New champ Nino and Emile trade praise, okey encore

NEW YORK (UPI)—Nino Benvenuti and Emile Griffith, each praising the other as the finest figher he ever fought, signed contracts Tuesday for a rematch here July 13.

Benvenuti outpointed Griffith in 15 rounds at Madison Square Garden Monday night for world middleweight championship.

The site of the return match will be either the Garden or Shea Stadium, home of the New York Mets. Benvenuti, as the new champion, will get 40 percent of all proceeds and Griffith 20 percent.

* * *

IT IS a familiar story for Griffith, who twice lost and twice regained the world welterweight title before he moved up to the middleweight class.

Matchmaker Teddy Brenner said there was no rematch clause in the first contract. He said such clauses are prohibited by most boxing commissions.

The two fighters were guests at a press conference luncheon at a mid-Manhattan restaurant. Brenner announced the rematch, handed a copy of the contract to each fighter, and both, together with their managers, signed at a luncheon table.

* * *

THEN BRENNER took the managers behind a curtain to a side room, and 15 minutes later, as the luncheon was breaking up, returned to announce the terms.

There could be no quarrel with the return bout — Griffith deserved it. Don Fullmer of Utah, had challenged the winner, and Johnny Pritchett of England, also was seeking a title shot.

* * *

THE ONE man who possibly might deserve it ahead of Griffith got short shrift. Benvenuti has lost just once in his 72 bouts, amateur or professional, a decision he dropped to South Korea's Ki Soo Kim in Seoul.

"The press knows what happened there," said Nino, who always has claimed it was a home-town decision.

"There is no comparison between Ki Soo Kim and Emile as fighters. Emile is the best I have fought."

* * *

"NINO IS a great champion, and he and Gaspar Ortega are the best I've ever fought," said Griffith, who at first said Ortega was the best, then reconsidered — perhaps diplomatically, perhaps with a commercial view — and said Nino was the best.

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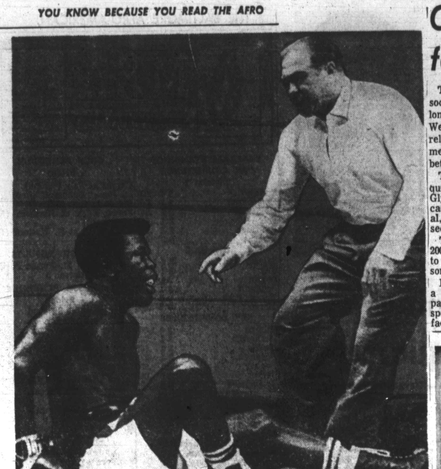

KNOCKED OFF — Emile Griffith looks up in surprise at referee Mark Conn in second round of middleweight title bout at Madison Square Garden (NY) Monday night. Griffith, knocked down by Italian Nino Benvenuti, was later knocked off the throne as world 160-pound champion by a 28-year-old adversary who was cheered by 500 Italians who came over from the homeland for the encounter. Crowd of 14,251 onlookers, plus millions of home televiewers, saw Benvenuti win unanimous decision.

Pete Brown takes top Dominion $ $

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — Pete Brown of Los Angeles, put on another dramatic finish as he successfully defended his title and became the first two-time winner in the sixth annual Old Dominion golf tournament at the Newport News Municipal Golf Course, last week.

During the playing of the final round the last group on the course including Pete Brown, Charlie Sifford, Jim Dent and Robert Nichols were unable to complete the final hole due to darkness, and tournament officials postponed play of the final hole until the next morning.

With Cliff Brown of Nashville, in with 77-72-149, five over par for the tournament, Pete Brown was 5 over par after 35 holes and needed a birdie to win first prize of $600.

Teeing off the next morning on the 573-yard par 5, 18th hole, Brown pulled his drive to the left of the fairway behind a tree, but made a beautiful hook around the tree to put the ball back in [illegible] put an eight foot pro Tom Shiel, was alone in fourth place with 77-74-154. Starks was the Third Army and All-Army champion in 1965.

Tied for fifth place were Sifford and James Mason at 153.

BILL SILVA, superintendent at the Newport News Municipal won top honors in the men's amateur division as he fired rounds of 83-75-158 to win by one stroke over John Wright of Newark, who finished with 79-80-159.

Herbert Blue of Brooklyn, finished with 79-82-161 for third place. Silva's final round of 75 was the lowest round in the tournament an an amateur.

* * *

FOR THE first time in five years a new senior champion was crowned. Ralph Pretlow of Norfolk, Va., upset veteran Alex Jackson of Hampton, Va. by winning a playoff on the first hole.

Jackson was seeking his iron shot to within 2½ feet of the pin and calmly sank the putt for a birdie and the title.

Lee Elder of Washington, D.C., who lost in a playoff to Pete in the 1966 tournament finished with 74-76-150 and a tie for third place with Dent of Atlantic City, who also had rounds of 74-76-150.

Nathaniel Starks of Atlanta, who set a course record on Thursday preceding the tournament with a one-under par 71 to wipe out the previous record of 72 held by fifth consecutive senior title Pretlow had rounds of 80-79-159. Jackson shot rounds of 83-76-159. Oakie Lee of Washington, D.C. was third with 85-82-167.

PETE BROWN

* * *

IN THE women's division Frances Mays of Washington, D.C., shot identical rounds of 67-67-134 on the par-62 course to win by ten strokes over Ethel Funches also of Washington. Mrs. Funches fired 74-70-144.

Third place honors swent to Audrey Davis of Philadelphia, with 76-72-148.

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At Center Stage:

'Penny for Song'

"A Penny for a Song," the final production of the season at Center Stage, opens this week at the theatre at 11 E. North Ave.

Directed by Douglas Seale, with costumes by James Brady, the play is a satirical farce dealing with the absurd efforts of one man to halt a threatened invasion of England by Napolean.

Heading the cast is William McKereghan as Sir Timothy Bellboys, self-proclaimed savior of England.

David Rounds plays Lamprett Bellboys, a characeer whose only aim in life, fire fighting, is in repeated conflict with his brother's single-minded goal of repelling the French.

A special 1p percent discount price has been offered to Center Stage subscribers who wish to bring friends to the play.

"A Penny for a Song," by John Whiting, has recorded the largest advance sale of the season.

Special student tickets at $1.50 and $2.50 may be picked up one-half hour before the

Camp drive launched for diabetic children

The Maryland Diabetes Association launched a month long funds-raising campaign Wednesday, in a drive to relocate and enlarge its summer camp facilities for diabetic children.

The organization has acquired 44 acres of land in Glyndon, for an enlarged camp which is co-educational, non-segregated and non-sectarian.

The aim is to accommodate 200 children at a time, and up to 800 during a summer season.

Funds are needed to build a kitchen, dining room, a patient testing laboratory, a special building for lavatory facilities, 20 bunk houses, an infirmary and a swimming pool.

The new area will provide county water and sewerage. Total cost of the project is $200,000.

However, the camp will provide facilities to diabetic children not afforded them at normal camps.

They are to be taught a way of life with diabetes making them capable of competing in a normal healthy society.

The camp was started ten years ago at a different location and has grown steadily since. The drive has the approval of the Coordinating Council of the Baltimore Chamber of Commerce.

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O's hope 10-game stand will prove springboard

The world champion Baltimore Orioles, back in town and awaiting tonight's opening of a 4-game series with the Kansas City Athletics, are hoping the return to home soil will snap them out of their below-par performance.

Manager Hank Bauer and his Birds undertake the trying assignment of fitting ten games into the next 12 days and nights, with four of the contests set in doubleheaders.

* * *

THE PESKY Athletics with their clever young pitching staff, open the O's Memorial Stadium slate with Dave Boswell, the home boy who got away, on the mound. After Boswell, comes Jim Nash, Catfish Hunter and either Johnny (Blue Moon) Odom or Lew Krausse.

Kansas City is here tonight, tomorrow afternoon and Sunday for a doubleheader. And when they leave, the California Angels are in for a pair of night tilts Tuesday and Wednesday.

* * *

HOME FANS share with Bauer and company, the hope that the weekend stay will prove the lever for an Oriole lift. If it doesn't, they have a rough outlook for the final four games of the current calendar because the opposition will be the Detroit Tigers. Many observers are convinced the Tigers are the team to beat in the 1967 race if the Birds are to repeat as American League champs.

* * *

WHILE THE situation is not generally regarded as cause for immediate alarm, there can be little question that the Orioles are wrapped up in a slower start than well-wishers prefer.

Brooks Robinson, who at this time last year was helping carry the offensive load, was bogged down under a .222 mark at the plate as Baltimore went into its second of two games with the Twins on Thursday in Minnesota.

* * *

PAUL BLAIR was at .179 and Curt Blefary was carrying a .174 average, much too low for two regular outfielders.

Additionally, Stu Miller, ace of the Bird bullpen, has yet to win a decision while losing two games in the last four days . . . SAM LACY.

'Cinderella' Clippers in acid weekend test

All even in their semifinal Calder Cup playoff series at one game apeice, the Baltimore Clippers and Rochester Americans resume the best-of-five series at Civic Center tonight (Friday) and Sunday night. Both games here will start at 8 p.m.

The Clippers assured their legion of loyal fans that a fourth game would be played in Baltimore by gaining the equalizer in Rochester Tuesday night with a 5-3 victory. The Amerks had taken an early 1-0 series lead by outlasting Terry Reardon's men in a four hour marathon with a 4-3 win in triple overtime on Sunday night in Rochester.

IT GOES without saying that this year's Clippers club must be labelled the "Cinderella" team of the American Hockey League.

Having made the playoffs, the Clips drew potent Quebec. They were down 2 games to 1 and trailing in the fourth game before 11,000 fans in Quebec, 3-0 after one period of play. But Baltimore rallied, won the game, 4-3 and then eliminated the Aces with a thrill-packed 5-4 win last Friday night in Baltimore before 8,500 screaming patrons.

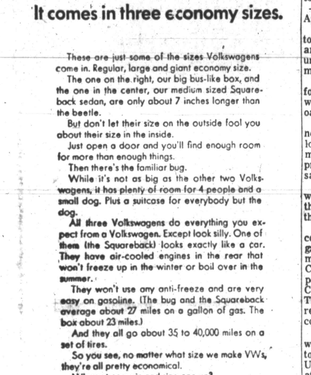
Now they are all even with a Rochester team that over the past two years had beaten them 15 times in 17 meetings.

Not since February 12, 1965 has a Baltimore team beaten a Rochester representative on Baltimore ice, so the Clippers still have a long, rough road ahead to enter the final round against the Pittsburgh Hornets.

* * *

INJURIES CONTINUE to plague the Clippers with right winger Bill Collins shelved with a jammed shoulder and Sandy McGregor suffering from a broken cheek bone. The latter may wear a protective brace and play Friday, but Collins appears extremely doubtful. Terry Clancy is out for Rochester.

Should a fifth and final game be necessary it will be played in Rochester next Wednesday night.



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They won't use any anti-freeze and are very easy on gasoline. (The bug and the Squareback average about 27 miles on a gallon of gas. The box about 23 miles.)

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Won't take Army oath, Clay says

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — (UPI) — A troubled Cassius Clay left his hometown Thursday to prepare for his "big trial" — a date with Uncle Sam April 28 in Houston.

The heavyweight champion told a news conference, "I am not going into the Army under any circumstances, no matter what it costs me."

He said he would appear for induction in Houston next week, "but I won't take the oath."

"To do that would be to denounce my religion, my beloved leader, Elijah Muhammad, and I would pay any price before I'd do that" he said.

CLAY LEFT for Chicago where he was to meet with the Black Muslim leader and then go to Houston.

Clay's attorneys have been contesting his induction on grounds he is a Black Muslim minister. The U.S. Supreme Court turned down his appeal, but Attorney Hayden Covington said in Cincinnati Thursday he would file for a rehearing before the high court.

Covington also said he would ask the Supreme Court to review a ruling of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals at Cincinnati which denied a petition for a three-judge panel to hear Clay's contest of the constitutionality of the draft law.

CLAY CAME here Monday "to be with my people" during an open housing controversy that has heightened racial tensions in the past month.

The champion, who prefers to be called by his Muslim name of Muhammad Ali, said, "the situation in Louisville has a lot to do with my decision not to go in the Army, but it's not the main reason."

In a prepared statement at the news conference, Clay said, "No, I'm not going 10,000 miles from here to help murder and kill and burn another poor people simply to help continue the domination of white slavemasters over the darker people the world over . . ."

ASKED IF he would serve as a non-combatant in the Army, Clay replied, "No, sir."

During his stay here, Clay did not march with the open housing advocates, saying "I am not a marcher; but I support all my people . . . Martin Luther King, Stokely Carmichael, all of them."

Clay would not talk about boxing during the news conference.

"I can't even think about fighting now," he said. "I just keep thinking of my big trial that's coming up. That and my people are the only things I'm thinking of."

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Pre-game TV Honor winners

Frank Robinson the American League's Most Valuable Player, will be the guest of Sandy Loufax on the second edition of "The Sandy Koufax Show" on NBC Television tomorrow (Saturday) at 2 p.m.

The Koufax Show, in color, will immediately precede th NBC-TV national colorcast of the Baltimore Orioles-Kansas City Athletics game from Memorial Stadium.

Robinson played in the last game pitched by Koufax. It was the second game of the 1966 World Series which Baltimore won 6-0 on its way to a four-game sweep over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

He had one hit in that game, a triple, in three official times at bat, hit two home runs in the four-game series.

ANDERSON EMPLOYEE is honored for 45 years of service. A. D. Anderson, (L) founder of the company presents Roy Legg with plaque for long service to the firm which sells and services Chevrolet automobiles.

Forest Park LL opening set

The Forest Park Little League baseball season is scheduled to get under way Sunday, April 30.

Four doubleheaders are on tap for opening day. Play will take place on four separate sites — Diamonds 1 through 4 of Sloman Field, located at Windsor Mill Road and Forest Park Avenue.

Approximately 275 youngsters will participate in the summer program, which last year resulted in a second-place finish in State competition.

The inaugural program will be highlighted by a parade that will include numerous floats, city officials and several bands.

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Gal champ puts mat title on line

The woman wrestling champion of the world, otherwise known as The Fabulous Moolah, copped that crown originally some ten yeas ago at the old Baltimore Coliseum on Monroe Street and she has worn it continually since that day.

In modern pro wrestling, that is a most unusual feat in itself.

Moolah comes in now, on an 8-bout card tomorrow (Saturday) night with title belt at stake.

She'll face fast-rising Judy Johnson of Nashville, Tenn., in a match going one fall to a finish for the official W.W.W.F. championship.

Along with heavyweights, superweights, and ladyweight pro grappers, the midgt matmen are back. Their bill will pit Jamaica Kid and Little Beaver against Fuzzy Cupid and Mighty Brutus.

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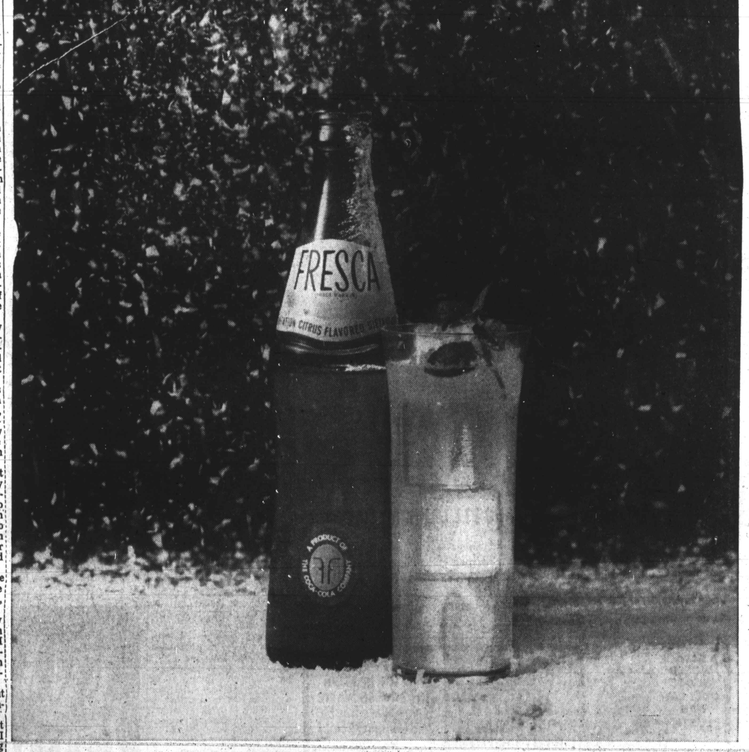

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