

# Weights from Verona, NY

Ruslan Provodnikov 140 – John Molina Jr 140  
(WBO International Junior Welterweight Title)

Demetrius Andrade 154 – Willie Nelson 154  
(WBC Super Welterweight Eliminator)

Dejan Zalticanin 134 – Franklin Mamani 133.5  
(WBC Lightweight Title)

## SHOWTIME EXTREME® BOUTS

Willie Monroe Jr. 160 – John Thompson 159

Andrey Fedosov 225.5 – Mario Heredia 286

Oscar Sarmiento 146 – Jose Miguel De La Rosa 144.5

Miguel Trejo 152.5 – La'Torrie Woodberry 148.5

Stivins Bujaj 200 – Sergio Ramirez 198.25

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Banner Promotions, Inc., are priced at \$85, \$60, \$45 and \$35 and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased in person at the Turning Stone Box Office, by calling 877.833.SHOW, or online at Ticketmaster ([www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com))

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

5 p.m. Doors Open

6 p.m. First Fight Begins

7 p.m. SHOWTIME EXTREME® Telecast Begins

9 p.m. SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® Telecast Begins

Media Credentials: Please pick up media credentials between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. in the Cypress Room. Valid ID required.

Post-Fight Press Conference will take place immediately after the SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING telecast concludes in the Cypress Room.

## About Provodnikov – Molina

On Saturday, June 11, Ruslan Provodnikov (25-4, 18 KOs), a former WBO Junior Welterweight World Champion, and former world title challenger John Molina Jr. (28-6, 23 KOs), of West Covina, Calif., will face each other in the 12-round main event. In the co-feature, undefeated former 154-pound world champion and 2008 U.S. Olympian Demetrius Andrade (22-0, 15 KOs), of Providence, R.I., will face Willie Nelson (25-2-1, 15 KOs) of Cleveland, Ohio, in a 12-round WBC Super Welterweight Title Eliminator.

Opening the SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® tripleheader is a battle for the vacant WBC Lightweight World Championship between No. 1 ranked Dejan Zlatikanin (17-0, 10 KOs), of the Southeastern European country of Montenegro, and WBC No.-ranked

Also on June 11, former world title challengers, Willie Monroe Jr, (19-2-0, 6 KOs), and John Thompson, (17-2-0, 6 KOs,) will meet in a 10-round middleweight bout in the main event on SHOWTIME EXTREME® (7 p.m. ET/PT). In the SHOWTIME BOXING on SHO EXTREME® opener, heavyweight Andrey Fedosov (28-3, 23 KOs) takes on Mario Heredia (11-1, 9 KOs, 1-2 in WSB) in a 10-round heavyweight bout.

Turning Stone Resort Casino is no stranger to hosting high caliber nationally televised boxing events. Last year, Turning Stone hosted the epic battle between Provodnikov and Matthysee, selected over arenas in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Miami. When Provodnikov returns to Turning Stone on June 11th, it will mark Turning Stone's 18th nationally-televvised boxing event, cementing the resort as a mecca for knockout fights. Located in Upstate New York, Turning Stone is an award-winning destination resort, offering world-class amenities including four hotels, 21 restaurants and dining options, two luxurious spas, five beautiful golf courses, and several bars, cocktail lounges and nightlife venues.

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## **John Thompson chimes in on his bout with Willie Monroe Jr. that takes on on June 11 on SHOWTIME EXTREME®**

Verona, NY (June 10, 2016)—They were Boxcino champions, and in each of their last bouts, Willie Monroe Jr. and John Thompson fought for world titles. This Saturday night, June 11 they will meet in a very important bout at the Turning Stone Resort Casino.

Monroe and Thompson will fight in a middleweight bout scheduled for 10 rounds and will be televised live on SHOWTIME EXTREME® (7 p.m. ET/PT).

Both have been training hard for this important bout, for which the winner will most likely land a big opportunity or another shot at a world title.

John "Apollo Kidd" Thompson (17-2, 6 K0's)–Newark, NJ

"Everything is going great in camp. I am ready to get this party rolling," said Thompson, who is coming off a 7th round stoppage defeat to Liam Smith in Manchester, England for the WBO Junior Middleweight world title. "In that fight, I learned some good and bad stuff. The only things that make you better is fighting better opposition. I know that after this win in June 11, I will be back in a big fight and I look forward to seeing everyone in Verona."

On Saturday, June 11, Ruslan Provodnikov (25-4, 18 K0s), a former WBO Junior Welterweight World Champion, and former world title challenger John Molina Jr. (28-6, 23 K0s), of West Covina, Calif., will face each other in the 12-round main event. In the co-feature, undefeated former 154-pound world champion and 2008 U.S. Olympian Demetrius Andrade (22-0, 15 K0s), of Providence, R.I., will face Willie Nelson (25-2-1, 15 K0s) of Cleveland, Ohio, in a 12-round WBC Super Welterweight Title Eliminator.

Opening the SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® tripleheader is a battle for the vacant WBC Lightweight World Championship between No. 1 ranked Dejan Zlatikanin (17-0, 10 K0s), of the Southeastern European country of Montenegro, and WBC No.5-ranked Franklin Mamani (21-2-1, 12 K0s) of Bolivia. In the SHOWTIME BOXING on SHO EXTREME® opener, heavyweight Andrey Fedosov (28-3, 23 K0s) takes on Mario Heredia (11-1, 9 K0s, 1-2 in WSB) in a 10-round heavyweight bout.

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# **RUSLAN PROVODNIKOV & JOHN**

# **MOLINA JR., DEMETRIUS ANDRADE & WILLIE NELSON, DEJAN ZLATICANIN & FRANKLIN MAMANI FINAL PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTES & PHOTOS**

VERONA, N.Y. (June 9, 2016) – The six fighters, including main eventers Ruslan “The Siberian Rocky” Provodnikov and John “The Gladiator” Molina, who will compete on this Saturday’s SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® tripleheader live on SHOWTIME® (9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT), participated in the final press conference Thursday at Turning Stone Resort Casino here.

Russia’s Provodnikov (25-4, 18 KOs) and Molina (28-6, 23 KOs) of Covina, Calif., clash in an eagerly awaited matchup in the main event. Provodnikov, a former WBO Junior Welterweight World Champion, was involved in the Fight of the Year in 2013 with Tim Bradley; former world title challenger Molina was in the 2014 Fight of The Year with Lucas Matthyse.

A can’t-miss co-feature at Turning Stone Casino will match unbeaten former 154-pound world champion and 2008 U.S. Olympian Demetrius Andrade (22-0, 15 KOs), of Providence, R.I., against Willie Nelson (25-2-1, 15 KOs) of Cleveland, Ohio, in a 12-round WBC Super Welterweight Title Elimination bout. The telecast will begin with a 12-rounder for the vacant WBC lightweight world championship between undefeated No. 1 ranked Dejan Zlaticanin (17-0, 10 KOs), of the Southeastern European country of Montenegro, and Franklin Mamani (21-2-1, 12 KOs) of Bolivia.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Banner Promotions, Inc., are priced at \$85, \$60, \$45 and \$35 and are

on sale now. Tickets can be purchased in person at the Turning Stone Box Office, by calling 877.833.SHOW, or online at Ticketmaster ([www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)).

Also this Saturday, from Turning Stone, former world title challengers Willie Monroe Jr. (19-2, 6 KOs, of Rochester, N.Y. and John Thompson (17-2, 6 KOs), of Newark, N.J., clash in a 10-round middleweight bout in the main event on SHOWTIME EXTREME (7 p.m. ET/PT). In the SHO EXTREME opener, heavyweight Andrey Fedosov (28-3, 23 KOs), of Hollywood, Calif., meets Mexico's Mario Heredia (11-1, 9 KOs, 1-2 in WSB) in a 10-round heavyweight bout.

Below is what the fighters said Thursday:

RUSLAN PROVODNIKOV

(On training camp) ...

"This camp went very well. Everything went great. Now I'm just waiting for Saturday."

(His thoughts on Molina) ...

"I have a lot of respect for Molina and his team. He's a great fighter. These are the types of opponents I like. Most of the fights I've had are fights like this, opponents like this. This actually motivates me. I don't have a problem with getting into a fight like this. This is what I'm looking for. This is the type of fight I expect."

(On his determination and will to win) ...

"Words are not so much associated with explaining this because anybody can talk and anybody can say words. I think the fans or the people have to see how my fights have been and the way that I've fought those fights. For me to say right now that I'm going to 'die in the ring', they're words right now. The fight will show, then the fans will have an understanding in their mind of was I just saying that or is that really the way it is. The actions show, not the words."

(On how he sees the fight playing out) ...

"It's very hard to predict and I usually don't make predictions. I never make predictions for my fights. Let's just wait on June 11 and see.

(Final thoughts) ...

"I want to take this moment to thank everybody that has to do with this fight. All the people that made this happen."

JOHN MOLINA JR.

(Thoughts and reflections on Muhammad Ali) ...

"The world lost a great human being, not only inside the ring but outside the ring. A champion is the best way to describe him. The greatest of all time. An innovator. Somebody that changes the world in and out. My heart goes out to his family."

(On whether he's the underdog or this is a 50-50 fight?) ...

"In the grand scheme of things, the boxer – experts if you will – I don't know how many times they've been in the ring but for what they do in boxing, they seem to have him as the favorite but rightfully so. In a sense because of the personality and persona that he's portrayed in past times. I don't think too much about the hype. We've prepped for war on Saturday night. We would be doing ourselves a disservice if we didn't prepare right for someone like Ruslan. He's a hell of a fighter, a hell of a competitor and we were both in a Fight of the Year. What people don't realize is we were both in Fight of the Year on the losing side and now we're going to be in a Fight of the Year, but both of us going for the winning side. I think the fans are going to be pleasantly surprised. I'm ready. The stage is set to showcase my capabilities Saturday night."

(On how you prepare for a fighter like Provodnikov) ...

"Just like you prepare for a fighter like everybody I've



faced. Whether it be someone like Matthysse. Whether it be other fighters, I don't want to go into names because right now my undivided attention is on Ruslan Provodnikov but the preparation is like that of any other man. I hate comparing the guy's style to other people because again, the whole disservice you'd be doing is to yourself. You can study their style and get used to their mannerisms and what they portray in the ring and you can prepare yourself. With that being said, June 11 will be the first time I ever face Ruslan Provodnikov so what I do to prepare myself is work on my strong points and make sure those are up to par and make sure my energy is set and ready to fire on all cylinders Saturday night and I can tell you that they are set right."

(On what fans should expect) ...

"Fireworks. Like I said, every word that we use in the thesaurus is an understatement. Boxing is a 'what have you done for me lately' sport and Saturday night is no different. I believe in my heart of hearts the fans are going to get a treat with Ruslan Provodnikov coming forward, not wanting to take a backward step with myself coming forward not wanting to take a backward step. We're both going to try and go in there and pose our will on each other and you're not going to see a boring fight. It won't be Dancing With The Stars, it's going to be a fight."

DEMETRIUS ANDRADE

(On his opponent and his quality of opposition) ...

"Tony Harrison is definitely not Demetrius Andrade. Yes, he's probably a prospect and doing good things but everybody sounds good, everybody's a prospect until you get in there with somebody that knows how to fight. They can try to bring the will out of you and that's what Willie did is bring the will out of himself to beat somebody like Tony Harrison, but Tony Harrison's definitely not me.

"Willie Nelson, yeah he's tall, they say he's strong but I'm all that too. My IQ is greater, smarter and this is my time. This is it. This is something that either makes or breaks me. It's a good challenge so the people get to see that, due to the layoff and everything. I came back to fight a guy like this and I came back to win the 154 division.

"I came here, chewing bubble gum and kicking ass. I ran out of bubble gum so come June 11, I will be kicking some ass. I am happy that SHOWTIME gave me this opportunity and put me back on the network, put me back on prime TV.

"There's definitely going to be violence to open up the main event show with Provodnikov and John Molina, which is going to be a tremendous fight. Thanks for everybody coming out ... and I am the greatest alive."

(On the division and possible future opponents) ...

"I think that I'm going to make history by beating two twins that hold title belts and it's going to be a legendary thing for me. So, I'm tuned in, I'm ready and I'm focused. This is my division, it's my war."

(On what he sees playing out on fight night) ...

"I'm just going in and do my thing, you know, I'm the type of person with character. I've been in the ring for many years through the amateur program and fought 300-400 times, against everybody in the whole world. So, there's not nothing I haven't seen or fought. A tall guy like Willie Nelson with no legs or upper body, I'm going to push him to the limit. That's pretty much the plan. I'm going in and it's knockout season for me."

WILLIE NELSON

(On fans not expecting him to win) ...

"It's what happens all the time. I'm always the underdog. It's

OK and I try not to worry about it much.

"I'm not one to predict the fights; about what can and can't happen, but it's going to be an interesting fight. We know each other's background and we have sparred before at the U.S. Training Camp."

(On Muhammad Ali)...

"It hasn't really affected my mindset in terms of this fight. With the passing of Muhammad Ali it's very sad for boxing, and for the world. Because he wasn't only a great fighter but also a great icon, a great man and a great leader."

DEJAN ZLATICANIN

(On what fighting for a world title means to him) ...

"I've prepared for this hard fight for a long time because they changed opponents and it's hard to be prepared for that. But I have waited for this opportunity for a long time. This is the most important fight of my life, and I am going to win this fight."

(His prediction) ...

"I don't like to talk too much. I will talk in the ring and I promise I will knock out Franklin Mamani."

FRANKLIN MAMANI

(On this opportunity)...

"This is the chance of a lifetime, I feel like I have the winning lotto ticket and I just need to cash it in Saturday night. I come from a boxing family of 9 brothers, I have been in boxing since I was 12 years old and I always dreamed of fighting for a world title in the United States. My country (Bolivia) and my family will be watching and I will not disappoint them."

(On his opponent)...

Zlaticanin is an aggressive, strong and talented fighter. It will be an honor to trade leather with him inside the ring and be able to win the WBC lightweight championship of the world against the number one contender in my division."

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

5 p.m. OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN

Location: Turning Stone Convention Center

Rooms: Seneca, Onondaga, Cayuga and Tuscarora

5218 Patrick Rd, Verona, N.Y. 13478

4 p.m.- Fighter check-in

5 p.m.- Fighters On-scales

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## Provodnikov – Molina arrival photos

VERONA, N.Y. (June 9, 2016) – Yesterday, former WBO junior welterweight world champion Ruslan Provodnikov and John Molina Jr. arrived at the Turning Stone Resort Casino here for their SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® 12-round main event this Saturday, June 11, live on SHOWTIME® (9 pm. ET/6 p.m. PT).

Provodnikov and Molina arrived with their teams and both looked in great shape for their much-anticipated bout





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## **DEMETRIUS ANDRADE PROVIDENCE, R.I. MEDIA WORKOUT QUOTES**

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (June 7, 2016) – A Team Promotions hosted an open media workout on Monday at Bix Six Academy in Providence for undefeated former world champion Demetrius “Boo Boo” Andrade (22-0, 15 KOs). The 2008 U.S. Olympian, of Providence, R.I., is finalizing preparations for this Saturday 12-round WBC Super Welterweight eliminator against Willie “The Great” Nelson (25-2-1, 15 KOs) of Cleveland, Ohio, in one of three fights on SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® live on SHOWTIME (9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT) from Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, N.Y.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Banner Promotions, Inc., are priced at \$85, \$60, \$45 and \$35 and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased in person at the Turning Stone Box Office, by calling 877.833.SHOW, or online at Ticketmaster ([www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)).

Here’s what Andrade, who’ll also be risking his WBO International title, said Monday:

## DEMETRIUS ANDRADE

### Reflections of Muhammad Ali:

"Muhammad Ali certainly shook the world, and not only in boxing. He was colorful; nobody talked like him. He helped boxers, too. Ali is the reason Floyd (Mayweather, Jr.) is who he is because Ali set the bar high.

"As an entertaining boxer, Ali brought blacks and whites together and later he spread the word about religion, culture and his other diverse interests.

"What young boxer didn't do the Ali Shuffle? I know I did, and taunted my opponents like him, too."

### About Pros in the Olympics:

"I'm for pros in the Olympics as long as an amateur, who has a few Olympic trials, has the first opportunity to qualify for the Olympics. Coming up in the amateurs, I fought grown men, some who had been Olympians a few times. I was 21 and some of the opponents were 34-35 and had already been Olympians one or two times. They had advantages in experience, power and skill. Unfortunately, Americans only have Olympic opportunities when they're young amateurs.

"Would I go the Olympics now? Yes! The Olympics is the biggest thing on the planet. To represent the United States again, yeah, I'd do it now for the chance to win gold. But I do think headgear should be applied in amateur boxing, including the Olympics."

### On the 154-pound division:

"I'm putting myself in the best position to fight for the WBO or WBC title. There are rumors of Canelo fighting (WBO champion Liam) Smith. Let me fight Smith and the winner gets Canelo. Or let me fight Canelo with the winner getting Smith.

"I'm going to knock out the Charlo twins. Both guys have fought on SHOWTIME, so those fights shouldn't be too difficult to make. Once I take care of business with the Charlo twins, I'll fight Lara (WBA champion) to clean up the division."

On Gennady Golovkin:

"I definitely want to fight Golovkin. Let me build myself up first, by cleaning out the 154-division, and then we'll have a mega-fight with two different styles. GGG is known for his knockouts. I knock out people, too, but I'm a better boxer than him. It'll be one of the biggest fights in the sport of boxing. I'm going to clean up the 154-division, make my reputation and then it's a go with GGG."

Relationship with his opponent Willie Nelson:

"We were in the U.S. amateurs together, but because we were in two different weight classes – he was 140-147 and I was 152 – there were no problems between us. We used to watch each other fight and watch other Americans box.

"Nelson is experienced having gone through the amateurs. He fought (Vanes) Martirosyan, who I beat (for the vacant WBO title by 12-round unanimous decision). He's fought at this level. I know he's tall, but I'm 6-foot-1, so our height difference isn't serious."

On returning to the ring:

"I'm pleased that we have this opportunity. SHOWTIME has given me this chance and now it's up to me to prove I can backup what we said."

For more information: Twitter: @AndradeATeam, @BooBooBoxing, @ShowtimeBoxing, @SHOSports. Instagram: @BooBooATeam, [www.Facebook.com.DemetriusAndrade](http://www.Facebook.com.DemetriusAndrade)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

## 6 p.m. FIGHTERS ARRIVALS

Location: Turning Stone Resort Casino-Winter Garden Lobby (In front of the waterfall)

## THURSDAY, JUNE 9

### 11 a.m. FINAL PRESS CONFERENCE

Location: Turning Stone Resort Casino, Exit 33 Atrium (Located by P14)

5218 Patrick Rd, Verona, N.Y. 13478

11 a.m. Press Conference Begins

## FRIDAY, JUNE 10

### 5 p.m. OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN

Location: Turning Stone Convention Center

Rooms: Seneca, Onondaga, Cayuga and Tuscarora

5218 Patrick Rd, Verona, N.Y. 13478

4 p.m.- Fighter check-in

5 p.m.- Fighters On-scales

## SATURDAY, JUNE 11

5 p.m. Doors Open

6 p.m. First Fight Begins

7 p.m. SHOWTIME EXTREME® Telecast Begins

9 p.m. SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® Telecast Begins

Media Credentials: Please pick up media credentials between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. in the Cypress Room. Valid ID required.

Post-Fight Press Conference will take place immediately after the SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING telecast concludes in the Cypress Room.

## About Provodnikov – Molina

On Saturday, June 11, Ruslan Provodnikov (25-4, 18 KOs), a former WBO Junior Welterweight World Champion, and former

world title challenger John Molina Jr. (28-6, 23 KOs), of West Covina, Calif., will face each other in the 12-round main event. In the co-feature, undefeated former 154-pound world champion and 2008 U.S. Olympian Demetrius Andrade (22-0, 15 KOs), of Providence, R.I., will face Willie Nelson (25-2-1, 15 KOs) of Cleveland, Ohio, in a 12-round WBC Super Welterweight Title Eliminator.

Opening the SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® tripleheader is a battle for the vacant WBC Lightweight World Championship between No. 1 ranked Dejan Zlatikanin (17-0, 10 KOs), of the Southeastern European country of Montenegro, and WBC No.-ranked

Also on June 11, former world title challengers, Willie Monroe Jr, (19-2-0, 6 KOs), and John Thompson, (17-2-0, 6 KOs,) will meet in a 10-round middleweight bout in the main event on SHOWTIME EXTREME® (7 p.m. ET/PT). In the SHOWTIME BOXING on SHO EXTREME® opener, heavyweight Andrey Fedosov (28-3, 23 KOs) takes on Mario Heredia (11-1, 9 KOs, 1-2 in WSB) in a 10-round heavyweight bout.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Banner Promotions, Inc., are priced at \$85, \$60, \$45 and \$35 and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased in person at the Turning Stone Box Office, by calling 877.833.SHOW, or online at Ticketmaster ([www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)).

Turning Stone Resort Casino is no stranger to hosting high caliber nationally televised boxing events. Last year, Turning Stone hosted the epic battle between Provodnikov and Matthysee, selected over arenas in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Miami. When Provodnikov returns to Turning Stone on June 11th, it will mark Turning Stone's 18th nationally-televised boxing event, cementing the resort as a mecca for knockout fights. Located in Upstate New York, Turning Stone is an award-winning destination resort, offering world-class amenities including four hotels, 21 restaurants and dining options, two luxurious

spas, five beautiful golf courses, and several bars, cocktail lounges and nightlife venues.

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## **Dat Nguyen ready for Jesus Lule tonight in Hollywood, Florida**

HOLLYWOOD, FL. (June 3, 2016) – Tonight at the Hard Rock Live in Hollywood, Florida, Rances Barthelemy will defend his IBF Lightweight championship against former champion Mickey Bey.

That fight will headline a card that will be live on SPIKE at 9 PM ET / 6 PM PT

In an undercard bout, featherweight Dat Nguyen (18-3, 6 KO's) will make his second start in under a month when he takes on Jesus Lule (8-17-1, 1 KO) in a bout scheduled for six-rounds.

Nguyen is promoted by King's Promotions.

At Thursday's weigh in, Nguyen checked in at 128.6 lbs. while Lule was 130.2

Nguyen of Vero Beach, Florida is coming right back into action after a six-round unanimous decision over Gustavo Molina on May 8th in Lakeland, Florida.

Nguyen won for the first time in almost seven years and he is now looking towards a run in the featherweight division.

"Everything is good. After the last fight, I went right back into training,"said Nguyen.

Nguyen admits that he wanted to make up for lost time in the fight against Molina, and despite the win, he was not totally happy with his performance.

"I was trying too hard to make a big impression. I was trying too hard for the knockout plus Molina was durable, but I won all the rounds and I felt good in the ring."

After not having his hand raised for so long, Nguyen has a lot of confidence as he moves forward.

"It is good to have that winning feeling again. In this fight, I am looking to establish the jab. I have been training with Nelson Lopez, and it is going really well. This is the first time that I have trained away from my home in Vero Beach as I am in Pahokee, Florida. I just want to thank my fans for all the support. I am expecting to put on a good show and the fans know that there is never a dull moment in my fights.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Kings Promotions, Mayweather Promotions, and Panther Promotions, are priced at \$130, \$80, \$60, and \$35 (additional fees may apply) and are on sale now. All seats are reserved and available at all Ticketmaster outlets, online at [www.myhrl.com](http://www.myhrl.com), [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or charge by phone:



1-800-745-3000. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., with the first fight set to begin at 6:30 p.m.

Fight Night – Premier Boxing Champions

Location:Hard Rock Live

4:30 p.m.Credential Pick-Up Opens\*

5:30 p.m.Doors Open at Hard Rock Live

6:30 p.m.First fight begins

9:00 p.m.SPIKE telecast begins

\*Credential Pick Up will take place from 4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. the credentials table will be set up in the Hard Rock Box Office. It is located in the outdoor section near the VIP entrance to the arena.

Proper personal photo identification (driver's license or passport) is required for credential pick-up.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Kings Promotions, Mayweather Promotions and Panther Promotions, are priced at \$130, \$80, \$60 and \$35 and are on sale now. All seats are reserved and available at all Ticketmaster outlets, online at [www.myhrl.com](http://www.myhrl.com), [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or charge by phone: 1-800-745-3000. Doors open at 5:30 pm, with the first fight set to begin at 6:30 p.m. \*Additional fees may apply

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# **WBC No. 5 RANKED CONTENDER FRANKLIN MAMANI TO FACE NO. 1 CONTENDER DEJAN ZLATICANIN FOR VACANT WBC LIGHTWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ON SATURDAY, JUNE 11, LIVE ON SHOWTIME®**

NEW YORK (June 2, 2016) – WBC No. 5-ranked lightweight contender Franklin Mamani will face No. 1-ranked lightweight Dejan Zlaticanin for the vacant WBC 135-pound title on Saturday, June 11, live on SHOWTIME (9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT) from The Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, N.Y.

Mamani (21-2-1, 12 KOs), who is the leading available contender in the WBC rankings, replaces the injured Emiliano Marsili, who pulled out of the fight on Tuesday with an illness.

Mamani, of La Paz, Bolivia, was in camp training to fight Chad Bennet for the WBC Silver Lightweight World Title in early July. Now, the 29-year-old Mamani gets a shot at the vacant WBC Lightweight World Championship in his U.S. debut. The aggressive-minded Mamani has won 10 straight, including his last three by knockout.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Banner Promotions, Inc., are priced at \$85, \$60, \$45 and \$35 and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased in person at the Turning Stone Box Office, by calling 877.833.SHOW, or online at Ticketmaster ([www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)).

In the SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING main event, Ruslan Provodnikov (25-4, 18 KOs), a former WBO Junior Welterweight World Champion, and former world title challenger John Molina (28-6, 23 KOs), of West Covina, Calif., will face-off in a 12-round super lightweight bout. In the June 11 co-feature, undefeated former 154-pound world champion and 2008 U.S. Olympian Demetrius Andrade (22-0, 15 KOs), of Providence, R.I., will face Willie Nelson (25-2-1, 15 KOs) of Cleveland, Ohio, in a 12-round WBC Super Welterweight Title Eliminator.

Also on June 11, former world title challengers, Willie Monroe Jr, (19-2-0, 6 KOs), and John Thompson, (17-2-0, 6 KOs,) will meet in a 10-round middleweight bout in the main event on SHOWTIME EXTREME® (7 p.m. ET/PT). In the SHOWTIME BOXING on SH0 EXTREME® opener, heavyweight Andrey Fedosov (28-3, 23 KOs) takes on Mario Heredia (11-1, 9 KOs, 1-2 in WSB) in a 10-round heavyweight bout.

Turning Stone Resort Casino is no stranger to hosting high caliber nationally televised boxing events. Last year, Turning Stone hosted the epic battle between Provodnikov and Matthysee, selected over arenas in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Miami. When Provodnikov returns to Turning Stone on June 11th, it will mark Turning Stone's 18th nationally-televised boxing event, cementing the resort as a mecca for knockout fights. Located in Upstate New York, Turning Stone is an award-winning destination resort, offering world-class amenities including four hotels, 21 restaurants and dining options, two luxurious spas, five beautiful golf courses, and several bars, cocktail lounges and nightlife venues.

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Twitter: @turningstone ; Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/TurningStoneResort/>

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## **RUSLAN PROVODNIKOV vs. JOHN MOLINA JR., DEMETRIUS ANDRADE vs. WILLIE NELSON MEDIA CONFERENCE CALL HIGHLIGHTS**

NEW YORK (June 2, 2016) – Ruslan “The Siberian Rocky” Provodnikov and John “The Gladiator” Molina Jr., along with Demetrius “Boo Boo” Andrade and Willie “The Great” Nelson, hosted an International Media Conference Call on Tuesday in advance of their highly anticipated battles as part of a SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® tripleheader live on SHOWTIME® (9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT) from the Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, N.Y.

Also taking part was Arthur Pelullo, President of Banner Promotions, and SHOWTIME Sports Executive Vice President and General Manager Stephen Espinoza.

Provodnikov (25-4, 18 KOs), a former WBO Junior Welterweight World Champion, and former world title challenger Molina (28-6, 23 KOs), of West Covina, Calif., will face each other in the 12-round main event. In the co-feature, undefeated

former 154-pound world champion and 2008 U.S. Olympian Demetrius Andrade (22-0, 15 KOs), of Providence, R.I., will face Willie Nelson (25-2-1, 15 KOs) of Cleveland, Ohio, in a 12-round WBC Super Welterweight Title Eliminator.

Opening the SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING tripleheader is a battle for the vacant WBC Lightweight World Championship between No. 1 ranked Dejan Zlaticanin (17-0, 10 KOs), of the Southeastern European country of Montenegro, against WBC No. 5 ranked contender Franklin Mamani (21-2-1, 12 KOs) of La Paz, Bolivia.

Also on June 11, former world title challengers, Willie Monroe Jr, (19-2-0, 6 KOs), and John Thompson, (17-2-0, 6 KOs,) will meet in a 10-round middleweight bout in the main event on SHOWTIME EXTREME® (7 p.m. ET/PT). In the SHOWTIME BOXING on SHO EXTREME® opener, heavyweight Andrey Fedosov (28-3, 23 KOs) takes on Mario Heredia (11-1, 9 KOs, 1-2 in WSB) in a 10-round heavyweight bout.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by Banner Promotions, Inc., are priced at \$85, \$60, \$45 and \$35 and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased in person at the Turning Stone Box Office, by calling 877.833.SHOW, or online at Ticketmaster ([www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)).

Below is what the boxers said Tuesday on the conference call:

RUSLAN "THE SIBERIAN ROCKY" PROVODNIKOV

"I will try to not disappoint anyone and try to bring my best on June 11. I don't like to make any predictions. Boxing is very unpredictable; anything can happen on June 11. We've got a little bit to wait until fight night and for me it's just important to win the fight.

"I am very thankful for everyone who has made this fight happen. I am pleased with the opponent that I have because John Molina is a tough fighter. It's going to be a tough fight and I am looking for it to be a battle. So everybody be ready

because on June 11 it will be a great fight.”

JOHN “THE GLADIATOR” MOLINA JR.

(On how he feels fighting someone who is going to force the fight like himself)

“For me, in a perfect world, I would have a guy right there to exchange with me but Ruslan and his team have been around the game a long time. They know that I’m a puncher. I anticipate Ruslan to do what he does best, which is sit there and fight but I also anticipate him also utilizing his boxing ability given his amateur pedigree and his experience in the pro game. We’re prepared for any Ruslan whether he tries to get up and box or whether he sits there and bangs. We know he’s a strong fighter. We know he’s a strong puncher and we’re prepared for that. Ruslan is going to be Ruslan and he’s going to sit down and fight with me.”

(On how he mentally prepares for fights)

“I have no other way. You look at my fights and the outcome, we have that fighter spirit in us. If we’re being cordial, it’s because we’re professional. It’s what we do for a living. If we take it outside of the ring that’s very ignorant and not very mature. Believe me, I understand and know, and Ruslan understands and knows, that come June 11 all of the kindness goes out the window. After the fight we could be best of friends. But during the fight, I always use the example that he’s trying to take something away from my family. So, it’s very serious business inside that ring. Outside the ring, I don’t want to waste energy or negative feelings toward anybody. This is what I do for a living. I have a competitive spirit, I don’t even like to lose in checkers.

“I have had a very successful career in boxing and I’m looking forward to making an even better one come June 11. Every fight is serious, and remember, I’ve been playing this game since I was 24 years old and I only had 22 amateur fights so essentially my amateur career was in the pro game. Whether the

fights I've had are a loss or a win, I've always gained experience and I have become a better fighter because of it. I'm just getting warmed up and the fight on June 11 is going to catapult me in the right direction."

DEMETRIUS "BOO BOO" ANDRADE

"The champ is in. The champ is in. I feel good. I'm grateful. I want to thank SHOWTIME for giving me the opportunity to showcase my skill and talent on this June 11 card, especially with the Hall of Fame going on. It is a big main event between Provodnikov and John Molina; two guys that are going to back up and give some good entertainment. In my eyes, Willie Nelson and Demetrius Andrade is the number one 154 fight that you don't want to miss leading up to fighting for a title shot for the WBC against a Charlo brother (Jermell)."

(On how it felt to be inactive for so long)

"I've been staying busy, staying focused knowing that there's a bigger picture at the end of the day. All great legends and all Hall of Fame fighters have their story lines. My time is coming around. The tables are turning and people are going to have to step up and fight each other in one way or another. Sometimes, where you are in life is more conducive than your bank account. So, I'm not upset, or mad or frustrated with a thing that is going on and how everything played out.

"At this point, there is a lesson in everything that you go through in life and I learned my lesson through that point in time. Me trying to be frustrated and take it out on people, no, I took it out in the ring."

(Thoughts on Willie Nelson)

"I've seen him in the amateur program. I've seen him fight tough guys that are top guys today. I know he's bringing that experience. He's fought previous fighters that I've fought. I know I'm going up against a giant but I consider myself a giant as well and it's going to be a great matchup, a great fight for the 154 (division). I feel that it is one of the

best fights in the 154 division that has ever been made.

"Not looking past Willie Nelson but me, my character, my hard work and my ethics, I'm looking to be the best and fight the best out there. I want to put out there and say congratulations to the Charlo twins on making history for being twin brothers to win (titles). But I'm going to make history by taking both of those titles and beating both of them.

(On what it was like to be stripped of a title)

"A belt doesn't identify me. That doesn't change anything about me, my fight style, who I am or anything like that. Nowadays you don't have to have a title to be king of the ring but this is an opportunity for me to get back in the likes of fighting with the WBC. Fighting on the SHOWTIME June 11 card is going to be good movement for me. As far as boxing, the days are coming back where the champ is fighting the best."

#### WILLIE "THE GREAT" NELSON

"This is Willie Nelson, one of the top contenders for the 154-pound division. I'm excited for this fight. I think that both of us feel like this fight right here is going to be the shot that both of us have been looking for. I feel like this is my time right now. With me and Boo Boo's past history, unfortunately we have to come to this fight. We're pretty cool as friends but it's our time so we have to get in there and show the world what we're made of."

(On the reasoning behind the lengthy layoff)

"One of the reasons was because of the death of Steve Smith but also because it is hard getting fights. Nobody wants to fight a 6-foot, 4-inch junior middleweight that's actually coming to fight and that has decent pop. Besides that, look at my career. My career has been nothing but fights and layoffs. I've been pro since I was 19 years old and I only have 27 pro fights. That's just been my career: fights and layoffs I guess.



“Regardless of who I fight and where I’m fighting, I’m going to give it my all, always. It doesn’t matter what place, what promoter, network or venue. I just perform to the best of my ability and look forward to doing what I do.”

STEPHEN ESPINOZA, Executive Vice President and General Manager, SHOWTIME Sports

(On taking a fighter like Ruslan and what it is about him that attracted SHOWTIME)

“One thing that has characterized Ruslan throughout his career is that he is a fan favorite and that is consistent regardless of what the scorecards are at the end of the fight. As a network executive what we’re looking for is entertaining programming, and fights that people want to see, fights that people talk about, and that is consistently what Ruslan has delivered throughout his career. He is one of those types of fighters who, like John [Molina Jr.] as well, that even if they have a handful of losses on their record, it really doesn’t matter because they are as entertaining and enjoyable to watch as anyone in the sport.

“We try to have a variety of fights; some with really skilled guys, some guys who are really big punchers, a variety of weight classes, a variety of different types of fighters. This is one where it’s not about titles, not about anything but two guys who fight really hard and who give it their all. [It’s about two guys] meeting in the ring to figure out who’s the better boxer on that night.

“This is one way to add a different type of variety to the sport. Once we had the fight at the top of the card we tried to be consistent for the whole card down. If you look at guys like Demetrius and Willie, Dejan and even down to Willie Monroe Jr. and John Thompson, I think that characterizes this as what should be and all-action night.”

(On Demetrius and Willie)

“I give all the credit to Demetrius and Willie for this fight.

For Willie on stepping up to this challenge. We have one of the most avoided guys in the division in Demetrius, who's taking such a tough fight after a relatively long layoff and period of inactivity. It just shows what kind of guys these are and how they are anxious to step up to the next level of their careers."

ARTHUR PELULLO, President of Banner Promotions

"One thing led to another where we felt that there were more opportunities on SHOWTIME with all of the different fighters...There's more of an opportunity for Ruslan Provodnikov to show his skills and we were able to go down this road.

"John Molina is the toughest fight right now. This is the fight he has to get by but there is a real opportunity, whether he wins or loses. Both guys have a real opportunity on SHOWTIME because of the pool of talent there."

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## **Undefeated Demetrius “Boo Boo” Andrade Fighting way back to top of Super Welterweight Division**

PROVIDENCE (May 31, 2016) – Undefeated super welterweight Demetrious “Boo Boo” Andrade is in a good place as he prepares for his June 11 showdown versus Willie “The Great” Nelson on SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® live on SHOWTIME® (9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT) from Turning Stone Casino in Verona, N.Y.

Approaching the peak of his professional boxing career, the 28-year-old Andrade (22-0, 15 KOs) has moved past a frustrating three-year stretch that, after he won a 12-round decision over Vanes Martirosyan for the vacant World Boxing Organization (WBO) 154-pound world title, found him fighting only twice. One was his only title defense, in which he won impressively by way of a seventh-round stoppage of then WBO No. 1 mandatory title challenger Brian Rose. But, due to promotional issues, Andrade was later stripped by the WBO for inactivity. His last fight was this past October when he recorded a second-round knockout of Dario Fabian Pucheta for

the WBO International belt.

Now, Andrade has a new three-year promotional contract that gives his company, A Team Promotions, 50 percent of his promotional rights to go along with 25 percent each for Banner Promotions and Star Boxing.

"I've always been in a good place, mentally, because I have confidence in myself," said Andrade on what he went through during his long stretch outside of the ring. "I continued training hard. The politics of boxing, well, I'm not 100 percent there yet. Not until I'm actually in the ring and fighting will I actually know if that's worked out for me.

"I'm satisfied in my future, showcasing myself in the ring. I own 50 percent of myself and that – being a promoter – is a big factor. I know everything now, including all the real numbers, and I've learned about the ins and outs of this business. I'm also meeting the right network of people to help my career."

Andrade is thrilled to be fighting on SHOWTIME for the second time during his career, the first back in 2013 on ShoBox: The New Generation against Freddy Hernandez. "The top 154-pounders are with SHOWTIME. I'd like to thank SHOWTIME for giving me this amazing opportunity."

Andrade-Nelson is a 12-round WBC title elimination fight to determine the second mandatory challenger for new WBC Super Welterweight Champion Jermell Charlo, who, as the WBC No. 1 contender was matched last May 21 with No. 2 rated John Jackson. No. 3 Andrade was originally slated to face No. 5 Charles Hatley in a title eliminator to determine the No. 1 mandatory contender. However, negotiations with Hatley's promoter, Don King, failed to materialize and Andrade moved on to fight WBC No. 10 Nelson. The WBC declared Hatley as Charlo's mandatory challenger, despite him being ranked lower than Andrade, with the Andrade-Nelson winner now declared the

mandatory title challenger for the future Charlo-Hatley victor.

Andrade, though, has no hard feelings with the WBC about its decisions. "I'm just thankful to be fighting in this 'tournament'," he commented. "Charlo was the WBC International champion and he should have had the opportunity to fight for the vacant title. I have the WBO International title, Hatley the WBC Silver title, so Hatley should probably have been ranked higher than me by the WBC. I respect the WBC's decision to make him the first mandatory challenger."

Nelson (25-2-1, 15 KOs) and Andrade are familiar with each other through the USA Boxing amateur program, but the two have never met in the ring.

"Nelson lets his hands go," Andrade noted. "He likes to mix it up and so do I. I like to think that I'm a little smarter than him in the ring. This is going to be an interesting fight. I respect him for taking the fight and I'm preparing to fight the toughest opponent I've ever faced. He may be the tallest guy (6' 3") I've ever fought as a pro, but it's only a few inches, and not a big deal."

Andrade is back on his way to reaching the peak of the 154-pound division once again.

"I am ready to set the roof on fire on June 11," Andrade said. "Once everyone at 154 pounds gets a taste of me, they will know I am the greatest. The Charlos made history by becoming the first twins to hold titles in the same weight division. I will make history by beating both of them. Then I will beat Lara and unify all of the belts."

"Stay tuned. I am a force to be reckoned with. I will show the world that the best 154 pound fighter in the world is Demetrius Andrade."

INFORMATION

Twitter: @AndradeATeam

Instagram: @BooBooATeam

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Turning Stone Resort Casino is no stranger to hosting high caliber nationally televised boxing events. Last year, Turning Stone hosted the epic battle between Provodnikov and Matthysee, selected over arenas in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Miami. When Provodnikov returns to Turning Stone on June 11th, it will mark Turning Stone's 18th nationally-televvised boxing event, cementing the resort as a mecca for knockout fights. Located in Upstate New York, Turning Stone is an award-winning destination resort, offering world-class amenities including four hotels, 21 restaurants and dining options, two luxurious spas, five beautiful golf courses, and several bars, cocktail lounges and nightlife venues.

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# **Video: John Molina media day workout**