

50 Cent Will Perform on "Friday Night Fights"

Written by The Sweet Science
Tuesday, 26 February 2013 11:19

Featherweight Titlist Billy Dib – Promoted by Entertainer 50 Cent – to Defend Title Against Evgeny Gradovich on *ESPN's Friday Night Fights*

50 Cent to Visit ESPN Thursday, Appear on TV & Radio Shows

The March 1 edition of *ESPN's Friday Night Fights presented by [Corona Extra](#)* will feature an IBF Title fight between Featherweight titlist Billy "The Kid" Dib (35-1, 1 NC, 21 KOs;

The Ring

Magazine's No. 4, ESPN.com No.8 ranked Featherweight) and undefeated challenger Evgeny "The Mexican Russian" Gradovich (15-0, 8 KOs) in the 12-round main event. Friday's show from the MGM Grand Theater at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Conn., will air live at 9 p.m. ET on ESPN2 HD, and will be available online through WatchESPN.com and on smartphones and tablets via the WatchESPN app. The card will also air live on ESPN Deportes+, the new digital extension of ESPN Deportes, and will air tape delayed on ESPN Deportes Saturday morning at 3 a.m. The card is co-promoted by DiBella Entertainment and SMS Promotions, owned by multiplatinum recording artist and entrepreneur 50 Cent.

[Joe Tessitore](#) and [Teddy Atlas](#) will be ringside describing the action for ESPN2 HD, while studio host [Todd Grisham](#) ([@GrishamESPN](#)) will be on site presenting the latest boxing news and highlights.

Alex Pombo

and

Delvin Rodriguez

will call this week's fights for ESPN Deportes'

Viernes de Combates (Friday Night Fights

) with

Leopoldo Gonzalez

and

Pablo Viruega

in the studio. Bilingual reporter

Bernardo

Osuna

(

[@osunaespn](#)

) will present live interviews and reports for both shows.

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50 Cent, who promotes Dib, will be at ESPN's headquarters on Thursday, February 28, for an ESPN "Car Wash" to discuss Friday's main event on ESPN TV and radio shows. On Friday, he will be at Foxwoods performing a walk out song prior to the main event. He will also be the sparring partner in Friday's "Fight Plan" segment with Atlas, in which Atlas and a sparring partner outline what each fighter needs to do to win.

Main Event:

Australia's Dib won a 10-round unanimous decision in a non-title fight over Juan Rodriguez in his last fight. Prior to that, he defended his title for the second time with a sixth-round TKO win over Eduardo Escobedo.

"I am really excited to be headlining against the 'Mexican Russian,'" Dib said. "It is going to be an all-out punch up. The fans can definitely expect to see a great fight on March 1st."

Gradovich, a native of Russia, is trained by 2012 Boxing Writers Association of America (BWAA) "Trainer of the Year" Robert Garcia. Gradovich scored a seventh-round TKO win over William Villanueva in his last fight.

"Becoming a world champion has been a life-long dream of mine, and on March 1, I will finally have that chance," Gradovich said. "This is going to be a very special night for me, as not only am I fighting for my first world title, but the entire country will have the opportunity to watch it. I am already in great shape and I am going to show the world what I am capable of come March 1."

Co-Feature:

Friday's 10-round co-feature will pit Junior Middleweight titlist Willie "The Great" Nelson (19-1-1, 11 KOs) against former Junior Middleweight titlist Michael Medina (26-3-2 19 KOs). Nelson is coming off a 10-round unanimous decision win over previously undefeated 2008 Olympian John Jackson, while Medina is looking to build momentum after an eight-round unanimous decision win over James Winchester.

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Viernes de Combates

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on Twitter

[@ESPNBoxeo](#)

Also score the fights round-by-round with the "Live *Friday Night Fights* Facebook Voting App," an application on the [ESPN FNF Facebook](#) page that allows viewers to score the fight round-by-round.

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deepwater says:

is 50 no cent gonna come down a rope again saying the same ole thing? kinda sad to be on fri night fights at this stage of your career dib. 50 cent next time you come down on a rope say something like this= hey kids,I am just acting with this gangster rap thing.please dont try and sell drugs and become a hip hop star like me. you see its all an act. rockerfella drug laws in ny will ruin your life. dont try it. stay in school and read a book. rockafella drug laws will ruin your life!

amayseng says:

dear Lord i am a 34 year old father and healthcare professional. I also coach baseball. i want to watch some fights with some beers and my girl on friday, not a 37 year old rapper rapping his way to the ring "performing" how the F is that a performance and how is it not an insult to this 200 year old sport?

there are fights, not a justin bieber conert..

i want to watch a fighter and his characteristics on his way to battle walk to the ring, not somebody jumping around rapping leading him there..

i listened to rap growing up and there are a few songs ill pump in the car still to this day, but what is 50 thinkning? who is he entertaining rapping at the fights?

this is fighting

and dont give me the entertaining bs, fights in the stands by the fans drinking too much and ring card girls skanking it up are enough pre fight entertainment for me

deepwater says:

anyone check out the fight poster or credential card for friday night fights? its got the boxers on it around the edges. its got sweet lou dibellas ugly mug and 50 cent sour face right in the middle. you gotta love boxing, the cheap *** promoter and fake gangster rapper are using these fighters to promote themselves. hey promoters get the f outta hear. stay behind the scenes and run the freakin show! no one wants to see lou dibellas ugly smirk or 50 cents angry face. billy

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dib. get out now. you should be on ppv at this point of your career. 50 cent is gonna rap b4 your fights. thats it.nothing more. get outta that contract now if you ever want a decent future in this sport.