THE YELLIN' REBEL

SPORT

## IN THE RING

by Michael Bunin

## Benn vs Barkley controversy

middleweight champion Nigel was already down. "Dark Destroyer" Benn from West bout now days.

as Benn caught Barkley with a Benn. hard overhand right that immediately staggered the two time diately, and again, before he could protested Barkley. world champion. After a lot of tell the referee to warn Benn, The shoving along with a small flurry "Dark Destroyer" was all over very simply said,"I'm not gonna of punches and then another hard him. This time the result was stand up here and argue with him. right Barkley went down. Now different. Barkley hit Benn with I've still got my belt." When asked tion. I was just trying to win." the controversy begins. No one a powerful uppercut that almost if he thought Barkley had been could tell if Barkley had slipped put Benn to the canvas. After an knocked down three times he reor had been knocked down. It incredible display of trading plied, "I was a little confused as erupted in a rematch only to be referee Carlos Padilla was a little was also hard to tell how referee punches Barkley again went to how many times he went down, broken up by trainers and man- confused as to how many times

Carlos Padilla ruled it. Benn then down. This knockdown was ruled but I really wasn't paying atten- agers.

World Boxing Organization proceeded to hit Barkley when he the third and final knockdown. The post fight press confer-

Barkley got up instantly. ence was as confusing as the fight. Ham, England successfully de- Padilla gave Barkley no recovery Barkley had a lot to say. "Carlos fended his belt against Iran time as Benn was back on Bar- Padilla came into the dressing "Blade" Barkley when he knocked kley immediately. Within 30 sec- room before the fight and told us Barkley down three times in the onds Barkley was back down on that if anyone hits after the bell, first round of the bout. Or did the canvas. This time it was or when a man is down they would he? Controversy seems to be sur- clearly a knockdown. After Bar- be punished by disqualification," rounding every championship kley was down on the mat Benn stated Barkley. "He never hurt took aim and hit him square on me, I hurt him more than he hurt The fight began explosively the chin, another illegal punch by me. I wasn't knocked down three times. He hit me when I was Barkley again got up imme- down,...I demand a rematch,"

When Nigel Benn spoke he



Yell Photo / Marc Baruch

Look-out! - Nigel Benn stares down Iran Barkley before knocking him out in the first round.

Comments from the two re- It seems apparent that he was hit

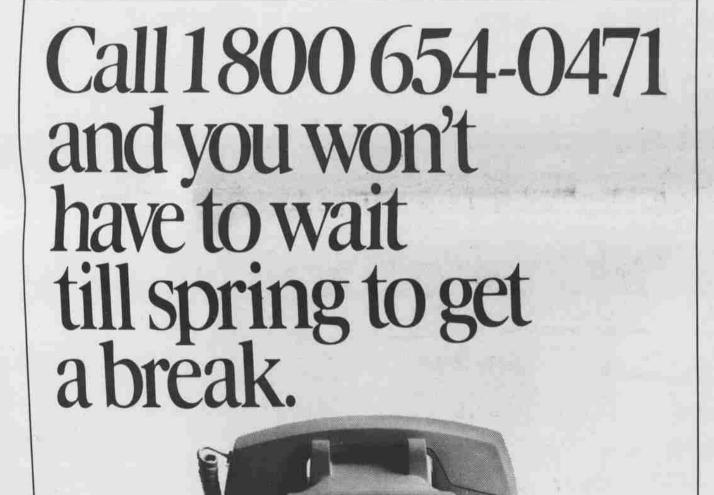
Will Barkley get a rematch?

sulted in anger. The anger nearly after he was knocked down. Even Barkley was knocked down. Before he ruled a third knock down he leaned over the ropes and asked a member of the commission about it. Along with Padilla, Benn was also confused as to how many knockdowns there had been. It seems Barkley should get a rematch. One thing is sure, just like Tyson vs. Douglas, and Chavez vs. Taylor, Benn vs. Barkley equals controversy.

## Curry won't be second to Nunn

On Aug. 17, at Bally's Hotel and Casino, Donald "Lone Star Cobra" Curry pushed his record to 33-3, (with 24 KO's) after he defeated Jose Duran Martinez. The fight was a must win for Curry since he had already signed to fight Michael Nunn for his International Boxing Federation middleweight belt on October 24, in Paris, France.

Curry didn't make this look like much of a tune-up fight for him when he knocked Martinez out in the third



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round

This was Curry's first fight as a middleweight. "I feel comfortable at this weight," Curry said. He also said, "Come October 24, I feel confident I will take Nunn's belt."

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