

Mosley stuns Margarito in welterweight fight

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Shane Mosley dominated from start to finish, knocking out Antonio Margarito for the first time in his career in the ninth round Saturday night to win the WBA welterweight title in a stunning upset.

Margarito was coming off an impressive victory over previously unbeaten Miguel Cotto six months ago, and boxing experts had tabbed the 30-year-old slugger one of the top pound-for-pound fighters.

But Mosley must not have been paying attention.

Despite his advancing age, the 37-year-old Mosley used his superior quickness from the beginning, and Margarito never was able to display the power and fortitude he showed against Cotto.

"It was my strategy, my focus, my game plan," Mosley said when asked what won the fight. "It was a tough fight, but it was a great plan. It was my left hook. I caught (Fernando) Vargas with it, I caught (Ricardo) Mayorga with it.

"He's a tough fighter, he had a lot of endurance. I prepared very hard, I trained hard. He was very powerful, but he couldn't resist my rhythm."

Mosley brought in Nazim Richardson to train him for this fight, replacing his father, Jack. That move worked to perfection.

"When you have a great game plan and an excellent athlete, then everything works out very well," Richardson said.

The bout was held before an announced crowd of 20,820 — largest to attend a sporting event at Staples Center since it opened in October 1999. The fans were clearly pro-Margarito despite the fact that Mosley grew up in suburban Pomona, but it meant little once the bout began.

"I feel OK. I was just getting caught over and over," said Margarito, who was taken to a hospital to be checked out.

Margarito, of Tijuana, Mexico, didn't win a single round on one judge's scorecard, one on another and two on the third before the ninth. The Associated Press had Mosley every round but one.

Mosley, who weighed the maximum 147 pounds, raised his record to 46-5 with 39 knockouts. Margarito, known as the "Tijuana Tornado," weighed 145.8



Shane Mosley (right) connects with champion Antonio Margarito of Mexico during their WBA welterweight title fight in Los Angeles, January 24. Mosley was a huge underdog.

pounds. He dropped to 37-6 with 27 knockouts.

Both fighters earned around \$2.4 million.

While the 30-year-old Margarito was at his best in beating Cotto, Mosley certainly wasn't in his last outing, a 12th-round knockout of Mayorga four months ago at Home Depot Center in nearby Carson. Mosley was ahead on two of the three judges' scorecards when the end came in that fight.

Mosley was far better against Margarito. Mosley lost a close but unanimous 12-round decision to Cotto before that, on Nov. 10, 2007, and said afterward he'd love another shot at Cotto.

Before the fight, HBO's Larry Merchant reported

Margarito had to have his hands rewrapped after a complaint by Richardson during his pre-fight inspection.

Stephen Espinoza, attorney for Golden Boy Promotions, said he was told by Dean Lohuis, co-executive director of the California State Athletic Commission, that a plaster-like substance was found under both of Margarito's hand wraps and had been bagged as evidence.

None of that mattered once the action began. Mosley landed 178 punches to 108 for Margarito and 118 power punches to Margarito's 78.

Margarito fans at ring-side, perhaps understanding

their fighter was in trouble, began a pleading "Margarito, Margarito" chant as the eighth round began, and the Mexican boxer's corner came to life when he landed his most solid blows of the fight to that point.

But Mosley staggered the champion late in the round, and floored him with a barrage of punches as the round ended. Margarito wobbled to his feet to beat the count to 10, but looked like a beaten man as he sat in his corner.

Mosley continued to force the action in the ninth, and finally Margarito's corner threw in the towel when the fighter was unable to defend himself. Mosley landed 18 power punches and 21 overall to none for Margarito in the final round.

"Something happened in the first round," said Javier Capetillo, Margarito's trainer. "We were too slow. I didn't think he was reacting properly. It was frustrating to watch because he kept get-

ting hit by overhand rights." The fans began a "Margarito, Margarito" chant in the opening seconds of the first round, and the fighters were slugging it out toe-to-toe by the middle of the round. Mosley got what appeared to be some good shots in, but Margarito responded with a smile.

The crowd roared when the fighters traded solid punches early in the third round, and Margarito again flashed a grin after Mosley nailed him with several blows, none of which seemed to do much damage. But

Mosley, using his superior quickness, was connecting.

Margarito appeared to be picking up steam in the fourth round, but again, Mosley caught him with several punches, and Margarito didn't respond with a smile until Mosley nailed him with a right hand as the round ended. That grin appeared to be one of acknowledgment.

Mosley was fighting at Staples Center for the second time. He won a 12-round split decision over Oscar De La Hoya on June 17, 2000 in the first boxing match held at the Los Angeles arena.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS
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651 McKnight St., Las Vegas, NV 89101

Pre-bid information will be provided by GEORGE GEKAKIS, INC. at the City of Las Vegas Development Services Center located at 731 S. Fourth Street, Las Vegas, NV 89101, Planning Room 2B on January 28, 2009 time 10:00am.

GEORGE GEKAKIS, INC. is accepting sealed bids from qualified subcontractors for the construction of 78 unit affordable senior rental housing community. Bid needed: utilities, street improvements, landscaping, masonry walls, concrete foundation, wood framing, plumbing, electrical, fire sprinkler, fire alarm, HVAC, windows, insulation, drywall, gypcrete, deck coating, cabinets, countertops, flooring, surveillance cameras, fire extinguishers, finish carpentry, roofing, stucco, cleanup, lighting, mailboxes, mirrors, painting, appliances and blinds.

Bid documents may be obtained from Mercury LDO, 1950 South Rainbow Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146, 702-877-0322, for a non-refundable fee. Bid documents will be available starting January 20, 2009 from 9:00am to 4:00pm, Monday -Friday. Please contact Mercury LDO to order prior to picking up. Local review of the bid documents may be done at Construction Notebook, 3131 Meade Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89102 (702)876-8660; F.W. Dodge/McGraw Hill, 150 N. Durango Drive, Ste. 101, Las Vegas, NV 89145, (702) 735-2141; and Sierra Plan Room, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd., Ste. 120, Las Vegas, NV 89102 (702)871-1077.

All bids must be in a SEALED ENVELOPE clearly marked "McKnight Senior Village II". No verbal, e-mailed or facsimile bids will be accepted. Sealed bids will be received at City of Las Vegas Development Services Center on FEBRUARY 6, 2009, NO LATER THAN 10:00am. Bids will be opened and read out publicly at 10:01am. All bids shall be in strict accordance with the plans and specifications and this advertisement for bids.

All questions related to the project shall be in writing and submitted at least 5 days prior to the bid date, via fax to (702)364-4925 or delivered to George Gekakis, Inc., 2655 S. Rainbow Blvd., #401, Las Vegas, NV 89146.

George Gekakis, Inc., License #0025406 is an equal employment opportunity company, and encourages disadvantaged, minority, women-owned and Section 3 businesses to submit bids.

Federal Section 3 Program applies as referenced with the bid documents. Published Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice — January 29, 2009

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Website: www.haclv.org
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