Written by Michael Woods
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David Price is edging his way up the ladder, collecting bigger name scalps as the months pass. The Brit heavy looked to collect the top name of his career,Tony Thompson, at Echo Arena in Liverpool, England on Saturday night.

Or maybe it's better to say "was"...

Pundits wondered if Tony was coming to win when he stepped on the scale Friday and weighed 262 pounds, whereas he was 247 and 244 when meeting Wladimir Klitschko in 2008 and last year.

The answer came in round two, when Thompson hurled a right hook which dropped Price, who stood up, but on compromised legs. The ref, at 2:17, stopped the contest, and Price had the first L of his career attached to his record.

The 41 year old Thompson (36-3 entering; living in DC), a lefty, was in against a man his promoter, Frank Maloney, hopes can follow in the footsteps of Lennox Lewis. That's a tall order, but in this era of heavyweights, he could be two steps lessser than that and still make noise and money. Price (age 29; 15-0 entering; 6-8; living in Liverpool) had about three inches on Tony. Now, we wonder if he's three steps lesser than Lennox. "We got caught, this is heavyweight boxing," Price said after. Thompson said he was psyched when the fans booed the American

anthem. He said he wanted Price to run into shots, stay patient and smart. He was asked about his weight. He said he stopped worrying about his weight a long time ago, and just wanted to be in shape. "I'm not going to have the impressive body Price has but I have an impressive mind," he said. He wants Tyson Fury next. Price could stand to gain some weight, to get sturdier, he said.

In the first, neither man went balls out. Price was slightly more aggressive, but he wasn't fully warmed up. Tony was the mover, looking to be more mobile, so Price couldn't get his feet set to land a bomb. Price landed heavy body shots when he trapped Tony in a corner, but the vet stayed calm. In fact, he countered Price, who went down in a heap. He got up, but his legs were bad and the ref stopped it.

The shot was a right hook, to the side of the head/ear, and it took away his balance.

Comment on this article

Radam G says:

Wow! What a Redcoat softy pansy! [No hit on gays! That is not the way that I'm using that word.] Dude wasn't a hill of beans. Holla!

deepwater says:

Way to go! This is probably the best thing for us heavyweight division in quite awhile .im not even kidding. If Cunningham beats fury then the united states will of stopped the British invasion of the heavyweights except that Audrey Harrison just won that prizefighter and will get in the mix.

ArneK. says:

I don't recall ever seeing the word "compromised" used as an adjective, but I like it. Thumbs up.

Bernie Campbell says:

Cmon Price was landing at will up until that lucky punch, Kudos to Thompson, but if the punch didnt happen, Price wouldve had Thompson in under 6!

Radam G says:

Price was bytch swinging and flaunting -- not shooting, so Thompson turned him into a friscoe

ho and lowered a pimp-punch BOOM! Hehehe! Holla!

DaveB says:

I thought that was a well timed, well placed punch. Extremely likely that if Price could have gone into later rounds and definitely if he caught Thompson he would have won but he got caught with a punch that was on the money. And so it goes. He's young. He'll be back in the winner's circle. Probably several times.

brownsugar says:

[QUOTE=DaveB;26062]I thought that was a well timed, well placed punch. Extremely likely that if Price could have gone into later rounds and definitely if he caught Thompson he would have won but he got caught with a punch that was on the money. And so it goes. He's young. He'll be back in the winner's circle. Probably several times.[/QUOTE]

I guess that's all that can be said DaveB,

.....For nearly the last 18 months I posted that David Price was one of the next hiers to the throne. ....recently several months ago (after Price KO'd Matt Skelton in the 2nd round) I backed off Price a bit after watching Skelton,.....the 40 year old journeyman get inside of Price's guard and dispence a bit of unnecessary punishment to the Englishman. Price closed the show in round 2 but it was disheartening to see him struggle with a fat, much shorter and much older opponent. Similar to Deontay Wilder, Price will dispatch anyone he has the luxury to use his full arsenal against.

But getting there is the problem as Price has become increasingly reluctant to use the most important weapon in his tool box, ... which is the stiff heavyweight jab.

I could list a dozen up and comers who try to dazzle their opponents by waving the left hand in an erratic manner to distract the competion from the right hand..... but there's no substitute for a good jab.

I hope he leans his lesson and comes back strong. Price may have to adopt the practice of using his height and reach to maximum effect while smartly jabbing is way in like Klitschko,...(who's starting to look like a legend right now when compared to his fellow Heavyweights).

It was shocking to see the effect that a seeminly harmless grazing punch had on Price.
But it's impossible to gauge the impact from the outside looking in.

According to reports, Price's eardrum was perferated or punctured, which is possibly why he couldn't regain his balance.

Thompson has injected his career with fresh honeysuckled flavored air as he continues his new career as spoiler supreme.

I wonder if Prices Team secured a rematch clause?
I'd still pick Price in a rematch... tough lesson to learn, I hope he doesn't become the next Audley Harrison.

Radam G says:

I can see Paying-the-Prize Price becoming another Airless-Force Audley. Never being negative, always critical, I'm keeping it REAL. Price is following the red-brick road to the land of flash in the pants prospect. Holla!

DaveB says:

The reason why I say he'll be back is because of how the heavyweight division is right now. Tony Thompson is a good example. He keeps popping right back up so I figure David Price will do the same. It is funny that you mentioned Audley Harrison as he just won another tournament. Incredible. They were saying how Price had some chin problems as an amatuer. Those things always catch up to you in the pros. How good are the Klitschko's or even was Lewis? It is really hard to tell. I know they would be competitive in any era or at least I think they would. I remember Fighter for JC would always say how they were the greatest ever. I don't buy that but it really is hard to evaluate them when the pool of talent is so low.

The punch didn't look like much but it had to be devastating. 262 pounds smacking you around your ear has to have some serious consequences on your balance. It didn't have anything to do with his chin this time around but I would think that most people would have been affected by the punch that he never saw.

Definitely agree with the jab being one of the most under utiliized punches in boxing, especially doubling and tripling up on that baby. It seems to be a lost art. I don't understand it. It is the most effective overall punch in boxing to set things up and disrupt the opponent. Hopefully he'll learn from this like Tony Thompson believes he wil and he comes back stronger in the long run. The crowd was stunned as was Maloney.

Radam G says:

Not to be telling his biz, but Tyson Fury, along with another Fury from GB, used to be regulars in this Universe a few moons and a couple of days ago. Holla!,

brownsugar says:

yeah... after the fight Thompson began beating his chest and shouting to the audience... much like Bhop after he beat Pavlik... ..... it must be a liberating feeling to beat an opponent who was highly favored to win by KO in 3 rounds or less.
it's interesting that the only time Thompson showed any quickness during the fight was when

he landed the KO punch... very deceptive. (Maloney passed out after the fight)

the Roast says:

Kind of an odd punch landed to end the fight by Thompson. Behind the ear/back of the head caused Price to fold up like a lawn chair. Thompson showed up in terrible shape. Did he train at all? It felt like a lucky punch. I don't know much about Price but he should persue a rematch and avenge this loss.

Radam G says:

No luck on that young buck and Thompson is not a muck-a-muck. Price forgot to duck.! He and all the heavy young Gs suck. Just may be a bit, Tyson's Fury can pluck. Holla!

ali says:

Im my Larry Merchant voice Tyson Fury ain't no David Price.