

# TOP RANK



**JULIO CÉSAR CHÁVEZ, JR. vs. ANDY LEE**

**WORLD MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Saturday, June 16 at Sun Bowl Stadium**

**Live on HBO World Championship Boxing®**

***Tickets Go On Sale Saturday, April 28!***

**EL PASO, TEX. (April 18, 2012)** – Undefeated World Middleweight Champion and the Son of the Legend, **JULIO CÉSAR CHÁVEZ, JR.** returns to the boxing metropolis of El Paso, Texas for the first time in nearly six years, headlining “

***Viva Chávez!***”

on

**Saturday, June 16,**

at

## Chavez Jr. vs Lee: WHO DO YA LIKE?

Written by The Sweet Science  
Thursday, 19 April 2012 08:41

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### Sun Bowl Stadium.

Chávez Jr., who will be making the third defense of the title he won last year, against No. 2-world-rated contender

### ANDY LEE,

marks the first world championship fight to be held in Sun Bowl Stadium since June 13, 1998 when Oscar De La Hoya knocked out Patrick Charpentier in the second round to retain his welterweight crown. The Chávez Jr. vs. Lee world championship rumble will be televised live on

### HBO World Championship Boxing

®

, beginning at

**10 p.m. ET.**

Promoted by Top Rank, in association with Zanfer Promotions, DiBella Entertainment, AT&T and Tecate, **tickets** to the Chávez Jr. vs. Lee world title tilt go on sale **Saturday April 28 at 2 p.m. ET / Noon MT**

. Tickets, priced at \$200, \$100, \$60, \$40 and \$25, plus applicable service charges, can be purchased at the UTEP Ticket Center, all Ticketmaster outlets, online at

[www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

and by phone at

[\(915\) 747-5234](tel:9157475234)

These two warriors boast a combined record of 73-1-1 (51 KOs) – a winning percentage of 97% and a victory by knockout ratio of 70%.

"I am facing a tough, difficult opponent in Andy Lee. This will be the toughest fight of my career," said Chávez, Jr.

"I am honored to have this opportunity. I have been waiting my whole life for this opportunity. It is going to be a great show," said Lee. "I'd like to thank Emanuel Steward, Perry Mander, my entire management team along with Lou DiBella and DiBella Entertainment for everything they have done to make this a reality. I also would like to extend a very special thank you to Top Rank and the Chávez Family and Freddie Roach. The Boxing World is going to see a World Class Fight!"

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"This fight between Julio César Chávez Jr and Andy Lee is a remarkable one - two young, handsome warriors, from different parts of the world," said Hall of Fame promoter Bob Arum. "Chávez Jr is from Mexico, Lee is from Ireland and each will be doing his best to make his country proud."

"I am thrilled that Andy Lee is getting his long-deserved shot at a middleweight championship," said Lou DiBella, Lee's promoter. "Julio César Chávez Jr. deserves credit for taking on the biggest challenge of his career. On June 16<sup>th</sup> a new champion will be crowned in El Paso, Texas."

"Julio César Chávez Jr. vs. Andy Lee is a terrific matchup that will intrigue fight fans everywhere," said Kery Davis, senior vice president of programming, HBO Sports. "With the Sun Bowl in El Paso as the backdrop this will be a very compelling and significant World Championship Boxing telecast."

Chávez Jr. (45-0-1, 31 KOs), of Culiacan, México, making his first appearance in El Paso since August 19, 2006 when he knocked out Jermaine White in the fourth round of their welterweight bout, is the son of Mexico's greatest fighter **Julio César Chávez**. Chávez, 26, took up the "family business" in 2003, winning a four-round decision in his professional debut. Eight years later, the reigning World Middleweight Champion and superior gate attraction is poised to make his own mark in the boxing world. He took a major step toward that goal by enlisting legendary trainer **Freddie Roach** to take him to the next level. Their first fight together was a gigantic success, a dominant 12-round unanimous decision victory over top-10 contender

### **John Duddy**

(29-1, 18 KOs) in June 2010 at the Alamodome in San Antonio. After his January 29, 2011 unanimous decision win over Billy Lyell, Chávez Jr. became the second family member to win a world title, dethroning undefeated World Boxing Council (WBC) middleweight champion Sebastian Zbik via a majority decision. That June 4, 2011 slugfest took place at STAPLES Center in Los Angeles just a few blocks north of the Olympic Auditorium where the legendary

### **Julio C ésar Ch ávez**

won  
*his*

first world title. Chávez Jr. successfully defended his title on November 19, 2011 with a fifth-round knockout of Top-Five contender Peter Manfredo, Jr. at Reliant Arena in Houston, followed by a hard-fought unanimous decision on February 4 over No. 1 contender Marco Antonio Rubio at the Alamodome.

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Lee (28-1, 20 KOs), who at 6'2, is one inch taller than Chávez, Jr., was born in London but is Irish of heritage. Ireland's sole boxing representative in the 2004 Olympics, Lee made his professional debut in 2006, winning a six-round decision over Anthony Cannon. Trained at the famed Kronk Gym in Detroit by Hall of Fame inductee Emanuel Steward, who has referred to Lee as "my left-handed Tommy Hearns," Lee possesses exceptional skills, speed and movement, complemented by good punching power and experience against good opposition. He enters this fight riding a four-year, 13-bout winning streak with eight of those victories coming inside the distance, including a win over Bryan Vera last October to avenge the only loss on his professional ledger. He enters this fight as a consensus Top Three world-rated contender, ranked No. 2 by the World Boxing Association (WBA) and World Boxing Organization (WBO) and No. 3 by the WBC.

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### **mortcola says:**

Chavez. Lee is a righteous kid with some good offensive skills and heart. But he is very easy to hit and very easy to hurt. Chavez is at very least a more durable toe-to-toe warrior, and will win by KO.

### **deepwater says:**

Hmmm..... Who has the potential to make the most money for everyone involved? andy lee nver/hasnt caught on because he has been hiding under manny stewards bed scared of taking on live opponants since vera schooled him. sparring klitco does not make the cut. Chavez proved he can put asses in the seats and his name goes along way. im going with 185 pound chavez wearing down boring andy lee.if its close and goes to the cards then just think who has the best chance to make money.....chavez

### **ultimoshogun says:**

I'll take Jr....he'll be the tougher busier fighter. Lee just didn't impress me at all when he fought McEwan....the way that fight was going I thought McEwan was the guy being showcased in that fight.

### **Radam G says:**

WTF! An Irish pugilist with the last name Lee! He ain't a Bruce. JCCJ is gonna nail him to the ring post and beat the holy and unholy \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ outta him. Hehehe! Holla!

### **Radam G says:**

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Danggit! I got the taste for some Andy Lee -- I mean Sara Lee. Hehehehe! Some double fudge Sara Lee cookies would be tasty like the arse thrashing that the son of a legend is going to put on poor, ole Andy. Not even the great boxing guru Manny Steward is going to be able to cross out the cruxifixion that JCCJ is going put on AL. OCCHI! Holla!

### **brownsugar says:**

[B] I can't really argue with anything you guys have already said. Lee has a certain vulnerability to him, and he's gassed out before.....this truth cannot be denied.[/B]

[B] I remember the pre-pubescent Lee, sparkling with the spirit of a standout amateur and an up-and-coming TV commodity,.... sparkling with brilliance on ESPN as if he was the next coming of Sugar Ray....[/B]

[B] but then reality struck and the crude buck-wild,...fiercely determined pit-bull-like Vera stole his shine... on a night when Lee didn't know he was in the deep end of the pool. ....On a day that should have been his unveiling,.. his spotless debut..... to the boxing world.[/B]

[B] however Lee did take charge in the rematch and showed that as long as he can focus, and if he knows in advance what his opponent has to bring to the ring..... he can win.[/B]

[B] Chavez may be bigger, ...may have the better condition, and may have developed an effective wear-em-down-then wear-em out technique engineered by Freddie Roach..... but he rarely if ever wins by one-punch KO.[/B]

[B] By contrast Lee can box,... and has a history of winning with a single punch. even late in a fight. [/B]

[B] At one time Lee was known for having a sparring partner mentality,.. he was reportedly a killer at the kronk gym,.. Lee gained a reputation of being a fierce competitor who gave guys like a prime Jermaine Taylor and other high profile middleweights a hard time. of course Sparring and actually fighting are two different things. [/B]

[B] But Lee has mellowed,.. he's learned... and he's suffered. [/B]

[B] Instead of looking like a simulac driven amateur of his younger days, Nowadays Lee looks like a baby faced version of a pugilistic Nick Nolte,.. [/B]

[B] gruff, and coarse,... with an I don't give a sh\*t attitude...[/B]

[B] Now Lee's an I'll whoop your arse any day of the week and twice on sunday kind of guy.... he finally has that swagger like Jagger. [/B]

[B] Lee is all grown up,.. and he knows what it takes to be a pro... he's had the experience of winning even when he's having a bad night (McEwan)...[/B]

[B] I'm giving Lee 51.9999 % odds of schooling the weight challenged Chavez Junior and getting him out of there inside the distance. [/B]

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[B]Go Lee,... !!!!![/B]

[B]if I'm wrong,.. the highly esteemed Mister Lee can serve me breakfast...[/B]

[B].....a breakfast of scrambled Crow. [/B]

### **brownsugar says:**

Scrambled Crow with black pepper and the ashes of Lee's career sprinkled on top.