

# Undefeated Gadwin Rosa looks to stay undefeated against 113-fight veteran German Meraz Tonight at The 2300 Arena in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA – November 16, 2018 – Tonight, undefeated Junior Lightweight Gadwin Rosa will look to stay undefeated when he battles 113-fight veteran German Meraz in a scheduled six-round bout at The 2300 Arena in Philadelphia.

The bout will take place before a ShoBox: The New Generation card that airs live on SHOWTIME (9:35 PM E.T / P.T).

In the main event, undefeated welterweight Jaron Ennis (21-0, 19 KOs) takes on Raymond Serrano (24-5, 10 KOs) in a ten-round bout. In the co-feature of Friday's live telecast, ShoBox veterans Kenneth Sims Jr. (13-1-1, 4 KOs) and Samuel Teah (14-2-1, 7 KOs) meet in an eight-round super lightweight bout. Undefeated Ukrainian Arnold Khagai opens the three-fight card when he takes on New Jersey's Jorge Diaz (19-5-1, 10 KOs) in an eight-round super bantamweight bout.

Rosa, of Ocala, Florida had a great training camp as he prepared for his most experienced opponent.

"Everything is going good. I put the finishing touches and, I am excited and ready for tonight," said Rosa.

"Meraz is a really experienced , and he is a hard guy to look good against. My goal is to beat him in a convincing way."

Meraz has faced many top prospects and contender, so this will be a good test to see where 24 year-old Rosa stacks up.

"This is a measuring stick so people can see what I can do. People will compare my results with others he has fought."

The Florida native will be making his 3rd consecutive appearance in Philadelphia, and the knowledgeable fight crowd is beginning to get behind Rosa.

"I feel the crowd is starting to embrace me with open arms. I am thankful for the fans in Philadelphia who have enjoyed my fights. I want to thank Hard Hitting Promotions for bringing me to this great boxing town. I hope everyone can watch this fight. It is going to be explosive. There are a lot of great prospects on this card, and I hope everyone will support this event and support me."

Branden Pizarro (12-1, 6KOs), of Philadelphia. takes on Jerome Rodriguez of Allentown, PA. in a eightround battle for the NBA Intercontinental title.

Kieran Hooks (3-1-1, 1 KO), of Philadelphia, will fight Gledwin Ortiz (5-2, 4 KOs), of Bronx, N.Y., in a welterweight bout.

Christian Tapia (6-0, 5 KOs), of Coamo, Puerto Rico, fights Darnell Pettis (3-12), of Cleveland, in a super featherweight contest.

Light heavyweight Benny Sinakin (1-0), of Philadelphia, will face Darren Gibbs (1-5, 1 KO), of Ferndale, Mich.

David Stevens of Reading, Penn. will make his pro debut against Dustin Long (0-1-2), of Johnson City, Tenn. in a cruiserweight battle.

Tickets for the show, which is promoted by Victory Promotions in association with Hard Hitting Promotions, are priced \$50, \$75 and \$125 and can be purchased at [2300arena.com](http://2300arena.com) and [hardhittingpromotions.com](http://hardhittingpromotions.com).

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# EARLY RESULTS FROM PHILADELPHIA

Gadwin Rosa remained perfect by winning a six-round unanimous decision over veteran German Meraz in a super featherweight bout.

Rosa, 129 3/4 lbs of Ocala, FL won by scores of 60-54 and 59-55 twice, and is now 9-0. Meraz, 128 1/2 lbs of Sonora, MX is 61-51-2.

Gledwin Ortiz annihilated Kieran Hooks with one big right hand at 2:27 of round one of their welterweight bout.

Ortizm 149 1/2 lbs of Bronx, NY is 6-2 with five knockouts. Hooks, 149 1/4 lbs of Philadelphia is 3-2-1.

Benjamin Sinkain remained undefeated with a 1st round stoppage over Darren Gibbs in a light heavyweight bout.

Sinakin was all over Gibbs, and the bout was stopped at 2:23.

Sinakin, 171 3/4 lbs is now 2-0 with one knockout. Gibbs, 172 1/2 lbs of Ferndale, MI is 1-6.

David Stevens made a successful pro debut with a 1st round stoppage over Judd Brown in a cruiserweight bout.

Stevens scored 2 knockdowns and the bout was stopped at 2:56.

Stevens, 191 1/4 lbs of Reading, PA is 1-0 with one knockout. Brown is 0-1-1.

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# JARON ENNIS vs. RAYMOND SERRANO FINAL WEIGHTS, QUOTES & PHOTOS FOR SHOBX: THE NEW GENERATION TOMORROW LIVE ON SHOWTIME®

PHILADELPHIA (November 15, 2018) – One of boxing's top prospects, undefeated welterweight Jaron Ennis and veteran Raymond Serrano made weight just a day before their ShoBox: The New Generation 10-round main event that headlines a tripleheader live on SHOWTIME (9:35 p.m. ET/PT) from 2300 Arena in Philadelphia. The 21-year-old Ennis (21-0, 19 KOs) returns for his second ShoBox challenge of 2018 against Serrano (24-5, 10 KOs) in a battle of Philadelphia fighters facing off in their hometown.

The three-fight telecast features five ShoBox veterans and three fighters who call Philadelphia home. In the co-feature, a pair of ShoBox veterans meet when Chicago's Kenneth Sims Jr. (13-1-1, 4 KOs) takes on Philadelphia's Samuel Teah (14-2-1, 7 KOs) in an eight-round super lightweight bout.

Also on the card, undefeated Ukrainian Arnold Khegai (13-0-1, 9 KOs) faces New Jersey's Jorge Diaz (19-5-1, 10 KOs) in an eight-round super bantamweight bout.

Tickets for the show, which is promoted by Victory Promotions in association with Hard Hitting Promotions, are priced \$50, \$75 and \$125 and can be purchased at [2300arena.com](http://2300arena.com) and [hardhittingpromotions.com](http://hardhittingpromotions.com).

## FINAL WEIGHTS

Jaron Ennis – 145 pounds – Ramond Serrano 146 3/4

Kennthe Sims Jr. 139 – Samuel Teah 130 3/4

Arnold Khegai 121 3/4 – Jorge Diaz 121 3.4

Undercard weights beginning at 6:30 PM ET

Branden Pizarro 137 1/2 lbs – Jerome Rodriguez 140 lbs

Gadwin Rosa 129 3/4 lbs – German Meraz 128 1/2

Kieran Hooks 149 1/4 lbs – Gledwin Ortiz 149 1/2

Christian Tapia 134 1/2 – Darnell Pettis 133 1/2

Benny Sinakin 171 3/4 lbs – Darren Gibbs 172 1/2

David Stevens 193 1/4 – Judd Brown 188 3/4

**\*\* NOTE:** Referees and judges for the three televised fights have yet to be determined.

## FINAL QUOTES:

### JARON ENNIS

“I’m really looking forward to fighting in front of my hometown fans. There is going to be a packed-house and I’m so excited for this fight. Some fighters don’t like the pressure of fighting in front of their own people, but I can’t wait to show out. I will definitely have no trouble getting up for this fight.

“A Philly fighter is a different kind of fighter. A Philly fighter is going to bring it to you and show off their abilities. I feel like we are the best fighters. There’s a lot of pride in being from here. I get to put on for Philly and show SHOWTIME and the world my talents. Philly fighters always come to fight.

“I don’t know too much about Serrano. I never worry about my opponent or watch tape or anything. We don’t prepare for one guy, we mix it up in the gym because you never know how the guy is going to fight on fight night. We prepare for

everything.

"He thinks he has more experience than me. No, he doesn't. I grew up in this sport. I've been in the gym since I was in a jumper. I've seen it all. I got to see my brothers fight growing up. I've sparred pros since I was 12-years-old. They always say I don't have the experience and I've never fought anybody. We'll see. There's nothing this guy can do.

"I'm just going to keep winning and knocking guys out until I get to the point where I can fight a contender. I'm ready right now, but I know I have to be patient. I'm only 21-years-old, so I have time but we're ready right now.

"This fight is definitely going to be something different, I promise you that it's not lasting long. I'm so focused, I'm ready to rock and roll. I can't wait."

RAYMOND SERRANO:

"Right now, I feel like I'm in a position where I can compete against any of the top guys. I fought Alex Saucedo, and honestly, I thought I won that fight. I believe after that fight, it took me to another level. My confidence grew and I knew that I could compete with anybody.

"I feel comfortable going forward and putting pressure on. If I have to box, I can box too. I feel comfortable being on the inside now, and it hasn't always been that way.

"I've been in the position where I've been fighting undefeated guys. Everybody is against me but I love that. He's the one with all the pressure, he has to prove that he's as good as everybody says he is. He's never seen anybody like me. Everybody he's fought recently, I beat them years ago.

"Ennis looks good. He's a strong fighter that's coming to fight but so will I. I think this will be a good fight. My last fight, I was fighting the best fight of my career before

it had to be stopped. I went into [Gerome] Quigley's hometown and I was winning that fight.

"There's going to be a lot of people in the crowd that want to see me lose. Ennis is the hot prospect with all the fans, but I think I may switch some people's opinion. Beating Ennis will put me in the position to fight anybody.

"His chin has never been tested. I've never seen him uncomfortable in any fight, it's all been pretty easy for him. I will test him."

KENNETH SIMS JR.:

"I'm really disappointed to be 1-1-1- on ShoBox. I feel like I should be 2-1, I should have won the fight I drew. But I do think the loss was a really good learning experience, and I needed it. It really helped me learn more about myself and what I need to do better. There's always more to learn.

"I need to get physically stronger. I'm working on my strength and conditioning right now. When I fought Montana [Love], I only had been training with my new strength and conditioning coach for three weeks. Now, I've had the full camp with him. I'm learning more about my body and how important rest is and not to just always push myself too hard.

"When I transitioned to being a pro, I really needed to learn how to relax. When I first fought on TV, I put so much pressure on myself to perform and there was a lot of expectations.

"Every fight is a fight that I need to impress in. Every fight, I want to show something different. I'm known for my speed, but I feel like I haven't shown all of my skills on ShoBox yet.

"I feel like Teah is going to try to press me. I don't think he's going to realize how strong I really am. I just want to

make him work, and I don't want to give him any down time. I don't want to let him rest.

"I just really like fighting. When I was younger, my dad had to remind me that I'm a boxer, and I'm good at boxing. But I couldn't help it, I just wanted to fight. Now, I've realized that I need to be a boxer.

"I'm always active. Even when I'm not training, I stay in the gym and I spar once a week. Training in Houston has been great, being around other professionals that are trying to do the same thing as me is great for my development. I train with O'Shaquie Foster, we've known each other since we were little and we really push each other in the gym.

"I watched him fight Montana [Love], and I watched him fight O'Shaquie. I think he's a good fighter, but I want to make him doubt himself right from the beginning."

SAM TEAH:

"I was under the weather my last fight. I don't want to make excuses, but my inactivity lost that fight not what he did. I was fighting very conservatively, instead of just putting everything on the line. I was too worried about tiring myself out and that was one of the key factors in deciding that fight. I'm one hundred percent for this fight and it will be a different story.

"I feel like this is my biggest stage yet. I've fought in Vegas, but this is as big as it gets for me. Everybody that knows me and has followed my career will either be here at the arena or watching on TV.

"I watched him fight live once here in Philadelphia. I've seen him box and I've seen him brawl and try to be the matador. He's a great fighter, he's very versatile. I don't think he has great power, but he can box. I think his stamina might be an issue. He works at a very high rate, but I know he can't



keep that pace for the entire fight. The pace will drop after a couple rounds, and then it will become a more technical fight.

“He can watch all the tape on me that he wants, he’s never seen the type of performance he’s going to get tomorrow night. You guys will see the real Tsunami.”

ARNOLD KHEGAI:

“I was nervous my first fight on ShoBox, but all the nerves are gone, this time I’m going to show what I’m really about.

“In my last fight, I just wanted to show that I could outbox somebody in America. That’s what I did, and now I’m really going to show what I’m all about.

“It’s a totally different level in the U.S. The fighters are much stronger than in Moscow. It’s also much more professional with all of the medical treatment and the facilities. I think it will help me that I’ve already fought here in the U.S., I know exactly what to expect and I know what the atmosphere will be like.

“I only know that Diaz fought Adam Lopez, the same opponent that I had. I’ve watched him a little bit, and I see this as a war. I think we’re going to brawl with each other, and it will be a really interesting fight.

“If I win this fight in style, then either the next fight or the one after I think I’ll be in position to fight a real contender.”

JORGE DIAZ:

“I haven’t fought in a year, but I’ll be as sharp as I’ve ever been tomorrow night. I’ve been in the gym training non-stop, and I’ve gotten my nutrition and my training right. We’ve been very rigorous with our nutrition, in terms of what we put in our body. I’m ready to go.

"I used to be just a fighter. I didn't know about the Sweet Science of boxing and about what separates the good boxers from the great ones: rhythm, distance and timing. It's not about who runs the fastest, otherwise lions and tigers would be running the world. It's about your intelligence. And that's what I needed to learn and what I have finally figured out.

"Arnold [Khegai] is in over his head. I've watched tape. He's a basic fighter. He comes forward. He doesn't know how to box moving backwards. He doesn't know anything about rhythm, distance and timing. We're going to outbox him, but it's going to look aggressive.

"This is the most important fight of my life. This guy is standing between me and everything that I want. He's standing between me and the well-being of my family and all of my dreams."

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#### About ShoBox: The New Generation

Since its inception in July 2001, the critically acclaimed SHOWTIME boxing series, ShoBox: The New Generation has featured young talent matched tough. The ShoBox philosophy is to televise exciting, crowd-pleasing and competitive matches while providing a proving ground for willing prospects determined to fight for a world title. Some of the growing list of the 78 fighters who have appeared on ShoBox and advanced to garner world titles includes: Errol Spence Jr., Andre Ward, Deontay Wilder, Erislandy Lara, Shawn Porter, Gary Russell Jr., Lamont Peterson, Guillermo Rigondeaux, Nonito Donaire, Devon Alexander, Carl Froch, Robert Guerrero, Timothy Bradley, Jessie Vargas, Juan Manuel Lopez, Chad Dawson, Paulie Malignaggi, Ricky Hatton, Kelly Pavlik, Paul Williams and

more.

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# **Branden Pizarro Ready for NBA Title Fight Against Jerome Rodriguez This Friday Night at The 2300 Arena in Philadelphia**

PHILADELPHIA – November 14, 2018 – 19-year-old junior welterweight prospect, Branden “The Gift” Pizarro, is looking to impress a sold-out crowd this Friday night at The 2300 Arena when he takes on Jerome Rodriguez in a six-round bout for the NBA Intercontinental title.

The bout will precede a ShoBox: The New Generation card that airs live on SHOWTIME (9:35 PM E.T / P.T).

In the main event, undefeated welterweight Jaron Ennis (21-0, 19 KOs) takes on Raymond Serrano (24-5, 10 KOs) in a ten-round bout. In the co-feature of Friday’s live telecast, ShoBox veterans Kenneth Sims Jr. (13-1-1, 4 KOs) and Samuel Teah (14-2-1, 7 KOs) meet in an eight-round super lightweight bout. Undefeated Ukrainian Arnold Khegai opens the three-fight card when he takes on New Jersey’s Jorge Diaz (19-5-1, 10 KOs) in an eight-round super bantamweight bout.

Pizarro, of Philadelphia, is one of the top prospects in his weight division and has been preparing for a pinpoint performance.

"Camp was great. We had a full, six-week camp after my last fight, which took place on October 6th. I am ready for Friday," said Pizarro.

In Rodriguez, he is facing a battle tested fighter who has opposed 10 undefeated foes, including Pizarro's Hard Hitting Promotions stablemate Jeremy Cuevas in his last bout, which also took place on the same October 6th card.

"Rodriguez is a southpaw. He is a humble, good guy, who is tough. We looked at the tape of when he fought Cuevas. Usually my team is presented a few guys and he was the first guy. People who know me, I always take the first guy."

With an expected sold-out crowd on hand in Philadelphia, Pizarro goes about his business to look good no matter what the stakes are. But being featured on television in the future is not the most important thing at this stage of the young prospect's career.

"I am in no rush. I just turned 19. When my dad, who is my trainer and the rest of my team feel I am ready for that, then it will happen. We are just slow walking now. I just want to thank all of my supporters, and just expect a great performance. This is a great event, and Friday night will be a great night for me."

Gadwin Rosa (8-0, 7 KOs), of Ocala, Fla. takes on 113-fight veteran German Meraz of Sonorea, Mex. in a six-round battle for the NBA Intercontinental title.

Kieran Hooks (3-1-1, 1 KO), of Philadelphia, will fight Gledwin Ortiz (5-2, 4 KOs), of Bronx, N.Y., in a welterweight bout.

Christian Tapia (6-0, 5 KOs), of Coamo, Puerto Rico, fights Darnell Pettis (3-12), of Cleveland, in a super featherweight contest.

Light heavyweight Benny Sinakin (1-0), of Philadelphia, will face Darren Gibbs (1-5, 1 K0), of Ferndale, Mich.

David Stevens of Reading, Penn. will make his pro debut against Dustin Long (0-1-2), of Johnson City, Tenn. in a cruiserweight battle.

Also seeing action against an opponent to be named will be super bantamweight Angel Pizarro, of Philadelphia.

Tickets for the show, which is promoted by Victory Promotions in association with Hard Hitting Promotions, are priced \$50, \$75 and \$125 and can be purchased at [2300arena.com](http://2300arena.com) and [hardhittingpromotions.com](http://hardhittingpromotions.com).

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## **Hard Hitting Promotions signs undefeated Bantamweight prospect Emmanuel “Salserito” Rodriguez to Promotional deal**

PHILADELPHIA – October 29, 2018 – Hard Hitting Promotions is pleased to announce the signing of undefeated bantamweight prospect Emmanuel “Salserito” Rodriguez to a promotional contract.

Rodriguez, 25 years old of Newark, New Jersey by way of Quebradillas, Puerto Rico has a record of 3-0.

Rodriguez had an amateur career that saw him compile a record of 78-11, which included a being a New Jersey Golden Gloves Championship, three-time Diamond Gloves champion, two-time New Jersey state champion, two-time Puerto Rico national champion,

Elite Heat champion and a bronze medal winner at the Wilfredo Gomez International Tournament.

He turned professional on April 22, 2017 with a four-round decision over Jaxel Morrero. In his last outing, Rodriguez won a four-round unanimous decision over Ndira Spearman on June 29th in Bensalem, Pennsylvania.

“I am happy to be with Hard Hitting Promotions. They are one of the best promoters on the East Coast, and I like the way they work with people,” said Rodriguez.

“I am looking to fight five or six times in the next year. This is the way that I feed my family, and I am grateful that Hard Hitting Promotions is given me that opportunity. I can not wait to start, and show the world my talent.”

“We are excited to add Emmanuel to our roster,” said Manny Rivera of Hard Hitting Promotions. “Emmanuel is a good prospect and we see a lot of potential in him. He fits right in with all of our other young talent, and we see big things in his future.”

Rodriguez joins Hard Hitting Promotions stable of fighters which includes junior welterweight Branden Pizarro (12-1, 6 KOs); lightweight Jeremy Cuevas (11-0, 8 KOs); junior welterweight Samuel Teah (14-2-1, 7 KOs); super featherweight Gadwin Rosa (8-0, 7 KOs); super featherweight Christian Tapia (6-0, 5 KOs); light heavyweight Benny Sinakin (1-0).

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## Bright Prospects From Hard

# Hitting Promotions Highlight Non-Televised Undercard of ShoBox: The New Generation on Friday, November 16 At The 2300 Arena

PHILADELPHIA – October 26, 2018 – A bevy of prospects will be on display as part of the non-televised undercard of ShoBox: The New Generation on Friday, November 16 at The 2300 Arena in Philadelphia.

Highly-touted junior welterweight Branden Pizarro will see action in an eight-round bout as he takes on Jerome Rodriguez.

The 19-year-old Pizarro, of Philadelphia, is a two-year professional with a record of 12-1 with six knockouts. One of the top amateurs in the country before turning professional, Pizarro has a knockout win over Abdiel Padilla. In his last bout, Pizarro stopped 30-fight veteran Justin Johnson in two rounds on October 6 at The 2300 Arena.

Rodriguez, of Allentown, Penn., has a record of 7-10-3 with two knockouts. The 32 year-old has big wins over Tre'Sean Wiggins (3-0) and world-ranked Avery Sparrow (4-0). Rodriguez, who has fought 10 undefeated opponents, is coming off a unanimous decision loss to Jeremy Cuevas on October 6 at The 2300 Arena.

In a six-round bout, Gadwyn Rosa (8-0, 7 KOs) of Ocala, Fla., will take on an opponent to be named in a super featherweight bout.

In four-round non-televised bouts:

Kieran Hooks (3-1-1, 1 KO), of Philadelphia, takes on Gledwin Ortiz (5-2-1, 4 KOs) of Bronx, N.Y. in a super welterweight bout;

Christian Tapia (6-0, 5 KOs), of Coamao, PR, will take on an opponent to be named in a super featherweight bout.

Benny Sinakin (1-0), of Philadelphia, takes on an opponent to be named in a light heavyweight bout.

Angel Pizarro (4-0, 3 KOs), of Philadelphia, will take on an opponent to be named in a super bantamweight bout.

Former top-amateur standout, David Stevens, of Reading, Penn, will make his pro debut in a cruiserweight bout.

In the previously announced main event, highly touted unbeaten welterweight prospect Jaron Ennis will square off against 11-year professional Raymond Serrano in a Philadelphia vs. Philadelphia 10-round bout in the main event of ShoBox: The New Generation live on SHOWTIME® at 9:35 p.m. ET/PT from 2300 Arena in Philadelphia.

In the co-feature, a pair of ShoBox veterans meet when Chicago's Kenneth Sims Jr. (13-1-1, 4 KOs) takes on Philadelphia's Samuel Teah of Hard Hitting Promotions (14-2-1, 7 KOs) in an eight-round super lightweight bout. Also on the card, undefeated Ukrainian Arnold Khagai (13-0-1, 9 KOs) faces New Jersey's Jorge Diaz (19-5-1, 10 KOs) in an eight-round super bantamweight bout.

Tickets for the show, which is promoted by Victory Promotions in association with Hard Hitting Promotions are priced \$50, \$75 and \$125 and can be purchased at [2300arena.com](http://2300arena.com) and [hardhittingpromotions.com](http://hardhittingpromotions.com).

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# UNDEFEATED WELTERWEIGHT PROSPECT JARON ENNIS TO FACE RAYMOND SERRANO IN AN ALL PHILADELPHIA MAIN EVENT OF NOVEMBER 16 SHOBX: THE NEW GENERATION TRIPLEHEADER

NEW YORK – October 24, 2018 – Highly touted unbeaten welterweight prospect Jaron Ennis will square off against 11-year professional Raymond Serrano in a Philadelphia vs. Philadelphia 10-round bout in the main event of ShoBox: The New Generation, Friday, November 16 live on SHOWTIME® at 9:35 p.m. ET/PT from 2300 Arena in Philadelphia.

Ennis (21-0, 19 KOs) has knocked out 11 consecutive opponents including a third-round stoppage of Armando Alvarez in his ShoBox debut in July ([Click HERE](#) for video). The 21-year-old Ennis, who compiled an amateur record of 58-3 and was the 2015 National Golden Gloves Champion before turning professional in 2016, faces a stern test in fellow Philadelphia native Raymond Serrano (24-5, 10 KOs), a 29-fight veteran who's five losses have come against opponents with a combined record of 89-1-1 at the time of their meeting.

The three-fight telecast features five ShoBox veterans and three fighters who call Philadelphia home. In the co-feature, a pair of ShoBox veterans meet when Chicago's Kenneth Sims Jr. (13-1-1, 4 KOs) takes on Philadelphia's Samuel Teah (14-2-1, 7 KOs) in an eight-round super lightweight bout.

Also on the card, undefeated Ukrainian Arnold Khagai (13-0-1, 9 KOs) faces New Jersey's Jorge Diaz (19-5-1, 10 KOs) in an eight-round super bantamweight bout.

Tickets for the show, which is promoted by Victory Promotions in association with Hard Hitting Promotions are priced \$50, \$75 and \$125 and can be purchased at [2300arena.com](http://2300arena.com) and [hardhittingpromotions.com](http://hardhittingpromotions.com).

Ennis returns to ShoBox for his second consecutive fight following a statement third-round knockout of then-unbeaten welterweight prospect Armando Alvarez in July. Making a name for himself in Philadelphia with his power and come-forward mentality, Ennis has scored 11 consecutive K0 victories including two at 2300 Arena. A standout amateur who was ranked No. 1 at 141 pounds and won the 2015 National Golden Gloves tournament, Ennis narrowly missed the opportunity to represent the U.S. in the 2016 Olympics after losing a box-off to Gary Antuanne Russell at the Olympic Trials.

“Serrano is just another opponent on my way to my ultimate goal – a world championship,” said Ennis. “I am focused and I’m just going to keep working hard until I am able to accomplish that main goal. I can’t wait to display my talent once again on ShoBox.”

The 21-year-old Ennis currently trains under his father Derek “Bozy” Ennis Sr., who also trained his other sons Derek Jr. and Farah, both ShoBox veterans.

The 29-year-old Serrano turned professional in 2007 and rattled off 18 consecutive wins to start his career. Serrano, who will appear on ShoBox for the first time since his 2013 meeting with Emmanuel Taylor, will face his third consecutive unbeaten opponent after a No Contest against Gerome Quigley Jr. and a unanimous decision loss to 22-year-old welterweight prospect Malik Hawkins. Serrano, also from Philadelphia, had an impressive amateur career, winning the national and international Junior Olympic tournaments in 2005 and the Pennsylvania State Golden Gloves in 2006.

“I am excited – this is Philly vs. Philly,” said Serrano. “We

are two of the best welterweights going at it. I believe my experience with my new trainer Shadeed Saluki will help me in this fight and I do not think he has been in the ring with anyone like me. I am excited to be on ShoBox because the world will see my talents. With a win, this will lead me to even bigger fights.”

Sims, a Chicago native, returns to ShoBox after his action-packed split-draw with unbeaten prospect Montana Love in July. Sims suffered the first and only loss of his career against Rolando China via close majority decision on ShoBox a year prior but got back to his winning ways with a unanimous decision over Andrew Rodgers on October 13. The 24-year-old, who has sparred with Floyd Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao, was a 2013 U.S. National Amateur Champion and a 2012 Olympic Trials semifinalist.

“I am ready to fight,” said Sims. “I just fought on October 13 and got right back in the gym, so I am already in good shape. Teah is a good fighter but he is nothing special and certainly nothing that I haven’t seen before. I am happy to be back on ShoBox. I know they liked my last fight because it showed that I am only getting better and better every fight.”

Teah, born in Liberia and fighting out of Philadelphia, has had mixed luck on ShoBox. A two-fight veteran of the developmental series, Teah scored a unanimous decision over previously undefeated O’Shaquie Foster in 2015 but dropped a majority decision to Montana Love in February, an opponent who Sims Jr. drew with. Teah, who did not start boxing until the age of 19, scored an impressive first-round knockout of Zach Ramsey his last time out in August at 2300 Arena.

“I will be ready to fight come November 16,” said Teah. “I have seen Kenneth Sims fight. He is fast and was a good amateur. He just fought a draw against the last fighter who beat me, Montana Love. I am excited about fighting him and I am also excited to be on ShoBox. I always face a higher level

of opposition when I am on and ShoBox is always a great showcase.”

The aggressive, come-forward Khegai made his U.S. debut at the 2300 Arena on ShoBox in May, registering the most impressive result of his career with a unanimous decision over Adam Lopez. The undefeated Khegai, who is a former Ukraine national amateur champion and two-time world champion in Thai boxing, made the switch to professional boxing in 2015 and has since compiled a near-perfect record while competing mostly in Russia. Born to Korean parents in Lymanske, Ukraine, the all-action Khegai will make his second ShoBox appearance in search of another statement win.

“I am excited to be fighting in the U.S. on SHOWTIME,” said Khegai. “I look forward to putting on a memorable performance and cementing myself as a top name in the division. November 16 can’t come soon enough!”

Jorge Diaz Jr., from New Brunswick, New Jersey, is coming off a significant victory over then once-beaten Adam Lopez, an opponent Khegai also beat via decision. The 31-year-old Diaz, who last fought in November 2017, also boasts impressive victories over Olympic gold-medalist Yan Barthelemy and former title challengers Alejandro Lopez and Emmanuel Lucero. Diaz’s five professional losses have come against opponents that hold a combined record of 88-1-4.

“I feel very confident,” said Diaz. “My opponent is a good fighter, who is strong, aggressive, and throws sharp punches but I will be in tip-top shape. This is a very important fight for me. I have this great opportunity, so I will be dedicated and will give my best effort.”

Hall of Famer Barry Tompkins will call the ShoBox action from ringside with fellow Hall of Famer Steve Farhood and former world champion Raul Marquez serving as expert analysts. The executive producer is Gordon Hall with Chuck McKean producing

and Rick Phillips directing.

# # #

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

#### About ShoBox: The New Generation

Since its inception in July 2001, the critically acclaimed SHOWTIME boxing series, ShoBox: The New Generation has featured young talent matched tough. The ShoBox philosophy is to televise exciting, crowd-pleasing and competitive matches while providing a proving ground for willing prospects determined to fight for a world title. Some of the growing list of the 78 fighters who have appeared on ShoBox and advanced to garner world titles includes: Errol Spence Jr., Andre Ward, Deontay Wilder, Erislandy Lara, Shawn Porter, Gary Russell Jr., Lamont Peterson, Guillermo Rigondeaux, Nonito Donaire, Devon Alexander, Carl Froch, Robert Guerrero, Timothy Bradley, Jessie Vargas, Juan Manuel Lopez, Chad Dawson, Paulie Malignaggi, Ricky Hatton, Kelly Pavlik, Paul Williams and more.

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## Rock knockout Rodriguez in four

Philadelphia, PA (October 8, 2018) – This past Saturday night, Darmani Rock remained perfect by stopping Pedro Julio Rodriguez in round four of a scheduled eight-round heavyweight fight that headlined a seven-bout card at The 2300 Arena in Philadelphia.

The action-packed card was promoted by Hard Hitting Promotions.

The card was seen by a world wide audience on Facebook Fight Night Live, and can be viewed in demand [BY CLICKING HERE](#)

Rock focused on the body early-on. In round four, Rock landed a hard right to the body, and left hook that sent Rodriguez to the canvas. Rodriguez got to his knees, and that was it as he took the ten-count at 27 seconds.

Rock, 275.5 lbs of Philadelphia is now 13-0 with eight knockouts. Rodriguez of Miami falls to 23-6.

Good looking prospect Jeremy Cuevas won a six-round unanimous decision over Jerome Rodriguez in a lightweight bout.

Cuevas was cut from around his left eye in the third round from an accidental headbutt. It was the right eye of Rodriguez that started leaking blood in the same round. Cuevas started putting his dazzling combinations together, but Rodriguez showed a good chin.

This was a solid learning experience for the 22 year-old Cuevas, as he fought an experienced foe and worked through adversity by having the cut.

In the end, Cuevas won by scores of 60-54 and 59-55 twice to raise his perfect mark to 11-0. Rodriguez of Trenton, New Jersey falls to 7-10-3.

Branden Pizarro stopped veteran Justin Johnson in round two of their scheduled six-round junior welterweight bout.

Pizarro dropped Johnson three times in round two, and the bout was stopped at 2:21.

Pizarro, 141.2 lbs of Philadelphia, PA is now 12-1 with six knockouts. Johnson, 141.5 lbs of Pittsburgh is 6-19-6.

Gadwin Rosa needed just 41 seconds to destroy Aldimar Silva in a scheduled six-round super featherweight bout.

Rosa scored two knockdowns, and the bout was stopped.

Rosa, 130.5 lbs of Ocala, FL is 8-0 with seven knockouts. Silva, 128.1 lbs of Sao Paulo, BRA is 21-14.

Christian Tapia stopped Hector Marengo in round two of their scheduled four-round lightweight bout.

Tapia dropped Marengo in round two with a right hand. Marengo did not beat the count at 2:02.

Tapia, 133.3 lbs of Coamo, PR is 6-0 with five knockouts. Marengo, 134.5 lbs of Arecibo, PR is 7-14-4.

Benny Sinakin won a four-round unanimous decision over Alex Lara in a light heavyweight bout.

At the end of round three, Sinakin dropped Lara with a left hook.

Sinakin, 172.8 lbs of Philadelphia, PA won by scores of 40-35 on all cards and is now 1-0. Lara, 173.6 lbs of Manhattan, NY is 1-1.

Marcos Suarez and Israel Suarez battled to a four-round majority draw in a lightweight clash.

In round one, Marcos Suarez suffered a cut on his forehead.

Marcos Suarez took a card 40-36 while that was overruled by two even cards at 38-38.

Marcos Suarez, 133.3 lbs of Bronx, NY is 5-0-2. Israel Suarez, 134.5 lbs of Luquillo, PR is 4-6-3.

HARD HITTING PROMOTIONS WILL RETURN TO THE 2300 ARENA ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH. DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY

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# LIVE BOXING: HARD HITTING PROMOTIONS: ROCK VS RODRIGUEZ

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## Weights From Philadelphia

Philadelphia, PA (October 5, 2018) – Weights for Saturday night's fight card at The 2300 Arena.

Darmani Rock 275.6 vs. Pedro Julio Rodriguez 244.5

Jeremy Cuevas 135.4 vs. Jerome Rodriguez 135.7

Branden Pizarro 141.2 vs. Justin Johnson 141.5

Gadwin Rosa 130.5 vs. Aldimar Silva 128.1

Benjamin Sanikin 172.8 vs. Alex Lara 173.6

Marcos Suarez 135.8 vs. Israel Suarez 137

Christian Tapia 133.3 vs. Hector Marengo 134.5

Photo Credit: Daniel Cork

Promoter: Hard Hitting Promotions

Venue: 2300 Arena

Stream: Facebook Fight Night Live

Tickets available now! \$50 GA , \$70 Premium, \$125 VIP +fees

Purchase Tickets online at [hardhittingpromotions.com](http://hardhittingpromotions.com) ; [2300arena.com](http://2300arena.com) or by calling 267.758.2173 as well as the 2300 Arena Box Office.



Doors 6PM – First bout 7PM

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