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Games-Boxing (Malaysia)
SAPOK GUNNING FOR GOLD

By: Mohamad Nasir Yusoff

SHAH ALAM, Sept 18 (Bernama) -- Malaysia's Sapok Biki is gunning for the gold medal in the 48kg category final to be held on Sunday after winning his semifinal bout today.

"I will go for gold in the final...I want the best for the country," Sapok said after out-pointing his semifinal opponent Gary Jones of England.

The taller Sapok recorded a convincing 15-11 win over Jones in front of the some 1,000 spectators in the Malawati Stadium, here.

Sapok will meet Kenyan Moses Kinyua in the final. Kinyua defeated Roudik Kazanjian of Cyprus in the other semifinal bout today.

Asked to comment on his opponent Kinyua, who had recorded points of 40 and 33 in beating his opponents, Sapok said this was immaterial.

"We will look at who gains the most points in the final," said Sapok who was flanked by coach Adun Pasu Mokhtar, team mate Adnan Yusoh who was beaten in the 54kg category semifinal and team manager Abdullah Siok.

Malaysia have created history at the 16th Commonwealth Games where four of their boxers managed to qualify for the quartefinal round and two into the semifinals.

Prior to this no Malaysian boxers have ever moved past the preliminary round.

Come Sunday, another history could be created by Sapok. He will receive support from dad Biki Kinyau, 47 and mother Limah Jimba, 41, who had flown in from Sarawak.

"If Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad comes, he will fire my determination higher to win the gold," Sapok said.

-- BERNAMA
MNY ZUL