

Jimmy Paul - "Rockin' " Robin Blake Battle For IBF Lightweight Title June 30

Jimmy Paul of Detroit, perhaps the finest all-around fighter in his division today, and "Rockin'" Robin Blake of Fort Worth, Texas, who just may be the hardest hitter among 135-pounders, will battle for the International Boxing Federation lightweight championship in a 15-round bout Sunday, June 30, at the Tropicana Hotel and Country Club it was announced today by John Chiero, President of the Tropicana Hotel and Country Club.

The "Hot Summer Fights" card is the first to be held at the Tropicana in almost 10 years and marks the return of boxing to the world famous resort hotel and casino.

The card, which will be televised live nationally by CBS -- but which will be blacked out in Las Vegas -- begins at 12:30 p.m. in the 5,100-seat Tropicana Pavilion. Doors to the Tropicana Pavilion open at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets are priced at \$25 for general admission, \$50 for preferred and \$100 for ringside. All seats are reserved. Tickets are on sale now in the Tropicana's casino.

Also on the card, promoted by Top Rank, Inc., of New York in association with the Tropicana, will be 1984 Olympic heavyweight gold medalist Henry Tillman of Los Angeles.

The lightweight division is considered by many to be the most talented in the sport today, and in Paul and Blake the Tropicana brings together two of the very best 135 pounders.

This will be the first title defense for the 25-year-old Paul, who captured the IBF champion-

ship by taking a 15-round decision over previously undefeated Harry Arroyo on April 6 in Atlantic City.

Ironically, Paul got his title shot when Blake, Arroyo's originally scheduled opponent, had to withdraw because of a hand injury.

Paul, a member of the Kronk stable which also includes World Boxing Council super welterweight champion Thomas Hearns and WBC welterweight king Milton McCrory, enters with a record of 22-1 and 18 knockouts.

Prior to his convincing victory over Arroyo, Paul's biggest wins were over former North American Boxing Federation lightweight champion Jorge "Kid Dynamite" Morales by third-round knockout on Oct. 10, 1982 in Detroit; Andy Ganigan for the United States Boxing Association lightweight crown by sixth-round knockout on June 12, 1983, in Phoenix; and Alvin Hayes in a USBA lightweight title defense by another sixth-round knockout on June 15, 1984, in Las Vegas.

Paul, who was born in High Point, N.C., is a fine boxer/puncher with amazing hand and foot speed. His ability to put together punches and then avoid trouble is uncanny.

But in Blake, Paul faces a taller, most aggressive foe -- and a lefthanded opponent at that.

At 5-foot-11 inches, Black has a two-inch height advantage over Paul. Blake's also a southpaw, a puncher/boxer who never yields an inch and who's more than willing to take a blow in order to land one.

The 23-year-old Black has a record of 27-2 with 18 knockouts and also comes from a strong stable. His stablemates include a pair of world champions, too: World Boxing Association welterweight king Donald Curry and WBA junior welterweight champ Gene Hatcher.

Blake's coming off a win on Feb. 9 in Midland, Texas, over Adolfo Medel, giving the Texan five straight victories. This will be Blake's eighth appearance in Las Vegas, and while he hasn't fought here since 1983, he remains a favorite of local fight fans. Two of his wins here that year came over world ranked fighters: Tony "The Tiger" Baltazar by ninth-round knockout on July 24 and Melvin Paul by sixth-round knockout on Sept. 17.

Blake, who was born in Lubbock, Texas, had an amateur record of 250-10 before turning pro in 1981. He's now managed by Dave Gorman.

Paul had an amateur record of 78-14 before going pro in 1980. He's now managed by Emanuel Steward.

The remainder of the undercard, being assembled by Mel Greb of Las Vegas, will be announced later.

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Should the plan be accepted and peace talks be planned between Israel and a joint Palestinian-Jordanian team, Syria would make massive efforts, possibly including assassination, military pressure on Jordan and anti-Israel terrorist blows, Maj. Gen. Ehud Barak, chief of Israeli military intelligence told a briefing. Barak told news correspondents that the Syrians might target Hussein and PLO Yassir Arafat for death if such talks seemed to be definitely scheduled.

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Peres Presents Peace Plan, Crafted To Meet Variety Of Critics

JERUSALEM (WNS) — Premier Shimon Peres outlined in the Knesset a carefully drawn peace plan, proposing a multi-step procedure, and designed to make the Reagan Administration ease its pressure for Israel to look positively on Jordan King Hussein's approach, while warding off Knesset critics.

The plan called for direct talks between Israel and its neighbors, without preconditions but opposing any negotiations with the PLO. The first stage would be talks between the United States, Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Palestinian delegates who are not PLO members.

The second stage

would be negotiations between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian team to prepare a timetable for a broader peace conference with U.S. participation, convened within three months after the first talks.

Peres deplored Hussein's proposals for an international conference and PLO participation which Peres said was intended to "bend" Israel rather than make peace.

Despite a mixed Knesset reception, the Knesset voted overwhelmingly to support the Peres plan. The coalition government held together to vote down a series of non-confidence motions.