

the sports

# Ali likes limelight too much to quit

By MILTON RICHMOND  
United Press International

NEW YORK — Four years ago Muhammad Ali, who was about to meet George Foreman and become only the second man ever to regain the world heavyweight title, motored down from the mountains in Pennsylvania and issued what he felt was the most earthshaking announcement in boxing history.

Standing in front of a microphone in Madison Square Garden's Hall of Fame Club, he declared, as convincingly as he could, that regardless of how he did against Foreman, he was going to retire for good following the contest.

"This is my last fight," he said. "Positively?" someone baited him.

"Absolutely," Ali answered. "After this one, no more."

Since then, he has fought 11 times. With the summer season upon us, and this being the accepted time for reruns, here comes Ali again with yet another momentous announcement, strangely reminiscent of the one he made before.

"This is my last fight," he says, meaning Friday's upcoming bout with Leon Spinks.

His meeting with Spinks in the New Orleans Superdome, in which he'll be seeking to become the first man ever to win the heavyweight championship three times, is no more likely to be Ali's last fight any more than was his successful challenge against Foreman in Zaire, Africa, in October of 1974.

It is true that privately, Ali frequently thinks of not fighting anymore. Why shouldn't he think that way? He's 36, he has enough money to do anything he wants, within reason, and the training required for the kind of fight he anticipates with Spinks has long since grown to be an effort and a bore.

But that insatiable desire for continued recognition and attention, the like of which Ali has grown accustomed to these past 14 years, plus the money, is what always prompts him to keep changing his mind about actually quitting. It isn't easy to turn your back on money, not when they keep pushing it on you, and it's even harder to bow out and become just plain Muhammad He-Used-To-Be, attended by no one, after having been treated as a king always surrounded by a full court.

Ali is still the biggest drawing card in sports. There have been various reports as to how much he's getting for his rematch with Spinks. Some of those reports say he's accepting less money than his opponent for the first time since his prechampionship days now that he's not the titleholder anymore, and others say he'll receive the same amount as Spinks.

Actually, Ali will get at least \$3.5 million, possibly a little more, and if he keeps being offered that kind of money you can look for him to continue fighting until he can't possibly get his hands up anymore.

The idea which appeals most to Ali, and has for some time now, is being named special ambassador by Jimmy Carter and being given a post similar to that of Andrew Young, so that he can travel around the world, talk to the leaders of the various nations and spread good will for the USA.

He'd probably do a fine job of it. Still, I can't help thinking of the obvious hypocrisy in all this because here's a man who flatly refused to fight for his country and now is suddenly excited about going abroad and extolling its virtues.

Apart from that, Ali has been kicking around a couple of other ideas, ones more closely connected with his upcoming fight with Spinks. Both these ideas are predicated on his beating Spinks, which he honestly feels he can do.

His first option would be to keep the title six months or so and then announce his retirement. There he goes thinking about it again. Ali's second option is based on the possibility of his knocking out Spinks early and having an easier time of it than he might have imagined. In such case, he has confided a couple of times, he would be inclined to fight again and his opponent would be Larry Holmes, the World Boxing Council's heavyweight champ. But only if the price was right.

For the fight with Spinks, Ali has been training harder than he did before his first contest with him. His weight is down to 220 pounds and he'll probably enter the ring somewhere around 218, which is a good weight for him.

"I'm gonna be ready this time," he says. "This fight is the most important one of my life. I got to win it and get out on top."

# Bellard reviews Ags' game

By MARK PATTERSON  
Battalion Staff

After having a chance to review the performance of his team this weekend, Emory Bellard can't help but be greatly impressed by its performance.

"We dominated Kansas in the second half and took complete command of the contest," Bellard said. "Our intensity got better and better as the game went and as a team we improved with each series. I can't help but be pleased. Then again, I would have been greatly disappointed if this team hadn't play well."

"I can't say if Kansas was that bad or if Texas A&M was that good. I expected this team to play good football and they did."

"I think one of the keys to our success was our conditioning. In the second half, it seemed superior and it allowed us to take control of the contest."

## UPI top 20

United Press International  
NEW YORK — The United Press International Board of Coaches' top 20 college football ratings, with first-place votes and won-lost records in parentheses:

- Alabama (30) (1-0)
- Oklahoma (4) (1-0)
- Arkansas (2) (0-0)
- Michigan (1) (0-0)
- Southern Cal (1) (0-0)
- Ohio St. (0-0)
- Texas (0-0)
- Penn St. (2) (2-0)
- UCLA (1-0)
- Missouri (1-0)
- Texas A&M (1-0)
- Pittsburgh (0-0)
- LSU (0-0)
- Nebraska (1-1)
- Florida St. (1-0)
- Notre Dame (0-1)
- Maryland (1-0)
- Kentucky (0-0)
- Washington (0-1)
- Colorado (1-0)

Note: By agreement with the American Football Coaches Association, teams on probation by the NCAA are ineligible for top 20 and national championship consideration by the UPI Board of Coaches. Those teams currently on probation are: Michigan State, Houston, Oklahoma State and Grambling.

## IRS ruling favors TCU

United Press International  
FORT WORTH — Texas Christian University officials learned Monday that radio and television revenues from intercollegiate athletics, as in the past, will not be considered taxable income.

Another key to the final outcome was Texas A&M's ability to convert offensive possessions into scores. The Aggies were able to put points on the board six of the 12 times they had the ball. And if Tony Franklin would be connected on all three field goal tries the Aggie scoring ratio would have been even more impressive.

"The kicking game as a whole is one of our greatest concerns at this time," Bellard said. "Not only executing our opportunities to score but our coverage on punts and kick offs as well. David (Appleby, punter) didn't have a good game along with Tony. But since he's been here Tony has never kicked well in an opening game. But our kicking game will improve. The right ingredients are there for success."

And the ingredients were there Saturday for a successful ground attack as the Aggies ground out 322 yards on 61 carries. Introducing the I-formation into their offense the Aggies ran from new alignment 30 of their 76 snaps with junior halfback Curtis Dickey accounting for 128 yards on 25 tries, averaging better than 5 yard a carry.

"Things that we were trying to develop in our offense looked en-

couraging," Bellard said. "Because of the audibles called at the line of scrimmage we had some starting count errors, mostly because we weren't adjusted well for the audible. Because of the penalties we were slowed up a bit but overall I'm greatly pleased with the offense."

In somewhat of a rarity for the Bellard-coached team the Aggies threw 15 passes in the contest. A total of 21 passes were called by Texas A&M and on those 21 plays the offense gained 174 yards (from completions, sacks and scrambles). Wide receivers Doug Teague and Gerald Carter accounted for the bulk of the Aggie air attack. Teague had four catches for 52 yards and two touchdowns while Carter grabbed three passes for 44 yards. Both performances impressed the Aggie coaches.

"Both Gerald and Doug had very fine games for us," Bellard said. "Both missed the first passes thrown to them that were catchable passes. Gerald could have easily scored on his first but he dropped it. But after they got their drops out of their system they didn't miss another throw to them."

Quarterback Mike Mosley went 7-for-11 in the contest for 97 yards in the air. And given his chance in the fourth quarter David Beal was

2-for-4 for 25 yards while adding 83 yards on the ground and one touchdown.

"We didn't pull Mike because of the job he was doing or because he was tired. We simply wanted to give

David a chance to play. And when given his chance he took advantage of it."

As did the rest of the Texas A&M squad. At least on this particular Saturday.

**TUESDAY**



**THE NEW MEET THE OLD & THE OLD REUNITE!**

## FRESHMAN DISCO NITE

**SEPT. 12**

### 25c BEER



**IN UNIVERSITY SQUARE** (NEXT TO SKAGGS)

7:30-12:00 **\$1.50 COVER**

★ **DRINKING EMPORIUM** ★

846-2415

**Jerry Reed**

PLUS SPECIAL GUEST STAR

**The Joe Ely Band**


**TICKETS & INFO:**  
CALL MSC BOX OFFICE 845-2916

**TAMU MSC TOWN HALL SERIES ATTRACTION #1**  
**SEPTEMBER 29, 1978**  
**G. ROLLIE WHITE**  
**COLISEUM**  
**8:00 P.M.**

Tickets	Reserved	General Admission
A&M		Free w/ticket
Student	4.00/4.50	
Non A&M		
Student Date	4.00/4.50	3.00
General Public	6.00/6.50	4.00

**MSC AGGIE CINEMA**

**ACADEMY AWARD WINNER!**  
BEST Art Direction  
BEST Costume Design




**Nicholas and Alexandra**

Tuesday September 12 8 p.m.  
Rudder Theater

Admission: \$1.00 with TAMU I.D.

**THE GRAPES OF WRATH**



Wednesday September 13 8 p.m.  
Rudder Theater

# PEPPER'S



**NOW OPEN**

Established in 1978

## DELUXE HAMBURGERS

1800 S. Texas Ave. College Station 693-9515