

# SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

MARCH 6, 1986



## Leslie Hardison tough competitor



Leslie Hardison

Western High's Leslie Hardison has proven to be a tough competitor despite adversities.

Says Western track coach Joe Stein, "Leslie is the hardest working girl I've got. No question. She works out with the boys. She's also probably the most likable young lady we have. You have to admire any girl who goes through what she went through." He was referring to an incident where she lay delirious at the track infield suffering from dehydration at the meet where she competed successfully.

Last Saturday during the Skydome Invitational in Flagstaff, Ariz. she helped to establish a new one-mile indoor record on the University of Texas relay team at 3.33.33 -- previous mark was 3.34.38.

Eighteen-year-old Hardison graduated from Western last year.

She is a two-time All-American and was a Nevada State Champion in the 100-200 and 400 meters in 1985.

She is presently carrying a 3.0 grade point average while majoring in pre-law.

## Heavyweight Champion 'Lariat' Hansen Tops 15-Match Card, March 13

A giant, nationally televised 15-match American Wrestling Association card featuring world tag-team champions Curt Hennig and "Big" Scott Hall plus world heavyweight champ Stan "The Lariat" Hansen takes place Thursday, March 13, at the Showboat Hotel, Casino, Country Club and Bowling Center.

This spectacular starts at 6 p.m. with doors to the Showboat Sports Pavilion opening at 4:30.

Tickets are \$12 for ringside reserved, \$10 for general admission and \$7 for general admission for those 14 years of age and under; they're on sale Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Showboat Sports Pavilion Ticket Office.

The unique triple main-event show promoted by the AWA, "the major league of professional wrestling," features Hennig and Hall against Boris Zhukov and "The Mongolian Stomper." Hansen faces 375-pound former Los Angeles Ram Leon White. The third main matches former world heavyweight champion Nick Bockwinkel against Larry Zbyszko.

Scott LeDoux, who fought Larry Holmes for the World Boxing Council heavyweight championship and holds draws with former world heavyweight champion Leon Spinks and ex-WBC heavyweight champ Ken Norton, will be the special guest referee for the Bockwinkel-Zbyszko match.

Also in action at the Showboat will be such exciting standouts as former NCAA and national amateur wrestling champion Brad Rheingans, popular "Sgt. Slaughter," "King Kong" Broady, "Playboy" Buddy Rose, Col. Dubars and "The Midnight Rockers."

The card will be taped by ESPN for telecast across the United States at a later date.

Hennig and Hall make a most imposing team. The 27-year-old Hennig, a linebacker while playing football in college, stands 6-3 and weighs 245 pounds. The 25-year-old Hall, a former alligator wrestler, is even bigger at 6-8 and 290 pounds.

At 6-1, 245 pounds Bockwinkel may not be as large but's a tremendously accomplished wrestler.

## Spinks-Holmes Heavyweight Championship Rematch Set For April 19

Undefeated Michael Spinks, winner in one of the biggest upsets in boxing history, will defend his International Boxing Federation heavyweight championship against Larry Holmes Saturday, April 19, at the Las Vegas Hilton.

The 15-round title bout is a rematch of their historical fight last September in which Holmes, attempting to equal the late Rocky Marciano's record for most wins by an undefeated heavyweight champion, was dethroned by Spinks. The unprecedented win made Spinks the first light heavyweight champion to ever capture the heavyweight crown.

The championship card, promoted by Dynamic Duo, Inc. in association with the Las Vegas Hilton, will be held in the 8,350-seat indoor Hilton Center.

The card starts at 4 p.m. with the first bout beginning at 5 p.m. The Spinks-Holmes championship main event will start at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are priced at \$50, \$100, \$200, \$300 and \$500 with all seats reserved. They're on sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week at the Special Events Ticket Office located in the lobby of the Las Vegas Hilton.

The card will be televised live nationally by Home Box Office but, because of the significance of the Spinks-Holmes rematch, definitely will be blacked out in the Las Vegas area.

The 29-year-old Spinks, who has a record of 28-0 with 19 knockouts, will be making his first defense of the IBF heavyweight championship he won Sept. 21, 1985, in Las Vegas. Spinks, who weighed 200 pounds even, giving up 21½ pounds, made boxing history that night by taking a unanimous decision over the previously undefeated Holmes, whose record now is 48-1 with 34 knockouts.

Spinks, born in St. Louis but now living in Philadelphia, was a light heavyweight champion for more than four years. He

won the World Boxing Association 175-pound crown on July 18, 1981, in Las Vegas taking a 15-round decision over Eddie Mustafa Muhammad. He added the World Boxing Council version on March 18, 1983, in Atlantic City by taking a 15-round verdict over Dwight Braxton. He became the undisputed World light heavyweight champion on Feb. 25, 1984.

Holmes has fought once before at the Las Vegas Hilton, halting Ossie Ocasio in the seventh round on March 23, 1979.

The Las Vegas Hilton also has been the site of another great upset — perhaps the biggest the sport's ever experienced — when Leon Spinks dethroned World heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali on Feb. 15, 1978.

Dynamic Duo, Inc. includes Chairman of the Board Don King and President Butch Lewis.

The April 19 undercard at the Las Vegas Hilton will be announced later.

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## SAHARA BOXING

**MAIN EVENT**

March 12  
Doors Open 5:00 p.m.  
First Fight 6:00 p.m.  
General Adm. \$10.00  
Ringside \$15.00

**ROGER MAYWEATHER**  
Former WBA Jr. Lightweight Champ  
23-3 (14 KO's)

**vs.**

**FREDDIE PENDLETON**  
The "Philadelphia Battler"

**10-Round Lightweight**

**— Plus —**

**STEVE McCRORY**  
1984 Olympic Gold Medal  
10-0-1

**vs.**

**RALPH "SHOWTIME" GUITERREZ**  
9-2

**10-Round Bantam Weight Fight**

**Steve McCrory**

**DON CAPLES**  
Houston, Texas  
11-1-1

**vs.**

**ANDY MINSKER**  
Milwaukie, Oregon

**— Plus —**

**ANDY MINSKER**

TWO ESPN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT BOUTS