

WBC CRUISERWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPION MICHAL CIESLAK TRAINING CAMP QUOTES

"I'm a warrior who will never back down…This will be the best Michal Cieslak on December 5."

WBC Cruiserweight World Champion Michal Cieslak Battles Mexican Superstar & Unified WBA & WBO Cruiserweight World Champion David Benavidez Headlining PBC Pay-Per-View Event Available on DAZN Through Prime Video Saturday, December 5 from Desert Diamond Arena in Glendale, Arizona

POLAND – November 19, 2026 – Before he arrives stateside next week, WBC Cruiserweight World Champion **Michal Cieslak** discussed his much anticipated unification clash and promised "fireworks" against WBA and WBO Cruiserweight World Champion **David "El Monstro" Benavidez** ahead of their showdown taking place Saturday, December 5 headlining a PBC Pay-Per-View event available on DAZN through Prime Video from Desert Diamond Arena in Glendale, Arizona.

"I'm a warrior who will never back down," said Cieslak (28-2, 22 KOs). "You will see my resilience inside of the ropes. We're going to settle it all inside the ring. You're going to see an improved version of myself. This will be the best Michal Cieslak on December 5.

"This is gonna be two bulls colliding. We're going to give fans an exciting, back and forth fight. Neither of us are taking a step back inside of the ring. There are going to be a lot of fireworks."

Cieslak reached his world championship status in June 2025, stopping the former world champion Jean Pascal in four rounds to capture the belt. After a long career that saw him come up short in two previous attempts at the WBC cruiserweight crown, Cieslak described his emotions when he finally earned the belt as a factor motivating him ahead of December 5, and added that he believes his performance could have been even more dominant.

"I had a lot of emotions after that fight," said Cieslak. "I didn't think I could feel so many emotions at once like that. I was extremely happy to know that I was world champion. When you feel those kind of emotions one time, you really want to feel it again. This is something that's motivating me going into this fight.

"I could have beaten Pascal faster and done even better, but I was trying to keep myself calm inside the ring. The most important thing is that I left the ring with the title and put myself in this position to face Benavidez."

The Kozienice, Poland native has taken those emotions of becoming world champion and channeled them into his current training camp, which he believes has been the best of his career, and discussed the added “responsibility” he feels to defend his title.

“Heading into this fight I’m working even harder than ever before,” said Cieslak. “Which surprised me, because I’ve always been a work addict. I’ve been able to give even more during my training sessions. I’m very grateful to be in this position. It’s a dream come true and I’m thankful to everyone who helped me on this journey. I definitely feel more responsibility to defend my title and I’m working even harder than before to get that done.”

Buoyed by this title-winning momentum, Cieslak knows that he’ll have a huge challenge in front of him in one of the sport’s pound-for-pound greats in Benavidez. Motivated by adding history for himself and his country, Cieslak gave his assessment of Benavidez heading into December 5.

“David is an unconventional fighter,” said Cieslak. “He throws a lot of shots. He’s very busy. He throws up top and downstairs. He’s a great fighter and his activity makes him a great threat. My goal is to find the Kryptonite on December 5 to defeat this Superman.”

In addition to the challenges Benavidez presents in the ring, Cieslak will have to overcome the unified champion in his home territory. However, the WBC champion hasn’t made that the focus of his motivation.

“I want to put my name into the history books,” said Cieslak. “Winning in his backyard is a bonus, but it’s not my biggest motivation. The motivation is to win no matter where.”

Although the crowd will heavily in favor of their hometown hero, Cieslak knows that the dedicated Polish boxing fans will be there to support him as well, and credited the DNA of his home country for their passionate support that pushes him forward every time he steps into the ring.

“It’s in the Polish DNA to support their own,” said Cieslak. “We’ve never left anyone on the battlefield. It’s part of our personality to try to help each other and support each other. I’m going to do everything I can to make them proud.”

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ABOUT BENAVIDEZ VS. CIESLAK

Benavidez vs. Cieslak will see Undefeated Mexican superstar and unified WBA and WBO Cruiserweight World Champion David “El Monstro” Benavidez make his Arizona homecoming in a high-stakes unification clash against WBC Cruiserweight World Champion Michal Cieslak on Saturday, December 5 headlining a PBC Pay-Per-View event available on DAZN through Prime Video from Desert Diamond Arena in Glendale, Arizona.

The pay-per-view begins at 8 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT and features a co-main event that will see all-action undefeated star Vergil Ortiz Jr. step into the ring against former unified world champion Keith “One Time” Thurman in a 12-round middleweight affair.

The pay-per-view will also see a trio of rising stars enter the ring in separate bouts as unbeaten phenom Emiliano “El General” Vargas competes in a 10-round super lightweight fight against contender Omar Juarez, plus unbeaten Australian star Nikita Tszyu makes his U.S. debut in a 10-round super welterweight fight against Roberto Valenzuela Jr. and rising middleweight star Marco “El Tiburon” Romero returns to action in the eight-round opening bout dueling Cruse Stewart.

Preceding the pay-per-view, PBC Prelims will stream live on DAZN and Prime Video beginning at 6 p.m. ET/3 p.m. PT, topped by rising super middleweight contenders Elijah Garcia and Thomas O'Toole meeting in a 10-round battle. The streaming presentation begins with undefeated contender Luis "The Twist" Nunez facing top contender Toshiki Shimomachi in a 12-round IBF Featherweight Title Eliminator

Tickets for the live event are on sale now and available through **Ticketmaster.com.**

The event is promoted by Sampson Boxing and TGB Promotions. Ortiz vs. Thurman is co-promoted by Golden Boy Promotions. The Vargas vs. Juarez fight is co-promoted by Top Rank. The Tszyu vs. Valenzuela fight is co-promoted by No Limit Boxing and the Rose Brothers.

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