

Julio Cesar Chavez Jr Stops Peter Manfredo In Fifth Round

Written by Michael Woods

Sunday, 20 November 2011 00:08



Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. ain't dad, but he ain't half bad.

The son of the legend overwhelmed Peter Manfredo in the fifth round of the main event which unfolded at Reliant Arena in Houston, Texas on Saturday night. The end, via TKO, came at 1:52 of the fifth, one round after Manfredo had started to find some success.

In the stat department, Chavez went 98-221, while Manfredo went 67-284 in a bout shown on HBO.

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Manfredo (turns 31 next week; 37-6 entering; from Providence, RI) weighed 159 1/4, 178 on fight night, while WBC middleweight champion Chavez (age 25; from Culiacan, Mexico; 43-0-1 entering) was 159 3/4, to 179 on fight night.

Before the first bell, Manfredo told Max Kellerman that he'd like to engage in a Ward-Gatti type scrap. He said he knows he's no Roy Jones type, but he'd like to offer the people stunning and stellar entertainment. He'd also said this would quite likely be it if he didn't beat Chavez Jr. We may have seen the last of the Pride of Providence, as after the bout, he told Kellerman that he was done, that he's not an HBO fighter.

Sergio Martinez sat in the front row and scouted.

Kellerman at first said he thought it was a quick stoppage, but Harold Lederman overruled him. Manfredo said after he thought it was a quick hook, but he wasn't answering and the ref didn't want to risk his well being. To Kellerman, Manfredo said, "I'm done, it didn't go my way, I'm not an HBO fighter, I guess. Every time I step up the plate on HBO, I lose."

In the first, Manfredo didn't look out of place. He pumped a decent jab while Jr hit with a few left hooks to the body.

In the second, Jr landed a straight right in close, and a left which semi stunned Manfredo. He backed up, set, landed, and jetted, rinse and repeat.

In the third, Manfredo shook his head after a right landed high on his head. Junior has pretty quick hands, and Manfredo had difficulty blocking launches. The Pride landed a right after the bell. Junior's trainer Freddie Roach told Junior to land the right over Manfredo's jab after the round.

In the fourth, Manfredo landed a left hook clean while Junior lay on the ropes, and invited the Pride to trade. It was a busy, entertaining round.

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In the fifth, Junior moved, while Manfredo stalked, but he got hit by a right as he came forward. He was buzzed, and backed up, drunken-legged. Junior hopped on him, and he ate a load of shots. He was caught on the ropes, much as he was when he tried to step up against Joe Calzaghe in April 2007.* He wasn't landing, or holding, and the ref, Laurence Cole, hopped in to stop it. Junior actually had a poor connect percentage in this final flurry, and Manfredo was still trying to duck shots with a bit of success, but a fighter has to answer, show the ref he's capable of offense, and not a punching bag. Manfredo successfully held only when Cole hopped in.

* : Manfredo told Kellerman he thought this one and the Calzaghe fight were stopped early. He was hurt worse by Junior than he was Calzaghe at the end of each bout. Calzaghe was busy shoe-shining the Pride, while Junior was landing heavier stuff. This stoppage was more appropriate than that one.

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the Roast says:

Ahh, Manfredo's chin lets him down again. No surprise there. The stoppage by Houston's favorite son Lawrence Cole was a little quick but it was going to happen sooner or later. Man I hate Lawrence Cole. Why does he always look into the camera like that when he gets introduced? Another Daddy's boy, getting all the breaks. Nice bald spot Cole.

mortcola says:

I'm OK with leaving behind the Jr-bashing. He is a professional fighter now, and deserves to be judged on his own merits. On that score, he is a developing, reasonably talented kid whose skills looked a quantum leap better last night. Fluid movement, quick hands, precise punching, good defensive anticipation, and closed the show, if a little frantically, then at least with vigor and decent accuracy. And he has no fear, and is not afraid to mix it up. No one is likely to live up to Chavez Sr, for a long time to come. Let's look at him now as if he didn't have the un-earned advantages. Good contender (forget about that "championship")....likely to have a good career and actually win a legit title if he keeps developing this way and keeps his head on straight,

Radam G says:

Danggit, the Roast! Hehehehehe! Loosen up! That favorite, balding, Texas soon saved Manfredo from a sorching, torching, toasting and a roasting, IMHO! Enough spitted! Holla!

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brownsugar says:

Well Said Mortcola, couldn't have said it better..... The children of famous entertainers go on to be famous and financially secure even without having the same level of talent of their Parents. But in sports... especially boxing, athletes have to prove themselves...nepotism can only take a fighter so far. There comes a time when even the son of a legend must deliver.

If Ronald Hearn had the same type of promotion, management, training resources and Alphabet Boxing Commission support as Chavez did, he'd already be a champ by now (by hook or by crook). And I probably would have been cheering all the way even though I know he won't ever compare with his dad's accomplishments in the ring...out of fondness for the memory of his dad..... So it's easy to understand why Chavez Jr's loyal hometown followers pin such high-hopes on the eager to please boxer.

By contrast Ronald's team (yes Tommy and company) threw Ronald to the wolves (a fight against Felix Sturm in Germany) after his first loss just to get a paycheck. That was a career ending transaction that demoted Ronald from being a contender to perennial journeyman.

Chavez has at least shown that he'll get in there and put in the work like a professional fighter. Now since his record has been sufficiently padded again,.... can we get on with some real match-ups against the other 160 pounders who matter? like Korobov, Golovkin, Pyrog, Martinez, N'Dam, Quillen, heck...even Jesse Brinkley or Giovanni will do? Maybe even Paul Williams.

the Roast says:

That's a good idea B-Sug. No not Jesse Brinkley, Paul Williams. Classic crossroads fight. Rising youngster vs fading veteran. Good for HBO. I think Williams' time at the top is over. Ending suddenly in that second round against Sergio Martinez. Everybody knows Lara won that fight, so here we have P-Will, in need of one last chance vs rich kid Chavez Jr. I hate to say it but Chavez would knock him out.

brownsugar says:

Yepper,...Roast that would be a fight full of mayhem and violence. Both men swinging till only one guy is left standing LOL.... and you may be right,... that could possibly be Chavez Jr,.. who woulda thunk it? Williams doesn't seem to want it anymore. Or maybe he needed a long rest. There are worse matchups.