

VIKTOR POSTOL / FREDDIE ROACH TRAINING CAMP BLOG NO. 1 June 21, 2016

Do you feel like the underdog in this fight? What would a win do for your career?

VIKTOR POSTOL:

"I do not consider myself an underdog in this fight. Terence Crawford's fans might consider me as the underdog but that does not bother me. I'm 100% confident in myself and in my victory on July 23rd and the reasons are simple. I work harder in training camp than my opponents because I have to. Because I want to. I have the best trainer working with me and his name his Freddie Roach. He has been named Trainer of the Year a record seven times and he is in the Hall of Fame. Crawford has no one like that on his team. Since I have been training with Freddie I have knocked out two of the three opponents I have faced -- Lucas Matthysse and Selcuk Aydin. Both were No. 2 world-rated contenders and both times I was considered the underdog. I have passed every test that I have taken as a professional fighter and with the best teacher in boxing working with me I intend to pass this one on July 23rd with flying colors. This victory will prove to everyone that I am the best fighter at 140 pounds and the king of the division."

FREDDIE ROACH:

"I do not feel that Viktor is an underdog going into this fight. Why should I? In his two toughest tests -- Lucas Matthysse and Selcuk Aydin -- he didn't just knock them out, he took their will to fight away. He broke them down brick by brick. His experience against blue chip opposition has been great preparation for his fight with Terence Crawford. Don't get me wrong. I have a lot of respect for Crawford. He has a lot of talent. But I think

this is going to come down to resumes and I think Postol has fought tougher and better opponents than Crawford. Postol even spent an entire training camp with Manny Pacquiao in 2014 when Manny was preparing for Chris Algieri. Viktor more than held his own against Manny. Crawford is going to find out that defending a title against Hank Lundy and Dierry Jean is a lot different than fighting a fellow undefeated world champion like Viktor Postol. A win for Viktor will mean that the U.S. and the world has a new star in boxing. A star as bright as boxing has ever seen."

> The HBO Sports Special, *Terence Crawford: My Fight*, debuts Saturday, July 9 at 11:15 p.m. on HBO.

Promoted by Top Rank®, in association with Tecate and the motion picture "Hands of Stone," the Crawford vs. Postol WBO/WBC/The Ring junior welterweight world title unification fight takes place **Saturday**, **July 23** at the **MGM Grand Garden Arena** in Las Vegas and will be produced and distributed live by HBO Pay-Per-View® beginning at 9:00 p.m. ET / 6:00 p.m. PT. Remaining tickets are priced at \$304, \$204, \$104, and \$54, not including applicable service fees. To charge by phone with a major credit card, call **AXS at (888) 929-7849.** Tickets will also be available for purchase at <u>mgmgrand.com</u> or **AXS.com** (<u>http://bit.ly/24ORYhs</u>)

For fight updates go to <u>www.toprank.com</u>, or <u>www.hbo.com/boxing</u>, on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/trboxing</u>, <u>facebook.com/trboxeo</u> or <u>facebook.com/hboboxing</u>, and on Twitter at <u>twitter.com/trboxing</u>, <u>twitter.com/trboxeo</u>, or <u>twitter.com/hboboxing</u>. Use the Hashtag #CrawfordPostol to join the conversation on Twitter.

#

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Media):

TOP RANK

Lee Samuels: 702-378-1083 / Lee@toprank.com Gardy Lopez: 787-246-3668 / <u>GLopez@toprank.com</u> Ricardo Jimenez/Valdez & Ramirez: 909-615-3436 / <u>ricardoej@aol.com</u> Fred Sternburg: 303-548-0707 / <u>TooFred@aol.com</u> Ed Keenan: 609-399-1330 / <u>Keenan@emcevents.com</u>

HBO

Kevin Flaherty: 212-512-5052 / <u>kevin.flaherty@hbo.com</u> Patrick Byrne: 212-512-1361 / <u>patrick.byrne@hbo.com</u>

MGM RESORTS INTERNATIONAL

Scott Ghertner: 702-692-6750 / sghertner@mgmresorts.com