

CLAY TO FIGHT AGAIN ?

P.D.C.

JULY 1969

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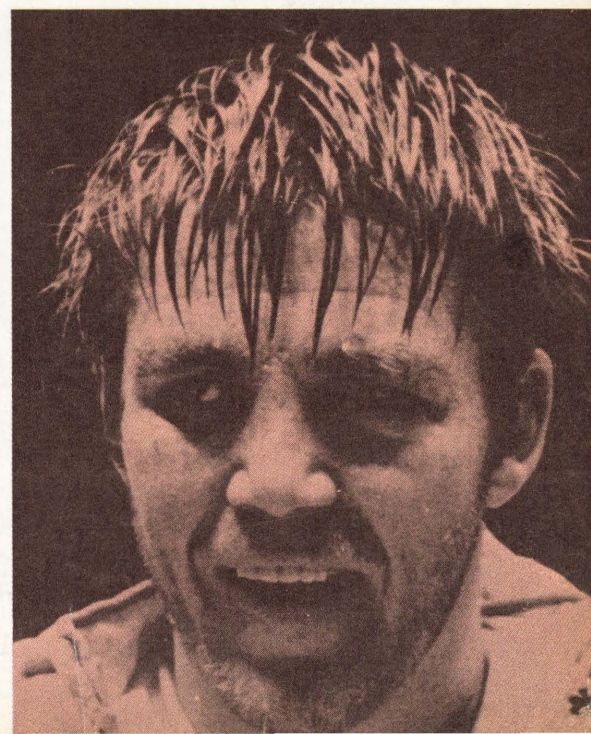
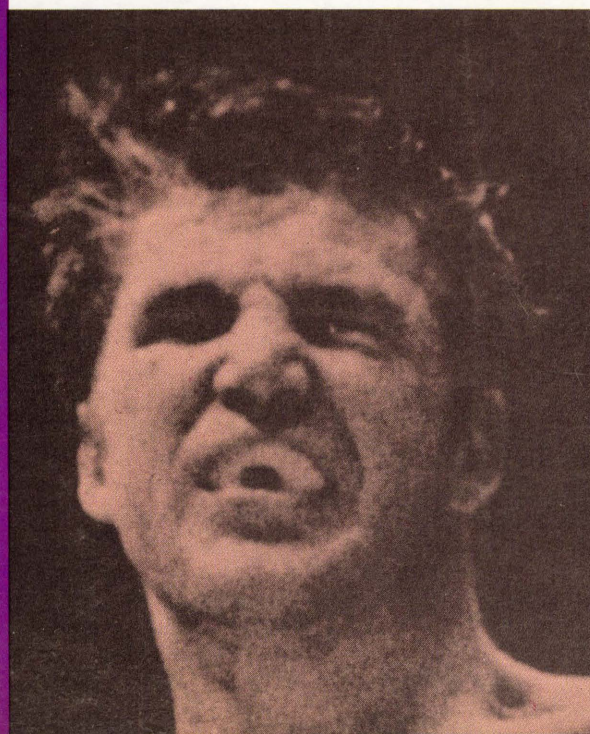
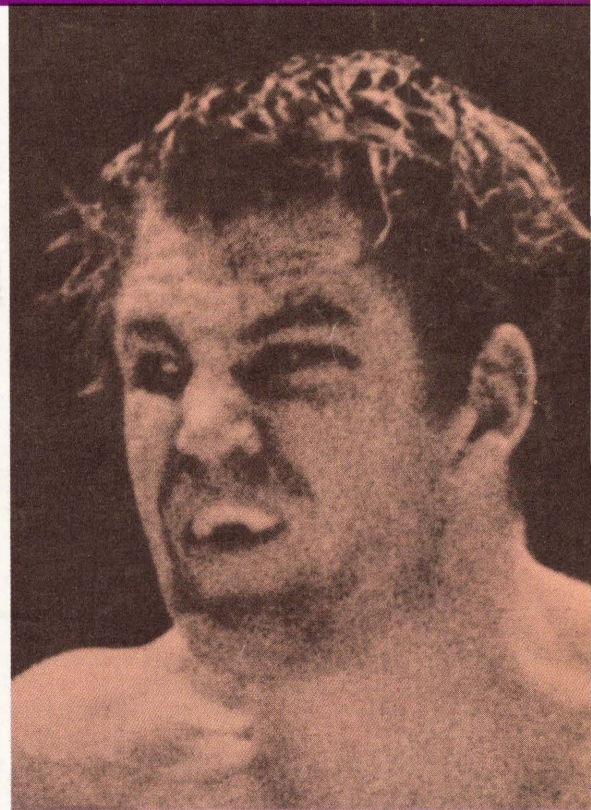
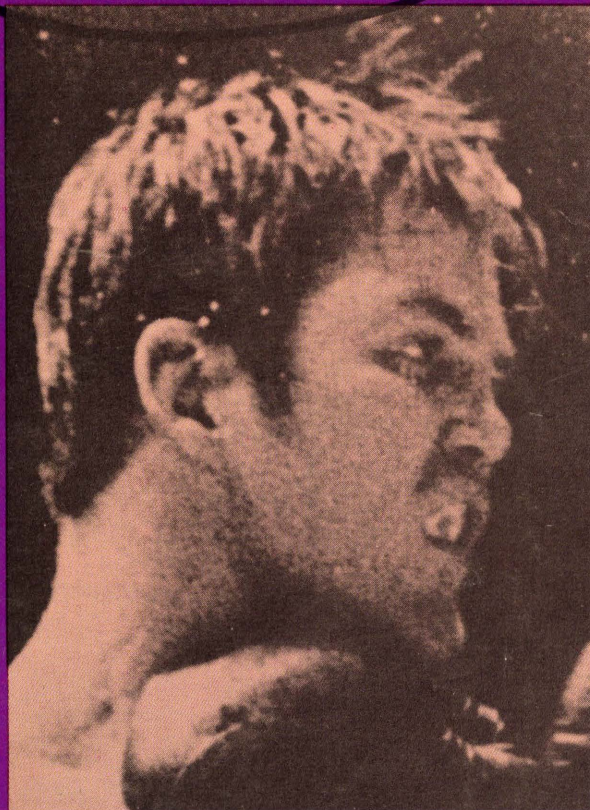
The RING

THE FOUR FACES OF JERRY QUARRY

50th
Anniversary

Dempsey
Exclusive!

Was
Bombing
Willard
Jack's
Greatest
Feat???



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NAT



Speaks Out!!!

FLEISCHER

IN this erratic and baffling business-sport of boxing, you can, and do, occasionally go wrong. You go wrong despite all the precautions you may fashion out of your long and eventful experience.

What I am getting at is the case of Jerry Quarry, and the fact that after I had seen him lose the elimination tournament final to Jimmy Ellis, I gave up on him.

After a long layoff, during which inside scuttlebutt said, "This boy is in a body cast, and will fight no more," I saw Quarry, a 12 to 5 second choice, take Buster Mathis apart the way a top-flight automobile mechanic will unscramble the components of a delicately made Ferrari. Not that Buster is delicately made.

Quarry lost to Ellis because he failed to fight. He had a couple of important focal points of advantage. But he lagged behind and let Jimmy, with Angelo Dundee in his corner, dominate the fight, which was not a classic in any sense of that term.

"Has this kid from California really got the moxie?" I asked those who were with me in my viewing of the Ellis affair.

I was assured that courage Jerry did not lack. Directional determination he did not lack. Prime execution he did lack.

The Old Guard will tell you that once a fighter has fashioned a basic style for himself he is not very likely to deviate from it.

I went along with the rest of the Old

Guard, though, let me hasten, I am not a follower of any fistic sect. I know what I am looking at, I know what I expect to see, I know what demands I must make of the competitors, and the referee and judges.

I looked at Quarry, wondered if it was the same Jerry who had beaten Floyd Patterson twice, and felt that in producing a Quarry-Ellis final, the elimination tournament had failed.

However, the Quarry of the Ellis fight was not the Quarry who took 10 of the dozen rounds with the greatly superior in size and weight Buster Mathis.

Quarry was at the crossroads. He knew that he had to fight to the limit of his abilities and to the utmost of his determination. He knew that he had to win, and after that second-round knockdown, he knew he could win.

So, here and now, I doff my hat to Jerry Quarry, and admit I went wrong on him.

In admitting that I had gone wrong, I am not shaping up a charge of culpability against myself. From the kind of showing Jerry made against Ellis, only one conclusion could have been arrived at, and I hit that conclusion. The Mathis fight changed it.

Did the Mathis bout place the stamp of fistic genius on Quarry? Not quite.

Jerry changed his style. He left hooked Buster to death, he outfought him, he out-

nerved him. He really busted him up.

However, it is conceivable that all of us got a false lead on a supposedly new Mathis through his four-round knockout of George Chuvalo, the gory Canadian.

Chuvalo never has been a great fighter. No, not even in his 15-round stand against Cassius Clay in Toronto in March, 1966.

Chuvalo has a lot of that commodity called guts. But he has no finesse, he has no delicacy, no commanding punch.

However, I am not passing judgment on Chuvalo, whom Mathis quite emphatically punched out of consideration for lodgment in the higher social community of the ring.

In beating Chuvalo, Mathis appeared to have made a fresh start toward money, fame and recognition. Well, he did not accomplish his goal. Now he believes he needs a long vacation, and a lot of thought as to what the profession of boxing holds for him.

How good is Quarry? I would like to see him fight Joe Frazier. I would like to see how Jerry takes a punch from a puncher who reputedly can punch.

Quarry's chances for the championship rest in the balance.

In the meantime, the title still belongs to Cassius Clay. I am told that the Black Muslims have tossed him out. I have not been able to get official verification of this from Chicago, the seat of Black Muslim empire.

If Cassius is not a Muslim, he cannot be a Mohammedan Imam. Or can he? I am not sufficiently familiar with Mohammedan theology and priestly practices.

What I do know is that Federal Judge Joe Ingraham supported a charge of felony against Clay because he doubted the authenticity of Cassius's insistence that he was a lay preacher in Islam, and not eligible for draft. Judge Ingraham appeared to doubt if Clay called himself a preacher before he got his Selective Service call.

In any event, the Supreme Court has thrown the case back to the Federal courts, with the command that they weigh the importance of such evidence as may have been gained by the United States through "clandestine" methods by the FBI, which is mentioned in the transcripts of Clay's two trials.

The Federal courts will examine the evidence. Then they will report back to the Supreme Court. Will there be a new trial? Will the case return eventually to the Supreme Court? Are we in for more delays?

We don't know. But we do know that due process of the law still belongs to Cassius Clay.

How much longer boxing will be able to stay with Clay is a question which now must be answered only by *The Ring Magazine*.

The WBA long ago sheared Cassius, and lately the British Boxing Board of Control calmly walked out on him.

WILL CLAY FIGHT AGAIN?

By
DAN
DANIEL

*CASSIUS
REPUDIATES
REPORTS OF
RETIREMENT;
RING STILL
RECOGNIZES
HIM AS
CHAMPION*



Here is Cassius Clay in Denton, Texas, to address students at a Black Arts Festival at North Texas State University. The heavyweight champion, free on appeal, is reportedly a Black Muslim in disgrace, by edict of Elijah Muhammad.

OF a sudden Cassius Clay has come charging out of nowhere into the heavyweight spotlight.

First the heavyweight champion of the world—and he still is that—was the beneficiary of a Supreme Court decision which sent his case back to the lower Federal Court in Houston for elimination of any evidence which the Justice Department may have got against Cassius through clandestine methods by the FBI.

Then came a break between Clay and the Black Muslims. Elijah Muhammad, chief of the Islamic Negro sect, with headquarters in Chicago, announced in his private weekly that all was off between the fighter and the Muslims.

Black Muslim mumbo jumbo had Clay suspended for a year, barred from using the name Muhammad Ali, and taken off the list of itinerant preachers.

Elijah, who accepted Clay as a fighter before Cassius got into trouble for refusing to honor a draft into the army, announced that he did not like Cassius' statement that he was ready to resume fistic operations if the courts were to quash his felony charge.

Elijah said he was outraged by Clay's tying in with white promoters again—or at least hoping to become active with them again. Black Muslim sources denied that the sect had been taking most of Muhammad Ali's ring earnings.

There is a strong belief in higher fistic circles that despite Clay's statement in Atlanta,

during and after a talk at Georgia Tech, that he had retired from boxing, he would be back in action if he was able to clear himself of the felony, and the sentence of five years in jail, plus a fine of \$10,000.

Efforts to translate Elijah's often contradictory statements in his paper *Muhammad Speaks*, have not been successful. Just why Elijah condoned Clay's boxing career before he got into trouble with the draft, and now downgrades Cassius' plans to return to the ring if freed of legal restraints, is mystifying.

A conversation with Clay over the telephone left the definite impression that Cassius was thinking of putting on the gloves again.

When the writer called Clay's home in Chicago from The Ring office, Cassius answered with the announcement, "This is Muhammad Ali."

There was no effort to pay any attention to Elijah's suspension of Clay's right to call himself Muhammad Ali for a year, and relegation to Class F in the Black Muslim membership, as a Muslim in disgrace.

"This is Muhammad Ali," Cassius shouted, with emphasis.

"Am I thinking of going back into the ring? Right now I am considering it. I don't know. I am not sure.

"If my sentence is thrown out by the Federal court, on top of the Supreme Court decision, I will make an announcement."

This certainly controverted the despatch from Atlanta which had Clay going into immediate retirement.

If Cassius had backed up the Atlanta retirement story and left him without any possible future in boxing, The Ring Magazine would have been forced to announce its abandonment of Clay as the heavyweight champion of the world.

However, Clay repudiated the retirement reports and left to The Ring no option except to continue to support his title ownership, and his continuing right to due process of law.

The Ring feels that the Supreme Court decision, which sent the Clay case back to the lower Federal court in Houston, served to justify its insistence that Cassius deserved to be heard by the nation's supreme tribunal, and merited a legal review of the evidence as it was presented in Judge Joe Ingraham's court, and in the Federal Court of Appeals, which upheld his sentence.

The fact that such evidence as was obtained by the FBI through surreptitious means—telephone wire tapping and bugging, possibly among these means—has been ruled out by the Supreme Court leads Clay to believe that he may be found not guilty.

In any event, the case now has returned to the Federal Court,



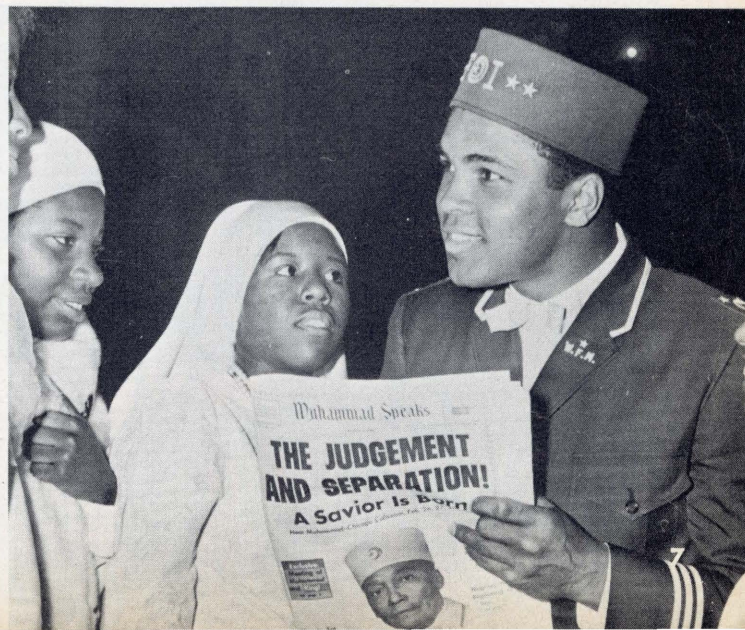
Those were the days, my friend, when Cassius and Elijah were buddy-buddy, so to speak. On the right, Muhammad appears pleased by what he hears Clay say. Below, Cassius sits on the podium next to the Black Muslim leader.



Clay sports a Black Muslim uniform during a past convention in Chicago. Here he converses with some female members of the group, known as the Sisters of Islam.



Clay takes a stroll with his current wife, the former Belinda Boyd. The first Mrs. Clay, Sonji Roy, was divorced by Cassius because the Muslims did not like her.



not necessarily to Judge Ingraham, who heard the case originally. However, his reappearance in the matter is not ruled out.

Clay continues to be represented by the Civil Liberties Union's Atlanta branch, through Charles Morgan.

Morgan makes no brash predictions as to how the Supreme Court's action may affect the Clay case beneficially. But he points to a similar case involving one Kolod, who ultimately won in the Supreme Court but, unfortunately, died before he could celebrate.

"The FBI brought into the Clay case five of his conversations involving three locations in which it eavesdropped," Morgan told The Ring.

It seems that while the FBI was listening, Clay called certain persons, and said things which, as these conversations were reported to the Court, hurt him.

"We will try to find out what we can about those conversations," Morgan continued.

"The case law is not clear. Every question Clay had on appeal still is a question.

"After his Louisville board had ruled him subject to draft, Cassius Clay went before an Appeal Board.

"The Justice Department overruled its own hearing director."

How soon may there be action in the lower Federal court? Will the case go back to the Court of Appeals? Will it drag along, as it has dragged up to now, to another hearing in the Supreme Court? Is there really a chance that Cassius Clay will go free? Who can tell? The courts are most capricious.

In the meantime there are interesting developments in other directions.

Joe Frazier will fight Jimmy Ellis, possibly in September, provided he gets past Jerry Quarry on June 23. Quarry is the fellow who did so impressive a job on bombed-out Buster Mathis.

Quarry did not impress in his loss to Ellis in the final of the elimination tournament. But the Quarry who stopped Mathis was a different fighter, aggressive, determined, a left-hooking and uppercutting contender.

Granted that Frazier disposes of Quarry, and Ellis comes through unscathed, the Big Fight is quite likely to land in New York.

Harry Markson, Madison Square Garden boxing director, has offered Ellis \$250,000 with an option of 32 percent.

To Frazier, Markson has made a tender of \$210,000, with an option of 27 percent.

There has been a lot of talk on the Ellis side of having the fight in Houston in the big Astrodome. But the fact remains that Houston has yet to prove itself as a profitable venue for a heavyweight fight of major importance.

The Frazier-Ellis affair may be for the world championship.

If, after all, Clay has to go to jail, The Ring will have to abandon its support of Cassius as the world champion.

What with one thing and another, especially the unlooked for happenings re Clay, the heavyweight picture has become an extraordinarily exciting one.

After playing a cat and mouse game, the Dundees, Chris and Angelo, have decided to recognize the rational angle concerning Ellis, and the certainty that there must be a Frazier-Ellis fight in order to achieve the greatest possible financial return.

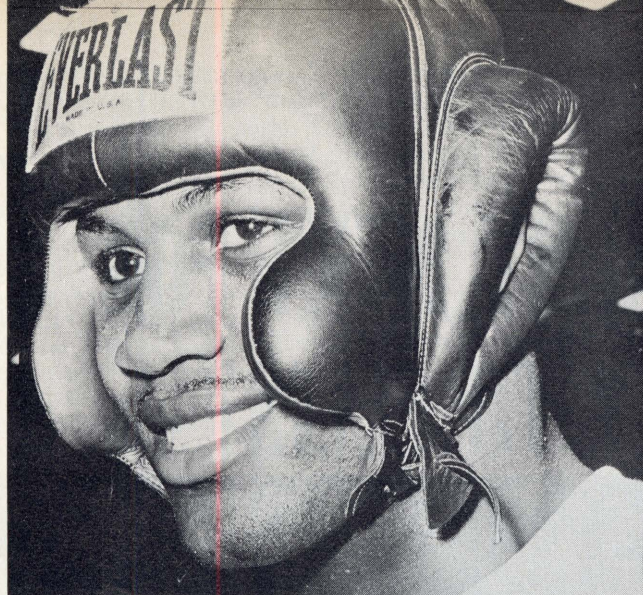
The Ellis interest pulled a strategic rock when it dilly dallied and permitted the Frazier-Quarry fight to move in ahead of the Frazier-Ellis battle.

Suppose Quarry were to stop Frazier? Those things have to be faced up to as possibilities. How much would Ellis expect to get out of another meeting with the man whom he so decisively beat in the WBA-Mike Malitz final?

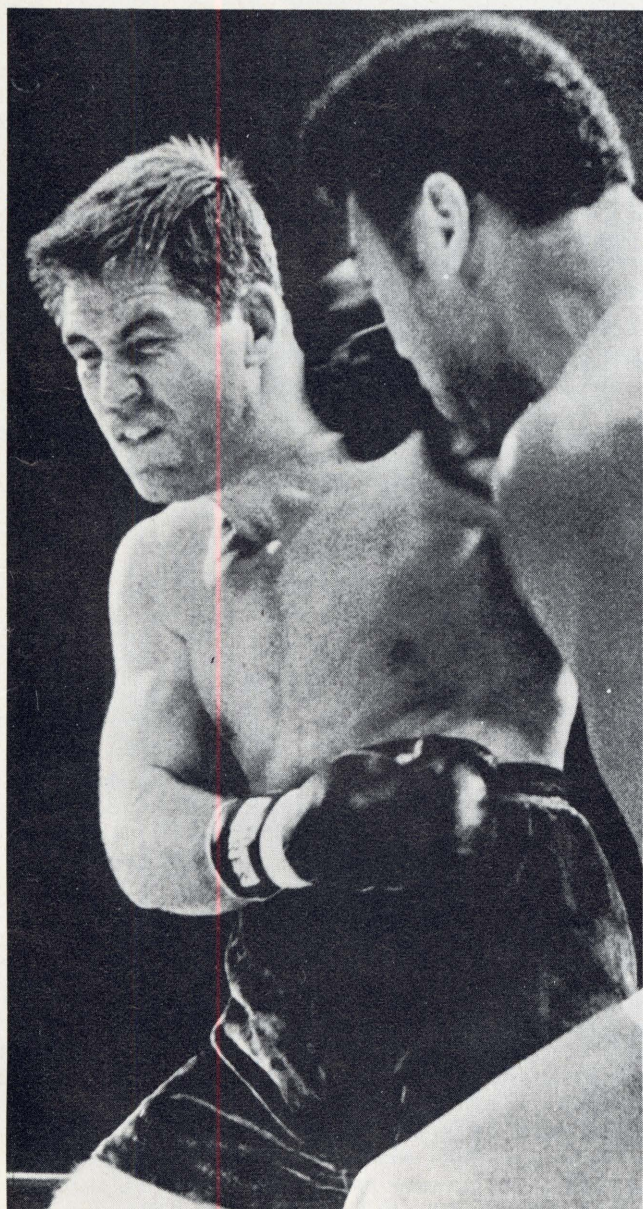
Sometimes the Machiavellis of the roped arena fall into the danger of outsmarting themselves. In fact, they sometimes do just that.



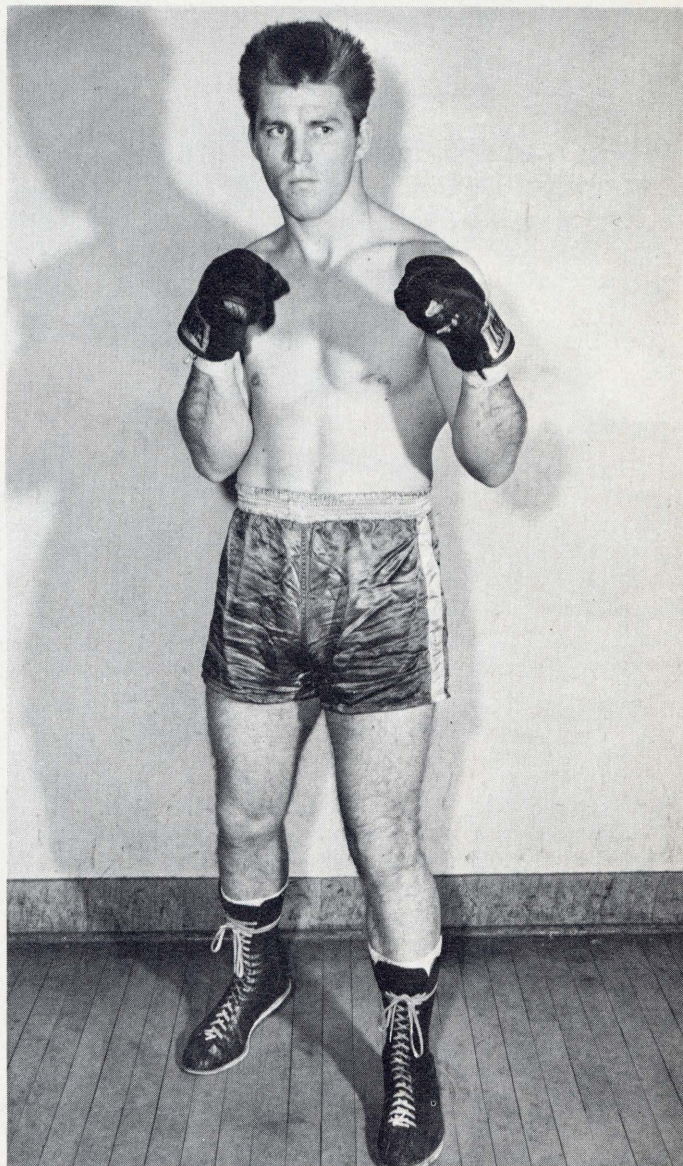
(Above) Jimmy Ellis, recognized as heavyweight king by the World Boxing Association, figures to meet Joe Frazier in the ring in the near future. (Left) we see Clay and Frazier kidding around during a training session before Cassius' bout with Zora Folley at the old Madison Square Garden.



(Left) Frazier, who used Dave Zyglewicz as a warmup for a possible contest with Ellis. (Right) Madison Square Garden Boxing Director Harry Markson, who is anxious to promote a Frazier-Ellis bout. (Below) Irish Jerry Quarry, whose victory over Buster Mathis catapulted him into the heavyweight forefront.

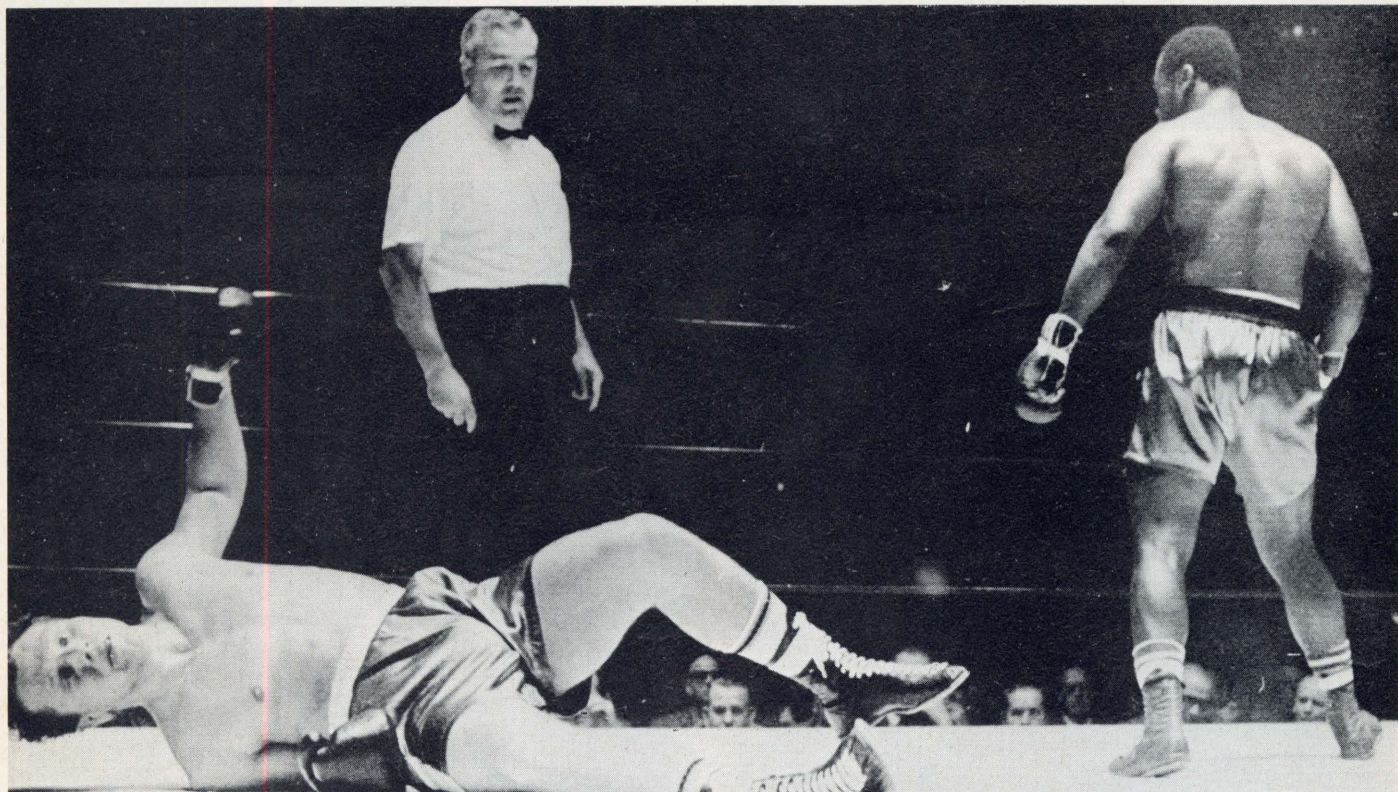


Jimmy Ellis lands a hard right to the side of Jerry Quarry's head during their bout in Oakland, Calif., which Ellis won via a 15-round decision thus giving him the WBA heavyweight crown.



Ziggy Out in 96 Seconds

NEW YORK, QUARRY NEXT FOR FRAZIER ON WAY TO ELLIS?



Dave Zyglewicz hits the floor for the second and last time as Joe Frazier heads for a neutral corner. Referee Jimmy Webb is about to start the fatal toll of ten over the transplanted Texan, who was finished after 1:36 of the first round.

By HARLAN HAAS

HOUSTON, Tex.—The sun went down. The skyscrapers cast an eerie shadow, and a black cloud hung over the Coliseum which housed the Joe Frazier-Dave Zyglewicz get-together. A perfect setting for murder.

Well, a murder didn't take place, but nearly did. What happened to Zig was that he got caught cold, and never had an opportunity to get untracked. He was knocked out in 96 seconds, and now, on June 23, in New York, Joe Frazier will meet Jerry Quarry

Frazier, the heavyweight who is recognized as world's champ in six states, said he'd end hostilities as quickly as possible, and he kept his word. Dave Zyglewicz said he'd come out smokin', just like Frazier, and he did.

The bell rang, and they met head on. Ziggy, one-time heavyweight champ of the Atlantic Fleet and more recently of Texas, tossed a left and right which Frazier brushed away. The challenger blocked a Frazier hook, then moved in quickly to the attack. But a jolting left hook caught him on the temple. He dropped to the deck. A pained expression crossed his face. It was a study in utter amazement as he realized something new

had happened to him. He never before had been on the deck in his pro career, which encompassed 29 battles. He scrambled up at the count of six.

He tore into Frazier, and let go with a clubbing right to the head that made Joe wince. Ziggy started to go to the body with a flurry, but Frazier fired the left hook again, and fortunately Li'l David blocked it.

Three left digs to Ziggy's body had him in obvious distress. He tried to go into a crouch, and fight out of his customary bob and weave style. A Frazier right uppercut jolted his head back. Ziggy missed with a left. Then, as Dave started a left hook, Frazier beat him to it with one of his own. Ziggy went down as if pole-axed.

Dave stirred slightly at the count of eight, but he had received his ticket to dreamland. Referee Jimmy Webb counted 10.

A visit to the dressing rooms found Frazier in a jubilant mood, and why shouldn't he have been happy. He made a hunk of money, successfully defended his position, and clinched a lucrative shot against Quarry in New York. Joe had a small mouse above the right eye, and a trace of a cut reddened his

lower lip. "We butted heads," Frazier explained.

Frazier said he knew that Ziggy would come out fighting. "That is the kind of man he is. It wasn't easy because the guy was out there throwing his best at me. No fight is easy."

Ziggy wasn't busted up, as there hadn't been time enough for him to get sliced. He said he never knew what hit him. "After I went down that first time everything was a blank. I guess I was in there on instinct after that."

The likable ex-sailor from Watervliet, New York, who has lived in Houston since 1964, said he'd take off for a while, visit his favorite spots in Mexico, and probably return to training in a month.

The live gate was \$103,000, and 8,500 people witnessed the Earl Gilliam promotion.

Frazier's record now stands at 23-0, with 20 knockouts. He is a powerful man, and getting bigger. He is amazingly quick, particularly with the hands. His left hook to body and head is one of the best yet seen.

It is possible that he was a better fighter than ever before on the night of April 22, and will be still better in his next outing.

In any event, Quarry faces quite a job.

Zyglewicz had to give away 14 pounds, 190½ against 204½. The betting was 10 to 1 in New York.

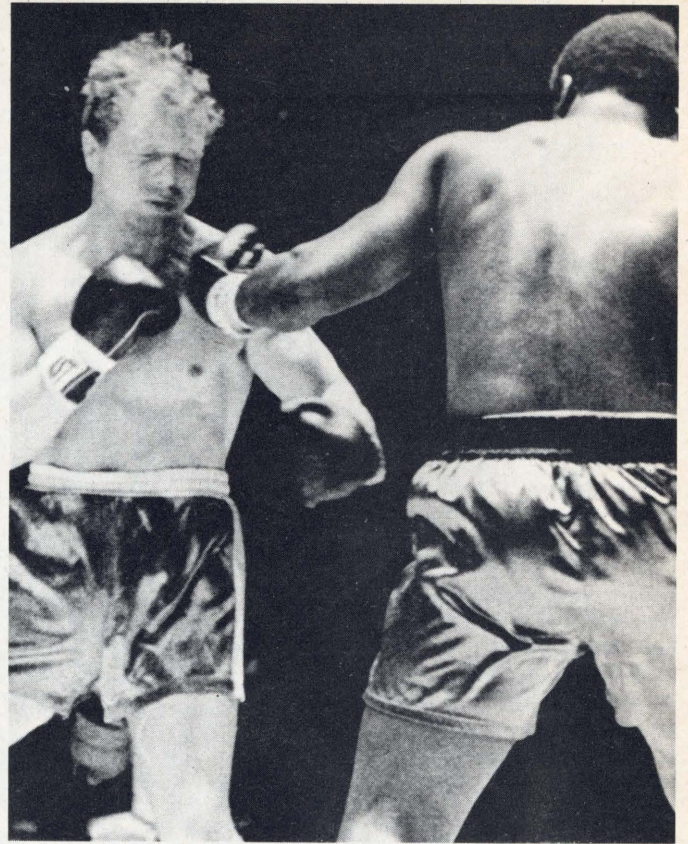
Preliminary fights on the Frazier-Zyglewicz card were as follows:

Vernon Clay, 229, New Orleans, beat rugged Roy (Cookie) Wallace, Dallas, in six.

Len Hutchins, 177, Philadelphia, stopped Dickie Wills, 178, Dallas, in the third. Hutchins is the 1968 National Golden Glove and AAU lighthheavy champ.

Billy (Mole Man) Williams, 192, Philadelphia, jabbed his way to a six-round victory over Jerry Evans, 177½, Indianapolis, in a crowd pleaser.

George Foreman, the Olympic heavyweight champ, received a standing ovation. The Houstonian, about to go pro, responded with a three-round exhibition with Chester Walton, Oakland.



(Above) Zyglewicz is jolted by a vicious Frazier left to the jaw soon after the opening bell. Ziggy's two trips to the canvas marked the first time he had ever been decked. (Below) Jerry Quarry (left) and Frazier match beards in Houston after Frazier's disposal of Zyglewicz. The pair will meet at New York's Madison Square Garden in a 15-rounder on June 23, with Frazier's six-state title at stake.

