

Leon Spinks upsets

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Well, it has finally happened. Muhammad Ali has lost his TITLE. Leon Spinks is the new Heavyweight Champion of the World. Spinks won in a split decision over Ali, after going the full 15 rounds. Judge Art Lurie gave the nod to Ali, 143-142, while Harold Buck leaned toward Spinks 144-141 and Low Tabat for Spinks 145-140.

"I should be sad, but I'm not," Muhammad Ali said in a quiet voice, uncharacteristic of his once famous mouth. Ali had the title just 10 days short of 14 years.

A sellout crowd of 5,298, and National television watched as Spinks pounded away on Ali's aging body and head. It was just a matter of youth and preparation against age and a weary body. Ali fought a very poor fight early, and admitted it.

In the early rounds Ali did little or nothing, apparently feeling he could knock out Spinks in the late rounds. But, if that was Ali's fight plan, he must have been the most shocked person in the Pavilion.

Ali told the post-fight press gathering, "you were sitting in your seat drinking beer getting shocked, I'm getting my butt kicked, getting shocked." Ali com-

plimented Spinks for his victory and answered questions about the fight and his future. Ali talked of his loss, stating, "We all have losses in our life. He won, he was more aggressive and landed the best punches." Spinks carried the fight to Ali the entire 15 rounds, and what may have been the most surprising to Ali was the way Spinks took his best punches, when Ali was able to land.

Ali had predicted he would be able to hit Spinks with a right cross in the late rounds when Spinks became arm weary, and did - but the punches did not phase the stalking Spinks.

Ali made a desperate effort in the 15th round to stop Spinks, and about midway of the round rocked Spinks, but the 1976 Olympic gold medal winner charged back like a wounded animal to finish the round and the fight strong. At the bell, at the end of 15, the two were standing toe to toe slugging away.

Ali bled from a cut lip in the early rounds and his right eye was beginning to swell as the fight ended. The only outward sign of damage to Spinks was exhaustion. Spinks punches were nearly as strong in the final rounds as in the early going when he pounded away at



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ROBERT "MOON" MULLEN GIVEN PROBATION

Judge Robert "Moon" Mullen was sentenced to three years probation for multiple tax evasion and perjury convictions, by U.S. District Judge Roger D. Foley. Foley passed the sentence without showing any emotion or giving any explanation, as is his custom. Standing before him, Mullen

and his attorneys took the news in equally stoic fashion.

The sentence imposed was three year's probation for each of the seven charges on which Mullen was convicted. However, he ordered the terms be served concurrently - at the same time. The probation will be supervised, but no special conditions were announced during sentencing.

Foley also denied Mullen's motion for a new trial or a reversal of his guilty verdict, but a motion on a new evidence had just been filed and he will take that under consideration.

The sentence could have been six years, \$10,000 fine or both for each of the four perjury convictions, as well as fine \$5,000, imprisoned for three years or both for each of the three tax evasion convictions. This could have been a total of 29 years in prison and/or fine of \$55,000.

Attorney's Clyde Maxwell of Newport Beach, California and George Graziadei of Las Vegas, vowed to continue appeals for a new trial while admitting such action is a matter of routine without much hope of success. Even though openly pleased with the sentence they still would like to get the guilty verdict changed and have their client's ordeal end with a clean slate.

Mullen remained tight lipped, refusing to speak on his own behalf. His standard "no comment" was heard repeatedly outside the courtroom, but he mingled freely with friends and family right after being placed on probation.

Mullen was even smiling, something he rarely did after being indicted. His only sign of nervousness was when he left the courtroom and immediately lit up a cigarette.

As soon as the papers are signed, his seat as Municipal Court Judge, will go up for grabs. A special meeting has been called for tomorrow to see about filling the vacancy.



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