

Hot Night of Boxing at the Trop in A.C.

Written by News Article

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LAS VEGAS (December 28, 2005) – Silverhawk Boxing kicks-off the New Year with a knockout evening of pay-per-view entertainment, “Collision Course, A Night of Champions,” featuring three world title fights and two other championship matches, January 27 at the Tropicana Casino and Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

The stars of Silverhawk Boxing’s stable, two-time world champion Stevie “Lil’ But Bad” Johnston (37-3-1, 17 KOs) and WBC No. 11 rated light heavyweight Prince “The Boxing Prince” Badi (24-2-1, 13 KOs), will be in action in two of five 12-round championship matches in “Collision Course, A Night of Champions” – all five title fights will be shown on the pay-per-view card – promoted by Silverhawk Boxing, in association with Guilty Boxing and Star Boxing, and sponsored by Buick and Xyience. The entire show will be available on a pay-per-view basis at a suggested retail price of only \$24.95 in the United States, Canada, France, Russia, Indonesia and Greece.

“We’re excited to be involved in our first major championship pay-per-view show,” Silverhawk Boxing chief executive officer Tim Doyle said. “We believe there is a need to get back to the roots of traditional boxing. Reasonably priced, highly competitive pay-per-view events like this represent the future of boxing. Our goal is to bring legitimacy back to the term ‘champion.’ The way to do that is by putting the best fighters in the world against each other. Boxing is entertainment. On a pay-per-view show like this so many more fans will get the opportunity to appreciate the special skills of Stevie and Prince, who are the undisputed leaders of Silverhawk’s growing stable of world-class boxers. Victories on this grand stage will only better position them for major world title fights.”

Johnston will defend his NABC light welterweight title, which he won December 3 with a unanimous 10-round decision against Vladimir Khodokovski, as well as fight for the vacant IBO belt.

Stevie is on a mission to go back to the future: he captured the WBC lightweight championship twice between 1997 and 2000, including seven successful defenses, and he’s beaten the likes of Jean Baptiste Mendy, Saul Duran, Cesar Bazan and Angel Manfredy, to name some of the more notables. In 2000, Johnston lost the WBC belt to Jose Luis Castillo and three months later they fought to a draw (Johnston was declared the winner by majority decision, but there was a scoring error resulting in the draw). The smooth southpaw, originally from Denver, has won two in a row, seven of his last eight. He’d like nothing better than a 2006 showdown against any of the high-profile light welterweights in the world such as Floyd Mayweather, Ricky Hatton, or Miquel Cotto.

Prince Badi defends one of his four title titles, the WBC Continental Americas light heavyweight crown he captured this past October via a ninth-round TKO of five-time world kickboxing champion Orlando “The Warrior” Rivera, who at the time was rated No. 9 by the WBC. Earlier this month Badi won a unanimous 12-round decision against Thomas Reid for the vacant WBC

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CABOFE (Caribbean Boxing Federation) belt. The 33-year-old Camden, New Jersey native also holds the IBC Intercontinental and Pennsylvania titles. Next year he wants to challenge WBC light heavyweight champion Tomasz Adamek.

“The Boxing Prince” has won five in a row, nine of his last 10, and he plans on staying busy. “I want to do something in boxing that hasn’t been done in a long time,” Badi explained. “I want to defend my title more often, at least three or four times a year, for the next three or four years. I want to give people something to look forward to.”

Johnston and Prince Badi (Jan. 27 opponents soon to be announced) are now both trained by Hall of Famer Buddy McGirt, whose stable of warriors also include Antonio Tarver and Arturo Gatti, and fight out of St. Petersburg (FL).

A total of three-world title and five regional championships will be on the line in “Collision Course, A Night of Champions.” Also appearing on the five-fight PPV card is former three-time world champion Virgil “Quicksilver” Hill (49-5, 23 KOs) – with whom Silverhawk Boxing has a marketing agreement – squaring off against unbeaten Russian challenger Valery Brudov (20-0, 23 KOs) for the vacant WBA cruiserweight belt in the 12-round main event; IBF minimumweight title-holder Muhammad “The Rock Breaker” Rachman (50-7-7-4, 22 KOs) defends his belt against No. 1 contender Omar “Lobito” Soto (14-2-1, 10 KOs), while “Mighty” Mike Aranoutis (14-0-2, 6 KOs) battles for the NABO/USBA lightweight crowns versus TBA.

Tickets, priced at \$200, \$150, \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$35, may be purchased at the Tropicana box office (800.526.2935, 609.340.4020) or by calling Ticketmaster (800.736.1420).

For more information about Silverhawk Boxing visit www.silverhawkboxing.com .