm rather happy with him getting this spot. He's gotten a lot out of beating Seth Rollins and Dean Ambrose so facing Reigns is the most logical next step for him. It's going to be a hard hitting fight and that's exactly what a match like this needs to be.

And naturally Reigns wins, because you don't have your top star come back from leukemia and lose his first match at Wrestlemania. Reigns winning here is fine and McIntyre will get a lot out of just rubbing elbows with him. It's a good idea and this should be a strong match for both of them. Reigns survives the Claymore and hits a few spears to win as McIntyre gets a rub and Reigns can start gunning for the title again.

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# **Wrestlemania XXXV Preview:**

# Kurt Angle vs. Baron Corbin

GAH!

If there is any hope for this show, this match will be about two minutes long and be a complete squash with Angle winning and getting to have a proper sendoff. There's no need for this match to keep going because there is no reason to have Corbin anywhere near a ring for a long time at the moment. Or for Angle to ever wrestle again for that matter.

This is the biggest layup on the show as Angle isn't going to retire after losing a match to a goon like Corbin. This really should have been anyone else but if this is the best we can get, so be it (I guess). Angle wins with the ankle lock to go out as a winner and is thankfully allowed to heal his broken and mangled body. And Corbin can go tend sheep or something.

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# Wrestlemania XXXV Preview: AJ Styles vs. Randy Orton

You have to get them in somehow.

Let's go with something that should be good instead of something this boring. Both guys need something to do as Styles has beaten so many people on the show already. Orton has been floating around for years and his beating the heroes gimmick has already been mostly forgotten. That leaves you with little more than two guys needing to have a good match and...well that's not a problem for them.

I'll go with Styles winning here as he's a bigger star, though

Orton has a tendency to pull off the surprise wins in these big match situations. I'm not sure if he'll actually pull it off, but it would be cool to see either of them win. Styles knowing to expect the RKO out of the Phenomenal Forearm will be good and if he can prove Orton wrong, it should be a perfectly fine moment. Either could win, but I'll take Styles.

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## **Wrestlemania XXXV Preview: Raw Tag Team Titles: Revival(c) vs. Curt Hawkins/Zack Ryder**

Well of course this is here too.

If there's a match that felt more tacked on than this one, I can't remember the last time it happened. This match wasn't even announced on TV with the only mention being in a YouTube video. Hawkins and Ryder, who haven't won a match in years, are now getting a WrestleMania title match because WE MUST GET THE TITLES ON THE SHOW. I think you know where this is going.

Of course Revival drops the titles here and probably never get them back, because WWE doesn't get why they're unhappy with their spot in the company. This match is going to be about five minutes long and belongs on the Kickoff Show but the fans will lose their minds at the New York team winning the titles again. It would be perfectly fine on Monday Night Raw the next night, but that would mean just fifteen matches and that's not good enough.

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# Wrestlemania XXXV Preview: Shane McMahon vs. The Miz

Just get it over with.

Let's get this out of the way so I don't have to think about it for a few days. This has been treated as one of the biggest matches on the show because reasons of McMahon, though I'm not sure how many people are going to care. The story is built around Miz's father being a horrible person and only caring about his son when he teamed with McMahon and Miz wanting to stand up for his family. Therefore, McMahon needs a big spot on the show and probably close to twenty minutes.

I'll go with Miz winning as McMahon doesn't win these big matches (just a Tag Team Title match). It's going to be long, commentary is going to talk about how awesome McMahon is, and then Miz will beat him and it won't be worth the five months they put into this one story featuring McMahon, when several others could benefit from having this spotlight. At least Miz might be a better face this time around, though I don't have my hopes up.