Written by Michael Woods
Saturday, 21 May 2011 21:38

It appears to be the end of the road for living legend Roy Jones, who was knocked out with 11 seconds remaining in the tenth round of a cruiserweight fight set for ten against Denis Lebedev in Moscow on Saturday.

We say appears because the man who once reigned as the best of the best, pound for pound, has been unwilling to read the writing on the wall, which is that he is a shell of himself at his best. Jones, who turned 42 on January 16, has now lost three in a row, to Danny Green (TKO1), Bernard Hopkins (UD12) and now the lefty Lebedev (22-1, 17 KOs; age 31), a man whose previous best win came over shopworn Enzo Maccarinelli.

Jones, who weighed a career high 198 1/4 was backing up in the tenth, eating nasty right hooks to his body. With a 55 seconds to go, he landed a clean right which sent Lebedev into the ropes. With 17 seconds to go, a loosey-goosey Jones was backed into a corner, where he ate a couple straight lefts, and a right hook which hurt him badly. He was basically out of it, and the victor tossed a couple uppercuts for good measure, as Jones bowed his head, while staying on his feet. The winner cracked him with a sweeping right, as he and ref Steve Smoger hesitated, perhaps surprised that the bout wasn't heading for a decision finish. Jones then pitched to the mat, face first. A doctor entered the ring quickly, and put smelling salts under Jones' nose, to try and wake him up.

It's not pleasant seeing anyone on the downside of their career, taking punishment. But to see such a talent as Jones getting worked over in such a manner is that much harder to take. We at TSS sincerely hope that should Jones still refuse to give in to reality, those close to him convince him that it is over. It is time for Jones to hang up the gloves, and find other things to pass the time. Because time has passed him by, and he is doing his longterm health no favors by absorbing vicious blows.

Comment on this article

the Roast says:

Damn! Just saw the clip on youtube. Jones Jr knocked clean out again. Face first. Tough to watch for me. Boxing is a hard game. Not a game at all. This is the way it has gone for

generations. I hope Roy is OK. This is what it takes for stubborn warriors to hang 'em up. Good luck Roy. It was a Hall of Fame run.

ali says:

[QUOTE=the Roast;6569]Damn! Just saw the clip on youtube. Jones Jr knocked clean out again. Face first. Tough to watch for me. Boxing is a hard game. Not a game at all. This is the way it has gone for generations. I hope Roy is OK. This is what it takes for stubborn warriors to hang 'em up. Good luck Roy. It was a Hall of Fame run.[/QUOTE]

Your post said it all for me

the Roast says:

Thanks ali. Roy is HOF no doubt. Boxing takes no prisoners. There comes a time to hang 'em up and that time is now for RJJ.

Radam G says:

It doesn't matter that kryptonite is all up in Duperman's veins. He will not quit boksing. Expect and accept that he will excuse his way out of this lost. As long as the power that be let him fight, he will fight. Fighters fight. Those who have mad talent over skills find it impossible to believe a defeat. This is why you make a talented fighter also learn mad skills, then he can easily step away. Great, mad talent was a sin for Roy, not it is haunting him because it is now a ghost. Holla!

Radam G says:

Superman Roy never had skills to pay da bills and give da fight fans thrills. [Sorry DaveB, I couldn't resist ridin' off your spit.] Da Floridan Superman had talent to fly to the mountain top and keep those in da know silent. But now gettin' old has caused him to dropped from da top into da valley, where he never learnt to be skillfully violent. And in the valley of pugilistic demons of violence his speed-demon ghost of his past has no pop or power and his arse cannot last. A heavy cost, he will surely pay. Unless, somebody with knack convince him that out of that square jungle he should stay away. Maybe he can get into it as a referee. The game's best refs are gettin' long-in-da tooth. It is time for some new blood.

I bet Roy could be a heckuva of ref. Now that takes skills. And he'll still be able to pay his bills. Holla!

brownsugar says:

Many years ago I became aware that an immediate family member was suffering the onset of mental illness. The whole family tried to do an intervention to get her some medical help. Her illness prevented her from accepting the truth and she never got treated... How difficult it must be for Jones's family to witness his decent into oblivion. Jones justifies his KO losses by saying

that he never wants to lose by decision ..." I'm a fighter, you gotta kill me before I quit" he says. Hope that's not a self fulfilling prophecy. Even HBO won't want to use him as an announcer if he keeps tarnishing his name.