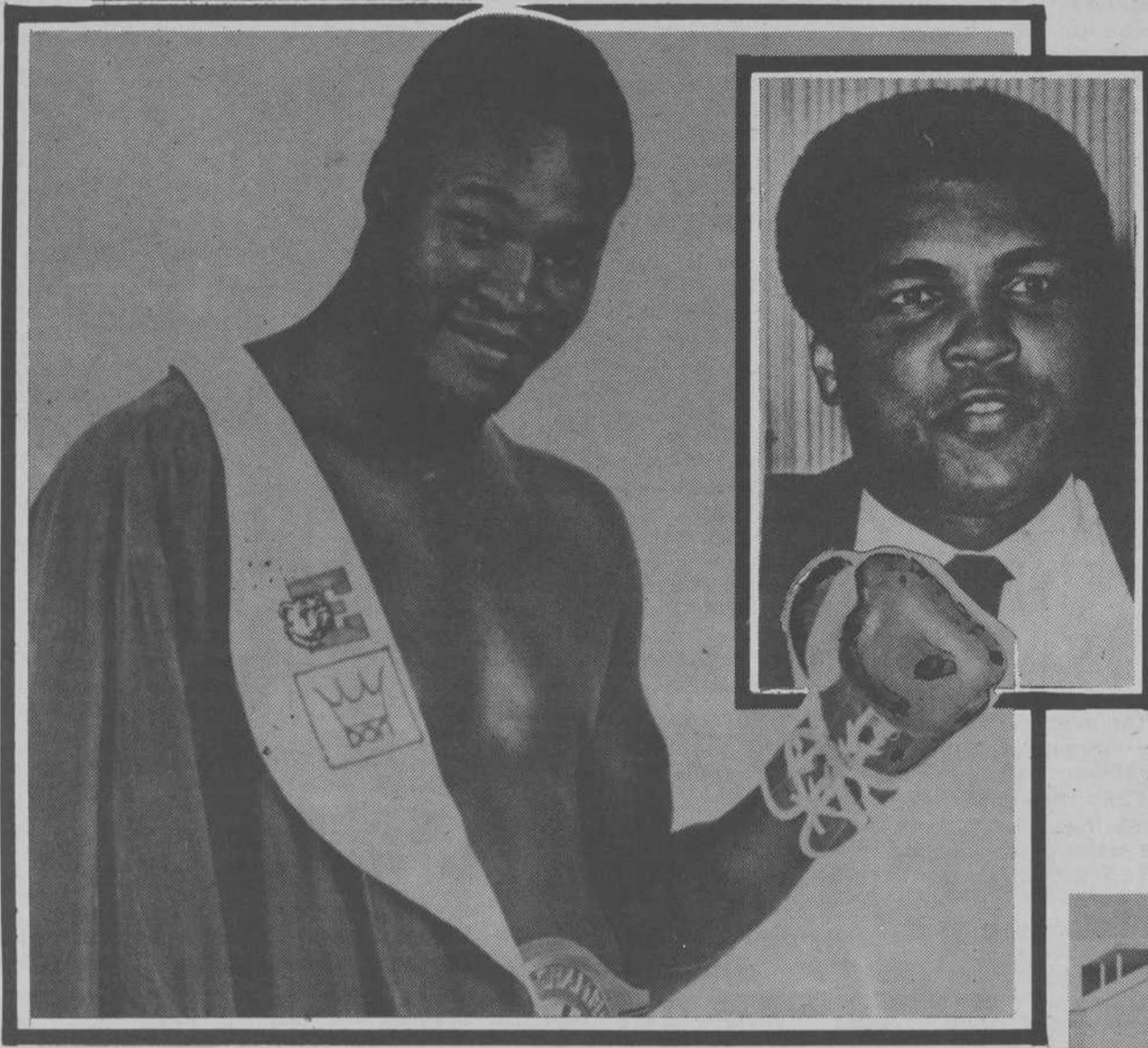


★ SPORTS ★

Caesars Lands Ali-Holmes



The off-on, much-postponed Muhammad Ali-Larry Holmes WBC heavyweight title fight will now be held at Caesars Palace next September or early October, promoter Don King revealed last Saturday.

Corporate Director of Sports for Caesars World Bob Halloran spent several days prior to the announcement in New York negotiating with King for the rights to stage the title fight.

The 38-year-old Ali was a three-time heavyweight champion before retiring. He has not fought since Sept. 15, 1978.

Holmes, 38, is an undefeated champion with a 35-0 record. Last week Holmes scored an easy

seventh-round, TKO win over Scott LeDoux in Bloomington, Minn.

"All Egyptian deals are dead," said King, referring to his recent announcement that the Ali-Holmes bout would be staged in Cairo in the presence of Presidents Carter and Sadat.

King said Ali "would prefer the United States as the site for possibly his last fight. I have contracts with both fighters and they left it entirely up to me where it would be held."

The New York papers, earlier in the week, were reporting an \$8 million offer by Egypt. However,

the amounts agreed on by both fighters have not been revealed as of the printing deadline.

