

Chanukah Rituals And Customs

(Continued from page 23)

protection of women, after which they returned home and ate cheese dishes and engaged in song and dance. The women of Hebron also set aside the seventh day of Chanukah to celebrate and eat dairy delicacies.

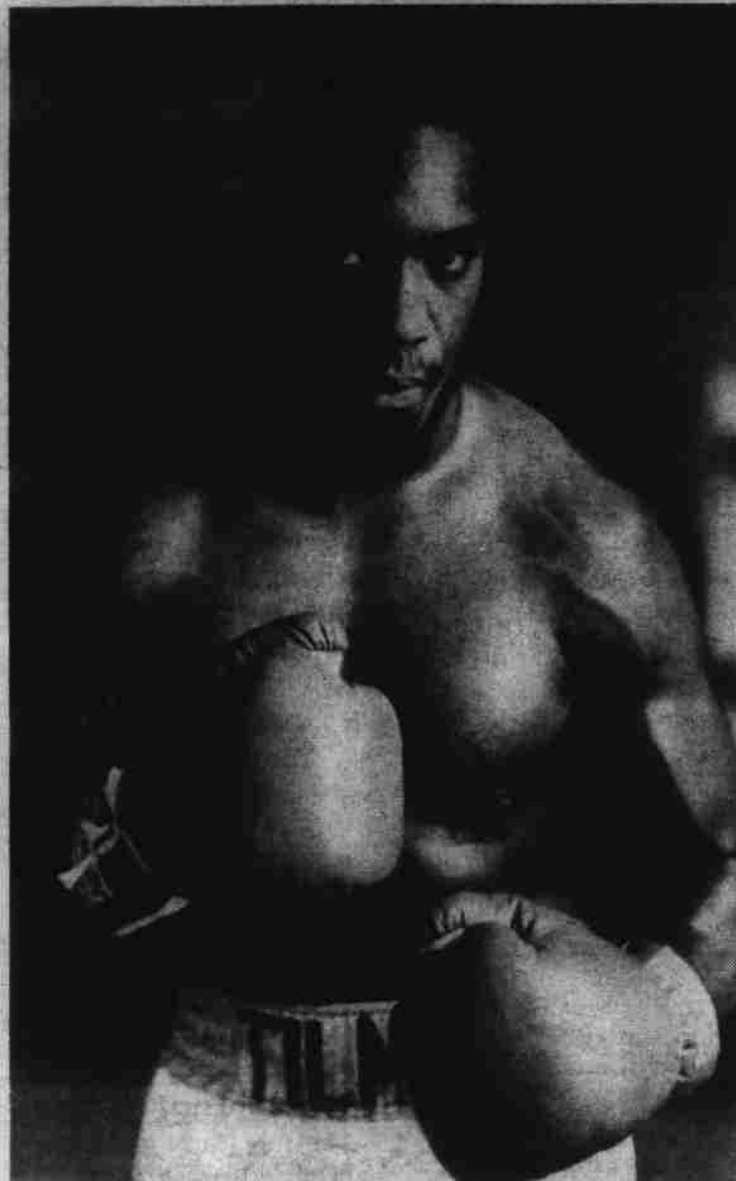
Chanukah Games

Like Chanukah foods, Chanukah games are also deeply symbolic. Although Jewish tradition generally frowns on gambling and games of chance, on Chanukah such games are permitted. The most popular is the spinning top or dreidl game, where even children may be found betting on the turn of the dreidl using nuts or Chanukah gelt as their stakes. Although the game originates from early medieval Europe it is popular with Sephardim as well as Ashkenazim.

The top's Yiddish name, dreidl, comes from the German 'dreihn' or to turn over. The game symbolically recalls the turn of events when Judah Maccabee and his small rag tag army defeated the mighty Greek empire. On the dreidl are carved the Hebrew letters which form an acrostic for the phrase "a great miracle happened there," oh in Israel, "here." These letters simultaneously indicate the players next move in the game. So inherent a part of Chanukah was this festival game that concentration camp inmates carved dreidls from their wooden shoes.

Like much else in today's world, dreidls are now made from plastic, there are menorahs which use electric light and supermarkets which stock ready to use frozen latkes. But the spirit remains and the Maccabean story of Jewish revival and victory of the few over the many is as timely today as ever before.

Tillman In Main On "Fan Appreciation Night" Card Friday, December 26



Henry Tillman

Olympic gold medalist Henry Tillman of Los Angeles, who has been assured a title shot against World Boxing Association cruiserweight champion Evander Holyfield if he wins, meets Stanley Ross of Philadelphia in the 10-round main event on "Fan Appreciation Night" Friday, December 26, at the Sahara Hotel and Casino.

This is the biggest fight of his career for Tillman, ranked No. 6 by the World Boxing Council, International Boxing Federation and WBA. If he beats Ross he's scheduled to face Holyfield on February 14 in Reno.

Accompanying the Tillman-Ross main on the monthly ESPN card will be five other bouts, including two eight-rounders featuring five young prospects: Joe Belinc against Bobby Garcia in a junior welterweight fight and Las Vegas Jeff Franklin against Mark Perea in a junior light-weight clash.

Three other Las Vegas also will be on the

card promoted by Bob Arum's Top Rank, Inc., in association with the Sahara junior welterweight Tony Davi and, in separate bouts, lightweights Tim Mosley and Michael Scott.

The card starts at 6 p.m. in the Sahara Space Center. Doors open at 5.

Tickets for the "Fan Appreciation Night" card remain priced at \$10 for general admission and \$15 for reserved ringside. Tickets are on sale 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the Sahara casino cage.

A special Holiday Drawing will be held during the card with the winner receiving two tickets to the Marvelous Marvin Hagler-Sugar Ray Leonard middleweight world championship fight to be held in Las Vegas in April. The next four runners-up each will receive two tickets to the closed-circuit telecast of the Hagler-Leonard middleweight title bout.

The 26-year-old Tillman has a record of 13-1 with nine knockouts and is coming off three wins in Las Vegas. On October 17 he beat Tyrone Booze, on September 24, he stopped Oscar Holman in the sixth round and on August 19 he halted Cedric Parsons in the first. These follow his lone loss, a close 12-round decision to Bert Cooper for the North American Boxing Federation cruiserweight championship in a nationally televised bout from Atlantic City on June 15. Tillman, who won the gold medal in the heavyweight division at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, won the NABF cruiserweight crown by stopping Bash Ali in the first round on April 22 in Las Vegas.

While Ross' record of 10-10-1 with five knockouts isn't as gaudy, his credentials are impressive. He won the United States Boxing Association cruiserweight championship on December 7, 1985, in Washington, D.C. by taking a 12-round decision over world-ranked Boone Pultz. This will be Ross' first fight west of New Jersey.

In preliminary bouts Belinc, from Marysville, Wash., and with a record of 14-1 and seven knockouts, meets Bobby Garcia, from Bell Garden, Calif., while Franklin, with a record of 13-2-1 and six knockouts, faces Perea, 21, from Albuquerque, N.M., and with a record of 12-1-1 and four knockouts. Franklin, 24, stopped his past two foes.

Davi, with a record of 3-0-1, meets Ernie Nava of Glendale, Calif., in a six-round bout. Mosley, with a record of 2-0 and two knockouts, and Scott, with a record of 1-1, are in four-round fights against opponents to be selected later by matchmaker Mel Greb.

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (JTA) — A newly begun historical research project of the Hartford Jewish community will combine the efforts of the University of Hartford's Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies with the resources of the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford.

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