

TOP PROSPECT MICHAEL DUTCHOVER TO FACE THOMAS MATTICE IN HOMECOMING BOUT ON SHOBOX: THE NEW GENERATION FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 LIVE FROM MIDLAND, TEXAS

NEW YORK – August 22, 2019 – Undefeated lightweight prospect Michael Dutchover returns to ShoBox: The New Generation seeking to make a statement win in his homecoming fight against Thomas Mattice in the 10-round main event of a three-fight telecast on Friday, September 20 live on SHOWTIME (10:30 p.m. ET/PT) from La Hacienda Event Center in Midland, Texas.

The fast-rising Texan prospect Dutchover (13-0, 10 KOs) returns for his second consecutive test on ShoBox after making an impressive debut in May with a first-round knockout. The 21-year-old prospect will face his toughest test to date in ShoBox veteran Mattice (14-1-1, 10 KOs), a fearless five-year pro that has displayed promising boxing skills in previous appearances on the developmental prospect series.

In a battle of undefeated featherweight prospects, two-time Junior Olympic National Champion and two-time Golden Gloves Champion Ruben Villa (16-0, 5 KOs) will face Garcia Promotions' most coveted prospect, Mexico's Enrique Vivas (17-0, 9 KOs) in a 10-round matchup. In the opening bout, undefeated welterweight prospect Brandun Lee (14-0, 12 KOs) will face an opponent yet to be named.

Tickets for the event, which is promoted by Banner Promotions and Thompson Boxing in association with GH3 Promotions, Garcia Promotions and Now Boxing Promotions, are priced at \$120, \$100

and \$80 and can be purchased online at www.haciendamidland.com or by calling 432-563-3737.

“We were able to put together one of the best ShoBox cards we’ve seen so far this year thanks to the collective efforts of five promoters that didn’t shy away from matching their prospects tough,” said Gordon Hall, Executive Producer of ShoBox: The New Generation. “We get to see unbeaten Michael Dutchover making his hometown debut in a step-up fight against the talented Thomas Mattice, a match of unbeaten prospects in Villa vs. Vivas and the series debut of a top prospect and former amateur standout Brandun Lee. September 20, is without any doubt, the classic example of what ShoBox is all about.”

“We are excited to once again be able to showcase Michael Dutchover and Ruben Villa on ShoBox,” said Artie Pelullo, President and CEO, Banner Promotions. “It will be a great experience for Michael to fight at home and continue his ascension up the ranks. Ruben is ranked very high, so we expect a great performance as he continues to position himself for a world title.”

“In a lot of ways this is a coming out party for Michael, but anyone that has followed his career knows he boasts world championship talent and has the dedication to get to the top,” said Ken Thompson, President of Thompson Boxing. “Also on the card is Ruben, another supremely talented youngster that will also be in the mix for a world title shot in the near term. Boxing fans who tune in on SHOWTIME are going to see two incredible talents.”

Dutchover, of Santa Fe Springs, Calif. by way of Midland, Texas, started boxing at the age of eight, compiling a notable amateur record of 130-17. He was a runner-up at the 2016 National Golden Gloves and a Bronze Medalist in the 2016 Olympic qualifiers, turning pro shortly afterwards. Dutchover, who boasts a 77 percent KO ratio, has knocked out his last five opponents including durable prospect Rosekie Cristobal in

his last outing in just 109 seconds.

Dutchover will wear former NFL running back and legendary Texas Longhorn player Cedric Benson's jersey to the ring on fight night. Benson, who also played football for the renowned Robert E. Lee High School in Midland, was fatally injured in a motorcycle accident on August 17.

"Mattice is a talented fighter, he will bring out the best in me," said Dutchover, who is excited to headline in his hometown. "Fighting at home means everything to me. I have fought mostly in California and on the East Coast. This homecoming is overdue. Like Friday Night Lights, I will be the next big thing from Midland, Texas. I will have my teachers, coaches and classmates there on fight night. I am ready for a big outing."

Mattice, who is making his fifth start on the series, is looking to rebound after last minute opponent, Will Madera, handed him his first defeat in his last ShoBox appearance. Hailing from Cleveland, Ohio, the 28-year-old lightweight fought to a split-draw in an immediate rematch with Zhora Hamazaryan in September 2018 after winning a controversial split-decision in their first bout. Prior to his back-to-back fights with Hamazaryan, Mattice had won six consecutive bouts via knockout. He scored a decision over Angel Sarinana in his last start in May.

"I am focused and confident," said Mattice. "I haven't watched much on my opponent. I let my team watch and develop the best possible game plan. I know he is a durable guy but I'm coming to win. This is my fifth ShoBox appearance and I feel that shows people recognize my talent and hard work."

"Since day one Thomas Mattice has put his character on the line letting everyone know he doesn't duck anyone," said Mattice's promoter Vito Mielnicki, President of GH3 Promotions. "It's a crossroads fight for both fighters; Mike [Dutchover] is young and hungry and has never been in a top-

level fight but has the pedigree, and Thomas has been tested and proven he belongs. It's going to be the fight of the night. I predict Thomas will win by KO."

The 22-year-old Villa of Salinas, Calif., returns for his third consecutive test on ShoBox after scoring a unanimous decision over Luis Alberto Lopez in May and outclassing then-unbeaten Ruben Cervera in January. Villa, who started boxing at the age of five, owns victories over Shakur Stevenson, Devin Haney and Gary Antonio Russell as an amateur (166-17). He turned pro in 2016 and is considered by many a prospect to watch. He hopes to continue his rapid ascension in the featherweight ranks with an exceptional showing against the undefeated Vivas.

"I am looking forward to performing in front of the fans in Texas," said Villa, "I sparred with Enrique Vivas in the past, he's an aggressive fighter. My team and I put together a good game plan and I'm going to follow it. I think a win here will position me a step closer to a title shot. I hope to be in a title eliminator or championship fight within the next 12-to-18 months. I have my eye on the vacant WBO belt."

Vivas of Texcoco, Mexico, is coming off a unanimous decision victory over Jose Estrella in his United States debut in June. He started training in martial arts and kickboxing from an early age, turning to the sweet science at 17, after a motorcycle accident. As an amateur, he won national, regional and state championships, amassing a 93-7 record. He turned pro in late 2014 and has stayed very active, fighting three-to-five times per year. Nicknamed "El Ejecutor" (The Executioner) for his devastating combinations, the 25-year-old has built his undefeated record against limited opposition and a victory over a gifted prospect like Villa can catapult his rise through the ranks.

"I am very happy I got this opportunity," said Vivas, who is making his television debut on September 20. "Ruben Villa is a

very strong southpaw with a lot of experience. He is one of the best featherweights out there. I'm up for the challenge. All of the struggles I have been through in my life have led me here, to this fight. When I fight, I let it all out. It will be a very exciting fight. Don't miss it."

"I'm very excited for Vivas' debut on ShoBox," said four-division champion Mikey Garcia, who is the President of Garcia Promotions. "This is a 50-50 fight. When we agreed to this matchup, we made the decision with a premise in mind that we firmly believe in: We fight the best to be the best. That is and will continue to be the foundation of Garcia Promotions."

Super lightweight prospect Lee, of Coachella, Calif., turned pro at 17 after a stellar amateur run (196-5). He has sparred with Mikey Garcia, Devin Haney and Mauricio Herrera. Trained by his father Bobby, the 20-year-old has built up an 86-percent knockout ratio. A very active fighter, he has fought Pablo Martinez and Jorge Munguia. A definitive win on his TV debut would help put his name on the map.

"I am very excited and grateful for this opportunity to fight on national television," said Lee. "I am young and any good performance will boost my career in a positive way, whether it is a knockout or decision. I am a boxer-puncher and I can adapt to anything in the ring. I am looking forward to showcasing my skills on national television."

"I can't describe how excited I am about Brandun Lee," said Now Boxing Promotions' Cameron Dunkin, Lee's promoter. "He was 196-5 as an amateur and won 16 National Championships. He is truly gifted and very talented. He's of Korean heritage and his fan base is huge. They really support him. He has an amazing future."

Barry Tompkins will call the action from ringside with boxing historian Steve Farhood and former world champion Raul Marquez serving as expert analysts. The executive producer is Gordon

Hall with Chuck McKean producing and Rick Phillips directing.

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About ShoBox: The New Generation

Since its inception in July 2001, the critically acclaimed SHOWTIME boxing series, ShoBox: The New Generation has featured young talent matched tough. The ShoBox philosophy is to televise exciting, crowd-pleasing and competitive matches while providing a proving ground for willing prospects determined to fight for a world title. Some of the growing list of the 80 fighters who have appeared on ShoBox and advanced to garner world titles includes: Errol Spence Jr., Andre Ward, Deontay Wilder, Erislandy Lara, Shawn Porter, Gary Russell Jr., Lamont Peterson, Guillermo Rigondeaux, Nonito Donaire, Devon Alexander, Carl Froch, Robert Guerrero, Timothy Bradley, Jessie Vargas, Juan Manuel Lopez, Chad Dawson, Paulie Malignaggi, Ricky Hatton, Kelly Pavlik, Paul Williams and more.

Brandon Adams Proves He Belongs on the World Stage

PHILADELPHIA / LOS ANGELES – July 1, 2019 -This past Saturday night, Brandon Adams announced himself as a top contender as he put on a gutsy performance against undefeated WBC World Middleweight Champion Jermall Charlo in Charlo's hometown of Houston.

The bout was the main event that and was televised live on SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING®, in which Adams gave a strong account for himself.

Adams took some of the best shots that the power punching Charlo could throw, and not only was Adams never hurt in the fight, in the later rounds, he began to take the fight to the hometown champion.

“I was ready to risk it all. I went into the fight looking to dominate and get the stoppage victory. I knew going into the fight that is what I needed to do going into his hometown,” said Adams.

Adams was not in the least intimidated by stepping into enemy territory, but there were a few things that happened during the fight that he did not expect which hindered his gameplan.

“The referee would not let me get low. As you saw during the fight, I was crouching down to get inside, but the referee gave me a warning for doing that. I had to think of a different way to get in there without revealing myself,” continued Adams.

Although, the television announcers and many on social media seemed surprised at the gutsy effort from Adams, the Watts, California native was very confident of his abilities as he entered the ring on Saturday night.

“I feel good. I knew I was capable of being on that level. I took out of the fight is that there are a few little things that I can work on and that I could have done in there. I did not know the referee would not let me get low or even let us fight in close as much as I wanted. I felt he would break us a little quickly. I also got hit in the back of the head a couple of times. Fighting in his hometown was tough.”

“I know this fight will help me better myself. Coming out of The Contender, my goal was to fight at 154 pounds, but this

was a world title opportunity. I proved that I am on that level at 160, and I will now look for the best opportunities at both 154 and 160.”

“We are very proud of Brandon. He fought very hard and put on a great performance,” said Artie Pelullo of Banner Promotions. “Brandon proved that he is a world class fighter, and now the world has seen what we already knew, that he is on the elite level. There will be many doors that will be open for him to secure more big fights.”

“I was impressed on how Brandon performed,” said Jeff Wald, Co-Creator and Co-Executive Producer of The Tournament of Contenders. “He has a big career ahead of him at both 154 and 160 pounds.”

For regular updates on our fighters, events, and promotions, please like the Banner Promotions Facebook Page, and follow us on Instagram and Twitter

**JERMALL CHARLO vs. BRANDON
ADAMS FINAL WEIGHTS, QUOTES,
PHOTOS AND COMMISSION
OFFICIALS FOR WBC
MIDDLEWEIGHT WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP TOMORROW ON**

SHOWTIME®

HOUSTON – June 28, 2019 – Unbeaten middleweight champion Jermall Charlo and middleweight contender Brandon Adams both made the 160-pound weight limit a day before they square off Saturday night in the main event live on SHOWTIME from NRG Arena in Houston in an event presented by Premier Boxing Champions.

The SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING telecast begins at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT and features hard-hitting super welterweight Erickson “Hammer” Lubin taking on French contender Zakaria Attou in a 12-round WBC title elimination bout in the co-main event. Opening the telecast is a WBA featherweight title eliminator between slick Mexican southpaw Eduardo Ramirez and power-punching Dominican Claudio Marrero.

SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING is produced by David Dinkins Jr., executive producer of Showtime Sports, and directed by Bob Dunphy. Arguably the best announcing team in boxing today will once again entertain fans with the fight-night call led by veteran broadcaster and host Brian Custer. Versatile combat sportscaster Mauro Ranallo will call the blow-by-blow action alongside Hall of Fame analyst Al Bernstein and former two-division world champion Paulie Malignaggi. Three Hall of Famers rounded out the telecast team – Emmy® award winning reporter Jim Gray, boxing historian Steve Farhood as unofficial ringside scorer, and world-renowned ring announcer Jimmy Lennon Jr. Alejandro Luna and former world champion Raul Marquez hosted the telecast in Spanish, available via Secondary Audio Programming (SAP).

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Lions Only Promotions and TGB Promotions, are on sale now and can be purchased through Ticketmaster. Charlo vs. Adams is promoted in association with Banner Promotions and The Tournament of Contenders.

OFFICIAL WEIGHTS

WBC Middleweight World Championship – 12 Rounds

Jermall Charlo – 159 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds

Brandon Adams – 160 pounds

Referee: Laurence Cole; Judges: Don Griffin (Texas), Steve Morrow (Calif.), David Sutherland (Okla.)

WBC Super Welterweight Title Eliminator – 12 Rounds

Erickson Lubin – 153 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds

Zakaria Attou – 153 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds

Referee: Jon Schorle; Judges: Jesse Reyes (Texas), Mike Ross (Florida), Cory Santos (Nevada)

Featherweight Attraction – 12 Rounds

Eduardo Ramirez – 125 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds

Claudio Marrero – 125 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds

Referee: Rafael Ramos; Judges: Ruben Carrion (Texas), Glen Crocker (Texas), James Green (Texas)

FINAL QUOTES

Jermall Charlo

“I’m proud of the people of Houston for coming out and supporting me. I expect this to be a show. I’m going to give it my all. I’m going in there to defend my life.”

Brandon Adams

“I expect Charlo to come out and be his best because I’m bringing the absolute best Brandon ‘The Cannon’ Adams. I’m willing to dig deep. I’ve had a lot of time off to figure out who I am as a person. I had a three-year layoff and everybody thought that was going to be my downfall but it was actually my biggest upcoming. I’m looking forward to this challenge.”

SHOWTIME ANNOUNCERS WEIGH-IN ON THE MAIN-EVENT MATCHUP: CHARLO VS. ADAMS

Mauro Ranallo: “It always adds more energy when a champion

gets to defend his title in front of his hometown crowd. Jermall Charlo has some of the most devastating power in the division. Brandon Adams is a guy that is going to give it all he has. We've seen his heart and he's never going to stop coming at you and as an underdog, that's all we can ask for."

Paulie Malignaggi: "Jermall Charlo stands out as among the elite in the division and we have a hungry contender in Brandon Adams who is confident coming off a victory in THE CONTENDER. Charlo is a big step-up from anybody he has faced so I am looking forward to seeing whether Adams has what it takes to test Jermall Charlo. Adams has to make Charlo think and put him in situations where he has to work a little bit harder than he expects to in order to have a chance to win."

Steve Farhood: "Brandon Adams is a short middleweight and has huge legs. Style-wise he has to attack, that could play right into Jermall Charlo hands because Jermall has tremendous power and a very good jab. So style-wise, I give the edge to Charlo. Adams will have to bring it every round and you know what, he deserves this chance. He won on THE CONTENDER and he wasn't supposed to. He hadn't fought in three years. It's a feel-good story."

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ABOUT CHARLO VS. ADAMS

Charlo vs. Adams will pit unbeaten WBC Middleweight Champion and Houston's own Jermall Charlo against middleweight contender Brandon Adams in Charlo's hometown return Saturday, June 29 live on SHOWTIME from NRG Arena in Houston and presented by Premier Boxing Champions.

SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING begins at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT and features hard-hitting super welterweight Erickson "Hammer" Lubin taking on French contender Zakaria Attou in a 12-round WBC title elimination bout in the co-main event. Opening the telecast is a WBA featherweight title eliminator between slick

Mexican southpaw Eduardo Ramirez and power-punching Dominican Claudio Marrero.

For more information visit www.SH0.com/Sports, www.PremierBoxingChampions.com, follow on Twitter @ShowtimeBoxing, @PremierBoxing, @TGBPromotions and @Swanson_Comm or become a fan on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SH0Boxing.

JERMALL CHARLO VS. BRANDON ADAMS FINAL PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTES

HOUSTON (June 27, 2019) – Unbeaten middleweight champion Jermall Charlo and middleweight contender Brandon Adams went face-to-face at the final press conference Thursday before they square off this Saturday night in the main event live on SHOWTIME from NRG Arena in Houston and presented by Premier Boxing Champions.

Also facing off at Thursday's press conference, and competing in SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING action beginning at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT were super welterweights Erickson "Hammer" Lubin and France's Zakaria Attou, who meet in a WBC title eliminator, plus Mexico's Eduardo Ramirez and hard-hitting Claudio Marrero, who compete in a WBA featherweight title eliminator.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Lions Only Promotions and TGB Promotions, are on sale now and can be purchased through Ticketmaster. Charlo vs. Adams is promoted in association with Banner Promotions and The Tournament of

Contenders.

Here is what the press conference participants had to say Thursday from the East VIP Club at NRG Stadium:

JERMALL CHARLO

“Houston, we’re back. After seven years it feels good to be home and feel the love that this city gives me. I’m thankful to Brandon and his team for stepping up and answering the call. I hope he knows this isn’t going to be easy.

“I plan on delivering something explosive like I always do. I want to give my fans in Houston and around the world a show to remember the rest of their lives.

“I know that Brandon has worked hard with Dub Huntley and Freddie Roach, but I did the same with Ronnie Shields. The work is put in, and I’m ready. I’m going to deliver a statement.

“Right now I’m focused on Brandon Adams and I’ve been focused on him for the last couple of months. We’re going to get the job done Saturday night.

“I have so much more that I want to show and so much more than I want to prove in this sport. Ronnie has taught me so much and we’re here to be explosive and memorable every time we’re in the ring.

“This is a legacy fight for me because I have an opponent coming to my backyard and I’m not letting him take this moment from me.

“Brandon Adams made it to this level, so he’s definitely on my level. This isn’t ‘The Contender’ though, this is ‘The Lions Only Show’.

“Adams has a chance to be able to challenge himself against me on Saturday. I’m sure this is something that he’s looked

forward to. But I didn't get to this point by overlooking anybody."

BRANDON ADAMS

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to be here. I'm looking to put forth the effort that will make me the new champion and have my hand raised on Saturday night.

"I just want to put on a performance. I want us to give the fans something to remember. I want it to go down in history. I need that opponent who can help me make history.

"I believe Jermall is everything that he has shown and proven to be. That's what I'm up against and that's the kind of challenge that I want on Saturday.

"This fight on Saturday is going to be fireworks. We're both bringing our A-game. I don't get too much into what other people think. I go by what I believe, and I believe in myself. I always have and always will.

"I've been through a whole lot in my whole life and I'm to the point where everything is going golden now and I'm grateful for it. We're going to put it all on the table and all on the line in that ring.

"The object to boxing is to hit and not get hit, any elite fighter, they do that pretty well. I plan to do that. Jermall is a champion, you can't take anything from his line of work and what he has done. But since I am the guy that hasn't been around, or the guy that people don't know much about, I have a great opportunity to showcase a little bit more of who I am. I am excited to do that."

"I'm a fan friendly fighter. I'm looking to become a world champion on Saturday night and I'm going to leave it all on the line. It's one fight at a time and this is the biggest opportunity yet."

ERICKSON LUBIN

“It’s an honor to be here back on the big stage. I have a solid opponent in front of me. He’s coming to fight and take my spot. It’s my job to run him over.

“I’ve been training for a long grueling fight. I feel like I’m going to have some physical advantages in the fight, so it will just be about listening to my corner and picking the right time to implement our plan.

“The (154-pound) division is wide open and some of the top guys like (Jarrett) Hurd and (Jermell) Charlo have suffered losses. Now I know I’m back in the mix and may have a shot to fight for a world title soon if I take care of business on Saturday night.

“This isn’t a redemption fight for me because I’m not fighting a Charlo. But I realize we’re in Houston and this is their hometown so of course I want to put a good show on for the fans.

“It’s been a tremendous training camp in Florida with Kevin Cunningham. It’s my time. Saturday night is ‘Hammer Time’ on SHOWTIME. ”

ZAKARIA ATTOU

“This is a great opportunity for me to show off my skills here in the U.S. on SHOWTIME. As a European champion, I know I’m the underdog. But I’ve trained hard and I have some surprises for Erickson Lubin.

“I have some difficult-to-master skills. I have some good moves and I want to show and use them. That’s the kind of boxer I am.

“It’s great to be here in the U.S but I’m only focused on winning. I’ve trained very hard, my camp was great and from my sparring to my trainers, everything went well.

"I don't need to talk while I'm up here, I'm going to do all of my talking in the ring on Saturday night."

EDUARDO RAMIREZ

"This is a great opportunity. We didn't come to dance. We came to fight. I am very prepared to win this for my country of Mexico.

"I know Marrero is a very tough opponent. He has a very strong punch and likes to attack, but I am very prepared for whatever he brings into the ring.

"I have been training very hard. I know that he is a lefty so we have been training with only southpaws in camp. I know he is a very strong opponent, but I am ready for him.

"I am here to fight, that is what fans want to see. They want to see us fight not dance. So hopefully I come away with a victory."

CLAUDIO MARRERO

"I'm very prepared for this fight. I'm always ready for war and I'm going to go to war Saturday night. I hope Ramirez is prepared as well, because we're going to have an intense fight.

"I'm glad to be here in Houston for this fight. I want to thank everyone who's supporting this event. It's going to be a great night of boxing.

"Ramirez talks like he wants to apply the pressure but we are going to be the ones that will apply the pressure. So we'll see if he can stand up to it.

"I believe I have the best game plan for Saturday. It's going to be a strategic type of fight. I'm going to play my pieces right. I'm going to be aggressive and be right where I want to be.

“I’m very motivated. Extremely motivated. It’s been one of my best camps of my life and it’s going to show on Saturday.”

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For more information visit www.SH0.com/Sports, www.PremierBoxingChampions.com, follow on Twitter @ShowtimeBoxing, @PremierBoxing, @TGBPromotions and

@Swanson_Comm or

become a fan on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SH0Boxing.

LIVE VIDEO: CHARLO – ADAMS PRESS CONFERENCE

SHOWTIME SPORTS® TO STREAM JERMALL CHARLO VS. BRANDON ADAMS FIGHT WEEK EVENTS LIVE ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

WHAT: SHOWTIME Sports will provide live stream coverage of fight week events as unbeaten WBC Middleweight Champion Jermall Charlo returns to his hometown of Houston to face 2018 “The Contender” winner Brandon Adams this Saturday, June 29 live on SHOWTIME from NRG Arena in Houston. Each event will stream live on the [SHOWTIME Sports YouTube channel](#) and [SHOWTIME Boxing Facebook page](#). YouTube embed codes and links are listed below. SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING begins at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT and features hard-hitting super welterweight Erickson “Hammer” Lubin taking on French contender Zakaria Attou in a 12-round WBC title elimination bout in the co-main event. Opening the telecast is a WBA featherweight title eliminator between slick Mexican southpaw

Eduardo Ramirez and power-punching Dominican Claudio Marrero.

TODAY/THURSDAY, JUNE 27 – 2:00 p.m. ET/11:00 a.m. PT
Final Press Conference – East VIP Club at NRG Stadium
SHOWTIME Sports YouTube Event Page: <https://s.sho.com/31Vguyz>
Embed Code: `<iframe width="560" height="315" src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/BqR0U0q0cJc" frameborder="0" allow="accelerometer; autoplay; encrypted-media; gyroscope; picture-in-picture" allowfullscreen></iframe>`

FRIDAY, JUNE 28 – 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT
Official Weigh-In – NRG Center – Room 605
SHOWTIME Sports YouTube Event Page: <https://s.sho.com/2RDzCMF>
Embed Code: `<iframe width="560" height="315" src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/pyylWbGa3Ys" frameborder="0" allow="accelerometer; autoplay; encrypted-media; gyroscope; picture-in-picture" allowfullscreen></iframe>`

SATURDAY, JUNE 29
Post-Fight Press Conference – NRG Arena
SHOWTIME Sports YouTube Event Page: <https://s.sho.com/2X4kcSI>
Embed Code: `<iframe width="560" height="315" src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/dgk5sqKnC5k" frameborder="0" allow="accelerometer; autoplay; encrypted-media; gyroscope; picture-in-picture" allowfullscreen></iframe>`

JERMALL CHARLO VS. BRANDON ADAMS
INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

CONFERENCE CALL TRANSCRIPT

Ray Flores

We want to welcome the media that is joining us from all over the world. This Saturday, SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING is back with a tremendous night of boxing featuring Jermall Charlo, the interim WBC middleweight champion of the world, as he puts his title on the line against the rising Brandon 'The Cannon' Adams.

It all comes your way from NRG Arena down in Houston, which is a wonderful fight town. Houston has the Charlo brothers to really look up to and this is a homecoming for Jermall this upcoming Saturday, but it will not be easy. He has a very difficult contender in front of him in Brandon Adams.

Saturday night's event comes your way starting at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT, brought to you by Lions Only Promotions, TGB Promotions, in association with Banner Promotions and also The Tournament of Contenders, Artie Pelullo of Banner, and also Jeff Wald, the Tournament of Contenders, they're on the call, if the media has any questions for them.

Tickets are going fast and they're available now through Ticketmaster.com. This is a tremendous card, but obviously our focus is the main event with Jermall Charlo and Brandon Adams to further dive into that here's the president of sports and event programming of Showtime Networks, Stephen Espinoza.

Stephen Espinoza

Thanks very much, Ray. We are thrilled to be hosting this call and hosting the event, Charlo versus Adams this Saturday. For Jermall Charlo, we welcome him back to SHOWTIME. This will be his ninth appearance on SHOWTIME, and in many ways, both Jermall and Jermell sort of came of age on SHOWTIME.

Jermall has appeared on ShoBox, has appeared on Showtime Extreme and five times on SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING. So he

truly has matured as a professional. We've seen him grow into the middleweight division. This will be Brandon's first appearance on SHOWTIME and we welcome him to the network.

This is a homecoming for Jermall Charlo. This will be his third fight in Houston, but really his first fight as a headliner in a championship level event. He's fought twice in Houston before, back in 2009 and 2012. But both of those were six round fights, I believe. So after 20 fights in seven years, this is a true homecoming after being away from Houston in other fights for quite some time.

Jermall, in just his fourth fight in the middle weight division, has clearly established himself as one of the top fighters in the division. That is without question. One thing that you know that you get with Jermall Charlo is fireworks. He has stopped 19 of his last 22 opponents.

I'm sure everyone on this call saw a very impressive stoppage by his brother some nights ago on Sunday. And as competitive as these two are with each other, I'm sure Jermall has similar plans in mind. Of course, Brandon Adams has something to say about that. Brandon is an up and coming star of his own, has impressed quite a bit through The Contender tournament, and certainly earned his way into the top 15 of the division, and earned his fight.

So we expect fireworks on Saturday as usual, a big homecoming night for Jermall, a good test in Brandon Adams, and we will see you all there on Saturday night.

R. Flores

Thank you very much, Stephen. Without further ado, I want to turn it over to a promoter that is involved in Saturday night's events. She's the Vice President of the TGB Promotions, does an excellent job of helping to put together so many different things when it comes to the sport of boxing. Please welcome Brittany Goossen Brown.

Brittany Goossen Brown

Thanks, Ray. We're excited for Saturday night and for our second fight in a week with a Charlo brother. We're looking forward to working again with SHOWTIME and NRG Arena, plus Banner Promotions and The Tournament of Contenders, on this great event on Saturday. We'll see everyone in Houston for a great night of fights.

R. Flores

Thank you very much. Let's meet the team for the adversary of Jermall Charlo. A Hall of Famer and trainer of the year countless times. Someone who is just a visionary when it comes to the sport of boxing and knows talent. It is an honor and pleasure for me to introduce Freddie Roach.

Freddie Roach

We had a great training camp. It went really well. He's in great shape to fight, and he's 100% ready for this fight. Brandon is a good puncher, good boxer, and we know Charlo is a tough opponent for us, but we did everything in our power to get in shape to win this fight.

R. Flores

Thank you very much, Freddie. Now I also will turn it over to the longtime trainer of Brandon Adams, who Freddie has been working hand in hand with. He's always smiling, always in great spirits, and has devoted so much time to the sport of boxing. Please welcome the longtime trainer of Brandon Adams. Here is Dub Huntley.

Dub Huntley

This is Dub Huntley and I'm glad to be here and looking forward to a great fight.

R. Flores

Thank you very much, Dub. Greatly appreciated. Now let's welcome the man who is going to be inside the ring across from Jermall Charlo. His record, 21 wins, 13 of those coming by way

of knockout against two defeats, fighting out of Watts, California. He went up the middleweight rankings by winning the 2018 reboot of The Contender where he was victorious over Shane Mosley Jr. by unanimous decision.

I've had an opportunity to get to know Brandon Adams through the years and he's always in tip top shape. He's always prepared. He's always focused and when he got the call to fight Jermall Charlo, he immediately said yes when other people would deny it. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Brandon 'The Cannon' Adams.

Brandon Adams

Hey everybody. How is everybody doing? I'm excited about Saturday, June 29, to get in the ring and share the ring with Jermall Charlo. I'm sure he did everything he was supposed to do to prepare for this fight. His name is "The Hit Man" and I'm "The Cannon". So, we're going to see who shoots the biggest shot.

R. Flores

Thank you very much to Brandon 'The Cannon' Adams. It's going to be explosive down in Houston. I hear the weather is hot down in Houston. It's going to be hotter inside the ring, and inside NRG arena.

Let's meet Brandon Adams's opponent. When it comes to his team, Ronnie Shields has been very, very busy as of late. He was in the corner on Sunday of Guillermo Rigondeaux, trained countless outstanding fighters, and he is the lead trainer for Jermall Charlo. Ronnie has done and accomplished so much in boxing. A round of applause and please welcome my dear friend, Mr. Ronnie Shields.

Ronnie Shields

Thanks, Ray. Hello to everybody. We're looking forward to everybody coming out to Houston for this event. We have been working hard. We've been training as we always do. We know

Brandon is a really, really good fighter and we're looking forward to the fight.

R. Flores

Thank you very much, Ronnie. Greatly appreciate it. Now let's meet the man who is going to be having his homecoming on Saturday night on SHOWTIME.

This man's record, 28 bouts, 28 victories, 21 of those coming by way of knockout. He's the interim WBC middleweight champion of the world, former junior middleweight world champion, having defended his interim title with a unanimous decision over Matt Korobov in December.

Very focused, determined, hard hitting, understands his craft and looking to make another definitive statement in his homecoming fight. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Jermall Charlo.

Jermall Charlo

Hey. How's everybody doing today? I want to thank everybody who made this fight possible. I want to thank the Brandon Adams' team and Dub Huntley and Freddie Roach, and of course Ronnie Shields also. Thank you to everyone in Houston who has bought tickets to come out for this event.

It's going to be a great night. I'm looking forward to having a good night and a good, strong performance from our behalf. I'm putting everything on the line, so that's what it's all about. I'm ready to get in there and do what I have to do.

Q

Brandon, how is the preparation for this fight being a 12 rounder against the top middleweight compared when you were doing five round fights and in quick succession last year for the show?

B. Adams

The preparation for this fight was sort of similar to how I

prepared to fight Shane. Knowing and understand that in the five rounds that we fought on The Contender, we had to display as much as we can within five rounds to get the victory, and then making that transition to fighting for 10 and 12 round fights.

It's about the work you put in, the conditioning and the training. And I felt like, me and my team went over that pretty well. So I'm excited to try to go 12 rounds if need be or whatever pace is possible. I'm just excited to get this opportunity and to be in a ring with one of the top fighters in the world and establish myself.

Q

Can you talk a little more about that time that you took out of the ring after the loss to John Thompson, what went through your mind as you were making the decision to come back and fight on The Contender?

B. Adams

Mainly really the three years that I had off, I just had some time to really self-reflect, to figure out what went wrong in that fight. It was weight loss. There was a lot of weight loss right before I fought John. So understanding that that was just a shell of myself, and knowing that I was capable of much more.

Like I said, when I had three years of reflecting, it was dark times, dark hours, but I needed that and that's also molded me into the person I am today. And that's why I'm looking forward to challenge myself and also challenging the boxing world and to prove that I belong at the top.

Q

Jermall, we haven't really heard anything from the WBC in forcing a fight between you and Canelo Alvarez. Does it get frustrating at times knowing that you're essentially his WBC mandatory and there's no real time ever for when you'll your

shot at the world title?

J. Charlo

Definitely not frustrated and I'm living the best life I can possibly live right now. I'm young. I'm very healthy. I have my family. I have my closest friends, my trainer, Ronnie Shields. We'll handle the situations as they come. Right now I'm focused on Brandon Adams. I'm locked in. I'm loaded. I'm ready. I'm ready to put on the best performance I have in me.

Q

Did you get to see much of Brandon during The Contender season? And if so, what did you think of him?

J. Charlo

I'm really cool friends with Shane Mosley and his son. I've spent a lot of time with those guys. So of course yes, I know him well, when I got the call and was told we have an opponent. But as far as studying goes, you have to get in the camp and really break down some of the things.

And my trainer, Ronnie Shields, does an awesome job of that, and we implement everything perfectly. He's drawn out a game plan. He's drawn out some shots that I feel like will be needed and much intended to throw in this fight.

Q

Brandon, when you were away from the ring for so long, did you think that you would not fight again?

B. Adams

To be honest man, I was always optimistic about the opportunity of being able to fight. I just didn't know how long it would take. That's was pretty much at the front and back of my mind, honestly just getting the opportunity to be able to fight again.

We know naturally I fight 154, but the opportunity for me to fight at 160 came and it was The Contender situation. So I

jumped towards it and I moved forward from that, and now I'm in this position right here, and I'm extremely grateful for this.

Q

Brandon, what is your thought on being the smaller of the two in the upcoming fight?

B. Adams

Not too much of a thought. My whole life, I've always been small. So fighting guys who are taller than me, never really brought too much of an issue. I've just got to focus on me, period, whomever I'm fighting against, whether they're big, tall, short, wide. I just focus on being the best Brandon Adams and I always feel like I'm going to prevail.

Q

Brandon, how big of a step up do you consider this in terms of competition from Shane Mosley Jr to Jermall? How big of a step up do you consider this?

B. Adams

This is the step up. This is the biggest fight of my career. My first opportunity to fight on SHOWTIME, to fight in front of a huge crowd like this, to fight a guy in his hometown who brings what he brings to the table. But I appreciate it all, man.

I'm looking forward to challenge myself, to show that, the three years that I had off and what they meant to me, whether if it was good or bad, to put it all on the line and bite down and get through this one and then reflect on it all.

Q

What would pulling off an upset Saturday mean to you, and what would it do for your career and your life?

B. Adams

Well, to be quite honest, I don't know exactly what it would

do for my life at this particular moment. I haven't won it yet, but I can imagine that it could definitely make me feel good beating a guy like Jermall. It could definitely build the confidence a little higher than what it is.

I definitely need to build the confidence a whole lot more, but I was already confident and believed in myself from day one. I'm sure it, it will do wonders for my morale and everything. But I don't know exactly what it would do for me at this particular moment because I haven't won just yet. I know the skies could be the limit.

Q
Ronnie, what kind of challenges does Brandon present for Jermall?

R. Shields
Well, there's a lot of challenges. Anytime he's stepping in the ring with somebody who is a good puncher, he presents a challenge. Brandon has a frame of style that we have to get used to and have to prepare for.

He seems like a very confident young man. So we know that. And so we had to put out all the stops. We've always trained hard, like we do for every fight. But we look at this as the biggest challenge that we've ever had, because we just have a different opponent.

Q
Jermall, what have you done to kind of guard against distractions so you don't become distracted leading up to the fight?

J. Charlo
I'm not distracted. It's all been fun. It's a big experience for me. This is my first time fighting in my hometown in seven years. So the first time actually I helped sell tickets. And now it's like, I'm not really a part of that ticket thing. So I just want to tell you that I'm focused. I'm locked in.

Q

How motivating is it going to be for you to fight in front of your home crowd on Saturday?

J. Charlo

I'm excited. It feels good to be at home. It feels good to be able to have the hometown fans behind me and become the hero here but I'm locked in. I'm loaded. I'm ready for everything Brandon has to present to me, and I'll deal with it as it comes, , just as well as the crowd.

Q

How proud are you of your brother who got his knockout victory on Sunday night?

J. Charlo

Oh, I'm proud. I'm proud of my brother. My brother delivered a statement. He did exactly what he was supposed to do. Got a chance to go out and see it and train with him and go away with him and have fun with him and the end results was everything.

Q

Now, fighting at home, does that mean a lot, not only to you, but to your mother as well? Because last week, your mother talked about some of the adverse situation that you all had gone through.

J. Charlo

Yes. My mom is one of the biggest factors in my career right now. She means a lot to me. So fighting in front of her is nothing different. I've always fought in front of my mom. She's always been tuned in. We're just doing it at home now. That's the only difference.

Q

Mr. Adams, how great is it to have world renowned Freddie Roach in your corner?

B. Adams

Having Dub and Freddie Roach in my corner means a lot to me because I started boxing pretty much when I was around 20. So that's over 100 years of boxing learning from the both of those guys.

So I'm just being a student, soaking it all in and taking as much as I possibly can, and performing to the best Brandon that I possibly can.

Q

My first question is for Jermall. You were in Jermell's corner on Sunday. Is he going to return the favor and what does he bring to the table?

J. Charlo

You know, Jermell, yes, he returns the favor. We both support each other and we realize how much we need each other in today's age and everything we're up against. So yes, let's say he'll return the favor.

Q

Do you feel any pressure to outdo your brother's spectacular knockout on Sunday?

J. Charlo

We are mirror motivation instead of having any jealous or envious feelings about each other's performance. I'm very, very happy and astonished by his win and his performance. I'm definitely not in competition with him because each fight is different, and every fight is different. We train hard for this fight. So I'm ready.

Q

Next question is for Brandon. Some previous contestants on The Contender have gone on to win both titles. Are you aware of that and has that motivated you in any way?

B. Adams

Yes. To some degree it did motivate me about what the past contenders did. But at the same time, when I say no, every man is their own man. So I have to put in the work. I have to do what I have to do to establish myself and do what I'm supposed to do to get my hand raised or become a world champion.

Q

How do you deal with the pressures of being an underdog, and is that a role that you embrace?

B. Adams

I've felt pretty good about the whole ride up. It hasn't had a negative effect and I haven't let it bother me. I understand what's going on here, me fighting the champ in his backyard and everything. But my whole life I was never able to really cut corners and take shortcuts. And then in boxing, it kind of just followed the same way. So I don't want it easy.

This is probably – well, in my opinion, this is the best route for me to take to be able to establish myself. I see everything that Jermall and his brother did in the sport of boxing, and I think that's real dope. I like what they've done and I know what they mean for boxing. So with that being said, it's going to be a pleasure to share the ring with him this Saturday.

Q

During your time with Freddie now, what has Freddie added to your training? What have you taken away from his wealth of knowledge?

B. Adams

Freddie, him and Dub are just alike, but the difference I would take from Freddie and Dub is, Freddie would talk to me a lot more through certain things, and Dub, kind of like everything is off a reaction. With him is more so of like, Dub knows how he does things without even thinking about it.

It's just it's ultra-instincts. And with Freddie, he walks and

talks and does everything. So it's fun. I appreciate working with both of them because they both know how to work me down, just talk to me, understand so that I will prevail.

Q

Freddie, during your time with Brandon, what have you seen from Brandon that catches your eye and shows you that he has what it takes to win?

Freddie Roach

Brandon had a very good last year. He's really growing because of and since The Contender. Brandon, he's a machine and we have everything we need and we're going to do our best to let Saturday decide.

Q

Jermall, on the flipside, you're expected to win the fight this week. Do you feel pressure to deliver an eye catching performance just based on the expectation that media and odds makers threw out there?

J. Charlo

No. I never pay attention to the odds makers because those guys don't fight. So they don't understand, every fight is different. I'm in for a big fight, a big night and I'm just focused on where Ronnie Shields has brought me, and this is going to be a good night. It's going to be a good night of boxing.

Q

With this fight, you're the big favorite in your hometown and all of that. And there's a lot of discussion in the middleweight division about future fights and so forth. With all of this, how are you staying focused on this particular fight, knowing there have been a lot of upsets recently and that anything could happen in the ring?

J. Charlo

I'm just motivated by those guys who don't finish the job. And

this is a legacy fight for me. This is the best I've felt in a long time. My career is definitely where it needs to be. The pressure is on me. I can't let anybody down. And it's one of those fights where it's much needed with another hungry opponent.

And everyone that's doubting me, and everyone who is not on a side with me, it makes me want to fight even harder. So it's just one of those things I have to do and go through.

Q
What do you see as your advantages over Brandon Adams in the fight?

J. Charlo
We both have advantages, so I'm not saying much about the game plan, but also much about, Brandon Adams. My advantage is that I've been here before.

Q
Brandon, tell us why you're confident you're going to be able to win this fight? We all know you're the underdog, but why do you think you'll win?

B. Adams
I think Charlo said it best when he said stay tuned. It's Saturday. Oh man. It will be Showtime June 29.

Q
Would either of you like to make a prediction for the fight, how it's going to turn out? Jermall?

J. Charlo
It's going to be a great night. Just tune in on SHOWTIME. In primetime is going to be a nice show. I predict fireworks regardless.

B. Adams
Yes, man. I just want to piggyback off what he said and just

say man that there will be a heck of a show being thrown this Saturday man. And you hear it yourself man. We both are already, fine-tuned and we're looking to be explosive. So get your shades. There's going to be fireworks blowing in the sky.

R. Flores

Before they get ready for their match up on Saturday, final comments, first from the challenger, Brandon Adams, as he gets set to battle with Jermall Charlo this Saturday on SHOWTIME.

B. Adams

My final comment is I hope everybody is prepared. I hope everybody is ready. I hope everybody is just as excited as we are. And Jermall, man you already know, bro. It's go time. Looking forward to sharing that ring with you. Stay blessed.

J. Charlo

Final comments, thanks to everybody who tuned in. Thanks to everybody who made this happen. I'll be damn if I let anybody come to my hometown and take something from me. So I hope everyone is prepared and I'll be ready. I'll see you on Saturday.

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ABOUT CHARLO VS. ADAMS

Charlo vs. Adams will pit unbeaten WBC Interim Middleweight Champion and Houston-native Jermall Charlo against middleweight contender Brandon Adams in Charlo's hometown return Saturday, June 29 live on SHOWTIME from NRG Arena in Houston and presented by Premier Boxing Champions.

SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING begins at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT and features hard-hitting super welterweight Erickson "Hammer" Lubin taking on French contender Zakaria Attou in a 12-round WBC title elimination bout in the co-main event. Opening the telecast is a WBA featherweight title eliminator between slick Mexican southpaw Eduardo Ramirez and power-punching Dominican Claudio Marrero.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Lions Only Promotions and TGB Promotions, are on sale now and can be purchased through Ticketmaster. Charlo vs. Adams is promoted in association with Banner Promotions and The Tournament of Contenders.

Brandon Adams: The Latest Boxcino Graduate To Fight For a World Title

Philadelphia (June 25, 2019)– This Saturday night, middleweight Brandon Adams will become the 7th graduate of The Boxcino Tournament to fight for a world title when he takes on WBC Interim Middleweight champion Jermall Charlo at The NRG Arena in Houston. The bout will be the main event event of a SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® card, live on SHOWTIME at 9 p.m. ET / 6 p.m. PT.

With Adams world title opportunity on Saturday night, it will mark the 6th fighter to compete for the a world title.

In 1999, Acelino Freitas was discovered upon winning the Tournament. J.C. Candelo challenged for the IBF Junior Middleweight world title. In 2001, Eduardo Barrios fought for the WBO world featherweight title. In 2014 when the Boxcino tournament was brought back, Willie Monroe went on to fight for the middleweight world title on two occasions. Boxcino Lightweight champion, Petr Petrov fought for the WBO lightweight world championship. In 2015, John Thompson competed for the WBO Junior Middleweight world title.

“The Boxcino tournament has proven once again that it develops

world champion caliber fighters. When in Boxcino, fighters have to take on top level fighters with various styles over a four-month period, so that proves that fighters like Brandon get prepared for major opportunities like he will have on Saturday night," said Artie Pelullo, President of Banner Promotions and creator of The Boxcino Tournament.

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Brandon Adams Training Camp

Quotes

LOS ANGELES (June 19, 2019) – Middleweight contender Brandon Adams has been working hard at The Wild Card Gym in Hollywood, California as he prepares for the biggest fight of his career when he takes on unbeaten interim WBC Middleweight Champion Jermall Charlo, on Saturday June 29 at NRG Arena in Houston and live on SHOWTIME (9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT).

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Lions Only Promotions and TGB Promotions, are on sale now and can be purchased through Ticketmaster. Charlo vs. Adams is promoted in association with Banner Promotions and The Tournament of Contenders.

Adams has been training under longtime coach Dub Huntley and Hall of Famer Freddie Roach as he prepares for this opportunity.

“Everything is going good and this camp has been very solid,” said Adams. “I feel good and I am very excited to get in there and fight. I know that I have a great team that are preparing me to be the best Brandon Adams possible.

“The combination of Dub and Freddie really gives me everything I could ever need for a fight like this. They teach me something new every day and I’m going to be confident in my abilities on fight night.”

Adams and Charlo went face to face for the first time on May 30 at a press conference in Houston that Adams believes will help prepare him for his surroundings on fight night.

“Houston was not as hostile as I thought it would be,” said Adams. “There was a lot of mutual respect between Jermall and I. I know the fans will be rooting for him, but it’s just the two of us in the ring. I’m just focused on what I have to do to get the win.

"I always knew the road to the top wouldn't be easy. Nothing in boxing has been for me. I've always been ready to do whatever I had to do."

Adams knows the stakes of the fight on June 29, and he believes that with a win, he will be considered a major player in the middleweight division.

"I feel this opportunity is the biggest one in my career to this point," said Adams. "This will set me up for much more, and I am ready to face the challenge. I couldn't be more prepared or focused. I am very dedicated to this fight and everything it's going to take to reach my dream. I am looking to put on a tremendous performance on June 29."

The 29 years-old Adams out of Los Angeles, California is promoted by Banner Promotions and Tournament of Contenders.

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For more information visit www.SH0.com/Sports, www.PremierBoxingChampions.com, follow on Twitter @ShowtimeBoxing, @PremierBoxing, @TGBPromotions and @Swanson_Comm or become a fan on Facebook at

**VIDEO: Interview with
undefeated Featherweight
Prospect Ruben Villa**