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Cung Le, Schwartz Invade San Jose's HP Pavilion

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World light heavyweight martial arts fighting champion, Cung Le (15-0 (10 KO's)), will make his long-awaited return to the squared circle during a San Shou kickboxing rules title bout with [Brian Ebersole](#) (33-11-1 (9 KO's)) at San Jose, California's HP Pavilion on Saturday, June 4th.

International Sport Karate Association (ISKA) world super middleweight kickboxing champion, Brian Schwartz (16-0 (10 KO's)), as well as contenders Josh "The Punk" Thomson (30-2) and Gary Owens (15-4 (6 KO's)) will also see action during the 10 bout "Strikeforce Fighting Championship" card promoted by Silicon Valley Sports and Entertainment (SVSE).

One of martial arts fighting's top pound for pound competitors, Le has evolved into the most dominant force in his genre of sport combat that permits the use of throwing techniques in addition to western boxing, knee strikes, and kicks above and below the waist.

Since he captained both the 1997 and 1999 United States national San Shou team during their efforts in Italy and Hong Kong, respectively, the chiseled 185-pound champion has been crowned the International Kickboxing Federation (IKF) World Light Heavyweight San Shou Champion and has emerged a four-time victor of K-1 "Superfights" staged in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Le's unique talents and accomplishments in battle have gained him widespread recognition from both the martial arts world and mainstream American media. To date, he has graced the covers of Black Belt and Inside Kung-Fu, the two most widely circulated martial arts publications in the world, and has been featured on a pair of martial arts documentaries aired by The Discovery Channel.

A native of Bradley, Illinois, Le's opponent, Ebersole, ventured to California's Bay Area two ago to obtain the guidance former Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) middleweight champion and mixed martial arts legend, Frank Shamrock. Since taking the 24-year-old rising star under his wing, Shamrock has been instrumental in elevating Ebersole's kicking and punching skills.

At 31 years of age, Schwartz is arguably the hottest star in professional kickboxing's full-contact segment that combines western boxing and kicks above the waist and allows the use of spinning backfists.

A student of Tae Kwon Do since the age of six, the 6 foot 3 inch, Californian realized his dream on November 19th of last year when he captured the ISKA world 172-pound limit, full-contact rules title by gaining a 12-round, unanimous judges' decision over Tom "The Bee" Bottone in San Jose's Civic Auditorium.

This time around, Schwartz will face [Peter Kaljevic](#) (91-28-3 (46 KO's)), a six-time professional kickboxing champion who hails from New York City, New York.

After making back-to-back, successful starts on UFC cards in Las Vegas, Nevada in September 2003 and January 2004, respectively, Thomson has become a familiar face to martial arts fight fans. The dangerous 26-year-old striker, who fights out of San Jose, will square off with Toshiyuki Nakagawa in a 155-pound limit Muay Thai rules contest.

Another local favorite, Owens is a former California State Golden Gloves boxing champion and a highly-touted contender in professional Muay Thai's 147-pound limit class. His fourth start as a professional will see him lock horns with 22-year-old prospect and Long Beach, California native, Morong May (7-3).

Tickets for Saturday, June 4th's "Strikeforce Fighting Championship" event are on sale at the HP Pavilion box office, at Ticketmaster ticket centers, and online at www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets can also be purchased by calling 408-998-TIXS, 415-421-TIXS, or 510-625-TIXS.

The HP Pavilion is the home of National Hockey League (NHL) team, the San Jose Sharks. Since its doors opened in 1993, the arena has played host to the concerts of hit recording artists as well as other major sporting events ranging from boxing to professional men's tennis and lacrosse.

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