

TWO OF BOXING'S MOST DYNAMIC SUPERSTARS TO CO-HEADLINE MASSIVE PBC PAY-PER-VIEW EVENT ON PRIME VIDEO SATURDAY, JUNE 15 AS GERVONTA DAVIS & DAVID BENAVIDEZ ENTER THE RING IN SEPARATE BOUTS AT MGM GRAND GARDEN ARENA IN LAS VEGAS

\*\*Stacked Card Marks Historic 100<sup>th</sup> Championship Fight Night at MGM Grand's Legendary Venue in Sports Capital of the World\*\*

Five-Time World Champion Gervonta "Tank" Davis Defends WBA Lightweight World Championship Against Top Contender Frank "The Ghost" Martin &

Undefeated Two-Time World Champion David Benavídez Battles Former World Champion Oleksandr Gvozdyk for Interim WBC Light Heavyweight Title

Tickets Go On Sale Wednesday, May 8 at 10 a.m. PT

Pre-Sale Tickets Available TOMORROW, Tuesday, May 7 Beginning at 10 a.m. PT with Code: BOXING

> Click <u>HERE</u> for Press Conference Photos from Esther Lin/Premier Boxing Champions

Watch the Press Conference Replay <u>HERE</u> Via the Premier Boxing Champions YouTube Page LAS VEGAS – May 6, 2024 – Two of boxing's most exciting and popular superstars will share center stage as five-time world champion **Gervonta** "Tank" Davis and unbeaten two-time world champion David "El Monstruo" Benavídez compete in separate attractions Saturday, June 15 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena. The two fighters will headline a PBC Pay-Per-View event on Prime Video in what will be the historic 100<sup>th</sup> championship fight night at the popular sports and entertainment venue.

The undefeated three-division champion **Davis** will defend his WBA Lightweight World Championship against unbeaten top contender **Frank "The Ghost" Martin**, while **Benavídez** is set to make his 175-pound debut against former light heavyweight world champion **Oleksandr "The Nail" Gvozdyk** in a matchup for the Interim WBC Light Heavyweight Title. This one-of-akind event will give viewers the unique opportunity to see two bona fide fan-favorites on the same night in high-stakes championship clashes.

The MGM Grand Garden Arena hosted its premiere boxing event in January 1994 and, over its 30-year history, the venue has become synonymous with the sport's biggest fight nights. Fight fans have watched champions ranging from George Foreman and Julio Cesar Chavez to Roy Jones and Shane Mosley step in the ring and put on a championship display of skill. Epic battles including Mayweather vs. Pacquiao, De La Hoya vs. Mayweather, Holyfield vs. Tyson II, Pacquiao vs. Marquez IV, multiple Barrera vs. Morales title fights, and Mayweather vs. Canelo, among others led all boxers to want to fight at the legendary Grand Garden Arena. The June 15 event will mark a celebration of the venue's storied history as boxing's next chapter unfolds with these two high-stakes showdowns.

In addition to the PPV being available for purchase on Prime Video, regardless of Prime membership, fans will also be able to continue to access the telecast through traditional cable and satellite outlets as well as PPV.com.

Tickets for the live event go on sale Wednesday, May 8 beginning at 10 a.m. PT and will be available through <u>www.axs.com</u>.

## Pre-sale tickets will be available TOMORROW, Tuesday, May 7 from 10 a.m. PT to 10 p.m. PT through <u>www.axs.com</u> with the code: BOXING

The event is promoted by GTD Promotions, Sampson Boxing, TGB Promotions and Man Down Promotions.

"Saturday, June 15 will be a spectacular night of boxing with two true superstars of the sport combining forces to deliver can't-miss action," said Tom Brown, President of TGB Promotions. "Gervonta Davis has proven his star power again and again, and will return to defend his world title against another tough challenge in the undefeated Frank Martin. David Benavídez established himself as a pound-for-pound force last year, and will now seek out dominance in a new weight class against the powerful former champion Oleksandr Gvozdyk. Make sure you tune into this PBC Pay-Per-View event or come out to the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas."

"Oleksandr Gvozdyk is a very good fighter, but David Benavídez is forging a path to greatness," said Sampson Lewkowicz of Sampson Boxing. "I commend David for not wanting to wait for Canelo, and for making this bold move to a new division. One way or another, David will continue growing his legacy as a true champion."

"Saturday, June 15 is going to be like a movie. Frank Martin has put a tremendous amount of work in to get to this point and now it's time for him to reap the benefits," said pound-for-pound star Errol Spence Jr., Martin's promoter. "Gervonta Davis is a great champion, but on that night, he's going to be matched against a young, hungry and explosive talent ready to shine on the biggest stage. I expect all the fight fans to tap into what will be the biggest event of the year."

## \*\*GERVONTA DAVIS VS. FRANK MARTIN\*\*

Headlining the event will be the return of undefeated boxing superstar **Gervonta "Tank" Davis** as he puts his WBA Lightweight World Championship on the line in a 12-round clash against consensus top-five lightweight contender **Frank "The Ghost" Martin**, who will vie for a world title for the first time in his career.

Davis (29-0, 27 KOs) has held the lightweight title since 2019 and has also won world titles at 130 and 140 pounds during his spectacular career. The Baltimore-native put an emphatic end to a years-long rivalry with Ryan Garcia last year in a crossover fight that gripped the sports world, dropping him in round two before ending the action with a vicious body shot in round seven.

Prior to that fight, he set a new gate record for Capital One Arena in Washington, D.C. in January when he stopped the previously unbeaten super featherweight world champion Hector Luis Garcia in the ninth round. Before that triumph he added another highlight-reel KO to his resume, as he dispatched longtime rival Rolando Romero with a thudding left hand in February 2022, in another record-setting event at Brooklyn's Barclays Center. The 29-year-old also owns the distinction as the only fighter to stop former three-division champion Leo Santa Cruz and former world champion and current interim welterweight champion Mario Barrios. Davis burst onto the scene with an explosive knockout of Jose Pedraza in 2017 to capture his first world title and won the lightweight strap he currently holds with a 12<sup>th</sup>-round KO of former unified champion Yuriorkis Gamboa in 2019.

"I'm excited to be on a card with someone explosive like David Benavidez; this pay-per-view is definitely gonna be worth it," said Davis. "I'm happy to be back in the ring. That's where I'm comfortable at. I'm gonna go in there, be flawless, and do what I do best, which is give the fans the best boxing you'll see. Come June 15, Frank Martin is gonna see there's a different beast in front of him."

The 29-year-old Martin (18-0, 12 KOs) most recently showed that his power can last through a 12-round fight as he dropped the previously unbeaten Artem Harutyunyan in the final frame to clinch a unanimous decision victory last July. His previous outing saw him stamp his status as one of the elite 135-pounders in the sport as he dropped and dominated the then-unbeaten Michel Rivera on his way to a unanimous decision in December 2022.

Fighting under the Man Down Promotions banner ,led by top pound-for-pound fighter Errol Spence Jr., Martin's initial ascent at 135-pounds saw him begin by stopping then unbeaten Jerry Perez in April 2021 before dispatching of tough contenders Jackson Marinez, Romero Duno and Ryan Kielczweski. Originally from Indianapolis, Ind., Martin now trains in the Dallas-area under the guidance of highly renowned trainer Derrick James.

"I've been locked in for a while now and having a really good training camp," said Martin. "It'll be an exciting fight on June 15. I expect to get the best version of 'Tank', and he'll get the best version of me. We'll have a solid game plan to come out with the win on fight night."

## \*\*DAVID BENAVIDEZ VS. OLEKSANDR GVOZDYK\*\*

Co-headlining the event will be the all-action star and two-time world champion **David "El Monstruo" Benavídez** as he makes his 175-pound debut in a 12-round duel against the powerpunching former world champion **Oleksandr "The Nail" Gvozdyk** as they meet for the vacant Interim WBC Light Heavyweight Title.

The 27-year-old undefeated Benavídez (28-0, 24 KOs) makes his 2024 debut after a pair of impressive wins marked his standout 2023 campaign. He began the year by besting longtime rival Caleb Plant via unanimous decision in a slugfest from March and followed it up by stopping the previously unbeaten two-division champion Demetrius Andrade in six rounds in November. Benavídez became the youngest-ever 168-pound world champion at just 20-years-old when he defeated Ronald Gavril by split decision for the vacant WBC title in 2017. A Phoenix-native who now lives in Seattle and currently trains in Miami, Benavidez has stamped his place in the super middleweight division but will now look to carry his prodigious talents up to light heavyweight for this fight.

When he was 15 years old, Benavídez went from weighing 250 pounds to a boxing prodigy under the watchful eye of his father and trainer, Jose, Sr., and his brother and veteran contender Jose Jr., as he famously held his own in sparring against middleweight champions Gennady Golovkin and Peter Quillin as a teenager. Benavídez rode a string of six straight knockout victories heading into the bout against Plant, including KOs of former world champions Anthony Dirrell and David Lemieux.

"I'm very excited to be going to the light heavyweight division to compete against the best 175pound fighters," said Benavídez. "I've been eyeing that division for a long time, and now I feel like it's my time. I'm going to go unify the division. I've watched Gvozdyk for a long time - I know exactly how he fights. I actually sparred him when I was 20 years old and I know he's a really tough opponent, so I need to be 100%. This is a hard fight, but I'm going to make it look easy."

After earning a bronze medal representing his native Ukraine at the 2012 Olympics, Gvozdyk (20-1, 16 KOs) turned pro in 2014 and quickly set his sights on the top of the division. He dominated a slew of veteran contenders including Yunieski Gonzalez, Isaac Chilemba, Tommy Karpency and Nadjib Mohammedi on his way to becoming the WBC's top rated mandatory challenger at 175-pounds. He went on to become WBC champion with an 11<sup>th</sup>-round knockout of Adonis Stevenson and defended the title in 2019 by stopping Doudou Ngumbu in round five.

After losing the belt in a unification match against Artur Beterbiev, Gvozdyk returned in 2023 to score three straight victories. He bested Josue Obando in February before knocking out Ricards Bolotniks in May and Isaac Rodrigues in September. Now training and residing in California, Gvozdyk's amateur career saw him compete in over 250 bouts, including three Ukrainian National Championships that led to his Olympic success.

"I've never avoided any challenges, and this is no exception," said Gvozdyk. "Benavidez is a top caliber fighter and that's exactly what motivates me to train hard each and every day. If you want to be the best, you have to fight the best. I'm ready to become a champion once again."

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For more information visit Amazon.com/PBC, www.PremierBoxingChampions.com, follow #DavisMartin & #BenavidezGvozdyk, follow on Twitter @PremierBoxing and @TGBPromotions,

on Instagram @PremierBoxing and @TGBPromotionss or become a fan on Facebook at <a href="http://www.facebook.com/PremierBoxingChampions">http://www.facebook.com/PremierBoxingChampions</a>

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