Written by David A. Avila
Friday, 22 July 2011 06:32

LAS VEGAS-Brooklyn fights Bolton or Hollywood faces Las Vegas, take your pick as IBF junior welterweight titleholder Zab Judah clashes with WBA titleholder Amir Khan in a unification bout.

Both champions met at the Mandalay Bay on Thursday afternoon for the final press conference. On Saturday July 23, they will meet in the ring in a bout set for 12 rounds to decide who takes home both belts. The other fighters on the Golden Boy and Main Events cards also met.

A rather large crowd for Thursday afternoon met in the press room where both contingents gave their final verbal blasts.

“I’ll let my fists do the talking,” said Khan (25-1, 17 KOs).

Judah was given a championship ring by Main Events promoter Kathy Duva for his title win earlier this year. Now comes the next effort that most expect to be even tougher for the southpaw quicksilver.

“Saturday night I’m going to give you the best Zab Judah,” Judah (41-6, 28 KOs) said after momentarily admiring the stunning ring given to him by Duva. “I got my second wind.”

Khan likes the match up with Judah.

“It’s going to be an exciting fight,” Khan said. “Lot’s of people say I’m chinny..lots of people question his chin... We’re both fast and powerful.”

In the semi-main event Peter “Kid Chocolate” Quillen (24-0, 18 KOs) was supposed to meet Travis Simms he fell through. Now Quillen faces Jason LeHoullier (21-5-1, 8 KOs).

“This is a stepping stone, a barricade that I got to bust down,” Quillen said while dressed to the max in a suit. “Bring on all of them. Bring on Sergio Martinez all on the same day.”

After a short chuckle Quillen added “they say I’m a little cuckoo.”

Former U.S. Olympian Gary Russell Jr. faces Chicago’s Eric Estrada the fighter, not the television star.

“This is an extremely great honor to be on this promotion,” Russell (16-0, 10 KOs) said. Texas middleweight James Kirkland returns to the ring too.

“I look forward to it,” said Kirkland who is training with Ann Wolfe again.

Orange County’s Ronny Rios (14-0, 6 KOs) has an eight round bout with Mexico’s Noe Lopez Jr. (8-8, 5 KOs).

“Thank you so much for the opportunity on a card of this magnitude,” Rios said.

A super middleweight contest features another of Zab’s brothers Josiah Judah (9-1-1, 2 KOs) facing Poland’s Rafal Jastrzebski (4-6-1) in a six round match.

“I’m not going to talk much,” Judah said.

Jastrzebski said little too.

“I will give a good fair match,” he said.

A heavyweight rematch pits Bryant Jennings versus Theron Johnson. Will six rounds be enough?

“What I plan to do is rejuvenate the heavyweight division,” Jennings said. “I’ll put on a show for you.

Johnson is confident too.

“It’s going to be a better fight than it was in Atlantic City,” Johnson claims. “We’re going to put on a good show.”

The fight will also be shown on regular HBO.