

WEIGHTS FROM BENSLEM, PA

–MAIN EVENT–

8 Rounds – Lightweights

STEVEN ORTIZ (132.6 lbs) vs ALEJANDRO SALINAS (131 lbs)

6 Rounds – Jr. Lightweights

JOSHAFAT ORTIZ (128.5 lbs) vs ANDREW BENTLEY (126.5 lbs)

6 Rounds – Jr. Welterweight

DAIYAAN BUTT (140.7 lbs) vs LATORIE WOODBERRY (142.2 lbs)

**

6 Rounds – Junior Welterweights

GENC PLLANA (165.8 lbs) vs JAMAAL DAVIS (164.9 lbs)

**

4 Rounds – Junior Welterweights

JAN CZERKLEWICZ (173.5 lbs) vs AFUNWA KING (173.8 lbs)

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ABOUT SEPT 20

The Sept. 20 card will consist of five fights, beginning at 7:30 pm. Doors open at 6:30 pm. The card is promoted by Joe Hand Promotions. This event is only for adults age 21 and older. Tickets priced at \$50, \$75 and \$100 are on sale at Joe Hand Promotions (215-364-9000). You can also purchase tickets from the Hold My Ticket Call Center at 1-877-466-3404 and at www.parxcasino.com/entertainment.

Fighters make their final

preparations for Xcite Fight Night 5 on Friday, Sept. 20

BENSALEM, PA- It's almost time for fighters and fans to make their way to Parx Casino®. As Xcite Fight Night 5 approaches, the fighters are finishing up their camps and getting ready to put on a show at the Xcite Center on Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

The show will culminate with a thrilling lightweight main event as Steven Ortiz (10-0), a WBF and Pennsylvania state champion, continues to never shy away from a challenge. He'll be tested by Ohio state champion Alejandro Salinas (10-2), who looks come into Ortiz's backyard and play spoiler.

Philadelphia is in the middle of a boxing resurgence, and one of the latest up-and-coming fighters is Joshafat Ortiz, who recently signed with prominent promoter Lou Dibella. Before Ortiz becomes a fixture on national television, he'll be at Xcite Fight Night facing Andrew "Sweet Pea" Bentley in a super-featherweight bout.

Ortiz (6-0, 4 KOs) talked about the "doing the work," and his desire to continue to show the skill that's gotten him to the edge of stardom. He also wants to show out for his hometown crowd.

Super lightweight Daiyaan Butt (4-0, 2 KOs) is returning for his third bout at Parx, and stepping up in competition against the far more experienced Latorie Woodberry. "I feel great," he said.

Always wanting to stay active, Butt had a scheduled fight fall through in between this and his last appearance. His training took on a different mentality. "I've realized going to the gym with a positive outlook and a good mood just makes your workout different; it makes your workout fun."

Expect Butt to be in the best shape of his career.

Jan Czerkiewicz is eager to make a strong impression in his second Xcite Fight appearance. His fight against Afunwa King will be just the third of his career. The long and lean super middleweight has fighters from all weight classes helping him get in work during his camp.

“There is one guy... a heavyweight, there is an 87-pound difference,” Czerkiewicz said. “When I can resist his weight, I know that nobody in my weight class can push me around.”

The 21-year old is blessed with a youthful metabolism, saying “I never had a problem cutting weight, it is always keeping weight.” Czerkiewicz (2-0) will be primed and ready to have his best performance yet.

The fight card begins at 7:30 p.m. Doors open an hour early.

ABOUT SEPTEMBER 20

This event is only for adults age 21 and older. Tickets priced at \$50, \$75 and \$100 are on sale at Joe Hand Promotions (215-364-9000). You can also purchase tickets from the Hold My Ticket Call Center at (1-877-466-3404) and at www.parxcasino.com

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Circle Bar; Bambu Noodle House; The Lucky Cheese ~ gourmet grilled cheese eatery; XLounge, luxury casino lounge and complimentary parking for over 5,000 cars. One year ago, Parx debuted a \$50M expansion that included the 1,500-seat live entertainment venue, Xcite Center; Liberty Bell Gastropub, farm-to-fork inspired menu; Oliveto, New York City style pizza and Italian Classics; Parx Poker, new custom built private poker room. In 2019, Parx launched sports betting and opened a massive year-round Beer Garden to rave reviews. For more information on Parx Casino®, visit www.parxcasino.com.

Omar Kabary Salem and Jamaal Davis To Square Off in Exciting Semifinal of Xcite Fight Night 5

BENSALEM, PA- The action is sure to pick up at Parx Casino® when Omar Kabary Salem meets Jamaal Davis in the co-main event of Xcite Fight Night 5 on Friday, Sept. 20.

This semifinal bout will pit a fighter with a young and promising career in Salem against one with a lengthy resume in Davis. A pro since 2003, Davis has more fights on his card than Salem has rounds in the ring. He'll take that experience to the Xcite Center along with the momentum of being active recently. This will be his third fight in the last sixth months.

"Being able to pick and get right back into the motion of things has been fun." Davis said. As far as the veteran's game

plan for the young southpaw, he said, "Reflexes are everything, we gotta wear this kid down and box this kid."

While Davis (18-5-1, 7KOs) comes into the fight with the edge in experience, Salem (9-0, 4KOs) will have the physical edge, being both taller and having recently fought in a higher weight class. In his last time out at Parx Casino, the southpaw impressed the crowd with a quick first-round knockout of Jacob Fox.

"I'm a boxer-puncher, I move around a lot but at the same time I can get it in and scrap if he wants to." Salem said.

He'll be gunning for another impressive showing in his return to Xcite Fight Night. The Brooklyn-based Salem isn't afraid of coming down to Philadelphia for a fight, and he relishes the opportunity.

"I love it, I love competing with Philadelphia, they have a lot of competition," he said. "I like the fans, too. The people in Philly, they love boxing."

The main event will follow. Steven Ortiz (10-0), the recently crowned Pennsylvania state lightweight champion takes on a former Ohio state champion in the game challenger, Alejandro Salinas (10-2). Their lightweight showdown is a showcase of two young, rising talents.

The undercard fights each feature an undefeated fighter looking to take the next step in their careers. Recent Lou DiBella signee Joshafat Ortiz will be try to move to 7-0 as he takes on Andrew "Sweet Pea" Bentley, who is riding his own three-fight winning streak into the bout.

Daiyaan Butt (4-0) is returning once again and looking for his third straight knockout. He'll face his most experience opponent to date in Latorie "War Machine" Woodberry in a super lightweight fight.

Also making a return is Jan Czerkiewicz. The powerful Polish light heavyweight is back for his second turn at Parx Casino, and will be the welcome wagon for Nigerian-born Afunwa King's pro debut.

ABOUT SEPTEMBER 20th

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Steven Ortiz, Alejandro Salinas to headline Xcite Fight Night 5 At Parx Casino® on Friday, Sept. 20th

Bensalem, PA-Joe Hand Promotions returns to Parx Casino® to kick off the fall boxing season on September 20th with Xcite Fight Night 5. The event will be headlined by a lightweight showcase between Steven "The Hitman" Ortiz and Alejandro "Popo" Salinas. The card is co-promoted by BAM Boxing and features matchmaking by Hall of Famer J. Russell Peltz.

This event is only for adults age 21 and older. Tickets priced at \$50, \$75 and \$100 are on sale at Joe Hand Promotions (215-364-9000). You can also purchase tickets from the Hold My Ticket Call Center at (1-877-466-3404) and at www.parxcasino.com

Ortiz (10-0-0, 3 KOs), a Philadelphia native, won the vacant USA Pennsylvania State lightweight title in his last bout against Jeremy Cuevas in February. He's excited to remain close to home for his return to action.

"I'm glad to be back in the ring again, after months of hard and dedicated training," Ortiz said.

That training will be valuable, as his opponent Alejandro Salinas (10-2-0, 9 KOs) is also a state champion from Ohio. Ortiz is excited for the challenge.

"He's a very skilled fighter and has an outstanding record," Ortiz said. "The only difference is, he hasn't fought anyone like me, my power, my speed. I'm very dangerous. He will soon know that. It's going to be a great fight."

In the co-feature, exciting prospect Omar Kabary Salem (9-0-0 4 KOs) takes his biggest step up in competition by facing former ABF USA Middleweight champion Jamaal "Da Truth" Davis (18-15-1, 7 KOs) in a super-middleweight battle.

The undercard features a classic battle between orthodox and southpaw – as well as PA versus New Jersey- as undefeated Joshafat Ortiz (6-0-0 4 KOs) takes on Andrew "Sweet Pea" Bentley (5-3-0 1 KO). That fight will take place at super featherweight.

The Bucks County native Milton "El Santo" Santiago (17-0-0 3 KOs), returns to the ring after more than 16 months away.

Super lightweights Daiyann Butt (4-0-0 2 KOs) and Tyhler Williams (3-0-0 2 KOs) are both looking to continue their win streaks at Parx Casino as they return again to Xcite Fight Night in separate fights.

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custom built private poker room. In 2019, Parx launched sports betting and opened a massive year-round Beer Garden to rave reviews. For more information on Parx Casino®, visit www.parxcasino.com.

WEIGHTS FROM BENSLEM, PA

MAIN EVENT—

8 Rounds – Flyweights

MIGUEL CARTAGENA (109.6 lbs) vs JESUS SOLER (110.4 lbs)

– Semifinal –

8 Rounds – Lightweights

JEROME CONQUEST (134.3 lbs) vs FRANKIE TRADER (133.5 lbs)

– Undercard –

6 Rounds – Welterweights

MARCEL RIVERS (145.1 lbs) vs EVINCII DIXON (147.5 lbs)

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4 Rounds – Junior Welterweights

TYREE ARNOLD (143.1 lbs) vs TYHLER WILLIAMS (141.9 lbs)

**

4 Rounds – Junior Welterweights

DAIYAAN BUTT (141.7 lbs) vs TIVAN YOUNG (142.5 lbs)

**

4 Rounds – Welterweights

TYRONE LEWIS (149.6 lbs) vs SHINARD BUNCH (147.4 lbs)

**

4 Rounds – Jr. Welterweight

LAQUAN LEWIS (140.5 lbs) vs OSNEL CHARLES (139 lbs)

**

4 Rounds – Lt. Heavyweight

JAN CZERKLEWICZ (174.9 lbs) vs ANGEL VAZQUEZ (175.39 lbs)

ABOUT JUNE 15

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FIGHT WEEK! FINAL CAMP NOTES

FOR FEATURED FIGHTERS HEADING INTO XCITE FIGHT NIGHT 4

BENSALEM, PA- The Xcite Center at Parx Casino® is just days away from hosting Xcite Fight Night 4 on Saturday, June 15th. The first of eight fights begins at 7 p.m.

We've checked in with some of the featured fighters on the card to get updates on their training camps and to pick their brains on the Philadelphia boxing scene, which features world champions such as Tevin Farmer and Julian Williams, and several top contenders.

Miguel Cartagena (15-5-1 6KOs) is eager to get back into the ring. After nearly a year off, the Philadelphia native is in the main event against Jesus Soler. But despite the time off, he hasn't been inactive. "I haven't fought in a year, but I've been in the gym the whole time. Camp has been really smooth, but very intense." Cartagena said.

When talking about the state of boxing in Philadelphia, Cartagena said, "I feel like Philadelphia has its own brand of boxing. We're trademarked as one of the greatest cities to have ever built fighters, period. Having multiple world champions just adds excitement."

Cartagena's nickname "No Fear" comes from the streets of Philadelphia, and his willingness as a kid to fight anyone, despite his size.

In the semi-final fight, Philadelphia fighters Jerome Conquest (10-3-0 1KO) and Frank Trader (12-2-1 3KOs) will meet for the vacant USBF lightweight title. Both are popular fighters with strong local fan bases and are ready to put on a show.

With a week out from the fight, Conquest and his team are finishing up training camp and making sure everything is on

point.

“The Conqueror” was a natural fit with Conquest’s last name, so when a coach gave him the nickname, it stuck. He’s been conquering another arena as of late, winning 11 awards and international acclaim for the documentary he is featured in, titled “The Conqueror.” The Strawberry Mansion native hasn’t let it go to his head, though. “What keeps me motivated is the struggle. I struggle every day.” While Conquest’s name has been building outside the ring, he remains focused on adding another belt inside of it.

Frank Trader is also motivated for the fight, and “ready for fight night, ready to have some fun. The hard work is going to the gym, that’s the job. Once you’re in the fight, though, that’s when it becomes easy. Fighting, that’s when I have fun.” He pointed out that even though he’s serious, he’ll be smiling in the ring.

When talking about Philly boxing as a whole, he congratulated all the champions, holding them up as examples of perseverance. “They came from the gutter of Philly, they worked hard, proved a lot of people wrong and they made it to the top.” Trader also talked about his focus to get to that level and continue his career resurgence. After being hampered by a shoulder injury, a healthy Trader is gunning for his third win in seven months and that title belt.

Marcel Rivers (7-0-0 4KOs) said he’s had a strong camp. “I feel good, everything is going as scheduled and to plan.” He’s happy to have the chance to continue to fight at home, and sees that Philadelphia boxing is on the rise. “Ah man, I love it, I love it. It’s always a good time to be a Philly fighter.” He pointed out that with world champions calling the city home, the chance for young fighters to fight on national cards has grown and can give local talents a chance to quicken their development.

Rivers credits his nickname to his childhood friend Marquise, who started calling him Celly-B during their high school football days. Rivers has the chance to extend his record to straight wins to start his career as he faces off with the experienced Evincii Dixon.

Other fights for Xcite Fight Night 4 include Osnel Charles against Laquan Lewis and Daiyaan Butt vs. Tivan Young. Shinard Bunch makes the trip in from Trenton to face off against the debuting Tyrone Lewis in a welterweight bout, and Jan Czerkewicz and Angel Vazquez make their pro debuts in a light heavyweight bout.

ABOUT JUNE 15

The June 15 card will consist of seven fights, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. The card is promoted by Joe Hand Promotions. This event is only for adults age 21 and older. Tickets priced at \$50, \$75 and \$100 are on sale at Joe Hand Promotions (215-364-9000). You can also purchase tickets from the Hold My Ticket Call Center at (1-877-466-3404) and at www.parxcasino.com

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entertainment venue and complimentary parking for 5,000 cars. For more information on Parx Casino®, visit www.parxcasino.com.

DAIYAAN BUTT & TYHLER WILLIAMS LOOK FOR REPEAT SUCCESS THIS WEEKEND AT PARX CASINO®

BENSALEM, PA- Xcite Fight Night 4 is fast approaching and the action-packed card at Parx Casino® is quickly taking shape. Also quickly rising are the careers of two Philadelphia-based boxers in Daiyaan Butt (3-0 1K0) and Tyhler Williams (2-0 2K0s). They are looking to continue their success in the ring, and at Xcite Fight Night.

The eight-fight card, set for Saturday, June 15th, is headlined by Philadelphia's own Miguel Cartagena, who returns to the Xcite Center to face off against Jesus Solar. The semifinal bout is an all Philly contest between lightweights Jerome Conquest and Frank Trader with the USBF Continental title on the line. First fight is at 7 p.m.

Butt is enjoying a busy first year in the ring. Starting last June in his pro debut, Butt has shown his skills as a long, athletic welterweight. He's reeled off three wins and earned his first stoppage in March at Parx Casino®. The busy schedule is exactly what Butt wants.

"I fight and I came back to the gym the next day. I love being in the gym," Butt said. He trains out of TKO Fitness in Cherry

Hill, New Jersey, the home of IBF world super featherweight champion Tevin Farmer.

Though he was born in LA, he's spent most of his life in Philadelphia and is excited about the opportunity to start his boxing career in the area.

"I love it because I can build my own fan base in the Philadelphia area," Butt said. "The more and more I grow, and more success that I have, I'll have a strong fan base when I eventually come back and fight in a big fight, I'm going to have the whole crowd with me."

Williams, a welterweight, also aspires of leaving Parx Casino with another win under his belt. He'll face the same opponent as Butt did in his previous outing, a game newcomer in Tyree Arnold (0-1)

Williams is a young southpaw, and has quickly racked up two wins. He stopped Nyrome Lynch at Xcite Fight Night 3 and did the same the next month to Abdiel Padilla. He's shown incredibly quick hands and knockout power.

The 2017 Mid-Atlantic Boxing Association national champion is looking to build off of his strong amateur background and a powerful start to his professional journey.

"I've been to Jr. Olympics, Silver gloves, getting around and fighting people gives you a different mindset," Williams said.

The Philadelphia native has done his training at Rock Ministry for the last nine years, and is happy to be staying home to start his career.

"It means a lot to me – it's everything," Williams said. "I've got a big fan base. I love being able to have everybody come out and watch me fight. It's good to be set up at home."

Williams said his goals for the fight are simple. "Be sharper, smarter and stronger."

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Rising prospects, rematch

highlight Xcite Fight Night 4 undercard

BENSALEM, PA-The undercard for Xcite Fight Night 4 at Parx Casino® on June 15 is packed with undefeated prospects and an entertaining rematch.

In the semifinal contest, Jerome Conquest (10-3-0 1 K0) faces off against Frank Trader (12-2-1 3 K0s) in an all-Philadelphia matchup for the USBF continental championship. That will serve as a prelude to the main event, which features homegrown flyweight Miguel Cartagena (15-5-1 6 K0s). Cartagena looks to return to his winning ways against Jesus Solar (10-1-1 5K0s), who is making just his second stateside appearance in what has become the Puerto Rican fighter's adopted second home.

The undercard features a welterweight bout with one of Philly's most exciting unbeaten prospects in Marcel Rivers (7-0 4 K0s). He promises an entertaining fight with Lancaster-based Evincii Dixon (7-23-2 2 K0s).

"Camp is going good, my team and I turn it up each week," said Rivers, who is a PGW foreman by day. "I feel good about my fight – it's always good to fight in my city in front of all my supporters, and I'm goin to give them what they want."

Brooklyn's Omar Kabary Salem (9-0 4 K0s) returns for his second appearance at the Xcite Center. In his previous outing, he made quick work of Jacob Fox, knocking him out in the first round. He picked up another win on April 27 and will be turning around quickly to face off with Philadelphia's Jamaal Davis (18-14-1 7 K0s) in a super middleweight bout. Davis will be the most experienced opponent of Salem's career and the fight should prove to be a telling challenge between youth and experience.

The Xcite Center will also play home to a compelling rematch

at junior welterweight, as Onsel Charles (12-19-1 2 KOs) and Laquan Lewis (2-10-0 1KOs) run back their entertaining fight from here last February. Charles earned a hard-fought knockout in their first meeting.

Rounding out the card will be two young guns who are becoming familiar with the Xcite Center. Welterweight Tyhler Williams (2-0-0 2 KOs) is fresh off this second stoppage in as many fights, and is looking to build on his early career momentum. He'll take on Tyree Arnold (0-1) of Philadelphia.

Polish light heavyweight Jan Czerkiewicz makes his pro debut against Angel Vasquez of Springfield, MA. Vasquez will also be making his first start.

Welterweight Daiyaan Butt (3-0-0 1 K0) of Philadelphia, who earned his first K0 in his last outing at the Xcite Center, looks to continue the strong start to his career. His opponent will be announced shortly.

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Conquest, Trader battle for Philly bragging rights, USBF title at Xcite Fight Night 4

BENSALEM, PA- Philadelphia fighters Jerome Conquest and Frank Trader are fighting for city supremacy when they face off on Saturday, June 15 at Parx Casino®.

The winner of the eight-round lightweight fight will walk away with the USBF Continental Championship. Their semifinal comes before the main event of Xcite Night 4 between Miguel Cartagena and Jesus Soler. The night kicks off with the first of seven bouts at 7 p.m.

Conquest (10-3-0, 1K0) should feel comfortable in the ring, as it marks his third-consecutive fight at the Xcite Center. The pride of Strawberry Mansion is coming off of a unanimous decision over the always tough Vinnie Denierio of Elmira, NY.

“No weight (to drop), and no pressure. I’m ready to fight right now,” Conquest said “We train smart, and June 15th we’re going to see how much smarter we do it.”

Trader (12-2-1, 3K0s) is riding a two-fight win streak. It started with a K0 of the experienced Pablo Culpo of Mexico in November. He then outclassed the 115-fight veteran German Meraz. He’ll be looking for his third win in seven months, some Philly bragging rights, and a belt to go with it.

“It feels great to have my family and friends come up to fight in a co-main event,” Trader said. “I’m ready to put my name back on the map in Philly.”

The undercard is also stacked with local up-and-comers looking to make names for themselves:

Coatesville, PA based Gerardo Martinez (4-1, 1 K0) has a rematch against veteran Onsel Charles (12-19-1, 2K0s) of Atlantic City. Martinez won by majority decision when they met in Philadelphia in February.

Philadelphia native Marcel Rivers (7-0, 4 K0s) looks to remain unbeaten when he takes on the Lancaster, PA based veteran Evincii Dixon (7-32-2, 2 K0s).

Omar Kabary Salem (9-0-0, 4 K0s) of Brooklyn, NY will face Philadelphia native and seasoned veteran Jamaal Davis (18-14-1, 7 K0s).

Philadelphia-based fighters Daiyaan Butt (3-0 1K0) and Tyhler Williams (2-0, 2 K0s) look to continue the strong starts to their careers.

ABOUT JUNE 15

The June 15 card will consist of seven fights, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. The card is promoted by Joe Hand Promotions. This event is only for adults age 21 and older. Tickets priced at \$50, \$75 and \$100 are on sale at Joe

Hand Promotions (215-364-9000). You can also purchase tickets from the Hold My Ticket Call Center at (1-877-466-3404) and at www.parxcasino.com

ABOUT PARX CASINO®

Parx Casino® is owned and operated by Greenwood Racing, Inc. and is the #1 revenue generating casino property in Pennsylvania. Parx Casino® is conveniently located 20 minutes north of center city Philadelphia, I-95 exit 37 or PA Turnpike exit 351 (westbound), exit 352 (eastbound) on Street Road in Bensalem Bucks County. Parx features over 200,000 square feet of gaming; 3,270 slot machines and 148 live table games; 40 poker tables; live racing & simulcast action; Parx Grill, an upscale signature restaurant; Foodies quick service dining; Chickie's & Pete's Crab House and SportsBar; Jax sports bar; Circle Bar; Bambu Noodle House; The Lucky Cheese ~ gourmet grilled cheese eatery; XLounge, luxury casino lounge and complimentary parking for over 5,000 cars. One year ago, Parx debuted a \$50M expansion that included the 1,500 seat live entertainment venue, Xcite Center; Liberty Bell Gastropub, farm-to-fork inspired menu; Oliveto, New York City style pizza and Italian Classics; Parx Poker, new custom built private poker room. In 2019, Parx launched sports betting and opened a massive year-round Beer Garden to rave reviews. For more information on Parx Casino®, visit www.parxcasino.com.

MIGUEL CARTAGENA ENDS ONE-YEAR LAYOFF; BOXES JESUS

SOLER JUNE 15 AT PARX CASINO

Bensalem, PA—Miguel Cartagena ends his one-year year layoff when he headlines a seven-bout card against Jesus Soler, of Arecibo, Puerto Rico, in an eight-round flyweight contest as part of Xcite Fight Night 4 at Parx Casino® on Saturday evening, June 15.

Cartagena, 26, of Philadelphia, PA, has not boxed since last June 29 when he dropped an eight-round split decision to Carlos Maldonado, of Los Angeles, in the same ring. A knockdown suffered in the last round cost Cartagena (15-5-1, 6 KOs) the decision.

“I’m excited to be fighting at home again” Cartagena said. “I’m working on staying focused in the ring and sticking to the game plan. I’m going to go out and deliver a main event performance for the fight.”

Cartagena is looking to change his luck both with his record and at home in the fight with the 30-year-old Soler (10-1-1 5 KOs), who is fighting stateside for the second time in his career. Soler’s only loss was in 2013 and since then he’s racked up six wins, three by knockout.

“I am very grateful to God and to my management team, Pivott Boxing, for presenting me with this opportunity.” said Soler. “We are getting ready to put on a great performance. On June 15 in Pennsylvania, there is going to be a war. You will see a very focused Soler. We are training very hard with the best sparring partners Puerto Rico has to offer. I will accept nothing less than a victory. I really hope my opponent is also training hard because on that night he will go to war with a warrior hungrier and more aggressive than anyone he has ever faced. We owe the fans a great performance on June 15.”

This main event will delight boxing fans as both flyweights not only carry the speed and punching precision the division

is known for but also carry power.

Also featured on the Xcite Fight Night 4 card will be an all-Philadelphia lightweight showdown as Jerome Conquest (10-3-0 1 KO), fresh off of a win in the last Xcite Fight Night, will take on Frank Trader (12-2-1 3 KOs), in the eight-round co-feature.

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