

Fortune Bay to host Iron Range's first boxing championship

Duluth native to battle Missouri pro Aug. 31;

all ages invited to five-bout outdoor event

TOWER, MINN. – The Iron Range may be better known for sprawling hockey rumbles, but soon it will be rocked by professional boxing when Fortune Bay Resort Casino hosts the region's first boxing championship, Rumble on the Range, Aug. 31.

The five-bout event will be headlined by Zach “Jungle Boy” Walters (23-2-0, 18 KO), a 27-year-old Duluth native who will take on Shawn “The Hit” Hammack (16-6-0, 13 KO) of St. Charles, Mo. The two Midwestern men will duke it out in an eight-round fight for the GBU Light Heavyweight Americas Championship.

The World Boxing Council ranked Walters 12th among light heavyweights, an exceptional status. Walters practices at Horton's Gym in Duluth, where owner Chuck Horton serves as his trainer and manager. Under Horton's instruction, the 6'4" pro has long been gearing up for Rumble on the Range. Although Walters is favored to win, he doesn't take “The Hit” lightly.

“Hammack is on a three-fight win streak – two of them by knock out,” Walters said. “He has proven to be a tough customer and a loss is unacceptable for me at this level in my career. In this fight, I need to win impressively.”

Walters is urging fans near and far to book rooms at Fortune Bay. “The casino is located on Lake Vermilion and also features a really nice golf course,” he wrote on his MySpace page. “What a way to

spend your Labor Day weekend; watch some good boxing, relax, and play some golf.”

Fortune Bay is preparing for a large crowd. Typically, it doesn't permit people under 18 into the entertainment venue because of the casino, but the Rumble on the Range is an exception because it's being held in an outdoor arena. Hence, a number of families are reserving tables, taking advantage of an affordable professional sporting event. Fortune Bay has a number of special offers, including VIP ringside tables and outdoor steak dinners on the patio adjacent to the Tamarack Restaurant.

The fight will begin at 2 p.m. on Aug. 31, featuring four bouts before Walters and Hammack take center stage. General admission costs \$20, while ringside tickets are \$30.

Fortune Bay, a full service resort owned and operated by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, is located on Lake Vermilion near Tower, Minnesota. The resort includes a hotel, convention rooms, restaurants, casino, nationally award winning golf course, marina, campgrounds and Heritage Museum.

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