

Boxing Chatter: Klitschko, Brewster Rematch

Written by David A. Avila

Wednesday, 27 June 2007 19:00

Heavyweights like Wladimir Klitschko and Lamon Brewster are a different breed. They talk softly and carry a big stick.

They don't have that Chihuahua dog complex with a lot of yapping but no bite.

Wednesday was a perfect example of the big dogs and the little dogs.

While Klitschko and Brewster conducted a big dog press conference of mutual respect, the little dogs Travis Simms and Joachim Alcine did a lot of barking. Hopefully they can back it up next week. Both fight cards take place on the same day but thousands of miles apart.

"If they fight one-sixteenth of what they talked it's going to be a terrific fight," said Showtime press conference coordinator John Beyrooty.

We hope so.

Klitschko has been improving ever since he hooked up with Emanuel Steward years back. Little by little the fighter known as Dr. Ironfist has been knocking out opponents not just winning by decision.

You have to give credit to Steward. He knows what to do with a fighter that has one-punch power. The Kronk trainer has more problems training guys that don't have one-punch power like Jermain Taylor. But give him a Klitschko, a Kermit Cintron or a Tommy Hearns and watch out.

Klitschko (48-3, 43 KOs) defends his IBF title on Saturday July 7 against his former conqueror Lamon Brewster (33-3, 29 KOs) in Koln, Germany. The heavyweight rematch will be shown by HBO.

Usually heavyweight fights are methodical and slow as a glacier. But when you have two heavyweights that have one-punch stopping power that could stop a Sherman tank, it provides excitement because you don't want to miss it.

Both fighters have immense respect for each other because they've tasted the power before.

"After that loss I'm really appreciative to Lamon to accept and take the fight," said Klitschko, 31, who is training in Austria. "He has tremendous heart."

Brewster, who stopped Klitschko and took the WBO title back in 2004, has always believed in his talent but refuses to ridicule or downgrade any opponent.

"I'm very grateful to Wlad for extending his title and allow me to challenge for it," Brewster said. "I should not let that pass me by."

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This is one of the few heavyweight fights that should be explosive.

Simms and Alcine

On the same day in Connecticut, Travis Simms defends his WBA junior middleweight title against Canada's Joachim Alcine in Bridgeport.

Don't invite them to the same party because these guys can talk and talk and talk.

"You're just a champion on paper," said Alcine with his French accent. "You don't deserve it."

Simms was equally disrespectful to his opponent.

"The best guy you ever fought was Marcos Primera. We don't even use guys like that in sparring," shot back Simms during a telephone conference call on Wednesday. "You're going to be Canadian bacon."

Also on the same card will be Vic Darchinyan defending his IBF flyweight title against Nonito Donaire. If that last name sounds familiar that's because Darchinyan beat older brother Glenn last year.

Both fights will be aired on Showtime.

Doubletree fight card

San Diego's Sergio Espinoza faces Benji Garcia in a 10-round junior bantamweight battle at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario on Friday June 29. The fight card is promoted by Thompson Boxing Promotions.

Espinoza (14-2-1) could be facing his stiffest test. Garcia (11-8-3) has fought elite competition including former world champion Eric Ortiz and proven to be quite capable of beating anyone in his weight class.

"Benji Garcia is relentless," said Espinoza. "I know how aggressive he is with his combinations."

In the semi main event, Rialto's Dominic Salcido (12-0, 6 KOs) is back again and will face Mexico's Julian Rodriguez (17-13-3) in a six round affair. Most of Rodriguez's losses have come to elite competition. Salcido has fought four times this year including a knockout win over Julio Gamboa just three weeks ago.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For tickets or information call (714) 935-0900.

Sylmar fight card

Former Contender star Miguel Espino will be meeting Arturo Ortega in a middleweight main event at the National Guard Armory in Sylmar on Saturday June 30. The fight card is promoted

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by Manny Cota Boxing Promotions.

Espino hasn't loss in three years and that was to Peter Manfredo in a five-round contest. His last win came against Sergey Stepkin in April. Espino captured a unanimous decision.

Arizona's Ortega has two recent losses that came to prospects Andy Lee and Donnie Orr in Las Vegas. For tickets and information call (818) 274-7129.

Evander Holyfield

Former heavyweight world champion Evander Holyfield (41-8-2) fights big Lou Savarese in a scheduled 10 round bout in El Paso, Texas on Saturday June 30. The fight card promoted by Main Events will be televised on pay-per-view at 6 p.m.

Holyfield is coming off a three-fight winning streak over contenders like Fres Oquendo and Vinny Madalone. "I want another shot at the world title," said Holyfield.

Savarese (46-6) emerged from a two-year layoff and has won three successive fights by knock out.

Local girl on reality show

Miriam Nakamoto, who fought in several local boxing shows, is a participant on a television reality show called Fight Girls. It airs on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. on the Oxygen Channel.

The show features female Thai boxing with the winners going to Thailand to compete in an international tournament.

Nakamoto is a boxer and Thai boxer who recently trained in South El Monte.