

PINTOR-RENGIFO BOUT RESET FOR JULY 26

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July 9, 1981



THOMAS HEARNS

'Ray Leonard just isn't the great fighter everyone thinks he is'

"I've got the butterflies," say Thomas Hearns, the WBA welterweight champion who is 32-0 with 30 knockouts. "I'm a nervous wreck."

"Man, I'm really not looking forward to it," says the man who is scheduled to meet Sugar Ray Leonard on Sept. 16 at Caesars Palace.

Tommy Hearns was worried, not about Sugar Ray Leonard last week, but about his appearance on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson. By the way, Carson was not present when Hearns finally appeared on the show, David Letterman substituted.

"Put me in a ring and I'm in all my glory," says Hearns. "But these television shows. Wow!"



THOMAS HEARNS

Ring ratings

Welterweight
Champion, Ray Leonard (c), Palmer Park, Md. 1. Thomas Hearns (a), Detroit, Mich. 2. Wilfred Benitez, Puerto Rico. 3. Pipino Cuevas, Mexico. 4. Roberto Duran, Panama. 5. Randy Shields, North Hollywood, Calif. 6. Pete Ranzany, Sacramento, Calif. 7. Adolfo Viruel, Hoboken, N.J. 8. Jorgen Hansen, Denmark. 9. Luis Primera, Venezuela. 10. Bruce Finch, Milwaukee.

He is quiet, but he actually smiles and those cold, fierce eyes aren't really that evil and his handshake, well, it's quite limp and he doesn't seem as tall as he did on that memorable evening he towered over Pipino Cuevas.

Thomas Hearns speaks softly until that magic name, Sugar Ray Leonard, enters into the conversation. Then he becomes forceful and that terrifying scowl suddenly covers his face.

"Sugar Ray Leonard just isn't the great fighter everyone thinks he is," observed Hearns. "His glory will come to an end on Sept. 16."

Fight Rescheduled

PINTOR SUSTAINS INJURY

Lupe Pintor, in his seventh World Boxing Council bantamweight title defense, will meet the challenge of No. 9-ranked contender Jovito Rengifo in a nationally televised 15-round title bout Sunday (July 26) at the Showboat.

The card begins at 12:30 p.m. in the Showboat Sports Pavilion.

Doors will be open at noon.

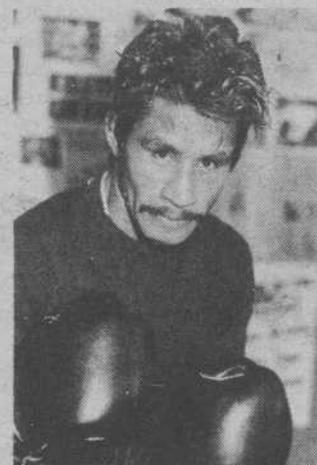
The Pintor-Rengifo main event will be televised by CBS (blackout in Southern Nevada.)

The card, promoted by Azteca Promotions, Inc., Los Angeles, in conjunction with the Showboat will also feature several action-packed preliminary bouts.

Ringside reserved (\$40), preferred (\$25) and general admission (\$15) tickets are now on sale daily at the Showboat Sports

Pavilion ticket office located at the top of the escalator.

Pintor, 26, from Mexico City, enters with a 41-4-1 record and 33 knockouts. Rengifo, 22,



Pintor from Caracas, Venezuela, has a 27-2 record and 15 knockouts.

Pintor sent shock waves through the boxing world on June 3, 1979, when he took a 15-round decision to upset and dethrone Carlos

Zarate in Las Vegas.

He defended successfully once that year, stopping Jose Luis Soto in the 10th on Oct. 29 in Sonora, Mexico. He retained the crown four times in 1980, stopping Alberto Sandoval in the 12th on Feb. 9 in Los Angeles, decisioning Eijaro Murate in July in Tokyo, stopping the late Johnny Owen in the 12th round on Sept. 19 in Los Angeles and decisioning Alberto Davila on Dec. 19 in Las Vegas. His lone defense this year came on Feb. 22 in Houston when he decisioned Jose Felix Uziga.

Rengifo is undefeated as a bantamweight with a 9-0 record, including a 6-0 mark this year.

Earlier this year he stopped No. 6-ranked Carlos Gutierrez in the sixth and No. 7-ranked Jimmy Fernandez in the seventh. Both bouts were in Caracas. In his last fight, on June 14 also in Caracas, he halted Jesus Montanez in the first.

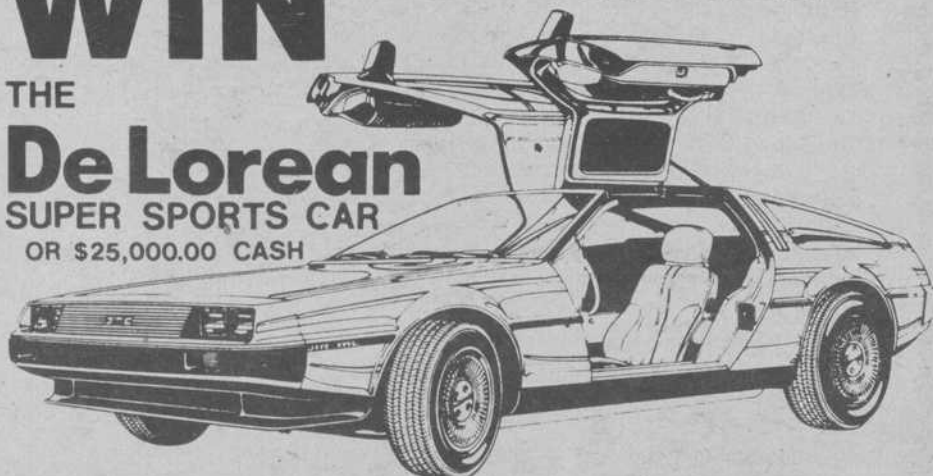
Rengifo, a fine boxer, moved up to the 118-pound division from the junior bantamweight ranks in 1980. His only two setbacks occurred just before he became a bantamweight, when he was having difficulty making the lighter weight.

CCSD CARPENTRY

What started out last for carpentry students at Southern Nevada Vocational Technical Center as a set of building plans and several piles of construction materials has been transformed into a sturdily-built 1,294 square foot three bedroom house -- soon to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder. The sale will be held Saturday., July 11 at 9.

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