

SPORTS

LV's Mayweather Curry Takes Atlantic City Fights

Donald Curry, with undisputed welterweight champion Sugar Ray Leonard watching, out-punched Marlon Starling in a tactical fight and scored a split 12-round decision Saturday.

In the first half of the CBS-televized double-header at Convention Hall, Roger Mayweather frustrated Ruben Munoz with his speed and pummeled him with head shots, scoring a seventh-round knockdown and a one-sided decision to become USBA lightweight champion.

The victory was the 15th for the unbeaten Curry and brought him the United States Boxing Association welterweight championship. Curry's North American Boxing Federation title also was on the line.

Starling suffered his first loss after 26 pro victories.

Judge Lou Bogash scored it 117-113 for Starling, 146½, of Hartford, Conn.

Judges Spider Bynum and Harold Lederman each scored it 116-112 for Starling, 147, Fort Worth, Texas.

The victory was important for Curry, who went into the fight ranked No. 2 by both the World Boxing Council and the World Boxing Association.

Leonard, here as a television commentator, will announce Nov. 9 whether he will retire from boxing.

Starling went into the fight ranked No. 6 by the WBC and No. 9 by the WBA.

The first six rounds were fought at close quarters with both fighters trying to throw body pun-

ches and attempting to push each other away to score with quick head blows.

In the second round, Curry knocked out Starling's mouthpiece with a right to the jaw and in the fifth Starling cut Curry's lower lip with a right uppercut.

Both fighters moved more during the last six rounds with Curry seemingly holding an inch with a jarring left jab and some good shots to the body.

In the final round, it was all Curry as he landed a barrage of head shots and Starling appeared tired and dazed.

Neither fighter appeared close to going down at any time in the bout, but both of Starling's eyes were badly swollen at the end and he was cut over the right eye.

Mayweather used his tremendous foot speed to hazzle Munoz in the first six rounds of their fight and then stopped moving long enough to batter the defending champ in the seventh and eighth rounds.

In the seventh, after Mayweather landed a barrage of head punches, he stepped back. Munoz stepped forward and threw a right, but Mayweather countered with a right to the jaw that dropped Munoz for a five count.

In the eighth round, Mayweather landed a barrage of 36 punches to the head at one point, but Munoz came back to hurt his opponent with two right hands.

Mayweather, 134½, of Las Vegas, Nev., is now 13-0 and Munoz, 134, of Odessa, Texas, is 14-2.

Andre The Giant Battles 13 At 'Boat'

Andre The Giant, all 7-foot-5-inches, 484 pounds of him, takes on 13 other behemoths including "The Incredible Hulk" Hogan, the man who bounced Sylvester Stallone around the ring in "Rocky III," in a \$50,000 professional wrestling match Wednesday at the Showboat Hotel.

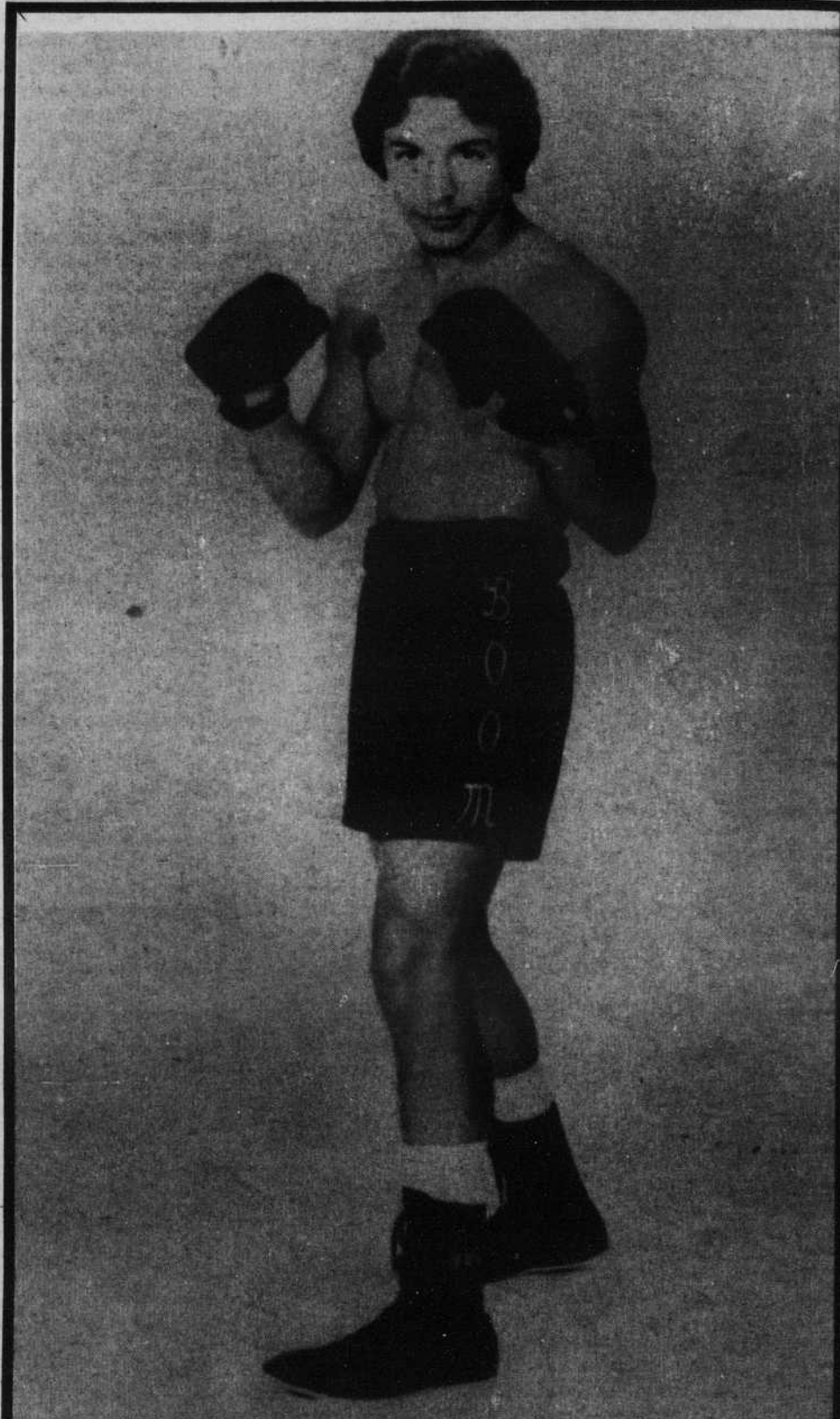
A total of 4,033 pounds — more than two tons — of muscle will be in the Showboat ring at the start of the no-time-limit war. The last man left in the ring takes the money.

The six-match card starts at 7:30 p.m. in the Showboat Sports Pavilion. Doors open at 7. Tickets are available daily in the pavilion ticket office priced at \$12 for ringside reserved and \$8 for general admission. Tickets for those 14 years and under are \$4.

The legendary Andre The Giant, of course, will be the biggest man in the ring — but not by much. Jerry Blackwell of Georgia weighs 464 pounds.

"Hulk" Hogan comes in at a mere 340 pounds. The Venus Beach, Calif., heavyweight portrayed the character "Thunderlips" in the movie "Rocky III." He and Rocky Balboa (Stallone) battled to a draw in the film.

Five countries are represented on the card. In addition to the United States there is France with Andrew The Giant and Sgt. Jacques Goulet (232 pounds), Canada with Rick Martel (240), Germany with Baron Von Raschke (260) and Iran with Sheik Adnan Al'Kassie (242).



Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini, Youngstown, Ohio, puts his World Boxing Association lightweight title on the line on Saturday, Nov. 13 at Caesars palace outdoor arena against Deaukoo Kim, Korea. See next week's issue of the VEGAS VOICE for complete details.

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