

Usarov-Barthelemy Tops Feb. 4 Undercard in Albany

Written by The Sweet Science
Tuesday, 10 January 2012 17:25

NEW YORK, NEW YORK (January 10, 2012) A sensational undercard is being compiled by **Joe DeGuardia's Star Boxing** for their upcoming event, "**KO AT THE TU**" on **Saturday, February 4th** at the **Times Union Center** in Albany, New York.

World class prospects in the bantamweight division will clash in a scheduled ten rounder as undefeated Russian standout **Sahib Usarov** challenges **Yan Barthelemy** of Cuba for the **WBO Inter-Continental Title**.

The 28-year-old Usarov, sporting a record of 17-0 (6KO's) is currently world ranked #10 by the **World Boxing Organization** and is the reigning **WBO European Bantamweight Champion**.

Making his debut in the United States at "**KO AT THE TU**", the southpaw Usarov is coming off a dominant unanimous decision win over **Yuriy Voronin** on December 17th in Kiev, Ukraine.

Barthelemy, a **Gold Medalist in the 2004 Olympic Games** in Athens, Greece, currently resides in Miami, Florida. In his last outing, broadcast on **ESPN2's Friday Night Fights**, the southpaw improved to 12-2 (4KO's) with a brilliant performance winning a ten round decision over **Francis Ruiz** on March 18, 2011 in Hollywood, Florida.

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Also added to the undercard of **“KO AT THE TU”** is a scheduled eight round super middleweight battle featuring undefeated **on “Monstruo” Escalera** of Union City, New Jersey and **Marcus Brooks** of Atlanta, Georgia.

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The heavy-handed Escalera has become one of the New York/New Jersey area’s most popular fighters since turning professional four years ago. Known for his show-stopping knockouts, Escalera carries a record of 12-0 (11KO’s), his last five fights ending by knockout within the first three rounds.

In his last start on October 22, 2011, Escalera scored a second round stoppage of **Mickey Scarborough** at the **Tropicana Hotel and Casino** in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The knockout, coming from a barrage of power shots, was shown LIVE across North America on **Azteca Television’s “Boxeo Azteca”**.

Brooks, a native of the boxing rich country of Puerto Rico, now resides in Atlanta, Georgia, carries a record of 7-8 (3KO’s) and has battled numerous undefeated prospects including **Vane s Martirosyan, Brad Solomon** and **Andy Mejias**. Brooks has never been stopped in his career.

Already announced in the main event at **“KO AT THE TU”** is a heavyweight showdown between defending **IBA Champion Joe “The Future” Hanks** of Newark, New Jersey and monstrous **Cuban Rafael Pedro**.

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The previously announced cruiserweight bout between **David Telesco** and **Vincent Miranda** has been postponed due to a training injury suffered by Miranda.

Additional bouts and much more information on “**KO AT THE TU**” will be announced in the coming days.