

Patterson Retains Heavyweight Title with Sixth Round Knockout

Miami Beach, Fla. — (UPI) — Champion Floyd Patterson, who twice rose from the canvas to knock out Ingemar Johansson Monday night, will next defend his heavyweight crown against Sonny Liston at Philadelphia in September, it was learned authoritatively today.

Patterson and officials of the reorganized Feature Sports, Inc., which promoted Monday night's "\$3 million" fight at Convention Hall, will leave Swedish Ingemar to history, despite his thrilling performance in his third title fight with Floyd.

Neither Floyd nor the FSI officials are the least interested in the loud debate whether it was a "short count" or a "rabbit punch" that caused Ingo to be in

turn floored twice for a knockout at 2:45 of the sixth round. They know that another fight with Johansson would not sell.

The FSI officials have practically wrapped up the fight for Philadelphia's Municipal Stadium and will announce it just as soon as a group of reputable New York businessmen buy the contract of Philadelphia Sonny, the world's top contender in all rankings.

Insist on Change

Patterson and manager Gus D'Amato have insisted that Sonny's questionable ownership give way to new purchasers. And the ownership will be changed soon, it was learned.

Brown-haired, dimpled Ingemar—who outweighed Floyd

206½ pounds to 194½—made a thrilling bid in the first round to become the second man ever to win back the heavyweight title. But it wasn't enough, and he wound up with a gashed right brow and a badly swollen left eye and with referee Bill Regan counting him out. It was the second time in their three title fights that Ingo had been knocked out by Patterson, first man to recapture the title.

Ingo floored Patterson twice in the first round with his "Goleborg Thunderbolt" of a right fist. Each time Floyd bounced up at the count of one and took the mandatory eight-count—used for the first time in a heavyweight title fight.

Patterson rallied quickly to drop Ingo with a left hook to the face for a count of two on the canvas and the rest of the eight-count on his feet.

Makes Desperate Try

After interesting competition in the next four rounds, in which the champion had a distinct edge, Johansson attacked desperately in the sixth round and had Floyd backing away—"while I adjusted myself" he explained. Then suddenly Floyd landed two solid left jabs that drove the ex-champion sideways. Then he hit on the left side of the head with a straight right that sent him backwards and sideways to the canvas.

Ingo tried to rise at the count of eight and almost made it—but not quite.

When the referee waved his arms to signify the knockout, the crowd—estimated at 15,000—boomed because it thought he had given Ingo a short count.

However, neither the Swedish ex-champion; nor Edwin Ahlquist, his Swedish advisor; nor Whitey Bimstein, his American trainer, protested the count. But both Ahlquist and Bimstein did protest that the blow which felled the 28-year-old challenger was a "rabbit punch" delivered to the back of the head and neck.

Ingo said he didn't remember what kind of a punch it was "but it hurt."

His Second Defeat

It was only the second defeat for Johansson in his 24 professional fights. And both defeats were inflicted by

Floyd, who had knocked him out in the fifth round of their second fight last June 20 with left hooks. Just a year before that, Johansson had floored Floyd seven times for a technical kayo in the third round.

In addition to Patterson's two knockdown trips to the floor Monday night, he slipped to the canvas once in the second round and once in the third while evading Ingo's blows. Neither was a knockdown. Also, Floyd suffered a cut on his left brow in the third official.

No official figures were announced for the fight but Feature Sports estimated the crowd at 15,000 and the gate at more than \$500,000.

Irving B. Kahn, closed-circuit TV tycoon and president of Teleprompter Corporation,

estimated that the total receipts for closed-circuit showings of the fight at 207 theaters and other locations in the United States and Canada would be at least \$2,400,000.

In addition, he said the money already guaranteed the promotion and Teleprompter from movies, radio, and foreign radio and films would approximate \$700,000.

"Those figures plus the gate," he said, "should make the fight a \$3,500,000 record."

The \$500,000 gate beat the old Florida state record of \$395,369 established by the Jack Sharkey-Young Stribling non-title bout at Miami in 1929.

Whitworth and Linfield Dumped in NAIA Tourney

Kansas City, Mo. — (UPI) — Top-seeded Westminster, Pa., and defending champion Southwestern Texas State, make their debuts today in the 1961 NAIA basketball tournament.

Westminster plays Arkansas State and Southwestern Texas State takes on Central Connecticut.

Other first-round games today match East Texas Baptist with Steubenville, Ohio, Redlands, Calif. with Savannah, Ga. State, Illinois Wesleyan with Gustavus Adolphus, Northern Michigan with Carson-Newman, Maryland State with Missouri Valley College, and Central Oklahoma with St. Norbert, Wis.

Two of the tournament's top-ranked teams fell by the wayside in Monday's first-round action.

Fourth-ranked Oglethorpe, Ga., bowed to Peru, Neb. State, 72-65, and eighth-rank-

ed Whitworth, Wash. was upset by West Virginia State, 90-89, in overtime.

The day's biggest score was turned in by 13th-seeded Grambling, La., which won over Linfield, Ore., 107-85. Charles Arndt, 6-7 junior, was the big gun in the high power Grambling offense with 35 points and 27 rebounds.

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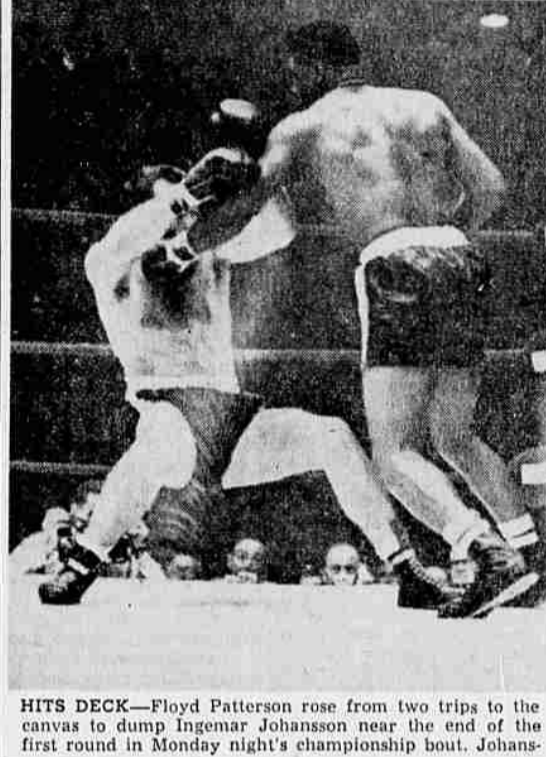
Weiss May Be President of New York Club

Miami, Fla. — (UPI) — George Weiss, sent out to pasture by the New York Yankees after the 1960 season, may be returning to the scene of his greatest achievements as the president of the embryo New York club in the National League.

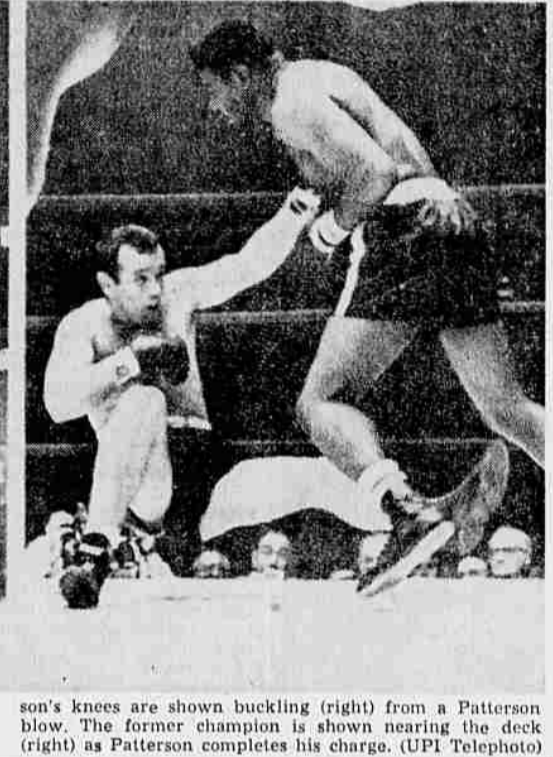
Weiss, 66, a strategist who planned the Yankee rosters as general manager and vice president, was let out by the club last November after helping mastermind the American League team to 10 pennants in 12 years.

An American League owner, asking that he not be identified, said he understood the signing of Weiss by the new National League club "was all set and sealed."

The newest National League member called for a press conference this afternoon, apparently for the purpose of announcing that Weiss has been named to succeed M. Donald Grant, a New York investment broker, as president of the club.



HITS DECK—Floyd Patterson rose from two trips to the canvas to dump Ingemar Johansson near the end of the first round in Monday night's championship bout. Johans-



son's knees are shown buckling (right) from a Patterson blow. The former champion is shown nearing the deck (right) as Patterson completes his charge. (UPI Telephoto)

Ingo Says He Won't Retire

By FLOYD PATTERSON
Written for UPI

Miami Beach, Fla. — (UPI) — I never underestimated Ingemar Johansson.

Repeatedly I have stated that he is dangerous as long as he is on his feet. The fight Monday night proved this.

I felt that I could not get myself unbound and that it demanded every ounce of my skill, energies and courage to win.

Certainly Ingemar was a thinking man's fighter who tried to blitz me in the first round. He is right when he says that the mandatory eight-count favored me.

His courage and determination were very evident from the start. I cannot praise him too highly as a fighting man.

There are other contenders who deserve a crack at my title. Who the next challenger will be will be decided at a later date.

My three-fight series was exciting, unpredictable and historic. I must in all fairness pay tribute to my trainer, Dan Florio, who has endured loneliness, hardship and disappointment. He always has been at my side. And I must not forget my cheerful assistant trainer, Buster Watson. Together we have won the Johansson series.

By INGEMAR JOHANSSON
Miami Beach, Fla. — (UPI) — I will not retire.

I knew this the moment I walked into the press room and the reporters applauded me.

I have no alibi for losing to Floyd Patterson. I fought my heart out. If I made any mistake, it was in my over-anxiety in the first round when I floored Floyd twice.

The mandatory eight-count helped Patterson in that round, because he had extra time to recover, but I have no complaint. We both fought under the same rules.

I must pay tribute to both my trainers, Whitey Bimstein and Nil's Blomberg. It was Whitey who taught me the meaning of a polling left jab and a left uppercut.

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Giant Official Says Medford Should Have Minor League Baseball

Central Point—Value of a baseball team to a community, value of recreational programs to boys and girls and their families and the importance of education were brought out by Walter (The Great) Mails last night in a talk at the Crater High school cafeteria.

Discussing a variety of subjects around the general theme of baseball, the ex-major league pitcher spoke of the advent of the National League on the west coast and in particular plugged the San Francisco Giants whom he represents. Head of the speakers bureau for the Giants, Mails addressed a group of about 65 persons at an open house sponsored by Mill Askwith and Donald E. Faber.

In concluding his talk, Mails suggested that neighboring Medford should give deep consideration to the proposition of having a professional baseball team. Stating that his remarks were entirely unsolicited, Mails said, "I think Medford is a town that ought to be in the Northwest league. I don't think a lot of people realize what a club means to a community."

A professional club, Mails maintained, would be just as valuable to Medford as a team is to San Francisco. It provides clean entertainment, brings in people from other towns and results in publicity for the community, he pointed out. If Medford could get a full working agreement with a major league club such as Fresno, Calif., has with the Giants, it would mean \$40,000 to \$45,000 to the community, according to Mails.

He said a pro team "would do you more good than harm." Recreation is needed, he stated, "and what better recreation is there."

"I'm for anything that will keep boys busy and keep them with their parents," said Mails. Boys and girls who are interested in sports have something to occupy their minds and are not the ones who get into trouble. Mails looked to little league type baseball as "a great salvation to bring families back together." He told of the inspiration he got from knowing his parents were in the stands, thereby showing their interest and faith in him.

The ex-pitcher pointed out that not all boys are going to become pro ball players but that he is interested in giving them something to do and to keep them happy. If a boy keeps busy, he'll be a success in life, Mails asserted.

Mails voted his plea for boys to stay in high school and graduate. He said that a mother and father must teach a boy who has baseball ability that education is a paramount issue of life. "I think its crim-

inal when a boy quits high school to go into pro baseball," he declared. A boy without a high school education will be in a "lost platoon," according to Mails, who said a youth should set a goal and work for it.

Mails said that he had foreseen that San Francisco was "doomed" to major league baseball. With the influx of people to the area, residents were no longer interested in minor league ball. With the move of the Giants to San Francisco and the Dodgers to Los Angeles, the west got two of the most colorful organizations in baseball, according to Mails.

The Dodgers and Giants have meant much moneywise to California, Mails said.

Talking about what clubs think they accomplish by making trades, Mails remarked that "you can't depend from one year to another on what players are going to do."

Concerning new Giant Manager Alvin Dark, Mails said, "I think Dark is a man who can understand his players. I think if he is given a chance Dark can be a successful manager."

Ninety per cent of running a club is knowing when to take a pitcher out and 10 per cent is knowing the players. Every man, according to Mails, has to be treated individually.

Mails stated that "you can't tell about a ball player in just one year." He emphasized that games are "won on the grass not on paper. The speaker mentioned the psychological affect the wind at Candlestick park on the Giants and the affect of the short left field fence on pitchers of the Dodgers. He said that SF players have to forget about the wind and the fog and go out and play ball.

Mails predicted an interesting race in the National League.

The speaker also complimented the players of the Central Point American Legion junior baseball team on their fine behavior when they were guests of the Giants for two games last summer.

Leading ABC Classic Loop

Detroit — (UPI) — Onyx Trophies of New York City and Jerome (Whitey) Harris of St. Louis, Mo., combined talents to give the new Classic Division of the American Bowling Congress tournament some long-awaited prestige Monday night.

The Onyx club moved into the Classic team lead with a 2,955 series to go with an opening 2,849 for a 5,804 six-game total. This was 84 pins better than the previous leading 5,720 bowled by the Sullivans of Detroit.

980 See Fight in Medford

A sell-out crowd of 980 boxing fans attended last night's closed circuit television broadcast of the Patterson-Johansson fight at the Craterian theater in Medford.

The theater opened its doors at 8:30, an hour before the bout was scheduled to start. Seats were hard to find by 7 o'clock. Bob Corbin, theater manager, reported that fight fans came from as far away as Crescent City and Eureka, Calif. Klamath Falls, Roseburg, Redding, Mt. Shasta and Yreka were also represented, in addition to the Rogue valley.

Corbin said he had ticket requests from at least 1,000 people Monday. They all had to be turned down. The fight was a sell-out last Thursday, Corbin said. One person was kept busy all day Monday answering ticket requests on a long distance line, Corbin indicated.

One thing is for sure. Closed circuit fight television is here to stay. The 980 customers seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Speculation on the outcome was reaching a heated tempo when the first test pattern was flashed on the screen at about 7 o'clock. Patterson was a 4-1 favorite by the time round one started. Fifteen minutes before the bout got underway, a count-down was started. "Fifteen minutes to fight" was flashed on the screen. The countdown had reached one minute intervals with five minutes to go.

Favor Johansson

The Medford crowd seemed to favor Johansson when the fighters were introduced. Strangely enough, some noted boxing celebrities introduced stimulated more applause than either Ingemar or Patterson.

Contender Sonny Liston entered the ring first. Then came ex-champion Max Schmeling. A humorous touch was added when Schmeling was followed by Joe Louis. The two were involved in a couple of boxing's more famous fights.

The tempo of the Craterian crowd reached a feverish pitch when the ring announcer said, "Feature Sports Incorporated and the Teleprompter corporation present 15 rounds of boxing for the heavyweight championship of the world."

Roaring Start

The fight got off to a roaring start when Johansson dropped Patterson twice in the first round. Not to be outdone, the champion came storming back and before the bell had sounded, Ingemar had been resting on the seat of his pants.

The Mail Tribune reporter almost hit the deck in the melee. The elderly gentleman on our right, became somewhat carried away when Patterson was knocked down, and we have a vivid memory of him thumping our chest.

2980 See Fight in Medford

This was only a preview of what was to come. When Patterson was canned a second time, we were subjected to more chest thumping. When Ingemar hit the deck, we went into a bob and weave defense and escaped unscathed.

Relative calm followed during the next four rounds. When the end came near the conclusion of the sixth round, it took everyone in the theater by surprise.

From the halfway point of the round it looked like Johansson was going to have things his own way. There were some rumblings through the crowd that perhaps Patterson was injured. He seemed to be back-peddling keeping Ingo at a slow trot in pursuit.

Fatal Mistake

Then the two went into close-quarter fighting and Ingo had his back to the Teleprompter camera. He made the fatal mistake of looking

away from Patterson. The champ thumped a vicious right to what looked like the back of Ingo's head and the challenger slumped to the canvas on all fours. His head was resting on the mat. He was in a squatting position by the count of five. What followed possibly determined the match. He fell to a sitting position. In his dazed condition, it took him the next five counts to get up. He was standing by the count of ten. However, the referee ruled that his gloves were touching the mat and Patterson was the victor.

The Teleprompter re-run of the knockout showed that whether Johansson was up or not is bound to be a controversial question.

Corbin said today that the Craterian will have films of the fight to be shown at evening performances starting Thursday.

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