

Andre Ward To Have Shoulder Surgery, Pavlik Fight Off

Written by The Sweet Science
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(OAKLAND, CALIF.) – WBA, WBC and Ring Magazine Super Middleweight World Champion **Andre Ward**

(Oakland, Calif.) will have surgery to repair a shoulder injury suffered just over a month ago during training.

“When I first got injured, there was a lot of inflammation, and the MRI was misread by the first

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radiologist. I've been doing extensive rehab and the shoulder was getting stronger, but after three and a half weeks of rehab, there was still slight pain that had me concerned enough to get two additional opinions," Ward said. "It was then diagnosed that there is a small tear in my shoulder capsule. It's not a major tear, but I can either rest it and see if it heals itself or speed up the process by surgically repairing it, and be stronger than I was before the injury and that's what we opted to do."

Ward is tentatively scheduled to have surgery late next week in the Bay Area.

"I'm working with one of the best orthopedic surgeons and physical therapists in Northern California, and I know that I will come back stronger than before. I appreciate all the support that I've already received and my fans can rest assured that I'm going to be back in the ring as soon as possible," Ward said. "Despite the injury, I still plan to have a big 2013 and hope to have two fights in the New Year."

"I was really looking forward to the fight with Pavlik. Everything was on board and situations happen, but I wish Kelly Pavilk and his team nothing but the best in the future," he added.

A 2004 Olympic Gold Medalist, Ward was the 2011 Fighter of the Year and continued his dominance in 2012 with a 10th round knockout victory over Chad Dawson in September. He was slated to face Pavlik in Los Angeles in early 2013 prior to the injury.

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dino da vinci says:

Ward is a truly great fighter, and an even better man. Get healthy, and since you only fight top-of-the-food-chain opponents, we'd prefer to see you at, or nearly at 100%.
Enjoy the holidays, as you deserve it.

Bernie Campbell says:

Andre Ward is the Man! Helenius and Jeff Lacy had similar operations. Helenius is damaged goods! Lacy was a shell of what he was! Hope for the best!