

# Lightweights highlight USF card

By Nancy Gay

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The success of Peter Howe's professional boxing show along the Embarcadero waterfront last May proved local fight fans will turn out for a good show, and tonight's six-bout "Curriculum Pugilatus" card at USF's Memorial Gym promises lots of action from the 10-round main event.

Rather than book some little-known plodding heavyweights, Howe, a longtime Bay Area promoter, signed a pair of intriguing lightweight (135-pound) fighters. ESPN boxing fans probably know all about Emanuel "Mr." Burton (24-18-4, 12 KOs), the scrappy brawler from Baton Rouge, La., who turned heads July 13 when he threw nearly 1,000 punches but lost a bloody 10-round unanimous decision to "Irish" Mickey Ward.

That bout, shown on ESPN, was one of the best this year, with the Punch-Stat numbers for both fighters exceeding 2,000.

"That's just my style," said Burton, 26, who will showcase his fists on tonight's card, televised as part of ESPN2's "Friday Night Fights" series. "I don't back down and I believe in giving people a good show out there."

## BOXING NOTEBOOK

Then there's Burton's opponent, Leo "The Lion" Dorin (18-0, eight KOs), a two-time Romanian Olympic silver medalist in 1992 and '96. At 31, Dorin's rise through the pro ranks is late in coming, but he's been consistent. His last fight was on July 21, a ninth-round TKO of Martin O'Malley.

In what Howe calls the semi-main event, San Leandro junior welterweight Jaocuin "Killer" Gallardo (11-0-1, four KOs) will face Sacramento's Roselio Casteneda (15-4, six KOs), whom Gallardo defeated by unanimous decision in 1999.

The card also features an interesting flyweight bout between 2000 U.S. Olympic team member Brian "The New Hawaiian Punch" Vilorio (1-0) and Mexico's Salvador Rosales (12-1, one KO).

The doors open at 5 p.m., with two amateur bouts featuring local fighters. For more information, call City Box Office at (415) 392-4400 or log onto [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com).

**MORE HOPKINS HISTORICALS:** Bernard "The Executioner" Hopkins never has been understated — who can forget his disgraceful display last July when he taunted Felix

Trinidad Jr. by throwing down a Puerto Rican flag? But the WBC and IBF middleweight champ, who is set to fight Trinidad tomorrow night for the undisputed middleweight crown, further alienated himself Wednesday when he used numerous war references in an embarrassing prefight rant.

"I'm not in a mourning stage," Hopkins bellowed at a press conference at New York's Madison Square Garden, site of the bout. "I understand what happened at the World Trade Center, but I have to block that out. I'm in a position to kill or be killed."

Hopkins, brash as ever, showed even less tact by wearing a black skullcap with "War" written in white letters.

**TROUBLE FOR TYSON?:** Mike Tyson and legal problems just seem to go hand-in-hand. Wednesday, Las Vegas police searched the former heavyweight champ's home, looking for evidence related to a recent sexual assault allegation in Nevada. No charges have been filed.

Tyson, 35, is training in Las Vegas for his Oct. 13 fight in Copenhagen against Danish boxer Brian Nielsen.

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