

## Lampley Tabs Golovkin as Fighter of the Year

Written by Michael Woods

Monday, 23 December 2013 00:18

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HBO and Jim Lampley presented their last "The Fight Game" of 2013 on Saturday night, and much ground was covered.

Lampley kicked right into high gear, and touched on an elephant in the room that many would think he wouldn't address, the so-called "Cold War" which erupted in March, when HBO determined they were parting ways with Golden Boy and fighters repped by Al Haymon, and would do business mainly with Top Rank.

Chris Mannix of Sports Illustrated put the promoters, specifically, on blast, saying they are "absolutely sabotaging the sport" by not playing nice in the sandbox. Points to him for his candid comment, though I'm not sure if blame, if it is to be affixed, was being shared properly, as I do believe the two cablers who divvy out the majority of the dough to the promoters to deliver fights and fighters have drawn a pretty clear "do not cross line in the sand." Further, apart from the Mayweather-Pacquiao fight, which, as we've talked about before, is not being made because Mayweather doesn't want to give ex promoter Arum a taste of that pie, it isn't as though this cold war has made it so fight fans haven't been offered a fight that they've severely salivated for. OK, some ached for Donaire (Top Rank) vs. Mares (Golden Boy), but both those guys lost this year, before that wish list match-that-couldn't-be became an irritant for boxing fans. And what other ones did you lose out on because Richard Schaefer can't seem to stomach Bob Arum, and HBO got tired of Al Haymon's mini-monopoly on the best and brightest, and his apparently overwhelming acumen when it comes to negotiating on behalf of his boxers?

Me, I think this cold war made all those suits dig down, toughen up, get revitalized and boost their competitive juices. Shoot, you had the best year of fights in recent memory, and it occurred during this Cold War, and are stamping your feet and demanding the return to the way things where? Not sure that's the height of common sense there...

Next, Lampley called Floyd Mayweather The Fight Game Person of the Year. He said

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Mayweather could well fight Amir Khan next, and called that a bomb on Twitter already, perhaps cementing Stephen Espinoza's vote for TFG as Program He Most Wishes Should Be Cancelled.

Lamplsey looked ahead to Floyd at 50, to his 50th win and then pivoted to the Fight of the Year; he touched on Bradley-Provodnikov, and said that Bradley became a "sympathetic figure" with his effort in that see-saw battle. Scenes from the Alvarado-Rios scrap were shown, and Lamps said that the Broner-Maidana scrap lacked drama at the scorecard turn-in.

The host said the Bradley-Provodnikov is his FOY, because you will remember it longer than the Pacquiao-Rios tangle.

The Emanuel Steward Trainer of the Year honor was bestowed upon Freddie Roach, who tutored Manny Pacquiao and Ruslan Provodnikov and Miguel Cotto. We didn't see a clip of Freddie's scrap with Alex Ariza, alas...

Guillermo Rigondeaux' work against Nonito Donaire and Joseph Agbeko was shown. He was outside the Lamps Top 5, though Floyd Mayweather, Andre Ward, Manny Pacquiao, Timothy Bradley, Gennady ("the future threat to Andre Ward") Golovkin made the cut. Max Kellerman spoke up for Rigo, who he lumped in with Floyd, Sweetpea Whitaker and Roy Jones. Max said Bradley is his Fighter of the Year, calling his fight with Provodnikov "epic." Mikey Garcia? He had a "great year," Max said. The analyst said Adonis Stevenson had a stellar year, but Sergey Kovalev was a notch better, and the best light heavy in the world, in Max's view. Danny Garcia got love from Max, who called him a "tremendous fighter." Max said Golovkin is a "dominant fighter," and he "suspects" he's a top pound for pound fighter.

Gennady Golovkin was chosen as Lamps' Fighter of the Year. He had love for Golovkins' "tortured" English, and the kids' skills.

Lamps' Gatti list had Ruslan Provodnikov, followed by Evgeny Gradovich, Sergei Kovalev, Marcos Maidana, who scored the upset of the year, and James Kirkland.

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PEDs got some exposure. It was quieter year for positives, he noted. But Brandon Rios got nicked, the host said, so there's work to be done. Guys like Andre Ward, Sergey Kovalev, Gennady Golovkin, Mikey Garcia and Adonis Stevenson, to name five, he said, should and could embrace full-time testing. Of those gents, I think it's fair to say hardcore fight fans are most curious about Ward's 2014 stance on PED testing, after he dismissed a call for stringent testing by his last foe, Edwin Rodriguez, as a mere publicity push.

Vitali Klitschko's entry to full-time politics was discussed, as was Nelson Mandela's exit from this realm. Lamley said that Mandela noted that in-the-ring combat was a theater, intended partly to underscore the notion that war, the ultimate combat, was and is intolerable, and then bid viewers holiday salutations.

{youtube}z5RnW3xgx8Q{/youtube}

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### **brownsugar says:**

Kovalev IS the best light heavy in my opinion .. Bhop must think so.... He pretty much ignored SK and jumped RIGHT on Shumenov as a possible next opponent without hesitation.

Other interesting noises being made as the year closes.

Mares's willingness to cross enemy lines to do battle with Rigo.

But can he overcome his Feb rematch with Gonzales?....not likely but I hope so.

As expected... Rios is pushing for the inevitable battle-between-bangers with fellow slugger Provodnikov... Personally speaking (and don't get the idea that I'm a huge humanitarian)...I think the last thing Rios needs is a fight with another heavy-hitter.

And not surprisingly Maidana is angling for a fight with Mayweather.

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Speaking of Mayweather...it seems that Floyd's strategy for attracting paying customers for his 2014 PPV show will be to enlist some of the biggest names in boxing to fight on the undercard.

This will be an absolute necessity if he intends to get the American and Hispanic audience interested enough to shell out \$70 plus to watch Mayweather vs Khan (or Maidana)

Finally Wilder is calling out Derrick Chisora which would be a huge step up, it will be interesting to see if the British Brawler heeds the call(and if his promoter allows the fight to go down)

speaking of the state of the heavyweight division after the The Boss of all current heavyweights retires to a life of political intrigue(Vitality K).... I think the division is finally going to become hot again as more and more competent heavyweights like Perez ... Joshua.... become increasingly acclimated to the pro tanks as they pour in from the amateurs. 2014 could be the best year we've seen in regards to the heavyweight division in 20 years.

### **Radam G says:**

I don't see it, B-Sug! All I see is more deception from Wilder. The Redcoat Derrick Chisora is a softy. The 'Bama would tag him on the chin in the very first round and put him to sleep.

Wilder should just MAN up and fight "The Cali Crusher" Cris Arreola for Doc VK's vacant WBC crown.

Wilder is in the hyped-up-fighter protection plan. Let the dude step up and see if he is a man. I think that he just has the cojones for beating the arses of Sin City's working girls. Holla!

### **Radam G says:**

This was J-Lamp's weakest show. He didn't fade to dark for the year with BANG, BANG, BAAAANNGGG!!! But a hang. The jive talking of Max sounded like a loss from a one-man gang. Calling Bradley the Fighter of the Year for a gift and a lift was quite strange. Holla!

### **The Shadow says:**

[QUOTE=brownsugar;41660]Kovalev IS the best light heavy in my opinion .. Bhop must think so.... He pretty much ignored SK and jumped RIGHT on Shumenov as a possible next opponent without hesitation.[/QUOTE]

Suge, don't believe that. It's akin to discussing a vacation to Cuba. Sure, it may be nice but it's not exactly viable at this point.

Keep in mind Kovalev is an HBO fighter. It makes no sense to call for that match. He accepted him as an opponent when he was the mandatory but Duva & Co. WISELY steered him in the direction of Cleverly where he could pick up an easy title.

While I'm sure they believe he CAN beat B-Hop, history suggests using B-Hop as your springboard to superstardom is and has always been a terrible idea.

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A long list of souls are lost from that undertaking -- no pun intended.

B-Hop us trying to solve the issue. The old man is crazy, he wants to fight everybody. He's adamantly called out Froch, even dared Triple G to take the challenge.

His big goal is to unify all the titles. If he gets the WBA and the IBF, that might put some pressure on HBO or Yvon Michel to let Stevenson unify the original Big Three Titles with Hopkins' eventual WBA and IBF.

That would be HUGE. Especially in Montreal, where Hopkins is a strong household name.

A different outcome could see Stevenson and Kovalev unify those two belts, which would make a WBA/IBF and WBC/WBO unification clash a mouthwatering spectacle of an event.

If that equation includes B-Hop, that sh\*t needs to go on PPV. Imagine that ending to your career?? Becoming the first man to hold all four belts (+ the Ring belt) at once in TWO divisions as a 50 YEAR OLD MAN!

He's the only one to do so already, having accomplished that feat at middleweight. But at 50? That's Trinidad all over again. Times 10.

WOW! That's his dream scenario. I consider WBA/WBC/IBF undisputed but that scenario would be incredible.

### **The Shadow says:**

I liked the point Max was making. People get too caught up in the entertainment aspect once the bell rings.

Everything that happens before a fight or even after is Hollywood. Entertainment. Promotions.

But first and foremost, the sport of boxing is an athletic competition. Therefore, athletic dominance should be applauded over anything else.

While I want to preface my next point by saying that I'm a huge fan of Jim Lampley on many, many different levels and my next comment is not a knock on him, per se, but rather an observation of the underlying paradigm of boxing -- the current zeitgeist, if you will.

Jim Lampley made the argument that because Rigo hasn't yet been tested, he doesn't belong in the upper echelon of mythical pound-for-pound rankings.

In spite of my respect for him professionally, I must stress this point:

Lampley's argument is not only without merit, it's also inherently contradictory (from a sporting and logical standpoint), utterly fallacious and actually -- actually -- borders on idiocy.

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Let's not forget Rigo soundly dominated the highest ranking P4P'er in and around his weight class, who came in fight night as a welterweight to boot. That doesn't make him untested. That makes him [superlative] (use whichever one you see fit).

End. Of. Story.

I'm glad Max Kellerman called him out on it and used sound facts to do so.

That said, it's always more exciting to watch a shootout. In any sport.

But winning > everything else.

So let's applaud the winners.

Post scriptum:

Here's an interesting interview with Bernard Hopkins about the aforementioned paradigm of boxing: [url][http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxmP\\_hhADaQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxmP_hhADaQ)

### **The Shadow says:**

"Sugar Ray Robinson would be boring today":  
[url][http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUa0Tcv\\_R08](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUa0Tcv_R08)

### **The Good Doctor says:**

[QUOTE=The Shadow;41671]"Sugar Ray Robinson would be boring today":  
[url][http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUa0Tcv\\_R08](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUa0Tcv_R08)[/QUOTE]

That is a boxing sermon for the ages.

### **The Shadow says:**

"Customers will drink anything you give them, if it's promoted right." - Bernard Hopkins.

### **The Shadow says:**

[I]"Customers are being fed that if a fighters ducks [punches], don't buy it. If a guy wins nine out of 12 rounds because the other guy can't hit him, [they say] 'he's not crowd-pleasing! He don't sell tickets!' Because that's what they fed the customers."[/I]

- Bernard Hopkins, on the media-perpetuated self-fulfilling prophecy of the sweet science.

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- Bernard Hopkins, on the media-perpetuated self-fulfilling prophecy of the sweet science.

### **Radam G says:**

Wow! The Shadow, I already called B-Hop out about that interview a few years ago. I reminded him that all those "Slick black intercity styles came from Italians, Irish, Polish and Filipinos. Starting with Jack Johnson, on the dock of the bay, Filipino and Italian sailors and fishers taught him his style of fighting with moving and shooting uppercuts and hooks off the jab and stab.

The late, great SSG Manny Steward's craft and styles came from a Polish fellow name Knonkuzish (name is misspelled). SSSG MS mentioned the "fellow" before SSSG MS

The Philly crab/shell is an Italian invention. So is Ali's sticking and moving. The low hands and leaning back from a punch and lateral moving came/comes from a Pinoy style of fighting. BTW, so do the "Bolo Punch."

B-Hop is all mixed up and is hollering "Tales of da Hood" jive talk. Intercity African American fighters were head forward and windmill swinging. African Americans were made to fight this way coming out of American slavery, share cropping and black laws. Plus racist nutcases pretended that blacks could not properly learn the adroitness of the sweet science until they let Sugar Ray Robinson let loose.

One can learn all the above and more from boxing collegiate curriculum. Boxing use to be a main collegiate sport that gave out college scholarships and degrees. The great referee Mills Lane was a collegiate national and world champion. There is still a few major colleges that still have collegiate boxing. And they know their history over myths coming from the likes of B-Hop. Holla!

### **The Shadow says:**

[QUOTE=Radam G;41677]Wow! The Shadow, I already called B-Hop out about that interview a few years ago. I reminded him that all those "Slick black intercity styles came from Italians, Irish, Polish and Filipinos. Starting with Jack Johnson, on the dock of the bay, Filipino and Italian sailors and fishers taught him his style of fighting with moving and shooting uppercuts and hooks off the jab and stab.

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Interesting tidbits. Great gems. Be that as it may, Sensei, that wasn't really the message he was trying to convey. He was just exposing the hypocrisy surrounding boxing. He wasn't talking about that topic.

What I especially find important to emphasize is that people want wars as long as it's not their children that are getting beat on.

### **The Shadow says:**

But now that you mention, what's the name of the Italian fighter Ali got his style from?? I forgot! I heard him say it in an interview and I saw the fella dance around in the same fashion.

It wasn't Pastrano, was it?

### **Radam G says:**

Yup! Pastrano is one. The GOAT Ali got it from two Italians -- "The Dancing Master" Willie Pastrano and Ralph Dupas. The aged "Sugar" Ray Robinson got a gift decision over RD.

History loves to clean it up. But the young Cassius Clay left the late, great Archie "The Old Mongoose" Moore from being his trainer because of The Old Mongoose wanting "Young Clay to sweep and mop the gym's floor and learn to fight more in a Colored fighter's style."

The GOAT said that he would not fight in the style of a \_\_\_\_\_ N-word. And that he was "a new kind of colored fighter." And would shake up "Da WIIRLLLLDDDD!" Holla!

### **Radam G says:**

BTW! I 100 percent agree with B-Hop about the way da game is sold nowadays. Even with Money May. Dude has created an optical illusion that has da know nothings going crazy about his reversing of the sweet science. B-Hop and Cuban Willie do it to the letter. But haters like Money May better.



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See the game is about hit and not be hit. Money is the reverse -- not be hit and then hit if it is safe. And this is why Money May will not and have not fought certain styles. His arse will be double kicked. And there is a blueprint to doing it. Pops Joy May and Uncle Roger May know what time it is.

This is why Family May, Team May and TMT use weak syet like "A-side meth" and now "Pacquiao got knocked da £\*©k out" to avoid Money May from getting KTFO by Da Manny EARLY! Holla!

### **The Shadow says:**

LOL yeah, I read about that Moore-Clay anecdote.

Gotta check out Ralph Dupas. Never heard of him.

And yes, interesting about how they like Money May but not Money B-Hop or Money Rigo.

At the end of the day, the drawing power of brawling entertainment in the ring is vastly overrated. (I bet Rigo, Paulie and B-Hop each made more in 2013 than Mickey Ward did in his whole career. And I've never seen a Toughman Contest sell big on PPV.)

It's all about charisma and connecting with the audience.

As they say in pro wrestling -- where they sell exhibition contests with predetermined outcomes, for crying out loud -- selling PPVs, drawing money, putting butts in seats, whatever colloquialism you wish to use, is based on a very simple formula:

A) Who are these two guys? B) Why are they fighting? And C) why should I care?

"[I]f you can answer those three questions, you will sell a ticket or a pay-per-view.[/I]" - former promoter and WWE executive.

Clearly, C) is the most important factor. And Money Mayweather makes you care.

Most times, only two out of those three questions are answered.

Remember, for everyone who's claimed over the past few years that people won't come out for Floyd's next fight because it didn't live up to Floyd's hype, keep in mind that one of his most "boring" fights in recent memory came against Carlos Baldomir....

....which happened to precede his record-breaking fight with Oscar De La Hoya.

Go figure.

An action fighter with no charisma and/or audience connection can be a good B-side (think Shane Mosley). But he won't ever carry a promotion on his own.

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Action fighting might provide a brief moment of entertainment. But at the end of the day, Money Mayweather makes you care.

### **brownsugar says:**

[QUOTE=The Shadow;41669]Suge, don't believe that. It's akin to discussing a vacation to Cuba. Sure, it may be nice but it's not exactly viable at this point.

Keep in mind Kovalev is an HBO fighter. It makes no sense to call for that match. He accepted him as an opponent when he was the mandatory but Duva & Co. WISELY steered him in the direction of Cleverly where he could pick up an easy title.

While I'm sure they believe he CAN beat B-Hop, history suggests using B-Hop as your springboard to superstardom is and has always been a terrible idea.

A long list of souls are lost from that undertaking -- no pun intended.

B-Hop us trying to solve the issue. The old man is crazy, he wants to fight everybody. He's adamantly called out Froch, even dared Triple G to take the challenge.

His big goal is to unify all the titles. If he gets the WBA and the IBF, that might put some pressure on HBO or Yvon Michel to let Stevenson unify the original Big Three Titles with Hopkins' eventual WBA and IBF.

That would be HUGE. Especially in Montreal, where Hopkins is a strong household name.

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If that equation includes B-Hop, that sh\*t needs to go on PPV. Imagine that ending to your career?? Becoming the first man to hold all four belts (+ the Ring belt) at once in TWO divisions as a 50 YEAR OLD MAN!

He's the only one to do so already, having accomplished that feat at middleweight. But at 50? That's Trinidad all over again. Times 10.

WOW! That's his dream scenario. I consider WBA/WBC/IBF undisputed but that scenario would be incredible.[/QUOTE]

Shadow, Bernard is not only a skilled maestro of the pugilistic science..... He's also very adept at covert machinations of the media and subversive spin operations at the highest level. In the world of boxing I don't see this as a liability, but as a necessary skill set.

However when the mandatory challenge of Kovalev was brought up, Hopkins gave the appearance of agreeing to the fight, while chasing Stevenson in the media because he said

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Stevenson was the more lucrative opponent.

You're comment was absolutely correct about Bhop and Kovalev's network affiliation being an obvious impediment to a Bhop fight on HBO...But when Bhop made his austere challenges to both Kovalev and Stevenson, he projected himself as the Alpha male of the light heavyweight division. (probably more like the Beta, Psi of the division) A real hardhat wearin' meat-and-potatoes man I thought to myself upon hearing Bhop's bold words.

But while Bhop was publically signaling green lights to both Stevenson and Kovalev, who apparently had a way to fight Bhop on Showtime according to their promoters (possibly at the expense of never being seen on HBO again anytime soon), Bhop began inserting stalling tactics by dictating further conditions to Kovalev such as "after you beat Cleverly, and/or/if Stevenson beats that fighter I'll fight him and get back to you..... etc..." Kovalev and his promoter decided to stay active instead of waiting around for an indefinite period of time to determine which way the Bhop winds were huffing and puffing... His promoter wanted the fight as much as Kovalev except it was clear that Bhop wanted to give the appearance of wanting the fight instead of taking the necessary action to actually make the fight.

Of course,..... It's not like Bhop has anything to prove at his age...and I'm not disputing Bhop's "Awesomeness"..... I'm only asking, How awesome is he really?

Kovalev and Stevenson will fight each other long before Bhop gets around to fighting either one of them... In the meantime, Bhop will likely school the Murats' and Shumenov's of the world. However if he ever enters the ring against Kovalev,... only his age will be on display.

### **The Good Doctor says:**

[QUOTE=The Shadow;41687]LOL yeah, I read about that Moore-Clay anecdote.

Gotta check out Ralph Dupas. Never heard of him.

And yes, interesting about how they like Money May but not Money B-Hop or Money Rigo.

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Action fighting might provide a brief moment of entertainment. But at the end of the day, Money Mayweather makes you care.[/QUOTE]

Nicely put sir. I think I would add one thing to your formula above. It is not as important but it seems to be becoming an issue as well:

D) Where are they fighting. The idea of having the hometown boy do good is becoming a repeated theme. In addition, with the rise of interest in boxing in the UK, Montreal, UAE, and even China location is becoming an important part of every bout. This moreso effects the sales of the actual event than your PPV, but it is almost always a talking point. In addition, you have certain fighters who have almost developed legacies doing that (Cotto-NY, MSG, Floyd-Vegas, Chris John-Indonesia)

### **The Shadow says:**

[QUOTE=The Good Doctor;41693]Nicely put sir. I think I would add one thing to your formula above. It is not as important but it seems to be becoming an issue as well:

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Good point! Location is vital. But I guess that falls under the "why should I care" element, don't you think? That's a reason to care -- if he's a local boy, a countryman, what have you.

WWE used to have ethnic champions when they promoted mainly out of MSG and drew big gates on a consistent basis from the Italian (Bruno Sammartino) and Puerto Rican (Pedro

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Morales) fan bases -- a time-tested strategy.

That was really the whole selling point of the Judah-Malignaggi matchup in Brooklyn. "Turf War: Bensonhurst vs. Brownsville!"

So your point is excellent, location is really what can make or break a promotion.

### **The Shadow says:**

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And thank you for reading and addressing my comment, Doc. Always appreciate your input.

### **gibola says:**

Sorry Jim - Kovalev or Stevenson as FOTY. Both achieved far, far more than Golovkin this year. If you pushed me it's Stevenson - look at what he did, who he beat and how he beat them. I don't think he's a long-term champ but he's had a brilliant year and he should be rewarded with the FOTY awards. Golovkin can win it in the future if he gets the opponents, but giving him it now is ridiculous. Beating Stevens, Macklin and Rosado makes you FOTY? Really Jim?

### **Radam G says:**

Nice retort, gibola! You made a good point. Holla!

### **The Shadow says:**

I say Hopkins. Dude broke a record that may never be broken and made a successful defense a few months short of 50.

### **Radam G says:**

B-Hop is the known true-aged breaker of the record. Somebody will proceed him. Times are a changing. Aged people use to have to lie about their ages because of youth discrimination. Americans wanted to be forever young and frowned on and heavily discriminated against "old boxers." So those in da know knew and know a lot of winning boxers who were much older than their official or stated or forged down ages.

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Super way back in da day, older fighters who would not be given a shot because of their thought-of-old ages, would change locales, ages and names to get that shot and often the title win. Matter of fact, the late, great Archie "The Old Mongoose" Moore did that. And so did the late, great Bob FitzSimmons.

I will also say that B-Hop is the 2013 FOTY and his trainer the Genie Naazim is the 2013 Angelo Dundee TOTY. The late, great GBGOAT Dundee was super effective and famous for bringing old fighters back to win world titles. The Genie Naazim can wear the GBGOAT Dundee's jock strap pretty well. Hehehe! Holla!

### **Radam G says:**

B-Hop is the known true-aged breaker of the record. Somebody will proceed him. Times are a changing. Aged people use to have to lie about their ages because of youth discrimination. Americans wanted to be forever young and frowned on and heavily discriminated against "old boxers." So those in da know knew and know a lot of winning boxers who were much older than their official or stated or forged down ages.

Super way back in da day, older fighters who would not be given a shot because of their thought-of-old ages, would change locales, ages and names to get that shot and often the title win. Matter of fact, the late, great Archie "The Old Mongoose" Moore did that. And so did the late, great Bob FitzSimmons.

I will also say that B-Hop is the 2013 FOTY and his trainer the Genie Naazim is the 2013 Angelo Dundee TOTY. The late, great GBGOAT Dundee was super effective and famous for bringing old fighters back to win world titles. The Genie Naazim can wear the GBGOAT Dundee's jock strap pretty well. Hehehe! Holla!

### **The Shadow says:**

In the immortal words of Frisco Bernie, "Take Arthur Abrahan; Give me Robert Steiglitz!"

### **amayseng says:**

Agreed RG, I had BHop as my fighter of the year as well

Truly astonishing the accomplishments he has

### **brownsugar says:**

hey... I've been predicting the doom of Bhop for the last 7 years. Not because I'm right... but because the theory of probability says I have to be correct at some point.

### **Radam G says:**

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Written by Michael Woods

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Add seven more years onto that, B-Sug. Forget the chit chatter. It's mind over matter. B-Hop has it right. For a lot of more years, he's still an "Alien" knowing how to whup-@\$ fight. His ending is not near. Dat ancient muthasucka has made a lot of pretenders and super hyped-up contenders disappear. On B-Hop, always put your money. And you will be as happy as a bear stealing bee-hive honey. Holla!

### **amayseng says:**

That is true B sug has been relying on the fact of normalcy when predicting Bhops fights.

however, dude aint anything remotely "normal" compared to the majority.

what is truly intriguing is that he spent many years with only prison nutrition, which obviously did not have any detriment to his health in the long run.

Hopkins is one of my true favorites of all times.

when he fights school is in session and notes are to be taken.

### **Bernie Campbell says:**

Pardon me James! Whats with the prescription of the bottles at 57! You realize theres other home remedies than giving tribute! Specs for less?

### **the Roast says:**

B-Hop fighter of the year? Maybe some other year but not this one. Everyone is hung up on his age. UD over Murat whatever his name was and UD over Tavoris Cloud. Stevenson beat Cloud into a bloody pulp TKO victory. If you like master boxers for fighter of the year better choices would be Rigo beating much tougher opponents Donito and Agbeko by UD or Floyd UDing Ghost Guerrero and Canelo Alvarez.

### **Radam G says:**

You are wrong on this one, the Roast. Money May beat sorry-arse out overrated-super hypes. He fooled the know nothings and inattention blinded with his optical illusions all the way to the bank.

Now Superman Stevenson was The Mugger/Slugger of the Year.

B-Hop was outstanding in beating two top guns who he was old enough to be their daddy. And whopped 'em like he was their angry step pops.

Now Cuban Willie Rigo was in the running too. But his ancient arse ought to clean about his

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true age. Holla!

### **amayseng says:**

No doubt about it it has been a fantastic year. when was the last time we had 5-6 guys who could legitimately win FOTY?

i mean really. what an outstanding year. some off the top of my head for FOTY are as follows:

Hopkins

Stevenson

Kovalev

Garcia

Mayweather Jr

Russian Rocky Povidadfiahfihafhahfd-----can never remember his spelling

GGG

Rigo

this is great news there are many in the game who could be considered for such an award.

### **Bernie Campbell says:**

Please Me woods, I should understand that as long as someone is not yelling fire! I would assume this forum is democratic! Why the deletion about Lampleys specks? "The better to see with"!

### **The Shadow says:**

[QUOTE=Radam G;41742]You are wrong on this one, the Roast. Money May beat sorry-arse out overrated-super hypes. He fooled the know nothings and inattention blinded with his optical illusions all the way to the bank.

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Now Cuban Willie Rigo was in the running too. But his ancient arse ought to clean about his true age. Holla![/QUOTE]

I agree. The fact that he's old counts in this instance because he set a record. If he didn't, oh well, who cares. But he did set a record, stripping the O and soul of a yet another undefeated champion predicted to beat him (media really don't know sh\*t).

Willie has a good case, too. But he was hurt by the fact that they didn't throw him right in there



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in July with a threat so he could've had three fights.

The problem with Willie is that the true experts -- the fighters and trainers -- know EXACTLY what they're dealing with. So they will not fight him unless they absolutely have to.

Only a proud pride fighting machismo mofo like Mares -- who already lost to him and wants machismo revenge -- says he wants to step up and can beat him.

Bah humbug!

He knows he has no chance in hell. The belligerence of his insolence is merely Mares' machismo emotions acting without the benefit of intellect.

He will have fear put in his heart quickly. \*PUFF\* Machismo gone. Enter timidness.

Anyway, back on topic, yeah, Mayweather is FOTY because he fought twice.

Robert "The Twitter Buyer" Guerrero is a fraud. May was dusting off some rust by sparring an overweight, false-prophet southpaw. Everyone could see his stiff legs were suffering from rigor mortis.

Like I said from the get-go, TTB had no shot against TBE. When you get SHUT OUT by Orlando Salido, WHAT IN THE F are you going to bring to Money May?!

GGG's year was full of hype. People are just blinded by power. Same with Stevenson. When 3/4 of your victories came against guys coming off losses, you're not going to get a lot of FOTY considerations from Shadow, I'm sorry...

Even GGG's opponents, while solid, were losers. One guy had lost 3 out 5 coming into the fight (Japan man), another had lost 2/3 coming into the bout, already more accustomed to defeat than victory (Macklin) and another one went 0-3 in 2013.

His best win was a guy used to build Andre Dirrell pre-Super Six. It is what it is.

(Danny Garcia's year was better. And even that I wasn't too impressed with, although he did unify the division, which he should get mad props for.)

To me it's Bernard. And it's a pretty easy choice.