

# Teofimo Lopez Makes Junior Welterweight Debut with Seventh Round Stoppage over Pedro Campa in Las Vegas

NEW YORK (AUGUST 15, 2022)—Former Undisputed Lightweight World Champion, Teofimo Lopez christened the 140-pound division with a seventh round stoppage over Pedro Campa at Resorts World Las Vegas.

That fight capped a perfect weekend for Split-T Management.

Lopez was dominant from the onset of the contest as he boxed and started to land some solid power punches as early as the second. With each ensuing round, Lopez began to land more and more as he started to break down the Mexican warrior.

As the second half of the fight commenced, Lopez stepped on the gas and started to hurt Campa in round six. In round seven, Lopez dropped Campa with a hard right that was followed by a left. Lopez started to emphatically beat Campa until the bout was stopped at 2:14.

Lopez moves his impressive resume to 17-1 with 13 knockouts. Campa is 34-2-1.

Lopez said, “I was at 135 pounds for nine years. It was killing my body, since I was a teenage kid, man. We want Josh Taylor. We want these guys. We want {Regis} Prograis. We want {Jose} Zepeda. We want all the belts. We want to become two-time undisputed champion.”

“If Josh Taylor is too busy with his wedding and there’s nobody else around because the WBA belt is taken and the WBC is going to be fought with Zepeda and Prograis, then so fuc\*ng

be it," Lopez said.

On the undercard, Split-T Management's Omar Rosario remained undefeated with a six-round unanimous decision over Esteban Munoz in a super lightweight bout.

Rosario of Caguas, Puerto Rico won by scores of 58-56 on all cards and is now 8-0. Munoz is now 6-2.

Lopez and Rosario are promoted by Top Rank.

Lopez and Rosario Photo Credit: Mikey Williams / Top Rank via Getty Images

Photo by Hosanna Rull / iRull Fotos

At The Bayou Event Center in Houston, Texas, three Split-T Fighters registered impressive stoppages.

Highly regarded welterweight Giovanni Marquez stopped William Davis in round two of their scheduled four-round bout.

Marquez was dominant as he dropped Davis three times in the second round and the bout was stopped at the 2:00 mark.

Marquez, who was the 2021 National Golden Gloves Most Outstanding Boxer is now 3-0 with two knockouts. Davis of Memphis is 5-14-1.

Photo by Hosanna Rull / iRull Fotos

Heavy-handed Luis Acosta stopped tough Abdel Saucedo in round four of their six-round lightweight contest.

It was a competitive fight for the first three-rounds. In round four, the power of Acosta was evident as he floored Saucedo three-times and then the fight was halted at 2:54.

Acosta of Houston is now 13-1 with 12 knockouts. Saucedo of Mexico is now 11-2.

Recent world title challenger Jessica Camara made her first knockout a memorable one as she took out four-time world title challenger Simone da Silva in the second round of their eight-round lightweight bout.

Camara landed a crunching left hook to the ribs that made da Silva scream in agony as she hit the deck, and the fight was waved off at 1:32 of round two.

Camara of Montreal, Canada is now 9-3 with one knockout. da Silva of Brazil is 17-22.

Camara is promoted by DiBella Entertainment

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## **Former Undisputed Lightweight Champion Teofimo Lopez Back in Action against Pedro Campa on ESPN**

NEW YORK (August 12, 2022)—Saturday night at Resorts World Las Vegas will see the return of former undisputed Lightweight World Champion Teofimo Lopez move up to junior welterweight to start his quest of becoming a two-division world champion when he takes on Pedro Campa in a 10-round bout for the WBO International and NABF Junior Welterweight titles.

The fight, which will be televised by ESPN (10 PM ET) will serve as Lopez' "Takeback" as he starts his road back to becoming world champion.

The fight heads a big weekend for Split-T Management as five fighters under the management banner will be in action between

Las Vegas and Houston.

Lopez, who was the 2020 Fighter of the Year, will be back in the ring, looking to "Takeover" a second weight-class.

Lopez had a meteoric rise up the lightweight division as he scored many highlight-reel and spectacular knockouts over Vitor Jones (14-1), William Silva (25-1), Mason Menard (34-3) and Diego Magdaleno (31-2). Lopez won the IBF Lightweight title with a second round destruction over Richard Commey on December 14, 2019 at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Lopez followed that up by winning the undisputed title with a 12-round unanimous decision over pound-for-pound number-one Vasiliy Loamchenko on October 17, 2020.

Campa of Hermosillo, Mexico is 34-1-1 with 23 knockouts. Unbeaten in his last eight fights, which spans five years, the 30 year-old Campa has wins over Alejandro Milanes Gocobachi (1-0), Ulises Perez Torres (6-0), Ivan Ramirez (6-1), Dario Garibay (11-1), Jesus Nunez Rodriguez (14-1), Aaron Herrera (29-3-1), Juan Antonio Rodriguez (29-6-1), Domicio Rondon (15-3), Abimael Cruz Bautista (5-0) and his fight when he stopped undefeated Carlos Sanchez Valadez (22-0) in three rounds on March 19th in Chihuahua, Mexico.

Lopez weighed in at 138.8 lbs. Campa was 139.4

The bout will be televised live on (ESPN, ESPN Deportes & ESPN+, 10 p.m. ET/7 p.m. PT).

On the Undercard, beginning at 6:40 PM ET on ESPN+, undefeated Omar Rosario will take on Esteban Munoz in a six-round junior welterweight contest.

Rosario of Caguas, Puerto Rico is 7-0 with two knockouts. The 24 year-old Rosario already has wins over Uriel Villanueva (1-0), Wilfred Mariano (3-0), Marc Misiura (2-0), Raekwon Butler and his last outing when he took a six-round unanimous decision over Julio Rosa (4-0) on June 11th in New York.

Munoz of San Bernardino, California is 6-1 with four-knockouts. Munoz is coming off a third round stoppage over Kenny Williams on April 15th in Ontario, California,

Rosario weighed 140.8 lbs. Munoz weighed 140.6 lbs.

Lopez and Rosario are promoted by Top Rank

Photo Credit: Mikey Williams/Top Rank via Getty Images

Saturday night at The Bayou Center in Houston, Texas, three more distinguished fighters will be in action of a card that will be streamed live on BXNGTV.com

Undefeated welterweight Giovanni Marquez will take on William Marcell Davis in a bout scheduled for four-rounds.

Marquez, 21 years-old of Houston is 2-0 with one knockout. Vazquez turned professional on March 11th with a unanimous decision over previously undefeated Nelson Morales. in his last bout, Marquez took out 53-fight veteran Ariel Vazquez in two rounds on June 17th in Houston.

Marquez began boxing at the age of 12 as he is the son of former U.S. Olympian, world junior middleweight world champion and current broadcaster Raul Marquez.

Marquez had an amateur record of 75-12, which culminated in winning the National Golden Glove tournament this past August in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was named the Most Outstanding boxer in the tournament.

Marquez, who won the 152-pound National Golden Gloves, will begin his pro career around 145-pounds, with the goal to campaign as a junior welterweight

Davis of Memphis is 5-13-1 with five knockouts. Davis has stopped two undefeated fighters, Terence Reed (2-0) and Michael Hughes (2-0).

Recent world title challenger Jessica Camara makes the trek from Montreal to take on four-time world title challenger Simone da Silva in an eight-round lightweight bout.

Camara has a record of 8-3 and is coming off a split decision loss to Kali Reis in a bout for Reis' WBA/WBO Junior Welterweight world titles on November 19, 2021 in Manchester, New Hampshire. Camara also has wins over Erika Hernandez (5-1-1), Dalia Velazquez (5-1-1) and former world champion Heather Hardy (22-1).

da Silva of Sao Paulo, Brazil is 17-21 with six knockouts.

The 17 year capable veteran has wins over Paola Herrera (13-1-2), Paulina Cardona (9-2-3), Ikram Kerwat (9-1)

Both Camara and da Silva weighed 136 lbs.

Camara is promoted by DiBella Entertainment.

Luis Acosta will look to get back in the win column when he takes on Abdel Saucedo in a lightweight bout scheduled for eight-rounds.

Acosta, 25 years-old of Houston is 12-1 with 11 knockouts.

Acosta, 25 years-old, won his first 12 bouts in impressive fashion. He is coming off a loss to Edwin De Los Santos on March 11th.

Saucedo of Monterrey, Mexico is 11-1 with seven knockouts. The 24 year-old has won four in a row and is coming off a first-round stoppage over Jullian Guillen on December 20, 2019 in Monterrey, Mexico

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# Split-T Management Fighters Go Three-For-Three in Houston

NEW YORK (JUNE 21, 2022)-Split-T Management fighters shined in Houston by picking up three wins in as many fights on Friday night at the Bayou Event Center.

**Melissa Odessa Parker** remained undefeated and made the first defense of her IB0 Bantamweight title with a 10-round unanimous decision over Mikenna Tansley.

Parker of nearby Spring, Texas, won by scores 97-93 and 96-94 twice, is now 6-0. Tansley of Alberta, Canada is 5-1.

**Giovanni Marquez** went to 2-0 as he scored his first stoppage by taking out 53-fight veteran Ariel Vazquez in round two of their four-round welterweight fight.

Marquez dropped Vazquez in round one, and finished him off at 2:52 of round two.

“That feels good,” Giovanni said to Jose De Jesus Ortiz of [Our Esquina](#) of the TKO. “There were already critics saying, ‘Does he have power?’ So I showed improvement from my first fight. Now I got my second fight, got the stoppage.

“I’m steadily improving. I’m a student of the game and I’m looking to get better and better each fight.”

Marquez, 21 years-old of Houston, Texas began boxing at the age of 12 as he is the son of former U.S. Olympian, world junior middleweight world champion and current broadcaster Raul Marquez.

Marquez had an amateur record of 75-12, which culminated in winning the National Golden Glove tournament this past August in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was named the Most Outstanding boxer in the tournament.

Marquez, who won the 152-pound National Golden Gloves, will begin his pro career around 145-pounds, with the goal to campaign as a junior welterweight.

**Andreas Katzourakis** returned to the ring and remained undefeated with a six-round unanimous decision over Isiah Jones in a middleweight bout.

Katzourakis Los Angeles via Athens, Greece dominated Jones throughout the contest, and won by scores of 60-54 twice and 59-55 to raise his unblemished mark to 7-0. Jones of Detroit is 9-6.

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## **Split-T Management Triumvirate in Action Tonight in Houston**

NEW YORK (JUNE 18, 2022)—Three Split-T Management Fighters will be on display tonight in Houston

Undefeated IB0 world Bantamweight champion bantamweight **Melissa Odessa Parker** defending against Mikenna Tansley at the Bayou Event Center.

Parker of Spring, Texas has a record of 5-0 with two knockouts. The 35 year-old southpaw is a two year-professional who has wins over two undefeated fighters. In her last outing, Parker won the IB0 Bantamweight title with a unanimous decision over Calista Silgado on June 19, 2021 in Miami, Florida.

Tansley of Alberta, Canada is 5-0 with one knockouts and is coming off an eight-round majority decision over previously



undefeated Danielle Bennett on September 25th in Davenport, Iowa.

On the same card, **Giovanni Marquez** will look to make it 2-0, when the former National Golden Gloves champion when he makes his hometown debut when he takes on 53-fight veteran Ariel Vazquez in a four-round welterweight bout.

Marquez turned professional on March 11th with a four-round unanimous decision over undefeated Nelson Morales in a bout that was televised on ShoBox: The New Generation from Deadwood, South Dakota.

Marquez, 21 years-old of Houston, Texas began boxing at the age of 12 as he is the son of former U.S. Olympian, world junior middleweight world champion and current broadcaster Raul Marquez.

Marquez had an amateur record of 75-12, which culminated in winning the National Golden Glove tournament this past August in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was named the Most Outstanding boxer in the tournament.

Marquez, who won the 152-pound National Golden Gloves, will begin his pro career around 145-pounds, with the goal to campaign as a junior welterweight.

Vazquez of Managua, Nicaragua, has a win over Sergio Olivas (12-2) and has fought 17 undefeated opponents including former world champion Jamel Herring as well as former world champion Rene Alvarado.

Also on the card will be the return of undefeated middleweight **Andreas Katzourakis**. Katzourakis will take on Isiah Jones in a six-round bout.

Katzourakis of Greece is 6-0 with five knockouts. The 25 year-old has been off since December 12, 2020 when he took out Brandon Baue in the third round in Miami, Florida. Katzourakis

also has a second round stoppage over Edward Brown (7-1).

Jones of Detroit is 9-5 with three knockouts. Jones won his first eight-bouts which was highlighted by a win over undefeated Antonio Wade. Jones also defeated undefeated Donte Stubbs (6-0). Jones has faced seven undefeated fighters and is coming off a defeat to undefeated Eugene Hill on December 4th in Houston.

The bouts can be seen live on BXNGTV.com beginning at 7 PM ET / 6 PM PT.

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## **Split-T Management Fighters Earn Four Wins on Friday Night**

New York, NY (March 15, 2022)—Four members of the Split-T Management stable posted victories on Friday night.

Three of those victories came in Deadwood, South Dakota as Ardreal Holmes Jr. remained undefeated with a 10-round unanimous decision over Vernon Brown in a junior middleweight bout that headlined a SH0BOX: The New Generation card that was live on SHOWTIME.

Holmes used his 6'2" frame to box very well and land some hard straight left hands on the gritty Brown. Holmes was able to win by scores of 98-92, 97-93 and 96-94 to raise his mark to 12-0.

"I was reborn tonight," Holmes said. "This performance showed that I still have it in me. I hurt my left hand in the second round. I couldn't punch how I wanted to. I was in a bunch of

pain but I pulled through. Thinking about my family pushed me through the pain.”

Holmes said no matter how much Brown hurt him, he was going to push through the pain. “I was rusty. I believe I need another fight to get the rust off. My timing wasn’t there. I’ve been off for like 800 days, but this fight showed that I have a lot of heart. I want Paul Kroll next. He was talking a lot of junk against me. We have a history in the amateurs. He’s who I want.”

Holmes is promoted by DiBella Entertainment and Holden Productions.

In the opening bout, Giovanni Marquez made a successful pro debut with a four-round unanimous decision over Nelson Morales in a welterweight bout.

Marquez displayed the boxing skills that propelled him to a National Golden Gloves title, as he boxed well and mixed some crisp power shots. Despite injuring his hand, Marquez looked like a seasoned veteran as was very composed in the ring.

Marquez of Houston, won by scores of 40-36 and 39-37 twice.

“I felt great,” said Marquez. “I hurt my left hand in the second round on a jab. I think I would have been able to stop him if I hadn’t hurt my hand.”

Added Giovanni: “It was a great experience. He was a tough, durable guy, but I feel like I handled everything, the cameras, all the attention pretty well. I started a little slow but after the first round I settled down and fought my fight. I felt fine without the headgear. We kept bumping heads, but he never hurt me. There was a lot of pressure on me, and I was a little nervous in the leadup to the fight, but once I got into the fight I relaxed and I felt comfortable. Overall, it was a great experience.”

In non-televised action, David Navarro won a six-round unanimous decision over Gavino Guaman in a featherweight bout.

Navarro is settling into the pro game as he dominated the action and took every round convincingly and won by scores of 60-54 on all cards.

With the win, the 22 year-old native of Los Angeles upped his record to 4-1.

In Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, LeAnna Cruz remained undefeated with a four-round unanimous decision over Anyela Lopez in a bantamweight fight.

Cruz featured solid right hands that landed flush on Lopez, which was a delight to the large hometown fan base that Cruz performed in front of.

Cruz, 113.7 lbs of Allentown, PA won by scores of 40-36 and 39-37 twice to go to 2-0. Lopez, 115.3 lbs of Tucson, AZ is 2-2.

Cruz is promoted by King's Promotions.

LeAnna Cruz talks about her unanimous decision over Anyela Lopez

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## **Split-T Management Quintet in Action**

New York, NY (March 11, 2022)–Tonight, five athletes under the Split-T Management banner will be in action with three being featured on SHOBX: The New Generation, Live on SHOWTIME at 9:35 PM ET.

In the headline of the SHOBBOX card from Deadwood, South Dakota will be undefeated junior middleweight Ardreal Holmes.

Holmes will take on Vernon Brown in a scheduled 10-round bout.

Holmes of Flint, Michigan, has a record of 11-0 with five knockouts. The 27 year-old Holmes is a six-year professional, has wins over Bryan Goldsby (4-1) and his last bout when he stopped Jose Antonio Abreu on November 15, 2019 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Brown of Chicago is 13-1-1 with nine knockouts. The 32 year-old Brown is a seven-year veteran who has defeated Jose Pena (1-0), David Castro (2-0) and is coming off a 2nd round stoppage over Fabian Lyimo on February 20, 2021 in Shelbyville, Kentucky.

Holmes weighed 156 lbs. Brown was 157 1/4 lbs.

Holmes is co-promoted by DiBella Entertainment and Holden Productions.

In the co-feature, Luis Acosta will take on Edwin De Los Santos in a eight-round lightweight bout.

Acosta, 25 years-old of Houston, Texas has a professional record of 12-0 with 11 knockouts. Acosta began boxing at the age of 16, following in the footsteps of his father, Jose, and uncle, Mario, who were both professional boxers. His father, who now trains Luis, was 2-2 as a professional, while his uncle was 1-0. This passion led to an amateur career that saw Luis go 57-8 and winning both the Title and Ringside Tournaments. In addition, Acosta is a graduate of the University of Houston with a degree in exercise science and Kinesiology and has an entrepreneurial spirit honed by working many hours in his family's restaurant, which is a local landmark in Humble, Texas.

De Los Santos of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic is 13-1-1

with 12 knockouts. The 22 year-old is a four year professional who has wins over Manuel Bottis (23-2-1), Juan Alberto Garcia Perez (8-2). He is coming off an eight-round split decision loss to undefeated William Foster III on January 7th in Orlando, Florida in a bout that was televised on SHOBX The New Generation.

Acosta weighed in at 133 1/2 lbs. De Los Santos was 133 3/4 lbs.

The televised portion will kick off with the much anticipated pro debut of former National Golden Gloves champion Giovanni Marquez taking on Nelson Morales in a four-round welterweight affair.

Marquez, 21 years-old of Houston, Texas began boxing at the age of 12 as he is the son of former U.S. Olympian, world junior middleweight world champion and current broadcaster Raul Marquez. Marquez had an amateur record of 75-12, which culminated in winning the National Golden Glove tournament this past August in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was named the Most Outstanding boxer in the tournament.

Marquez, who won the 152-pound National Golden Gloves, will begin his pro career around 145-pounds, with the goal to campaign as a junior welterweight.

Morales of Scranton, Pennsylvania is 2-0 and is coming off a four-round unanimous decision over Ronny Arana on August 20, 2021.

Marquez weighed 143 lbs while Morales was 144 1/4 lbs.

In non-televised action from Deadwood, featherweight prospect David Navarro takes on Gavino Guaman in a six-round bout.

Navarro, 22, is 3-1 with two knockouts and is coming off a win over Jayron Santiago Lopez on July 23rd, 2021 in Grand Island, Nebraska. Navarro began training in the sport at the age of

five, and left behind his childhood long endeavor of becoming an Olympian to enter the professional ranks. During his time in the amateurs, David compiled 15 National titles and competed in over 170 amateur bouts.

Navarro was one of only eight boxers in his weight division to compete for a spot on Team USA's Olympic squad. During the 10-day event, he made it all the way to the finals by upsetting top seed Duke Ragan and in January was named as an Olympic Alternate for the 2020 Olympics, now rescheduled to take place in 2021.

In addition to David's deep amateur accolades, he comes from one of the great Mexican American boxing families. David is the younger brother of Golden Boy Promotions undefeated junior welterweight prospect Johnathan Navarro, and his cousins, Steven and Chantel, are widely regarded as two of the top young prospects in the USA amateur system.

David is also the nephew of former Olympian Jose Navarro, who competed at the 2000 Sydney Olympic games, and Carlos Navarro, one of America's greatest amateurs in the 90's, who is well-known for being the the last American to beat Floyd Mayweather Jr. by winning a box-off at the 1995 Pan-American Games.

Guaman of River Falls, Wisconsin is 6-4-1 with two knockouts. The 30 year-old Guaman has a 1st round stoppage over Joshua Hernandez (5-0) in the opening round.

in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, super flyweight LeAnna Cruz looks to stay undefeated when she battles Anyela Lopez in a four-round bout at The Wind Creek Event Center.

Cruz of Allentown is 1-0 as the 24 year-old won a four-round unanimous decision over Delaney Bailey on September 10, 2021 in Philadelphia.

Lopez, 30 years-old of Tucson, Arizona is 2-1-1 with one knockout, and has a win over Nicole Reinhart (1-0), She is

coming off a unanimous decision over Jaica Pavilus on June 9, 2021 in Long Beach, California.

Cruz was 113.7 lbs. Lopez was 115.3 lbs.

Cruz is promoted by King's Promotions.

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## **ARDREAL HOLMES VS. VERNON BROWN OFFICIAL WEIGHTS, QUOTES AND PHOTOS FOR SHOBOX: THE NEW GENERATION® TOMORROW LIVE ON SHOWTIME®**

DEADWOOD, S.D. – March 10, 2022 – Undefeated middleweight prospect Ardreal Holmes (11-0, 5 KOs) and once-beaten Vernon Brown (13-1-1, 9 KOs) both made weight Thursday, a day ahead of their 10-round main event on ShoBox: The New Generation tomorrow night, Friday, March 11 live on SHOWTIME at 9:35 p.m. ET/PT from Deadwood Mountain Grand Hotel in Deadwood, S.D.

The co-feature pits undefeated prospect Luis Acosta (12-0, 11 KOs) and the power-punching Edwin De Los Santos (13-1, 12 KOs) in an eight-round lightweight bout. Plus, 2021 National Golden Gloves Champion Giovanni Márquez, the son of former world champion and ShoBox commentator Raul Márquez, makes his professional debut against Dominican Nelson Morales (2-0) in a four-round welterweight bout that opens the three-fight telecast.

Raul Márquez will occupy dual roles during the broadcast,



first as his son's trainer and cornerman and then later as an expert analyst alongside his colleagues ringside. He will be joined by Hall of Famer Barry Tompkins calling the action with veteran combat sports reporter Brian Campbell also serving as an expert analyst, and Hall of Famer Steve Farhood remotely performing unofficial scoring duties. The executive producer of ShoBox: The New Generation is Gordon Hall with Richard Gaughan producing and Rick Phillips directing.

The tripleheader is promoted by Holden Productions.

#### FINAL WEIGHTS

Middleweight 10-Round Bout

Ardreal Holmes – 156 pounds

Vernon Brown – 157  $\frac{1}{4}$  pounds

Referee: Mark Nelson (Minnesota); Judges: Norm Hamling, Jr. (South Dakota), John Mariano (Minnesota), Ludy Webster (Minnesota)

Lightweight Eight-Round Bout

Luis Acosta – 133  $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds

Edwin De Los Santos – 133  $\frac{3}{4}$  pounds

Referee: Mark Nelson (Minnesota); Judges: Norm Hamling, Jr. (South Dakota), John Mariano (Minnesota), Ludy Webster (Minnesota)

Welterweight Four-Round Bout

Giovanni Márquez – 143 pounds

Nelson Morales – 144  $\frac{1}{4}$  pounds

Referee: Mark Nelson (Minnesota); Judges: Norm Hamling, Jr. (South Dakota), John Mariano (Minnesota), Ludy Webster (Minnesota)

#### FINAL QUOTES:

Ardreal Holmes

“The long layoff is due to the pandemic and just waiting for

the right opportunity to come along. I was dealing with a lot of things at the time, deaths in the family, so part of it was getting myself mentally ready to take advantage of the opportunity when it came along.

“Flint Michigan is just a special place. Whenever you go out of town, people would say, ‘What is it about Flint?’ We’d say, ‘There’s something in the water.’ We’ve been saying that for years. And then all that stuff happened (with the water being contaminated). It’s just a beautiful, tough place, but it’s still beautiful.

“I feel good for this fight. There’s nothing that I’m not expecting. I’m tall so everyone’s plan is to come forward and put pressure on me, but I’m expecting him to come forward and I plan on catching him on the way in.

“After being off for this long, I’m super excited for this opportunity. I just kept my head on straight and stayed positive and here we are. My son was a big motivation for me for this fight. And a guy I fought (and lost to) in the U.S. Olympic Trials, Paul Kroll, who I heard was talking about fighting me. He also motivated me.

“Every fight there’s pressure, but I believe in myself, and I believe in my training, and I’m going to go out and do my best.”

Vernon Brown

“Accepting the fight late wasn’t a big deal. I’d already been training. I’m excited for this opportunity and I feel good.

“I’ve gone up and down in weight, my last fight was at 140, but I’m used to fighting big guys, so this is not a problem. I’ve fought a couple guys who were 6’2”, so I’m ready. It’s been a year since February since my last fight and I’m ready to get my feet back wet again. I feel strong.

"My best weight is 147. I can do a lot at 147. I can do 154. Fighting bigger guys isn't a problem, but 147 is my weight class. The contracted weight for this fight is 156 plus two, and that's fine with me, so I don't have to kill myself making weight.

"I'm just an aggressive fighter. My trainers want me to be aggressive and more technical and more defensive, but it's like the bell rings and I turn into a real different animal. I don't care how big you are, but I'm going to be smart for this fight. I don't want to get caught by anything stupid.

"I consider myself a Hagler type. I love to brawl. I can really punch. Everyone in Chicago knows about my power. They brag on me, 'Oh, you punch so hard.' But I'm also learning it's about conditioning and moving my head, and I know there's more than just being able to punch.

"Everyone knows my right-hook is dangerous. But I knocked out a couple southpaws taller than me with overhand lefts because they were focused on my right. I can switch but I'm not like a Terence Crawford, but I will do it just to throw a guy off."

Luis Acosta

"We are excited and ready to do the work. I'm not surprised at the success we've had. When you put in the hard work it shows in the end. I think our record shows that. We train hard all the time.

"I haven't had a lot of rounds, but that doesn't bother me. When we are sparring we go lots of rounds and bring in new, fresher guys while I'm staying in there the whole time. Eight rounds, 12 rounds. The conditioning is there, and the stamina. Whenever we end up going those rounds, the conditioning will show.

"I'm never worried about how hard I'm hitting a guy or trying to impress myself. I don't deal with that pressure where I

gotta knock this guy out. It just comes. You know, in the [Darel] Harris fight it didn't come but I got my knockdowns and we did our work still.

"I'm going to keep doing what I've been doing. What we've been doing has been working for us. If I feel like I have to pace myself then I didn't train hard enough to be able to put in the same amount of work for each round. If I'm fighting a 12-round fight I'm going to throw the same amount of punches as I would throw if I was fighting less rounds. I'm ready.

"[De Los Santos] has the best record so in my mind he is the best I've ever faced so far. Just like all my other fights it doesn't matter who is in there across the ring from me I'm going to go in there and do my thing."

Edwin De Los Santos

"I know Luis Acosta is a tough opponent, just like all the other Mexicans that I have fought. I know he works hard in the ring, just like I do. I know he's also a very intelligent and skilled fighter.

"Physically I wasn't ready for my last fight [a loss on ShoBox]. The running on the treadmill instead of out in the streets and in nature affected me. The weather conditions were very cold at that time. The weight cut also affected me. I feel like now that I'm working out harder and smarter and not having to cut as much weight has helped me.

"I don't know which way this fight goes. It could be a knockout, or it could go the distance. It was a very bitter defeat I tasted in my last fight and so it's very important for my career that I can come back and get a win this time to take me to the next level."

Giovanni Márquez

"I ended up winning the National Golden Gloves which opened a

lot of doors and opportunities. And here we are now. I never imagined I would make my debut on ShoBox. I'm looking forward to it and I'm just ready to go out there and perform.

"Some say there's a lot of pressure on me. Of course, there's pressure. Being my dad's son, there's always going to be pressure but I just use that pressure as motivation and it just gives me a feeling that I have to prove something. That's when I perform best.

"I always felt I had more of a pro-like style. In the amateurs, it's only three three-minute rounds. There's not too much time. There's a lot of guys that move, hold, throw little pitty-pat punches. Whereas I like to sit on my punches and look for openings. I think I'll be able to show my style more in the pros than I was in the amateurs because there's a little bit more time.

"I know that Morales will be hungry. This is a good opportunity for him. I'm definitely not taking him lightly. I'm looking to go out there and have a great first impression on the boxing world. This is a great opportunity to do that. I definitely want to win in spectacular fashion."

Nelson Morales

"Every boxer's dream is to fight on TV and get these kinds of opportunities. I come from a town where there's always been a lot of guys doing big things, and I've been working quietly. Now I have this big opportunity and I really want to take full advantage of it. I'm super excited especially to be on a platform like SHOWTIME. I never thought this would come.

"Márquez has a lot of amateur experience. His father was a world champion. I know he's been around these types of platforms. I don't expect him to be completely nervous where he won't be on his game. So I'm just expecting the best of Giovanni Marquez and I just have to do my thing. I expect him to be very confident. He's been around SHOWTIME and this is my

first time on SHOWTIME. I have to do something big too.

“Right now, I manage myself. I’m self-managed and I do my own thing. I look for my own fights. I just want to do my thing and look good to the point where somebody is going to reach out to me and say, ‘I want to work with you.’”

“I just turned 30. I have to do something and if I’m going to do it, I have to do it now. I don’t have the opportunity that he does. This might be my one shot. He’s only (21). He has a lot of years to bounce back. I don’t.”

**#**

For more information visit [www.sho.com/sports](http://www.sho.com/sports) follow on Twitter @ShowtimeBoxing, @SHOSports, #ShoBox, or become a fan on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/SHOSports](http://www.Facebook.com/SHOSports)

#### 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 86 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, Chad Dawson, Ricky Hatton, Kelly Pavlik, Paul Williams and more.

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**VIDEO: SHOWTIME  
SPORTS® OFFERS FIRST LOOK AT  
VIDEO FEATURE INTRODUCING THE  
BOXING WORLD TO HIGHLY  
REGARDED PROSPECT GIOVANNI  
MARQUEZ AHEAD OF PRO DEBUT  
TOMORROW NIGHT ON SHOWTIME®**

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**AUDIO: Giovanni Marquez Talks  
about his pro debut**

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**VIDEO: Giovanni Marquez Talks  
about his pro debut**