

# Undefeated World Champion Danny Garcia Earns Victory in Hometown Via Seventh Round Stoppage of Samuel Vargas in Main Event of Premier Boxing Champions on Spike Saturday Night from Temple University's Liacouras Center in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (November 13, 2016) – Undefeated world champion Danny “Swift” Garcia (33-0, 19 KOs) put on a show for fans in his hometown Saturday night as he dropped and stopped Colombia’s Samuel Vargas (25-3-1, 13 KOs) on his way to a seventh round TKO victory in the main event of Premier Boxing Champions on Spike from Temple University’s Liacouras Center in Philadelphia.

The dominant performance by Garcia officially setup a welterweight world championship unification showdown in March against Keith “One Time” Thurman, who was in attendance as part of Spike’s broadcasting crew. The two welterweight world champions met in the middle of the ring after the conclusion of the bout and began to set the stage for their explosive showdown.

“I just had to tell Keith that he’s next,” said Garcia. “I’m going to beat him down. There’s not much more to say. Keith is going to get what he asked for and now he’s going to face a big dog.”

"You have two big punchers meeting on March 4," said Thurman. "I don't see how the fight can go 12 rounds. I see myself as the best competition that Danny has ever faced."

Garcia was sharp offensively and defensively Saturday night, making Vargas miss often and countering with powerful shots. He started slow but late in the second round, Garcia delivered an overhand right hand that sent Vargas tumbling to the canvas.

"I felt a little rusty," said Garcia. "But I started putting my punches together well and came out with the victory. The overhand right knocked him down. It was just a well-timed shot."

"I got beat up in there," said Vargas. "It takes a lot of courage to come to North Philadelphia and fight the champ. It just wasn't my night."

Vargas continued to come forward and work, but Garcia was entirely in control, making Vargas swing at air while delivering shots of his own that kept him in command. In the seventh round, Garcia began to unload with a series of big shots that hurt Vargas on the ropes. This eventually prompted referee Gary Rosato to stop the fight 2:17 into the round.

"It was great to give back to my fans in Philadelphia," said Garcia. "It was a long time coming. I'm just happy I was able to give Philly a great night. I'm a Philly champion and it was great to see guys like Allen Iverson and Meek Mill out here supporting. Most importantly it felt great to give back to those in need in my city."

"Danny is a great fighter and a great person for his city," said Vargas.

With the March 4 unification fight now set, boxing fans can look forward to seeing two of the best fighters in the sport put their undefeated records and world titles on the line.

“Danny can talk whatever he wants and Angel Garcia can say whatever he wants,” said Thurman. “They can talk smack all day. Danny is real flat-footed. I believe I’ll be able to be on the outside, see the wide punches and counter punch. They said he wanted the tune-up, now he’s ready to see me.”

“On March 4, fans can expect what they always get from me,” said Garcia. “It’s going to be fireworks. I’m a Philly champion. I have the heart of a champion and I’m coming to win and unify titles.”

The co-main event of the evening saw undefeated rising star Jarrett Hurd (19-0, 13 KOs) stop former title challenger Jo Jo Dan (35-4, 18 KOs) in the sixth-round of their super welterweight battle.

The smaller Dan sought to smother Hurd from the beginning and negate the previously unbeaten fighter’s advantage in reach and height. Hurd was unable to get full power behind his punches, while Dan tried to hit Hurd with short punches, mainly to the body.

“We knew he was a crafty southpaw,” said Hurd. “We wanted to take our time because we didn’t know how he would come out. We felt him out at first.”

“The weight was a big difference,” said Dan. “I took the fight on short notice and I’m a 147-pound fighter. He was too strong for me tonight.”

Things began to open up for Hurd in round two as he began to tee off on the head of Dan, including a thudding left that caused Dan’s nose to bleed. Hurd continued to pummel Dan, mixing in looping shots to the body with his devastating array of hooks and uppercuts.

“My defense was a little off because being prepared for a right hander,” said Hurd. “We fixed that in the last round and got the stoppage.”

The damage continued into the sixth round as Dan kept coming forward but was consistently met with hard shots from Hurd. The fight was finally called at 1:08 into the sixth round, on the advice of Dan's corner.

"He was wobbly and shaky," said Hurd. "I probably would have taken him out in the next round. There are a lot of great fighters in this division and whoever I can get in there with next, I'll be ready for."

"He's a tough guy," said Dan. "I gave him some tough shots and I took some good shots. At the end of the day this is boxing. I couldn't do enough to get the win."

The opening bout of the telecast saw former world champion Javier Fortuna (31-1-1, 22 KOs) survive an early knockdown to come back and earn a unanimous decision over previously unbeaten Omar Douglas (17-1, 12 KOs) in their 10-round lightweight match.

Douglas got off to the better start, connecting with a straight left hand late in the first round that buckled the knees of Fortuna and sent him to the canvas.

"He got me cold in the first round," said Fortuna. "I wasn't surprised that he came out sharp. I worked very hard to come back."

"The left hand was there for me so I took it," said Douglas. "I knocked him down based on reflexes."

Fortuna recovered nicely however, and used his movement and combination punching to fluster the less experienced Douglas. Fighting primarily out of the southpaw stance, Fortuna used his jab and followed up with flurries that score consistently.

"Every time that I was aggressive, I tried to follow it up with more punches," said Fortuna.

Douglas tried to be patient and counter, but too often it led

to the fighters getting tangled up instead of inflicting damage.

“He was grabbing me, but that’s the game” said Douglas. “That’s the game I signed up for.”

The final round saw Fortuna come out strong in an attempt to close the show with emphasis.

“I knew in the final round that I had to finish it well to make sure there were no questions,” said Fortuna.

The former champion connected at will on Douglas for much of the round, staggering him near the ropes with successive hooks. Douglas stayed on his feet but was unable to mount enough offense as all three judges gave the final round to Fortuna. In the end, the judges scored the bout 96-93 twice and 95-94 for Fortuna.

“I feel like I won the fight. The decision was absurd. He held me the whole fight,” said Douglas.

“I felt like I won just about every round after the first,” said Fortuna. “I want a rematch with Jason Sosa next. That’s a very big fight for me.”

In Off-Television action:

Titus Williams scored a 6-round majority decision over Antonio DuBose in a super featherweight bout.

Williams of Long Island, NY won two cards by tallies of 59-55 and 58-56 while a third card read even at 57-57.

Williams, 126.3 lbs is now 7-0. Dubose, 127.2 lbs of Philadelphia is 8-2-1.

Kyrone Davis stopped Carlos Gabriel Ozan in round three of their scheduled 8-round middleweight bout.

Davis dropped Ozan in round three with a hard barrage of

punches. Ozan got to his feet, but stumbled back to the corner and the bout was stopped at 41 seconds.

Davis, 158.6 lbs of Wilmington, DE is 11-1 with 5 knockouts. Ozan, 155.7 lbs of Mendoza, ARG is 12-2.

Milton Santiago won a 8-round unanimous decision over Claudio Rosendo Tapia in a super lightweight bout.

Santiago, 137 lbs of Philadelphia won by scores of 80-72 on all cards and is now 16-0. Tapia, 135.8 lbs of Mendoza, ARG is now 28-17-4.

Thomas Velasquez won a 4-round unanimous decision over Raul Chirino in a super featherweight bout.

Scores were 40-36 on all cards for Velasquez, 129.9 lbs of Philadelphia and he is now 6-0. Chirino, 134.2 lbs of Miami, FL is 7-4.

Jeffrey Torres won a 4-round unanimous decision over Joseph Serrano in a battle of Philadelphia based lightweights.

Torres, 137.7 lbs won by scores of 40-36 on all cards and is now 2-0. Serrano, 136.9 lbs was making his pro debut.

Christian Carto kept his perfect streak going as he stopped Leonard Reyes in a scheduled 4-round bantamweight bout.

Carto registered a knockdown from body shots in round two. Later in the round, Carto continued the domination and the bout was stopped at 2:34.

Carto, 118.6 lbs of Philadelphia is 4-0 with all wins coming early. Reyes, 114.5 lbs of Tijuana, MX is 4-11.

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PBC on Spike was promoted by DSG Promotions and King's Promotions.

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# Javier Fortuna vs. Omar Douglas Camp Notes

PHILADELPHIA (October 27, 2016) – Former world champion Javier Fortuna (30-1-1, 22 KOs) and undefeated rising contender Omar Douglas (17-0, 12 KOs) are set to meet in a pivotal matchup as both men look to make a statement when they meet on Saturday, November 12 from Temple University's Liacouras Center in Premier Boxing Champions on Spike action.

Televised coverage begins at 9 p.m. ET/8 p.m. CT and is headlined by undefeated world champion Danny "Swift" Garcia taking on Colombia's Samuel Vargas. Also featured in televised action is undefeated rising star Jarrett Hurd battling former title challenger Jo Jo Dan. Garcia is teaming up with Philabundance, the region's largest hunger relief organization, to arrange a regional food drive and raise money throughout the promotion. For more information on how to get involved, visit the event's webpage [HERE](#).

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by DSG Promotions and King's Promotions, are priced at \$200, \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$35 and are on sale now. To purchase tickets visit [LiacourasCenter.com/events](http://LiacourasCenter.com/events) or call 800-298-4200.

The former champion Fortuna and the unbeaten Douglas will meet in a 50-50 fight that could put the winner in a position to fight for a world title soon. Fortuna is known for his aggressive style while Douglas looks to impress against his toughest opponent to date.

Here is what the fighters had to say about training camp, each other and more:

How has training camp gone for this fight?

Javier Fortuna: "I'm having an excellent training camp. We're working hard and figuring out how to break down my opponent. Hector Bermudez does a great job and I'm very comfortable training here in Boston. I've gotten great sparring with guys like Will Madero and Alden Whatley. I'm going to be just as strong in the final round as I was in the first.

Omar Douglas: "Training has been going very well. I was already working and staying sharp, because I knew a big fight was on the horizon. Training in Delaware with Douglas Petitford has been great for me and I've had incredible sparring. I've been in there getting rounds with (2016 U.S. Olympian) Gary Antuanne Russell and a veteran in Hank Lundy."

What do you think of your opponent and how do you see this fight going stylistically?

JF: "Douglas is a prospect who has looked pretty good coming up. He wants to get to where I've been. He might be looking past me. I think that his style my style perfectly. I'm going to have openings and I just need to take advantage."

OD: "Fortuna is a very decent and explosive fighter. He's a former world champion and I expect him to stand up and get back what he thinks is his. He wants his rematch with Sosa and we are in each other's way. He's a frontrunner in the ring. He will try to start strong and I am prepared for whatever he brings to the table. Whether he boxes or fights me. I will make adjustments."

What kind of problems does your opponent pose?

JF: "The only problem that he will pose is if he doesn't show up and fight. I'm ready for anything he can bring, so I hope he's ready to give the fans a show."

OD: "Me moves well. I can't let myself get off-balanced trying



to chase him. He's awkward but I know that my jab will neutralize his strengths."

What are you looking for in the future if you can get the win on November 12? What are your goals for 2017?

JF: "I want to fight the best that are out there. My first choice is a rematch with Jason Sosa so that I can win my belt back. I'd love to fight Vasyl Lomachenko. I don't think he's fought a guy quite like me yet."

OD: "I want to fight for a world title. That's the goal. He is a former champion who just lost his title and 2017 is my year to make a run for a title."

How have you improved as a fighter since your loss? Do you believe a win over Douglas proves you're still on of the best in the division?

JF: "I have learned a lot of things since I lost. My defense and my confidence in myself has improved. If I can beat a guy who is 22-0 and make it two wins over previously unbeaten fighters, then I think I'm right back in contention. He's still considered a prospect so I think whoever wins will be a contender at the top of the division.

How does fighting in Philadelphia motivate you, having fought there in the amateurs and being from nearby Delaware?

OD: "In the amateurs I was one of the only guys from Delaware. I had a lot of obstacles. I've been fighting against Philly's best fighters for years. Philadelphia is where I achieved my first goals in the sport and it will always be special to me to fight in Philly."

Why do you believe you'll be victorious on fight night?

JF: "With the work that I've been putting in, I know that I will be ready on fight night. I've been through too much not to leave the ring victorious."

OD: "I've been waiting for this moment for all my life and I believe I am the hungrier fighter. He doesn't want it as badly as I do. I've been waiting in the shadows for a long time. I have all the skills necessary to get the job done."

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by DSG Promotions and King's Promotions, are priced at \$200, \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$35 and are on sale now. To purchase tickets visit [LiacourasCenter.com/events](http://LiacourasCenter.com/events) or call 800-298-4200. Ten dollars from every ticket sold will go to Philabundance, feeding 20 people in need per ticket.

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## **Undefeated World Champion Danny Garcia Faces Colombia's Samuel Vargas Saturday, November 12 From Temple University's Liacouras Center In Philadelphia**

PHILADELPHIA (October 13, 2016) – Undefeated welterweight world champion Danny "Swift" Garcia (32-0, 18 KOs) will make his first appearance in his native Philadelphia since 2010 as he takes on Colombia's Samuel Vargas (25-2-1, 13 KOs) in the main event of Premier Boxing Champions on Spike Saturday, November 12 from Temple University's Liacouras Center. The bout will be Garcia's final hurdle before a planned massive showdown with unbeaten champion Keith "One Time" Thurman scheduled for the first quarter of 2017.

In keeping with his desire to give back to the community, Garcia is teaming up with Philabundance, the region's largest hunger relief organization, to arrange a regional food drive, collecting most-needed items, such as tuna and vegetables. Fans are being encouraged to drop off canned goods at the Liacouras Center (1776 N Broad St) and the DSG Boxing Gym (3731 Jasper St). Additionally, \$10 from each ticket sold will be donated and provide 20 meals per ticket for people in need. More information on these efforts and how you can get involved will be announced shortly.

Garcia, a two-division world champion, will battle Vargas in a 10-round non-title bout in his first fight since his exciting win over Robert "The Ghost" Guerrero in January. Garcia insisted on staging the fight in his hometown and using the event as a vehicle to raise awareness and money for the less fortunate in the area.

"My dad and I wanted to get one more fight in before the end of the year and there was no doubt in my mind it had to be in Philadelphia," said Garcia. "My team got it done and it's a great feeling to fight at home over the holidays. I'm excited to use this opportunity to give back to the community and put on a show on November 12. This city means everything to me. I hope everyone comes out, but shows up with cans of food too. I'm gearing up for a big fight with Keith Thurman next year that's going to be a can't miss event. First, I'm going to fight for my city on November 12."

"Things happen when you work hard and I'm so excited about this opportunity," said Vargas. "Garcia is a great fighter and he cleaned out the 140-pound division and now he is champion at 147. A win would change my life and everyone around me. This is my time. I can't fail. This is going to be a Rocky story in Rocky's town."

Televised coverage on Spike begins at 9 p.m. ET/8 p.m. CT and features undefeated rising star Jarrett Hurd (18-0, 12 KOs) in

a 12-round bout against once-beaten super welterweight contender Jorge Cota (25-1, 22 KOs) and former world champion Javier Fortuna (30-1-1, 22 KOs) battling undefeated Omar Douglas (17-0, 12 KOs) in a 10-round lightweight bout.

"This win will put me one step closer towards winning a world title," said Hurd. "The win over Oscar Molina was a big opportunity that has opened a lot of doors and was a great experience. Cota is a tough veteran with a high knockout rate. He is a little wild and I have to look out for that. I'm going to go out there to land nice shots and stick to my game plan."

"I'm looking forward to this opportunity to fight a good undefeated fighter," said Cota. "I know that I have the power and skills to beat anybody out there. I'm going to leave it all in the ring and get the victory on November 12."

"I'm only thinking about winning heading into this fight," said Fortuna. "Douglas is a good fighter who moves very well. I'm looking forward to this challenge on November 12. I will be a world champion once again."

"This is the type of fight that I need if I am going to be a champion," said Douglas. "I plan on putting on a crowd pleasing performance. Fortuna is a decent fighter and I'm going to have to break him down. He is good for four or five rounds but then he slows down. I'm going to set him up to take him out in the later rounds."

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by DSG Promotions and King's Promotions, are priced at \$200, \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$35 and are on sale now. To purchase tickets visit [www.LiacourasCenter.com/events](http://www.LiacourasCenter.com/events) or call 800-298-4200.

Garcia returns to headline in his hometown as a two-division world champion who has picked up major victories over top fighters including Amir Khan, Lucas Matthyse, Lamont Peterson, Paulie Malignaggi and Zab Judah on his way to 31 professional victories. The 28-year-old earned a vacant

welterweight world title in his last bout when he won a toe-to-toe battle with former world champion Guerrero in Los Angeles taking his professional record to 32-0.

The 27-year-old Vargas enters this bout on a five-fight win streak including three stoppage victories including his most recent outing, a 10-round decision over Juan Armando Garcia in May. Born in Columbia, his family left to find a better life when he was 15 years old and after a brief stay in New York City, they moved to the Toronto suburb of Mississauga. Vargas enrolled at a boxing gym early on and learned discipline while adapting to his surroundings. He turned pro in 2010 after just 12 amateur bouts and was undefeated in his first 16 fights while fighting out of Canada.

Hurd fights out of Accokeek, Md., just south of Washington, D.C. and is perfect since entering the pro ranks in 2012. The 26-year-old has faced three straight undefeated fighters including a sixth-round stoppage of Frank Galarza in 2015 and a 10th round TKO over Oscar Molina in the co-main event of the Keith Thurman vs. Shawn Porter card in June. The exciting boxer puncher will look to continue his climb to a world title on November 12.

A powerful puncher sporting an 88 percent knockout rate, Cota made his U.S. debut in August of 2015 and upset Cuban Olympic silver medalist Yudel Jhonson while knocking him down twice over the 10 round bout. The fighter out of Sinaloa, Mexico is entering this fight with nine straight wins, including six by way of knockout. The 27-year-old will be making his first ring appearance of 2016.

An amateur standout that participated in the first Pan American Junior Championships in 2003, the 27-year-old Fortuna owns victories over Abner Cotto, Carlos Ivan Velasquez, Miguel Zamudio and Patrick Hyland. He took down the highly regarded Bryan Vasquez to earn a super featherweight world title in May of last year. Representing La Romana, Dominican Republic,

Fortuna bounced back from a defeat to Jason Sosa to stop previously unbeaten Marlyn Cabrera in September.

An undefeated fighter out of Wilmington, Delaware, Douglas impressed in his last two outings when he defeated contender Frank De Alba in a step up fight last December and followed it up with a seventh round knockout of Alexei Collado in June. The 25-year-old has picked up four victories since the beginning of 2015 and will face his toughest competition to date when he battles Fortuna.

For more information visit [www.premierboxingchampions.com](http://www.premierboxingchampions.com) and [www.spike.com/shows/premier-boxing-champions](http://www.spike.com/shows/premier-boxing-champions). Follow on Twitter @PremierBoxing, @DannySwift, @SpikeTV, @SpikeSports @KingsBoxing\_ and @Swanson\_Comm or become a fan on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/PremierBoxingChampions](http://www.Facebook.com/PremierBoxingChampions). Follow the conversation using #fight4philly. PBC on Spike is sponsored by Corona Extra, La Cerveza Mas Fina.

#### About Philabundance

Philabundance is the Delaware Valley's largest hunger relief organization, serving more than 90,000 people each week in nine counties in PA and Southern NJ. Of those served, thirty percent are children, sixteen percent are seniors, and adults served include students, the working poor and single parents. In 2015, Philabundance rescued more than 10 million pounds of food and distributed 28 million pounds through its own distribution programs, and a network of 350 agencies. A one dollar donation provides two meals – Give now or learn more at [Philabundance.org](http://Philabundance.org).