

# Rudd relishing underdog role

Philadelphia (March 18, 2014)—He pulled off the biggest upset in the opening round of the Boxcino 2014 lightweight tournament and now Chris Rudd (13-1, 8 KO's) is ready to do it again when he takes on Petr Petrov (33-4-2, 15 KO's) on Friday, March 28 at the 4 Bears Casino & Lodge in New Town, North Dakota.

The semifinal bout will be televised Live on ESPN, ESPNdeportes+ and WatchESPN.

Rudd of Covington, Tennessee was the least known of the eight participants in the tournament but he won a 7 round (Draw Breaker) decision over veteran Yakubu Amidu on February 21 in Laughlin, Nevada, reflected back on the win for a moment before setting his sights on Petrov.

"I did a pretty good job," said Rudd. "I think I won that fight because of my head and foot movement."

Rudd began preparing for Petrov almost immediately after his win over Amidu.

"I have been working hard in the gym. Petrov throws a lot of wild combinations and a wild hook. I have been working on that as well as my jab and staying out of range."

Rudd has relished being the unknown fighter in the tournament as he believes that will only enhance his accomplishments.

"It does not matter being the underdog. I was talking with my brother and he said, the more that I can win, the better I look."

Rudd knows he can win the tournament but knows he has a tough road ahead.

"I see me winning. Petrov is a good fighter and he will come

hard. The other two fighters (Miguel Gonzalez and Fernando Carcamo) are good fighters. I see myself winning but I can not claim it until I have it,"finished Rudd.

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## **Petrov taking Boxcino one bout at a time**

Philadelphia (March 17, 2014)–Coming off his impressive 6-round unanimous decision over previously undefeated Fedor Papazov, former world title challenger Petr Petrov (33-4-2, 15 KO's) opened some eyes in the United States with his quarterfinal win in Boxcino 2014 on February 21 in Laughlin, Nevada.

On Friday night, March 28, Petrov will have literally a tall order in front of him when he takes on tournament underdog Chris Rudd (13-1, 8 KO's) in the semifinals at the 4 Bears Casino and Lodge in New Town, North Dakota.

The fight will be televised live on ESPN, ESPN Deportes+ and WatchESPN beginning at 9 PM ET.

What made Petrov's performance against Papazov more impressive was his uncertainty about performing in front of the American fans.

"It was a great win for me," said Petrov. "I had not fought in 10 months so I was real nervous to be on the big stage for my first televised fight in the U.S. I am happy to move on to the next fight and I will be stronger and more relaxed."

Next up is the 6'0" Rudd who is coming off a 7-round decision over Yakubu Amidu in a (draw breaker) fight which was the

biggest upset of the quarterfinal round.

“Rudd is going to be difficult because of his height and reach but I believe my trainer Danny Zamora and I have prepared a good strategy and we have had with great work in the gym.”

With a win over Rudd, Petrov will take one more step closer to reaching the finals.

“I am not thinking of the finals yet. I have to get through this fight and go from there. My main thing is to win and look good for the people watching on ESPN. I would like to thank my team, Banner Promotions, Danny Zamora and my sponsors Lucas Oil, Snac Supplements and I know big things will come my way,” finished Petrov.

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## **Adams, Gatica, Kopylenko, & Monroe Jr. advance in Boxcino**

HAMMOND, IND (March 3, 2014)—Middleweights Brandon Adams, Raymond Gatica and Vitalii Kopylenko scored stoppages while while Willie Monroe Jr. scored a 6 round unanimous decision as all four advanced to the semi-finals of Boxcino 2014 that highlighted a great night of boxing at the Hammond Horseshoe Casino.

Monroe Jr. scored a 6 round unanimous decision over Donatas Bondas.

Bondas pressed forward while Monroe tried to box and move. Bondas 'oft injured nose started to bleed as early as the 1st frame. In round three, Bondas began to up his pressure and Monroe was trying to move lateral while throwing jabs. Monroe

Jr. stayed in the pocket a little more in the 4th round and he began working the body. His aggression continued throughout the last half of the bout and Bondad had no answer for it. Monroe was more versatile and won by scores of 59-55 twice and 58-56 twice and 58-56.

Monroe, 160 lbs of Rochester, NY. is now 16-1. Bondas, 160.2 lbs of Chicago, IL. is now 18-5-1.

Vitalii Kopylenko scored two knockdowns in just over three minutes and registered a 2nd round stoppage over Cerreoso Fort. round

Kopylenko buckled Fort with an over hand right in round one. After the opening frame, Fort was already bleeding from his mouth.

Seconds into the 2nd round, Kopylenko dropped Fort from a hard left hook. Fort was clearly hurt and was dropped again from a series of punches. The bout was stopped at 43 seconds of round two.

"Fort was heavy handed and I was patient," said Kopylenko.

"I did not try to knock him out, it just came."

Kopylenko, 160 lbs of Kiev, Ukraine is now 23-0 with 13 knockouts.

Said Fort, "I got hit with a shot in the 1st round and was hurt. I tried to bounce back but he hurt me again."

Fort, 160.2 lbs of St. Paul, MN is now 17-3-1.

Raymond Gatica scored a emphatic 4th round stoppage over previously undefeated knockout artist Sena Agbeko.

The two came out firing with Gatica getting the better of the exchanges. Gatica was more efficient with his punches while Agbeko came in with wide-winging shots. In round three, Gatica

landed several shots that snapped the head of Agbeko back. It looked like the referee was close to stopping the bout but Agbeko did enough return punching to warrant his continuation. He did not last much longer as Gatica was all over Agbeko and continued to rock his head with power shots and the fight as stopped at 1:06 of round 4.

"You always have to be ready," said Gatica. "I knew in the 1st round I had the fight."

Brandon Adams scored a stoppage after round four when Daniel Edouard did not come out for the 5th round.

Adams found a home in the second round as he landed hard body shots with both hands. Adams continued to score and stay out of harms way. In round four, Adams deposited Edouard on the canvas with a perfect left hook. Edouard got to his feet and ate a few more punches on the ropes. ,

After the 4th round, Edouard had enough and pulled the plug on the contest.

"I had a long layoff and my timing wasn't right. I am a professional and there was no reason to take anymore punishment,"said Edouard

"Getting hit with that left hook discouraged me."

Said Adams, "I hit him with a good left hook. He was tough and I am happy with my performance. I know I can do better."

Adams, 160. Lbs of San Diego, CA is now 13-0 with 9 stoppages. Edouard, 160 lbs of West Palm Beach, FL is 23-5-2

Gatica will face Adams while Kopylenko will take on Monroe Jr. on April 18th at the Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, NY.

Boxcino will continue on March 28th at the 4 Bears Casino in New Town, North Dakota with the lightweight semi-finals that

will put Chris Rudd taking on Petr Petrov while Miguel Gonzalez fights Fernando Carcamo in bouts scheduled for 8 rounds.

In the opening bout, Banner Promotions Donovan Dennis scored an explosive 1st round stoppage over Sam Commings in a scheduled 6 round heavyweight bout.

Dennis landed a straight left that made Commings fall back and hit his head with a loud thud against the canvas and the bout was immediately stopped at 1:34 of round one.

Dennis, 226 lbs of Davenport, Iowa is now 9-1 with 7 knockouts. Commings, 264 lbs of West Palm Beach, FL. is now 4-8.

Simeon Hardy was successful in his Banner Promotions debut as he stopped Chad Greenleaf in round five of their scheduled six round middleweight bout.

Hardy dominated the action and dropped Greenleaf twice in round five. The foirst from a hard overhand right and the finisher was from a right that was followed by a booming left hook that knocked Greenleaf out for several moments and the bout was stopped at 2:50 of round five.

Hardy, 157.6 lbs of Brooklyn, NY is now 11-0 with 9 knockouts. Greenleaf, 158.8 of Parkersburg, WV is 13-20-1.

Sergio Montes De Oca and Fidel Navarette battled to a spirited six round draw in a featherweight bout.

Montes De Oca, 124 lbs of Chicago took a card 58-56 while two judges ruled the fight even at 57-57.

De Oca is now 7-2-2. Navarette, 127 lbs of Highland, IN is now 4-0-2.

Mike Jimenez needed just 56 seconds to take care of Jimmy Campbell in their scheduled six round Light Heavyweight bout.

Jimenez scored a knockdown from an uppercut and a follow up flurry ended the bout.

Jimenez, 175 lbs of Chicago is now 13-0 with 10 knockouts. Campbell, 173 lbs of Indianapolis, IN is now 11-7.

Russell Fiore scored a 4 round unanimous decision over Tim Carrizales in a lightweight bout.

Fiore dropped Carrizales twice in the final frame and cruised home with a victory by the scores of 40-34 on all cards.

Fiore, 134.8 lbs of Chicago is 11-2-1. Carrizales, 134.4 lbs of Waukesha, WI is now 4-9-1.

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## **Boxcino 2014 Middleweights Weigh In video**

Hammond, Indiana (February 28, 2014)–Below is the weigh in video for tonight's Boxcino 2014 middleweight quarterfinal round that will start at 9 pm eastern on ESPN 2, ESPN Deportes+ and WatchESPN.

Media outlets may use the video by copy and paste the embedded link to their media website.

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# From Hammond, Indiana to San Antonio; Busy weekend for Banner Promotions

Hammond, Ind. / San Antonio, TX (February 28, 2014)—This Weekend, Banner Promotions will be front and center in the boxing spotlight as the company will promote two major shows.

First, Friday night in Hammond, Indiana it will be Boxcino 2014; the middleweight quarter-finals that will be televised around the county on ESPN 2 as part of ESPN Friday Night Fights. The fights will originate from the Horseshoe Hammond Casino at 9 pm Eastern.

The very next night, the scene will shift to the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas where Banner's Bryan Vera meets Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. in a much anticipated super middleweight rematch that will be televised live on HBO Championship Boxing beginning at 9:45 ET/PT.

"This is a very busy weekend for us," said Banner Promotions CEO Arthur Pelullo.

"But as busy as it will be, we expect terrific action in the ring. The middleweight fights on Friday night will be great contests. The lightweights set the bar very high last week in Laughlin to kick off the Boxcino tournament, but we know the middleweights will put on a show that will be just as if not more exciting. We also have two of our young prospects on the undercard. We are looking forward to see our heavyweight Donovan Dennis and one of our newest signings in undefeated jr. middleweight Simeon Hardy in action as they continue to develop."

Friday's show is co-promoted by Banner Promotions, Hitz Boxing and Round 3.



24 hours later, the action will continue south to the Lone Star State.

“We saw what Bryan did in the 1st fight. The media all saw him win that fight. Saturday he will be even better. He knows what weight the fight will be at and he is completely focused in winning decisively. Bryan knows he can beat Chavez and on Saturday night, he will go out there and do it again.”

Vera – Chavez is promoted by Top Rank, Banner Promotions, Foreman Boys Boxing and Zanfer.

Banner Promotions Lineup:

Friday, February 28, Hammond, Horseshoe Casino, Hammond, Indiana

Boxcino 2014

ESPN 2, ESPN Deportes+, WatchESPN

Daniel Edouard (23-4-2, 12 KO's) vs Brandon Adams (12-0, 8 KO's)

Sena Agbeko (15-0, 15 KO's) vs Raymond Gatica (13-2, 7 KO's)

Vitalii Kopylenko (22-0, 12 KO's) vs Cerresso Fort (17-2-1, 11 KO's)

Willie Monroe Jr. (15-1, 6 KO's) vs Donatas Bondas (18-4-1, 6 KO's)

6 Rounds-Heavyweights Donovan Dennis (8-1, 6 KO's) vs Sam Commings (4-7, 3 KO's)

6 Rounds-Jr. Middleweights–Simeon Hardy (10-0, 8 KO's) vs Chad Greenleaf (13-19-1, 6 KO's)

Saturday, March 1, Alamodome, San Antonio, Texas

HBO

12 Rounds-Super Middleweights–Bryan Vera (23-7, 14 KO's) vs Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. (47-1, 32 KO's)

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# **Weights from Hammond, Indiana Boxcino 2014 Middleweights**

Brandon Adams 160.8 – Daniel Edouard 160

Sena Agbeko 157.2 – Raymond Gatica 158.4

Cerresso Fort 160.2 – Vitalii Kopylenko 160

Willie Monroe Jr. 160 – Donatas Bondas 160.2  
(Photos by Shane Sims / Banner Promotions)

Donovan Dennis 226 – Sam Commings 264

Simeon Hardy 157.6 – Chad Greenleaf 158.8

Dimur Ortuz 215 – John Moxey TBA

Fidel Navarette 127 – Sergio Montes De Oca 124

Mike Jimenez 175 – Jimmy Campbell 173

Russell Fiore 134.8 – Tim Carrizales 134.4

Venue: Horseshoe Casino

Promoters: Banner Promotions / Hitz Boxing / Round 3

1st Bell: 7pm central

ESPN 2 Start: 9pm eastern / 8 pm central

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## **JULIO CÉSAR CHÁVEZ, JR. / BRYAN VERA ORLANDO SALIDO /**

# VASYL LOMACHENKO JULIO DIAZ / GEORGE FOREMAN / BOB ARUM SAN ANTONIO FINAL PRESS CONFERENCE

SAN ANTONIO, TX (February 27, 2014) – The Final Press Conference for the eagerly- anticipated boxing doubleheader featuring the rematch between former World Boxing Council (WBC) middleweight champion and Son of the Legend JULIO CÉSAR CHÁVEZ JR. and Top-Five contender and two-fisted Texan BRYAN VERA and the historic challenge by two-time Ukrainian Olympic gold medalist and 2013 Prospect of the Year, VASYL LOMACHENKO, in only his second professional fight, of World Boxing Organization (WBO) featherweight champion ORLANDO SALIDO will take place Today! Thursday, February 27, downtown inside the Farmers Market at Market Square (612 West Commerce – corner of West Commerce & San Saba St – San Antonio, TX 78207-8121), beginning at 2:00 p.m. CT.

The press conference will be open to the public. Fighters and their camps will be available for one-on-one interviews.

Joining the fighters and their camps will be Hall of Fame promoter BOB ARUM, former two-time World Heavyweight Champion GEORGE FOREMAN and former World Lightweight Champion JUAN DIAZ, of Houston, who will be featured on the non-televised undercard, looking to extend his three-fight winning streak as he attempts to return to the top of the lightweight division after a three-year hiatus from boxing.

The Chávez Jr – Vera II and Salido – Lomachenko fights will take place This Saturday! March 1, at the Alamodome in San Antonio, TX and will be televised live on HBO World Championship Boxing, beginning at 9:45 p.m. ET/PT.

Promoted by Top Rank®, in association with Zanfer Promotions, Banner Promotions, Foreman Boys Promotions and Tecate, remaining tickets to Chávez vs. Vera II, priced at \$200, \$100, \$60, \$40 and \$25 (plus applicable taxes and fees), can be purchased at the Alamodome box office, all Ticketmaster outlets, online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and via Ticketmaster charge-by-phone lines at (800) 745-3000.

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HBO Presents "Road to Chavez Jr./Vera II". HBO playdates include: February 27 at 4:30 p.m. ET/PT, February 28 at 1:00 a.m. ET/PT and March 1 at 12:15 p.m. ET/PT.

For fight updates go to [www.toprank.com](http://www.toprank.com), [www.banner-promotions.com](http://www.banner-promotions.com) or [www.hbo.com/boxing](http://www.hbo.com/boxing), on Facebook at [facebook.com/trboxing](https://facebook.com/trboxing), [facebook.com/trboxeo](https://facebook.com/trboxeo), [facebook.com/banner-promotions](https://facebook.com/banner-promotions) or [facebook.com/hboboxing](https://facebook.com/hboboxing), and on Twitter at [twitter.com/trboxing](https://twitter.com/trboxing), [twitter.com/trboxeo](https://twitter.com/trboxeo), [twitter.com/bannerboxing](https://twitter.com/bannerboxing) or [twitter.com/hboboxing](https://twitter.com/hboboxing).

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## **BOXCINO 2014 MIDDLEWEIGHT WEIGH IN TODAY**

WHO:

Arthur Pelullo, CEO of Banner Promotions

Bobby Hitz, CEO of Hitz Boxing

Donatas Bondas 18-4-1, 6 KOs middleweight

Willie Monroe Jr. 15-1, 6 KOs middleweight

Raymond Gatica 13-2, 8 KOs middleweight

Sena Agbeko 15-0, 15 KOs middleweight

Cerresso Fort 17-2-1, 11 KOs middleweight

Vitaliy Kopylenko 22-0, 12 KOs middleweight

Brandon Adams 12-0, 8 KOs middleweight  
Daniel Edouard 23-4-2 14 KOs middleweight  
Donovan Dennis,7-0, 6 KO's heavyweight  
Simeon Hardy, 10-0, 7 KO's jr. middleweight  
Mike "Hollywood" Jimenez 12-0, 9 KOs, super middleweight  
Fidel Navarette 4-0-1, 3 KOs super featherweight  
Sergio Montes de Oca 7-2-1, 2 KOs super featherweight  
Russell "Rocky" Fiore 10-2-1 7 KOs  
Dimar Ortuz 9-0, 6 KOs cruiserweight  
And many more

**WHAT:**

ESPN2's "FRIDAY NIGHT FIGHTS" comes to Hammond, IN at 7:00 PM on Friday, February 28, for "Fight Night at the Horseshoe Presents the Boxcino Middleweight Championship Tournament," a co-promotion of Banner Promotions and Hitz Boxing. On Thursday, February 27 join Banner Promotions CEO Arthur Pelullo and Hitz Boxing CEO Bobby Hitz and the fighters participating in the card for the public weigh-in at 5:00 PM outside of The Horseshoe Casino's The Venue The event is free and open to the public, you must be 21 to enter.

**WHERE:**

The Venue (front entrance)  
The Horseshoe Casino  
777 Casino Center Drive  
Hammond, IN

**WHEN:**

Thursday, February 27, 2014  
5:00 PM

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# **Meet                      Boxcino                      2014 Middleweights (Videos)**

Hammond, Indiana (February 27, 2014)–Below are video interviews of the fighters who will be participating this Friday night as part of the Boxcino 2014 middleweight tournament at the Horseshoe Hammond Casino.

Media outlets may any or all of the videos by copy/paste the embedded link on their websites. (Note-Vitalii Kopylenko interview will be sent out today)

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## **Rudd, Petrov, Gonzalez and Carcamo advance in Boxcino opening round**

LAUGHLIN, NV (FEBRUARY 21, 2014)–The much anticipated Boxcino 2014 kicked off at the Edgewater Casino with a rousing beginning as Chris Rudd, Petr Petrov, Miguel Gonzalez and Fernando Carcamo all advanced to the semi-final round in the lightweight division on March 28th at the 4 Bears Casino in Newtown, North Dakota.

Chris Rudd opened the tournament with a “Drawbreaker” decision over Yakubu Amidu.

Both guys landed tremendous power shots with Amidu getting better in the second but Rudd came back the next round. In round four it became a war of attrition with Amidu landing with Rudd on the ropes. It was a nip and tuck fight down the stretch and when the scores were announced it was ruled a draw on the scorecards.

The fighters went to the overtime round it was the activity level that got Rudd the victory.

Officially it goes into the record books as a split decision for Rudd by scores of 67-66 twice and 68-65 for Amidu. Rudd, of Covington, Tennessee and he is now 13-1. Amidu of Los Angeles via Ghana is now 19-5-1

Rudd will meet Petr Petrov, who scored a 6-round unanimous decision over previously undefeated Fedor Papazov.

It was a close competitive fight with both guys landing hard shots early in the bout. Petrov got the better in round's five and six as he utilized counter punching ability to land with pinpoint accuracy. He did well despite having some swelling around the right eye.

Petrov of Madrid, Spain via Russia won by scores of 58-56 on all cards and is now 33-4-2. Papazov, of Los Angeles via Russia is now 14-1.

Miguel Gonzalez scored a 6-round split decision over Miguel Angel Mendoza.

Gonzalez boxed very well through the fight and landed some good shots. Mendoza pressed the fight and in round six he had Gonzalez on defensive as he pounded away on him ropes. The crowd tried to urge Mendoza on but it was not enough as Gonzalez took two cards by 58-56 tallies while Mendoza won a card at 58-56.

Gonzalez of Cleveland, Ohio is now 23-3. Mendoza is 21-3-2.

Gonzalez will meet Fernando Carcamo, who destroyed previously undefeated Samuel Neequaye in two rounds.

Carcamo dropped Neequaye in round one and then wobbled and buckled Neequaye for most of the 2nd frame and the fight was stopped as Neequaye was going down to the canvas at 1:58 of round two.

Carcamo is now 16-5 with 11 knockouts. Neequaye of Ghana is now 21-1.

2012 Olympic Bronze Medal winner Taras Shelestyuk battered Francisco Flores as he scored a knockdown en route to a 1st round stoppage in a scheduled 4 round Jr. Middleweight bout.

The time of the stoppage was 1:45 for Shelestyuk, who improves to 7-0.

Cornelius Whitlock needed just 35 seconds to dispose of Luis Hernandez in a scheduled 4 round Jr. Welterweight bout.

Whitlock landed a perfect right hand that knocked Hernandez stiff and the bout was waved off.

Whitlock of Baltimore is now 3-0-2 with 2 knockouts. Hernandez, of San Bernadino, CA is now 2-7.

Despite being knocked down in the 2nd round, James Walos scored a 4-round unanimous decision over Robert Hill.

All three judges ruled 38-37 for Walos, who is now 2-0. Hill is 1-4.

The Boxcino 2014 middleweight tournament kicks off next Friday night at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Indiana at 9pm eastern on ESPN, ESPN Deportes+ and WatchESPN.