

Peterson Says He's Over KO Loss, Says Media Made Big Deal Of It

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 23 January 2014 19:07



WASHINGTON, D.C. (Jan. 23, 2014) -- Just a couple of days away from the first night of the initial **SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING** event in 2014, below please find what for **Peters on vs. Jean**

trainers, fighters and promoters had to say at the final press conference at Hamilton Live in Washington, D.C. on Thursday:

Lamont Peterson, IBF Junior Welterweight World Champion

"We're going to give everyone a great show; make sure you come out and support. Once you're inside you should be warm and kept plenty entertained by the fighters.

"It should be an entertaining fight, but at end of the day I'm going to come out victorious.

"I've seen Jean fight on film. He's tough. He's got good speed and power, basically everything that you look for in a fighter. It's going to be a good challenge.

"I can show you how I come back from a knockout better than I can tell you; you'll see Saturday night. You just have to forget it, it can happen to the best of us. Even basketball players shoot air ball free throws; sometimes that's just what happens. I didn't have a hard time dealing with it, just seemed like the media did.

"We train hard, we go into the fight and we are there to win, but of course there's a chance you can lose. That's what happened [with his fight against Lucas Matthisse], but you just have to pick yourself up and move on.

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"I have always been someone who thinks you can only be distracted if you allow it. If you don't allow distractions, then, they won't happen. I could train every day in this room with all these people in it and I won't have any distractions. But when you want distractions you'll have them. I always like to say that I'm here, but I'm not here, my family knows I take this very seriously and they know not to bother me.

"I don't feel like I have any pressure on me. I don't feel like I have to prove anything. At the end of the day, I love boxing. That's why I'm going to fight Saturday night. If I feel like I have to prove you wrong, I'll stress myself out, so, I just don't.

"If it was up to me, I would have fought three or four months after my last fight. Jean was the No. 1 contender and we had to negotiate and that stretched it out. Hopefully, next time it doesn't take so long and I can get back in the ring as soon as possible."

Dierry Jean, No. 1-Rated IBF Junior Welterweight Contender

"It's a pleasure to share the ring with Lamont Peterson. He's a good fighter.

"On Saturday, I'll show everybody that I'm the best fighter pound-for-pound."

Camille Estephan, Dierry Jean's promoter

"I consider Dierry Jean the top pound-for-pound fighter in Canada, and there are some very good fighters in Canada.

"We are here, not as tourists, but for the show and for the belt, and we are going to get that belt.

"It is our turn to shine, it is Dierry Jean's time to shine.

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"People have said that Dierry has not fought the level of opposition that Lamont has, but he has fought very good opposition. Everyone needs a chance and this is ours.

We're going to grab it, and run with it."

Jermell Charlo, USBA Junior Middleweight Champion

"Saturday I'm coming here with the mentality of 'lets get it,' 'got to get it,' 'lets go.' I'm not playing games, I live like this and I was brought up for this.

"I started when I was eight-years-old and I'm extremely grateful I have a competitor as a twin brother. We struggled together, we worked hard together, we grew up together and now we're at a stage in our lives and careers where we have to put up or shut up. We've got to stand strong for family.

"I have to win with a KO, it's a must. The way I grind, I know I push myself to the limit. My standards are high right now, I want titles and I want to be recognized as one of the top 154-pounders.

"Saturday night, expect something crazy. If his face holds up, we'll go 12 rounds. If not, we're knocking him out early."

Gabriel Rosado, Top Junior Middleweight Contender

"I've come up short and unfortunately the last fight was a title fight where I suffered a cut late in the fight. I felt that it was a premature stoppage, I felt like momentum was on my side. It was the game plan in the fight, to get Quillin late. He's a strong fighter and you don't want to make mistakes with him early. That's why it's a 12-round fight for a reason.

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"I'm excited because this is a new year and I'm now going back down to super welterweight where I have unfinished business. Last time I fought at 154 was 2012, when I had a great year knocking out Soto Karass, knocking out Powell, and clinching the No. 1 spot in the IBF knocking out Whittaker.

"There's no secret to my game plan, I'm going to go out and apply smart pressure. I'm not trying to let this go in the hands of the judges. I'm going for the knockout. I've already experienced that with J'Leon Love and Peter Quillin, so I want to put my destiny in my own hands. That doesn't mean I'm going to be reckless, I'm a young veteran. I know how to set a guy up and that's the plan.

"I think my experience will show against Charlo, I respect Charlo for taking this fight because it's a really tough fight. I commend him for that. I think he believes in himself, but I believe in myself too. This is about experience and I'm only 28 and I'm reaching my prime. The fans haven't seen the best of me yet.

"I just want to thank the fans, they spoke up for me. They booed when my last two fights went to decisions and they put their opinions on Twitter and Facebook and they backed me up. When you have that, the network sees that and responds to what the fans want. So I just personally want to thank the fans for supporting team Rosado."

Bernard Hopkins, Future Hall of Famer and Golden Boy Promotions Partner

"I'm glad to be here in DC, where I have a personal history, but right now it's about these guys up here. They're trying to establish themselves as up and coming.

"We believe Gabe received the shot because of the effort that he put together in 2013 on the cuts with Quillin in New Jersey and the Love fight. We don't know what the outcome would have been.

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"I want to say to all of the fighters here today that even if you come up short, when you put that sincere effort forward to stand out amongst your peers, we are going to support you.

"Jermell is a former amateur star, making a name for himself in the junior middleweight division. He will be risking his undefeated record against Rosado this Saturday night. Charlo, I believe, is the next champion in boxing. I really believe he has what it takes to become a star in boxing."

Chris DeBlasio, Vice President of Sports Communications, SHOWTIME Networks

"I'm proud to be up here and represent SHOWTIME and to be able to definitively say that our network is the No. 1 destination for sports programming in premium television. We have been able to do that over the last two years on the strength of shows like *Inside the NFL* and *60 MINUTES SPORTS*

, but boxing for nearly 30 years has been the flagship of sports programming on the network and it will remain as such.

"In the last two years we have risen our SHOWTIME boxing back to prominence by televising the biggest events featuring the brightest stars in the sport and in the most significant fights of their careers. Over the last two years we have been able to exponentially increase our ratings and our viewership has risen a remarkable 60 percent over those two years.

"We intend to continue that success in 2014 and that all begins at the DC Armory this Saturday night, with our first SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING event of the year. The fighters on this card, especially Lamont Peterson and Gabriel Rosado, they have faced the toughest challenges in their divisions over the past two years and they're doing so again Saturday night.

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Peterson vs. Jean, a 12-round fight for Peterson's IBF Junior Welterweight World Championship, will take place Saturday, Jan. 25, at the DC Armory in Washington, D.C. The event is promoted by Golden Boy Promotions and sponsored by Corona and AT&T. The live SHOWTIME telecast begins at 9:00 p.m. ET/PT (delayed on the West Coast) and will be

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available in Spanish via secondary audio programming (SAP). In the co-featured bout, Junior Middleweights Jermell Charlo and Gabriel Rosado square off in a 10-round fight for the WBC Continental Americas Super Welterweight Title. Preliminary bouts will air on SHOWTIME EXTREME[®] at 7:00 p.m. ET/PT (delayed on the West Coast).

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