



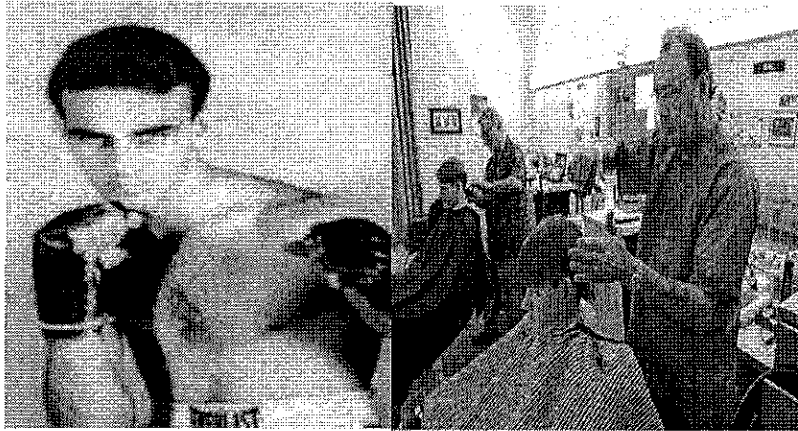
Jerry Pellegrini

Professional Boxer

(b. 1944)

BORN: New Orleans, LA

PROFESSIONAL: 1961-1971



Jerry Pellegrini launched his amateur boxing career at St. Mary's Italian Gym in New Orleans in the 1950's. After quitting grammar school to attend barber school, "The Boxing Barber" began a professional boxing career that would span nearly a decade. Pellegrini spent the 1960's thrilling New Orleans area crowds at local boxing venues such as the legendary Municipal Auditorium. He climbed the world welterweight rankings and would ultimately win the Southern Welterweight Title in 1967.

Pellegrini retired in 1971 with a record of 28-12 (12 KO) after severely injuring his hand. He currently resides in Slidell, LA and continues to work as a barber.

Career Statistics

Date	Opponent	Location	
1971-03-22	Jose Gabino	New Orleans, US	W
1970-08-03	David Adkins	New Orleans, US	L
1970-06-02	Willie Warren	New Orleans, US	L
1969-12-11	Pete Toro	Baltimore, US	L
1969-09-19	Billy Backus	Syracuse, US	L
1969-07-21	Billy Backus	New Orleans, US	W
1969-06-09	Chucho Garcia	New Orleans, US	W
1969-04-28	Dave Hilton	New Orleans, US	W
1969-03-10	Johnny Brooks	New Orleans, US	W
1968-11-27	Juan Ramos	New Orleans, US	W
1968-11-13	Billy Novak	New Orleans, US	W
1968-10-21	Cassius Greene	New Orleans, US	W
1968-08-26	Pete Toro	New Orleans, US	L
1968-07-29	Billy Backus	New Orleans, US	L
1968-07-01	Johnny Brooks	New Orleans, US	L
1968-04-13	Doug McLeod	Monroe, US	W
1968-03-03	Percy Pugh	New Orleans, US	L
1967-12-11	Dick DiVeronica	New Orleans, US	W
1967-09-21	Percy Pugh	New Orleans, US	L
1967-08-21	Herbie Lee	New Orleans, US	W
1967-07-10	Freddie Martinovich	New Orleans, US	W
1967-05-08	Freddie Martinovich	New Orleans, US	L
1967-03-13	Kid Bassey II	New Orleans, US	W
1967-02-09	Jim Meilleur	New Orleans, US	W

1966-11-11	Dave Morine	New Orleans, US	W
1966-09-26	Joey Durelle	New Orleans, US	W
1966-09-13	Charley Scott	New Orleans, US	W
1966-07-18	Colin Fraser	New Orleans, US	W
1966-06-02	Tim Ford	New Orleans, US	W
1966-05-10	Orlando Ruiz	New Orleans, US	W
1966-04-06	Dean Whitlock	New Orleans, US	W
1966-03-21	Preston Price	New Orleans, US	W
1964-06-18	Ray Wilmore	New Orleans, US	L
1963-06-14	Vic Graffio	Lake Charles, US	W
1963-04-29	Leonard Breaux	New Orleans, US	W
1962-12-19	Terry Molina	Harvey, US	W
1961-10-23	Ruben Rivera	Harvey, US	W
1961-10-09	Lalo Varela	New Orleans, US	W
1961-08-07	Calvin Chapman	Mobile, US	W
1961-06-12	Phil David	New Orleans, US	L

Career Accolades

General

- St. Bernard Sports Hall of Fame Inductee, 1994 (inaugural class)
- Louisiana American-Italian Sports Hall of Fame Inductee, 1994

Professional, 1961-1971

- Professional record of 28-12 (12 KO)
- Ranked #3 welterweight in the world by the World Boxing Council, 1967
- Ranked #3 welterweight in the world by the World Boxing Association, 1967
- Won the Southern Welterweight Title, 1967

Amateur

- Amateur record of 27-5
- National Championship Quarterfinals, 1961
- Runner-Up, Southern Golden Gloves Championship, 1960

The Louisiana American Italian Sports Hall of Fame

proudly recognizes



Jerry Pellegrini

"The Battling Barber"

INDUCTED JANUARY 15, 1994

~ 1967 Ranked No. 3 Welterweight by WBC ~

~ 1967-69 Southern Welterweight Champion ~

~ RECORD ~

~ 1956-60 Won 27 out of 32 Amateur Fights ~

~ 1961-70 Won 27 ~ Lost 12 Professional Fights ~

~ 10 KOs ~

JERRY PELLEGRINI, AMATEUR BOXER

At the age of nine, with no particular training, Jerry had his first amateur bout. He won a fried chicken dinner. But he had always been around boxing. His Father boxed as a pro and his brother Alvin a more accomplished middleweight from 1951 to '56 going 19-5-3 with five ko's.

Jerry began training under guidance of Sal Nuccio, and with a small group of local kids at Chick Burns gym on Poland St.

Most of his matches were at St. Mary Italian Center in the french quarter. Mr. Whitey Esnault led that boxing club for a long time, and that's the boys we would get matched with to box.

At 15 years old, with 22 amateur bouts accumulated, Mr. Jimmy Perrin took Jerry and small group to Pocatella., Idaho to compete in national competion. Jerry made it to the semi-finals.

At 16 years old Jerry was the runnerup in the Southern Golden Gloves Championship.

Jerry's overall amateur record 27-5.

SHORT STORY OF A BOXER

AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER BOXING WAS PART OF MY LIFE. BOTH MY FATHER AND OLDER BROTHER WERE BOXERS. IT FELT VERY NATURAL FOR ME TO WANT TO BOX. I WAS ALWAYS INTERESTED AND PARTICIPATED IN OTHER SPORTS - FOOTBALL, BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL, BUT BOXING WAS ALWAYS MY FAVORITE.

MOST OF MY AMATEUR BOUTS TOOK PLACE AT ST. MARY'S ITALIAN GYM. BEGINNING ABOUT THE AGE OF NINE I FOUGHT BOYS FROM LOCAL AND OUT OF TOWN CAMPS. CLIMAXING MY AMATEUR CAREER WAS A TRIP TO POCAATELLA, IDAHO TO FIGHT IN THE SAAU FINALS AT AGE 15.

WHEN I TURNED SIXTEEN BOTH MY MOTHER AND FATHER HAD TO SIGN GIVING PERMISSION FOR ME TO FIGHT PROFESSIONAL. I STARTED WITH TWO FOUR-ROUND MATCHES. THEN GRADUATED TO SIX AND EIGHT ROUND CONTESTS. IT WASN'T VERY LONG BEFORE I WAS FIGHTING TEN MAIN EVENT ROUNDS. I WAS PRIVILEGED TO SPARR DAILY WITH RALPH DUPAS FOR HIS TITLE SHOT WITH DENNY MOYER.

IT WASN'T TOO LONG BEFORE I HAD A STRING OF KO'S. WITH AN INCREASE IN BOXING POPULARITY, I BEGAN TO DRAW REAL NICE CROWDS TO THE MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM. IN 1966 HAVING TEN BOUTS WINNING THEM ALL AND SCORING SIX BY KO. IN THAT TIME I ACQUIRED BY THE PRESS THE ALIAS OF THE BATTLING BARBER FROM ST. BERNARD.

AT THE HEIGHT OF THIS BOXING CAREER I WAS RANKED #3 WELTERWEIGHT CONTENDER IN THE WORLD. IN 1967 I DEFEATED FREDDIE MARTINOVICH, A HUNGARIAN SCRAPER FOR THE SOUTHERN WELTERWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP.

I HAD TWO MANAGERS DURING MY PROFESSIONAL CAREER, BUT MY DAD WAS ALWAYS OVERSEEING MY DAILY WORKOUTS. HE WAS IN MY CORNER

FROM DAY ONE UNTIL THE FINAL MATCH OF MY CAREER. FROM HIM
I LEARNED MORE THAN BOXING. HE TAUGHT ME ABOUT HARD WORK,
HE TAUGHT ME TO HAVE RESPECT FOR OTHERS, AND SHOWED ME LOVE
OF FAMILY. TONIGHT, I WASH TO DEDICATE THIS AWARD IN HIS
MEMORY.



Jerry Pellegrini reflects on boxing career

0/3/2014



Advocate staff photo by SCOTT THRELKELD Jerry Pellegrini, the Boxing Barber, right, styles Connor Schenck's hair last month at DeSalvo's Barber Shop in Slidell. Shop owner John DeSalvo, second from left, cuts the hair of Schenck's brother, Joseph Schenck. Pellegrini, a welterweight who was ranked third in the world by the WBA and WBC during his 10-year professional career, no longer boxes but still cuts hair.

Jerry Pellegrini reflects on in-ring career and once-thriving sport in New Orleans

By Bernard Fernandez

Special to The Advocate

Jerry Pellegrini, the "Boxing Barber" from St. Bernard Parish, was recalling the moment when he knew he would have to make the difficult decision to step away from the sport that had made him a local celebrity in the 1960s.

"I stopped fighting in 1971 because I had busted my (right) hand all up," Pellegrini, 69, said at the DeSalvo Brothers Barber Shop in Slidell, where he still cuts hair Wednesday through Friday. "The doctor wanted to operate on it, but I was a barber by trade, and I didn't want nobody cutting on my hand. I might not be able to use my shears or a straight razor. So I retired.

"But 10 years in that ring ... I thank God I came out in pretty good shape. Not everybody does. They stay too long because they can't let it go."

Maybe Pellegrini would have come through hand surgery on that right hand, which helped carry him to a No. 3 world ranking as a welterweight in 1967, without a problem. But he had lost four of his final five bouts, and it is the wise fighter who recognizes when it is time to fully devote himself to that phase of his life which doesn't deal with punching someone for a living and getting punched back. Besides, Pellegrini prepared himself for just such an eventuality.

"I quit grammar school in the eighth grade," Pellegrini said. "My daddy said, 'If you ain't going to school, you need to get yourself a trade.' So I went to barber college when I was 16. I've been a barber all my life."

Barbering is something of a family business with Pellegrini, whose son, Kery, continues to operate his father's old shop in Chalmette.

Then again, boxing was also a family business for the Pellegrinis; Jerry's late father, Al, was a featherweight from 1933 to '35 who posted a 5-2-1 record as a pro while older brother Alvin was a fairly accomplished middleweight from 1951 to '56, going 19-5-3 with five knockout victories.

It was Jerry, however, who became one of the more accomplished and popular local attractions ever, regularly drawing sellout or near-sellout crowds to the St. Bernard Civic Center and Municipal Auditorium. The young Jerry had striking good looks -- "like a movie star," one sixty-something lady perusing his scrapbook judged -- and the kind of putaway power that many of New Orleans' better boxers lacked.

In legend and lore, the city's most renowned practitioners of the "sweet science" -- Pete Herman, Willie Pastrano, Ralph Dupas, the Docusen brothers, Bernard and Maxie, and Pellegrini's contemporary, Percy Pugh -- were stick-and-move technicians with fast hands, nimble feet and a discernible lack of pop on their punches.

Although Pellegrini's final professional record -- 28-12-1 with a relatively modest 12 KOs, according to BoxRec.com -- might not be indicative of it, his overhand right was something every opponent was keenly aware of.

"He hit hard," Pugh, the Lower Ninth Ward defensive genius, who twice outpointed Pellegrini in bouts that were very big deals in the late 1960s, noted in a 2011 interview. "That's what I was scared of, how hard he hit. If he hit me, he'd knock me out. I stayed on my bicycle."

"Jerry, to me, was sort of like a Tommy Hearn," John DeSalvo, 70, who went through barber college with Pellegrini and now works alongside him, said in comparing his friend and coworker's ability to turn the lights out on the other guy with that of the legendary "Hitman" from Detroit.

The biggest purse of Pellegrini's career was the \$8,700 he earned for his second fight with Pugh, on March 13, 1968, which packed Municipal Auditorium with a standing-room-only crowd of 8,000-plus and brought Pugh, who won on points, the Southern welterweight championship.

"That was a lot of money back then," said longtime New Orleans-area boxing promoter and manager Les Bonano. "But imagine if those guys were fighting today. A fight like that might have wound up in the Superdome or New Orleans (now Smoothie King) Arena and be televised by HBO or Showtime."

But there was no Mercedes-Benz Superdome or Smoothie King Arena back then. No HBO or Showtime, either. The biggest, most significant bouts of Pellegrini's and Pugh's careers were untelevised by anybody, which served to limit their visibility beyond their home area. And, it should be noted, all of Pellegrini's purses got whittled down after he paid his manager, his corner team and the ever-present tax man.

Might Pellegrini have risked that operation on his right hand and fought on had his earnings from boxing been more substantial? It's a question he has often asked himself as he hears of the big bucks that go to members of professional boxing's widening Seven-Figures Club.

"I came along too soon, I really did," he said, with a trace of wistfulness. "And not that much too soon. After me and Percy fought, just two years later, Hearn and Ray Leonard fought, and they made millions."

Pellegrini's memory here is a bit faulty. The hugely anticipated welterweight unification showdown between undefeated champions Leonard, who came from behind on the scorecards to win on a dramatic, 14th-round stoppage, and Hearn took place on Sept. 16, 1981, more than 13 years after the Pugh-Pellegrini rematch. But Pellegrini's assessment is otherwise spot-on. Both he and Pugh, who eventually rose to a No. 1 ranking in the 147-pound weight class, plied their trade too early to really hear boxing's cash register.

"Jerry and Percy would have drawn maybe 15,000 if there had been a facility big enough to accommodate that kind of crowd," Bonano said. "They were the unquestioned headliners during their time period."

Boxing isn't as high-visibility here as it once was. Fight cards are staged far less frequently than they were during Pellegrini's heyday, and the gyms that produced so many local heroes, among them St. Mary's Italian in the French Quarter and Curley's Neutral Corner at the corner of St. Charles Avenue and Poydras Street, have been consigned to the dusty bins of memory. But that's not to say Pellegrini and Pugh, friends then and now as well as rivals, have been totally forgotten.

"Naturally, the older fans remember them," Bonano said. "Whenever I put on a fight card, I bring them into the ring and have them introduced. They always get a nice round of applause."

On June 8, a couple of renowned former welterweight champions — Oscar De La Hoya and Felix Trinidad, the Leonard and Hearn of their day — will be inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, N.Y.

Meanwhile, neither Pellegrini or Pugh ever got the shot at then-welterweight champ Curtis Cokes that both wanted so badly, or rose to that level.

And all of the 12 boxing-related inductees into the Greater New Orleans Sports Hall of Fame are deceased, a reflection of what can happen when a sport gradually loses local prominence and memories begin to fade.

"People I meet tell me they remember when I was fighting and boxing was going good here," Pellegrini said. "And you know what? It was going good."

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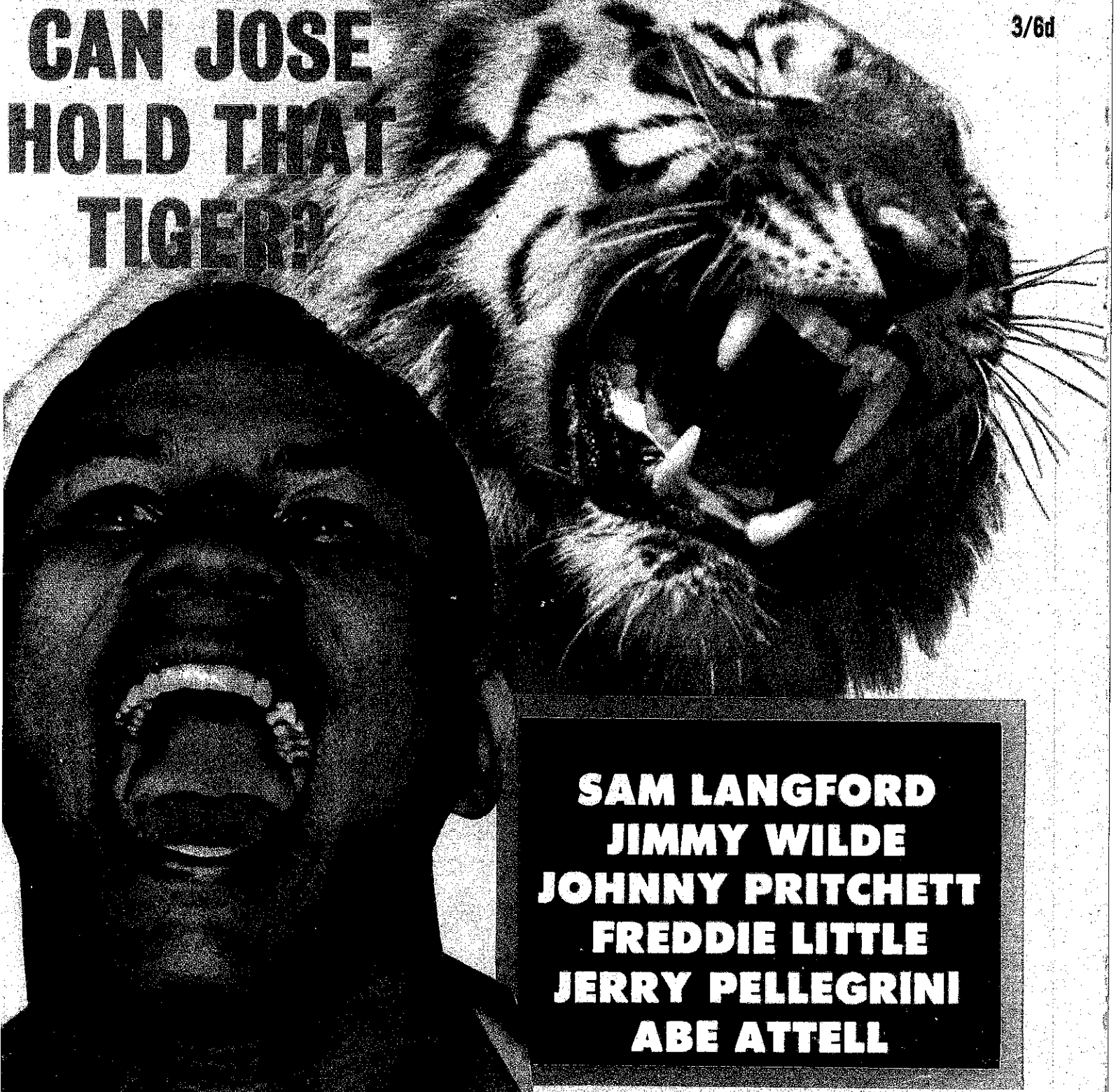
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RINGSIDE NEWS

**CAN JOSE
HOLD THAT
TIGER?**

3/6d



**SAM LANGFORD
JIMMY WILDE
JOHNNY PRITCHETT
FREDDIE LITTLE
JERRY PELLEGRINI
ABE ATTELL**

THE THREE FACES OF JERRY PELLEGRINI

NEW ORLEANS WELTER IS PUNCHER, BUSINESSMAN AND FATHER
By WADDELL SUMMERS



JERRY PELLEGRINI

YOUNG Jerry Pellegrini, 22, New Orleans' newest welterweight kayo artist, has three faces.

The power-punching 147-pounder, who has put out the lights for over half of his fifteen pro opponents, including the first five of his rivals this year, in a total of twelve rounds, carries a different image, according to the eyes that view him.

After a layoff of almost two years the young bomber returned to the ring was early this year with a three round knockout of local rival Preston Price.

In his next bout, matchmaker Mike Cusimano of the Garden Boxing Club set him up for a scheduled eight-rounder with youthful Dean Whitlock of Waco, Texas. They had to pull Jerry off Whitlock in the second round when Whitlock was taking a terrific pummeling.

In his next outing, Cusimano brought in promising young Orland Ruiz of Venezuela, who was boxing out of Miami and enjoyed a 19-2 record.

Jerry put the Venezuelan on Queer Street with one mighty right hand punch in the second round. Ruiz got up at eight but was looking up in the balcony, unaware of his whereabouts, when referee Pete Giarusso stopped it.

On June 6, impressive Tim Ford, of Jacksonville, Fla., came to town with a solid 31-3 record. Ford lasted a little longer, but another thunderous right dropped him for good in the fourth.

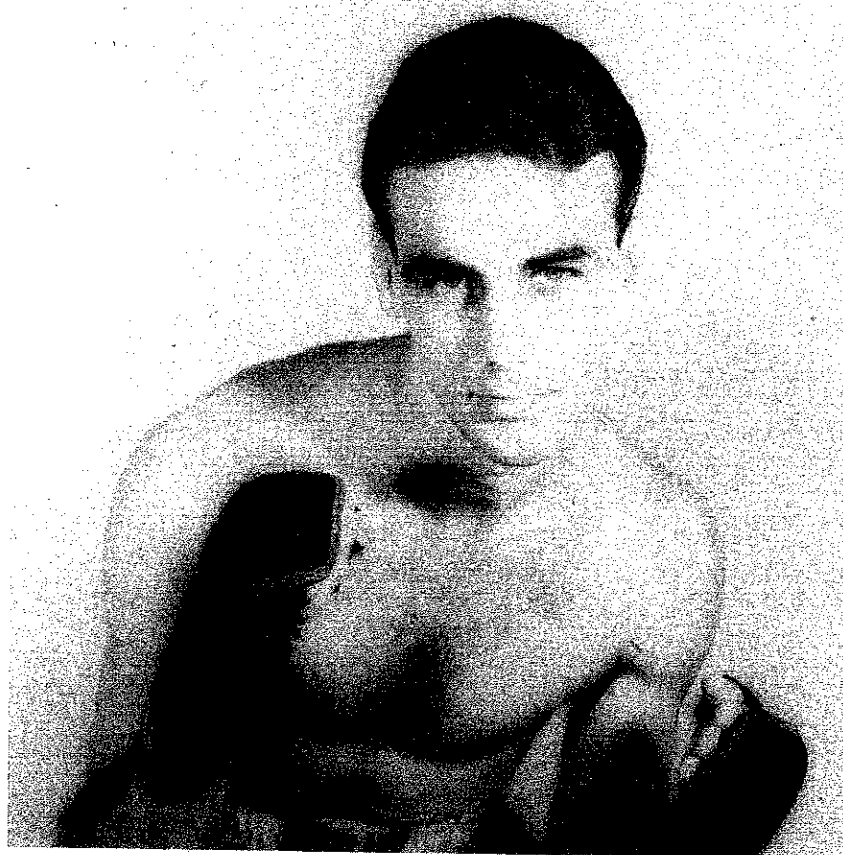
The next to taste Pellegrini's leather was Colin Fraser, who came to town with the junior welterweight title of Canada and a 13-4 pro record. Fraser showed more courage than the rest, taking three terrific right hand blows before the referee had to halt it in 2:26 of the first.

Now Jerry was ready to step up in class and his next foe was the veteran left hooker from Philadelphia, Charley Scott. Scott, a seasoned pro who had faced all of the top men in his class, gave Jerry a tough fight, but the local idol, going ten rounds for the first time since he returned to the ring, won the verdict.

In his last fight, Jerry was forced to go the limit again, but again was a solid winner, this time over the



The Pellegrini family. Helen holds 2-year-old Kerry and Jerry, Jerry Jr., 3½.



Pellegrini has looked impressive in recent wins over Charley Scott and Joey Durelle.

his older brother, Alvin Jr., a good welter some ten years ago. Young Alvin was good enough to have a 1-1-1 mark in three fights with Willie Pastrano when both boys were fighting in the 147 pound class. Jerry the family man is the third face.

Vince Arona, a former boxer who is now Pellegrini's manager and confidante, says of Jerry:

"I saw him fight his first pro fight back in 1961, when he was only sixteen. He lost that one to Phil David, but he was robbed."

Arona, a handsome, graying man in his early forties, has only handled Pellegrini since early in 1966.

"When they started to get some action down here, Jerry's father and brother came to me and said Jerry wanted to come back. They asked me if I would handle his affairs. It was my pleasure. I've always thought he was a good boy."

Under Arona's guidance Pellegrini began his meteoric rise.

Arona will shake his head when describing his protege. "He's a nice kid . . . a real nice kid," the manager says. "He's the coolest fighter I ever handled. Before a fight he never seems nervous. Oh, he'll talk, but only when you talk to him."

"I've had some fighters who wouldn't want me to leave them just before a fight. None of that with Jerry. I just tell him what I want him to do before a fight. That's all there is to it."

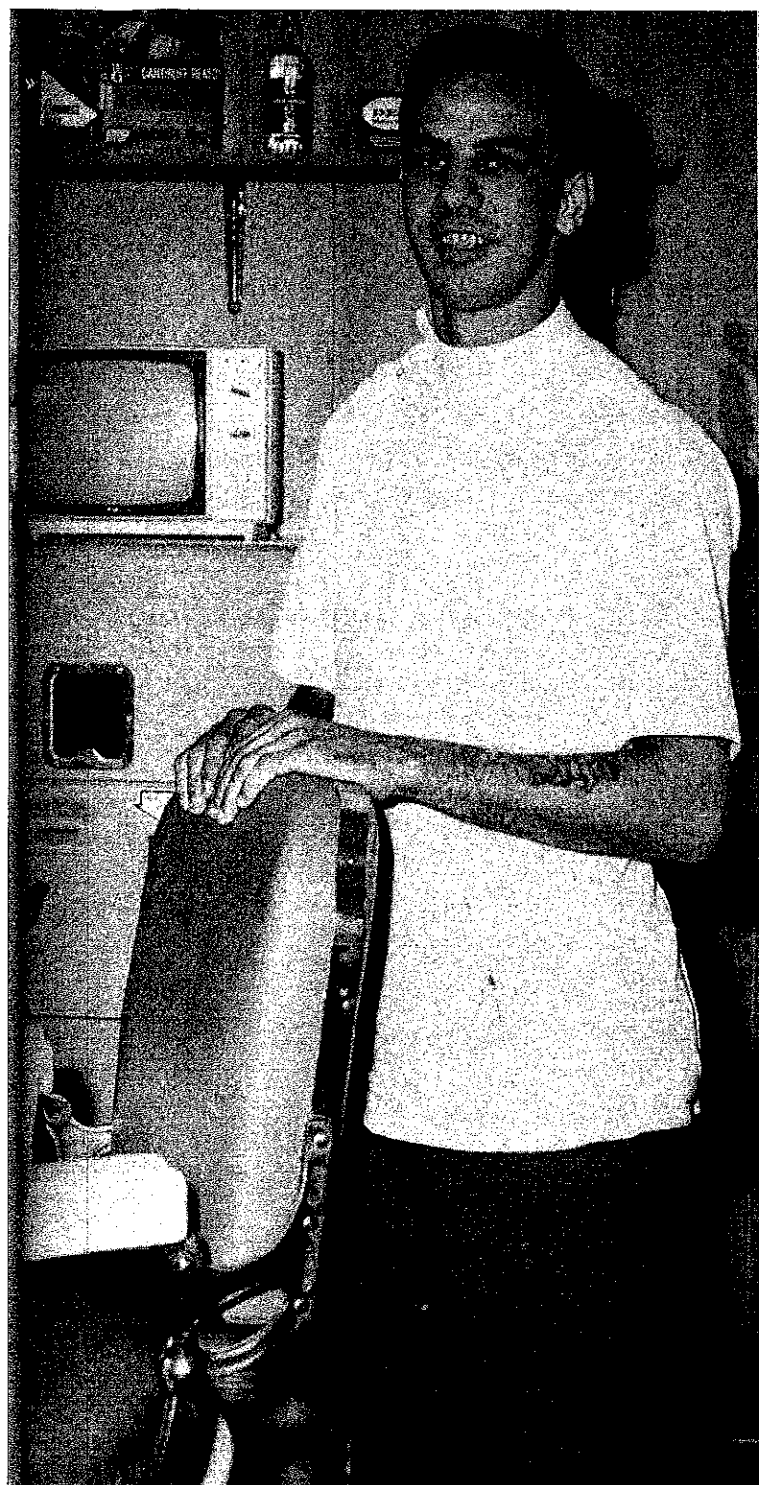
"When I'm looking up opponents I'll ask Jerry what he thinks—and you know what he says? 'You pick 'em Vince—I'll fight 'em.'"

The nice young kid was a ring-sider at the World Boxing Association welterweight elimination bout conducted in New Orleans in July between Curtis Cokes and Luis Rodriguez.

This quiet young man, whom you wouldn't notice in a crowd except for his good looks, seems to turn on another gear when he enters the ring. He comes to fight.

Maybe Sam Boardman, father of the great lightweight puncher, Larry Boardman, described Jerry best after Pellegrini had kayoed Boardman's charger, Tim Ford.

"You know," said Sam, "that young kid could bring big-time boxing back to New Orleans. He loves to scrap—and he can hit, too!" ●



"Next" . . . Jerry's barber shop is a neighborhood meeting place for the sports fans. Jerry is building his business on service, not "fame."

former Canadian welterweight champion Joey Durelle. The seven wins this year have brought Pellegrini's pro mark to 13-2. The fighter is the first face of Jerry Pellegrini.

To most who know the youthful Pellegrini, he's that "nice young kid." To others of his home parish of St. Bernard, which adjoins Orleans Parish, he's "St. Bernard's Boxing Barber."

The tall (5-11) for a welterweight Pellegrini looks like anything but a fighter. Curly-haired and hand-

some, in street clothes the youngster looks like a pushover, even skinny.

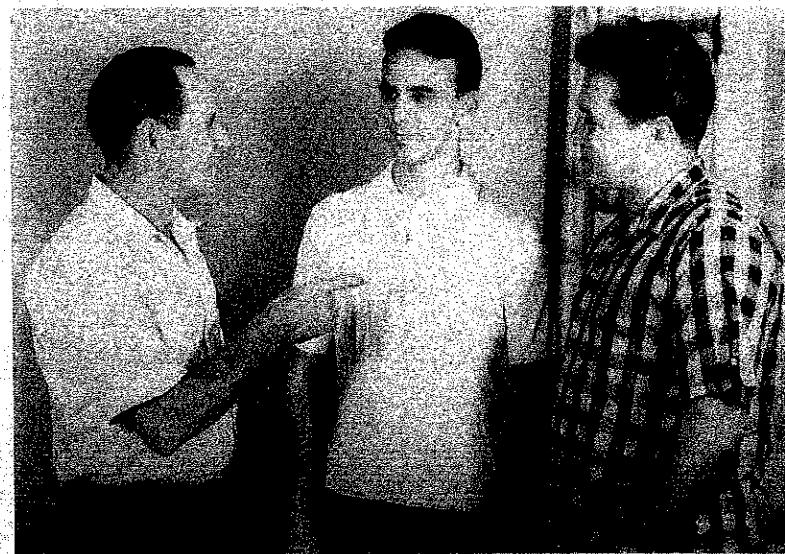
Out of the ring the boxer has a quiet manner which accompanies a quiet voice. You have to bend over close to hear what he's saying most of the time. This is one reason why his barber shop is so popular. As one customer remarked:

"Jerry doesn't talk your ears off like most barbers."

Pellegrini, however, feels that his success in the ring has been a big-



Manager Vince Arnona has high hope for Jerry's future and so far Pellegrini has not disappointed him.



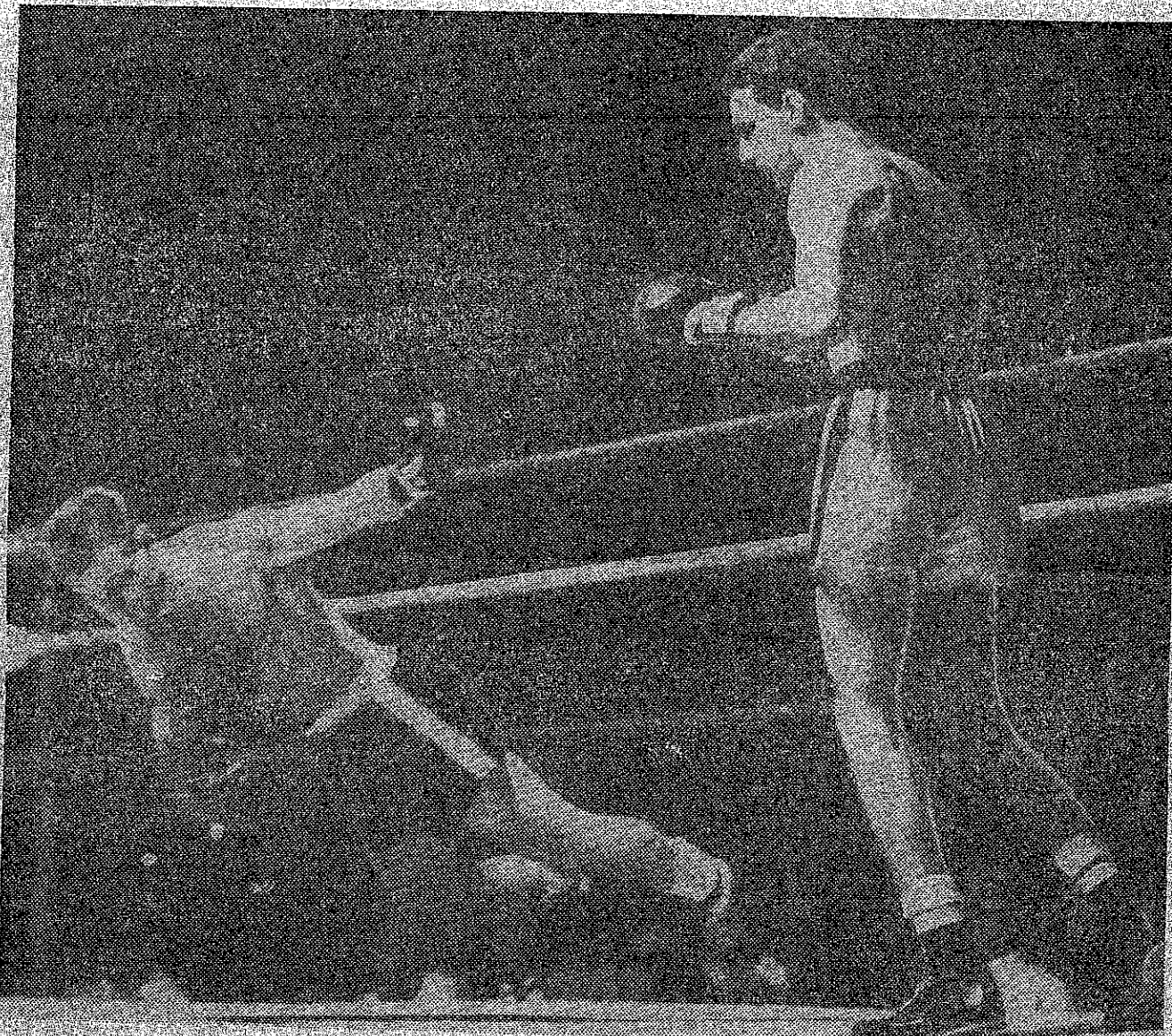
Jerry's father Alvin Sr. (l) and his older brother Alvin Jr. were both successful pro fighters.

ger boon for his business, but he hopes that his service will keep him the customers who come just to see the fighter. Jerry Pellegrini the businessman is his second face.

Married for over four years to an attractive red-haired beauty, Jerry is the proud father of two young sons, three and two years old. He is devoted to his family and the Pellegrini's are a close-knit clan. His dad, Alvin Sr., was a pretty good lightweight back in the thirties and

July 19-1966

NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM



COLIN FRASER heads down for the third time in his bout with JERRY PELLEGRINI last night at the Municipal Auditorium. Pellegrini, winner of his last five bouts by knock-

out, decked the Canadian welterweight champion with a hard right earlier to signal the beginning of the end. The bout was stopped in 2:26 of the first round. —States-Item Photo.

JERRY SCORES TKO IN FIRST ROUND

Pellegrini Nurses Cut Eye

By NAT BELLONI

Jerry Pellegrini was nursing a nasty cut over his left eyebrow today after scoring a one round technical knockout last night over Colin Fraser.

Pellegrini was cut midway through the fight in the Municipal Auditorium that only lasted 2:26 when he and Fraser collided heads.

"It happened in my corner," the St. Bernard barber said after the bout. "I didn't think I was cut at first, but then I felt the blood running down my cheek."

★ ★ ★

IT WAS THE FIRST time Pellegrini had been cut in 12 ring careers that included 92 wins and two losses.

was methodical in his continued assault.

★ ★ ★

AFTER BUMPING HEADS in Pellegrini's corner, Fraser went down again, almost tripping Pellegrini as he made a vain effort to hang on.

Again Fraser regained his feet, only to go down again. He tried to continue, but referee Pete Giarrusso held him back.

"That guy was some tough," Pellegrini said afterwards. "He kept trying to get up and go on. The others didn't try that."

The "others" are Preston Price, Dean Whitlock, Orlando Ruiz and Tim Ford, all of whom were stopped by Pellegrini.

New York Post Sports

Milton Gross
On Page 77

Mannie Kalish
On Page 72

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1966

80

Free Fall

Hamilton's Start Down The Drain

By VIC ZIEGEL

The rain came tumbling down and Steve Hamilton sat on the dressing-room stool and made a moaning sound. "There goes my start," the relief pitcher said, "there goes my start."

Ralph Houk had told Hamilton that if he behaved himself, kept his chewing tobacco off everybody's shoes and stayed away from college boys when they were on a spree, the reward would be a starting assignment against Kansas City tomorrow.

The relief pitcher is reported to have said "that's nice" and kissed the manager on the little finger.

The rain changed all that. Last night's game was postponed until Aug. 19 (when the Society for the Prevention of River Av. Tw-Night Double-headers holds another meeting) and the Yankees couldn't feel too bad about it. Like they still haven't gotten over their seven-hour wait at the Twin Cities Airport and the flight to New York that touched down at

A few seconds later Mickey was making his own tour of the Yankee clubhouse. The first stop was Frank Crosetti's large locker near the door.

"Hey, Pete, how about 'em I get Cro's locker when he quits?"

A few steps away is Whitey Ford's large corner locker. When he walked inside, turned around, inspected the shelves and stepped out.

He Likes the View
"A lot of room," he said. "Good

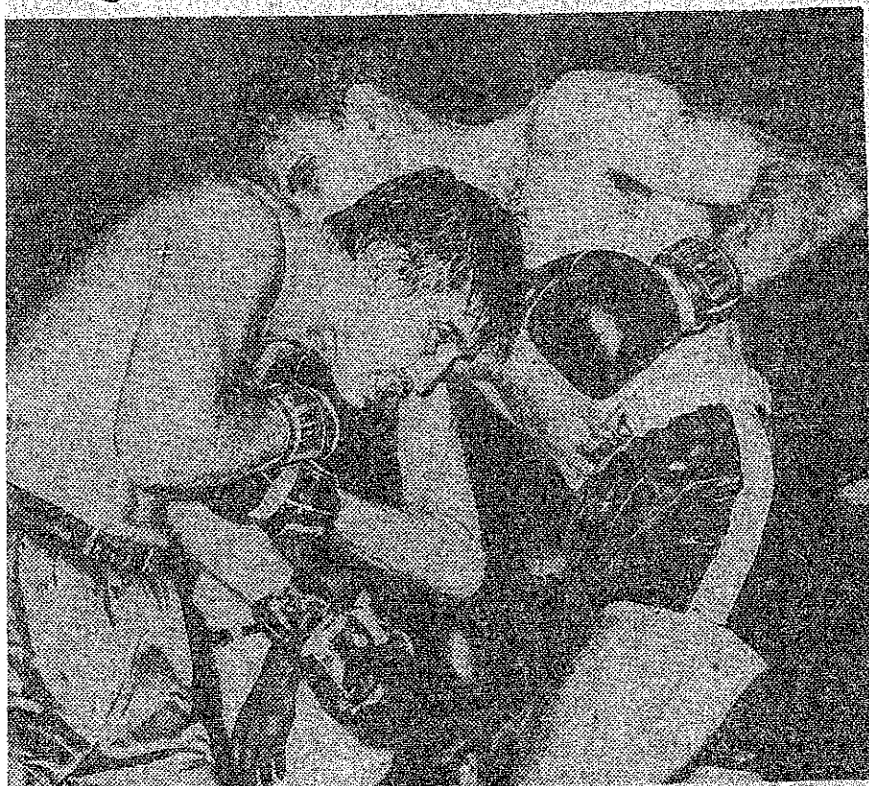


Toronto welterweight Colin Fyaser could have used a parachute in his fight with Jerry Pellerini of New Orleans in the latter's city. He's flying down to the canvas for the third time in the first round. It was an automatic TKO. Associated Press Wirephoto

MAJOR A... Bad Hat

East Score Opening Wins in Tourney

Pellegrini, Martinovich Fight on Inside



QUARTERS — Freddie Martinovich, Jerry Pellegrini, lean on each other quarters in their 10-round welterweight event Monday night at the Municipal Auditorium. The torrid bout was

—Photo by Times-Picayune Photographer Robert Steiner. stopped by the referee in 1:32 of the ninth round when Martinovich was bleeding profusely from three eye cuts. A cut on Martinovich's eye is plainly visible here in this late round action.

Pellegrini to Keep Fighting in N.O.

Arnona Talks of Jerry's Future in Game

By WADDELL SUMMERS

Manager Vince Arnona decided Tuesday that he would keep St. Bernard's boxing barber, Jerry Pellegrini, boxing in his own back yard for some time yet after Arnona reviewed the fistie and financial triumph of Pellegrini Monday night when he scored a TKO over rugged Freddie Martinovich, Newark, N. J., in the ninth round at the Municipal Auditorium.

Martinovich had to bow out with two severely cut eyes.

Pellegrini received \$5,765 as his share of the purse in the \$22,084 gross, \$19,218 net gate. Martinovich got \$3,843. There were 7,069 paying fans jammed into the Auditorium.

"I think we'll stay in New Orleans a while," Arnona calculated.

"I don't know of any place in the country where we could draw the kind of money we're making here. Oh, they'll be plenty of opponents for Jerry after they read about the gate we drew here Monday night.

We'll have managers sending us telegrams about their boys.

"We have some ranking welterweight opponents in mind. There's Pete Toro, he's No. 5; Ernie Lopez, he's No. 6—and maybe Jose Stable, he beat Curtis Cokes a few years ago, you know, and he lost a 15-round fight to Emile Griffith for the title.

"This fight was Jerry's biggest payday. There aren't too many fighters making the kind of money Jerry made against Martinovich.

"I may ask the promoter if

he can't raise the prices slightly for future Jerry fights—because if we bring in bigger name fighters we're going to have to give them a bigger piece of the gate."

The fights Monday night gave the fans a variety of action. In addition to Pellegrini's TKO win over Martinovich when referee Lucien Joubert stopped the fight in the ninth there were three decisions and one disqualification.

In the six-round semifinal Nathaniel "Killer" Jackson looked good after a six-year layoff, but didn't have quite enough as Oscar Alvarado, Corpus Christi, Tex. gained a split decision verdict. Jimmy Trosclair was impressive in winning a four-round decision over Kid Juarez Morales in Trosclair's pro debut. Freddie Caloway was awarded a decision over Joe Gleason in a four and Mel Sartin was disqualified when he hit the referee after the referee, Herman Dutreix, had cautioned him about some tactics. It was vague whether Sartin was demonstrating what he was doing or whether he just got irate. Dutreix hit back. Sartin was suspended.

ough Boxers igned for Dorsey, Pugh

By NAT BELLONI

Joe Dorsey and Percy Pugh will get a chance to prove their worth next Tuesday when they face a pair of experienced fighters on a show being sponsored by the New Orleans Boxing Club.

Dorsey, who has two kayo wins on the comeback trail after a long layoff, is matched with Johnny Featherman, the Arizona lighthweight champion.

Pugh, an up and coming lighthweight with three straight wins under his belt, has been paired with Sugar Cliff of Nassau.

Both fights are scheduled 10-round events.

DORSEY SCORED a TKO win over Philadelphia's Bob Simmons in four rounds in the first fight he had made in nine years on March 21 and on April 6 knocked out an out-of-shape Benny Bowser, the Texas lighthweight champ, in five.

He will run into stiffer competition from Featherman, however. Featherman, a 26-year-old native of Bisbee, Ariz., has won 29 of his 35 pro fights, 14 of them via the knockout route.

He has fought three times this year, winning all, and beating Charlie Clark in Butte, Mont., in his last outing.

PUGH HAS beaten Joe Barrientes twice and stopped Benito Juarez in five in his latest outings, leaving much speculation as to just how good he is.

Against Cliff, something will be decided, since Cliff has won 25 of 32 bouts, losing only five and drawing two. He holds a win over Irish Billy Collins, the No. 8 ranked welterweight.

Supporting bouts will be announced later, Messina said.

NOT WARMED UP YET

Jerry Wins by TKO in Two

By NAT BELLONI

It's supposed to take Jerry Pellegrini about four rounds to really get warmed up . . . at least that's what he and his manager, Vince Arnone, say.

But, if that's the case, the fight fans who have seen the boxing barber from St. Bernard in action really haven't seen him at his best.

Pellegrini's fights just don't last that long.

LAST NIGHT it took him only two rounds to dispose of highly regarded Orlando Ruiz of Maricao, Venezuela, and Miami Beach, winning by a TKO in 2:01 of the second round of a scheduled 10 rounder.

It was the third straight kayo win for Pellegrini along the comeback trail. In his other bouts he stopped Preston Price in three and Dean Whitlock in two.

"After the first round, I was planning to take my time and warm up, but I saw an opening and punched," Jerry said after his win in the feature event on the Garden Boxing Club's card.

"**HE DROPPED** his hands and I shot in a right," he said. "I thought I was going to have trouble with him after we mixed it up pretty good in the first round."

Ruiz, whose record is now 18-3, had speed, power and poise, but he made the fatal mistake of dropping his hands against the fast punching Pellegrini.

"We had warned him about dropping his hands after the first round," said manager Manny Alfaro, "but in the second round he did it again and got hit with a right."

"**HE'S A** good fighter," No Coach Yet

Ruiz said. "He punches a lot and hard. It wasn't a lucky punch that knocked me down. It was my fault."

Pellegrini weighed 146½ for the fight, Ruiz 145.

In a six-round prelim Roger Watkins won a unanimous decision over Nolan Duplessis which was booed by partisan fans.

WATKINS, 153, kept pressing Duplessis, 154, throughout the fight but couldn't put him away. Watkins was staggered at the end of the fifth round but hung on until the bell and that was his only serious problem.

Gary Pannell, 130, made his pro debut a success as he won a split decision over Ronnie Radloff, 129, in the opening four rounder.

Joe Gans, 139, won via the TKO route over Jack McGonagle in one round as referee Ronald Brown stopped the bout at 2:35 after McGonagle had taken a nine count and was defenseless.

MELVIN Sartin, 164½, won a unanimous decision over Speedy King, 164, by pressing forward against the fast firing King in another four rounder.

A crowd of 1442 fight fans paid to see the show in the Municipal Auditorium. The gross gate was \$2954.50.

The Garden Boxing Club announced that its next show would be held June 3 if the auditorium is available and would feature Pellegrini

again, possibly against Irish Billy Collins.

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LEANING LEFT—Kid Bassey II, left, leans into Jerry Pellegrini as he begins to throw a left uppercut. Pellegrini backs off and throws a left jab in Bassey's direction. Pellegrini won the heated battle with a seventh-round TKO.

Pellegrini Takes 7th Round TKO

Local Returns to KO Trail Again

By WADDELL SEMMERS

Jerry Pellegrini returned to the KO trail Monday night at the St. Bernard's Boxing Barber, stopping Kid Bassey II of Jamaica in 2:58 of the seventh round.

After a rocky first few rounds, Pellegrini, 146½, St. Bernard's Boxing Barber, became sharper as the bout progressed and put the Jamaican down for the first time in the seventh round with a delayed action left hook right on the button.

Just before Bassey sank slowly to the deck he had been hit by a tremendous left hook from Pellegrini which brought oohs from the 2,846 fans who paid \$8.502.00 gross and \$7.419.25 net to see the action.

Jerry had been getting to the Jamaican just prior to the visitor's slow trip to the canvas. Bassey took an eight count and got wearily up. Pellegrini dashed across the ring and slammed a blow to

"I found him hard to fight because of his height and reach. In order to get to him I had to take a few left jabs and a right hand."

"The cut on my eye was caused by a butt but the cut in my mouth was from a good right hand. The blood in my mouth is what slowed me down. I like fighting here from the fans' response you could tell they knew a little something about boxing."

Frank Evans, 168, New Orleans, making a pro comeback, punched too hard with a big right hand for Cassius Scott, 176, New Orleans, and kayoed Scott after three successive rights in 1:51 of the third round in the night's opening bout. It was scheduled for four.

Scott hit the deck once in the second round and twice in the third. Evans had too many guns for Cassius.

In the first 10-rounder of the night Percy Pugh, 143, New Orleans, returned to the win column with a unanimous but unpopular decision over Grady

June 4, 1966

CHARLES YOUNG

The Hottest Property



Jerry Pellegrini, a Must Item

HERE'S AN OPEN suggestion to the Garden Boxing Club.

For the July 18th show, put Jerry Pellegrini and Percy Pugh on the same card and give fight fans in the area something really to yell about.

Pellegrini, right now, is the hottest property on the New Orleans boxing scene. His spectacular four-round kayo of Tim Ford—a better than average club fighter—was enough to convince me that Pellegrini has the potential to be a legit drawing card.

Matchmaker Mike Casimano announced that Pugh, who scored an impressive win over Sugar Clut last time out, would fight a 10-rounder against a suitable opponent on the 18th.

No mention was made of Pellegrini.

Of course, this was before the boxing barber from St. Bernard sent Ford to the "happy hunting grounds."

Pellegrini is a must item for the next Garden show. He displayed what every fight fan pays to see, the knock-out punch. He is a legit welterweight who won't grow out of the division and, with proper supervision, could eventually be a serious contender.

But let's not rush it.

Pellegrini should be kept active. He should fight at least five more club fighters before trying to crack the big-time against a name opponent.

He is almost ready now, but not quite.

Pellegrini displayed a powerful punch and enough ring savvy to handle Ford. But he was easy to hit and Ford did not have a right. Against a tougher opponent, the boxing barber might have been in trouble.

I'm sure that Pellegrini will learn with more fights, but if he is overmatched too soon, look out. At 21, Pellegrini has many more years in the ring ahead of him. A sudden shot at fame, resulting in failure, would be disastrous.

However, if Pugh and Pellegrini continue to win, the logical match would be between the two. Both are welterweights and both from the New Orleans area.

If things keep going the way they are, the bout could probably fill the auditorium. It's a natural.

★ ★ ★

It's just a fact now that young Pellegrini is a much better-than-average fighter—with a real kick in his mitts.

been knocked off their feet. came mightily regarded and two of them had never before victims this year were setups because, on the contrary, all Pellegrini. And this is no insinuation that Jerry's five kayo to search for some top fight fighters as future foes for

It's apparent now that local promoters are going to have that referee Pete Giarrusso finally halted the slaughter.

punch, although it wasn't until some two minutes later was. For all intents and purposes the fight ended with that flush on Fraser's jaw and the Canadian hurtled to the canvas with his toe with the first punch of the fight. It was a right really that's what happened Monday night when Jerry tag-weight can knock out a foe with a single punch. But ac-

It's a boxing rarity when any fighter, including a heavy-

hard as young Pellegrini.

sen. And from all indications Maxie couldn't hit half as

the national headlines, to my knowledge, was Maxie Docu-

time, because the last local boy with a stiff punch to make

a rarity here for nearly two decades. In fact, almost ex-

Promising young local fighters with a punch have been

lately impressed the spectators, and myself.

which he disposed of Canadian Colin Fraser that particu-

his fist career five months ago, but it was the manner in

ed his fifth straight knockout Monday night since resuming

The 22-year-old boxing barber from St. Bernard register-

local welterweight.

[N]T than anyone had thought possible for this trail-looking

the fifth time this year—that his right hand packs more

JERRY PELLEGRINI has proven again—actually for

Pellegrini, a Kid with a Punch

Pellegrini Defeats Backus

Jerry Pellegrini has scored another win beating Billy Backus in a 10 round fight at the Municipal Auditorium Monday night. Defeated by Backus a year ago, Jerry took the win this time unanimously.

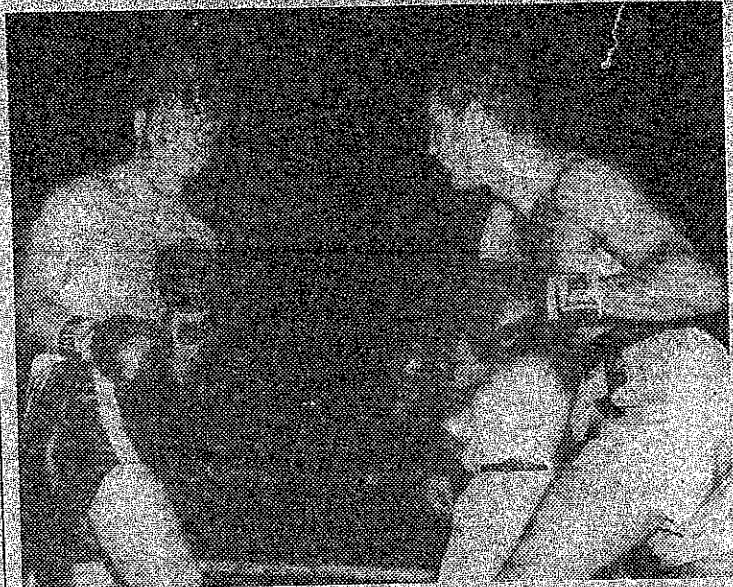
Backus was knocked down in the second and seventh rounds and received cuts on both of his eyes. He admitted after the bout that Jerry had hurt him and he felt as though he had done everything wrong.

The judges scored the fight as follows: Judge Joubert, 8-0-2, Judge Giarrusso, 9-1-0 and Referee Dutreix 7-1-2.

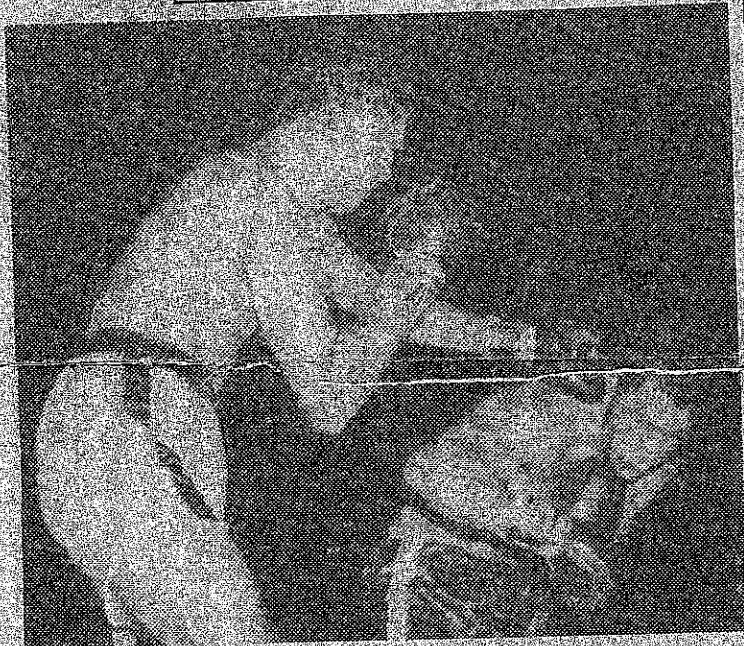
Pellegrini's manager stated that Jerry's next fight might be with Peter Toco here on August 11 with a possible rematch with Backus in Syracuse September 5 and then another chance at Percy Pugh.



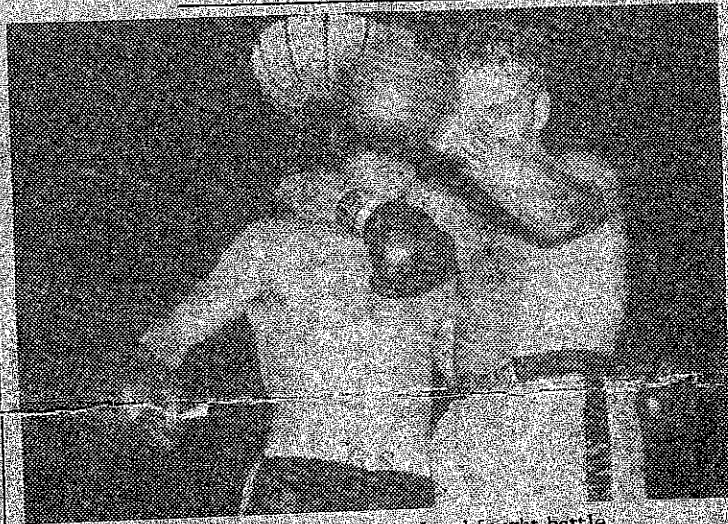
Game fighter comes off deck in second round action.



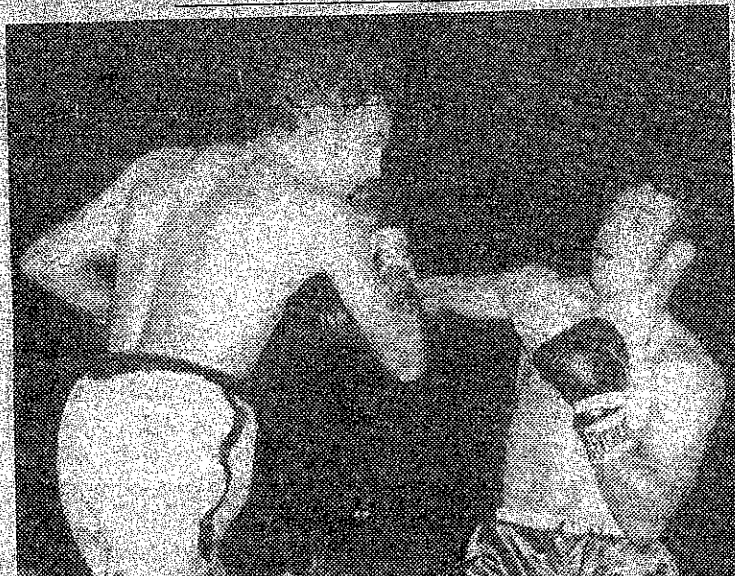
BACKUS is cut above and below right eye which required medical attention. Jerry also received treatment for an injured wrist.



PELLEGRINI lands long left to opponent's ear.



Fighters giving congratulations after hard fought battle.



★★★

Draft Begins

Pellegrini Takes Ninth Straight Win

Meilleur Had Any Match for Local

By WADDELL SUMMERS

Welterweight Jerry Pellegrini ran his win streak to nine on the comeback trail as he scored a unanimous decision over rugged Canadian middleweight Jim Meilleur Thursday night at the Municipal Auditorium on a Garden Boxing Club card.

There was no doubt about the decision although the bout lacked the usual excitement of a Pellegrini go, mainly because the Canadian was too rugged to go down.

St. Bernard's boxing barber, Pellegrini, forced the fight all the way but could not get in the big one to stow the Windsor lad away.

At 155½, Meilleur was the heaviest man Pellegrini had ever fought as a main-eventer. Jerry, himself, was at a career high of 149½.

Although lighter, Pellegrini was several inches taller and kept constantly after Meilleur with a long left and a right when he could get at through the Canadian's defense.

Referee Lucien Joubert scored it 4-2-0 for Pellegrini. Official Maxie Doensen had it 8-1-1 and Herman Dufrenx saw it 7-2-1.

The visitor's best punch was a right uppercut which he used mainly to keep Pellegrini away. The Windsor middleweight did not seem to

have a good enough left to give Pellegrini any trouble.

By the victory Pellegrini raised his lifetime mark to 11-2 while Meilleur's mark fell to 2-5-2.

The attraction drew a paying crowd of 2,485 who turned in a gross gate of \$394.

There were no knockdowns in the fight but Pellegrini opened a cut over Meilleur's left eye in the fifth round and chased him all over the ring after that, trying for the knee.

The fight followed a pattern most of the way with Pellegrini in pursuit and Meilleur looking to sneak in his best punch, a right uppercut.

Meilleur was rugged but didn't have enough firepower.

After the bout Meilleur, who has beaten the Canadian welterweight champion, said Pellegrini was the best fighter he had ever met.

"I fought Joey Durelle (former Canadian welter champ) and he was good—but nothing like Pellegrini. . . his right hand was his best asset. He was very fast but his right was the best thing he had going for him. . . Pellegrini is easy to hit with a right hand, though. But I couldn't get to him because I've been away too long."

Afterwards, Pellegrini said: "My layoff and the extra weight made me a little sluggish. The Canadian's awkward style

Continued on Page 5

Pellegrini Gains Unanimous Decision

BEHIND THE SPORTS SCENE

By BOB ROESLER

The Times-Picayune Sports Editor



Pellegrini: A Guttery Chap

Between the second and third rounds I wouldn't have bet your money that Jerry Pellegrini would eventually beat Sweet Herbie Lee. Blood was flowing from a cut under Jerry's left eyelid and Lee worked on the gash in the third heat.

But on this corner's scorecard, Lee did not win another round as Pellegrini began working on the Washingtonian's breadbasket.

Vince Arnona worked wonders on the cut. It wasn't long, perhaps an inch, or was it deep. But the crimson was flowing. It didn't, however, seemed to bother Pellegrini and the slugging barber made little effort to protect it.

Instead he would bang away at Lee's midsection, then switch his attack to the head. By the sixth round the pounding began to show on Lee, for his attack dwindled to a trickle.

"I knew I had it from the fifth round on," Pellegrini said after the war. "He shook me a couple of times, but I came right out of it and was never in trouble. The cut? Naw, it didn't bother me at all. I'm not sure, but I believe it was caused by a butt."

"It was from an overhand right," corrected Lee, who was showering at the other end of the auditorium.

Lee's step-dad, and trainer, was furious and sought out a commission member to lodge a protest. "In my 25 years of fighting I never saw a referee like that. He didn't even bother to look at Pellegrini's cut. And he allowed Pellegrini to push my guy repeatedly. Look into the rule book and you'll see that's a fair. I'll never come to New Orleans again unless they get a decent referee."

"Don't get me wrong, Pellegrini is a good fighter. I don't blame him for doing things if the referee lets him."

Pellegrini's next bout is uncertain. "We'll look at the cut and then make a decision," Arnona said. "I'd like him to fight Jose Stable or Percy Pugh."

"Pugh would be a good money match and he's itching to get at Jerry."

Pellegrini looked at his manager and replied: "I'll fight."

Jerry Gets Sliced Eye

Win No. 12 for Local in Past 13 Bouts

By WADDELL SUMMERS

Jerry Pellegrini gave 'em another standing ovation battle Monday night at the Municipal Auditorium as he survived an early round cut eye to take a unanimous decision over a gallant "Sweet Herbie" Lee of Washington, D. C.

The win was Pellegrini's 12th in his last 13 bouts. His career record is now 18-3. Lee is now 21-4.

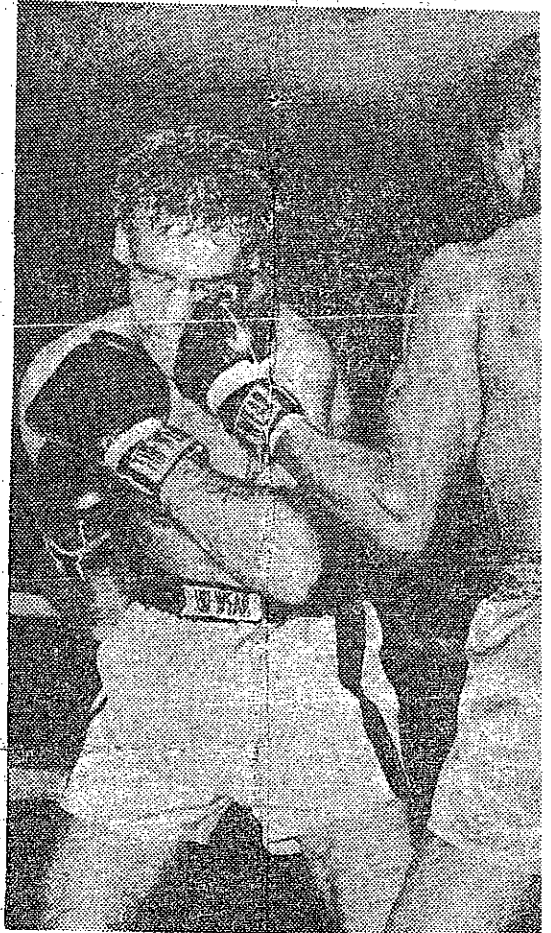
Any description of the bout would have to fall back on the old reliable "sensational" as neither Pellegrini, 146½, nor Lee, 141, would give an inch throughout the battle and often stood toe-to-toe to see who was the better man.

Pellegrini was off to his usual slow start, even slower than usual, when he sustained a cut over his left eye in the second round which did not, however, bother him too much afterwards.

Referee Pete Giaruso saw it 6-3-1 for the winner, as did judge Fred Adams. Judge Herman Dutreix scored it 7-1-2. The Times-Picayune card gave it to Pellegrini 6-2-2.

The well-applauded bout drew 4,266 paying fans who contributed to a gross gate of \$12,248 and a net gate of \$10,657.50.

Pellegrini was a roaring tiger at the end as he seemed to punch almost endlessly in the final round to the roar of his



—Photo by The Times
PELLEGRINI CATCHES Sweet Herbie Lee of Was D.C., connects with a left to the face of local welter Jerry Pellegrini, during their 10-round bout at Municipal Auditorium Monday night. Pellegrini won by a unanimous decision.



LEANIN' LEFT—Kid Bassey, H. left, leans into Jerry Pellegrini as he begins to throw a left uppercut. Pellegrini backs off and throws a left jab in Bassey's direction. Pellegrini won the heated battle with a seventh round TKO.

Pellegrini Takes 7th Round TKO

Local Returns to KO Trail Again

By WADDELL SUMMERS

Jerry Pellegrini returned to the kayo trail Monday night as the local favorite stopped Kid Bassey, 41, of Jamaica in 2:58 of the seventh round.

After a rocky first few rounds, Pellegrini, 146½, St. Bernard's Boxing Center, became sharper as the bout progressed and put the Jamaican down for the first time in the seventh round with a delayed action left hook right on the button.

Just before Bassey sank slowly to the deck he had been hit by a tremendous left hook from Pellegrini which brought oohs from the 2,846 fans who paid \$8,502.00 gross and \$7,419.23 net to see the action.

Jerry had been getting to the Jamaican just prior to the visitor's slow trip to the canvas. Bassey took an eight count and got wearily up. Pellegrini dashed across the ring and slammed a blow to

It found him hard to fight because of his height. In order to get to him I had to take a few left jabs and a right hand.

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In the first 10 rounds of the night Percy Pugh, 143, New Orleans, returned to the win column with a unanimous but unpopular decision over Grady

PELLEGRINI SCORES KO

Change in Tactics Backfires on Ford

By NAT BELLONI

A change in tactics last night after three rounds lost the fight for Tim Ford, the Jacksonville, Fla., welterweight.

"I told him to step back a little and make better use of his good combinations," said adviser-agent-trainer Sam Boardman.

"But we didn't figure on getting knocked out."

Jerry Pellegrini, the St. Bernard barber, landed a solid right after a little more than a minute had passed in round four and it was all over for Ford.

* * *

"I HAD BEEN working him to the body in the first three rounds to get him to drop his hands," the boxing barber said, "and when he did it I was ready."

Pellegrini, 145½, said he landed a right to Ford's jaw in the third round and noticed that Ford was shaken a little.

"It wasn't a good, solid punch," Jerry said, "so I knew that I had him if I could land a good punch."

* * *

FORD, WHO weighed a light 141½, said he had caught Pellegrini with several good right hands in the first two rounds. "Only my left hook wasn't working right," he said.

Boardman credited Pellegrini with a good right hand and said: "We have no excuses. I have to give him credit as a good puncher, and that's 90 per cent of the battle in this game."

"With a little more experience he could be one helluva fighter. He's a nice, nice fighter right now."

* * *

"I WAS HIT a few times in the first three rounds but it was nothing serious," Pellegrini said after his role in the Garden Boxing Club's featured event at the Municipal Auditorium.

"I was just pacing myself, because I expected the fight to go a little longer than it



—Stokes-Horn Photo

JERRY PELLEGRINI looks down on TIM FORD after putting the Jacksonville, Fla., welterweight on the deck in the fourth round of their bout last night in the Municipal Auditorium. Pellegrini won his fourth straight victory by the knockout route.

Mobile.

It was a slam-bang battle all the way, with Watkins, who won his second straight bout, getting the advantage in close quarters.

Garden Boxing Club matchmaker Mike Cusimano promised an eight or 10 round rematch on the next show, scheduled for July 18 with Percy Pugh going in the feature event.

In the second prelim, Ronnie Ratliff, 126, took a split decision victory over Gary Pan-nell, 129½, although he was cut under the left eye in the final round.

The third prelim saw Mel Sartin, 162½, win a unanimous decision over Johnny Powell, 158, in a slow starting bout that had the fans cheering in the last round.

The promotion had a net gate of \$2,702.38 as 1,931 boxing

And when Ford did that it was all over. Ford, who now has a 31-4 record and has never before been stopped, was counted out at 1:26 of the fourth round.

* * *

PELLEGRINI saw his record climb to 23-2, with his last four wins coming via the kayo route.

"Jerry fought the fight perfectly," said manager-trainer Vince Arnona. "He worked well on the inside in the first rounds and when Ford stepped back in the fourth to do a little boxing, Jerry had him ready."

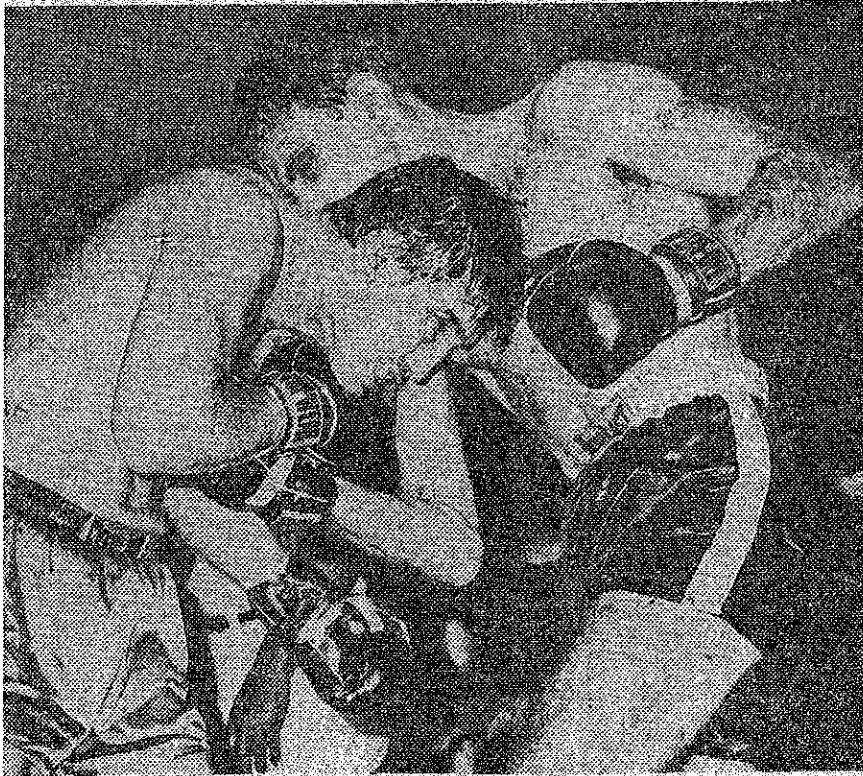
"Because Jerry had been working to the body, Ford was cautious in that area, and when he dropped his hands, Jerry came in with the right," Arnona said.

* * *

IN THE SIX round semifinal Roger Watkins, 153, won a loudly booed split decision over Willie Crosby, 153½, of

East Score Opening Wins in Tourney

Pellegrini, Martinovich Fight on Inside



QUARTERS — Freddie Martinovich, Jerry Pellegrini, lean on each other in quarters in their 10-round welterweight event Monday night at the Municipal Auditorium. The torrid bout was

—Photo by Times-Picayune Photographer Robert Steiner.
stopped by the referee in 1:32 of the ninth round when Martinovich was bleeding profusely from three eye cuts. A cut on Martinovich's eye is plainly visible here in this late round action.

Pellegrini to Keep Fighting in N.O.

Arnona Talks of Jerry's Future in Game

By WADDELL SUMMERS

Manager Vince Arnona decided Tuesday that he would keep St. Bernard's boxing barber, Jerry Pellegrini, boxing in his own back yard for some time yet after Arnona reviewed the fistic and financial triumph of Pellegrini Monday night when he scored a TKO over rugged Freddie Martinovich, Newark, N. J., in the ninth round at the Municipal Auditorium.

Martinovich had to bow out with two severely cut eyes.

Pellegrini received \$5,765 as his share of the purse in the \$22,084 gross, \$19,218 net gate. Martinovich got \$3,843. There were 7,069 paying fans jammed into the Auditorium.

"I think we'll stay in New Orleans a while," Arnona calculated.

"I don't know of any place in the country where we could draw the kind of money we're making here. Oh, they'll be plenty of opponents for Jerry after they read about the gate we drew here Monday night.

We'll have managers sending us telegrams about their boys.

"We have some ranking welterweight opponents in mind. There's Pete Toro, he's No. 5; Ernie Lopez, he's No. 6—and maybe Jose Stable, he beat Curtis Cokes a few years ago, you know, and he lost a 15-round fight to Emile Griffith for the title.

"This fight was Jerry's biggest payday. There aren't too many fighters making the kind of money Jerry made against Martinovich.

"I may ask the promoter if

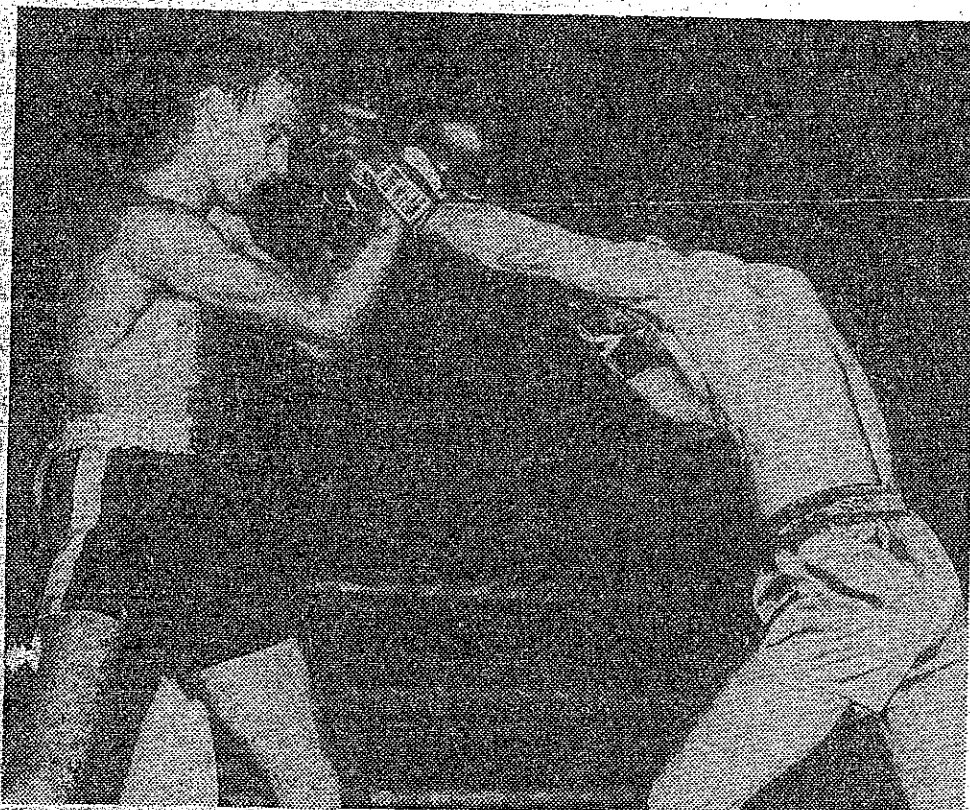
he can't raise the prices slightly for future Jerry fights—because if we bring in bigger name fighters we're going to have to give them a bigger piece of the gate."

The fights Monday night gave the fans a variety of action. In addition to Pellegrini's TKO win over Martinovich when referee Lucien Joubert stopped the fight in the ninth there were three decisions and one disqualification.

In the six-round semifinal Nathaniel "Killer" Jackson looked good after a six-year layoff, but didn't have quite enough as Oscar Alvarado, Corpus Christi, Tex., gained a split decision verdict. Jimmy Trosclair was impressive in winning a four-round decision over Kid Juarez Morales in Trosclair's pro debut. Freddie Calloway was awarded a decision over Joe Gleason in a four and Mel Sartin was disqualified when he hit the referee after the referee, Herman Dutreix, had cautioned him about some tactics. It was vague whether Sartin was demonstrating what he was doing or whether he just got irate. Dutreix hit back. Sartin was suspended.

Opening Assignments for All-Stars

Martinovich Comes Up Short with Left



FREDDIE MISSES — Freddie Martinovich falls short of his mark with a long left during their welterweight rematch Monday night at the auditorium with Jerry Pellegrini. Pellegrini won with a TKO in the ninth round.

—Photo by The Times-Picayune.

Fight Blood Boil for Martinovich

Referee, Fighter Engage in Slugfest

By BOB ROESLER

Freddie Martinovich's battle with the Russians on the streets of Budapest couldn't have been much bloodier than the one he had with Jerry Pellegrini Monday night.

Ugly wounds were opened over and under his left eye and there was a nasty gash on his right eyelid.

"All the result of butts," the ex-Hungarian freedom fighter said in his auditorium locker room. "Jerry's combinations gave me some trouble, but I thought I was getting stronger at the end and he was getting weaker."

"I have no excuses and would like to fight him again. I hope he remembers I gave him the opportunity to get revenge after I beat him the last time."

"We'd like a rematch," chimed in manager Sam Rose. "Freddie will need six weeks to two months to let those cuts heal. Then we'd like to come back to New Orleans again. No, I don't think the fight should have been stopped. If my guy had been weak, yes. But he wasn't."

But referee Lucien Jaubert saw it differently, and after checking the eye at 1:32 of the ninth heat, pointed the dead-game, but bloody Hungarian to his corner.

Martinovich was disappointed

Pellegrini said the bloody fifth—his referee began thinking his opponent.

"Yes, at that thought maybe I thought I was going to beat him away. I guess that round was of the night."

Pellegrini's two found its mark in and the Hungarian from around both eyes in commission. I Italiano to check on the second time.

Dr. Italiano gave ahead signal, but Martinovich's doom just like the Hung they battled Russia

In one of the previous between Mel Sartin lips, Referee Herr had to turn slugger started slugging man."

Sartin became in Dutreix broke a turned on the referee.

Dutreix, struck pose and went at mentor. The cash —7,069 not including heads—watched in as Dutreix landed Sartin's face.

Judge Cojoe let at ringside, climb the ropes and end scheduled bout.

Sartin was disqualified Dutreix raised Phillips was Phillips hoisting

After the fight

the performance.

"I'm sorry I didn't do better. I guess I should have pressed him harder," Martinovich said sadly. "I hope I didn't disappoint the crowd too much."

Over on the other side of the auditorium Pellegrini was flooded under a sea of well-wishers. His handler, Vince Arnona, managed to get some of them out so his gladiator could meet the press.

"I was confident from the very beginning," the battling barber grinned. "I guess I learned enough about his style in our last fight."

Emile Bruneau and Sartin had been fighting was suspended indefinitely.

So Sartin lost for one night, saw his impounded and a period of unemployment.

Barbara F. Top Quack

ASHLAND, Ky. time champion B. Boddie of Shreve served notice Monday will be a contender

Pellegrini Wins Rematch

Jerry Scores TKO in Ninth Round

By WADDELL SUMMERS

Jerry Pellegrini apparently learned something the past May when he lost his only bout in his last 11—and he used it Monday night to gain a ninth round TKO

over Hungarian freedom fighter Fred Martinovich at the Municipal Auditorium.

He gained a belt emblematic of the Southern Welterweight Championship with it.

They played to an almost packed house of 7,069 paying fans who contributed to a net gate of \$19,218.30.

Jerry, St. Bernard's boxing barber, 146, fought a different fight this time in the rematch with Martinovich, 148, Newark, N. J., and avenged his May defeat to the game little battler. The game little bomber from

ing, the officials had Pellegrini ahead two-to-one in the balloting. Referee Lucien Joubert saw the local boxer ahead 5-2-1 while judge Herman Dutreix saw it 4-2-2 for Pellegrini. Judge Maxie Docusen saw it 4-3-1 for Martinovich. The T-P saw Pellegrini ahead 4-2-2.

At the fight's conclusion, the

crowd gave both Pellegrini and Martinovich a rousing, standing ovation, first separately and then as they stood together in the ring with Freddie raising Jerry's hand while wearing his new Southern welterweight belt.

Martinovich addressed the crowd, and miraculously they stopped milling and remained absolutely silent while he spoke and said, "I tried to do my best. But it wasn't enough. I'm sorry. I love you." He bowed and the fans roared.

"charge" before every round. He was never more popular than Monday night—nor was Martinovich. Both battlers would be welcome in the auditorium ring anytime.

There were no knockdowns in the fight although, as in their previous encounter, sometimes you wondered what was holding

the boys up.

The win raised Pellegrini's record to 17-3 and indicated he may soon be moving into competition among the name welters. Martinovich's mark fell to 26-8-1 but he doesn't have to offer any excuses in New Orleans.

A summary of the fight would show that Pellegrini moved more in this one, threw more uppercuts in close, and generally, kept Martinovich's big right away more successfully in this bout than in their previous one.

Nathaniel "Killer" Jackson

Pugh Completes Mission

By DAN KENNY

When Percy Pugh entered the ring last night at the Auditorium to fight Jerry Pellegrini he was a man with a mission. Less than an hour later the "Mission Accomplished" was stamped on Pugh by virtue of his upset victory by a unanimous decision.

Standing at the crossroads of an up-and-down welterweight career, Pugh, 146 1/4, stole the thunder

of the extremely popular Pellegrini, also 146 1/4, by carrying the early rounds easily, and then withstanding the typical Pellegrini comeback in the late going.

"I felt real sharp for this fight," Pugh said later in his victorious dressing room. "After I built up an early lead my manager, Brother Kron, told me to slow it down a little. When I got out of a couple of jams in the sixth by bouncing away from him off the ropes, I smiled to myself and knew I was all right."

★ ★ ★

THE decision was cheered by the crowd of 5,300 and the talk after the fight was all about a rematch. No one thought it was a bad idea.

"Sure I'll give him a rematch," said Pugh. Promoter Dominick Gulotta could only smile dreamily at the thought of the gate, and both Pellegrini and manager Vince Arnona went on record as fa-

Pellegrini sat disconsolately in his dressing room but refused to alibi. "I don't question the decision. Somehow I didn't feel right—my punches had no zip and I couldn't get any rhythm."

"GIVE Pugh credit, though, I hit him good a few times, especially in the eighth but he kept coming back."

The early going won the fight for Pugh, who now has a 25-12 record, as he scored repeatedly with jabs and shots to the body.

Pellegrini suffered his usual slow uptake in the beginning

him thudding to the canvas for the third time, referee Freddie Adams called a halt.

Cassius Scott (164) decision-ed Freddie Calloway (162 1/2) in a four-round middleweight preliminary bout fought at what could kindly be describ-

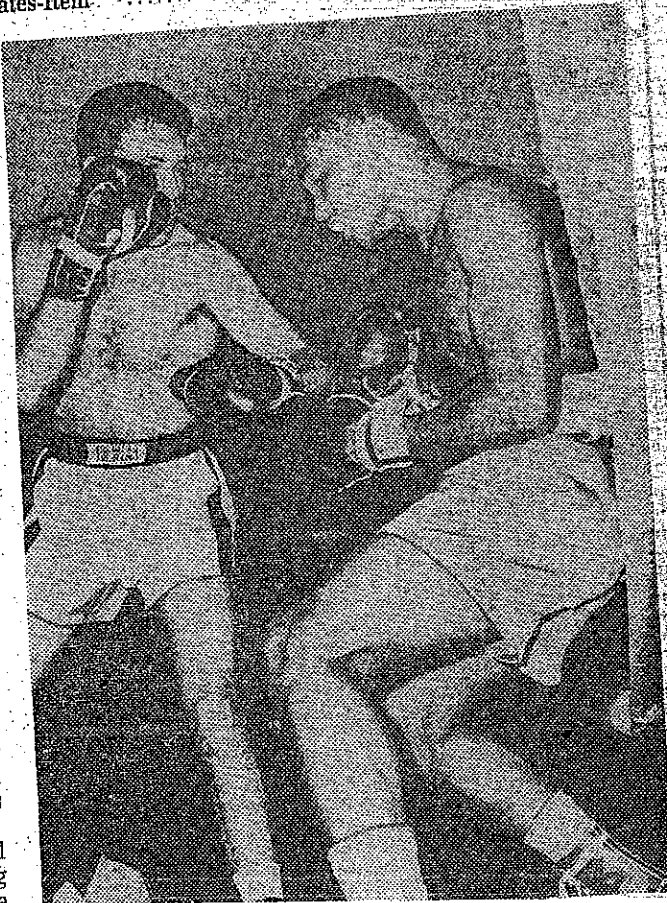
ed as a cautious pace.

Lightweight Alfred Jackson (136 3/4) knocked out Lazarus Brown at 1:32 of the third round in a scheduled four-round.

The card drew a gross of \$18,552.50 and netted \$16,153.32.

The Scorecard

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge Ernest Cosoe	Pu	Pu	Pu	Pu	Pu	Pu	E	P	P	P	Pu—7-2-1
Judge Max Docusen	Pu	P	Pu	Pu	Pu	P	E	P	E	P	Pu—5-3-2
Ref. Herman Dutreix	Pu	P	Pu	E	Pu	P	Pu	P	E	P	Pu—5-3-2
States-Item	Pu	Pu	Pu	Pu	P	P	E	P	E	P	—4-4-2



4
comments

Percy Pugh, Jerry Pellegrini recall their time in the ring together

Print (http://blog.nola.com/sports_impact/print.html?entry=/2011/10/local_heroes_pugh_pellegrini_r.html)
 By Bob Fortus, The Times-Picayune
 Follow on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/NOLAsports>)
 on October 14, 2011 at 7:40 AM

"All right, Percy," Jerry Pellegrini said as he walked into Rocky and Carlo's on Thursday and spotted Percy Pugh. Both men smiled. They shook hands. But this time, they didn't come out fighting.

More than 40 years ago, Pugh and Pellegrini were highly ranked welterweight boxers who squared off in two fights that packed the Municipal Auditorium. Pugh won a 10-round decision in 1967 and a 15-round decision in 1968.



Eliot Kamenitz/The Times-Picayune

Former boxers Percy Pugh, left, and Jerry Pellegrini swapped stories during a luncheon in Chalmette on Thursday.

"These guys were local heroes," promoter Les Bonano said. "There was such a buzz. It's like people going to the Dome to the Saints' game. Everybody was excited."

At a luncheon Thursday in Chalmette, Pugh and Pellegrini were helping Bonano generate interest in his "Brawlin in Da Parish" fight card that will be presented tonight at the Sigur Center in Chalmette. "What's nice about this is he's trying to keep boxing going," Pellegrini said.

Heavyweights Bobby O'Bannon and Raphael Pedro will meet in the main event. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the first fight will start at 8 p.m.

Pugh, 71, and Pellegrini, 67, appeared fit and healthy, perhaps ready for another fight against each other. "There can be one, if they give us a million (dollars)," Pugh said with a laugh.

They were friends before they met in the ring. Pugh, who is from the Lower 9th Ward, said he started boxing when he was 15. Pellegrini, who is from St. Bernard, said he started boxing at 16, a year before he started cutting hair. He was known as the "boxing barber" and still owns a barber shop, run by his son, Kerry, in Chalmette.

In the mornings, Pugh said, he would run from the Lower 9th Ward to Canal Street and back home.

Pellegrini said he would start morning road work at Esplanade Avenue, where he would be dropped off by his father. Sometimes, Pugh and Pellegrini would cross paths during morning runs. "We'd slap hands along the way," Pellegrini said.

They also sparred together at Curley's Neutral Corner, a boxing gym on Poydras Street, he said.

Percy Pugh, Jerry Pellegrini recall their time in the ring together | NOLA.com



The Times-Picayune archive

Several photos of Jerry Pellegrini and Percy Pugh trading punches in the late 1960s spurred the men to trade memories at a luncheon Thursday in Chalmette.

Pellegrini on Thursday brought a scrapbook filled with newspaper clippings and photographs documenting his career. A friend supplied the memorabilia to replace boxing memorabilia that Pellegrini lost to Hurricane Katrina, and his wife put together the scrapbook as a present for his 66th birthday.

Several photos of Pellegrini and Pugh trading punches spurred the men to trade memories. Both said that the first fight was closer than the second.

It can be difficult to fight a friend, Pugh said.

"When you fight someone close to you, you're not trying to kill him," Pugh said. "You're just trying to win. ... The first fight, I knew it was close. He hit hard. That's what I was scared of, how hard he hit. If he hit me, he'd knock me out. I stayed on my bicycle."

Pellegrini said: "The first fight, I thought I won. It was that close."

Both fighters were trying to earn a title shot against world champion Curtis Cokes. Though Pugh eventually reached the No. 1 ranking, he never got the shot.

"We both fought the best," Pellegrini said. "We both beat some good fighters in our time. The big thing now, we don't have any local guys. Curtis Cokes was the welterweight champion at the time. I thought Percy would have beat him, and I think I would have beat him."

Without a title fight to remember, both men always will have the memories of their fights against each other.

"It'll be in me and Percy's mind until we die," Pellegrini said.



St. Bernard Sports Hall of Fame
Chalmette, Louisiana

July 9, 2014

Mr. Doug Ireland
Chairman
Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame
500 Front Street
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71457

Re: Nominations from the St. Bernard Sports Hall of Fame

Dear Mr. Ireland:

Over the past twenty years, the St. Bernard Sports Hall of Fame (STBHOF) has recognized the accomplishments of exceptional athletes and humanitarians in our community. More importantly, throughout our existence we have raised a significant amount of funding for local youth athletics. It is with great pride that on the eve of our organization's twentieth anniversary, we submit to the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame (LSHOF) the nomination of three legendary St. Bernard Parish sports figures.

Norris Weese (1994), Jerry Pellegrini (1994), and Bobby Nuss (1995) are three of the most distinguished STBHOF inductees. Although these gentlemen each had very unique careers, what they have in common is a level of charisma and personal magnetism that endeared them to people both inside and outside of St. Bernard Parish. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to present these outstanding athletes and human beings to the LSHOF.

Resumes and supporting documents for each of our three nominees are attached. If any additional information is required, please feel free to contact Jerry Graves at jvgravel@uno.edu. We look forward to discussing these nominees with you in the near future.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Roy Cortes
President
St. Bernard Sports Hall of Fame

Jerry Pellegrini

Country USA
 Global Id 18064
 Division Welterweight

Career Record © www.boxrec.com

Date	Opponent	Location	Result
1971-03-22	Jose Gabino	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1970-08-03	David Adkins	New Orleans, USA	L PTS 10
1970-06-02	Willie Warren	New Orleans, USA	L PTS 10
1969-12-11	Pete Toro	Baltimore, USA	L KO 9
1969-09-19	Billy Backus	Syracuse, USA	L UD 10
1969-07-21	Billy Backus	New Orleans, USA	W UD 10
1969-06-09	Chucho Garcia	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1969-04-28	Dave Hilton	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1969-03-10	Johnny Brooks	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1968-11-13	Billy Novak	New Orleans, USA	W KO 4
1968-10-21	Cassius Greene	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1968-08-26	Pete Toro	New Orleans, USA	L KO 1
1968-07-29	Billy Backus	New Orleans, USA	L SD 10
1968-07-01	Johnny Brooks	New Orleans, USA	L PTS 10
1968-06-01	Doug McLeod	Monroe, USA	W KO 3
1968-03-03	Percy Pugh	New Orleans, USA	L UD 15
1967-12-11	Dick DiVeronica	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1967-09-21	Percy Pugh	New Orleans, USA	L PTS 10
1967-08-21	Herbie Lee	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1967-07-01	Freddie Martinovich	New Orleans, USA	W TKO 9
1967-05-08	Freddie Martinovich	New Orleans, USA	L SD 10
1967-03-13	Kid Bassey II	New Orleans, USA	W KO 7
1967-02-09	Jim Meilleur	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1966-11-11	Dave Morine	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1966-09-26	Joey Durelle	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 10
1966-09-13	Charley Scott	New Orleans, USA	W UD 10
1966-06-18	Colin Fraser	New Orleans, USA	W KO 1
1966-06-02	Tim Ford	New Orleans, USA	W KO 4
1966-05-10	Orlando Ruiz	New Orleans, USA	W KO 2
1966-04-06	Dean Whitlock	New Orleans, USA	W KO 2
1966-03-21	Preston Price	New Orleans, USA	W KO 3
1964-06-18	Ray Wilmore	New Orleans, USA	L PTS 6
1963-06-14	Vic Graffio	Lake Charles, USA	W PTS 10
1963-04-29	Leonard Breaux	New Orleans, USA	W KO 2
1962-12-19	Terry Molina	Harvey, USA	W TKO 4
1961-10-23	Ruben Rivera	New Orleans, USA	W PTS 6
1961-10-09	Lalo Varela	New Orleans, USA	W TKO 1
1961-08-07	Calvin Chapman	Mobile, USA	W PTS 4
1961-06-12	Phil David	New Orleans, USA	L PTS 4

Record to Date

Won 27 (KOs 12) Lost 12 Drawn 0 Total 39