

This Week in Muay Thai: Lumpini Title on the Line in Rematch

Written by Rian Scalia

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You asked for it, so you got it. Weekly Muay Thai coverage from Thailand will start here on LiverKick as we look to improve the site for 2013. Look for articles like this highlighting the week ahead and for results and recaps.

Thailand's Muay Thai scene is undoubtedly the best combat sports scene in the world in my eyes, with great fights between top fighters every week. The talent pool is so deep that it's as if there's a never-ending supply of good fighters coming through fighting around the country, particularly in Lumpini and Rajadamnern Stadiums. This week saw a few great and highly ranked fights like Penek Sitnumnoi vs. Pokaew Fonjaengchonburi be cancelled, but there's definitely still some good fights to go around.

January 8:

118lbs: Chokprecha Kor Sakooncher vs. Satarnfah Zakami (Eminentair) - Lumpini

This is for the Lumpini title at 118lbs, with Chokprecha and Satarnfah having fought each other twice this year. Chokprecha won their first encounter of the year back on February 14 and Satarnfah won the second one, on May 20. This should be another great fight. Their fight in May was awesome and even saw Satarnfah try to slightly mug Chokprecha after the bell.

131lbs: Kwankao Chor. Rajapatsadu-Esarn vs. Kangkenlek Ioderm (SPB Car Network) - Lumpini

Kwankao comes off a loss to Pornsaneh Sitmonchai in his last fight on November 3, where he

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was stopped in the third round. 2012 saw him move up in weight quite a bit, as the fight with Pornsaneh was at 128lbs while he fought at 125 and below for most of the year. In this fight he moves up again, to 131, but it's also against another fighter who usually fights lower in Kangkenlek. Kangkenlek comes off a stoppage via knees to the body of Ponsawan Lukprabaht in his last fight. This should be a pretty tough fight for Kwankao, as Kangkenlek is a strong clincher.

January 9:

Songkom Sakhomsin vs. Aikmongkol Gaiyanghadao - Rajadamnern

Songkom makes his return to Muay Thai after his second pro boxing bout on December 2 and he jumps right back in against stiff competition. Aikmongkol comes off a win over Saengmorakot Tor Manothammaraksa on December 18 after an exciting loss to Mondam Sor Weraphon back in November. This should be a pretty fun fight. Songkom has sharp hands and possesses knockout power but Aikmongkol is scrappy and versatile.

The rest of the post will be updated later today.

January 10:

Sakmongkon 96Penang vs. Kaimukdam Aikbangsai - Rajadamnern

Both guys had struggles in 2012. Sakmongkon was able to end 2012 on a winning note with a win over Pingern Por Chaiwat on December 12. Kaimukdam is the Rajadamnern champ at 122lbs and defeated the 118lbs champ of Rajadamnern, Manasak Pinsinchai, twice last year. I think Kaimukdam should win here and that he's faced and done better against better competition.

Sirimongkon PKMuayThai vs. Tapaotong Eminentair - Rajadamnern

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Sirimongkon is the Rajadamnern featherweight champ though he drew with Yusuke Shimizu in Japan in December. He's a slow starter while Tapaotong can get aggressive and start quickly. Sirimongkon also fights moving backwards a lot. It may be a game of cat and mouse with Tapaotong doing the chasing and if he were to win, he'd probably do it by forcing Sirimongkon into his type of fight.

January 11:

Yokvitaya Phetsimean vs. Newwangjan Pagonponsurin - Lumpini

Good fight here. Yokvitaya is no joke, and was just outgunned by Singthongnoi back in November but there's definitely no shame in that. Newwangjan had a pretty good 2012 but unfortunately for him he was put on a highlight reel by Superbank, courtesy of a running teep to the face. Yokvitaya is probably a bit bigger and I'd have him as a favorite here.

Seeoui Sor Sunantachai vs. Lookman Fonjaengchonburi - Chumpon Province

The always exciting Seeoui returns to action in what could be an action packed fight against Lookman, who also isn't one to shy away from throwing down. Lookman can take shots as well as dish them out. Seeoui is always involved in wars and Lookman probably won't back down from a fight so this could be a cracker. The two had quite a good fight on June 24, with Lookman winning.

Photo via muaythai2000.com