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Top-ranked lightweight contender Beneil Dariush will collide with former 155-pound champion Charles Oliveira as part of the upcoming UFC 288 pay-per-view (PPV) event, recently made official for Sat., May 6, 2024, though a city and venue have yet to be revealed.

Odds makers have Dariush as the early -140 (5/7) betting favorite over Oliveira, according to BetOnline.ag, while Do Bronx clocks in as the +120 (6/5) underdog. As with most opening lines, you can expect these numbers to fluctuate in both directions as we inch closer to fight night.

Related Dariush Not Waiting Around For Phantom Title Shot

Dariush, 33, improved to 22-4-1 by outlasting Mateusz Gamrot

at UFC 280, his eighth straight victory and a performance dominant enough to solidify his spot at No. 4 in the official lightweight rankings. Still

not good enough for Dustin Poirier, but that's an entirely different

story.

Oliveira, 33, fell to 33-9 (1 NC) after getting submitted by Islam Makhachev, also at 280, coughing up his lightweight strap in the process.

The Abu Dhabi defeat snapped an 11-fight win streak for Do Bronx, who may be able to build a case for a Makhachev rematch with a victory over Dariush.

UFC 288 is expected to be headlined by the bantamweight title fight between current 135-pound champion Aljamain Sterling and former division

titleholder Henry Cejudo. Elsewhere on the card, battle-tested straw weight sluggers Marina Rodriguez and Virna Jandiroba collide at 135 pounds.

Remember that MMAmania will deliver LIVE round-by-round, blow-by-blow coverage of the entire UFC 288 fight card right here, starting with the

early ESPN+ Prelims matches online, which are scheduled to begin

at 6 p.m. ET, then the remaining undercard on ESPN/ESPN+ at 8 p.m. ET, before the

PPV main card start time at 10 p.m. ET on ESPN+ PPV.

To check out the latest and greatest UFC 288: Sterling vs. Cejudo

news and notes be sure to hit up our comprehensive event archive right here.
