



**Heavyweight World Champion Deontay Wilder Returns to Defend His Title  
Against Unbeaten Heavyweight Gerald Washington in Main Event of  
Premier Boxing Champions on FOX & FOX Deportes Saturday,  
February 25 From Legacy Arena in Birmingham, Alabama**

**Tickets On-Sale Tomorrow with  
“New Year’s Package” Available Through January 2!**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL** (February 9, 2017) - Undefeated heavyweight world champion **Deontay “The Bronze Bomber” Wilder** (37-0, 36 KOs) will defend his title in his home state for the fourth time, as he faces unbeaten contender **Gerald “El Gallo Negro” Washington** (18-0-1, 12 KOs) in the main event of **Premier Boxing Champions** on **FOX** and **FOX Deportes** Saturday, February 25, from Legacy Arena at the BJCC in Birmingham, Alabama.

Televised coverage begins at 8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT and will feature the only American heavyweight world champion headlining his third primetime show on network television, after Wilder most recently stopped Chris Arreola after eight-rounds of action on FOX in July. The champion suffered hand and bicep injuries during the fight, but returns on February 25 fully healthy.

“I’m excited about defending my world championship for a fifth time and in front of my great fans at Legacy Arena in Birmingham on February 25,” said Wilder. “It’s always fun to display my talents in front of the hometown fans. It’s an opportunity that I always look forward to and it brings out the best in me. I’m healthy and I’m ready to put on a fantastic show.”

“I’m very happy to get this opportunity to fight for my first world championship,” Washington said. “I know that I’ll be fighting Deontay Wilder in his backyard, but that adds more excitement to the fight for me. I’m looking forward to going to Birmingham and coming away with a victory just like I did in my last fight there.”

“The city of Birmingham is beyond excited to have Deontay return to defend his title,” said

Birmingham Mayor William Bell. "He has become a great ambassador for our community and we can't wait to see him compete once again."

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by DiBella Entertainment and Warriors Boxing in association with Bruno Event Team, start at \$25 (not including applicable fees) and are on sale Thursday, December 29. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster and by visiting [AlabamaTitleFight.com](http://AlabamaTitleFight.com). Fans can purchase the "New Year's Package" through Monday, January 2 and receive two Upper Level Tickets for \$35.

"In this case, losing an opponent has resulted in a much better matchup for fight fans," said Lou DiBella, President of DiBella Entertainment. "Gerald Washington, one of the highest rated American heavyweights, is a huge man and a physical specimen. A U.S. Navy veteran, Washington is a tremendous athlete who played football at USC and was on the practice squads of both the Seattle Seahawks and Buffalo Bills. He's made a successful transition to boxing, and has been working toward his shot at Deontay Wilder and a heavyweight championship. This is the challenge that Deontay wanted and those that come out to the Legacy Arena or tune into Premier Boxing Champions on FOX and FOX Deportes will be the beneficiaries."

"We are excited to work with DiBella Entertainment to bring the fourth heavyweight boxing championship to the state of Alabama," said Gene Hallman, president and CEO of Bruno Event Team, a leader in delivering event excellence. "Deontay Wilder always puts on a great show and we encourage Alabama boxing fans to show their support for the Bronze Bomber."

The heavyweight champion from Tuscaloosa is itching to get back in the ring after defending his title four times thus far with stoppages of Eric Molina, Johann Duhaupas, Artur Szpilka and most recently Arreola. Before turning pro in November 2008, Wilder won the bronze medal at heavyweight for the U.S. at the 2008 Olympic Games. He was the last American male boxer to medal in the Olympics until Shakur Stevenson and Nico Hernandez earned medals at the Rio 2016 games. The 31-year-old won the world title with a dominant decision over Bermane Stiverne in January 2015. This fight will mark the ninth time Wilder fights in his home state of Alabama as a pro.

Fighting out of Krakow, Poland, Wawrzyk has won six fights in a row, all inside the distance, since his lone defeat to Alexander Povetkin in 2013. The 29-year-old was unbeaten in his first 27 fights after turning pro in 2006. Wawrzyk owns victories over Frans Botha, Danny Williams, Denis Bakhtov and Devin Vargas. He has won both of his previous starts in the United States, including a knockout of Mike Sheppard in September 2015 on a Wilder undercard at Legacy Arena.

Washington, a 34-year-old U.S. Navy veteran who also played tight end and defensive end at the University of Southern California, scored a fourth round knockout over former title challenger Ray Austin in his last fight. It came on the undercard of the same show in Birmingham where

Wilder suffered a torn right biceps muscle and fractured his right hand against Chris Arreola on July 16, 2016.

Washington calls himself “El Gallo Negro” (The Black Rooster) to honor his African-American father and Mexican-American mother. He turned pro in July 2012, following a brief amateur career. He has risen steadily in the ranks after each fight and is now poised to take on the biggest challenge of his professional career. If he defeats Wilder, he will become the first Mexican-American heavyweight world champion.

For more information, visit [www.premierboxingchampions.com](http://www.premierboxingchampions.com), [www.alabamatitlefight.com](http://www.alabamatitlefight.com), [www.dbe1.com](http://www.dbe1.com), <http://www.tgbpromotions.com>/http://www.foxsports.com/presspass/homepage and foxdeportes.com. Follow on Twitter @PremierBoxing, @BronzeBomber, @FOXSports, @FOXDeportes, @LouDiBella and @Swanson\_Comm and become a fan on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/PremierBoxing](http://www.Facebook.com/PremierBoxing), [www.Facebook.com/DiBellaEntertainment](http://www.Facebook.com/DiBellaEntertainment), [www.Facebook.com/FoxSports](http://www.Facebook.com/FoxSports) and [www.Facebook.com/FoxDeportes](http://www.Facebook.com/FoxDeportes). Follow the conversation using #PBConFOX. PBC on FOX is sponsored by Corona, La Cerveza Mas Fina.

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**Rising Super Welterweight Contenders Meet as Hard-Hitting Tony Harrison  
Battles Undeclared Jarrett Hurd in World Title Eliminator**

**&**

**Top Heavyweight Dominic Breazeale Faces  
Undeclared Izuagbe Ugonoh in Heavyweight Action  
Live on Premier Boxing Champions on FOX & FOX Deportes at  
8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT**

**Saturday, February 25 From Legacy Arena in Birmingham, Alabama**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL** (February 9, 2017) - A pair of exciting matchups come to primetime network television on Saturday, February 25 as rising super welterweight contenders **Tony Harrison** (24-1, 20 KOs) and **Jarrett Hurd** (19-0, 13 KOs) meet in a 12-round world title eliminator and **Dominic "Trouble" Breazeale** (17-1, 15 KOs) takes on undefeated **Izuagbe Ugonoh** (17-0, 14 KOs) in a 10-round heavyweight showdown as part of an exciting night of **Premier Boxing Champions** on **FOX** and **FOX Deportes** action.

Televised coverage begins at 8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT live from Legacy Arena at the BJCC in Birmingham, Alabama and is headlined by undefeated heavyweight world champion **Deontay "The Bronze Bomber" Wilder** defending his title in his home state for the fourth time, as he faces once-beaten challenger **Andrzej Wawrzyk**.

"This is the guaranteed fight of the night on February 25," said Harrison. "This fight is do or die for me and I'm going to remind everyone how gifted I am. Fighting on a network like FOX and FOX Deportes is a blessing. I have deep roots in the south and I'm looking forward to fighting on a card with the big champ Deontay Wilder. Hurd is my toughest opponent to date and the winner of this will catapult themselves to the top of the division. You don't want to miss this fight."

"This is a big fight for me to get in the number one position for a world title," said Hurd. "This lines up a world title shot for me and I'm not going to take it for granted. The time has come for me to step up and overcome this obstacle. Tony is a tall guy who likes to move around and he

has some nice power. He's a good fighter and I'm expecting a tough fight. This is a great position to be in and I'm going to work hard to take advantage of it."

"I'm very excited to return to battle once again in Birmingham, Alabama and on FOX and FOX Deportes," said Breazeale. "It's a new year for me and I have great expectation for 2017. It all starts with a victory on February 25. I know my opponent is going to come prepared to protect his perfect record, but I'm going to be ready to do anything to get the victory."

"I'm really looking forward to my first fight in the United States," said Ugonoh. "I'm expecting a tough fight from Dominic Breazeale. He always comes to fight and I know I have to be ready for anything that he can bring to the ring. It's really an honor to fight on the same card as the heavyweight world champion, Deontay Wilder. It's exciting to be fighting on FOX and FOX Deportes in primetime on U.S. television and I'm going to make the most of it."

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by DiBella Entertainment and Warriors Boxing in association with Bruno Event Team and TGB Promotions, start at \$25 (not including applicable fees) and are on sale now. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster and by visiting [AlabamaTitleFight.com](http://AlabamaTitleFight.com).

"As a promoter and as a fan, I can't wait for the Harrison-Hurd title elimination fight," said Lou DiBella, President of DiBella Entertainment. "Tony Harrison and Jarrett Hurd are two of the hardest hitting, most exciting young contenders in the super welterweight division. Fans can expect fireworks when they clash in Birmingham. The heavyweight fight between Breazeale and undefeated Izuagbe Ugonoh is also a battle of punchers and is a significant matchup in an increasingly competitive heavyweight division. Premier Boxing Champions on FOX and FOX Deportes will have great supporting bouts for Deontay Wilder and the WBC heavyweight championship of the world."

"These two co-featured bouts perfectly compliment the heavyweight world title fight in the main event," said Tom Brown, President of TGB Promotions. "All four top contenders are in position for much bigger fights with a victory, making this a true must-see event."

The 26-year-old Harrison comes into this fight after scoring an explosive ninth-round stoppage of Sergey Rabchenko in July that put him in line for the world title currently held by Jermall Charlo. The winner of his last three fights, Harrison faces a tough challenge in the undefeated Hurd after he took down Cecil McCalla, Fernando Guerrero and Rabchenko in his last three contests. The Detroit-native was unbeaten in his first 21 pro fights and recorded 10-straight knockouts between 2013 and 2015.

Hurd fights out of Accokeek, Md., just south of Washington, D.C. and is perfect since entering the pro ranks in 2012. The 26-year-old defeated three straight unbeaten fighters including a sixth-round stoppage of Frank Galarza in 2015 and a 10<sup>th</sup> round TKO over Oscar Molina in the co-main event of the Keith Thurman vs. Shawn Porter card in June 2016. Most recently, Hurd

stopped former title challenger Jo Jo Dan in the sixth-round of their fight in November of last year and he will now look to solidify his spot at the top of the 154-pound rankings on February 25.

After representing the U.S. at the 2012 Olympics, Breazeale steadily improved and moved up the rankings before an unsuccessful challenge to Anthony Joshua for his heavyweight title in June. Prior to that, the Glendale, California-native picked up victories over veteran competition in Yasmany Consuegra, Fred Kassi and a stoppage of Amir Mansour on FOX in January of last year. Before switching to boxing, Breazeale was a quarterback at the University of Northern Colorado.

Born in Szczecin, Poland to Nigerian parents, Ugonoh is a former Polish kickboxing champion who took up boxing in 2010. Ugonoh is trained by Kevin Barry, the trainer for current heavyweight titleholder Joseph Parker, who Ugonoh trained and sparred with on his way to the world title. The 30-year-old will be making his U.S. debut after scoring knockout victories over Ricardo Ramirez and Gregory Tony in 2016 while fighting out of New Zealand.

For more information, visit [www.premierboxingchampions.com](http://www.premierboxingchampions.com), [www.alabamatitlefight.com](http://www.alabamatitlefight.com), [www.dbe1.com](http://www.dbe1.com), <http://www.tgbpromotions.com>, <http://www.foxsports.com/presspass/homepage> and [foxdeportes.com](http://foxdeportes.com). Follow on Twitter @PremierBoxing, @BronzeBomber, @FOXSports, @FOXDeportes, @LouDiBella and @Swanson\_Comm and become a fan on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/PremierBoxing](http://www.Facebook.com/PremierBoxing), [www.Facebook.com/DiBellaEntertainment](http://www.Facebook.com/DiBellaEntertainment), [www.Facebook.com/FoxSports](http://www.Facebook.com/FoxSports) and [www.Facebook.com/FoxDeportes](http://www.Facebook.com/FoxDeportes). Follow the conversation using #PBConFOX. PBC on FOX is sponsored by Corona, La Cerveza Mas Fina.

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## **DEONTAY WILDER**

### **QUICK FACTS**

- **Full Name** – Deontay Wilder
- **Nickname** – The Bronze Bomber
- **Height** – 6-7
- **Weight** – Heavyweight
- **Date of Birth** – October 22, 1985
- **Hometown** – Tuscaloosa, Alabama
- **Record** – 37-0 (36 KOs)

### **BACKGROUND**

- Picked up boxing at a late age so that he could support his daughter who was born with spina bifida
- Played basketball and football at a community college before picking up boxing

### **PRO CAREER**

- Turned pro in November 2008 with second round stoppage of Ethan Cox
- Has knocked out 97% of his opponents
- In 2012 he defeated previously unbeaten fighters Damon McCreary and Kelvin Price
- In 2013 defeated experienced contenders Audley Harrison and Siarhei Liakhovich
- 2014 saw him stop experienced heavyweights Malik Scott and Jason Gavern
- Won heavyweight world title with decision over Bermane Stiverne
- Defended his title for the first time with a stoppage of Eric Molina and followed it up with knockouts of John Duhaupaus and Artur Szpilka
- Most recently stopped former title challenger Chris Arreola in eight rounds in July

### **AMATEUR CAREER**

- 2008 Olympic Bronze medalist for the U.S. (he is the last U.S. male boxer to medal)
- 2007 National Golden Gloves heavyweight champion
- Represented U.S. at 2007 World Amateur Championships

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

- **Twitter** - @BronzeBomber
- **Instagram** – BronzeBomber
- **Facebook** – facebook.com/DeontayBronzeBomberWilder

## **GERALD WASHINGTON**

### **QUICK FACTS**

- **Full Name** – Gerald Washington
- **Nickname** – El Gallo Negro
- **Height** – 6-6
- **Weight** – Heavyweight
- **Date of Birth** – April 23, 1982
- **Hometown** – Vallejo, California
- **Record** – 18-0-1 (12 KOs)

### **BACKGROUND**

- Helicopter mechanic in the Navy from 2000-04
- Played tight end and defensive end for USC football team
- Made practice squads of Seattle Seahawks and Buffalo Bills

### **PRO CAREER**

- Turned pro in July 2012 with first round stoppage over Blue DeLong
- Stopped three of his first five fights in the first round
- Won his first eight-round bout over veteran Sherman Williams in June 2013
- Knocked out previously unbeaten Jerry Forrest in the second round in Aug. 2013
- In April 2014, defeated once-beaten Skipp Scott by second round knockout
- Defeated experienced fighters Travis Walker, Nagy Aguilera and Mike Sheppard in 2014
- In March 2015, defeated Jason Gavern by unanimous decision
- Defeated former title challengers Eddie Chambers & Ray Austin while fighting to a draw against Amir Mansour in his last three bouts

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

- **Twitter** - @GWGalloNegro
- **Instagram** – GWGalloNegro



## TONY HARRISON

### QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Tony Harrison
- **Height** – 6-1
- **Weight** – 154 (Super Welterweight)
- **Date of Birth** – September 6, 1990
- **Hometown** – Detroit, Michigan
- **Record** – 24-1 (20 KOs)

### BACKGROUND

- Mentored and trained by the late Emanuel Steward, who also managed him after Harrison fought one of his fighters from Kronk gym
- Son of welterweight Ali Salaam and grandson of heavyweight Henry Hank
- Father didn't want him to box but was encouraged by Tony's mother to bring him to the gym

### PRO CAREER

- Turned pro in 2011 with a second round TKO over Uwe Tritschler
- Delivered eight straight knockouts to start his career
- Currently on 10 fight knockout streak
- Defeated experience contenders Grady Brewer, Bronco McKart and Tyrone Brunson in 2014
- Started out 2015 with knockouts against Antwone Smith and Pablo Munguia before being defeated by Willie Nelson
- Bounced back to defeat Cecil McCalla and Fernando Guerrero and most recently knocked out Sergey Rabchenko in world title eliminator

### AMATEUR CAREER

- 75-12 record
- Michigan Golden Gloves champion
- National Golden Gloves semifinalist

### SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** - @IamBoxing
- **Instagram** – MadeInDetroit1990

## JARRETT HURD

### QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Jarrett Hurd
- **Nickname** - Swift
- **Height** – 6-1
- **Weight** – 154 (Super Welterweight)
- **Born** – August 31, 1990
- **Hometown** – Accokeek, Maryland
- **Record** – 19-0 (13 KOs)

### BACKGROUND

- Trained by Thomas Browner in the amateurs and Ernesto Rodriguez in the pros
- Briefly worked in the beginning of his pro career but fully dedicated to the sport after the passing of Browner

### PRO CAREER

- Turned pro in September 2012 with a first round stoppage of Mike Arnold
- Picked up seven victories in 2013 including a second round knockout of George Armenta
- Was victorious three times in 2014 capped off by a third round stoppage of Eric Mitchell
- In August 2015 he stopped previously unbeaten Jeff Lentz in the seventh round
- Defeated favored Frank Galarza by sixth-round stoppage in November 2015
- Stopped previously unbeaten Oscar Molina in June 2016 in a matchup on CBS
- Most recently scored a stoppage victory over Jo Jo Dan in November 2016

### AMATEUR CAREER

- Limited amateur career; competed in National Golden Gloves and faced local standouts D'Mitrius Ballard, Demond Nicholson and Jerry Odom

### SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** - @Swift\_JHurd