

☆☆☆☆☆☆ BOXING NOTES ☆☆☆☆☆☆

Boxing Champions Whitaker and Nelson Clash at Caesars Palace May 19

Las Vegas -- Pernell "Sweetpea" Whitaker will defend his International Boxing Federation and World Boxing Council lightweight titles when he takes on WBC super featherweight champion Azumah Nelson of Ghana, Africa at Caesars Palace on Saturday, May 19.

Named 1989 "Fighter of the Year" by the Boxing Writers Association of America and "The Ring" magazine, Whitaker is known by his legion of fans in Norfolk, Va., simply as "Sweetpea."

During the past year, Whitaker succeeded in winning both the IBF and WBC lightweight title belts without losing a round to former champions Greg Haugen and Jose Luis Ramirez. The 26-year-old southpaw (21-1, 12 KOs) is a 1984 Olympic gold medalist.

Nelson, 32-1, 24 KOs, perennially named on

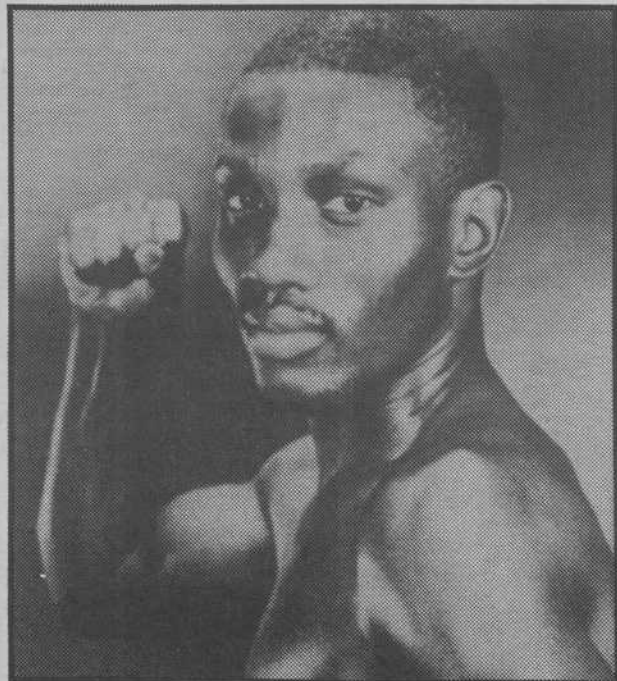
everyone's list as one of boxing's best pound-for-pound fighters, won the WBC super featherweight championship in February 1988 from Mario Martinez and has successfully defended it three times.

Now making his second move up in weight to challenge for the 135-pound crown, Nelson, 31, also has held the WBC featherweight title, which he won from the great Wilfredo Gomez in 1984.

Aaron Pryor Denied License

Former world champion Aaron Pryor was denied a boxer's license by the Nevada Athletic Commission last Saturday.

Pryor had undergone surgery for a detached retina and cataract extraction in his left eye in Rochester, N.Y., on Jan. 31, 1989.



Pernell Whitaker

JORDAN

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on foul calls, but that those same men develop myopia when Jordan takes too many steps or carries the ball.

"He's nice to watch," Versace said, "but he has an awful lot of license."

Jordan, naturally, takes exception to the sniping.

"That kind of thing irks me," he said. It's an insult and it detracts from the game. A loss is a loss and you have to forget it. Don't

sit there and complain. Did we complain after the New York game, when everyone in America knew you can't get a shot off in a tenth of a second?

"Complaining won't change anything, unless they're trying to get it called closer on me in the playoffs. If anything, I'm getting beaten up every night. The refs aren't helping me. I get more scrapes on my body than any two guards in the league. If anyone should complain, it should be (Chicago Coach) Phil Jackson."

McDonald's "All Americans" Take It To The Hoop For Indianapolis Children's Charities

INDIANAPOLIS, IN -- On Sunday, April 15, the nation's top 20 high school senior basketball players "took it to the hoop" in support of children's charities in Indianapolis.

During the past 12 years, the McDonald's All American High School Basketball Game has raised more than \$850,000 for charitable organizations helping children across the country. Each year, several local

charities are selected as special beneficiaries of the game.

In addition to raising funds in support of children's charities since 1978, the McDonald's All American Team has traditionally been a showcase for some of the country's best high school basketball players. McDonald's All American alumni roster reads like a "Who's Who of professional and collegiate basketball greats,

including NBA standouts Michael Jordan, Isiah Thomas, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, James Worthy, Patrick Ewing and Dominique Wilkins. Larry Johnson

(UNLV), Alonzo Mourning, J.R. Reid and Derrick Coleman are among the college superstars who have also donned the McDonald's "Dream Team" uniform.

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