Foreman to face Morrison in June

NEW YORK (AP) - When George Foreman told his wife Joan that he had been offered \$2 million to fight Tommy Morrison, she said, "You should retire, you should leave boxing.

When the price increased to \$3 million, she said, "You don't want to get hurt, leave boxing.

But when the figure reached \$6 million, Joan said, "What, are you afraid of Tommy Morrison? You've got to fight him.

And so Foreman, the 44-year-old self-proclaimed "phenomenon" will meet the 24-year-old Morrison for the vacant World Boxing Organization heavyweight title June 7 at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas.

Actually, Foreman is guaranteed \$7 million, and with percentages from gate receipts and pay-perview, he could get as much as \$15 million. Morrison is guaranteed \$1 million, and with his percentages, which kick in earlier than Foreman's, he could earn between \$5 million and \$7 million.

It's being billed as the "Star-Spangled Battle" and rightly so. Foreman is well-remembered for waving the American flag in the ring after winning the Olympic championship at the 1968 Mexico City Games; Morrison, whose great uncle was actor John Wayne, wears stars and stripes on his box-

"The name of Tommy Morrison always stands for American values," the co-star of Rocky V said at a news conference Wednesday.

While Morrison was flaunting his patriotism, Foreman was emphasizing his age

I have become the standard-bearer for senior citizens," the fun-loving Foreman said. "I want all senior citizens to take heart. I will lead you into the next century

When I went for my boxing license in 1986, they said, 'Why do you want to come back?'
"I said, 'For life, liberty and the pursuit of hap-

"I'm proud to be old."

Age, however, may finally be catching up with the indestructible Foreman, who began his procareer in 1969 and has a 72-3 record with 67 knockouts.

"This will probably be the last time you see me box," he said, emphasizing the word "probably."

'I don't intend to fight again. I have other things to do. I've waited so long for a title fight. After this, there will be no reason to go on.

The Star-Spangled Battle will be the last one. I want to win this one in grand fashion.

Foreman said he had hoped to fight WBA and IBF champion Riddick Bowe or WBC titleholder Lennox Lewis, but when they spurned him, he decided to fight the hard-punching Morrison (36-

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coming in third Tuesday. Lyons closed out the three-round tournament with a final round 70 to finish with a 2-under-par 211. three shots behind Stanford's Steve Burdick

"I think the highlight of the week was seeing Jeff play so well," Nosler said. "Jeff is a pure player; I don't think there is a better ball-striker in the country

Sophomore Ted Snavely continued his strong play for the Ducks with scores of 222 and

224 in the tournaments, respectively. Snavely started quickly for the Ducks in both tournaments last week, shooting rounds of 69 and 71 in the first rounds, respectively.

"Ted is getting better each time he plays," Nosler said. "He is a little inexperienced, but he has learned that he can play with anyone in the country.

Senior Cam Martin and sophomore Randy McCracken both picked up their play in Fresno, finishing 11th and 23rd combined. Martin shot below 75 in four of his six rounds last week, and McCracken shot 76 or

better in four of his six rounds.

Oregon's fifth player, Paul Regali, struggled in both tournaments, but Nosler said he believes the sophomore is about to turn it around

"I believe Paul is on the verge of playing well," Nosler said. "Once he starts to hit the ball better, he can give us the type of scores Ted does

The Ducks will compete in the Western Intercollegiate in Santa Cruz, Calif. April 13-14 before traveling to Stanford for the U. S. Intercollegiate April



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