

Stevens, Adamek, Mchunu Win Big on NBC Sports

Written by Kelsey McCarson
Sunday, 04 August 2013 09:30



Middleweight Curtis Stevens, heavyweight Tomasz Adamek and cruiserweight Thabiso Mchunu all nabbed impressive wins Saturday night on NBC Sports. The three bouts took place at the Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, Connecticut.

In the main event, middleweight contender Curtis “Showtime” Stevens (25-3, 18 KOs) defeated Saul Roman (37-10, 31 KOs) by first round knockout in what might be his most impressive win to date.

Stevens let it be known beforehand he wanted to challenge number one ranked TBRB middleweight and WBA titlist Gennady Golovkin next, so he was looking for an impressive performance to help make the case.

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And so it was.

Stevens started fast and furious. He clipped Roman with an overhand right early, then had him up against the ropes and hurt. A few seconds later, Stevens deflected Roman's right hand return to land a hard left hook to put his opponent down. The brave middleweight rose to his feet, but was quickly dispatched again by the aggressive Stevens. Again, it was a devastating left hook from Stevens that put Roman down, this time for good.

Like a shark sensing blood, Stevens saw his opponent hurt and went in for the kill. He knocked Roman out cold at 2:26 of the first, making the statement he so desired.

On the undercard, heavyweight contender Tomasz Adamek (49-2, 29 KOs) defeated Dominick Guinn (34-10-1, 23 KOs) by unanimous decision. Adamek was as sharp as ever.

In the first, Guinn immediately employed a quick jab up and down Adamek's torso. The former heavyweight contender, 38, started the fight as if he knew this was his last chance at glory. The two men had been sparring partners in the past and it showed. Both came into the ring knowing each other's tricks.

Adamek worked hard in the first to show his power. While Guinn was busy, Adamek was patient and used real power whenever he got in close. Quick jabs from Adamek ended the round, but Guinn had done enough early to take it.

In the second, Adamek started the round busier. He moved in closer to punching range, and ate some right hands from Guinn because of it. Still, Adamek's jab was quick and snappy in the round. Both men were landing hard punches, though not cleanly. Adamek probably did the best work with his jab.

Adamek made Guinn miss more in the third, and his jabs and fast right hands were as effective as ever. Guinn had little answer for the active Adamek. A headbutt from Adamek opened up a

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cut near the end of it, which only served to galvanize Adamek.

A lighting quick jab opened up things for Adamek in the fourth. He was growing increasingly confident in his approach while Guinn's bravado started to fade. The fight was being fought at closer quarters now, which was good for the shorter-armed Adamek. Three- and four-punch combinations were the norm now for Adamek. Guinn tried to keep up the pace, but labored under the blood and sweat of his brow.

A peppery jab told the tale in the fifth, and it was the sliding in and out of range Adamek who was serving it. Guinn tried to employ a stiff jab of his own, but he was lulled into activity far too much to be effective. Adamek was the boss in both punches and pace.

It was more of the same in the sixth and seventh. Adamek kept Guinn off balance with educated punching patterns. Guinn was mostly inactive, though had limited success during the rare times he let his hands go.

Adamek opened up in the ninth, and he appeared as fresh as ever. He landed hooks, uppercuts and right crosses as much as he wanted. He was aggressive without being greedy, and he looked as sharp as ever.

The tenth and final round played the same. Adamek, a smart fighter, had to know he had the bout in the bag. He didn't give up the round, but decided digression was the better part of valor and was content to take the win by decision.

And that's exactly what he did. Judges scored the fight unanimously for Adamek by scores of 99-91, 99-91 and 98-92.

Finally, previously unknown cruiserweight Thadiso Mchunu (13-1, 9 KOs) made a statement by dominating former heavyweight title contender Eddie Chambers (36-4, 18 KOs) with an impressive showing of real skill. It was Chambers' first fight after a move down from heavyweight to the cruiserweight division, and it may have been a huge mistake. Mchunu was faster, landed with more power and had the better defense.

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Mchunu, a slick southpaw, used sharp, straight punches to keep Chambers at bay. While Chambers moved forward, the sharpshooting Mchunu landed clean, hard jabs and precise left hands.

Chambers' high guard was woefully ineffective. He appeared sluggish and lazy at times, and his greatest asset at heavyweight, his speed, was reduced to molasses compared to the leaner, quicker Mchunu.

Mchunu controlled the pace round after round. Chambers landed very few punches, despite his cocky behavior in the prefight buildup.

All ten rounds played the same song. Chambers moved forward in every round looking to land but was unable to put anything together. Meanwhile, Mchunu was leaning back and forth on his back foot landing power shots one after another.

It was the 24-year-old Mchunu's first venture outside his home country of South Africa, but he seemed at home fighting in the cruiserweight division against interloper Chambers. Chambers' usually solid jab was active, but didn't land nearly enough to keep Mchunu from picking up most of the rounds. Final punch stats showed Chambers' jab landing at a paltry six percent.

Chambers did find more of a home for it in the seventh, but his backhand power shots were thrown very little and landed even less. The American slickster was reduced to following the smaller man around the ring like a lost puppy. Mchunu was the master, and he opened up in the eighth. He landed a jab, then a jab-cross, then a jab-cross-hook. Next, he was circling, then right back at Chambers with more combinations. All the while, Chambers remained inactive and appeared befuddled.

A confident Mchunu looked the part of real contender in round nine. He landed hard one-tvos and smirked at Chambers as he moved in and out of range at will. Chambers had no answer for the puzzle presented him, and Mchunu was landing with just enough power to keep his opponent from rushing in and going for broke.

The final round was a microcosm of the whole fight. Chambers came forward but was tentative and unsure of his approach. Mchunu was the bigger puncher and controlled Chambers with his feet and fists.

When the final scores were tallied, judges at ringside scored the bout for Mchunu by unanimous decision. Scores were 99-91 two ways and 97-93 once for the winner, Mchunu.

[Comment on this article](#)

the Roast says:

If you have this on DVR and haven't watched it yet do yourself a favor and skip the first two fights. Boring, pointless, waste of time. Stevens got a good KO but the dude already had nine losses so no big deal.

Shoulder Roll Defense says:

I agree with you Roast, but I've watched Stevens' last four fights and he has legitamate KO power. I would love to see him and GGG fight. It could be interesting if GGG doesn't have a chin. On another note, Mchunu boxed Eddie Chambers shoes off. Mchunu displayed excellent boxing skills. There aren't many southpaws that can box primarily out of the "philly shell" stance.

Bernie Campbell says:

Name any fighters in the Heavyweights beside the Sole Brothers that old a** Adamek cant slap silly!

brownsugar says:

Adamek looked good, but he had a guy who wouldn't give him a fight even though he had the tools to do better... They should have given the first fight to Chambers for trying to make a fight out of it... I fell asleep 3 times watching Mchuna leaning back in a wide legged stance waiting and waiting and waiting... Don't know why Chambers wasn't using some side to side to take advantage of the South Africans wide legged posted up position... dude looked like he was straddling two sides of an earthquake-created crevice..... and Chambers didn't have the athleticism to slide to the side. But the fight was so much of a non confrontation,... I just don't want to think about it.... Stevens quick stoppage of Roman woke me up good and proper but I hated that I didn't have time to finish my beer..... I don't know about anyone else... Stevens didn't seem to give the impression he wanted any parts of GGG any time soon,... unless I'm immune to "subtleness".... despite all the internet chatter attributed to Stevens about wanting

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the Roast says:

[QUOTE=Shoulder Roll Defense;34493]I agree with you Roast, but I've watched Stevens' last four fights and he has legitamate KO power. I would love to see him and GGG fight. It could be interesting if GGG doesn't have a chin. On another note, Mchunu boxed Eddie Chambers shoes off. Mchunu displayed excellent boxing skills. There aren't many southpaws that can box primarily out of the "philly shell" stance.[/QUOTE]

Stevens has one punch power for sure SRD, he always has. 160 is a much better weight than 168 for Stevens. Stevens has to beat a more noteworthy opponent to deserve a crack at GGG. We all love a pure puncher so I hope Stevens finds his way into a good fight on Showtime or HBO. Bernie, Adamek was lucky to get the nod over Steve Cunningham. David Haye would kill him. Tony Thompson would kill him.

brownsugar says:

Stevens is not going to land flush on GGG that easily... he's got nothing GGG hasn't seen a hundred times before. Stevens is short squat,.. has good countering reflexes, but I don't see GGG as lacking in the basic fundamentals that would effectively negate Stevens' Hook. Still it would be a decent feather in his cap if Stevens could knock off a name opponent first (could he even last 12 rounds with a veteran like Macklin,.. a guy who knows how to go rounds?) ...and I'm still trying to comprehend how Stevens allowed the ultramuscular-body-building-slash-parttime-boxer, Daryl "Mr Universe" Findley to go the distance.

Bernie Campbell says:

You sure don't know where the sunshines in the world of Boxing! Brownsugar! Haye got his behind real tanned by Giacobbe Fragoeini when Haye was a Cruiserweight! Fragomini happened to be 5'9 compared to Haye's 6'3! Although Haye eventually TKOd Fragomeni It has sent doubt on Hayes career subsequent! Haye has had memorable exhibitions since! His scrap with John Ruiz! His multiple knockdown win over Monte Barrett, where Haye got his behind knocked down himself!

Thompson is an inferior fighter! He beat a raw chump! Thompson never beat anybody else in his bloody career! See What Pulev does to his ex-con behind! The dude had no amateur career! Both of these fighters have had inactive careers for the years that they have put in! Are you trying to tell me that they couldn't get fights? People were ducking them! If I had to eat, Id damn institute a trilogy with Owen Beck! Which neither one had the crackers to do!

Somebodys paying your salary, Eh! Cmon you can tell me!

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Mr. Roast, You show a lack of insight! When Haye was a Cruiserweight he got his behind tanned bigtime by 5'9 Giacobbie Fragomeni! A cut incurred in that fight in which Haye should have been TKO'd! Eventually he knocked out his opponent from Fragomeni's sheer exhaustion! That fight loomed a big doubt on Haye for the rest of his career! Other notable encounters that Haye was involved in was John Ruiz, and Monte Barrett in which Barrett was knocked down numerous times but also managed to knock Haye's *** down too!

Thompson beat a raw head case in Liverpool! Thompson has not beat anybody else in his 40 year old life! No amateur experience! See what Pulev does to his ex-con butt! Both of these fellars have been extremely inactive for their long careers! They couldn't get fights? Were people ducking them? If I had to eat I'd sure as heck institute a trilogy with Owen Beck! With these friscoes its all about hype and promotion! These types will go the way of the Abominable Snowman!

Carmine Cas says:

Lol Bernie you're too funny, Stevens looked good against a fighter with limited defense. I'd like to see him fight GGG next, he's been calling him out let's make it happen

brownsugar says:

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I wish some was paying me a salary Bernie

Carmine Cas says:

[QUOTE=brownsugar;34504]Adamek looked good, but he had a guy who wouldn't give him a fight even though he had the tools to do better... They should have given the first fight to Chambers for trying to make a fight out of it... I fell asleep 3 times watching Mchuna leaning back in a wide legged stance waiting and waiting and waiting... Don't know why Chambers wasn't using some side to side to take advantage of the South Africans wide legged posted up position... dude looked like he was straddling two sides of an earthquake-created crevice..... and Chambers didn't have the athleticism to slide to the side. But the fight was so much of a non confrontation,... I just don't want to think about it.... Stevens quick stoppage of Roman woke me up good and proper but I hated that I didn't have time to finish my beer..... I don't know

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Lol nice summation of Mchunu's stance. Chambers should have definitely used angles, feints, and head movements to elicit a premature reaction from Mchunu instead of just coming straight forward with has up allowing the South African to land. I have noticed that Stevens kind of squares up too much when he is flurrying, a flaw a more skilled pugilist can capitalize on cough cough GGG. But I want to see that fight, if GGG is having trouble getting fighters in the ring; well chin checker is right there asking for it. Kathy Duva should listen to her fighter's request

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I'm all for it too Carmine... Stevens will get taken apart by GGG..but he'll live to fight again...may even learn something in the process... (if Stevens couldn't tag Darryl "Schwarzenegger " Findley... he wont find GGG either. But it'd but an entertaining fight.

Carmine Cas says:

It would be, at least it seems so far that he's not scared of GGG

Bernie Campbell says:

Wake up you pre-schoolers! If Stevens got embarrassed by Jessie Brinkley, seriously, How in Gods green planet is he gonna compete with the Korean!

Hop says:

I agree with some of the previous posts. Mostly, that Adamek's opponent (Guinn) just wouldn't throw first -- ever. It's not that he [U]couldn't[/U] get off, it's that he refused to. I've never understood boxers like that, and figured he's lose when I saw that.

The one part I did like, though, was Curtis Stevens. He ring name should be "The Turbocharger"! I don't know how he will fare against higher-level competition, but man, once those arms start swinging it's like a washing machine churning at 50x its normal speed. LOL

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