

## Paul Williams Gets Decision Over Erislandy Lara in AC...WOODS

Written by Michael Woods  
Saturday, 09 July 2011 23:05

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*The little guy, it looked to us, won the fight. The judges thought otherwise. Maybe their glasses were fogged? Follow Woods on Twitter <https://twitter.com/#!/Woodsy1069>*

His trainer George Peterson had been mightily dismissive when the questions were posed to Paul Williams leading up to his main event scrap against Erislandy Lara which unfolded at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City on Saturday night. Are you what you were? Will there be a lasting effect from that vicious one-punch KO at the hands of Sergio Martinez last year?

Peterson did not, at least to the press, admit that there was any cause for alarm, or even cause for a query, along the lines of: did Martinez take something away from Long Tall Paul that he could not get back. It turns out there was cause to ask the questions, and it appears they were answered, to the detriment of Williams' career. Underdog Lara, undersized, looking like he was two weight classes lighter than Williams, hit LTP time and again with an overhand left, and used his feet to get angles while he whacked away at the bigger but diminished man. After twelve rounds, the main question in one's mind was: will Williams fight again? The outcome wasn't in doubt, not to me anyway... but the judges didn't agree. They gave Williams the edge, by scores of 114-114, from Al Bennett, 115-114-Hilton Whittaker II, and 116-114-Don Givens.

Remember, this is the theater of the unexpected, and much of the time, the unexpected comes via wacky scorecards. Lara had the edge in punches landed in the stat war, 178-383, but the judges liked the busier guy, Williams, who went 161-766.

After, Max Kellerman told LTP that Peterson told him he needed a KO to win late in the fight, and asked him to explain the decision. "That was motivation," the fighter said. Do you believe

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you won, he was asked. "Of course I believe I won," he said. LTP said he wants Martinez before he bows out. He said he was being "lazy" and that is why he was getting hit with the left hand. Lara told Max he knew he won, and he wants a rematch with LTP. The "loser" said he was able to land the left because he practiced the left with trainer Ronnie Shields. Kellerman said aloud he considers Lara the winner.

Williams (age 29; 153 1/2, 170 on fight night; 39-2 with 27 KOs entering; from Georgia; 6-2 ) lives in South Carolina, while Lara (from Cuba; age 28; 153 pounds, to 160 on fight night; 15-0-1 with 10 KOs entering; 5-9) resides in Florida.

In the first round of the HBO Boxing After Dark show, we saw Williams' heavy weight advantage. He looked a full head-plus taller than the Cuban. Lara tackled Williams, who fell on his butt 1:30 in. Lara found Williams with a straight left shortly after. Of the two lefties, it looked like Lara had the quicker hands early.

In the second, Williams started being first more. He imposed his size advantage, but Lara didn't shrink and hide. He knocked Williams back, with a jab follow, at the 1:20 mark. George Peterson, Williams' trainer, told him he needed to fire with some snap, and feint more, and move his head.

In the third, we saw Williams reach, and lunge quite often, same old song. Lara, meanwhile, used his feet wisely, to get out of range, and to get himself angles. His straight left worked several times. Plus, he'd grab Williams when he wanted to, to dampen Williams' attack.

In the fourth, Lara got a timeout after being hit low. LTP came forward more aggressively, and it looked like maybe the worm was turning.

In the fifth, we saw a nasty knot on Lara's face, from a head butt It was a baseball, on the left side of his forehead. But he stayed busy, even though he wasn't moving as much. Williams had a cut on his left eye, which dripped into his peeper, from the same butt.

In the sixth, Williams was trying to take the round with volume. He was busy, and it was easier to be busy, because Lara now stood in front of him for most of the frame.

In the seventh, the over the top left hand for Lara scored points, once again. Work to the body by Williams looked like it hurt but Lara didn't succumb. The worm was back in place.

In the eighth, we heard Roy Jones talk about how this sort of fight could affect Williams after he retires. No one noted the irony there...Lara got his feet working again, and while Williams had some luck to the body, he wasn't switching up his ways in order to shift the momentum.

In the ninth, we heard from Peterson. He said to Max Kellerman that LTP should be getting off first, that Lara was running away and didn't want to fight, said Paul should be taking away the left hand, and would need to see how he lost if he lost, before he'd counsel retirement. Lara's corner after the round told him he'd win the fight with his legs.

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In the 10th, and the 11th, Jones worried that Williams was taking scary punishment, the sort that could leave him compromised. Blood streamed down from his left eye, and nose, and we wondered if Williams would get to his last planned fight, a tiebreaker with Sergio Martinez.

In the 12th, Lara boxed like a fox. LTP came forward, but without any spring in his step.

SPEEDBAG TSS's George Kimball, trainer Bouie Fisher and ex champ Billy Costello received an honorary ten count before the main event began.

---I chuckle...Kimball HATED HATED HATED the thought of covering events off TV, and desired heavily to be present at the arena. Me, I love the edge the DVR gives me, to rewind and see just what the heck landed, and to hear what was said in the ring after the fight. Plus, I like working in my underwear. But George would have been present in AC tonight, and man oh man, would he have ripped those judges a couple new holes.

---The body language was clear..Williams put up his hands half-heartedly after the fight. He didn't think he won.

--Roy Jones said after he felt bad for LTP. "I think you've seen the best of Paul Williams," Jones said, unless he gets another trainer. If Martinez was Lara, Jones said, LTP would be in the hospital.

--Kellerman wrapped it up by saying "this decision was indescribably bad" and "incompetent." Lara, he said, should be treated like he won. Williams' future, he said, is in serious jeopardy.

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### **amayseng says:**

the title of this article is wrong, it should have been "Williams gets his butt kicked losing at least 10 rounds in dominating fashion nearly being knocked out 29 times from devastating left hands in which he attempted no answer to adjust from while the whole commentating crew was asking for the fight to be stopped because of the severe pounding williams was taking despite winning a decision further shaming and embarrassing the greatest sport known to man".

### **FighterforJC says:**

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This.

### **Radam G says:**

Of course LTP will believe bull dejecta about him being good. When a person is lied to constantly, he starts to believe that jive. As I have been saying all alone, Punch-missin' sissy Paul Williams is a BIG HYPE -- a lovable chump for the media powers that be, especially HBO. HBO keep making sure that the toothpick wu\$\$y keep gettin' gift decisions. There should be a Congressional investigation of HBO. The fans should ban it, and go to Showtime. Holla!

### **the Roast says:**

Wow did Lara get the shaft or what! That fight was not close. I dont think it was as bad as Roy was painting it but Lara clearly was in control. Nice KO on the undercard. I love a four fight evening.

### **Shoulder Roll Defense says:**

To say Lara got robbed is an understatement. Paul Williams should retire before he gets hurt! I can't believe that he refuses to work on any of his defensive flaws. Also, what difference does it make if you are 6'2, but don't know how to use your height or reach properly? Williams is one of the most flawed mainstream prize fighters that I have ever seen.

### **michaelabii says:**

[QUOTE=Editor Mike;7782]His trainer George Peterson had been mightily dismissive when the questions were posed to Paul Williams leading up to his main event scrap against Erislandy Lara which unfolded at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City on Saturday night. Are you what you were? Will there be a lasting effect from that vicious one-punch KO at the hands of Sergio Martinez last year? [br] /[/br][br] /[/br]Peterson did not, at least to the press, admit that there was any cause for alarm, or even cause for a query, along the lines of: did Martinez take something away from Long Tall Paul that he could not get back. It turns out there was cause to ask the questions, and it appears they were answered, to the detriment of Williams' career. Underdog Lara, undersized, looking like he was two weight classes lighter than Williams, hit LTP time and again with an overhand left, and used his feet to get angles while he whacked away at the bigger but diminished man. After twelve rounds, the main question in one's mind was: will Williams fight again? The outcome wasn't in doubt, not to me anyway... but the judges didn't agree. They gave Williams the edge, by scores of 114-114, 115-114, 116-114.

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I always thought the comparisons with Hearn were extremely premature. Williams main asset was his high punch output for such a big man and his stamina. Hearn on the other hand could fight inside, trade and box if he had to. The Hearn jab was a killer when he used it effectively and his left hook to either the body or head was exceptional. Williams flicks his jabs, has no head movement and does not really turn his punches. I think Manny Steward could do a great job with him and I say this because Steward is great at developing tall fighters by making them fight tall. Paul needs to change trainers and fix his flaws. I do not think he is shot though he has been in some wars. He just needs to learn how to use his height and reach and generate more power in his punches.

**Radam G says:**

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michaelabii, I doubt that the great boxing guru Manny Steward would waste his time on Paul Williams. The dude is more than flawed. He's one of those boxers, who started off the wrong way, and his habits are so bad and ingrained that they cannot be broken, thus not corrected. Dude should just be thankful that he won a title and fame, because other than that, he has no game. And if I'm talking bad about a left hander, you know that that dude is bad, because I'm lefty like a muthaGENIUS. And everybody know the intelligence and talent of left handers. Don't let me have to name all what left handers have done in the world of sports, science and education. We lefties are da BOMB! Hehehehehe! Holla!

### **dino da vinci says:**

@Radam. As a fellow lefty, I have to share this with you. I read an article on Yahoo not that long ago that contained a reference to the effect of "don't worry left-handers, even though there's a belief that left-handers aren't as intelligent as their counterparts, there is no actual proof". I don't know what rationale was applied to that observation, but it probably came from the three judges in this fight.

### **Radam G says:**

Wow! All type of weirdo jive will show up on the web. I'm not surprised about anything that you find about lefties. Know-nothing mudsuckas be hatin,' 'cause dey don't know how to be honest and relatin.'

Many have beliefs that we lefties are satan's children. WTF! Satan doesn't want me as a child, because I will water burn down his kingdom of Hades. Hehehehe! Every time that Satan turns his back, I'll be cooling down syet with water machine guns and ice-firing predator drones. I would bury that satan suckas under da water like \_\_\_\_\_ did Osama bin Laden. Hehehe!

Did I ever tell you about how I use to water pistol whip Goat Ali's son, Muhammad Ali Jr? And I ain't gonna tell you neither. Hehehehehe! He may come up in this Universe and spotlight my arse hiding in plain sight for everybody and his cousin to see.

The nuns, clergymen and pubic -- I mean public -- officials used to slap da hebejeebeez outta my left hand to halt me from using it as an infant and toddler in the Philippines. The Catholics and Muslims in the Philippines have dumb-arse beliefs that a left-handed kid must be made a righty. Well, they double fudge me up. I can now use both hands and both sides of my brain like a muthagenius in this world of too many right-handed, left-brained muthasuckas.

BTW, Da Manny is almost a match of me. He writes with his right hand, throws darts with his right hand, but will knock da holy moly outta you with his left hand. He throws a baseball with his left hand and would double kicked Money May's arse in basketball with the smooth shooting of favoring his left. And, of course, he'd kayo Money May with either hand.

Whoever script that jive on Yahoo about left handers is full of syet and don't Jack or Jill and cannot climb a molehill. If I name all the lefties' contributions to change and process, that fool would need to flush himself down a giant toilet stool.

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OMFG! Dat muthajoker and his tiny poker don't want to get me started. I'll pull a TSS Pugilistic Scribe S-To on his arse. I'll go deep down in research and will be pulling up all of type of info that mudhole muthas haven't known or heard of until NOW! [I just like to be writin' and spittin' sh\*t. Hehehehe! Holla!