

CORNER

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He trained Barney Ross, Tony Zale, Ezzard Charles, Benny Leonard (during the comeback phase of his career), Jackie Kid Berg, Freddie Steeler, Ceferino Garcia, Lou Brouillard, Jackie Fields, Sixto Escobar, Jimmy Braddock. Then came a period of 17 years when Ray stayed out of boxing but a call from his friend Carlos Eleta brought him to Roberto Duran. And now, he's with Larry Holmes, a fitting climax to a fantastic career.

Eddie Futch, like Arcel, is a soft-spoken thorough training machine. Like Arcel, he demands conditioning. He knows every move that is made in a ring, having fought himself as a stablemate of the great Joe Louis at the old Brewster A.C. in Detroit, where he grew up.

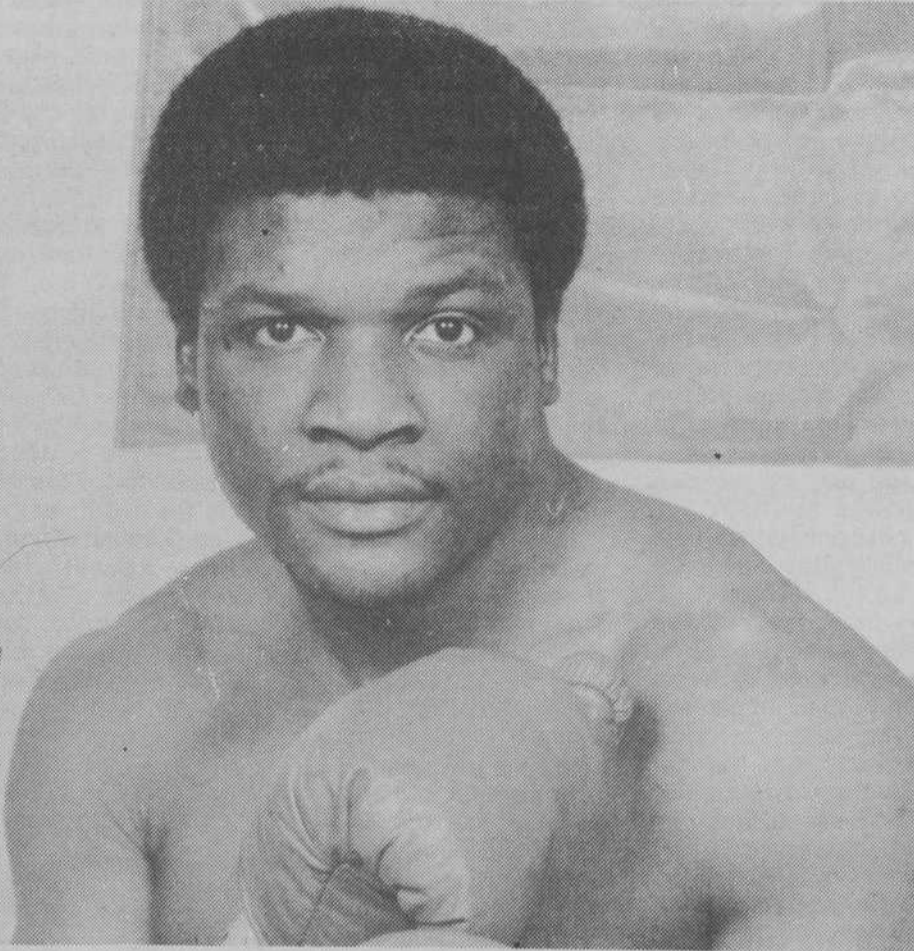
Like Arcel, he did not pursue a boxing career but developed a love for being with fighters, teaching and training. He worked with champions like Joe Frazier, Bob Foster, Ken Norton, Don Jordan and Bobby Chacon. He worked and still works with outstanding contenders. He is in great demand but is selective in his choice of stalwarts.

"It's one thing," he'll say, "to have a big stable of fighters. It's another to devote time to them. You need time and with too many there is no time. I would rather have a few real good ones than many who could get hurt if you don't have the time to watch them and teach them."

That is the humane philosophy of the new team of Futch and Arcel. They think alike and they hold the interest of the fighters above victory. They are both great for boxing and for the lucky men who have sought pieces of their respective wisdom. Boxing, too, is grateful.

Las Vegas fans can see Eddie Futch working with the champion daily at 3:30 p.m. in Colosseum VII of Caesars Palace.

PAGE-BERBICK SLUGFEST TO HOLMES-COONEY CARD



LAS VEGAS — May 17. Greg Page, the flashy, colorful undefeated heavyweight from Louisville, Ky., ranked No. 3 in the world by the WBC, and Trevor Berbick, the 28-year-old Canadian heavyweight champion — the man who defeated Muhammad Ali and went the distance with Larry Holmes — will fight it out in a special 10-round bout supporting the World Heavyweight Championship battle between Holmes and Gerry Cooney at Caesars Palace on Friday, June 11th, promoted by Don King Productions and Tiffany Promotions.

Co-Promoters Don King and Sam Glass agreed to the contest over the weekend.

King said: "Page against Berbick is one of the most significant heavyweight matchups that could possibly be made. With Page No. 3 and Berbick No. 4 in the world, it is logical to assume that the winner could be fighting for a title before the year is

over. Both are outstanding fighters and it is a great addition to the "Pride and the Glory" Heavyweight Championship."

Page has won all 19 of his professional fights. In his last outing, on May 2nd in Atlantic City, he whipped Jimmy Young by decision. In 1981, he scored knockouts over Stand Ward, Marty Monroe, Alfredo Evangelista and Scott LeDoux. He decisioned George Chaplin. He has won 16 of his 19 fights by knockout.

Berbick, who calls Halifax, Nova Scotia, home, first gained international attention when he knocked out former heavyweight champion, John Tate, on June 20, 1980, on the first Leonard-Duran card in Montreal. On April 11, 1981, he fought an outstanding 15 rounds with Holmes at Caesars Palace. On December 11, 1981, he beat Ali in the Bahamas. Berbick has won 20 of his 23 fights, 17 by knockout. He has lost 2, drew 1.

The fights on June 11th will be held in a

specially-constructed outdoor arena at Caesars Palace seating 32,000 fans. Don King Productions and Tiffany Promotions are promoting the event which will be seen live worldwide on pay-per-view and closed circuit television. For live tickets call 800-634-6698, toll-free.

Annual Softball Tourney Set

The Third Annual Softball Tournament to benefit the Nevada (U.S.) Association for Blind Athletes will be held next Friday through Sunday at Cheyenne Field.

The double elimination tournament is open to any Men's B or C team or Women's A or B team.

Team trophies donated by Trophy

World, Trophies of Las Vegas and Abbott Trophies will be awarded.

In addition, a Panasonic AM-FM radio donated by Von's will be raffled off.

Tournament information can be obtained by calling Sue Lillimagi, tournament director, at 739-3205 or contacting the North Las Vegas Recreation Department at 649-7737.

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