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WASHINGTON COMBAT PRESENTS “BATTLE OF THE LEGENDS”
SATURDAY, MAY 15 AT THE DC ARMORY

Come see mixed martial arts at its best live in the nation’s capital

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Calling all mixed martial arts fans! Don’t miss the first major MMA event in the District of Columbia. The [Washington Convention and Sports Authority](#) (WCSA) announced today that [Washington Combat](#) will hold “**Battle of the Legends**” at the DC Armory Saturday, May 15 at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale now.

The main event features MMA legends **Pedro Rizzo** and **Gary Goodridge**. “The Rock” Rizzo, a four-time Brazilian Muay Thai Champion, holds notable wins over Josh Barnett, Andrei Arlovski, Mark Coleman, Dan Severn and Ricco Rodriguez. Trained by Vale Tudo legend Marco Ruas, Rizzo’s MMA record is 32-9-0. Nicknamed “Big Daddy”, Goodridge is well-known for his showmanship and hard-hitting fighting style. Born in Ontario, Canada, Goodridge began his MMA journey defeating Paul Herrera in Ultimate Fighting Championship 8. Former PRIDE contender Goodridge had key victories over Don Frye, Dan Bobish, Valentijn Overeem, and a KO of Oleg Taktarov. Big Daddy’s record is 23-20-1.

“We are looking forward to hosting Battle of the Legends featuring some of the best fighters in the world,” said Erik A. Moses, managing director of the WCSA’s Sports, Entertainment and Special Events Division. “It’ll be showtime in the District, and for those who haven’t witnessed the sport, we encourage you to come out. Washington Combat has put together a great lineup.”

Scheduled for the co-main event are **Gustavo Machado** and **Jordan Smith**. Machado has competed against a number of top UFC fighters including Thales Leites, Brad Blackburn, Demian Maia, and Nate Quarry. Associated with the Gracie Barra Combat team, Machado’s career record is 18-7-1. Smith began his MMA career on June 15, 2007 where he knocked out Alex May in only 19 seconds. In 2008, Smith won his first pro Champion Belt by defeating veteran Rich Guerin. His career record is 11-0-0.

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Battle of the Legends at the DC Armory, Page 2

“We are excited to bring a high level of mixed martial arts to the nation’s capital,” said Washington Combat Founder Bob Hisaoka. “MMA is one of the fastest growing sports in the world, and our area has many loyal fans. We can’t wait for those fans to be able to see, up close and in person, some of the best fighters in mixed martial arts.”

The event will feature a number of special guests well-known in MMA circles including Renato “Babalu” Sobral and John Lewis with others to be announced. Renowned judo and jujitsu instructor Fernando Yamasaki will be the official Washington Combat Matchmaker. Scheduled to referee is Mario Yamasaki, known for his work in MMA and UFC.

Tickets for Battle of the Legends range from \$27.00 - \$266.00. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets and online at www.ticketmaster.com. *Please note: Fight card is subject to change.*

The DC Armory is easily accessible by the Metro on the Blue and Orange lines (Stadium-Armory station) and numerous bus lines. Secured parking is also available.

About the Washington Convention and Sports Authority

The Washington Convention and Sports Authority (WCSA) creates economic and community benefits for the District through the attraction and promotion of hospitality, athletic, entertainment and cultural events. The Authority owns and manages the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, an anchor of the District’s hospitality and tourism economy that generates over \$400 million annually in total economic impact for the city. The Authority also owns and manages the Stadium-Armory campus, which includes Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium, the DC Armory and the surrounding Festival Grounds, and serves as the owner and landlord for Nationals Park. For more information, please visit www.wcsa.com.

About Washington Combat

Washington Combat creates and implements high-level mixed martial arts (MMA) events in the Washington, DC region. Washington Combat works to inform the public on how highly regulated MMA is, and to support the rapid growth of the sport in the Nation’s Capital. For additional information, please visit www.washingtoncombat.com.

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