

SPORTS BOARD



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NOVEMBER 10, 1983

HEAVYWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPION LARRY HOLMES WORKING DAILY AT SAHARA

World Boxing Council heavyweight champion Larry Holmes is working out daily at the Sahara Hotel's Sahara Space Center, and the public is invited to watch, free of charge.

Holmes arrived at the Sahara on Sunday, Oct. 30. He celebrated his birthday here; he turned 34 on Nov. 3.



Over a 10-year pro career Holmes has

achieved a 44-0 record with 31 knockouts and is regarded by all experts as one of the top heavyweight champions in boxing history.

Holmes won the WBC heavyweight championship in June of 1978 and has defended successfully 16 times. His most recent defense was this fall against Scott Frank.

Marvis Frazier is the son of former heavyweight world champion, Joe Frazier. He, too, is unbeaten.

Special ESPN Card At Showboat

Olympic Gold Medal winner Howard Davis returns to Las Vegas for the first time in almost six years when he takes on highly regarded New Yorker Ivan Montalvo in a 10-round lightweight bout Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Showboat Hotel, Casino, Country Club and Bowling Center.

Also on the card promoted by Bob Arum's Top Rank, Inc., in association with the Showboat will be two junior welterweight prospects, Gene Hatcher and Joe Manley. The winner of their 10-round co-main event should become world ranked.

This is another "special edition" ESPN card, and it will be blacked out in Las Vegas.

The card begins at 5:30 p.m. and doors to the Showboat Sports Pavilion open at 5.

Tickets are still priced at just \$10 for general admission and \$15 for ring-side reserved. Tickets are on sale daily at the Showboat Sports Pavilion Ticket Office.

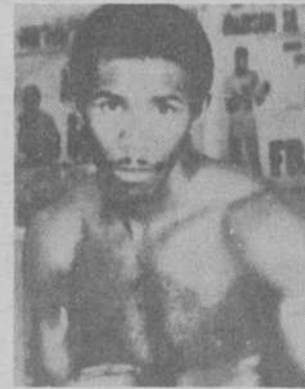
The last time the 27-year-old Davis fought here was in February of 1978. Then he'd had but five pro fights and was still best known for winning a gold medal at the 1976 Montreal Olympics and being named the Games' "Outstanding Boxer," beating the likes of Leon Spinks, Michael Spinks and one Sugar Ray Leonard.

Now he has a record of 24-1 with nine knockouts and is ranked No. 2 by the World Boxing Council and No. 5 by the World Boxing Association among lightweights.

The Dix Hills, N.Y., resident's biggest fight came on June 7, 1980 in Glasgow, Scotland, when he went 15 rounds but lost to James Watt for the WBC lightweight championship.

Davis has won 11 fights since then, but he's been

particularly impressive in his past four outings. On Nov. 12 of last year in Miami he overwhelmed and decisioned former WBA lightweight champion Claude Noel; on Feb. 27 of this year in Atlantic City he decisioned tough Tony Baltazar; on April 9 in San Remo, Italy, he decisioned George Feeney, who went the distance with current WBA lightweight



Howard Davis

champ Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini, and on June 18 in Atlantic City he halted world ranked Greg Coverson in the eighth round.

Montalvo, originally from Puerto Rico but now living in New York City, has a record of 19-2 with seven knockouts.

Both Hatcher and Manley are young, have excellent records and are just one win away from cracking the world rankings. They're also on a collision course.

Hatcher, from Fort Worth, Texas, has a

record of 19-2 and 17 knockouts while Manley, from Atlantic City, is the talk of the East with a 13-1 record and seven knockouts.

Both are former national amateur champions, too. Hatcher won at 147 pounds in 1980 while Manley won at 132 pounds in 1981. Now they meet at 140 pounds.

Hatcher's biggest win is over former WBC junior lightweight champion Alfredo Escalera on April 10, 1982. Hatcher, a stablemate of top ranked lightweight Robin Blake and WBA welterweight champion Donald Curry, last fought on Oct. 13 in Dallas, when he stopped Eduardo Lugo in the sixth round. He fought at the Showboat in February of this year, halting Romero Sandoval in the fifth.

Manley has won all five of his fights this year, including the last three by knockout. On July 5 in Atlantic City he stopped Glenn Burnett in the second, on July 29 in New York City he halted Darrell Mitchell in the first and on Aug. 30 in Atlantic City he dumped Al Carter in the seventh.

Both Hatcher and Manley turned pro the same year, 1981.

Veteran Las Vegas matchmaker Mel Greb will announce the rest of the card this week.



DURAN GESTURES - Roberto Duran, left, shakes his fist at world middleweight champion Marvin Haurer, right, Tuesday morning at a press conference at Caesars Palace. Duran and Hagler meet in scheduled 15-round bout Thursday night in a 15,200-seat outdoor stadium at Caesars Palace.

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