

Canelo Wants to Fight Only the Best

Written by David A. Avila
Thursday, 04 April 2013 21:00



SANTA MONICA-Ocean breezes don't quite make it to the gym where Saul "Canelo" Alvarez trains, but take my word for it, the training facility is less than two miles from the Santa Monica Pier. Instead of seawater you can smell asphalt from a nearby construction crew.

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Maybe it's appropriate that burning asphalt permeates the air rather than scent of sea water on Thursday morning. This is boxing, not volleyball.

Alvarez (*pictured above in Gene Blevins-Showtime photo*) arrived before a dog hungry crowd of media anxiously awaiting the red-head's appearance at the Wild Card West. Alongside Canelo was Golden Boy Promotions president Oscar De La Hoya. It was a good tactic: divide and conquer.

On one side of the gym was Canelo, entertaining an invasion of cameras and the television interviewers bumping their way to the front. About 10 yards to the other side of the gym was De La Hoya answering questions in front of other TV media who will use about 60 seconds of their interview during their telecasts.

WBC junior middleweight titlist Alvarez (41-0-1, 30 Kos) is set to fight WBA titleholder Austin Trout (26-0, 14 Kos) in a unification battle of undefeated 154-pounders on Saturday April 20. Their clash takes place at the Alamodome in San Antonio. Showtime will televise.

Alvarez's media day was an opportunity for the Guadalajara youngster to provide photo opportunities before his fight day. The interviews are the standard issue, "I prepared hard for this fight."

It's not going to be easy for Alvarez when he faces Trout, a long-armed defensive fighter who can be tricky for anyone.

"He's a good fighter," says Alvarez, who depends on his strength and accuracy of which he has in abundance. "I look forward to fighting any of the best fighters in the division."

More than a few boxing writers felt that Canelo would avoid Trout at all cost. Many figure that the cinnamon toasted hair would opt to meet Ishe Smith, not New Mexico's Trout. But here he is willing and ready to mix it up with the fighter who conquered Puerto Rico's Miguel Cotto.

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Alvarez didn't care to really talk about HBO and Showtime, but De La Hoya did say that Showtime is the new giant on the block.

Broner and more

Adrian Broner is still asking for welterweight titleholder Paul Malignaggi and that fight is still attainable according to De La Hoya and tentatively set for June 22 in Brooklyn.

Other fights looming are Argentina's human sledgehammer Lucas Matthyse looking to meet IBF junior welterweight titleholder Lamont Peterson on May 18 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. So far Matthyse hasn't had luck fighting on the East Coast despite knockdowns of opponents. He lost to Zab Judah and Devon Alexander in fights on that side of the country. But he wants the world title.

Long-time Colombian boxing manager Billy Chams died on Sunday due to respiratory complications. He guided the careers of 17 world champions including current IBF junior featherweight titlist Jonathan "Momo" Romero. Both Thompson Boxing Promotions and Gary Shaw Productions worked extensively with Chams.

Middleweight world champion Sergio "Maravilla" Martinez is training in Spain for his next world championship defense. He's also promoting a boxing show that will feature Zeben Diaz (6-0) fighting Alejandro Heredia (8-10-3) in a welterweight match on Friday April 5 in Madrid, Spain.

Rustam Nuguev (22-6-1) meets Jonathan Maicelo (19-0, 11 Kos) for the USBA lightweight title on Friday April 5. The Gary Shaw Production fight card will be held in Chumash Casino in Santa Ynez. Also, Maria Suarez (3-0-1) fights Elizabeth Cervantes (3-9) in a flyweight clash.

Ricardo Alvarez (19-2-3, 12 Kos) fights Carlos Valdez (12-5, 9 Kos) in a junior middleweight bout set for 10 rounds. The match takes place in Michoacan, Mexico. Alvarez is the brother of Saul "Canelo" Alvarez.

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WBA bantamweight titleholder Koki Kameda (29-1, 17 Kos) defends against Thailand's Panomroonglek Kaiyanghadaogym (36-1, 19 Kos) on Sunday April 7, in Osaka, Japan. The hard-hitting Japanese 118-pounder Kameda is making his sixth world title defense.

Heavyweight Damian "Bolo" Wills of Lancaster is now being trained by Riverside's Henry Ramirez. Back in 2006, both Wills and Ramirez's other heavyweight fighter Chris "The Nightmare" Arreola fought each other in Las Vegas. They both work out of Riverside. Wills is managed by Warren Wilkinson. Arreola fights Bermame Stiverne for the number one WBC ranking on April 27, at Citizens Business Bank Arena.

Former Mexican Olympian Oscar Molina (3-0) knocked out Mexico's Francisco Sahuari (0-5) at 1:51 of the first round. The welterweight fight was held in Sinaloa, Mexico on Saturday March 30. Molina lives in Norwalk, California.

[Comment on this article](#)

riverside says:

Canelo is a three to one favorite in Vegas to win the bout, count me in.

Radam G says:

Austin Trout is going to get JOBBED in San Tony. I think that Canelo is more of a phony. The greatest robberies in the history of the game have happened to southpaws while fighting in the Wild, Wild West. Back in da day, Sweetpea Whitaker got the job in San Tony when he destroyed the myth of Julio Cesar Chavez. And he got it again when he schooled Big Money Oscar in Sin City. And last years in Sin City, Da Manny destroyed the myth of Big Foot. That's right! Tim Bradley is the legendary Big Foot. He came out of hiding, and has been given a gift and a lift. In his next bout, he will get a rift. Oh, YUP! His next opponent will beat that gifted title belt from his arse. Either Marquez or Da Manny will kayo him in four rounds or less. The Russian Rocky get him in seven. And a bum-plus chump gets him in 10. Tb has been waterloood.

Da Manny did this to him. Holla!

The Good Doctor says:

[QUOTE=riverside;28325]Canelo is a three to one favorite in Vegas to win the bout, count me

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in.[/QUOTE]

Give me Trout with those odds.

riverside says:

Radam, Are you going to the Arreola vs stiverne fight in Ontario? I should be ringside courtesy of Henry,unless he bumps me out anybody else going to to fight?

riverside says:

[QUOTE=The Good Doctor;28327]Give me Trout with those odds.[/QUOTE]

looks like the heavy hitters are out early, I would expect them, to even odds closer to fight time.Looking forward for good fight!!

The Good Doctor says:

[QUOTE=riverside;28330]looks like the heavy hitters are out early, I would expect them, to even odds closer to fight time.Looking forward for good fight!![/QUOTE]

Looks like they are. You are probably right about odds nearer to fight time. People often forget that odds are not a real reflection of who the favorite is. The odds are set more to make people bet.

ali says:

After Canelo scrapes Trout hopefully he fights Martinez or Mayweather.

Carmine Cas says:

Trout prob has to pitch a shutout to to make it out of there, obv without knocking him out

SouthPaul says:

By Chris Robinson

You will be hard pressed to be anyone involved in boxing with as much as enthusiasm for the sport as Harold Lederman.

*

Serving as an unofficial ringside judge for HBO for over 25 years, Lederman has endeared himself to fans across the globe and his affable nature makes him someone you can't help but to like.

*

While in town for Mike Alvarado's entertaining rematch victory over Brandon Rios this past weekend in Las Vegas, I again caught up with Lederman.

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As is often the case during our dialogue, I made it a point to get Harold's thoughts on some upcoming prize fights, ranging from Nonito Donaire's clash with fellow junior featherweight titlist Guillermo Rigondeaux to the May 4th Floyd Mayweather-Robert Guerrero tussle and everything in between.

*

There was one match in particular that seemed to draw the most surprising comments from Lederman, that being the April 20th junior middleweight unification clash between WBC champion Saul 'Canelo' Alvarez and WBA belt holder Austin 'No Doubt' Trout.

*

On paper, Trout is looked at as Alvarez's stiffest test to date yet Lederman isn't expecting too much of a fight.

*

"I hate to say this, but I think Canelo's going to destroy him," Lederman said bluntly. "I like Austin Trout, I like Greg Cohen, I like the whole team; but Canelo's something special. He really is."

*

In Lederman's eyes, Alvarez represents the future of the sport.

*

"Let me tell you something, I really believe, from the bottom of my heart, that Canelo is a star," Lederman said of Alvarez. "I can't help saying that. Canelo is a star. He can box, he can move, he can punch. He's 22 years old and he fights like a veteran that's 35 years old. He's a guy that's just a terrific, natural, great fighter. I love Canelo Alvarez."

*

Trout is coming off of his biggest victory as a professional this past December, when he went into New York's Madison Square Garden and scored a commanding unanimous decision victory over Puerto Rico's Miguel Cotto.

*

Lederman gave all praise to Trout for the victory, but simply can't be swayed in his prediction for his next fight.

*

"He did impress me against Cotto," Lederman admitted. "He took on a good fighter and he beat a good fighter and I thought he did very, very well. I just think Canelo's something special. Cotto, on the other hand, a little bit on the way down. I hate to say it, but that's what it appears."

Thats from Boxingscene

deepwater says:

yeah ok. did nt he sucker punch little 106 lb solis from behind? only the best bs

brownsugar says:

I have the utmost respect for Canelo, he takes being the best so seriously, that after padding his career by mopping the floor with junior welters and welterweights,..... he got so outraged at the rumors he was being protected and ducking fighters his own size... he signed a contract to

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battle the best junior middleweight in the world.
That's the pride of a champion, the pride of a warrior.

If Trout stood toe to toe with him he'd even have a chance of winning.
But Trout is going to give Canelo a severe boxing lesson... even though I believe he's the betting favorite.
Congratulations to Canelo for taking the fight that matters most... and being willing to lay it all on the line.
If he loses like I suspect ,.. I believe he can still become great.... This impending loss is only going to make Canelo more dangerous for the next guy.

I still would like to see Canelo vs Cotto,

Their styles mesh and would produce fireworks like Rio-vs-Alvarado but with better technique.
Hell,... I'd pay for Canelo vs Angulo or Kirkland if Kirkland can find his way back from personal issues... if he doesn't mount a comeback soon, he'll be done forever.

Speaking of Angulo,.. I can't believe they're throwing him in with Lara,.. in his last fight Angulo didn't look like he recovered fully from his detention with the Immigration Dept.... but I applaud Angulo too because these are the tough challenges sports fans want to see fighters take. 2013 is going to be one of the best years ever for fight fans.

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kirkland is done 4ever. angulo has Jesus hair now so expect good things.

jzzy says:

This is a classic boxer vs puncher matchup. Canelo is under alot of pressure and needs to up his punch output and pace. He can only win this fight on the inside where his superior strength should prevail. Canelo must use intelligent footwork and head movement to get inside or Trout will box his ears off.

Radam G says:

Canelo is the second most-hyped fighter in this TSS Universe behind just-in-name 3G. The muthasucka couldn't carry the bucket of a top gun's peepee. On Canelo, Austin Trout is going to stint like a jelly fish and serve Canelo a whup-@ss dish. Besides, it's lefty time. Canelo is seven cents, not a dime. Trout is in his prime. And outta the Cinnamon Kid, he's gonna beat the slime.

The corrupted officials in San Tony, may score the bout a draw. But they will know that Canelo is a man of straw. And for the cooked-his-@ss Trout, Canelo was just too raw. Canelo is going to be full of roids and PEDs. But in Texas, it is not against the rules. And against it, it is no law. Holla!

amayseng says:

Jzzy has it correct.

ali says:

B-sug the way u feel about GGG is the same way I feel about Canelo.I don't think Trout takes body punch well when Cotto went downstairs u could tell he was doing damage. Ppl think Canelo can only when this fight on the outside I couldn't disagree more Canelo is a much better boxer then ppl give him credit for. His counter punching and defense is so underrated he's about to put hands on Trout he's the one that's over hyped in this fight.

The Good Doctor says:

[QUOTE=ali;28467]B-sug the way u feel about GGG is the same way I feel about Canelo. First of all I don't think Trout takes body punches all that well when Cotto went downstairs u could tell he was doing damage. Ppl think Canelo can only when this fight on the outside I couldn't disagree more Canelo is a much better boxer then ppl give him credit for. His counter punching and defense is so underrated he's about to put h

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I don't disagree with your assessment of Trout but I think he is awkward enough to give Canelo problems. Canelo worried me in the Gomez fight. Although he was arguably beating Gomez, slow soft punching Gomez was getting good shots in and giving him problems. Canelo is a decent boxer but he does not move his head well, he loads his punches and his feet are just average. If Trout tries not to slug with him, I think it gets very interesting.

amayseng says:

Gomez won 3/6 rounds against Canelo. Fact

He just was undersized and had no fire power along with other disadvantages.

Shane was also toooooo small and more fighter than boxer for Canelo

I think Canelo is solid, but he will be challenged by a good boxer. Like trout.

Canelo does have some good power in both hands tho that can change things quickly