

Benitez Retains Super Welter Title

"It turned out to be a sluggish fight. It wasn't his best performance, but he won the fight," said Emile Griffith, trainer of World Boxing Council super welterweight champion Wilfred Benitez.

Griffith's comments summed up the feeling of a majority of the fans at the Showboat Hotel Sports Pavilion Saturday night where Benitez scored a unanimous 15-round decision over previously-undefeated Carlos Santos.

"It was good to have a bad night once in a while and still win," added Griffith, a former world welterweight and middleweight champion.

Gregory Benitez-Dduran bout would probably be in Las Vegas, co-promoted by Don King and Micky Duff.

There was one "official" knockdown in the fight in the seventh round when Santos,

152½, went down on one knee and referee Fred Hernandez picked up the count. Santos was immediately back up on his feet and many ringside observers thought that the 26-year-old Santos



had slipped.

A crowd estimated at 2300 booed the fighters lack of action. Benitez, making the first defense of his third world title, was paid \$200,000 for the fight and Santos received \$60,000.

A southpaw, Santos Santos' only other

BROWN

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ses. Neither Giachetti nor King were available for current comment at the SENTINEL press time.

The fight between Joe Bugner, former European and British heavyweight champion and Gerry Cooney, No. 1 heavyweight contender, scheduled for Caesars Palace Dec. 5, has been postponed until sometime in January due to a back injury sustained by Cooney during the past week.

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defeat came from the hands of Sugar Ray Leonard.

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There will also be three other exciting matches.

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