

Take Perfect Pics



Everyone wants to be right up front on the floor, but most don't realize that a slightly elevated seat raises you just high enough above the ring to snap some choice shots of the action. A quick click of the zoom button, and you'll be a WWE photog in no time. If you catch something our cameras didn't, send it to us at [MAGAZINE@WWE.COM!](mailto:MAGAZINE@WWE.COM)

FACT!

James is the proud owner of several replica title belts, including a personally engraved WWE Championship.



STAR-STRUCK

CELEBRITY FAN OF THE MONTH

American Idol rocker **James Durbin** talks about growing up in The Attitude Era, sharing dessert with Chris Jericho, and stepping into the ring one day soon.

✖ Growing up, did you want to be a singer or a WWE Superstar?

I wanted to be a wrestler. It was all about wrestling. My first show was *No Way Out* in 2004, when Eddie Guerrero beat Brock Lesnar for the WWE Championship.

On *Idol*, you were the champion of heavy metal. In your opinion, who in WWE has the most metal entrance theme?

Edge's theme, "Metalingus," by Alter Bridge is amazing. I'm a huge fan of their singer, Myles Kennedy. I also love Chris Jericho's band, Fozzy. I remember seeing them and thinking, "OK—he's a singer in a metal band and a Superstar? I want to hang out with that guy!"

We've heard that you and Jericho have become buds.

He was on *Dancing With The Stars*, and I was on *Idol*, and both shows film at the same studio. We crossed paths and hit it off. We ended up having dinner with The Miz and Maryse and they were telling old WWE stories.

So, as a WWE devotee, was eating dinner with one of your boyhood idols surreal?

Oh yeah. I was sharing a dessert with Chris Jericho—that was the magic moment of the evening.

Which of your fellow *Idol* finalists would make the ideal tag partner?

Definitely Stefano [Langone]. We've been roommates since day one in Hollywood Week, and he's definitely got the brawn. He's a small guy, but he can do some work. He'd kind of be my Dean Malenko, whereas I would be more like a Jericho or CM Punk.

You're on tour with *American Idol* all summer. Are you planning on sneaking any WWE themes into the set list?

Unfortunately, no. If I had a longer set list, I definitely would. I'd pull out some Motörhead.

So, if you were a Superstar, we're guessing you'd pull a Shawn Michaels and sing your own entrance music...

Absolutely! I'd do it live. But no R-Truth for me.

Sounds like a challenge...

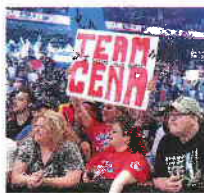
That'd be fine, man. I'd love to tag with John Morrison and beat him. R-Truth versus John Morrison and The New Guru of Greatness, James Durbin.

Is this your dream *Raw* main event in the making?

My No. 1 wish is to guest-star on *Raw* and be involved in a match. Let's make it happen while I'm still in the public eye!

"WE CROSSED PATHS AND HIT IT OFF. ... I WAS SHARING A DESSERT WITH CHRIS JERICHO—THAT WAS THE MAGIC MOMENT."

Get Your Mug On TV



Positioned directly across from here is a fixed camera (known as a "hard camera"), which captures all the wide shots of the ring you see on TV. If you're seated here, get ready to make your *Raw* debut.

See A Table Slam Up-Close



Whenever the action spills outside of the ring, it very often ends up right here, in front of the announce table. Placed in this section's seats, you're close enough to smell the wood as it splinters.