Watch Us Grow

September 19, 1985

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

LAS VEGAS SENTINEL

**TENNIS** --from a pro By B.J. RICHARD

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are. Growing up black for me most prestigious tournament had its obstacles. As a in Texas. My contenders natural athlete in sports, tennis came easy to me. I started at a late age of 15. However, the killer instinct in me met that challenge and two weeks after learning from the Park and Recreation

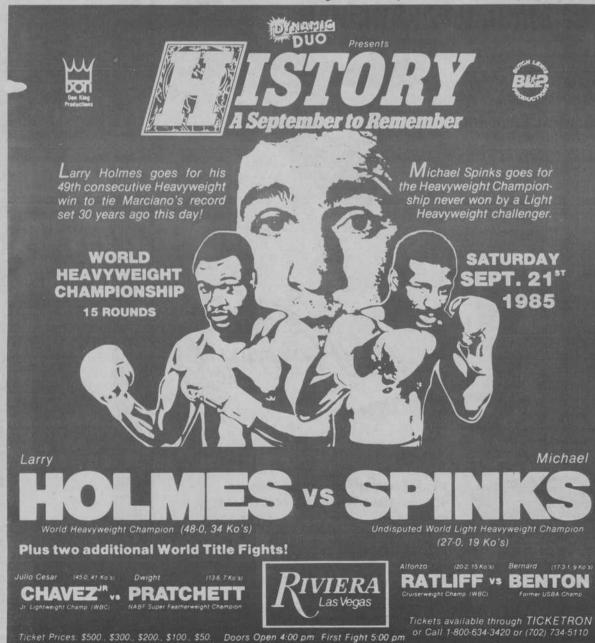
You are what you think you Department, I captured the were more experienced and had been taking private lessons for a number of years, but they lacked that drive to be the best.

winning After the tournament the media

labeled me as the next Althea Gibson. The turning point in the best. After several years tennis and my outlook on life came during my junior year in high school, after reading "I Always Wanted To Be Somebody,'' by Althea Gibson

Blacks on the professional tour in the late 70's had many obstacles. The main thing was self-image and the feeling of being inferior when challenging the majority. My approach was quite simple: a system plus discipline equals victory. This inforced a positive image as I continued to win numerous local, state, and national titles

After receiving my college degree I turned pro in 1975



and continued my quest to be on tour I was burned out and my financial supply was low.

I started teaching in Las Vegas. After seven years as a teacher. I saw a need to reach the many who feel that tennis is a rich man's game. Tennis is a life long sport that can be enjoyed by all. I see so much raw talent as I watch the social players at Community College and Lorenzi Park. They need direction. They need to be aware.

Think about it! Change your image. The money is out there. It was for me. A system plus discipline gave me the confidence to be somebody

On September 21, 1955, Rocky Marciano, the unbeaten heavyweight champion, stopped the great heavyweight light champions, Archie Moore, in eight rounds to extend his victory string to 49 fights. Marciano retired early the following year and became the first World Heavyweight Champion to retire undefeated and the 49-0 record set the standard of excellence for heavyweights

in boxing history. Now, exactly 30 years later, Larry Holmes, the mighty heavyweight champion from Easton, Pa., will try to equal Marciano's record, facing the challenge of unbeaten and undisupted world light heavyweight champion, Michael Spinks, the Gold Medalist from St. Louis and Philadelphia, on September 21, 1985, at the Riviera Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, Holmes is, of course, 48-0.

The 15-round battle will be promoted by the newlyformed Dynamic Duo, Inc. -Don King, Chairman of the Board, and Butch Lewis, President - in association with the Riviera Las Vegas. The Home Box Office Cable Network (HBO) will televise the program from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. (E.D.T.)

Holmes is not only seeking to become the second in history to retire as heavyweight champion undefeated, he also wants to surpass the mark of 49-0 set by the legendary Rocky Marciano. It's two to go in Larry's brush with history and the equalizer could be the toughest of them all.

For Spinks, he faces a task never achieved in the history of boxing. Though many have tried since the 1975-pound division was created at the turn of the light century, no

"HISTORY!" A SEPTEMBER TO REMEMBER! World Heavyweight Champion LARRY HOLMES vs. **MICHAEL SPINKS Riviera**, Las Vegas September 21, 1985

> heavyweight champion has ever succeeded in winning the heavyweight crown. Ruby Bob Fitzsimmons was the heavyweight champion briefly but did not become the light heavyweight king until after he was dethroned heavyweight as the champion.

Philadelphia Jack O'Brien fought a 20-round draw with heavyweight ruler Tommy Burns but lost in a subsequent effort.

Great light heavyweight champs like Billy Conn, Tommy Loughran, Bob Foster and, of course, Archie Moore made valiant efforts but as yet nobody has been able to bridge the gap. Spinks' credentials, however, narrow the odds in this age-old battle of the 'good little man against the good big man.'

The Spinks fight will mark the 21st defense of a world heavyweight title by Holmes.

On June 9th Larry celebrated his seventh year as world champion, second only to Joe Louis. He has proved not only a worthy champion but he has earned the respect of the boxing community ...

A BOXING **Boxing schedule** 

Major Fight Schedule (c-denotes defending champion)

Sept. 17 at Atlantic City, N.J. — Wilford ion vs. Dwight "Tiger" Walker, 10. mid-rights. Sept. 10 at London — Colin Jones vs. us. Garcia 12. walterwights.

Steve Little, 10, welterweights. Sept. 19 at Atlantic City, Grove vs. Paul DeVorce, 10, fea Sept. 21 at Las Vogen, P

tic City, N.J. - Sam David

Calif - Sean Mannio

Atlantic City, N.J. — c-Jose wtis Parker, 12, WBC Continen-iddleweight Litle. Beifast, Northern Ireland — c-n vs. Bernard Taylor, 15, WBA Hie.