Gary Russell Jr.'s bout went as expected, with the prospect nearing contender status getting the best of Christopher Perez in the second bout of a special Showtime "ShoBox" broadcast. Three knockdowns in the third after one in the second was all Pat Russell had to see in Indio, CA. The end came at 1:41, via KO, for the undefeated hitter with blazing hands who goes to 20-0 with 12 KOs.

The lefty Russell ate a right counter in the first which told him that Perez wasn't there to lay down. Perez entered with 150 amateur bouts under his belt, and looked relaxed as he tried to impose a height edge on the favored fighter. Perez went down in the second, off a four punch combo, and was up with 47 seconds to go, though. A left knocked him through the ropes to start the third, and no one thought this would go into later rounds. A right to the body and left to the head did more damage, and then down he went again. The ref said one more and no more. To the mat again he went, off a combo featuring more speed than pinpoint accuracy, and the ref, true to his word, pulled the plug.

Russell went 43-100 to 17-93 for the loser.

Hey, who should 126 pound perhaps-future-star Russell be in with next? Time for a heavy step up you think?

Comment on this article

Radam G says:

Gary Russell is AIGHT and a lefty, but not quite ready for the big boy. Dude is still too stiff and tensed. And he is not fast of hands or feet. He is a vicious, shocking KAYO waiting to happen to da blind, fanfaronades, his groupies, know nothings and flunkies. The kid NEEDS a LOT, LOT of work. Holla!

brownsugar says:

Love watching the former Olympian work. His blazing hand speed is right up there with Gamboa and yester-years Meldrick Taylor. He seems a little more patient and less wreckless than I remember. But his team needs to escalate his opposition. Russell said in a post fight interview that he felt ready for Broner and Gamboa. I'd be happy to see him with some solid competition. Maybe they can get with JuanMa in a cross roads fight.

Radam G says:

Not even CLOSE! As soon as Gary Russell steps up, we'll see turtle time. And he will be the turtle. Optical illusions are amazing, until the tricks are revealed and/or EXPOSED. GR reminds me of the recently superhyped black Russian who got dustied off and exposed not too many moons ago. ___ ____ ____ was calling him the fastest-handed light heavyweight since the young Superman Roy Jones Jr.

Anybody can look fast fighting tomato cans and being the only punching. Just WAIT until rapid fire is RETURNED! Then da sucka is out like a light, and water fastly thrown on him to splash him back into real time. Holla!