

Super Lightweight Contender Mario Barrios Remains Undefeated Against Naim Nelson In Main Event of Premier Boxing Champions TOE- TO-TOE TUESDAYS on FS1 & BOXEO DE CAMPEONES on FOX Deportes From Sands Bethlehem Events Center

BETHLEHEM, PA. (September 19) – Unbeaten super lightweight Mario Barrios (20-0, 12 KOs) defeated Naim Nelson (13-4, 1 KO) via seventh round TKO in the main event of Premier Boxing Champions TOE-TO-TOE TUESDAYS on FS1 and BOXEO DE CAMPEONES on FOX Deportes from Sands Bethlehem Events Center in Bethlehem, Pa.

The fast-rising star Barrios of San Antonio started the bout throwing multiple combinations to the head and body of Nelson of Philadelphia. He kept his distance and stayed patient, but did not get to showcase all of the tools in his arsenal as the fight took a turn in the third round when Nelson went to the canvas after hurting his left shoulder by throwing a hook. That was ruled a slip and he dropped to his knees again after throwing another punch, but after being examined by the ringside doctor, it was determined that Nelson could continue.

Barrios was not deterred and continued to move forward, apply pressure and control the action into the fourth round. By the fifth, Nelson's work rate dropped significantly, which Barrios

took advantage of by battering the Philadelphia-native against the ropes. Throughout the sixth, Barrios stalked Nelson around the ring while Nelson tried to work through his apparent shoulder injury, countering with the right where he could. In the end, Barrios sent Nelson to the canvas with a hard left hand causing Referee Gary Rosato to wave off the bout at 1:41 of the seventh round. The victory over Nelson marks Barrios' fourth straight stoppage – all of which have taken place since he started working with renowned trainer Virgil Hunter.

"I apologize to the fans of Pennsylvania as I wanted to put on a show tonight," said Barrios. "After I caught him, he was trying to survive. He was moving around. I did not concentrate if he hurt his shoulder or not.

"I just want to keep moving along and get better. I want to fight again before the end of the year if possible and I know I will put on a show in my next fight."

"I was doing well and I had him, but I hurt my shoulder," said Nelson. "I thought I was doing a good job, but my shoulder just hurt too much. This is a sport and injuries happen."

In the co-feature, lightweights Thomas Velasquez (9-0, 5 KOs) of Philadelphia and Tyrome Jones (4-2, 1 K0) of South Bend, Ind. Tyrome Jones fought to a draw in a fast-paced six-round bout. Velasquez, who is mentored by former world champion Danny Garcia, started the fight going to Jones' body and stuck with that plan throughout. As the fight wore on, Jones turned up the heat and listened to his corner who told him to stay busy and aggressive. Velasquez landed multiple straight left hands in the fourth that stung Jones, but the Indiana-native was able to counter with several straight lefts of his own. The sixth and final round showcased hard-fought action from both pugilists with Jones throwing several hard lefts with Velasquez countering with his own flurries of shots finishing the fight strong. In the end, the judges ruled the bout even 59-55 for each and 57-57.

"I had to use the jab in this fight as well as my double-jab and body shots were working well," said Velasquez. "This was a great learning fight and I felt that I won. I can't wait to get back in the gym, apply what I learned and get back in the ring again soon."

"This was a tough fight against an undefeated guy who came in confident," said Jones. "I countered very well and I got to him. I feel that I won the fight, but sometimes the judges don't see it that way."

The opening bout saw light heavyweights Earl Newman (10-0-1, 7 KOs) of Brooklyn, NY and Paul Parker (8-2-1, 4 KOs) of Toledo, OH fight to an eight-round draw. Parker made it awkward for Newman in the first two rounds by starting out strong, moving forward, diving in and staying busy. However, Newman came out of the corner swinging in the third, throwing a left hook that forced Parker to tap the canvas with his glove although it was not ruled a knockdown by referee Benjy Esteves.

Newman worked his right hand throughout the fourth round, ready to counter Parker's shots. Newman drove Parker back with a left hook in the fifth and continued to put pressure on the Ohio-native throughout the round. The two-time New York Golden Gloves winner continued to press forward and walk down Parker in the later rounds, but was unable to finish strong enough to be victorious as the judges scored the bout 79-32 (Newman), 77-75 (Parker) and 76-76.

"After a year off I felt rusty," said Newman. "I saw the punches, but I did not react as well as I wanted to. That being said, I kept pressuring and landed more to the body. I felt I won the fight. Now it is back to the drawing board. I definitely can't be inactive for a long time again."

"He is a great fighter," said Parker. "I listened to my corner and followed the game plan. He caught me with some good punches, but I landed more. I wobbled him and I was busier. I

really feel that I won the fight. I want a rematch”

In Non-Televised action:

Juan Sanchez won a four-round unanimous decision over Gorwar Karyah in a featherweight bout.

In round one, Sanchez scored a knockdown on a right hand.

Sanchez, 124.9 lbs of Bethlehem, PA won on two cards 39-36 and took a third card 40-35 to raise his mark to 3-0. Karyah, 125.8 lbs of Philadelphia is 1-1.

Ryan Wilczak took out Devin McMaster in just 95 seconds of their scheduled four round junior middleweight bout.

Wilczak scored two knockdowns and finished McMaster off with a hard left hand that sent him on his back.

Wilczak, 154.3 lbs of Scranton, PA is 5-0 with three knockouts. McMaster, 152.9 lbs of Allentown, PA is 1-3.

Antonio Russell stopped Cristian Renteria in round three of a scheduled six-round bantamweight bout.

In round three, Russell drilled Renteria with a right hook that sent him to the canvas. Renteria got to his feet but referee Benjy Esteves stopped the bout at at 1:26.

Russell, 117.8 lbs of Washington, DC is 9-0 with seven knockouts. Renteria, 120.2 lbs of California, MX is 7-6.

Antuanne Russell battered tough Jesus Lule before stopping him at 2:37 of round one of their scheduled four round super lightweight bout.

Russell hit Lule with some vicious combination's, yet the veteran Lule continued to take the shots. Finally a ripping flurry of punches to the head had referee Benji Esteves stop the bout.

Russell, 138.5 lbs of Washington, DC is 2-0 with 2 knockouts.
Lule, 139.7 lbs of Fort Myers, FL is 11-24-1.

Jeffrey Torres remained undefeated by stopping Latorie Woodberry in the first round of their scheduled four round super lightweight bout.

Torres floored Woodberry in round one with 2 lefts to head and one to the body, Woodberry went down again from a right hand. Torres ended things with 2 more lefts to the body that sent Woodberry down, and referee Gary Rosato stopped the bout at 2:37.

Torres, 140.4 lbs of Hartford, CT is 4-0 with 2 knockouts.
Woodberry, 141.8 lbs of Roanoke, VA is 1-5-1.

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Unbeaten Contender Mario Barrios Takes On Naim Nelson in Main Event of Premier Boxing Champions TOE-T0-T0E TUESDAYS on FS1 & BOXEO DE CAMPEONES on FOX Deportes Tuesday, September 19 From Sands Bethlehem Events Center in Bethlehem, Pa.

BETHLEHEM, PA. (September 5, 2017) – Unbeaten rising contender Mario Barrios (19-0, 11 KOs) will battle Naim Nelson (13-3, 1 KO) in a 10-round super lightweight bout that headlines Premier Boxing Champions TOE-T0-T0E TUESDAYS on FS1 and BOXEO DE CAMPEONES on FOX Deportes Tuesday, September 19 from Sands Bethlehem Events Center in Bethlehem, Pa.

Televised coverage begins at 10 p.m. ET/7 p.m. PT and will feature an eight-round matchup between unbeaten featherweight prospects Stephen Fulton (11-0, 5 KOs) and Adam Lopez (8-0, 3 KOs) plus undefeated prospect Earl Newman (10-0, 7 KOs) taking on Paul Parker (8-2, 4 KOs) in an eight-round light heavyweight attraction.

“I’m thrilled to be fighting once again on FS1 and FOX Deportes, especially as the main event,” said Barrios. “I have a tough hometown fighter in Naim Nelson standing in my way. My

goal is to be explosive and give the fans a great performance. I'm very thankful for all the opportunities that have come my way and I'm going to take full advantage of the situation come fight night."

"I am at a different stage of my career now," said Nelson. "I have experienced losses, but I learned you have to keep on fighting. I am the best and most experienced guy Barrios has fought. He's is a good fighter and has a good coach in Virgil Hunter. He is tall and that's what jumps out about him. But being tall is not everything. I am training hard and I expect a great fight from him."

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by King's Promotions, are priced at \$50, \$75 and \$100, not including applicable service charges and taxes and are on sale now. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com. To charge by phone call Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000.

A tall fighter for his division at more than six feet, the 21-year-old Barrios picked up seven victories in a jam-packed 2015 in which he stopped five opponents inside the distance and followed it up in 2016 with three more victories, including a 12-round decision over Devis Boschiero in July. The San Antonio native began his 2017 campaign with a stoppage victory over Yardley Suarez on the Keith Thurman vs. Danny Garcia undercard in Brooklyn in March and followed it up with a knockout victory over Jose Luis Rodriguez in June. He makes his third appearance on FS1 and FOX Deportes on September 19 and his first as the main event.

The 27-year-old Nelson won his first 12 pro fights before dropping a decision to former world champion Mickey Bey in December 2015 but bounced back with a decision victory over Carlos Velasquez. Fighting out of nearby Philadelphia, Nelson has recently challenged top contender Alejandro Luna and last fought in Bethlehem against Tre'Sean Wiggins in April.

Born and raised in West Philadelphia, Fulton defeated previously unbeaten Luis Rosario in April after a 2016 that saw him stop then unbeaten Adalberto Zorrilla and Cristian Renteria. The 23-year-old is unbeaten since turning pro in 2014 and will be looking to make it a perfect 12 wins in 12 pro starts when he enters the ring on September 19.

The 21-year-old Lopez has beaten fighters with a combined record of 13-0-1 in his last three fights including a victory in July over Paul Romero. Fighting out of Glendale, Calif., Lopez has picked up four victories this year as he prepares for his toughest opponent to date and his first fight on the east coast.

A former New York Golden Gloves champion, Newman has shown impressive power in stopping seven of his first ten opponents since turning pro in 2014. The 26-year-old out of Brooklyn is coming in off of a victory over then once-beaten Leo Hall and a stoppage over Dustin Craig Echard last year. Newman has fought professionally since 2014 and won his first eight fights in his first two years as a pro.

Representing Toledo, Ohio, Parker has challenged top contenders Sullivan Barrera and Vyacheslav Shabransky sandwiched around a victory over Lionell Thompson in 2016. The 32-year-old has fought professionally since 2012 and won his first seven fights before stepping up in competition.

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