

Keith Thurman Stops Diego Chaves In Round Ten

Written by Michael Woods
Saturday, 27 July 2013 20:55



Keith Thurman took on Diego Chaves in the Showtime TV opener, and the fight came out of the gate hard and fast. No way this could go twelve, it looked like. But the pace settled and it went deeper than many expect. Thurman kept on pressing, and after knocking down Chaves in the ninth, he sent him to the mat out, for a count out win, in round ten at the AT and T Center in San Antonio, Texas.

The end came at 28 seconds of the tenth for Thurman, and his stock rises hard with the win, because he had to dig down, make some adjustments, and showed that he doesn't just flourish early, he can come on late and get 'er done.

Al Haymon fighters sometimes draw extra attention and scorn, some positing that they get to

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take an easier rode to the promised land through connections. But to my eye, while skillful management and connections can indeed pave the way, once there, it is up to the fighters to either put up, and shut up the Haymon-bashers, or not. Some, like a Sharif Bogere, do indeed get exposed, but then there is a Thurman, who has pretty much come out of nowhere in the last year, and is a pleasant addition to the pugilism sphere.

Thurman (21-0 with 19 Kos) was ahead on all three cards, by four, two and four points.

After the win, Jim Gray spoke to Thurman. The victor was asked if a hurt nose in round three forced him to switch it up. He thanked San Diego, a bad flub, and realized he meant San Antonio. He said no, he expected to switch things up throughout. Thurman said that he saved up a mean body shot for later, because he knew Chaves (22-1) would fade some.

Chaves' power surprised and dismayed Thurman early. And, I dare, say, many fans who haven't seen the Argentine in action. Would the Floridian adjust and tweak his game to take out the 27-year-old Argentina boxer, who came in with the WBA interim welter crown? In round six, we saw "One Time" get countered by a sharp right after Thurman looked to land his own right hand bomb. The bout went from slugfest to a more measured pace and tone by this time. That pace let Thurman move more, box more, and maybe win the round.

Chaves' corner told him "he's dying there" after the seventh, a solid round in which Chaves landed a sharp right midway through. In the eighth, another tight one, Chaves worked so well to the body. His right hand to Thurman's lower chest kept Thurman from committing as he's been used to doing on the way up the ladder.

A body shot dropped Chaves with 55 seconds left in the ninth, though. Thurman feinted with a weak jab, dipped down and ripped the left to the body. "Put your batteries on!" Chaves' corner yelled after the round.

In the tenth, Thurman swarmed to begin the round. Chaves went down, and the Argentine was counted out before the count of ten. A left to the body, and double left to the head hurt him a bit, and a clubbing right put him to the floor. He was on his hands and knees. The ref waved it off at the count of seven.

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Thurman went 118-407, to 107-453 for the loser.

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ali says:

Chaves have him early dammit!

amayseng says:

Chavez is solid. Looking forward to see him fight again.

brownsugar says:

It was a strange sight watching Thurman being walked down while eyeing Chavez like he was an armed and Deputized U.S. Marshall with a warrant for his arrest. Keith "One Time" Thurman quickly made the transition from Stalker to Ambush mode after a brief taste of the Argentinians power... But that's what boxing is about... remaining confident .. and completely willing to do what's necessary to gain the advantage. Even if the solution clashes with how a fighter prefers to perform. Once Thurman settled in ... the unrefined aspects of Chavez's technique began to show... if Chavez can improve his stamina I think he would do better in a rematch..If I were Thurman I'd keep it moving forward and deny Chavez an immediate rematch.

amayseng says:

If Chavez fought the last half of the fight the way he fought the first half he would have won. He started reaching and lunging and becoming a bit desperate at times while slowing the pace.

I agree he can be a bit better. And probably is.

Shoulder Roll Defense says:

Thurman was the boxer with the most upside on the the entire card. It wasn't about what Chaves failed to do, but rather the master boxing skills that Thurman illustrated. I'm officially a believer. The kid is a boxer/puncher with a granite chin!

Carmine Cas says:

I'd like to see Thurman and Broner fight, in the battle of the big mouths; uneducated vs reading from a Q-card lol. Chaves looked good, he needs a little more variety with his offense and improved stamina, def want to see him fight again

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amayseng says:

[QUOTE=Shoulder Roll Defense;34218]Thurman was the boxer with the most upside on the the entire card. It wasn't about what Chaves failed to do, but rather the master boxing skills that Thurman illustrated. I'm officially a believer. The kid is a boxer/puncher with a granite chin![/QUOTE]

I concur Thurman made the appropriate adjustments and Chavez was unable to. That is a testament to Thurman that he can box as well as bang. I was impressed with him.

Carmine Cas says:

Thurman did do a good job adjusting and sticking to the outside, I have to admit I was impressed. Since he holds the WBA interim he gets a shot at Broner no?

amayseng says:

[QUOTE=Carmine Cas;34241]Thurman did do a good job adjusting and sticking to the outside, I have to admit I was impressed. Since he holds the WBA interim he gets a shot at Broner no?[/QUOTE]

Which means Broner will relinquish it to avoid him and go down to a safer fight.

Bernie Campbell says:

I think this idiot would do himself better by promoting himself with Geri-curls!