

# SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

MARCH 27, 1986



## Boza Edwards-Alli in Title Elimination Bout March 30

Former world champion Cornelius Boza-Edwards of Las Vegas meets Terrence Alli of New York Sunday, March 30, at the Showboat Hotel, Casino, Country Club and Bowling Center with the winner scheduled to challenge World Boxing Association lightweight champ Livingstone Bramble.

The main event is 10 rounds but is, in actuality, a title elimination bout, according to Top Rank, Inc., promoters of the card in association with the Showboat, with the winner set to meet Bramble this summer.

Boza-Edwards, the World Boxing Council junior lightweight champion in 1981, is ranked No. 4 by the WBA among lightweights. Alli is the WBA's No. 9 rated lightweight.

Boza-Edwards, born in Uganda but a long-time resident of Las Vegas, has a record of 44-5 with 34 knockouts and hasn't lost since 1983. Alli, born in Guyana, has a record of 28-4-1 with 11 knockouts and has won 16 of his past 17 fights dating back to 1982.

The six-bout card starts at 11 a.m. with doors to the Showboat Sports Pavilion opening at 10. The main event begins at approximately noon.

Tickets are priced at only \$10 for general admission and \$15 for ringside reserved. They're on sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday at the Showboat Sports Pavilion Ticket Office.

The Boza Edwards-Alli title elimination bout will be televised live nationally by NBC but will be blacked out in the Las Vegas area.

The 29-year-old Boza-Edwards is a relentless puncher who has knocked out five of his past six foes.

He won the WBC junior lightweight championship on March 8, 1981, with a 15-round decision over Rafael "Bazooka" Limon in Stockton, Calif. He

successfully defended once, halting two-time world champion Bobby Chacon in the 13th on May 30 at the Showboat, before being upset and dethroned by Rolando Navarrete on Aug in Via Reggia. Boza-Edwards tried once more for the WBC 130-pound crown, losing to Chacon on May 15, 1983, in Las Vegas before moving up to the more comfortable 135-pound lightweight division.

The 25-year-old Alli is a crafty boxer who's had more than half his fights in Atlantic City. His most recent outing was a win over Anthony Williams on Jan. 10 in Atlantic City.

Also on the card assembled by matchmaker Mel Greb will be three Las Vegas fighters: featherweight Jeff Franklin, welterweight Ruben Posada and heavyweight Joe Mattingly. Franklin faces Gus Lopez of Los Angeles in a six-rounder, Posada meets Rocky Granillo of Los Angeles in another six-rounder and Mattingly, recently from Louisville, Ky., and making his pro debut, against an opponent to be selected later.

Highly regarded Ernie Landeros of Los Angeles moves up to junior welterweight and faces southpaw Kenny Willis of Hartford, Conn., in an eight-rounder. The other preliminary bout matches 6-foot-4-inch light heavyweight Carl Riffe of Portland, Ore., in his four-round pro debut against an opponent to be determined later.

## Tickets selling fast for Spinks-Holmes fight

Response to the Michael Spinks-Larry Holmes, International Boxing Federation heavyweight championship bout Saturday, April 19, at the Las Vegas Hilton has exceeded all expectations and already tickets in two price categories are sold out.

"The response is just tremendous," says a Hilton spokesperson. "The advance ticket sales at this stage is the largest in the history of boxing in Las Vegas."



Larry Holmes

Tickets in the \$50 and the \$300 price categories are sold out, more than one month in front of the 15-round championship bout.

Tickets remain in the \$100, \$200 and \$500 price categories, but Hilton officials caution that if the current response continues, an early sell-out of the 8,350-seat indoor Hilton Center is likely.

Tickets in the remaining three price categories are on sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week at the Special Events Ticket Office in the lobby of the Las Vegas Hilton.

The card starts at 5 p.m. with the championship main event at approximately 7:30.

## Calvin Peete gets runaway win in USF&G Classic

NEW ORLEANS — Pat McGowan put it in focus.

"Calvin just blitzed us," McGowan said Sunday after finishing a distant second, five shots back, to runaway winner Calvin Peete in the USF&G Classic.

"I figured a couple of rounds of 68 might be good enough to win," McGowan said.

But he shot 68 in the morning round -- and lost two strokes to Peete. That just about did it, made the afternoon round moot.

"A good player like that, I knew he wasn't going to back up," McGowan said.

And he didn't.

Peete, who exerted his authority with a 66 in the morning, used an afternoon 68 to discourage any would-be challengers and became the first double winner on the PGA Tour this season.

"It's another step toward my goal, to be Player of the Year for 1986," Peete said.

He won this one with a 269 total, 19 strokes under par on the Lakewood Country

Club course, and collected \$90,000 from the total purse of \$500,000.

With 12th victory of his late starting career, Peete added another chapter in his remarkable rags-to-riches story that once included a stint as a traveling peddler to itinerant farm workers. He also:

--Took over the No. 1 spot on the season's money-winning list with \$230,598;

--Jumped from third to first in stroke average at 69-48.

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