

SENTINEL SPORTS

Bowe-Holyfield: No Titles But A History Of Fury

LAS VEGAS - Neither Riddick Bowe nor Evander Holyfield are recognized champions by boxing's much maligned sanctioning bodies, but their upcoming bout this Saturday, November 4, will more than likely be the most competitive heavyweight fight of the year.

At a recent news conference to officially announce the fight, which will be at Caesars Palace, the fighters, who have split their last two bouts against each other, recognized the other's merits.

"I think he is the best heavyweight out there," Bowe said. "I got to deal with Evander Holyfield to prove to myself that I know I'm the best heavyweight in the world."

"We are the two best guys out there, unless somebody stands up and proves it otherwise," he said. "Legitimately this will be for the world heavyweight championship."

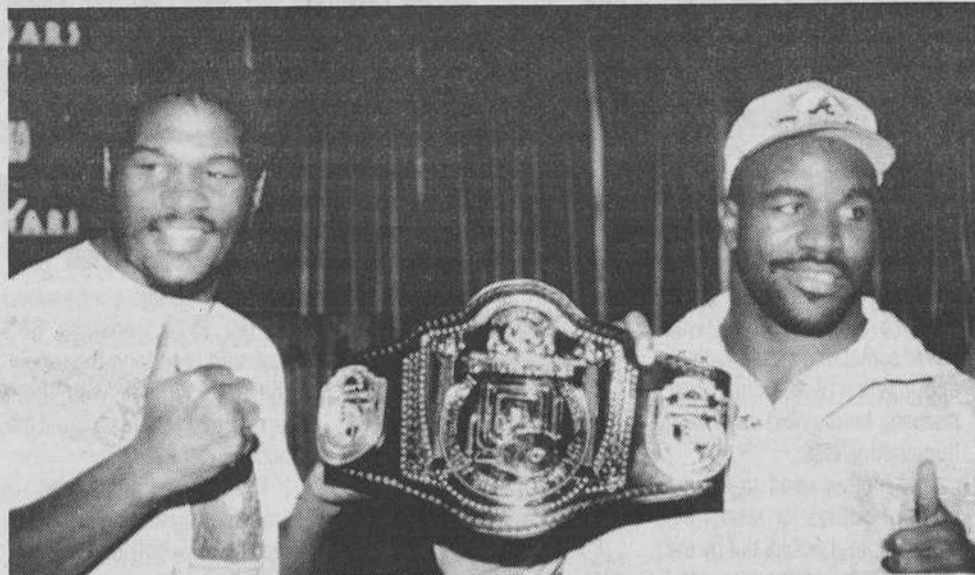
Holyfield, who came back from a suspected heart problem to beat Ray Mercer earlier this year, said Bowe "has proven to be legitimate and nobody wants to fight him."

"George Foreman don't want to fight him, none of the other champions want to fight him, so here I am." Foreman, who beat Michael Moorer after Moorer had defeated Holyfield to become champion last year, has said he has no intention of taking on the hard punching Bowe. Foreman surrendered his International

Boxing Federation title rather than fight accept the group's mandatory challenger.

The champions recognized by the sanctioning bodies are Oliver McCall of the World Boxing Council and Bruce Seldon of the World Boxing Association. They also have avoided Bowe.

While Bowe-Holyfield may be the best fight out there right now, many fans were also anticipating the second fight in the return of former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson since serving three years in prison on rape charges. That bout, coincidentally, was also scheduled for this Saturday at the MGM Grand, but was cancelled earlier this week when it was discovered that Tyson had



Riddick Bowe and Evander Holyfield will be battling for the "People's Champion" belt, according to the New York Daily News. Photo by Jonathan Olsen - Front Row Photos

fractured his thumb.

Tyson had little more than a light workout against little-known, and little-respected Peter McNeeley of Boston this past September.

Bowe addressed the conflict in scheduling saying: "I don't care if we fight Christmas day as long as I fight Evander Holyfield."

The first two Bowe-Holyfield fights were furious battles. Bowe

defeated Holyfield in November, 1992 and a year later Holyfield came back to regain the title in another 12-round decision.

"There is no doubt in my mind that I have to be at my very best to beat him," Holyfield said of Bowe, 37-1.

Bowe was so anxious to fight Holyfield that he agreed to relinquish his little-respected World Boxing Organization title

a precondition set by Holyfield. "Ever since the second fight I've been dying to fight Evander Holyfield again," Bowe said of Holyfield, 31-2.

"I was given the opportunity and I had to make a choice. Do I follow my dream or just fight a challenger who really doesn't mean that much. Evander brings the best out of me. I want him. I owe him one," Bowe said.

Living Legends of Boxing to be Honored

The First Annual Dick Sadler Awards Banquet is scheduled for Friday, November 3, 1995 at the Tropicana Resort & Casino. A reception is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m. in the Caribbean Ballroom.

The living legends of boxing to be honored are Dick Sadler, Don King, Muhammad Ali, Butch Lewis, Sugar Ray Leonard, Sean O'Grady, Joe Frazier, George Frazier, Col. Barney Oldfield, Herbert Muhammad, Bill Caplin, Eddie Futch, Bob Arum, Terry Hilton and Archie "Ole Mongoose" Moore.

The proceeds will benefit the Archie Moore "Any Body Can" (ABC) a non-profit organization.

Archie founded the organization in 1965, with the mission of ABC being to help our youth "step off in life with their first foot forward." It is a comprehensive and proven program engaging at risk youth.

Dick Sadler trained and



Archie "Ole Mongoose" Moore still has the old form... Photo by Jonathan Olsen - Front Row Photos

developed many of the great boxers of all time. In some way he has affected the lives and careers of the honorees and are testimonies to the vision of Dick Sadler. The event will provide an opportunity to listen to these legends tell stories seldom heard before.

For ticket information, contact Otis Watson at (702) 739-2640 or dinner coordinator Modena Presents Public Relations at (702) 734-6095.

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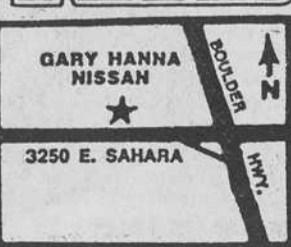
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