

Keep An Eye on David Price As Possible Klitschko Foe

Written by Kelsey McCarson
Friday, 18 May 2012 13:41



Love it or hate it, heavyweight boxing makes or breaks the sport. American fight fans might be dismayed over the lack of burgeoning heavyweight talent on the home front (Seth Mitchell notwithstanding), but the division is alive and well internationally.

Beyond the obvious case of the Klitschko brothers, who have enjoyed a historic stranglehold on the division for what seems like a decade (in reality it's been about eight years), international fans of boxing's glory division have also been treated recently to a number of up-and-comers.

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Fighters from across the pond, like Tyson Fury and Mike Perez, are filling fight fans full of hope, and David Price (12-0, 10 KOs) just might be in pole position in the race for most likely to become world champion.

Price is a six-foot, eight-inch monster with a killer jab and serious power in his right hand. He fights clean and hard, and so far he seems eager to use his size the way fight fans expect. Price makes his opponents come to him, and when they do he unloads on them with heavy-handed combinations. He's not as polished or fluid as Wladimir Klitschko, and he's yet to prove his toughness the way Vitali has, but he's definitely on the shortlist of people who could someday conceivably defeat either of the brothers (or at the very least succeed them as champion when they retire).

Price shared the super heavyweight bronze medal in the 2008 Olympics with fellow heavyweight hopeful Deontay Wilder from the United States. Like Wilder, Price has been brought along slowly as he's transitioned from the amateur ranks to professional pugilism. Unlike Wilder, Price's progression has been measureable enough to keep fight fans both interested and excited about his future.

Case in point: while Wilder has been pummeling tomato cans and walking punching bags, David Price has already defeated three fighters someone might have actually heard of before. Over his last three fights, Price has knocked out Raphael Butler, Tom Dallas and John McDermott—all three of them within the first two rounds. While none of these guys would be mistaken for title contenders, they are all, at minimum, *bona fide* competition for a rising challenger. Butler has been in the ring with the likes of Eddie Chambers, Chris Arreola and Malik Scott. Tom Dallas was an undefeated prospect himself at the time of the clash, and McDermott is a scrappy slugger who's gone the distance with Price's fellow undefeated prospect Tyson Fury.

So far, Price has handled his competition with ease.

Now that he's due for a legitimate step-up fight, Price will face Sam Sexton (15-2, 6 KOs), whose only two losses came against notable heavyweight contender Dereck Chisora. While Chisora may be more famous for acting a fool outside the ring, what he has done inside the ring has been impressive in its own right. Anyone who can go the distance with Vitali Klitschko must

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be doing something right.

Beating Sexton won't prove Price is on his way to the top, but it certainly won't hurt the idea either. In fact, Sam Sexton is exactly the type of gatekeeper Price needs in order to prove himself at this point in his career. If he really is the future of heavyweight boxing, then he should defeat Sexton soundly, if not easily. But if he's a pretender to the throne of heavyweight hopeful, Sexton is rough and tough enough to expose that in a flash.

Either way, we'll get a price check this Saturday on the 27-year-old heavyweight from Liverpool.

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deepwater says:

sure does make sense that klitcos would like to fight a 12-0 fighter. what a joke.

Radam G says:

Niece piece and respect due. But this muthasucka is just another flash-in-the-pants HYPE. The Docs/Bros K may as well substitute their doctoring arse thrashing with cutting timber arse slicing, because this is exactly what they will do to this giant over them.

WTF! Is this some "The Price is Right!" jive? Where in da heck are all these Goliaths coming from? Was Goliath's gene pool that big? Hehehe! The K-Bros/Docs will put a serious David slingshot hicky on this latest Price hype big, ole dome. Holla!

RealAmerican says:

I don't understand why you Brits have to tear down Wilder to build up your guys. If he's not important, why even bring him up? What's even more pathetic is the way you do it when writing your "articles". Dallas builds up an undefeated record fighting fighters with losing records and he's suddenly a prospect. McDermott going the distance with Fury? Please. Fury is as overrated as all your British fighters. You also fail to mention him getting knocked out the 2nd time he met Fury, leading one to believe the decision bout was a fluke.

I would put Butler on par with Harold Sconiers who has fought some tough opponents in losing efforts as well and even defeated Jamell McCline AFTER losing to Wilder. Meaning the guy wasn't in decline like every single fighter Price has beaten.

Look, I'm sure Price is a good fighter, but let's not tear down another undefeated prospect just

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to make your guy look good. We won't know who's the better fighter until they are in the ring.

brownsugar says:

[I][B]I've been screaming about the potential of David Price for the last 18 months... [/B][/I]
[I][B]he can throw every punch in a boxers arsenal and look smooth, relaxed and proficient doing it. He transitions nicely and has good boxing skill. [/B][/I]
[I][B]However it's too early for him to fight either Kbrother...[/B][/I]

[I][B]keep doing what cha' doin and you'll be there soon enough. [/B][/I]

[I][B]Wilder has potential.... and a devastating right hand... but his experience level is in it's infancy.. (although he'll go much farther than Mitchell once he's given the proper time to season up)[/B][/I]

brownsugar says:

This guy is unbelievable,.. Price can soften guys up with a variety of bodyshots, hooks and uppercuts which makes him extremely formidable.

Theres' nothing worse than trying to defend yourself from bodyshots being delivered by a fighter who's got the wing span of an Albatross.

Price is something special, althought I'd like to see him get some opponents who can force him to get in some rounds. Don't know how good his chin is,.. but like most boxers he knows how to take the impact off incoming punches and is hard to his flush. A tremendous prospect who I hope can get plenty of sturdy work under his belt before he moves in for a title. With the proper patience and seasoning, he will beat anybody out there.

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kmcc505 says:

[QUOTE=RealAmerican;16451]I don't understand why you Brits have to tear down Wilder to build up your guys. If he's not important, why even bring him up? What's even more pathetic is the way you do it when writing your "articles". Dallas builds up an undefeated record fighting fighters with losing records and he's suddenly a prospect. McDermott going the distance with Fury? Please. Fury is as overrated as all your British fighters. You also fail to mention him

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Look, I'm sure Price is a good fighter, but let's not tear down another undefeated prospect just to make your guy look good. We won't know who's the better fighter until they are in the ring.[/QUOTE]

I am not a brit.

I like Deontay Wilder and hope someday both guys are fighting an epic trilogy for the HW crown. However, Price's resume to date is indisputably better than the trashcans, has-beens and never-weres Wilder has been fighting. I'm not even saying Wilder shouldn't be taking it slow. In fact, his manager told me they were doing this by design because of his lack of amateur experience. I'm all for it if it helps the kid gets where he wants to go, but it doesn't change what it is.

kmcc505 says:

One more thing, I hope to see Deontay develop a solid jab to go along with his beast mode right hand. If he gets that, he can be special.

Radam G says:

Deontay is a hyped-up, low performance bum. I doubt that he can make the low curve of the sorry-arse heavyweights. Wow! It looks like the Docs/bros K will be ruling that division until they are in their 60s. Holla!

the Roast says:

It's not a good sign that four years later Wilder hasnt had anything close to a step up fight.

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brownsugar says:

[B][I]yeah I know..... Deontay reeks of pabulum and simalac. Infact he got warned in his last fight for creating a cloud of dust from all the baby powder his promoter poured into his trunks. But he's only doing what other incubated fighter have done in Mexico. How did Alvarez and Chavez get to damn near 40-0? by having the same kind of fights. Only Deontay can't hide south of the border untill he's ready. [/I][B]

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[B]/[B]

[B][I]Lets not forget that Deontay is just trying to recapture his youth. He's only had 2years of amateur experience with 21 fights... (Althought he did defeat a Russian Gold Medalist in dual meet and upset 2 national champs). [/I]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B][I]As far as expectations go.... lets dumb those down a little for the time being. with Mark Breland as a trainer he's not going to evolve into the next Tyson or Sonny Liston.. But he should inherit Marks' sound boxing fundamentals. [/I]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B][I]Deontay Wilder is 6'7" and possibly one of the hardest right hand punchers in the business. [/I]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B][I]the Downside he's built like Mike Tyson poured into a tall dark glass... The guy only weights 215lbs soaking wet.[/I]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B][I]with heavyweights lumbering around at 250lbs +, he's doesn't really have all the advantage that the press has been constantly putting on him.[/I]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B][I]A defensive tackle like Mitchell could shoulder him into oblivion if Deontays footwork doesn't equal his height and reach advantage by the time he's ready to step up. [/I]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B][I]I think he's got a lot of upside if he's given the chance to mature and grow... but don't expect him to grow too big... my 5'8" little sister has thicker legs than this dudes'.[/I]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B][I]Like David Price lets see what he can do when they put him in with guys who can make him put in some rounds.. Then we'll know.... not tomorrow,.. but soon. [/I]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B]/[B]

[B]/[B]

Radam G says:

@B-Sug! I understand that you are pulling for Deontay, but for a heavyweight, he will not be much more than a BUM -- a B fighter. Two years of amateur experience is enough for a prized heavyweight with a future in the pros.

Let me remind you that Big George Foreman only had a tick over a year and a tad over 20 amateur bouts before he won the gold medal in the O Games. Sonny Listen had less than a year and 20 amateur bouts before he won the National AAU. Ernie Shaver had less than two before he won the AAU with two hand full of amateur bouts and then terrorized the pros. Kenny Norton and Mike Weaver had less two years in the U.S. Marine Corps with less than 30 amateur bouts before they got out and started terrorizing the pros and became title-belt holders. And Larry "So very Contrary" Holmes also only had less than two years in the amateurs and about 25 amateur bouts.

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Heavyweights because of their power and sizes are different type of whup-arse animals. They don't need a lot of years fighting in the amateurs. And IMHO, Deontay ain't one, who is in the above group. He is not being moved upward to smash arses like all the above whupa\$\$es that I mentioned. Holla!

Condor says:

I've been saying this for YEARS: The Klitschkos cannot control their opposition. It's SO simple yet ungraspable. Look, if I could beat a Klitschko, I'd jump off the couch, grab a heavyweight strap, and guarantee myself a deep 8 figures in the process. It's planet Earth and the heavyweight title. It's a lotto ticket and incredible historic significance (hell, I'd love to be heavyweight champ without the dough). I don't know. I'm not a believer in the "let's give a guy 3 fights a year against nobodies for 5 years and see what he has in 2017 or 2018." If this guy feels he's ready, great, let's do it. And if he loses, so be it (but of course Price should kick either Klitschko's *** because they both suck and are merely big buffoons in a world where no one wants to be heavyweight champ). And rich. Right.

brownsugar says:

Good Post Condor, (where ya been?)

I don't think anybody here has even mentioned the KBrothers on this post, for the purpose of criticizing or to devalue his accomplishments because even though Price is a good prospect, the guy only has 12 fights and Wlad had well over 30 before he began the 6th longest reign in heavyweight history.

And Wilder who does have great potential,.. isn't even ready for a guy like Seth Mitchell at this point on time. At only 215 lbs, Wilder is going to really have to work for it.

Condor, you and Mort have done a lot to raise readers awareness of the KBrothers on this site...they both are still basically untouchable for the next 12-18months. But finally we can see some decent challengers on the horizon... and in my opinion,.. if Price can continue to develop the way he's been doing... He may be the one to whom the torch will be passed.

brownsugar says:

Thanks again for the response RG,..

I think you've proven my point.

there's only a handful of heavyweight champs throughout the history of boxing who developed into world beaters after having a late start and little to no amateur experience

Foreman beat Norton and Frazier,.. Frazier beat Ali,..Shavers beat Norton,.. Norton beat Ali, But in the end Ali beat them all which is a testament to his ability to adapt and provide the proper antidote to whomever was challenging him.

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Thats nigh impossible to do for fighters who havent had that lifelong education beginning their boxing experience in the amateurs during their preteens. There's almost no substitute for it.

Even Holmes boxed bare knuckle fights for a quarter a pop in an abandoned parking lot when he was just 12 years old.

Guys like Seth Mitchell and Wilder just need time to learn more than anything else.

Radam G says:

I think that is just the opposite, B-Sug! Heavyweight, who a long amateur career were nothing as pros. Brown Bomber Joe Louis, Ezzard Charles, Floyd Patterson GOAT Ali, Mike Tyson, Lennex Lewis and the K-docs/bro are/were the acceptions. Most fighters bare knuckle or slap-box fight in life. It does not equal the sweet science with the gloves and rules. Holla!

brownsugar says:

OK RG,... we can agree to disagree on this one, I'm closing up shop... If you'd like the last word,.. the floor is your's sir.

Radam G says:

That is okay, B-Sug. You can have the last word and the floor. Hehehehe! I'm staying on my feet. Holla!