



sports round-up

IT LOOKS LIKE "Old Bones" has just about reached the end of the pugilistic trail. When your old sparmates start beating you up, Joe, it must be time to hang up the gloves.

When former lightweight champion Joe Brown lost a one-sided 10-round decision to Manuel Gonzalez in Odessa, Texas, the other night, it received only passing mention in the local dailies. But there was a good story in that fight. You might call it a pathetic story.

Overlooked by the local scribes was the fact that Gonzales was a lowly sparmate for "Old Bones" when the once-great 135-lb. king was preparing for his 12th title defense against Carlos Ortiz here early in 1962.

AS WE RECALL, Joe had no trouble handling Manuel in their daily workouts at the Thunderbird Hotel. But the kid was a willing worker and had a good record in Texas welterweight ranks. So when "Old Bones" came up with an infected throat practically on the eve of the originally scheduled Ortiz date, Teddy Brenner and Harry Markson of Madison Square Garden hastily decided to use him as a substitute for the nationally-televised spot against Louis Molina of San Jose, Calif.

Molina, winging them in from all points of the compass, almost slaughtered Gonzales. Manuel was slashed at the corner of the right eye in the first round, a wound that bled throughout the fight, and cut above the right eye in the seventh, and bled from the nose from the eighth round on.

Judges John Romero and Dave Zenoff couldn't see Gonzalez winning a single round of the ten. Romero scored it 50-42; Zenoff, 50-44, both for Molina, of course. Referee Jimmy Olivas was more charitable to Manuel, calling it 48-43.

AND THIS WAS the same guy who out-classed Joe Brown the other night in what well may have been the swan song for 37-year-old "Old Bones", a man who racked up a record 11 successful defenses of the lightweight crown during his six-year reign as champion!

A WEST LAS VEGAS entry in the Las Vegas Recreation Dept.'s Adult Baseball League is now being organized by Arthur DeVore and Joe Knight. The team will be known as the "Las Vegas Merchants."

Cost of outfitting a 15-man squad totals \$1,013.20 at approximately \$68 per man. Requirements include 15 complete sets of uniforms, caps, belts, stockings and undershirts; six dozen practice

balls, six dozen game balls, 36 bats, and one each of catcher's mask, chest protector, shin guards and mitts, and first baseman's mitt. Other gloves are furnished by players.

As this is written, seven civic-minded firms and organizations have pledged financial support to this project. They are Citizens State Bank, Westside Federal Credit Union, El Rio Club, El Morocco Club

Little Casino, Ruben's Supper Club and Briar Root Acres.

ADDITIONAL

"CRITICS of the 'Freedom Now' movement should direct their fire at those who persist in denying our minority citizens their legal rights, not at the minority citizen who is demanding what is lawfully his."

This observation on the civil rights fight was made by Alan Cranston, candidate for the Democratic nomination as U. S. Senator from California, at the recent Freedom Fund Banquet of the Oakland NAACP.

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From all accounts, Gonzalez, who couldn't lay a glove on Brown two years ago when Joe was really trying, was the complete master the other night. According to the United Press International report, Manuel "kept Brown off balance with his left jab" and Joe was "stung hard in the fourth, fifth and ninth rounds." Joe caught Manuel with a good left-right combination in the eighth, 'twas said, "but it was a drop in the bucket compared to Gonzalez's brilliant boxing exhibition."

Well, that's the way it goes. "The old guard passeth" and all that sort of thing. But we hate to see "Old Bones" go down the same old road so many once-great boxers have travelled in the past. It just doesn't seem right.

IN BROWN'S CASE, we can't understand the necessity for going this route. Just before the Ortiz fight, which clearly showed that Brown had gone "over the hill" since his previous start, his manager, Lou Viscusi, told us Joe was "well fixed" and had nothing to worry about financially. And we recall Joe, himself, telling us that his purse from the Ortiz bout would enable him to complete a business deal that would "set me up for life."

Maybe Joe needed the comparatively few bucks he picked up for fighting Gonzalez. But he can't keep cashing in on his name forever. The purses will get smaller and smaller as he drops down the ladder. We hope "Old Bones" can call it quits now--before he gets hurt, before he further tarnishes a great record.

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ALL THAT WATER they're going to release down the Colorado from Glen Canyon Dam can't get to Lake Mead too soon to suit local fishermen--not to mention resort operators on the big backwater from Boulder Dam.

Things have reached a point where the harassed resort operators have had to move their docks out where bass fishermen used to anchor for a crack at the finny folk. But as a most informative article in the Review-Journal recently pointed out, there is still an awfully lot of lake left except up at Pierce Ferry. The article goes on to say:

"These days Lake Mead just about peters out in the Grand Wash area. The word is out that a man can't even feel around for a fish in God's Pocket anymore. But there is plenty of water at TEMPLE BAR. There are also plenty of bass, crappie and catfish.

"At this writing Temple Bar crappie

fishermen are finding sport almost everywhere, especially around Hualpai Bay and Sandy Point. Bass fishermen are making their score in Virgin Canyon, Hualpai, Driftwood and Iceberg Canyon.

"OVERTON: Just about anywhere in the Overton Arm could prove good at this season. Bass spawn earlier there than in the lower end of Lake Mead. Give it a try across from the dock. And if you can find any brush still underwater toss out a Johnson Silver Minnow with a pork rind. Fishing should be decidedly good around the outlets of Virgin and Muddy Rivers.

"HEMENWAY HARBOR: Bass are beginning to move here, some still deep, others high and fanning, especially early and late in the day. Try the Paint Pots for spawners, also the wall around Promontory Point.

"Hemenway anglers are currently finding bass up through the canyon at the Gypsum beds. Bonelli Bay and the Detrital Reefs should be good.

"LAKE MEAD MARINA: Fishermen using the Marina as a base are a far ranging crowd. They hit just about every spot named in this article. But they have one especially good crappie haven right in their front yard; the intake tower. This is often best at night. Fish appear to be attracted to the tower lights. Use small minnows.

"VEGAS WASH: The Wash has produced some excellent bass catches of late. You might run out as far as Black Island, but actually the bass are moving in close to the harbor area.

"If you don't find them fanning in the shallows go a bit deeper with dogs around a drop-off. If dogs don't work take a whirl at it with plastic worms worked very slowly along the bottom. During recent weeks worms appear to have outfished feathered ligs.

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FITNESS PROGRAM--George Soule (third from right), local AAU official and physical education teacher at Hyde Park Jr. High, explains how students 8 to 18 years old can qualify for AAU physical fitness certificates to (from left) John Bass, Matt Kelley teacher; Joe Haynes, Jefferson Center director; Jerry Holloway, Matt Kelley teacher; George Lawson, volunteer aide, and William Evans, Madison teacher. Group will push program in local schools.

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