



SPORTS

Boxers Boast Combined 165-1 Record

TRIPLE CROWN SHOWDOWN THIS SATURDAY

Three talented fighters, with a combined ring record of 165 wins against a single defeat, head up a big triple crown showdown this Saturday at the Las Vegas Hilton.

Julio Cesar Chavez, recognized by boxing experts everywhere as the best pound for pound fighter in the world, puts his WBC Super Lightweight Championship up for grabs against Eric Podolak in the 12 round main event.

Former three-time world champion Hector "Macho" Camacho will face Tommy Smalls in a 10 round non-title clash, and in another title affair, WBC Middleweight champ Julian Jackson meets unbeaten Otis Grant. Also on the card is former IBF Heavyweight champ Julian Jackson meets unbeaten Otis Grant. Also on the card is former IBF Heavyweight champ Tony "TNT" Tucker against an opponent to be named.

The Triple Crown Showdown is being co-promoted by Don King Productions in association with the Las Vegas Hilton.

Tickets are priced at \$300 ringside, \$150 reserved and



HECTOR "MACHO" CAMACHO

\$100, \$75, \$50 and \$25 for grandstand seating.

In the event Chavez and Camacho both score victories, they will meet in a highly touted battle at the Thomas and Mack Center on Sept. 12.

The August 1 card will open to the public at 5 p.m. in the

10,000 seat Hilton Center with the first fight at 6 p.m. and the main event going off at 7:30. It will be telecast by Showtime Cable and blacked out in Las Vegas.

The triple header will feature the following bouts:

- Chavez, no stranger to Las

Vegas fight fans, has an amazing 80-0 record with 69 knockouts, the longest winning streak at the start of a career by any boxer in history.

Fighting out of Caliucan, Mexico, Chavez is perhaps the best fighter in any division.

Fight fans will remember the Chavez-Meldrick Taylor fight at the Las Vegas Hilton in 1990. Taylor led throughout the fight on the scorecards and Chavez' only chance to win was by knockout. Chavez caught Taylor with a straight right to the jaw with 12 seconds remaining and scored a stunning victory.

His opponent this time around is Eric Podolak, a 22-year-old fighting out Milwaukee with a 16-3-0 record and 4 KOs.

• Three-time world champion Hector Camacho, known for his flamboyance, showmanship and hype, comes in with an impressive 40-0-0 record in his 41 fights (one no-contest), a record second only to that of Chavez. As an amateur he compiled a 96-2 record. Camacho held the WBC super featherweight and lightweight titles and the WBO junior welter-

weight title.

He will face Tommy Small, a hard hitting 150-pounder out of West Virginia with a record of 26-5-0. Half of his 16 knockouts have come in the first round.

• Jackson's 160 pound WBC middleweight crown will be on the line when he goes up against Otis Grant, a Canadian fighting out of Montreal, in another 12 round title event. Jackson, who fights out of his native Virgin Islands, is a two-time world champion. His record is an equally

impressive 44-1 with the lone loss coming eight years ago.

Grant is unbeaten in 17 fights and has 13 knockouts to his credit with 6 coming in the fight round,

• Tony Tucker's reign as IBF Heavyweight champion was short. After winning the title in May, 1987 with a 10 round TKO against James "Buster" Douglas, he went 12 rounds with Mike Tyson in August and lost the decision. His record is 41-1 with one no contest and 36 KOs.

MOVING RIGHT ALONG...

By W.G. Ramirez

"He's the greatest, the best, without a doubt. He can do whatever he wants, when he wants, however he wants."

Earvin "Magic" Johnson speaking of Olympic teammate

Michael Jordan

As Magic's status remained day-to-day, due to a strained hamstring, Jordan stepped in as the leader of the offense, and played the role of point guard. The NBA MVP dished out 12 assists in helping to lead the United States to a 111-68 victory over Germany.

Veteran forward Larry Bird popped in 19 points, putting all doubts aside, about his performance. Bird's back problems were questionable throughout the week. There was speculation of the playing time Bird would be able to sustain.

Jordan hasn't stepped in as the primary need for a U.S. victory, but his presence definitely helps. He was at his defensive best against Croatia. In addition to leading the USA with 21 points and three assists, he was credited with eight steals.

When Jordan talks of his visit to Barcelona, the first thing he mentions is how much fun he is having - the card games, golf, casino gambling and of course trying to gain bragging rights by talking smack to his teammates.

"There are some harassments that go on between the guys over things like who has won a championship and who hasn't," explained Jordan. "I stay out of that."

"Charles (Barkley) does all the talking, and every once in a while, Magic has to remind him there are only four guys out here who have won a championship, and he isn't one of them."

Jordan, Scottie Pippen, Johnson, and Bird are the four members that own championship rings.

Since Magic has been back as "one of the guys," he has been contemplating a comeback in the NBA. It would be nice to see Johnson back in action, yet if doctors advised retirement a year ago, it could be doubtful they'd recommend a return now. Despite Johnson's illness, He has played exceptional throughout the Tournament of Americas and the Olympics.

The squad may be having a great time together as a whole but "the Daddy" of them all has issued a warning to his summer teammates:

"When the (NBA) season comes around, I'm not going to let what happens here affect how I play. I'm still going to come at Clyde (Drexler). If Magic comes back, I'm still going to go at him, Barkley, all of them. I'm not going to be too friendly." **Michael Jordan**

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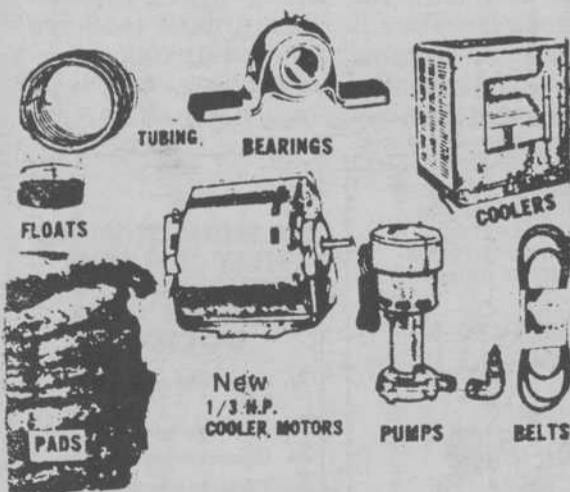
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