

Yuriorkis Gam-bore-a Beats Darleys Perez in HBO Opener

Written by Michael Woods

Saturday, 08 June 2013 21:54



Yuriorkis Gamboa took on Darleys Perez in a lightweight scrap from the Bell Centre in Montreal to start things off on HBO's Boxing After Dark program. The Cuban-born hitter was on cruise control the whole way, and the crowd sensed it after a couple rounds, dropping boos on both men. Perez went down in round one, off a weak launch, but this one never got cooking. After twelve rounds, the judges gave the nod to Gamboa, by scores of 116-111, 116-111, 115-112.

Perez (age 29; 134 1/2 pounds; 28-0 with 19 KOs entering), who didn't start fighting as a pro until he was 25, repped Colombia in the 2008 Olympics. As with so many Colombians, the kid came in with as a rep as a bomber.

Gamboa (31; 134 /14 pounds; 22-0 entering with 16 KOs; from Cuba; ex featherweight and super feather champ) has been off radar for a couple years. The four time Cuban national champion debuted as a pro in 2007. He was supposed to be a major player by this time. But he split with promoter Top Rank in July 2012, messing up a scheduled fight against Brandon Rios, and signed on with 50 Cent, back when Fiddy was in good with Floyd Mayweather. Fiddy and Floyd broke up, and Fiddy got Gamboa in the divorce.

In round one, Perez hit the deck, almost at the bell. A left hook, weak looking, sent him down. Gamboa's hand speed and ring generalship stood out in the second. Perez didn't look out his class, though, in round three.

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In the fourth, Perez went down, but it was ruled a slip. Perez wanted to land a left hook, his best weapon, but Yuriorkis was well aware that would be the case. Perez outlanded Yuriorkis in the fifth, but the Cuban threw more, so he didn't necessarily win the round. Gamboa cruised in the sixth, too. He was busier in the seventh, a bit, but once again, the crowd booed a couple times to show their level of boredom.

In the eighth, Gamboa used the jab to interrupt Perez' flow. The crowd simply wasn't much into this exercise. In the ninth, Perez landed some clean, hard blows. Gamboa was in cruise control again in the tenth. In the 11th, Gamboa went down, off a jab, and again it was ruled a slip. Rightly so, in my eyes, he was on the wet paint.

In the 12th, Perez didn't go guns a blazing, surprisingly. We went to the cards, not soon enough.

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Radam G says:

Yuri looked terrible. Must be that he got off the roids and PEDs that were causing him performance rage. Holla!

ali says:

Gamboa should have never signed with 50.

SouthPaul says:

Gamboa's overly arrogant fighter/person . Takes himself too serious. Im positive Ward was close to outright calling him an idiot/dummy.

And from a body language vibe... Him and Fiddy look like a miserable married couple.

Shoulder Roll Defense says:

Terrance Crawford or Broner, if he drops back down to lightweight. These are the only fighters at lightweight that I can see possibly beating Gamboa. Gamboa did what he was supposed to do last night, come home with the victory. Perez wasn't a slouch, so give Gamboa some credit.

ali says:

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Gamboa needs to fight somebody with a name asap I want to see how he does against a top guy

Carmine Cas says:

50 Cent seems to be becoming more of a joke as a promoter, Perez was a descent test. But I agree I would love to see him fight a top guy. I think Broner would destroy, Crawford would be interesting to see

amayseng says:

Ha. Kanye ruined his life knocking up that devil woman.

Seriously she represents all that is evil in the world.

amayseng says:

Deep that is all entirely disturbing.

I can't imagine who watches the Kardashians or Housewives shows

They are a disgrace against humanity.

Not kidding.

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