

TWO TITLE BOUTS HIGHLIGHT 'BOAT ESPN TELEVISED CARD

Two 12-round title bouts — with a North American championship at stake in one and a United States crown on the line in the other — are the main events Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Showboat Hotel, Casino, Country Club and Bowling Center.

Three-time national amateur champion Jackie Beard defends his North American Boxing Federation featherweight championship against undefeated Paul Devorce in one 12-rounder and Duane Thomas defends his

United States Boxing Association junior middleweight title against Don King in the other 12-rounder.

The big seven-bout, 64-round card, promoted by Don King Productions in association with the Showboat, begins at 5:30 pm. Doors to the Showboat Sports Pavilion open at 5.

Tickets, priced at \$10 for general admission and \$15 for ringside reserved, are on sale daily at the Showboat Sports Pavilion Ticket Office.

Also on this "special edition" ESPN card are

three 10-rounders featuring two more world-ranked fighters, Juan "Kid" Meza, rated No. 2 by the World Boxing Council among super bantamweights and Milton Guest, the WBC's No. 5 welterweight.

Meza will face Javier Barajas, Guest will meet Francisco Rocha and in the third 10-rounder middleweight Odell Hadley will take on Charles Carter.

All four title bout fighters have solid credentials. Beard has a record of 18-1 with 12 knockouts and is

ranked No. 7 by the WBC and No. 10 by the World Boxing Association. Devorce has a record of 21-0 with 11 knockouts. Thomas has a record of 19-1 with 13 knockouts. King, no relation to the promoter, has a record of 13-3 with 10 knockouts.

This will be the second defense of the NABF featherweight championship the 22-year-old Beard won in June, 1982, in Phoenix by stopping Nicky Perez in the seventh round. Beard, originally from Jackson, Tenn., but now living in Detroit and fighting out of the Kronk stable, last fought on July 15 in Las Vegas, successfully defending his title with a 12-round decision over Margarito Marquez.

Beard had an outstanding amateur career, winning the National AAU championship at 119 pounds in 1978, 1979 and 1980. He turned pro in 1981.

Devorce, from Yonkers, N.Y., is a sparkplug of a fighter; at 5-foot-2-inches he's three inches shorter than Beard. The 26-year-old turned pro in 1980. His biggest win came on Sept. 15, 1982, when he stopped Derrick Holmes in only the third round. Holmes has fought Wilfredo Gomez

for the WBC super bantamweight championship. Devorce's last fight was on Aug. 13 in Las Vegas when he beat Ricky Wallace.

The 22-year-old Thomas, also from Detroit and the Kronk stable, is making his first defense of the USBA junior middleweight championship he won on May 26 in Atlantic City by halting Nino Gonzales in the eighth round. Thomas is a strong puncher; only five of his 20 fights have gone past the fifth round.

King, 24, from Indianapolis, is one of the few fighters to ever stop rugged veteran Jimmy Heair, doing so in the fourth round in April of 1982.

Meza, from Los Angeles, has a record of 38-6 with 31 knockouts. On March 27, 1982, in Atlantic City he challenged Wilfredo Gomez for the WBC super bantamweight championship. Barajas is from Tucson.

Guest, also from Yonkers, has a record of 16-1 with 14 knockouts. On Dec. 15 of last year in Chicago he stopped Dujuan Johnson in the seventh round; just 15 months earlier Johnson had gone the same length with Aaron Pryor

for the WBA junior welterweight championship. Rocha, from Seattle, lists a 14-3-1 record.

Hadley, from Los Angeles, has a record of 14-2-1 with seven knockouts. Carter, from Portland, has a record of 12-2-1 with six knockouts.

BUDWEISER HOSTS PARTY AT IMPERIAL PALACE

4th Floor Rib Room at the Imperial Palace was the setting for a casual cocktail party honoring the three racing teams sponsored by Budweiser in this year's Grand Prix.

Savoring their wins (along with their favorite brew, of course) were Mario Andretti (Indy Cars) and Willy T. Ribbs (Nissan Trans-Am).

Andretti, of Budweiser's Newman-Haas team and a veteran of many races, chalked up his 36th Indy win in the Las Vegas event. Ribbs drives the Trans-Am circuit on the DeAtley Motorsports Team, also sponsored by Budweiser. His Grand Prix victory is his fifth in his first full season of racing.

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CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING

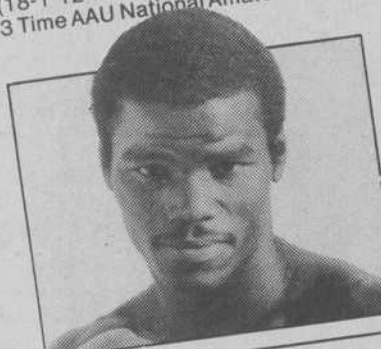
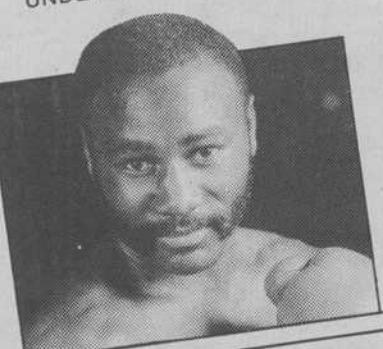
SATURDAY, NOV. 19TH
5:30 PM • Doors Open At 5:00 PM

NABF FEATHERWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP - 12 ROUNDS

JACKIE BEARD vs **PAUL DEVORCE**

CHAMPION • #7 WBC #10 WBA (18-1 12 K.O.S.) Detroit
3 Time AAU National Amateur Champ

(21-0 11 K.O.S.) Yonkers, N.Y.
UNDEFEATED

USBA JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP - 12 ROUNDS

DUANE THOMAS vs **DON KING**

CHAMPION (19-1 13 K.O.S.) Detroit

Indianapolis (13-3 10 K.O.S.)

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