



by Roy Lee Jernigan  
Sports Editor

# SPORT TALK • SPORT TALK

## The champ retains his title

Fighting for the Heavyweight Championship of the World is not an easy task for a veteran of the ring wars, so you can imagine what it must be like for a young man fighting professionally for only the 17th time, to be in there with the Champ. For Carl "The Truth" Williams, it was no big thing.

Larry Holmes successfully defended his International Boxing Federation heavyweight championship with the heart of a lion but he took a good whipping in the process. Holmes faced "The Truth" in more ways than one, for 15 tough rounds and emerged victorious over his young challenger. The decision was just a tad closer in Holmes' bout with Father Time.

The 35-year-old champion ran his record to 48-0, which leaves him short of Marciano's 49-zip. Prior to the fight, the champ stated that the record belonged to him already because of the

way Marciano's totals were compiled. Holmes brought out the fact that Marciano had four bouts with his brother and a few exhibition bouts that should not have been counted in the former champion's totals. It's interesting to note that none of the fifth analysts made any comments about Holmes' accusations. We know what that means, don't we?

When the bell rang to start the fight, "The Truth" planted himself in front of the champ and remained there for the duration. The kid has a jab that in time will rival Ali's. The first six rounds saw Holmes on the receiving end of that dreaded jab so often that by the 13th round, the champ looked like the Elephant Man.

The middle rounds went to Holmes primarily because the challenger would not finish the rounds aggressively. The jab was still in the champ's face, and the champ was still looking

for an opening for the right. The latter round appeared to belong to Holmes after the champ mounted a torrid body attack on his challenger.

Holmes opened a cut over the left eye of Williams in the 3rd round but he couldn't get enough solid blows in to do any serious damage. Keeping that eye from causing the bout to be stopped can be attributed to two reasons. First, the defense of Williams, and secondly, the cut man in the corner must be a moonlighting surgeon.

Were I the judge, "The Truth" would be wearing the crown today. I was not, and he is not. The judges' scoring went like this: Judge Roth scored it 143-142; Judges Rothenberg and Gibbs saw it 146-139. Unanimous decision to Holmes.

Larry Holmes has defended his title 20 times, and none more courageously than this one but this youngster busted the champs chops. Williams is

a brash young man that will not be denied the crown. He speaks and fights with such confidence it's tough to imagine that he has only 17 fights under his belt. The experience that he gained in this fight can only propel this young man into the upper echelon of the heavyweight division.

Throughout the fight, Holmes used every trick in the book to take an advantage but the kid would not fold. Holmes used his thumb and his laces and Williams remained composed. During the post fight interview, Williams had nothing but praise for the champion, and himself.

When you try to dethrone the champion, it is common knowledge that it must be done convincingly if the fight goes the distance. If the reaction of the crowd in attendance was any indication, many fans were convinced that "The Truth" did exactly that.

### Philadelphia awaits the Governor's call Boston 3-1

It appears that the key to the 76ers battle against the Celtics is dependant upon getting out front, and staying there when Boston mounts their inevitable charge. Philadelphia turned the Celtic run aside in Game No. 4, and held on to post a 115-104 victory at home. Philadelphia is down 3-1 as the teams head back to the Boston Garden.

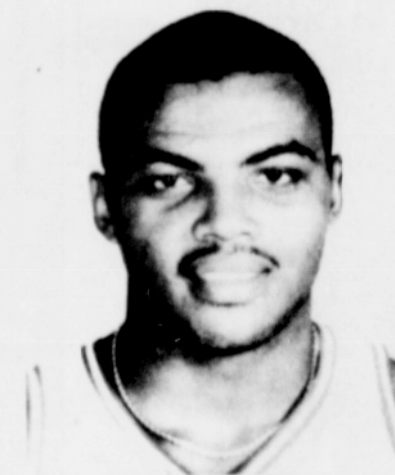
Pay no attention to the talk about no team ever coming back from a 3-0 deficit to win in a best-of-seven series, if it can be done, this Philadelphia team has the talent to do it. Boston knows that, and so does Billy Cunningham.



MOSES MALONE

Hopefully, the 76ers have realized that they must go to Moses more when the Celtics make their runs. That proved to be the key to Boston's defeat Sunday. When Moses is working down low it prevents the Celtics from getting those long rebounds that result from outside jumpers. The inside game eliminates many of Boston's easy layup baskets off the fast-break.

Injuries are now a factor also. Larry Bird has a sprained finger on his shooting hand that produced 4-12 shooting, and contributed to 8 turnovers. Robert Parish has a sore ankle that Moses will not give him time to rest.



CHARLES BARKLEY

Charles Barkley has shown steady improvement with each game, and he can get the 76ers through the door if he continues his strong play under the hole. Charles had 20 rebounds to go with his 15 points Sunday. Moses hauled in 13 boards, and scored 21. Kevin McHale led the Celtic scoring with 25.

Boston will be facing a fired up 76er team in Game No. 5, and must be prepared for a more aggressive team under the basket. The pressure is equal at this point because Philly can pull out all stops as their backs are squarely against the firing squad wall, with the rifles cocked, and the Governor is on vacation.



NA'IM HASAN

Na'im Hasan, the 1984 Taekwon Do Pan-American champion, has brought discipline back to this competitive art form.

His discipline scored him the victory in June '84 to become the National Taekwon Do champion and the Pan-American champion.

Hasan is preparing for the 9th annual World Games in London, England. He has a record of a proven champion.

## Community team challenge

Pull out the old scrapbooks analgesic balm, mothballed uniforms, elastic bandages and other mementos of past days of glory and get ready for Community Team Challenge II.

On Saturday, June 29, 1985, at Delta Park, Rose City Connection returns with the outdoor event of the year. Community Team Challenge II, modeled after television's Battle of the Network Stars, offers friendly competition in such events as sack races, egg toss, obstacle course, team relay, softball throw, dunk tank and many more. CTC II will test your running, throwing, and all around ability as well as your ability to have fun while engaging in spirited competition.

Teams will consist of 12 members, 6 male and 6 female. The entry fee per team is \$120 or \$10 per team member. Points will be awarded to the top three (3) finishers in each event. The three teams accumulating the most

points at the end of the competition will receive prizes.

Last year's first place finishes, the P.O. Raiders, were thrilled with their running shoes, and are anxious to match those shoes with a nice warm-up suit. Rumor has it that Captain Donnie McPherson and the rest of the Raiders may be in for a bit of a surprise this year. Don't fret, Donnie, each team member that participates in CTC II will receive a T-shirt and other prizes, regardless of their team standing.

Applications are currently being accepted for 12-member Co-Ed teams. Team application forms are available at *The Portland Observer*, *The Scanner*, The Urban League or by calling 285-2065. The deadline for entry is May 30, 1985.

Proceeds for CTC II as with other Rose Connection productions, go to support minority education and scholarship programs.

## Neborne PIL champion

Tip your hat, Albina, you have bred a new City Champion. Kevin Neborne led the Grant Generals to the PIL District Golf Championship with a sudden victory win over Wilson High School. Both teams were tied at 314 after regulation play.

Kevin took medalist honors with a 1-under par 71 on the tough West Delta track to capture the individual crown. It gets better from here. Second place individual honors went to Byron Kelly of Benson. Byron was right on Kevin's heels with a sparkling 74.

Both of these young lions are products of the Leisure Hour Golf Club, and all the members are walking around with their chests stuck out, the next challenge will be the State Championships at Glendoveer G.C. next Monday and Tuesday. Let's get behind these young men and give them our support when they tee it up next week.

### PIL state qualifiers

#### Grant

Kevin Newborne 71 (Medalist), Don Houghton 78, Ian Hoge 82, Eric Jason 83, Tim Hoover 83.

#### Wilson

Paul Nasberg 87, Steve Stevens 76, James Wells 79, Kirk Jensen 77, Chris Conway 82.

#### Individual

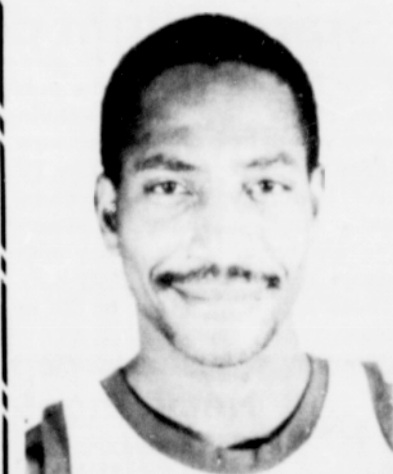
Byron Kelly, Benson, 74; David Schatz, Franklin, 77

### Denver Nuggets lose their English nugget Lakers 3-1

It's all over but the shouting in this series! The Nuggets lost their showpiece and game breaker when forward Alex English broke his thumb in the 3rd period of Game No. 4. Alex is out for the season, and his team-mates should be joining him after game No. 5.

The Nuggets put on a great rally to prevent the dirt from being thrown over their heads. The final minute of the game was even at 116 until the Lakers got 5 chances at a layup and James Worthy flushed a tip-in with :20 remaining. The Lakers went from from there to post a 120-116 win to take a 3-1 series lead as the two teams head back to the Forum for game 5.

Kareem logged 42 minutes in the contest and he made each minute count. The big man took control in this one as he scored 29 points, grabbed 12 rebounds, and dished off 8 assists. Those are some awesome stats for the senior citizens of hoop. Byron Scott chipped in with 26 points on a hot 10-12 field goal percentage.



ALEX ENGLISH

Denver had their chances at winning the game but they just couldn't get over the hump. There were 17 minutes left when Alex collided with Kareem and came away with a broken thumb on his shooting hand. Calvin Natt carried the load from there with 8 straight Denver points. Alex had 28 points in the bank when he left the game. Calvin finished the game with 28.

Without Alex English in the starting lineup for game No. 5, the Nuggets are almost a cinch to be blown out of the Forum. His absence will mean that Calvin must take care of a scoring role to prevent elimination. That also translates into less defense by Calvin, and less defense is a commodity that Denver cannot afford at any cost.

If the Lakers come through as expected, and without any serious injury, the final series for the crown will be something to see. I'm sure the players are looking forward to a rematch with Boston to average last year's embarrassing loss in the finals.

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