

## Kell Brook Dethrones Shawn Porter in California, on Showtime

Written by Aaron Tallent

Saturday, 16 August 2014 23:38

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Kell Brook won the IBF Welterweight title (33-0, 22 KOs) with a majority decision over Shawn Porter (24-1-1, 15 KOs) at the outdoor StubHub Center in Carson, Calif., outside of Los Angeles on Saturday night.

Meanwhile, Anthony Dirrell became the second cancer survivor to win a championship and Omar Figueroa successfully defended his WBC Lightweight title on that same card.

“It’s been a long-time coming but it’s been worth it let me tell you,” said Brook. “It’s worth it ten times over.”

The undefeated Brook began his career nearly ten years ago and had only fought once before outside the United Kingdom. Porter was coming off of his first defense of the title, a brutal knockout of Paul Malignaggi last April in Washington, D.C.

Every round remained close with Brook landing power shots from a distance and Porter brawling up close and landing more punches, many of which were ineffective. In the first two rounds, Porter attacked his taller opponent, ending up in numerous clinches. An accidental head butt in the second opened a cut over Brook’s left eye.

In the fourth and fifth, Brook landed more punches and anticipated his attacks. Porter

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incorporated more lateral movement in the sixth round and was able to attack Brook more effectively. However, an accidental head butt opened a nasty cut over the champ's right eye.

The seventh round was also close, but Brook seemed to gain the edge with a stunning uppercut in the final seconds of the round. He started off the ninth with a strong left hook and landed a strong jab and right cross later in the round.

Porter's inside attack was more effective in the tenth and eleventh rounds and both fighters understood the urgency of the final round. Porter staying within inches of Brook through its entirety and the bell sounded with the fighters in a clinch.

The final scorecards read 117-111 (Max DeLuca) and 116-112 (Adalaide Byrd) in favor of Brook and a 114-114 (Dave Parras) draw. The final decision was not without controversy.

"Too much went on tonight for me to give my final conclusion," said Porter. "I will say that I think I'm still the champion. I fought like a champion and I don't think he beat the champion tonight."

Porter also stated that he will pursue a rematch.

Anthony Dirrell (27-0-1, 22 KOs) won the WBC Super Middleweight title with a unanimous decision over Sakio Bika (32-6-3, 21 KOs) in their rematch. The Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma survivor became the second cancer survivor to win a title one week after Daniel Jacobs, an osteosarcoma survivor and WBA Middleweight champ, became the first.

"This journey has been amazing," said Dirrell. "With all my friends and family around, I can't even fathom it right now."

The two fighters had battled to a draw in December of 2013, both having made mistakes that cost them the victory. Bika's roughhouse tactics cost him a point, while Dirrell ran out of energy in the later rounds and ran from Bika in the final ten seconds of the fight.

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In the first two rounds, Dirrell attacked and the two fighters ended up in countless ugly clinches. The action was so bad that referee Jack Reese broke the two up in the second, saying, "You two look like s--- doing this."

The situation got a little "prettier" in the third with Dirrell landing power shots with his jab. In the fourth, he was reprimanded for pushing Bika's head down.

Both Dirrell and Bika began to lay off the clinches and give each other more room in the sixth, but were still very selective with their punches. Dirrell then began to dictate the pace of the fight in the seventh, nailing Bika with two hard right hands.

The eight round produced the most drama. First, Bika was deducted a point for a questionable low blow. The champ then responded by putting Dirrell on the ropes, but he weathered the assault and then rocked Bika with another right. Bika then wrestled Dirrell to the ground in the waning seconds of the round.

Dirrell slipped in the ninth and was hit by Bika while on the canvas. Riess determined that it was an accident and did not deduct a point. In the next two rounds, it was apparent that Bika knew he was likely behind on points and went after Dirrell.

The challenger controlled the final round, keeping the action in the center of the ring. The final scorecards read 117-110, 116-111 and 114-113 in favor of Dirrell.

Omar Figueroa (24-0-1, 18 KOs) defended his WBC Lightweight title with a ninth-round knockout of Daniel Estrada (32-3-1, 24 KOs) in a fight that was exciting from the opening bell. Estrada, entering the ring two weeks after losing his sister and niece in a car crash, attacked in the early rounds. His punches often hit the offense-minded Figueroa flush. However, one of his punches went low in the third, causing a 45-second delay. Figueroa responded with his trademark inside assault and put his opponent on the ropes.

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The champ continued his flurry of attacks in the fourth round, bloodying Estrada's nose. Location was key for the next four rounds, with Estrada dictating the pace in the center of the ring, while Figueroa controlled the action on the ropes.

An accidental head collision in the eighth round opened a deep cut over Figueroa's left eye. In the ninth, the champion did not give Estrada the chance to open the cut further, dropping him early with a wicked right. Estrada rose to his feet but could not defend himself and the fight was quickly stopped.

With this victory, Figueroa is exploring moving up to junior welterweight.

"You know, it's really nothing against the 135 [pound] division, it's just that my body is just not up to it anymore and I think I'll be much more comfortable at 140," said Figueroa.

On the undercard, Deontay Wilder (32-0, 32 KOs) extended the fifth-longest knockout streak in heavyweight history with a lackluster fourth-round TKO over Jason Gavern (25-17-4, 11 KOs). The journeyman boxer and full-time landscaper was dropped twice before ending the bout on his stool.

Jorge Linares (37-3, 24 KOs) continued his two-year journey towards resurgence, stopping Ira Terry (26-13, 16 KOs) in the second round with a right cross so vicious that it prompted the immediate stoppage of the bout.

Light welterweight Lydell Rhodes (22-0, 11 KOs) won his national television debut with a fourth-round stoppage of John Nater (13-7, 10 KOs).

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### **Radam G says:**

"Showtime" Shawn is a sore loser. He was apparently expecting what I was expecting. And that is that I thought that for sure that "Special K" would get robbed. I guess that the left coast of the USA/Cali is not as bad as the cheat coast/NY. No hate! Holla!

### **amayseng says:**

Porter got tied up way, way too easily. You have to adjust and shoot those punches short and straight and inside while adjusting your spacing, not over the top and wide. He did not adjust.

Not a very entertaining fight though.

### **Radam G says:**

[QUOTE=amayseng;61553]Porter got tied up way, way too easily. You have to adjust and shoot those punches short and straight and inside while adjusting your spacing, not over the top and wide. He did not adjust.

Not a very entertaining fight though.[/QUOTE]

He couldn't adjust because of his New Jack style of not knowing how to handle boksing's best defense/offense weapon: clinching/trying up and doggy bytch walking and sneak smacking him. Holla!

### **brownsugar says:**

I said Porter was in for the fight of his life and a potential upset was in the making. Brooks was being sold short throughout the prefight hype due to Porter's previous mauling of a distracted Malignaggi.

(Great call Skibbz).

When the announcers (who were pretty biased) kept talking up Porters aggression as being a factor in the scoring rather than being able to produce many clean examples of effective punching from Porter....then you already know whose winning the fight.

Porter has always been a scruffy scappy messy boxer who mauls with one hand while hitting with the other as he displays his heart and tenacity.

The problem is ....trying hard and walking through punches isn't the same as actually landing clean head snapping punches which Brooks was able to do effectively in every round. Brook was a prime example of what the sweet science looks like.

I think the judges (and Steve Farhood) should take a bow for rendering a fair non biased decision. Hopefully this will encourage other boxing standouts living in international residencies to travel stateside to compete in title fights more often.

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Boxing is an international sport and proper decisions must be awarded for boxing to retain what little credibility it has left.

Its beautiful day when we don't have to witness another hometown decision.

Porter should go home and watch the fight again. He should witness the frequency and ease at which Brook was able to land his accurately thrown 1,2 punch repeatedly during the fight while pivoting just enough avoid Porters mauling attacks.

Maybe then he can man up and issue the better man an apology and admit that he was trounced at least 9-3 in a competitive but lopsided loss. Then maybe the healing and improvements can begin.

Porter reminded me of a younger Tim Bradley with his obvious wild-mauling-head-first ineffective offense. But like Tim Bradley I think he can return to winning form if he gets back to using sound boxing principal.

Thurman vs Brook is a much more competitive fight that I hope will get made in the near future. Mayweather is getting a little long in the tooth for these young prospects and will be fortunate to make it past Maidana again.

Bring on Khan, Bring on Berto, Guererro, Thurman, Maidana, Garcia, Bradley, Soto, and Postol, even Algeiri and Pac... The fight may not have been super entertaining due to Porters mauling style but it represents the first time in a long that we've seen the best vs the best instead of the usual incestuous in-house matchups of recycled fighters being pitted against each other repeatedly.

The Porter vs Brook fight was a positive step in the right direction for future championship fights. and I hope we get more of them ...thanks Al....and Showtime.

### **Carmine Cas says:**

Damn well I was wrong, props to Skibbz. Brooks not only weathered the storm but he steered the ship in the latter half of the fight. I still think 117-111 is a little wide but I have to watch a replay.

### **Carmine Cas says:**

But this card some terrible mismatches before the Figueora fight.

### **Carmine Cas says:**

Porter did smother his own offense constantly lunging in close range, attempting land short punches face to face. He should vary his attack and attack from different angles, he became too predictable to Brook. Did he not learn anything from Manny?

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### **BFF says:**

i was not expecting this upset, props to KB. i really like shawn porter, he just needs to learn to take that little half step back before throwing his looping shots and throw more straights, i hope he comes back better from this loss. now lets bring on Keith Thurman vs KB. hopefully mr al haymon doesn't avoid KB, i see him keeping his fighters away since porter just lost one for the team....

### **BFF says:**

i was not expecting this upset, props to KB. i really like shawn porter, he just needs to learn to take that little half step back before throwing his looping shots and throw more straights, i hope he comes back better from this loss. now lets bring on Keith Thurman vs KB. hopefully mr al haymon doesn't avoid KB, i see him keeping his fighters away since porter just lost one for the team....

### **Radam G says:**

[QUOTE=Carmin Cas;61567]Porter did smother his own offense constantly lunging in close range, attempting land short punches face to face. He should vary his attack and attack from different angles, he became too predictable to Brook. Did he not learn anything from Manny?[/QUOTE]

Of course he learned, but he forgot and because of cocksure of nonsense of believing that he and his pops are ordained by some mysterious cloud god. "\$howtime"

Shawn doesn't even believe that he lost because he was expecting a gift verdict. In Ohio, he probably would've gotten that. If he were a Cali fighter, he would have gotten a gift won. Holla!

### **The Commish says:**

Showtime & Showtime Extreme made up for that horrendous card they gave us from Barclay's, headlined by Danny Garcia v Rod Salka, a few weeks back.

This one was action all the way.

It can't get much better than Figueroa-Estrada!

-Randy G.

### **oubobcat says:**

I have to give it to Skibbz, he called this one. Brook deserved the win here. Porter allowed himself to be tied up too easily and needed to make an adjustment. He did not and thats why he lost. Brook also took Porter's best much better than I anticipated.

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Figuroa-Estrada was a great fight with tons of ebb and flow and an explosive ending.

As for Dirrell-Bika, well all I will say is please no 3rd fight.

### **SouthPawFlo says:**

There's a big difference between aggression & effective aggression.. Porter had all the heart in the world but he kept either getting picked off on the way in or smothered once he got in there... Good fight by Kell Brook, now bring on Brook vs Khan in Wembley Stadium....

### **Radam G says:**

[QUOTE=SouthPawFlo;61579]There's a big difference between aggression & effective aggression.. Porter had all the heart in the world but he kept either getting picked off on the way in or smothered once he got in there... Good fight by Kell Brook, now bring on Brook vs Khan in Wembley Stadium....[/QUOTE]

He got both "picked off" and "smothered." His New Jack arse has/had no knowledge of defending against and countering the most beautiful offensive and defensive weapon -- clinching -- in da game. Holla!

### **spit bucket says:**

Showbox needs to add a new category, punches landed behind the head. If they counted those, SP would have won going away. He hit Special K more on the back of the head than the front... So glad, the judges came up with a fair verdict! Figuroa-Estrada was a great fight, enjoyed that one so much it made up for last week.

### **DaveB says:**

Some fighters think they are ordained to win and that is foolish thinking that a lot of religious types have nowadays. I kept thinking Porter just wants to load up and take Brook's head off instead of working his way in behind the jab. He was using good movement but jabbing infrequently. He needed to jab every time to get inside and then use proper spacing to avoid the clinch as much as possible while getting off. It darn near looked like a Klitschko fight. Kell Brook has a deep roster of fighters to face and it should be interesting to see what happens from here. Now we have Wilder talking too much about just power. That man better be ready for what is coming for him too.

### **brownsugar says:**

I'm glad most viewers enjoyed watching Figuroa vs Estrada...its not ever a guarantee a particular matchup will be entertaining. So you have to appreciate it when you see it.

Personally .... And this is just me .....I don't find Figuroa very entertaining. His punching technique is as sloppy as his defense. He has poor movement...and he turns every fight into a



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war.

He's nothing like the efficient volume punching champion Leo Santa Cruz.

I guess what he does can be loosely described as boxing. And as long as they can keep matching him with fighters who possess marginal boxing ability (with one controversial exception) he'll be OK for a little while.

BUT after his fights he looks as if he was violently ejected through the windshield following a high speed collision.

I don't know how Golden Boy is going to protect this kid from all the talent laden cold-blooded-sharks in the junior welterweight division ..... There's about to be a feeding frenzy at 140.

On the positive side is....at least he can stack up some modest earnings at a young age before the absorption of excessive punishment forces his departure.

### **amayseng says:**

[QUOTE=brownsugar;61589]I'm glad most viewers enjoyed watching Figueroa vs Estrada...its not ever a guarantee a particular matchup will be entertaining. So you have to appreciate it when you see it.

Personally .... And this is just me .....I don't find Figueroa very entertaining. His punching technique is as sloppy as his defense. He has poor movement...and he turns every fight into a war.

He's nothing like the efficient volume punching champion Leo Santa Cruz.

I guess what he does can be loosely described as boxing. And as long as they can keep matching him with fighters who possess marginal boxing ability (with one controversial exception) he'll be OK for a little while.

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I don't know how Golden Boy is going to protect this kid from all the talent laden cold-blooded-sharks in the junior welterweight division ..... There's about to be a feeding frenzy at 140.

On the positive side is....at least he can stack up some modest earnings at a young age before the absorption of excessive punishment forces his departure.[/QUOTE]

I am seriously worried for Omar's health. He takes so many shots in each of his fights to be exciting and appealing to the fans that he is throwing his health and future away.

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### **Chris L says:**

I liked what I saw from Brook yesterday, he handled the relentless pressure well and was the clear winner in my view.

Porter was just coming in throwing punches in bunches, but they were so ineffective since he was getting too close and smothering his own punches/or allowing himself to be smothered by Brook easily.

I think that Porter had so much success vs Paulie with the style he employed last night, once he got into the rhythm and seemed to win the first couple of rounds or so he found it hard to make adjustments once Brook had adjusted to the style.

On Sky Sports Amir Khan was in the studio and said straight after the fight he would be happy to make the fight with Brook happen, I don't blame him, neither Brook or Porter looked particularly spectacular last night. But I think it was just one of those kinds of fights, will be interesting to see who Brook fights next and how he looks against a world class boxer (as opposed to the slugging Porter he faced last night).

### **Radam G says:**

[QUOTE=Chris L;61604]

On Sky Sports Amir Khan was in the studio and said straight after the fight he would be happy to make the fight with Brook happen, I don't blame him, neither Brook or Porter looked particularly spectacular last night. But I think it was just one of those kinds of fights, will be interesting to see who Brook fights next and how he looks against a world class boxer (as opposed to the slugging Porter he faced last night).[/QUOTE]

I've lost total respect for Amir Khan. Dude is a pathological liar and full-time phony. He is so full of baloney.

I cannot wait for "Special K" to smoke Amir "Great(less)" Khan. Khan has so much smoke and mirrors and plenty of trap doors. Dude has become delusional and self entitled. And now uses his religion of Islam as the ultimate alibi for every d@mn thing under the sun.

For Special K's first title defense, I hope that Great(less) Khan is number one. Holla!

### **brownsugar says:**

[QUOTE=Radam G;61608]I've lost total respect for Amir Khan. Dude is a pathological liar and full-time phony. He is so full of baloney.

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For Special K's first title defense, I hope that Great(less) Khan is number one. Holla![/QUOTE]

Its ironic that when Khan was enjoying his new found fame and noteriety after destroying Judah, Brook called out Khan relentlessly for nearly two years and Khan treated him like a beggar on the street. Denying him any hope of a potential fight. Now Khan is calling out Brook. But instead of treating Khan the same way..... Brook has indicated he will fight Khan. I'm thinking he'd rather get his payback in front of a live British crowd. That should be a huge fight overseas.

### **Radam G says:**

[QUOTE=brownsugar;61610]Its ironic that when Khan was enjoying his new found fame and noteriety after destroying Judah, Brook called out Khan relentlessly for nearly two years and Khan treated him like a beggar on the street. Denying him any hope of a potential fight. Now Khan is calling out Brook.

But instead of treating Khan the same way..... Brook has indicated he will fight Khan. I'm thinking he'd rather get his payback in front of a live British crowd. That should be a huge fight overseas.[/QUOTE]

Amir "Great(less)" Khan puts pressure himself with his outrageous lies. He claimed to be sparring with and doing well with Andre "SOG" Ward, when the only Andre that Khan was sparring was injured shoulder Andre Berto. He claimed that he couldn't fight Money May in September because of ending-in-July Ramadan. He claimed to have been next to fight Da Manny in November, but Da Manny got scared and pulled out after he (Khan) beat also-crazy-in-the-head-with-religious-phoniness Luis Collazo.

It is going to be a party-party time when "Special K" gun down Ali Baba -- I mean Great(less) Khan -- and his 40 lies. Holla!

### **Chris L says:**

[QUOTE=Radam G;61608]I've lossed total respect for Amir Khan. Dude is a pathological liar and full-time phony. He is so full of baloney.

I cannot wait for "Special K" to smoke Amir "Great(less)" Khan. Khan has so much smoke and mirrors and plenty of trap doors. Dude has become delusional and self entitled. And now uses his religion of Islam as the ultimate alibi for every d@mn thing under the sun.

For Special K's first title defense, I hope that Great(less) Khan is number one. Holla![/QUOTE]

I think Khan's going to fade out, he's become more accustomed to the celebrity status that was handed to him. He thinks he is better than he's shown to be.

### **Radam G says:**

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[QUOTE=Radam G;61583]He got both "picked off" and "smothered." His New Jack arse has/had no knowledge of defending against and countering the most beautiful offensive and defensive weapon -- clinching -- in da game. Holla![/QUOTE]

The following old skool trainer in the video clearly demonstrates the counter against clinching/tying up. It is a darn shame that New Jack fighters and trainers, such as "Showtime" Shawn and his pops have never learned it.

[url]http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwULXxBjkmk. Holla!

### **stormcentre says:**

I'm glad Brook won, although I didn't expect it.

Part of that was not seeing much special in Brook. But then I hadn't seen too much of him and whenever that's the case (a fighter's) power, resolve and timing can be hard to gauge.

James Gogue's comments are pretty good, but they fall down if your opponent threads his hand under your arm, as then you're easily toppled sideways – although the referee should prevent major instances of that.

Still, I am sure Gogue has a strategy for that too.

### **Radam G says:**

[QUOTE=stormcentre;61626]I'm glad Brook won, although I didn't expect it.

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James Gogue's comments are pretty good, but they fall down if your opponent threads his hand under your arm, as then you're easily toppled sideways – although the referee should prevent major instances of that.

Still, I am sure Gogue has a strategy for that too.[/QUOTE]

An old skool ToTTs shoulder or crown of the dome to da mug will take care of your adversary threading his hands under your arms. I loved opponents who would even try to put their hand under my arms. They would catch my sneak left cross that was taught to me by the late, great WBA heavyweight king Jimmy (Big James) Ellis. Holla!

### **MCM says:**

Omar Figueroa made me shout out loud with his kayo of Estrada. It was a dramatic ending to a beautiful fight as the sun set on the spectators in Carson CA. Like other posters, I couldn't help but think back to the previous weekend at Barclays, and I wondered aloud whether the West

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Coast is the place for boxing these days. I'll tell you one thing: more boxing should be held out of doors. Let man meet man in the elements, and let the spectators brave rain or cold like a vow to the sport and homage to the champions of the ring.

And Figueroa is a champion deserving of homage. I thought his corner might advise the doctor to stop the fight on account of the cut and go to the cards, where I had him winning. Maybe they kenned Estrada was fatigued into a state of vacancy (I for one had no idea) or maybe they obeyed an old-school streak, but they emerged looking just and wise as Figueroa did just what he had to do: the impossible. I didn't think he could put Estrada down. The challenger had never been kayoed and demonstrated an adamantine chin throughout the contest, but Omar Figueroa did what only champions can do, and set himself apart from the rest of us again. He needs to improve his defense just as others here have observed: he deserves a long career and it's up to him to preserve it. He's one heck of a fighter, and I won't miss his next bout. Here's hoping for more (many more) ahead.

### **Radam G says:**

D-riders for Juan Manuel Marquez are already calling out "Special K."

They ought to STFU, because Special K will ramroded JMM. And If Hulkquez shows up, Special K will beat the roid zits and pimples off his arse, bust up his mug, break his nose and a few ribs and whup his full-of-dat-syet arse. Holla!

### **spit bucket says:**

[QUOTE=Radam G;61615]The following old skool trainer in the video clearly demonstrates the counter against clinching/tying up. It is a darn shame that New Jack fighters and trainers, such as "Showtime" Shawn and his pops have never learned it.

[url]http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwULXxBjkmk. Holla![/QUOTE]

Thanks for posting that vid Radam

### **Denise Alvarez says:**

I finally got to see the Porter-Brook fight and it was close. Porter is a strong, aggressive, quick fighter. I had heard of Brook before but never seen him box. Kell Brook is good and he displayed alot of patience and skill while connecting in his target shots. He did blend in his holding, but he made up for that with his precision shots. The fight was close and I'd like to see a rematch. Shawn Porter will be back.In the meantime, I like to see that fight between Keith Thurman and Kell Brook, Thurman will take care of Brook!

### **stormcentre says:**

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So you like JMM eh RG?

### **stormcentre says:**

[QUOTE=Denise Alvarez;61797]I finally got to see the Porter-Brook fight and it was close. Porter is a strong, aggressive, quick fighter. I had heard of Brook before but never seen him box. Kell Brook is good and he displayed alot of patience and skill while connecting in his target shots. He did blend in his holding, but he made up for that with his precision shots. The fight was close and I'd like to see a rematch. Shawn Porter will be back.In the meantime, I like to see that fight between Keith Thurman and Kell Brook, Thurman will take care of Brook![/QUOTE]

Good straight forward observations and comments Denise.

Welcome to the forum.

### **Radam G says:**

[QUOTE=stormcentre;61852]So you like JMM eh RG?

[/QUOTE]

I luv him like I would like lice in my armpits. Hehehe! Holla!