

# WARRIOR'S CUP XIII

REPORT BY KEVIN GARVEY. PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAN ROD.

Warrior's Cup is called Warrior's Cup for a reason. Last Saturday night, 28 warriors entered the ring in a Muay Thai event that showed why Muay Thai is the king of all striking arts. The fights were all amazing, and the crowd was ecstatic as competitors blasted kicks, punches, knees and elbows at one another. Basically, the entire card was one long highlight reel. It was truly a night to remember.

The Warrior's Cup's was the first promotion to bring full rules, WBC sanctioned Muay Thai to the state of New Jersey. The Warrior's Cup's Chris Tran, along with Nick Lembo of the NJSACB, deserve much credit for their tireless

efforts in making full rules, professional Muay Thai a reality in the state. On this card, there was even a scheduled WBC Muay Thai title fight between Justin Greskiewicz and Gabriel Varga. However, the fight was cancelled the day before due to an injury sustained by Greskiewicz and is rescheduled for May, 2012. This left the night without a title fight...or so we thought. During the show, the WBC's Dr. John Baker, who was in attendance, received word from Thailand that the fight between James B-52 Smith and Ryan Murray would be sanctioned as a WBC International Muay Thai title fight. So we got our title fight anyway, not that we needed it, because all of the fights were worthy of titles.

James "B52" Smith on the right vs. Ryan Murray



In that championship bout, both fighters looked like reigning champions. In the first round Smith rocked Murray with punches and appeared to be on his way to a TKO victory, but Murray persevered and lasted the round. In Round 2, Murray came back and landed some big kicks of his own and both guys were giving as good as they got. By the end of the second round, the fight was very close and the crowd was roaring for more. But in between rounds, Dr. Sherry Wulkan had to stop the bout due to an arm injury suffered in the contest by James B-52 Smith. Ryan Murray was crowned as the champion, and a rematch could very well take place in the future. It was quite a fight, while it lasted. I definitely would like to see a rematch happen.

Even the ladies were throwing down something fierce at the Warrior's Cup. The roar of the crowd was tremendous as Tiger Schulmann's Jenna Serio and Girl Fight's Prairie Rugilo stood toe-to-toe and hit each other with everything they had. For me, the fight was impossible to call. The official ruling indicated just how close it was – it was ruled a split draw. This is another fight I would love to see re-matched.

In the co-main event, for the Warrior's Cup Super Welterweight amateur title, Omar Estevez put on a masterful performance in beating tough Chris Mauceri by unanimous decision.



Fighters were not the only stars of the evening. Dr. Sherry Wulkan, who was the ringside physician and chairs the Medical Committee of the Association of Boxing Commissions, was recognized by the Warrior's Cup for her contributions to combat sports. It

was a well-deserved honor and added to a long list of awards that Dr. Wulkan has received over the years. Her efforts have had an enormous impact on MMA and all of combat sports, and it is always an honor and a pleasure to work with her at the shows.

Nick Lembo, Legal Counsel of New Jersey Athletic Control Board (NJACB), too was honored by the promotion. Nick is one of the most important people in the history of MMA. Thanks to his efforts in regulating and sanctioning the sport, MMA is as popular as it is today. Without Nick Lembo, MMA could very well still be in the dark ages. We all owe Mr. Lembo a debt of gratitude for his efforts and achievements in the sports of MMA, boxing and

Muay Thai.

Even the NJ officials at the show were a veritable who's who of Muay Thai. Referees Coban "The Crusher" Lookchaomæsaitong and Vladimir Borodin, and judge Kænsak Sor Ploenjit, are all legends in the sport. It was truly a remarkable night, and an unforgettable one for me and for everyone in attendance. I'm already looking forward to the next Warrior's Cup show.



**Kænsak Sor Ploenjit left of match maker Chris Tran (center)  
next to Dr. Wulkan and Nick Lembo**

### **FULL RESULTS FOR WARRIORS CUP XIII ON DECEMBER 3, 2011:**

**WBC Super Cruiserweight (Men) International Championship:** Ryan Murray (Minnesota Mixed Martial Arts) *def.* James "B52" Smith (Black Thaiger) by **TKO** after Round 2 on Physician's Stoppage because of bicep injury.

**Professional Featherweight Men:** Ognjen Topic (North Jersey Muay Thai) *def.* Anthony Demaio (PCW Gym) by **TKO** at 1:17 of Round 2 on Physician's Stoppage because of facial lacerations.

**Warrior's Cup (Class A Amateur Men) Super Welterweight Championship:** Omar Estevez (Sitan New York) *def.* Chris Mauceri (Black and Blue MMA) by **Unanimous Decision:** 50-45, 50-45, 50-45.

**Class B Amateur Super Bantamweight Women:** Jenna Serio (TSMMA): 29-28 *No Decision* vs. Prairie Rugilo (Girlfight): 30-28 by **Split Draw** with Judge Kænsak voting 29-29.

**Class B Amateur Super Welterweight Men:** Scott Krampetz (Catone MMA) *def.* Roosevelt Velez (Sitan Philadelphia) by **Majority Decision:** 29-28, 30-28, 29-29.

**Class C Amateur Welterweight Men:** Spencer Gregoski (W9/SCA) *def.* Carlos Madriaga (Sitan New York) by **Majority Decision:** 30-28, 29-28, 29-29. Decision under review pending protest of foul call.

**Class C Amateur Middleweight Men:** Brandon Cuttino (TSMMA) *def.* Emilio Gonzalez (Warriors gym/OSMA) by **Unanimous Decision:** 30-25, 30-26, 29-28.

**Class C Amateur Super Welterweight Men:** Arad Namin (North Jersey Muay Thai) *def.* Sean Surdan (Sitan Philadelphia) by **Unanimous Decision:** 30-27, 30-27, 30-27.

**Class C Amateur Super Lightweight Men:** Jaffer Panazai (W-9/SCA) *def.* Junaid Hamid (Warriors Gym - OSMA) by **TKO** at 1:32 of Round 2 on Referee Coban's Stoppage.

**Class C Amateur Light Heavyweight Men:** Sean Woodham (AMA) *def.* Chris Roeck (Impact Muaythai - Kurt Pellegrino) by **Unanimous Decision:** 29-28, 29-28, 29-28.

**Class C Amateur Super Lightweight Women:** Lauras Hyacynthe (The Wat) *def.* Christina Peteraf (Cool Hearts) by **Unanimous Decision:** 30-27, 29-28, 30-27.

**Class C Amateur Lightweight Women:** Giovanna Scano (Modern Martial Arts) *def.* Lynette Pope(Warriors Gym-OSMA) by **Unanimous Decision:** 30-27, 30-27, 30-27.

**Class C Amateur Cruiserweight Men:** Jovan Davis (OSMA/Warriors Gym) *def.* Amr Ibrahim (AMA) by **Unanimous Decision:** 29-28, 29-28, 29-28.

**Class C Amateur Lightweight Men:** Luis Goritti (Impact Muaythai - Kurt Pellegrino) *def.* Steve Di Sebastian (Alex Wilkie) by **Split Decision:** 30-27, 28-29, 30-27.

For pics of the event, check out [Photos.DanRod.net](http://Photos.DanRod.net) and [Final Round Photography](#). 