

# SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

SEPTEMBER 29, 1983



## TOUGH BATTLES TO 'BOAT ESPN CARD

A rematch of one of the toughest battles waged in Las Vegas in years will be the main event Thursday, Sept. 29, on the ESPN fight card at the Showboat Hotel, Casino, Country Club and Bowling Center.

Sluggo Lenny Valdez

tries to avenge an upset loss at the hands of brawling Pasqual Aranda in Thursday's 10-round featherweight main.

Also featured on the card is undefeated Las Vegas junior lightweight Jimmy Jackson against streaking Sylvester

Kenon in a 10-round co-main event.

And matchmaker Mel Greb has two Las Vegas prospects on the giant seven-bout card in the Showboat Sports Pavilion.

The card starts at 6 p.m.

## A RACE CAR NAMED DESIRE: DESIRE WILSON TO BE ONLY WOMAN GRAND PRIX DRIVER

Superstar female race car driver Desire Wilson, who has set the pace on race tracks from Europe

to South Africa to the Indy 500, will be the only female in the fast lane at the third annual Caesars

Palace Grand Prix, Oct. 6-9.

While many secretly fantasize about the extraordinary excitement of becoming a race car driver, Desire has transcended the boundaries of both feminine and masculine imagination to make that daring dream a highly successful reality.

Desire began her racing career at age 5, driving micro-midgets built by her father. She lived in her native South Africa, England and Belgium before coming to the United States. Winning many South African club and provincial championships from 1959 to 1966, Desire retired from racing at age 12 to concentrate on horses and athletics, becoming an excellent hurdler and all-around athlete. However, racing fever had been firmly implanted and Desire returned to the tracks in 1972 to become a star of many European tracks. Says the attractive, articulate, approachable lady, "If I'm going to do this, I'm going to do it well. And you do it well by racing."

Desire has certainly proven she can "do it well," by winning such coveted awards as the 1976 South African Formula Ford Championship, the 1977 South African Driver-To-Europe award and the 1971 South African Sports-woman of the Year award.

Ticket prices range from \$5 (Thurs. only) to \$100 (4-day reserved seating, gold section). For tickets and information phone Caesars Palace Special Events Ticket Office 731-7865.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

The cocaine-related suspensions of four National Football League players were lifted Monday by Commissioner Pete Rozelle.

Reinstated were Pete Johnson and Ross Browner of Cincinnati, E.J. Junior of St. Louis and Greg Stenrick of New Orleans. All four had been suspended through the exhibition season and the regular season's first four games, without pay, for cocaine involvement. When the suspensions were announced in August, the league said they would be reviewed after the fourth regular season games.

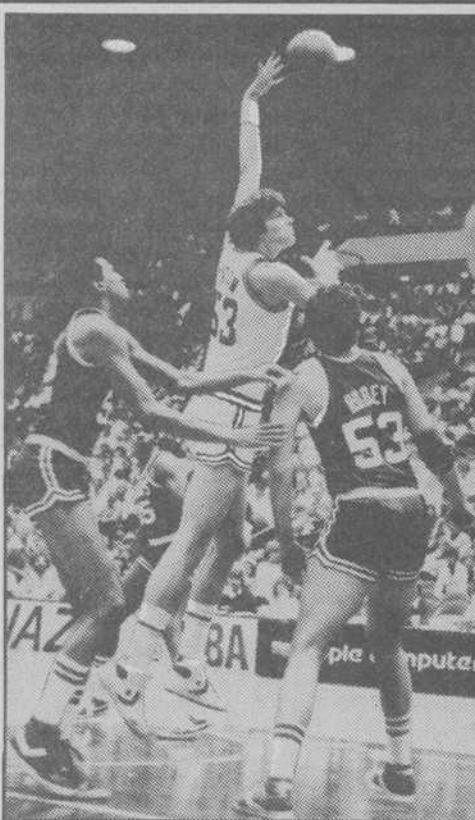
Said Cincinnati general manager Paul Brown: "As far as the Bengals are concerned, the incident is closed."

Talks have started for a big money Gerrie Coetzee-Larry Holmes heavyweight championship unification bout. Coetzee stopped Michael Dokes in Richfield, Ohio, Friday to win the WBA title. WBC champ Holmes boxes Marvis Frazier Nov. 25 and Greg Page in February or March.

However, Holmes said he'd cancel the Frazier fight if big money was put up for Holmes-Coetzee.

"If I can fight a guy for \$10 million, why should I fight for \$1 million?" he said.

The WBA featherweight title bout between Panamanian champ Eusebio Pedroza and Dominican Jose Caba has been rescheduled for Oct. 22 at Saint Vincent, Italy. The fight was scheduled for Oct. 8, but Pedroza asked for a postponement due to a kidney ailment.



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