



## Full Conference Transcript Francisco Bojado & Jeff Lacy

### **Francisco and Jeff, how has training been going?**

**Bojado:** Training has been going really well. I am expecting a tough fight on Saturday against Rubio. I know he has been through a number of 10-round fights. He is tough. I know he has heart, guts and I wish him luck.

**Lacy:** I am also training up in Big Bear. I am very prepared for this 10-round fight. I know Glenn Thomas has been in with a lot of tough guys. I am ready for the fight.

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### **Francisco, how long do you think it will take for you to become the next Mexican champion?**

**Bojado:** I am still young. I am only 18 years old. I am going to concentrate on one fight at a time and give 100 percent. Hopefully, it will be in two years, but I am still young and have time.

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**Jeff, how are you training to prepare for your first 10-round fight?**

**Lacy:** We are just doing more rounds at altitude. We are training in Big Bear for 10 rounds. I am prepared to go the distance. It would not surprise me if the fight goes 10 rounds because this guy (Thomas) is a very tough competitor.

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**Francisco, do you think you are getting too much publicity so early in your career?**

**Bojado:** That is the opinion of other people. I only have nine fights, but I have been giving it my all to come out with a victory. I am not only representing Mexico, but the United States as well.

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**Jeff and Francisco, is there a timetable for each of you for when you will fight a top contender?**

**Lacy:** Right now, we are going one fight at a time. I am looking at a title shot by the end of this year. I am pretty sure I will be the first one of us to be looking at a top-10 guy.

**Bojado:** I am young. I am 18 years old. Right now, we are taking it step-by-step against tough opponents. Hopefully, it (taking on a top-10 contender) will be shortly after Jeff (Lacy).

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**Francisco, did you gain weight during your layoff? If so, has it affected your training?**

**Bojado:** It (gaining weight) has not affected anything. I was out maybe two or three months, but I had to. Last year, I was pretty busy. I was trying to do 10 or 12 fights, and did nine fights. I still gained a little weight, but I think it was all muscle. I still feel good, strong and still have my same speed. It was my vacation, and just like everybody else, I took advantage of it.

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**Jeff and Francisco, how busy are each of you going to be in 2002?**

**Lacy:** We have to rest in between 10-round fights. We will be fighting 10-round fights from here on out. We are going to leave that (how busy they will be in 2002) up to our matchmaker to see if he can get us the fights, as well as Main Events and Shelly Finkel.

**Bojado:** I agree with Jeff.

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**Francisco, what are you doing in the gym to prepare yourself defensively?**

**Bojado:** For this fight, I am training with Roger Bloodworth. The thing that helped me out the most, and reminded me of the Olympics, was training with a teammate. That was Jeff Lacy. We went back to basics.

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**What do you know about your opponent (Rubio)?**

**Bojado:** I do not know much about Rubio. I just know that he is a tough opponent. He has fought several contenders. I would not be surprised if my opponent goes the distance. He has a lot of experience, and has been in the boxing world for a long time. I trained hard for the fight. I came more prepared for this fight than my other fights.

**Jeff, you mentioned that you wanted to fight Antwun Echols and David Reid. What fighters are you looking at this year?**

**Lacy:** Everyone wants to see what I have. If those are the fights I have to take for everyone to understand that my power is not a joke, then that is what we have to do.

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**Francisco, do you see yourself staying at 140 pounds long enough to take a title in that weight class?**

**Bojado:** After my debut, I was expecting to stay at 130 (pounds). I did not know I was going to go to 140 pounds. It all depends on how I feel. I hope to stay at 140 and get a title shot at 140 or 135.

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**Jeff, can you assess the super middleweight division?**

**Lacy:** Joe Calzaghe is the No. 1 guy out there with the best boxing skills. Eric Lucas is a pretty decent boxer, but he is beatable. Byron Mitchell is a puncher, but does not have as many skills. I take nothing away from these champions because they are at the top and did what they had to do to get there. When it comes down to it, and when that time comes, you will be first to know.

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**How many 10-round fights would you like to have before you fight for a title?**

**Lacy:** It is not the fact of how many (10-round fights) I want. I want to be able to fight 10 rounds. I want to fight someone that will take me 10 rounds, so I will know in the back of my mind that I can do it without any problems. I am doing it in the gym, but it is different when you do it in front of a crowd.

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**Is your training regiment geared toward a certain style of boxing for this fight?**

**Lacy:** We are not geared toward a certain style for this fight. We are just working our rounds in the gym. To prepare for this fight, I did more rounds than I usually do because this is my first 10- round bout. We are doing more rounds at a high output.

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**Do you think training in Big Bear or other secluded places will help you down the road?**

Lacy: I think training in Big Bear will help me down the road. I get a killer instinct when I come off of the mountain, being secluded from everybody. I have trained at home before, and it is not the same feeling. When I come off that mountain, I know I am mentally ready.

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**Francisco, do you want to fight Julio Caesar Chavez?**

Bojado: I do not think there will be a fight with Chavez. With all do respect to Chavez, I think he should retire. He does not have any fights left.

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**Jeff, what did you learn from your fight against Adime Bawa on ShoBox (Oct. 13, 2001)?**

Lacy: I learned that when I want something bad, I could do it. This guy (Bawa) is taller than I am and has an 80-inch reach. I just had to take a couple rounds to figure him out. You saw what happened in the third round.

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**Jeff, do you enjoy training with Bojado?**

Lacy: I enjoy training with Bojado very much. We like being on the same fight cards.