Lopez (right) pulled off one mega upset, when he took out Ortiz. Could his lightning strike twice? Could he topple Canelo (left)?

LAS VEGAS (Sept. 11, 2012) – All eight fighters participating in **Saturday's** blockbuster **Mexic an Independence Day**
weekend world championship event on

SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING
arrived in grand fashion at
MGM Grand
in Las Vegas on Tuesday.

Group Photo (from left to right) - **Leo Santa Cruz**, **Marcos Maidana**, **Jhonny Gonzalez**, **Canelo Alvarez**
, Golden Boy Promotions President
Oscar De La Hoya
,
Josesito Lopez
,
Daniel Ponce De Leon
,
Jesus Soto Karass
and
Eric Morel
.

Incredibly popular and undefeated superstar **Canelo Alvarez** will defend his WBC Super Welterweight World Championship against breakout star
Josesito Lopez
on Saturday, Sept. 15, live on
SHOWTIME
(9 p.m. ET/ 6 p.m. PT) from the
MGM Grand Garden Arena
in Las Vegas.

The four-fight, three world championship event also features WBC Featherweight World Champion **Jhonny Gonzalez** defending his crown against former World Champion **Daniel Ponce De Leon**
, former World Champion
Marcos Maidana
squaring off against perennial contender
Jesus Soto Karass
and
Leo Santa Cruz
defending his IBF Bantamweight World Championship against former Two-Time World Champion
Eric Morel

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Below are two select quotes from Tuesday's grand arrivals.

CANELO ALVAREZ:

"Josesito earned the right to be here. I'm not underestimating him at all. I want to continue on this path, but I have to get through Josesito first."

JOSESITO LOPEZ:

"I can't say I don't like being the underdog. It adds excitement to the fight and makes me want to pull off the upset that much more."

ABOUT "KNOCKOUT KINGS":

"Knockout Kings," headlined by **Canelo Alvarez** defending his WBC Super Welterweight World Championship against breakout star **J osesito Lopez**, is presented by Golden Boy Promotions and Canelo Promotions in association with Goossen Tutor Promotions and Thompson Boxing Promotions and sponsored by Corona, DeWalt Tools, AT&T and O'Reilly Auto Parts. In the co-featured attractions, WBC Featherweight World Champion **Jhonny Gonzalez** defends his crown against former World Champion **Daniel Ponce De Leon** in fight presented in association with Promociones Del Pueblo, former World Champio **Marcos Maidana** faces perennial contender **Jesus Soto Karass** in a 12-round fight for the vacant WBA Intercontinental Welterweight Title presented in association with Universum Box-Promotion and

Leo Santa Cruz
defends his IBF Bantamweight World Championship against former Two-Time World Champion

Eric Morel
. The Saturday, Sept. 15 quadruple-header, packed with Mexican pride and power, will take place at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas and will be televised live on SHOWTIME Saturday, Sept. 15 at 9:00 p.m. ET/6:00 p.m. PT with preliminary fights to air live on SHOWTIME EXTREME® at 8:00 p.m. ET/PT.

Tickets priced at $400, $300, $150, $50 and $25, not including applicable service charges and taxes, are on sale now and available for purchase. Ticket sales are limited to 10 per person. To charge by phone with a major credit card, call Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000 . Tickets also are available for purchase at
www.mgmgrand.com
or
www.ticketmaster.com
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Comment on this article

ultimoshogun says:

It really blows that these fights are the same night, since my buddy or myself don't have dvr. This card has great fights across the board. Soto Karass vs Maidana will be a war as long as it lasts, i'm guessing one won't make it to the final bell. I still have Canelo beating Lopez despite the buzz about Lopez looking good at this weight, should be a helluva fight, but the clock will strike 12 for Cinderella come saturday.

MisterLee says:

I know this is going to sound incredulous, but I have the feeling Lopez is going to knockout Canelo. What I mean is serious KO, like chicken dance sort of stuff, like Juanma throwing the water bottle at the ref kind of stuff. Here are my reasons.

1.) Originally I had the fight as a sure thing for Canelo: he's bigger, stronger, rather skilled for his size, can take a punch, a decent counter puncher, and underrated speed. He throws in combination, can have decent defense at times, and can move his feet. He's patient, wise beyond his years, and is methodical in his approach: i've never seen him lose his cool. He's a good overall fighter with a strong punch.

2.) Lopez was never a heavy hitter at 140 then yet 147. At 140 he looked gangly, skinny, and really just a thin, wiry kid with a tough heart and relentless pressure. However, at 147 he did

look a bit of a monster with extra muscle and thickness all around including his legs, calves, and shoulders. He can also take a punch too as he was never officially down from Ortiz who is basically a jr. middle or middleweight. Ortiz is faster than Canelo, and probably has a more dynamic punch whereas Canelo has more weight and "thud" (think Cotto's punch vs. a Mosley punch) behind it.

3.) My gut feeling is that Lopez has been putting in the work, has been able to take and give punishment to his sparring partners, and that leading up to the fight he will peak and will overcome the strength/size deficient. If he does that than we have an even fight. He is still taller which means if he fills out he'll actually be the bigger man. He has reach advantage which might mean a lot.

4.) Lopez is like the terminator: he'll never stop until you're dead. He'll keep coming at you relentlessly and in a way that's more intelligent and systenatic than Margarito or Rios. It could be b/c he's skinny, taller, and simply more athletic than those two or b/c he's more of a boxer than those two.

5.) Canelo showed in the Mosley fight that he gasses out after round 5. He started slapping his shots, and much of the snap on his punches were gone by rounds 8 & 10. He also lost a lot of killer instinct once it was apparent that Mosley was able to take his best shots and that he didn't have a shot at knocking him out. I feel guys with too much upper body muscle including Canelo, Berto, and Pascal tend to gas out in the later rounds b/c the muscles get tired. Big muscles get in the way of flow and mechanics and tire you out fast... Cotto, who's not overly muscular is naturally top heavy and we can see he loses steam after round 7 & 8 every time. We've also never seen Canelo take a steady diet of punishment throughout a 12 round fight. This will be a good fight & test. Rhodes, Baldomir, Cintron, Gomez, or old Mosley are not the level or prime that is Lopez is in now.

6.) I think it'll be a real dog fight and if can even knock Canelo off his game plan once or ding him good, he'll just wear him out and go in for the kill. This is me going out on a limb. I'm ready to serve or eat crow, so here I go!

brownsugar says:

I would very much like to see that scenario play out Mr Lee because of the one sided matchmaking...but I'm picking Canelo