

SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

FEBRUARY 27, 1986



NABF LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT ADDED TO MARCH 10 BOXING CARD

Ticket Sales Near Sellout

WBA bantamweight champion Richard Sandoval (29-0) facing Gaby Canizales (32-2).

Ticket sales are a near sellout in the 15,000-seat

fight before being stopped by Pete McIntyre. He knocked out McIntyre in the rematch to recapture the NABF light heavyweight title.

The North American Box-

is the fourth title fight announced for the March 10 show, which features world middleweight champion Marvelous Marvin Hagler (61-2-2) against top-rated John Mugabi (26-0); Thomas Hearns (40-2) versus NABF middleweight champion James Shuler (22-0); and in his last fight, last October, Edwards outpointed Anthony Witherspoon, the younger brother of World Boxing Association heavyweight champion Tim Witherspoon, over 12 rounds to defend his title.

Sears, who is from Queens, New York, is a former New York City Golden Gloves champion. He lost his only fight last February when he was stopped in three rounds by then world light heavyweight champion Michael Spinks in a title bout.

Edwards and Sears fought to a 12-round draw in May, 1984.

Marvis Frazier makes poor show in unpopular win

RICHMOND, Calif. — Heavyweight Marvis Frazier got up from the canvas in the fifth round and rallied to win an unpopular unanimous decision Sunday over James "Bonecrusher" Smith in a 10-round fight.

Smith pinned Frazier against the ropes and battered the younger boxer with a flurry of body punches from the opening bell of the



THOMAS HEARNS

Training Begins For The Fights

On-site training for the March 10 Hagler vs. Mugabi/Hearns vs. Shuler/Sandoval vs. Canizales/Edwards vs. Sears title fights at Caesars Palace begins on Saturday, March 1, as listed below:

James Shuler — noon to 2 p.m.
Thomas Hearns — 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
John Mugabi — 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Marvelous Marvin Hagler

— to be announced. However, Frazier seemed to have weathered the barrage when he slipped out into the center of the ring.

Then with just seconds remaining, Frazier backpedaled and Smith caught him with an explosive overhand right. Frazier stumbled and fell to the canvas. At the count of four, a wobbly Frazier was back on his feet at the bell,

— to be announced.

Training is scheduled in the sports pavilion near the Caesars Palace tennis courts. Doors open at 11 a.m.

Fighter workouts are open to the public. Admission is a \$2 donation to the U.S.A. Amateur Boxing Federation. A similar charge for training preceding last year's Hagler vs. Hearns match yielded more than \$2,500 for our U.S. Olympic boxing team.

Norton's condition serious after accident

Former heavyweight boxing champion Ken Norton is listed in serious but stable condition after three hours of skull and jaw surgery.

Norton, 40, was operated on Monday at Los Angeles' Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, after receiving a fractured skull and jaw in a car accident.

Hospital spokesman Ron Wise: "When we move him to a private room his condition will be upgraded to fair."

Sunday night, Norton's car hit a curb on the on-ramp of the Santa Monica Freeway near Vermont Avenue.

Basketball polls

Rancho of North Las Vegas, 21-3 overall, finished No. 1 in the final regular-season Gazette-Journal Statewide Super Poll.

The Rams have held the top spot the last six weeks, longer than any one of four No. 1 teams this season.

Sunset Division champion Rancho is scheduled Feb. 26-27 to compete in the Southern AAA boys tournament at Thomas and Mack Center on the University of Nevada-Las Vegas campus.

Rancho, No. 2 Clark (20-4), No. 5 Hug (20-3) and No. 7 Reed (20-3) have each qualified for the AAA state tournament March 3-5 in Reno.

Defending champion and No. 3 Eldorado (18-5) traded places with No. 4 Bonanza (14-9) after Clark beat the Bengals, 67-53.

The south finished with seven teams in the top nine. No. 6 Bishop Gorman (11-11) beat Valley, 62-57, and moved ahead of Northern AAA leader Reed.

The Raiders won twice last week, including a 61-53 victory at No. 10 South Tahoe (13-8).

The Vikings share their ranking with Northern AA champion Elko (20-1).

Undefeated Reno (24-0) finished No. 1 in the final regular-season girls poll. The Huskies have held the top spot all season.

Reno is scheduled Thursday to play No. 6 Reed (15-5) to complete the Northern AAA season.

The Huskies are scheduled Feb. 27-28 to compete in the Northern AAA tournament at Lawlor Events Center on the University of Nevada-Reno campus.

Reno and No. 2 Las Vegas (19-0) are the only teams to qualify for the state tournament March 3-5 in Reno.

Third-ranked Carson (17-5), the defending champion, needs one victory to earn a state berth. No. 8 Valley (14-6) is scheduled Friday to play Bonanza for the Sunset title and state berth.




Hearns gets training assist from fan

stadium at Caesars Palace. Of the live gate tickets priced from \$400 to \$50, only \$100 and \$200 tickets are left. Bouts will be telecast live on closed circuit and selected pay-per-view outlets.


Edwards, a native of Detroit, won his first 14

ing Federation light heavyweight championship fight between champion Willie Edwards (21-2-1) and David Sears (15-1-1) has been added to the March 10 championship card at Caesars Palace.

The Edwards/Sears bout



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