LUCIAN BUTE TO DEFEND IBF 168-POUND TITLE

AGAINST GLEN JOHNSON NOV. 5 LIVE ON SHOWTIME®

AMIDST BACK-TO-BACK WEEKENDS
OF SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP ACTION

Live at 9 p.m. ET/PT, From Pepsi Coliseum in Quebec City, Canada

NEW YORK (Aug. 19, 2011) – Just seven days after **Andre Ward** and **Carl Froch** battle in **The Final**
of the
Super Six World Boxing Classic
, undefeated International Boxing Federation (IBF) Super Middleweight Champion
Lucian Bute
will headline on
SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING
when he makes the ninth defense of his 168-pound title against ageless former world light heavyweight champion
Glen "The Road Warrior'' Johnson
on
Saturday
,
Nov. 5

, live on
SHOWTIME
®
(9 p.m. ET/PT, delayed on the West Coast) from
Pepsi Coliseum
in
Quebec City
,
Canada
.

A gifted Romanian-born southpaw, Bute, 31, returns to his adopted home of Canada – after a fourth-round knockout over previously unbeaten, No. 1-ranked **Jean Paul Mendy** last July 9 in Romania – with an unblemished record of 29-0 with 24 KOs. The remarkable Johnson, 42, of Miami, Fla., is an 18-year veteran known for always giving his absolute best and fighting in an opponent's backyard. This will be the 10th appearance in a world title bout for the Jamaican-born Johnson (51-15-2, 35 KOs).

"I expect a very tough fight," Bute said. "I know Glen, and he's an aggressive fighter who will put relentless pressure on me. Everybody knows I sparred with him in 2009, but sparring and fighting are different. I become another person during a fight and you can be sure I'll have a few surprises for Glen.

"Glen's a former world champion and he will be in a great shape. He fought hard against a lot of big names in boxing. This is a good challenge for me and beating Johnson is going to solidify my place among the elite in the super middleweight division."

The immensely popular Bute, who draws the biggest boxing crowds in all of Canada, has won six consecutive fights inside the distance and has been IBF champ since 2007.

"I'm extremely excited about this fight," Johnson said. "You will see the best Glen Johnson of the past few years. I'm coming to Canada to derail the Bute train and bring the IBF belt back to

the United States. My thanks to SHOWTIME for keeping me in the mix of world-class super middleweights and for doing so much for my career."

"If there is one man who won't be intimidated by the droves of fans who come out to see Lucian fight, it is Glen Johnson," said **Ken Hershman**, Executive Vice President and General Manager, SHOWTIME Sports. "The winner of this matchup puts himself in very good position to land some blockbuster fights within the division. Though both of these boxers are gentlemen outside of the ring, I expect we'll see both men fighting as if losing is not an option."

This past March 19, the 6-foot-2 ½-inch Bute scored two knockdowns en route to a 10th-round technical knockout over a determined
Brian Magee
at the Bell Centre in Montreal. In his 2008 SHOWTIME debut, Bute retained the IBF belt on
ShoBox: The New Generation
with a lopsided 12-round decision over
Librado Andrade
in one of the most controversial and talked about final rounds of the last decade. Bute signed a multi-fight deal with SHOWTIME in November 2010.

Johnson dropped a competitive 12-round majority decision to Froch in a terrific Super Six World Boxing Classic Semifinal matchup in his most recent outing last June 4 on SHOWTIME. Johnson landed his fair share of hard shots but Froch retaliated with brutal combos each time to win by the scores of 117-111, 116-112 and 114-114.

Two starts ago, the 5-foot-11 Johnson earned the shot at Froch by scoring an eighth-round TKO over **Allan Green** in Group Stage 3 of the Super Six on Nov. 6, 2010. Johnson, making his first start at 168 pounds in 10 years, replaced the injured **Mikkel Kessler** and looked fantastic in his super middleweight return.

Despite being the challenger in the Nov. 5 fight, Johnson's resume boasts a far more impressive roster of opponents than Bute's. The always-game Johnson has been in the ring with **Bernard Hopkins**, **Tavoris Cloud**, **Chad Dawson** and owns victories over future Hall of Famers, **Roy Jones Jr**. and **Antonio Tarver** .

The world title fight is promoted by Interbox, DiBella Entertainment and Warriors Boxing.

Steve Albert will call the action with **Al Bernstein** and Tarver providing color commentary and **Jim Gray**
serving as ringside reporter.
David Dinkins Jr.
is the executive producer of SHOWTIME Sports with
Ray Smaltz
producing and
Bob Dunphy
directing.

Comment on this article

Radam G says:

Wow! Bute is constantly fighting spent opponents. Hmm! He really need to get a prime dime, and not all these pennies and nickles. The Roadwarrior is about about a nickle and two pennies. So Bute may be in trouble, because that Johnson change is known to act strange. Johnson could surprise Bute, and dat ain't funny, but I won't bet any of my money. Holla!

the Roast says:

This should be a good one. Old Glen has nothing to lose and he will let it all hang out. He will make Bute fight hard. I'm not sure if Lucian can go 12 hard rounds. Hard not think of that 12th round knockdown vs Andrade. I admire the fighting heart of Johnson. Kelly Pavlik could learn a thing or two from Glen.

brownsugar says:

Bute has been very effective with dispensing killer body shots and uppercuts against 2nd and 3rd tier competition. If he can handle Johnson in similar fashion, I'd be very impressed. But it's more realistic to expect Johnson to get in some good work in a competitive fight. The results of this fight will enable to world to finally get a true gauge on how good Bute really is. If Bute Wins impressively, his showdown with the supersix winner will be hyped beyond imagination... expectations will soar.... and the winner will be annointed "the true undisputed King of the SuperMiddleWeights" and be exalted into the annals of history...can't wait!