

RUBEN VILLA CONTINUES TO IMPRESS WITH UNANIMOUS DECISION VICTORY ON SHOBOX: THE NEW GENERATION FRIDAY ON SHOWTIME®

SHREVEPORT, La. – January 31, 2020 – After his fourth consecutive victory in a little more than 12 months on ShoBox: The New Generation, Ruben Villa is ready to graduate from the 19-year prospect series.

The undefeated featherweight Villa put on a boxing clinic in a dominating unanimous decision win over Alexei Collado. The judges scored the fight 99-91 and 98-92 twice in the main event Friday night from George's Pond at Hirsch Coliseum in Shreveport, La.

Photo By Emily Harney/Banner Promotions

The 22-year-old Salinas, Calif., native Villa (18-0, 5 KOs), who entered the ring paying tribute to the late Kobe Bryant by wearing his No. 8 Lakers jersey into the ring, called his performance "solid" against a "tough and aggressive fighter."

"He was challenging throughout the fight," said Villa. "I feel like I put on a good show. He was a big knockout puncher and he's no pushover. He brought out the best in me."

Villa, who was also the 2014 and 2016 National Golden Gloves Champion, is currently ranked No. 5 at 126 pounds by the WBO and No. 13 by the WBC. He said after the fight he's ready for the best his division has to offer.

The 31-year-old Cuban Collado (26-3, 23 KOs) who lives in Miami, lost for the first time in seven bouts. "It was a good

fight,” said Collado, who won the 2006 Junior World Title in the flyweight division. “We both brought everything. We put on a good show for the fans. He moves a lot and he’s a smart fighter. I feel like when I threw a lot I hit him but I wasn’t active enough.”

Villa said he stayed disciplined training during the holidays. “Now I’m going to take a few weeks off and then get right back in the gym,” he said.

In the co-featured bout, undefeated Ukrainian and 2012 Olympic Bronze medalist Taras Shelestyuk (18-0, 10 KOs) recorded a dominating unanimous decision victory against Argentina’s Luis Alberto Veron (18-2-2, 9 KOs). The judges scored the 10-round welterweight fight 97-93 and 98-92 twice.

Shelestyuk, who overcame a bad fifth-round cut on his forehead, had boxed just 10 rounds in the last three years.

Photo By Emily Harney_Banner Promotions

“It was a good fight,” Shelestyuk said. “I hit him with some good shots, and controlled the fight. I have been out since March, and I feel that I performed well. I am happy to be back on television.

“The cut didn’t bother me. This is professional boxing, and these things happen. I want to be back in May or June. If I come back in the next several months, I want to fight a big name – guys like Keith Thurman and Danny Garcia.”

In the telecast opener, late replacement Sulaiman Segawa (12-2-1, 3 KOs) looked impressive in his ShoBox debut seemingly out-boxing Zhora Hamazaryan (9-1-2, 6 KOs) and recording the better stat sheet, but the close lightweight fight was called a split-decision draw. One judge had Segawa winning 78-74, another 77-75 for Hamazaryan and the third judge called it even, 76-76.

ShoBox analyst Steve Farhood had the fight scored 77-75 Segawa, while Barry Tompkins and Raul Marquez both saw it 78-74 in favor of Segawa.

"I won the fight," said Segawa, who took the fight on just four days' notice. "I maintained him and his aggressiveness. I came up to his weight and dictated the action. I staggered him a couple of times and he was not touching me."

Segawa earned the better stats in nearly every category. Hamazaryan was more active (57.5 punches per round to Segawa's 53.6) but Segawa outlanded him 130-100 overall, 42-14 jabs and 88-86 power and was more accurate in all phases (30%-22% overall, 28%-8% jabs, 31.3%-31.1% power). Segawa even led 25-22 in body connects

Segawa, 28, moved to Silver Spring, Md., two years ago and is originally from Kampala, Uganda. He has won six times against previously undefeated opponents with his two losses also to undefeated fighters.

Hamazaryan, who was making his third ShoBox appearance, returned to the ring after 16 months as he returned to his native Armenia to get his physical education degree.

"It was a good fight," the 23-year-old Hamazaryan said. "I started slow because of the switch in opposition and felt rusty. I'm going to go right back to the gym and keep on learning. And I will be better."

It was the second consecutive split draw for Hamazaryan, who also recorded a split draw against Thomas Mattice in his last ShoBox appearance in September of 2018.

Friday's fights were promoted by Banner Promotions, Thompson Boxing and Bishop Promotions LLC. The full telecast will replay on Monday, February 3 at 10 p.m. ET/PT on SHOWTIME EXTREME and will be available on SHOWTIME ANYTIME® and SHOWTIME on DEMAND®.

Hall of Famer Barry Tompkins called the 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 Richard Gaughan producing and Rick Phillips directing.

#

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 81 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.

**RUBEN VILLA VS. ALEXEI
COLLADO OFFICIAL WEIGHTS,
QUOTES AND PHOTOS FOR SHOBX:**

THE NEW GENERATION TOMORROW LIVE ON SHOWTIME®

SHREVEPORT, LA. – January 30, 2020 – Undefeated featherweight prospect Ruben Villa and hard-hitting KO artist Alexei Collado (pictured above) both made weight a day before their ShoBox: The New Generation main event on Friday, January 31 live on SHOWTIME (10 p.m. ET/PT) from George's Pond at Hirsch Coliseum in Shreveport, La.

The former two-time Junior Olympic National Champion Villa (17-0, 5 KOs) of Salinas, Calif., will make his fourth ShoBox: The New Generation appearance in just over a year as he faces Cuba's Collado (25-2, 22 KOs) in a 10-round 126-pound bout. Undefeated Ukrainian and 2012 Olympic Bronze medalist Taras Shelestyuk (17-0, 10 KOs) meets Argentina's Luis Alberto Veron (18-1-2, 9 KOs) in a 10-round welterweight matchup in the co-featured bout. In the telecast opener, ShoBox veteran Zhora Hamazaryan (9-1-1, 6 KOs) from Armenia has moved over to the "A" side and will face new opponent Uganda's Sulaiman Segawa (12-2, 3 KOs) who replaces Jerry Perez, who fell out of the fight earlier in the week because of the flu. The lightweight bout is scheduled for eight rounds.

The event is promoted by Banner Promotions, Thompson Boxing and Bishop Promotions LLC. Tickets can be purchased at www.Bishoppromotions.com and prices are \$20-\$100.

Hall of Famer Barry Tompkins will call the 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 Richard Gaughan producing and Rick Phillips directing.

FINAL WEIGHTS, REFEREES AND JUDGES

Featherweight 10-Round Bout

Ruben Villa – 125 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

Alexei Collado – 125 lbs.

Referee: Mark Nelson (Minnesota); Judges: Keith Thibadeaux (Houma, La.), Pat Dayton (Monroe, La.), Micky Lofton (Monroe, La.)

Welterweight 10-Round Bout

Taras Shelestyuk – 146 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

Luis Alberto Veron – 146 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

Referee: Keith Hughes (Mississippi); Judges: Keith Thibadeaux (Houma, La.), Pat Dayton (Monroe, La.), Todd Singletary (Baton Rouge, La.)

Lightweight 8-Round Bout

Zhora Hamazaryan – 136 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.*

Sulaiman Segawa – 135 lbs.

*Initially missed weight, but was allowed to re-weigh and after one hour made weight.

Referee: Mark Nelson (Minnesota); Judges: Keith Thibadeaux (Houma, La.), Pat Dayton (Monroe, La.), Todd Singletary (Baton Rouge, La.)

FINAL QUOTES:

RUBEN VILLA:

“I said in the past it will be one year till I fight for a world title and I think that’s still true.

“I’m ready and can’t wait to display my talents. I’m on ShoBox again and a main event. I want to look good and get the win, so it’s No. 2 on my list to get the stoppage. Getting the win is most important.

“I know there are some boxing fans who appreciate what I do. As far as me being concerned about what others think of me, I don’t care. We work on footwork every day, religiously. Every day for 45 minutes. That’s our priority.

"I'm not running away from anyone in there. I'm progressing and still an exciting fighter.

"I know I look relaxed out here, but I'm locked in. Once I finish all of my interviews I'm back and locked in. The fun starts now because I get to eat."

ALEXEI COLLADO:

"The last time I fought on ShoBox I was undefeated and weight was an issue because I'm not a 135-pound fighter.

"I know how Villa fights: Box, box, box. I have to be smart and we have our game plan. No one has been able to figure him out yet, but we will see. He's in for a test, and I have the experience.

"The hunger is still there and I have to do this for my family. Because they have supported me and are behind me.

"I come from the Cuban school of boxing which is hit and don't get hit. I want the knockout. We're on T.V. so we need to be impressive."

TARAS SHELESTYUK:

"I fought on ShoBox in the past but I think I'm more experienced now and had never fought 10 rounds before that. I think I'm mentally stronger.

"I've lived in Los Angeles since 2013 when I turned pro. I know I've been inactive but it won't affect me. I'm 34-years-old and now I'm looking for the next big fight, the Keith Thurmans or the Kell Brooks. I want to be back in the mix at 147 pounds so it's of course important that I look good and I'm looking forward to showing that Friday night.

"I've had a long layoff, 22 months. But I've always been training. It's a variety of reasons I was out of the ring. Sometimes the opponent just falls out.

"I'm so excited to be back on ShoBox. Most of the great champions have fought on ShoBox. I have had a goal since a very young age to be the world champion. I feel my body has served me well over the years.

"Bobby Benton will be in my corner, as well as my brother Bogdan Shelestyuk."

LUIS ALBERTO VERON:

"I fought just 12 days ago in Argentina so I'm definitely ready for this battle.

"I know I have to correct some mistakes I've made in the ring recently, and we went right back to the gym and did that.

"In my mind I'm always thinking about winning and I'm always looking for the victory.

"This is my debut in the United States and I've fought 20 times in my native Argentina and one time in England. It's exciting being here, and I'm ready to put on a show. Don't miss it. It's going to be fun giving him his first defeat.

"I have more confidence now that I see him face-to-face and he's not even as big as I thought or as big as me.

"I know I have to make a statement on Friday night. This is a big step-up fight for me and so important for my career."

ZHORA HAMAZARYAN:

"I did recently receive my degree in physical education back in Armenia. Boxing is my life right now, but it's good to have something to fall back on.

"I have a new trainer now Edmund Tarverdyan and my training camp was the best one ever. He was the Armenian National coach and worked as the former trainer to Vic Darchinyan and Rhonda Rousey. It's been three months now and things are going great.

"I'm living full-time in Armenia but have applied for my Green Card. ShoBox fans know me from the (Thomas) Mattice fights. Not many agreed with the decision when I lost to him, but I'm just looking to move forward and just looking ahead.

"My opponent is a strong fighter and a southpaw. I've fought lots of them so I'll be ready.

"I'm so excited to be back on ShoBox. It's a dream come true. I've been watching fights on T.V. since I was a kid."

SULAIMAN SEGAWA:

"I just got called on Monday for this fight, but it's great and I'm ready.

"My style is unique and I have a ton of weapons. I've fought stronger competition than he has and I know this is a fight I can win.

"I haven't watched my opponent's past fights but my trainer and my team has. They say he reminds them of my last few opponents and comes forward.

"I've fought on short notice before so it's nothing new. I'm 100 percent ready, and not just physically, but mentally. And sometimes that's even more important.

"I moved from Uganda to Maryland two years ago and I've come to realize that boxing in the U.S. is war. You are under a lot of pressure to win here. They hit to kill. You have to be ready for everything."

#

For more information visit www.sho.com/sports follow on Twitter @ShowtimeBoxing, @SHOSports, #ShoBox, or become a fan on Facebook at 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 81 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.

Undefeated Lightweight Thomas Mattice looking for emphatic win over Zhora Hamazaryan Tonight on ShoBox: The New Generation

TEMECULA, Calif., (September 28, 2018) – Undefeated lightweight Thomas Mattice will be looking for a more emphatic win when he takes on Zhora Hamazaryan in the co-feature bout of a ShoBox: The New Generation card that will take place tonight at Pechanga Resort & Casino and live on SHOWTIME (10 PM ET/PT).

Mattice (13-0, 10 KOs) had to get off the deck to win a split decision on July 20th. Fans throughout the boxing world called for the rematch, and Mattice obliged as he has been working hard to better his effort on Friday night.

"Camp was great, we worked very hard and I am ready for Friday night," said Mattice.

Mattice doesn't think he needs to make adjustments, as he will fight and use his ability to get the nod on Friday. "I just have to go in there and do my job."

The 28 year-old from Cleveland doesn't think anything that happened in the first fight means anything heading into the rematch.

"Every fight is different. It doesn't matter if you are fighting the same opponent or not.

It was tight. Every round was tight in the first fight. It depends on how you look at it. I know 80 percent of the people watching think I lost. But there were rounds that I won. The only round he out-landed me was the second and seventh round.

"I didn't give my best effort in the first fight. That's why I decided to take the rematch. I didn't have to take it, but I did. I'm not paid to judge fights; I fight them."

He knows that Hamazaryan gave him a hard fight in the first encounter, but Mattice is confident that he will make it 2-for-2 against his Armenian opponent.

"He is a good fighter, but I am a great fighter. We have to get into the ring and fight. I prepared very hard for this opportunity. The first fight was exciting, and I expect nothing less than that, but once again, I will prevail."

DEVIN HANEY vs. JUAN CARLOS BURGOS FINAL WEIGHTS, QUOTES & PHOTOS FOR SHOBOX: THE NEW GENERATION TOMORROW LIVE ON SHOWTIME®

TEMECULA, Calif. (September 27, 2018) – Devin Haney and Juan Carlos Burgos made weight just a day before their ShoBox: The New Generation 10-round main event headlines a tripleheader live on SHOWTIME (10 p.m. ET/PT) from Pechanga Resort Casino in Temecula, Calif. The 19-year-old Haney (19-0, 13 KOs) returns for his second ShoBox challenge of 2018 against the veteran Burgos (33-2-2, 21 KOs).

The much-anticipated rematch between Thomas Mattice and Zhora Hamazaryan will go on as an eight-round super lightweight bout as Mattice failed to make the contracted 135-pound lightweight limit. Cleveland's Mattice, who battled the flu earlier in the week, said he was feeling 100 percent and ready to go on Thursday.

Two undefeated super middleweight prospects will meet in the opening bout as Cem Kilic (11-0, 7 KOs) of Los Angeles and DeAndre Ware (12-0-2, 8 KOs) Toledo, Ohio, both weighed in at the same 167-½ pounds.

Tickets for the event, which is promoted by Devin Haney Promotions and Ringside Tickets Inc., are priced at \$19 for General Admission, and \$29, \$59, \$79, \$99, and \$129 for Ringside and are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Pechanga Casino Box Office at 1-888-810-8871 or online at www.ticketmaster.com.

FINAL WEIGHTS, REFEREES AND JUDGES

Lightweights 10-Round Bout

Devin Haney – 134 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

Juan Carlos Burgos – 134 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Referee: Zachary Young; Judges: Sergio Caiz (West Covina, Calif.), Edward Hernandez, Sr. (Moreno Valley, Calif.), Alejandro Rochin (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Super Lightweights 8-Round Bout

Thomas Mattice – 138 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Zhora Hamaryan – 134 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Referee: Ray Corona; Judges: Sergio Caiz (West Covina, Calif.), Edward Hernandez, Sr. (Moreno Valley, Calif.), Alejandro Rochin (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Super Middleweight 8-Round Bout

Cem Kilic – 167 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

DeAndre Ware – 167 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Referee: Tony Krebs; Judges: Sergio Caiz (West Covina, Calif.), Edward Hernandez, Sr. (Moreno Valley, Calif.), Alejandro Rochin (Los Angeles, Calif.)

FINAL QUOTES:

DEVIN HANEY:

“I’m one of the best boxers in the game. I think most of my opponents know that when they get in the ring with me and that’s why they try to land their best shot as soon as the fight is on. They try, but they don’t touch me.

“When I fought Mason Menard, skeptics said I was over my head, that I didn’t stand a chance. And I got in the ring and I won. I outclassed him. Then, they started saying that Menard was not at his best, that he didn’t bring his ‘A’ game. I feel I don’t get the recognition I deserve. I work really hard. I love this sport and I give my all.

“I have been fighting at 132 since I was 16, now I’m at 135. It takes a lot of discipline. I have a great team that stands by me and helps me be the best version of myself.”

JUAN CARLOS BURGOS:

"This is my second fight at 135. I feel good. I feel that I have evolved as a boxer since my last fight. I feel strong. I think it has to do with experience, after some time you just learn your lesson and move forward.

"I am very skilled boxer and after the Mikey [Garcia] fight I learned a lot about myself mentally and physically. I want to get another title shot and. I feel this fight is the right opportunity for me, because with this fight I'm planning to show the world I'm still an elite boxer.

"I don't think Haney has fought a fighter with the experience I have. You can be talented but there are things you can't teach. You only learn them with time. No matter how talented you are."

THOMAS MATTICE:

"I'm recovering from the flu but now I'm 100 percent physically, and mentally I'm there too. I lost focus after the knockdown and never was able to get back on track.

"The cross country travel from New Jersey to California was tough, and we had some issues and I lost a few days because of things out of my control.

"It was tight. Every round was tight in the first fight. It depends on how you look at it. I know 80 percent of the people watching think I lost. But there were rounds that I won. The only round he out-landed me was the second and seventh round.

"I didn't give my best effort in the first fight. That's why I decided to take the rematch. I didn't have to take it, but I did. I'm not paid to judge fights; I fight them."

ZHORA HAMAZARYAN:

"I'm just going to pressure him and come forward. I can't leave it in the judges' hands. I know I have to be the aggressor, so it should only last three or four rounds.

"It was very unfair. I know I did everything in the books to look good, to have a clean fight, to win but the judges gave it to him. I was not happy.

"Once I get in the ring, I'll break him down and I'll make adjustments. He's not going to win without deserving it again. I'll make sure of that."

CEM KILIC:

"When I came to the United States I struggled to find the right trainer. The right adjustment from what I was used to do in Germany and what I wanted to do here. Trainers in Germany are different. I tried a few trainers here and there and then, I found Buddy McGirt. I liked him right away, he's old school and that's exactly what I wanted.

"I've had very good sparring partners, not only for this fight, but also throughout my career. I've sparred with Jermell Charlo, Miguel Cotto, Errol Spence Jr. You make one mistake and you pay for it, that's one of the things I've learned – especially Charlo. He capitalizes on your mistakes. I think Spence was more difficult than Charlo. He just brings it. He's so quick. He gave me a lot of confidence. He told me to keep it up because one day I'd be a world champion.

"Before I started boxing I admired Muhammad Ali. He loves Islam, the real Islam, the one is all about love. Then I started boxing and although dancing is not my style, Ali remained as my favorite fighter, my inspiration.

"I get in your face. I like to come forward. If I wanted to be a dancer, I'd be a dancer. I'm a boxer and you'll see me doing that tomorrow. I'll get in his face.

"Besides Charlo, I don't know anyone that would stand in front of me and apply pressure. All the other fighters I've been in the ring with have to do combinations and move around. They can't take it."

DeANDRE WARE:

"I'm confident in my skills. I've been in the gym doing the things that I need to do, strength and conditioning, sparring. My confidence comes from my hard work and dedication. I know what I put in and I know what I'm capable of. I listen to my trainer, I'm disciplined. I'm all business.

"I took this fight with little notice but trust me, I'm ready. I know I'm the B side and all. And I know what that means: I have to do more than just box. I have to win the public, the judges, the people watching at home. I'm basically in my opponent's hometown. I know what I'm in for. They are in for a surprise.

"I'm a firefighter. I work on Station 4 on Hill Avenue in Toledo. They support me 100 percent, they even built me a gym at the station so I can train there too. I was supposed to work tomorrow but someone is covering for me."

#

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 77 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.

Video: Mattice-Hamazaryan I: Recap

Zhora Hamazaryan: “I will beat-down Thomas Mattice in rematch”

PHILADELPHIA / ORANGE, Calif. (Sept. 27, 2018) –Lightweight Zhora Hamazaryan wants to show the world that he is indeed better than undefeated Thomas Mattice when they meet in the rematch of their controversial July 21st bout, this Friday night in the co-feature bout of a ShoBox: The New Generation card from Pechanga Resort Casino, and live on SHOWTIME® (10 PM ET/PT).

Hamazaryan (9-1, 6 KOs) was on the wrong end of what most people thought was a very controversial decision on that July night in Sloan, Iowa. The native of Armenia has been in Los Angeles, training very hard for the rematch.

“Everything is perfect. My camp has been great, and I am just ready for Friday night,” said Hamazaryan.

Hamazaryan has been able to block out the first fight, and he believes that what happened in the ring has no bearing on what will happen on Friday.

“It is a totally new fight for me. I am taking this more seriously because this is a rematch. I did not lose the last fight, so it doesn’t make any difference to me. It will not change my game plan.”

The 22 year-old Hamazaryan feels the experience he gained in the first fight will be beneficial to him for even a more dominant performance.

“I feel like I am a champion. I will do great again, and perform even better. I took this fight to prove that I am better than him. I showed that in the previous fight, and now nothing can stop me.”

The decision was chastised throughout the boxing world, and even called the one of the worst decisions seen in ShoBox expert analyst Steve Farhood’s 40-year boxing career. Hamazaryan will not let the judges decide his fate in the rematch.

“Everyone was disappointed by decision because they saw clearly that I won. It was disappointing for the fans, but It did not break me. This time it won’t be a decision. I am going to do what I am good at. I will win this anyway, whether it’s a decision or knockout. Either way it’s going to be a beat down. Hopefully this will be the right the decision. I just hope everything will be fair, and I am coming for a win.”

Hamazaryan is promoted by Banner Promotions and Thompson Boxing

For regular updates on our fighters, events, and promotions, please check Banner Promotions Facebook Page , and follow us on Instagram and Twitter @BannerBoxing

Thomas Mattice vs. Zhora Hamazaryan: Full Fight

WHAT: Fans can relive the controversial first fight between lightweight contenders Thomas Mattice and Zhora Hamazaryan, available now in its entirety on SHOWTIME Boxing YouTube channel ahead of the rematch September 28 in the second of back-to-back Fridays of ShoBox: The New Generation action.

In one of the most widely disputed fights of 2018, Mattice (13-0, 10 KOs) kept his undefeated record intact when he overcame a knockdown in the second round to escape with the eight-round split-decision victory over the previously undefeated Hamazaryan (9-1, 6 KOs). Two judges scored the fight 76-75 in favor of Mattice with the third judge scoring it 77-74 in favor of Hamazaryan.

Less than three months after judges in Iowa awarded Mattice what Hall of Fame analyst Steve Farhood called “the worst decision I’ve ever seen in the history of ShoBox”, Mattice and Hamazaryan will face off in the co-feature of the ShoBox telecast from Pechanga Resort Casino in Temecula, Calif.

Hamazaryan, who recently returned stateside after an extended stay to be with family and train in his native Armenia, is looking forward to his opportunity to exact revenge.

“I respect Thomas Mattice,” said Hamazaryan, who is currently training with John Pullman and Buddy McGirt. “He fought a good fight last time, but everyone knows I won the fight and he does too. I respect that I got a rematch and we can settle this once and for all.

“My game plan is to do the same thing I did last time, but just more pressure and aggression. Because of what happened last time, I can’t leave it up to judges. I must get the

knockout. If I don't, then the same thing will happen again and I will get robbed. I can't have that."

Mattice, who has watched the July fight multiple times, is hoping to prove that his decision win was no fluke.

"It was important to me to get this rematch so that I can display to the fans the kind of fighter I am and show that I deserved to win the first fight. I'm looking to continue my rise and show the world that I'm the real deal.

"We're just trying to work on the mistakes we made in the first fight. He may try to do things differently this time, but we'll adjust and be ready come fight night. It was a controversial decision but I have to remember that at the end of the day I'm a fighter and not a judge. I just have to go out there and fight my fight, and things will be taken care of."

The September 28 ShoBox is headlined by top undefeated lightweight prospect Devin Haney (19-0, 13 KOs) facing three-time world title challenger Juan Carlos Burgos (33-2-2, 21 KOs). The opener will see two undefeated middleweight prospects meet as Cem Kilic (11-0, 7 KOs) and Donnie Marshall (9-0, 6 KOs) face off in the ninth matchup of undefeated prospects of 2018 on ShoBox: The New Generation. The previous Friday, Jon Fernandez (16-0-0, 14 KOs), one of the top prospects in boxing and Sergio Martinez protégé, will face O'Shaquie Foster (13-2, 8 KOs) in the main event of a ShoBox telecast from Firelake Arena in Shawnee, Okla.

For more information visit www.sho.com/sportsfollow on Twitter @ShowtimeBoxing, @SHOSports, #ShoBox, or become a fan on Facebook at 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 77 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.

GH3 Promotions Fighters to stay busy in September in October

Nutley, NJ (September 4, 2018) – It will be a busy next six weeks for GH3 Promotions as it's stable of fighters will be active all over the country.

2018 National Golden Gloves champion Roney Hines (3-0, 3 KOs) will see action on Saturday night at The Showboat Hotel in Atlantic City as he takes on Kendrick Houston (1-3, 1 KO) in a four-round bout. With a win, Hines will return to action on September 22nd in North Carolina as well as on September 28th in Temecula, California.

On that same September 28th date, Undefeated lightweight Thomas Mattice (13-0, 10 KOs) will square off with Zhora Hamazaryan in a highly anticipated rematch that will be seen live on SHOWTIME as part of a ShoBox: The New Generation

tripleheader.

On September 29th in Charlotte, North Carolina, undefeated junior middleweight, Joey Alday, Jr. (8-0, 7 KOs) will be back in action in a six-round bout.

Kenneth Sims, Jr. (12-1-1, 4 KO's) will stay busy when he sees action on October 13th in a junior welterweight bout in Gary , Indiana

Lightweight Prospect Zhora Hamazaryan Visits Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Penn. / ORANGE, Calif. (August 1, 2018) – Earlier this week, lightweight Zhora Hamazaryan visited Philadelphia to meet with his co-promoter Banner Promotions and take in some of the sights of the historic city.

Hamazaryan who engaged in a controversial fight with Thomas Mattice on July 20th that was seen live on ShoBox: the New Generation on SHOWTIME, met with Banner Promotions President Artie Pelullo, where he dined at Ralph's Italian Restaurant, which is the oldest Italian Restaurant that is continuously owned by the same family. Hamazaryan met with several media members while at dinner.

Hamazaryan also visited the famed Rocky Statue, climbed the Art Museum steps and had a "Philly-Must", that being a cheesesteak from Tony Luke's.

Hamazaryan is promoted by Banner Promotions and Thompson Boxing.

For regular updates on our fighters, events, and promotions, please check Banner Promotions Facebook Page , and follow us on Instagram and Twitter @BannerBoxing

VIDEO: Zhora Hamazaryan Live interview