

What's Next For Rigo--Mares, Quigg, Darchinyan?

Written by Michael Woods
Wednesday, 08 May 2013 08:51



Guillermo Rigondeaux made true believers out of people who thought that he needed to win a truly meaningful fight before it became accepted wisdom that maybe the greatest amateur of all time would also be a superior professional when he beat Nonito Donaire on April 13 in NYC. The way he won wasn't for everyone, as fans who like a little less science in their fighting grumbled that the Cuban moved and didn't engage enough for their liking. Still, the man put both feet firmly in the pound for pound top ten with the victory and respect must be paid to his talent.

So, when will we see Rigo again? Manager Gary Hyde weighed in, from Ireland.

Hyde said that he'd love to get junior feather champ Rigo in with Abner Mares, who skillfully demolished Ponce De Leon on the Mayweather undercard Saturday. Hyde said that Rigo holds

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a win over Mares in the Pan Am Games, and that he thinks Rigo's promoter, Caribe, would be willing to collect a nice pot which would make it worthwhile for Mares, who is promoted by Golden Boy. Hyde said that he thinks Mares made low money for beating Ponce and could do way better against Rigo. Top Rank and Caribe co-promote Rigo, so off the top of my head I can't see how that will happen, since Hyde would want Rigo to fight on HBO, which won't buy fights from Golden Boy.

"Mares made crap money last Saturday," Hyde said. "This is his only chance of making serious money. I think there is a 60% chance something could be worked out so Mares could fight Rigo. Caribe are serious about putting money up for an opponent."

Rigo holds a WBA belt at 126. Scott Quigg from England is the No. 1 rated fighter in the WBA. Might Rigo fight Quigg? Rigo also holds the WBO strap. Since Top Rank just signed Vic Darchinyan, and Vic is ranked No. 1 by the WBO, doesn't that signal what Top Rank might like to do next with Rigo? And what about Leo Santa Cruz; he has elevated himself, he's an all action guy...but yes, he's with Golden Boy.

"Very good points, Mike," said Hyde, who thinks Rigo will fight again in September. "I would fancy Quigg but now that Rigo is WBA super champion I presume Quigg will go after the WBA regular title. Vic doesn't excite me. It will be easier to make a Mares fight than a Santa Cruz fight. At least we know Mares and his manager Frank Espinoza want the fight. Whereas I am unsure if Santa Cruz or Al Haymon would want to face Rigo."

[Comment on this article](#)

Carmine Cas says:

When are TR and GB going to stop acting like high school girls?

Radam G says:

Willie Rigo should just wait to win another gold medal in the 2016 O-Games in Brazil. Rumors are that pro amateurs like him and real professional boxing champions are getting up to \$10mil a pop to participate. Doc Wladimir is already onboard. And the powers that be hope to draw Da Manny and Money Money onboard to battle at welterweight. Holla!

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ali says:

Mares and Rigo would be a great fight but it will never happen and we all know why

the Roast says:

Pros in the O-games? Is this for real? Manny and Floyd can't agree to terms for a twelve round fight but they will agree to fight in a three round tournament wearing tank tops and head gear with that weird scoring system? I don't believe it. This will happen right after the Roast wins the Academy Award for Best Actor in the Italian remake of On Golden Pond.

Radam G says:

There are no more head gears and weird scoring, the Roast. Amateur boxing has been professionalized. The scoring is now done by three judges with the 10-points-of-less system. And the age limit for fighters in the elite division is 19 years old to 40 years old. But don't be surprised if there will be waivers for the likes of Roy Jones Jr.

C'mon, the Roast! You are too busy handling your peep at da dames, damsels and dolls, so you're missing the changing landscape of seedy, greedy pugilism. This is what happens if you constantly have the XX-chromosome honeys on your mind. Hehehe! Holla!

amayseng says:

I thought that once professional you could not fight

in the amateurs.

?

Carmine Cas says:

Lol that would be so ironic if manny and floyd fought in the amateurs

Radam G says:

Changing times, amayseng. Boxing has finally caught up with the other shooting sport of basketball. BTW, amayseng, U.S. amateurs who fought in the amateur pro league last year went to the games and fought and LOST. Holla!

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wasn't golden pond controversial for its time? times change. check it out =

Earlier this month, AIBA President C K Wu unveiled a new program entitled AIBA Professional Boxing (APB), to be launched in 2013, which will allow competitors to retain their Olympic eligibility despite boxing professionally.

Wu, who is also an International Olympic Committee (IOC) member, told insidethegames that he is hopeful the sport's top professional stars such as Floyd Mayweather Junior, Manny Pacquiao and Amir Khan will compete in the completion saying "the door is open to them" but Warren believes Olympic boxing must remain amateur.

"News this week is that professional boxing could feature at the 2016 Olympics in Rio – but I can't see how it's a good idea," Warren wrote in his column in The Sun.

"The IOC confirmed it was discussing the move with the International Amateur Boxing Association.

"But where would it leave the amateur sport?

"Over the years, sports such as tennis have been introduced to the Olympics, even though Roger Federer and company would prefer to win Wimbledon than a gold medal.

"Pro boxers have world titles to aim for – and their side of the sport is completely different to the amateur set-up."

The new format will see amateur boxers compete without head guards while being scored by three judges but Warren said that this fact is irrelevant in comparing professional and amateur boxers.

Radam G says:

Way to go, Deepwater! Ya' da MAN! And you are teaching the lazies and know nothings how to swim in the deepwaters of boxing knowing da know, and not outta those wind pipes just blow. The game is not fiction at the picture show. And everything can be FOUND and nothing is on the down low. And if they don't know, now they KNOW!

Nothing reveal a muthasucka like the hard, serious, sweet reality of the sweet science. Holla!

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BTW, TSS West Coast Chiefy David-Double-A wrote some copy last year in this universe about the WSB -- the amateur pro-fighting league. Danggit! Some of you guys musta' fo'got! Or just were in a state of inattention blindness. Holla!

the Roast says:

[QUOTE=deepwater;30435]wasn't golden pond controversial for its time? times change. check it out = Earlier this month, AIBA President C K Wu unveiled a new program entitled AIBA Professional Boxing (APB), to be launched in 2013, which will allow competitors to retain their Olympic eligibility despite boxing professionally.

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I don't remember On Golden Pond really. It was just the first movie that came to mind that night. thanks for the info on the new amateur setup. Seems unlikely to me that biggest names in pro boxing would compete in a three round tourney. High risk of embarassment vs low reward. They already have titles and millions of dollars. The games used to be a springboard into the pros. The U.S. teams from '76 and '84 had so many stars. Not since Oscar in '92 has there been a true crossover into the mainstream star. I used to love Olympic boxing to see the next wave of talent coming into the pros but they messed it up so bad. I hope they can fix it.

Radam G says:

Wow! Please explain the high risk of embarrassment versus low reward. \$10mil is a high reward for any pro fighting 3-to-4 three-round fights with pro-rules and scoring. The pure

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[QUOTE=Radam G;30692]Wow! Please explain the high risk of embarrassment versus low reward. \$10mil is a high reward for any pro fighting 3-to-4 three-round fights with pro-rules and scoring. The pure amateurish-fighting pugilist is now at a disadvantage, not the seasoned pro, who can kayo you at any second within three rounds. Holla![/QUOTE]

10 mil for top dogs like Manny or Floyd is chump change. They aren't going to risk being upset in a three rounder by some unknown. After fighting 10 and 12 rounders for all this time you can't just fight three round fights. The first round is a feeling out round most of the time. Hell, a lot of people gave the Ghost the 1st and 2nd rounds vs Floyd before Floyd found his groove and swept the rest. Leave the Games to the young fighters coming up. Let somebody break out and make a name for themselves. This is why I hate Classic Rock radio stations. I don't want to hear tired *** Zepplin, Stones, and Who songs forever! Let some new bands take the stage. I don't want to hear 70 year old Plant, Jagger or Daltrey and I don't want pro boxers in the Olympic games!!

Radam G says:

You will be surprised what top dawg fighters will do. And \$10mil tax free ain't chump change. After expenses and taxes, Money May only clear about nine or 10mil for himself. Da Manny's amount is only \$3mil and change. His real bucks came from endorsement, movies and songs.

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