

Is Mayweather Fooling Us? Or Just Himself?

Written by Frank Lotierzo
Tuesday, 12 April 2011 11:13

Last Friday there was an article posted on abc-cbnnews.com stating that Floyd Mayweather Jr. turned down a \$50 million dollar purse guarantee to fight boxing's most popular and pound-for-pound best fighter, Manny Pacquiao. This is according to Pacquiao's adviser Michael Koncz. Since the supposed \$50 million dollar offer has exploded in the media and digested by fight fans, it's also been reported that Mayweather has said it'll take a \$100 million dollar guarantee for him to get in the ring with Pacquiao. If the \$50 million dollar offer is legit, and I'm not sure I believe that it is, it would be more money than Mayweather grossed in his two fights with Oscar De La Hoya (2007) and Shane Mosley (2010) combined.

The money being thrown around at Floyd, again, if one believes the numbers are true, are ridiculous. What's even more ridiculous is Mayweather turning that much money down. How could a guy who's a borderline all time great who after 15 years as a pro and 41 fights and still lacks a career defining win, be so condescending?

Since he's become a public figure there are two things Mayweather loves to brag about - his money and his legacy. Most objective and sophisticated boxing fans know his legacy is hollow and he's more remembered for who he didn't fight than who he did. And if the recent news is true that he really does owe the IRS close to four million dollars, his money is apparently also a myth. If Floyd thinks swapping punches with Pacquiao is overwhelming, his other opponent, the IRS, is a much badder foe. Especially now being that the United States is broke and has hired a plethora of agents to try catch up and settle with all entities who owe Uncle Sam a substantial sum of dead presidents.

One would think Mayweather couldn't get into the ring soon enough with Pacquiao (For the record I would favor Mayweather to defeat Pacquiao if they fight this year). Think about it, if Floyd beat Pacquiao he'd finally have a legitimate claim as to being one of the greats. In other words, people like myself could no longer say who did he beat. Finally, I'd have to acknowledge that Mayweather did beat a great fighter who wasn't dead on arrival the night he fought him. And let's face it, beating one truly great fighter elevates his legacy a lot more than never beating or facing one.

For years Mayweather has conned the public into believing that his wealth rivals Oscar De La Hoya's and his legacy rivals Sugar Ray Leonard's. Which of course both claims if taken seriously are preposterous. And the reason that Floyd can get over and string the public along is because a majority of boxing writers and fans actually believe what fighters and promoters say. This is assuming Floyd really does see both as con jobs, and that he's working on the theory that if you say something long enough, people will fall for it. And this kind of mass hysteria is what drives the purses of fights way up.

But maybe that's not what's happening here. Maybe Floyd really believes the things he tells people and passes along to the media. I can see where an undefeated fighter who's faced

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decent to good opposition in an era with few all-time greats can start to believe his own press clippings. After all, greatness is largely subjective. But money is money: it is what it is. And if Floyd Mayweather honestly believes that a.) he's been offered \$50 million for thirty six minutes of work, and b.) it's not enough money, he's moved from being either con man or someone who's slightly deluded over the line into being 100% certifiably nuts.

However, Mayweather understands the inner and outter workings of professional boxing better than any fighter around today with the exception of Bernard Hopkins. Nobody, I mean nobody is close to Hopkins in that regard, and the fact that he's much less marketable than Mayweather makes his success even that much more astounding.

As for Mayweather, he's mastered the game of stringing the sport along as to his importance and relevance in it. He really hasn't made one misstep yet. He's wealthy and has a sizable percentage of the boxing public convinced that he's an undisputed all-time great despite the overall body of work not being there. But even at that he still must fight and beat Pacquiao. Because if they never do confront each other in the ring, Pacquiao will be the default winner simply due to the fact that everybody who's honest with themselves knows it's Floyd's reluctance that's holding the fight up. Pacquiao is acknowledged as the more willing fighter interested in settling who's really the better man and fighter. On top of that Pacquiao's legacy is greater and further cemented than Mayweather's. Pacquiao's career wouldn't take much of a hit if he lost a decision to Mayweather. Whereas Mayweather's legacy would be greatly diminished if he lost to Pacquiao.

As of this writing Pacquiao-Mayweather would be off the chart huge in anticipation and hype. However, the sand is slowly slipping through the hour glass. In less than a month Pacquiao will have officially stopped Shane Mosley and the drumbeat for Pacquiao-Mayweather will be ignited once again. And this is when the fight should finally become a reality. In what can only be described as the ideal setting, Manny and Floyd would meet in November of this year with both of them having defeated Shane Mosley in their last bout.

Floyd should count his blessings and keep his fingers crossed that Mosley doesn't get lucky and upset Pacquiao early next month. Because Mayweather winning by default over Pacquiao won't cut it or enhance his legacy to where he thinks or tries to convince us it ranks in comparison to some of the greatest of the greats in fistic history.

Frank Lotierzo can be contacted at GlovedFist@Gmail.com

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Matthew says:

I think two things are clear. One, Floyd doesn't really want to fight Pacquiao. Two, he doesn't seem to care about his legacy. Mayweather has the highest boxing IQ of anyone in the game today (maybe slightly better than Hopkins in that department), and in my opinion is the most

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skilled fighter around. It amazes me that he doesn't want to fight Pacquiao, because like Frank, I would favor him to win a decision if they fight within the next year. Maybe he's waiting for Pacquiao to put a few more miles on his odometer (a la Leonard with Hagler), and if he is, I will be the first one to acknowledge it. I just wish he'd grow a pair of balls and sign on the dotted line.

ali says:

I'd have to acknowledge that Mayweather did beat a great fighter who wasn't dead on arrival the night he fought him. Who has he fought that was dead on arrival editor Mike? Nobody!!!! Now can you say the same thing about the guys Pac has fought the last few years lets be real....Floyd ain't the one asking for a catch weight every time he fights somebody....I still think the fight is going to happen he just needs to take care his legal situation first . He ain't trying to con to anyone you must understand everything has got be right before he steps in the ring with Pac.

the Roast says:

I dont know ali. Fighters fight. If you want to fight then you fight. If I had the kind of talent that Mayweather has, I'd be fighting everybody. Line these mother f***ers up. Floyd's legal situation was something he brought on himself. To me it dont look like he wants any part of Pacman.

Radam G says:

Who I would favor is totally different. Da Manny would KAYO Lil' Floyd EARLY. I know I sound like a broken record. But you will get use to it. And IF -- and that is a BIG IF -- that bout ever happens, I will be 100 percent CORRECT. Since I'm not cloned in this WORLD. It is ME all the way SPITTIN' what I spit. Money May is just being a BIG-mouthed fibbing boxer about his purses. Larry Holmes, to name one of the most popular fighters back in the day, use to do it. Cheating-arse Don King would give LH a purse of \$350,000 and LH would say that he made a million. YUP, RIGHT! Money May know that GBP didn't give him 40mil already after MM whupped Sugar Shane. But MM keep telling anybody who will listen that he has already made over 40mil without Da Manny and need Da Manny.

Money May's legacy will be fine. The people of his day are the ones who have the problems with him, but future generations -- after most of these people are DEAD -- will probably see things quite differently. Just as many of those folks of Sugar Ray Robinson era will challenge you about the Sugarman being the P4P greatest of all times. A recently demised great trainer, manager and talking head -- May God Bless his soul -- is a shinning example of this. I too am a Willie man. Of course, I only know him by films. Sounds similar to how so many know another fighter. Holla!

Radam G says:

The BIGGEST con that Money May has and is doing -- IMHO -- is making a lot people and dey mommas believe that he is superior than Thou with his Philly-shell style. Don't believe the

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HYPE! He doesn't! He is just gettin' on his con to his flock. Signing to battle with Da Manny, it VERY doubtful that he'd ever put it on lock. For the Mayweather style, there is an antidote. And Money May may never dance with Da Manny because of that note. Holla!

guadvalia says:

did time ever begin?
will time ever end?
or will it just always be there?

hahahahaha. Im not drunk.

FighterforJC says:

Forget Mayweather beating Pacquiao by a decision or KO. I would give Mayweather the victory without him even stepping into the ring against Pacquiao, so long as Mayweather signs the contract and makes it as far as the ring apron. If he got that far, changed his mind and turned around even before the introductions, I would give Mayweather the victory.

Radam G says:

Yes! Yes! Yes! Guadvalia, Everything has a begin, even time. If one cannot find it, that's his waste of time. Everything ends, including time. Because one may not be around to see that time, that his lost of time. Once time happens, you can't take it back. So yes! It will always be there. May 1, 2010 will always be the time that Money May kick Sugar Shane's hinny! May 7, 2011 will always be the time that Sugar Shane lost to Da Manny. Holla!

ali says:

@Roast...You right fighters fight but when it the biggest fight of your life you got to make sure there are no distractions what so ever. Now I know you don't think he got into his legal situation intentionally just so he could have excuse on why he's not fighting Pac.

Real Talk says:

2 words 1 name Latrell Spreewell!!! Take the 50 mill Floyd. Almost everybody I bring the subject to is picking Floyd. I got Floyd boxing circles around Pac, and that's no disrespect to Manny. I wonder if Floyd's team shares my view? I wonder if Big Floyd is spooking Lil Floyd an shaking his confidence or does Lil Floyd think he'll get robbed like Sweet Pea against Chavez. I got Floyd giving Pacquiao a one sided boxing lesson after the fourth round, Pac bringing out the best in Floyd and Floyd having the option to stop Pac is he steps on the gas but that's just me. Dueces

Real Talk says:

@ Ali. That's Trill Spill (Real Rap) right there. The only one of the 2 who's been fighting dead

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men zombies and made to order cats is Pac. Floyd hasn't fought any catch weight dead men yet. Most real boxing people in the know....know that fact to even though they're too biased to admit it. Calling an ace an ace an a spadew a spade. Dueces

brownsugar says:

[B]As always I find a Floyd Mayweather Jr debate irresistible... but I think I'll sit this one out... besides everyone seems to be having so much fun.. I wouldn't want to spoil the party... I'm glad I tuned in before before hitting the hay... got to hear RadamG get into his Quantum Subspace Singularity Theory about "Time"... Fighter4Jc's ... finely woven satire... and "Real Rap" spit some Real Talk... doesn't get any better...LOL.....[/B]

the Roast says:

I guess you can criticise Pacman's opponents if you want but did anyone see Floyd get in with Cotto, Margarito, or big strong Clottey? No. He'd rather strangle his baby momma. Allegedly. I wonder if that woman weighed 147? A real man can control his emotions. Never hit a woman. It's not a fair fight. Floyd is lucky the Roast cant get down to 147. Its better to fight dead men or zombies than sit on the sidelines and run your mouth. Great win over Sugar Shane. It's almost a year later so now what? You know what Janet Jackson said. What have you done for me lately?

jopach23 says:

[QUOTE=Editor Mike;5295][br] /[/br]



[br]/[br]Last Friday there was an article posted on abc-cbnnews.com stating that Floyd Mayweather Jr. turned down a \$50 million dollar purse guarantee to fight boxing's most popular and pound-for-pound best fighter, Manny Pacquiao. This is according to Pacquiao's adviser Michael Koncz. Since the supposed \$50 million dollar offer has exploded in the media and digested by fight fans, it's also been reported that Mayweather has said it'll take a \$100 million dollar guarantee for him to get in the ring with Pacquiao. If the \$50 million dollar offer is legit, and I'm not sure I believe that it is, it would be more money than Mayweather grossed in his two fights with Oscar De La Hoya (2007) and Shane Mosley (2010) combined. [br] /[/br][br] /[/br]The money being thrown around at Floyd, again, if one believes the numbers are true, are ridiculous. What's even more ridiculous is Mayweather turning that much money down. How could a guy who's a borderline all time great who after 15 years as a pro and 41 fights and still lacks a career defining win, be so condescending? [br] /[/br][br] /[/br]Since he's become a public figure there are two things Mayweather loves to brag about - his money and his legacy. Most objective and sophisticated boxing fans know his legacy is hollow and he's more remembered for who he didn't fight than who he did. And if the recent news is true that he really does owe the IRS close to four million dollars, his money is apparently also a myth. If Floyd thinks

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convince us it ranks in comparison to some of the greatest of the greats in fistic history. [br] /[/br][br] /[/br]Frank Lotierzo can be contacted at [email]GlovedFist@Gmail.com[/email][[/QUOTE]

I can't help but be completely blown away by this writers prediction that Mayw will defaet Paq. if they meet. By Mayweather's reluctance, excuses, lies, and flat out avoidance of Paq. tells you that Mayweather himself does not believe he can defeat Paqman. If PBF himself does not believe he can win how in the hell do you believe PBF can win. I do not see where you get your confidence in PBF defeating Pacman considering all the evidence to the contrary written in your article. You blast Mayweather's past opponents as being dead on arrival the night of the fight. You also claim Mayweather has only fought good to descent level of fighters during his career, no great fighters in their prime. You call Mayweather's claim as the greatest fighter of all time a con job, you say he is more known for who he has not fought than for who he has fought. Mayweather through his own words is only concerned about making money yet a 50 million dollar offer is made and he turns it down, this is more money than any fighter has ever been offered for one fight. This all adds up to Mayweather not believing he can defeat Pacquiao, yet despite all the evidence you have presented in your own article and all the evidence out there I do not see where you can get the notion of Mayweather defeating Pacquiao, unless you are also buying into his con job to a degree. Its obvious that Floyd is afraid of Manny, and if being forced to fight him then Manny has already won the fight. Just like Michael Spink's lost to Tyson before he ever entered the ring due to fear the same thing will happen to Floyd. If Floyd does not believe in himself then why should anyone give him the victory over Manny in a prediction of the fight? Its as if you are a defense attorney giving your closing arguement and you say yes my client was found with a the murder weapon, yes he admitted he wanted to kill the victim, yes he has a history of violence, yes he told everyone but me he killed the victim, but I am certain he is innocent.

What evidence or proof do you base your prediction on? According to your article Mayweather has yet to prove himself to be as good as he says he is. So why would you predict a win in his favor? You lambast his resume/competition, you say he is a borderline ATG at best, you basically laugh at his assertion that he is better than Sugar Ray Leonard. At best you say PBF has beaten descent to good fighters in his career. You call Paqman a great fighter something you do not call Floyd. There is much more but you probably get the point, so why would you give PBF the nod if he ever faces Paqman. Most of all that is damning is Floyd's turn downed offer of 50 million dollars. That says it all to me, that Floyd does not believe he can beat Manny Pacquiao. My guess is you buy into Floyd's delusions/conjob to some degree why else would you choose Floyd over Pacquiao.