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Hagler cancels Leonard, Hearn

Considering retirement

BROCKTON, Mass.—Undisputed world middleweight champion Marvelous Marvin Hagler, in a surprise announcement today, said he was considering quitting boxing and was not thinking about defending his title against Sugar Ray Leonard or Thomas Hearn.

Asked why he was contemplating retirement, Hagler said, "It would have to be my family...you really have to be a fighter to understand what I go through and what my family goes through."

"Let's move on while I still have my health and still have my faculties together," he said.

Hagler made the announcement before reporters and backers he had summoned here with the expectation he would announce his next opponent. Hagler has not lost a fight since 1976.

Instead, he took the podium and said, "I've made no decisions myself (but), I'm very seriously

thinking about retiring from the boxing game."

"As far as Leonard and Hearn are concerned, I'm not thinking about them," he said.



Hagler

Hagler has a 62-2-2 record, with 52 knockouts.

Bob Arum, who had come to the news conference with the expectation he would promote Hagler's next fight,

said, "He may not retire, but my betting after this is that he will retire."

"If Marvin does retire, he will be a great object lesson to the other fighters that stay around too long."

Arum said he learned of Hagler's decision about 10 minutes before it was announced.

"I always knew that it was a possibility that he would say this," Arum said. "However, it wasn't one of my leading contenders."

Hagler said his unusually difficult fight March 10, in which he stopped John Mugabi in the 11th round to retain his title had nothing to do with his retirement thoughts.

He also said Leonard and Hearn don't deserve to fight him now.

"I'd like to see Leonard fight Mugabi, Hearn or (Donald) Curry before talking about fighting me," Hagler said. "Hearn doesn't really deserve a return match."

Leonard has fought only once in the last 52½ months.

Kinchen Puts Middleweight Title Shot On Line At Sahara

James "The Heat" Kinchen, the top-ranked middleweight contender in the world and a slugger with a mandatory title shot against champion Marvelous Marvin Hagler looming, puts it all on the line against quick and slick Reginald "Ray Ray" Gray in the monthly ESPN boxing card main event Friday, July 11, at the Sahara Hotel and Casino.

Also on the card promoted by Bob Arum's Top Rank, Inc., of Las Vegas and New York in association with the Sahara, will be an ESPN National Championship Tournament Western Finals bout in the welterweight division and an ESPN National Championship Tournament Western Semi-Final fight in the middleweight class.

The card in the Sahara Space Center starts at 6 p.m. with doors opening at 5. The 10-round main will begin about 7:30.

Tickets, priced at \$10 for general admission and \$15 for reserved ringside, are on sale 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the Sahara casino cage.

Kinchen, rated the No. 1 contender by both the World Boxing Association and the

World Boxing Council, enters with a record of 35-1-2 and 27 knockouts. He also enters knowing that any loss will, in all probability, deny him a shot against world middleweight champion Hagler.

"I'm treating this as if it were a championship fight," says the 28-year-old Kinchen from San Diego, "because any loss and there goes my title shot with Hagler. I'm taking Gray seriously and I'm not looking past him."

As well he shouldn't. Gray, also 28 and from Cleveland, has a record of 12-2-1 with six knockouts and is a superb boxer, the kind of fighter who can give a puncher like Kinchen trouble. He's also tall at 6-foot-2, four inches taller than Kinchen.

Gray won the ESPN National Championship Tournament in the middleweight division last year, stopping Keith Adams, who recently went the distance with former WBC welterweight champion Milton McCrory, in only the second round and Charles "Machine Gun" Carter in the sixth.

Kinchen, who learned his trade in Las Vegas and had 14 of his first 19 fights here, has not fought since July of last year. He holds wins over such world-ranked contenders as Murray Sutherland, Alex Ramos and Buster Drayton. His lone loss came in a world title-elimination bout to the late James Shuler on a close and controversial decision.

The semi-main matches teenager Javier Suazo of Tucson, Ariz., against Rollin Williams of Phoenix in a 10-round bout for the Western welterweight championship. Suazo, coming off a seventh-round knockout of Kenny Lopez on May 23 in Las Vegas, has a record of 15-2 with six knockouts. Williams, coming off a win over Reggie Miller on that same card, has a mark of 13-4 with six knockouts.

In an eight-round Western middleweight semi-final bout Kenny Snow of Dallas meets Tim Williams of San Diego. Snow has a record of 23-3 with 16 knockouts and has stopped seven of his past eight opponents while Williams has a mark of 11-1

Charges against Flowers dropped

Metropolitan Police said Tuesday that they have dropped attempted sexual assault and other felony charges against former UNLV basketball star John Flowers because of insufficient evidence.

"We have determined through our re-examination of the evidence and the interviews that there is not enough evidence to support the charges," said Lt. Frank Barker, chief of the sexual assault unit.

Flowers, 23, who played on the Runnin' Rebels team through 1986 and was recently drafted by the Sacramento Kings, was arrested on the morning of June 25. He was charged with trying to rape an acquaintance and robbing her of jewelry after the reported attack.

Initial police reports said Flowers forced his way into an apartment at 4020 S.

Arville St., saying that he

Bo makes debut Monday

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Heisman Trophy winner Bo Jackson predicts a smooth transition from the glamour of his college football days to professional baseball.

Jackson took part in his first practice with the Double-A Memphis Chicks Friday, hitting several balls out of Tim McCarver Stadium.

"I've had my share of the other side and I want to see what it's like on this side," Jackson said at a news conference, wearing a No. 28 blue and red Chicks practice uniform.

Jackson signed last week with the Kansas City Royals, who assigned him to Memphis and expected him to join the major-league club before Sept. 1.

was trying to retrieve a piece of clothing.

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