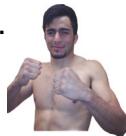


By JEREMIAH WILSON

• Leader & Times

At the age of 19, Jesus Escarsega could already be considered a veteran inside the cage. Saturday night the young Escarsega will taking part in his seventh amatuer fight.

Over the past four years, fighting has become a major part of Escarsega's life. With a 5-1 amatuer record in the octagon, Escarsega is looking to further his ambitions of one day becoming a fighter in the UFC.



"You can't explain it," Escarsega said. "I just love doing it. And win or lose I always come out with my hands raised."

Having the experience that he does at such a young age has given Escarsega a sense of confidence.

"I like to stand up and bang," Escarsega said. "I'll take the fight where ever it needs to be taken."

Escarsega trains with Rine's American Freestyle Karate in Liberal and seems to be in constant preparation for his next fight.

Escarsega ready to rumble

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Experience, preparation and confidence could spell bad news for Escarsega's opponent on Saturday night. "I don't really care who he is," Escarsega said. "I just know that I'm ready and he better be ready because I'm ready to go in there and do what I do. I'm going to go in there and fight my heart out."

Escarsega will be fighting Saturday at the Summer Heat Revolution Cage Warrior Challenge, which will take place at the Armory in Liberal.

The doors open at 4 p.m., and the fights begin with the junior division at 5:30 p.m. Adults will begin at 7:30 p.m. General admission tickets are \$20 in advance and are available at Rine's American Freestyle Karate located at 2281 N. Grant. Tickets at the door will be \$25. For more information, call 626-KICK.