



WBC Heavyweight Champion Deontay Wilder Defends His Title Against Mandatory Challenger Dominic Breazeale on Saturday, May 18 Live on SHOWTIME® From Barclays Center in Brooklyn

Tickets on Sale Friday, March 22 at 10 a.m. ET!

BROOKLYN (March 19, 2019) - Undefeated WBC Heavyweight Champion **Deontay "The Bronze Bomber" Wilder** will put his title on the line for the ninth time when he steps into the ring against hard-hitting mandatory challenger **Dominic "Trouble" Breazeale** live on SHOWTIME and presented by Premier Boxing Champions on Saturday, May 18 from Barclays Center, the home of **BROOKLYN BOXING™**.

Wilder vs. Breazeale promises the type of explosive displays of power that fans have come to expect from the red-hot heavyweight division as the two knockout artists have combined for 57 knockouts in 62 professional bouts. Both men stand at 6-foot-7-inches tall, have engaged in numerous dramatic clashes and are fan-favorites at Barclays Center. Wilder will be fighting at the arena for the fourth time and Breazeale will be making his third appearance.

Tickets for this BombZquad event go on sale Friday, March 22 at 10 a.m. ET and can be purchased at ticketmaster.com, barclayscenter.com, or by calling 800-745-3000. Beginning Saturday, March 23 at 12 p.m. ET, tickets can be purchased at the American Express Box Office at Barclays Center. Group discounts are available by calling 844-BKLYN-GP.

Wilder (40-0-1, 39 KOs) is the most exciting heavyweight in the world with a power-punching style that has fans on the edge of their seats from start to finish, knowing the tide of a fight can change in the blink of an eye. He has only gone the distance twice in his career with 39 of his 41 matches ending inside of the distance. He battered Bermane Stiverne over 12 rounds to win a lopsided unanimous decision and claim the WBC title on Jan. 17, 2015. In the rematch two years later Wilder crushed Stiverne with a brutal first-round knockout that left the challenger crumpled on the bottom rope.

The 33-year-old Wilder is coming off a thrilling battle with British heavyweight contender Tyson Fury that resulted in a split draw on Dec. 1. Wilder scored knockdowns in the ninth and 12th rounds of the fight. The last knockdown appeared to finish off Fury, but he beat the referee's count and made it to the final bell.

Born in and still living in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Wilder picked up the nickname "The Bronze Bomber" in honor of Joe Louis, who was known as "The Brown Bomber" after he won the bronze medal as a member of the 2008 U.S. Olympic boxing team. Wilder got a late start as a boxer, taking up the sport at age 20 hoping to become a professional and earn enough money for the medical treatments of his daughter Naieya, who was born with spina bifida. He won the U.S. Olympic trials with just 21 amateur bouts under his belt.

"I'm very happy that I get a chance to get a mandatory out of the way, because I consider mandatories like flies buzzing around my head," said Wilder. "They bother me. I'm busy. I have things that I want to do. I want to get him out of the way. I'm about to smash this fly. This is a personal fight for me. As the universe works this is the perfect time. I haven't been this excited about destroying an opponent since Bernane Stiverne. I'm also excited to have the very first event for BombZquad Promotions at what I consider one of the best arenas in the country, Barclays Center in Brooklyn. It's go time baby. I can't wait."

Breazeale (20-1, 18 KOs) is nicknamed "Trouble" and that's exactly what he has been for his opponents. The 33-year-old has a durable chin and a slugger's mentality, throwing heavy-handed shots that have seen him score 18 knockout victories in his 21 professional fights.

Breazeale, who was born in Glendale, California and now lives in Eastvale, California, was an outstanding high school football player who played quarterback at Northern Colorado University before taking up boxing. The 6-foot-7 Breazeale was a member of the 2012 U.S. Olympic boxing team.

He put himself into position to challenge for the WBC world title by ripping off three straight knockout victories following the only loss in his career, a seventh-round TKO to Anthony Joshua in a heavyweight world title match in 2016. In December he scored a knockout victory in Brooklyn over Carlos Negrón for his second-straight win at Barclays Center.

"I'm excited for the event more so than just fighting Deontay Wilder," said Breazeale. "I want that WBC title. What I bring to the fight is excitement and consistent action. I'm going to bring the action all night. I'm not scared to stick my nose out there and look for the big shot. I know the big shot is coming as long as I set it up the right way."

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