Sports

Fighters prepare for richest bout

United Press International

LAS VEGAS — The grueling workouts have ended for Sugar Ray Leonard and Thomas Hearns and the two fighters have sought privacy to make mental preparatons for Wednesday night's welterweight unificaton battle.

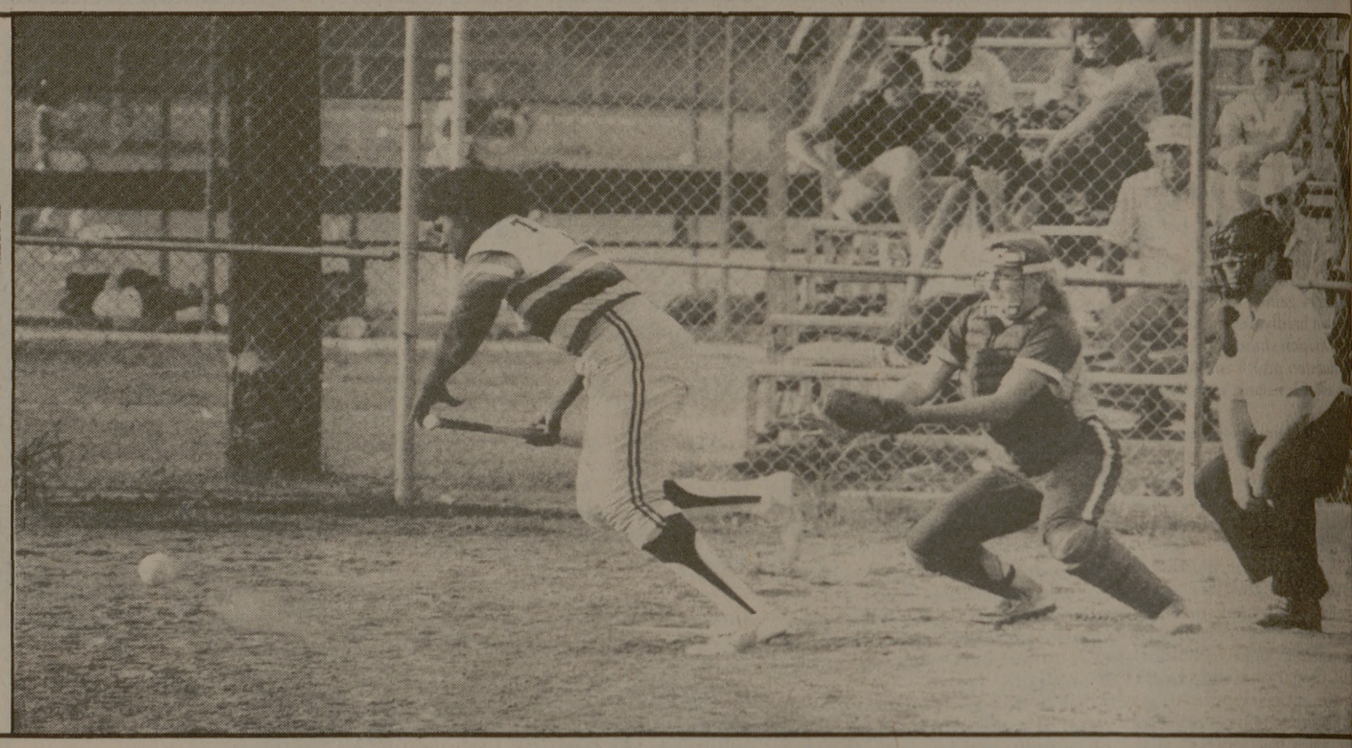
Hearns, the unbeaten World Boxing Association champion who has stopped 30-of-32 opponents, didn't work out at all Sunday. He sparred five brisk rounds Saturday with Dujum Johnson, the top-ranked junior welterweight contendar in the world, hurting him with crunching combinatons.

Leonard, the WBC champion with a 31-1 record, worked lightly on the speed bag and jumped rope Sunday.

With three days left before the fight — the richest in the history of boxing with Leonard guaranteed $8 million and Hearns guaranteed $5 million — things could get boring around the camps at Caesars Palace.

But they won't, not as long as Angelo Dundee and Emanuel Steward are around.

"Janks (trainer Janks Morton) and I have the best fighter," Dundee, Leonard's manager said at Sunday's news conference. "People haven't seen how good Sugar Ray Leonard can be. When the bell rings, people will see how great a fighter Sugar Ray Leonard is. What he's going to do to Thomas Hearns is a shame. When Ray knocks out Thomas in the ninth or 10th round, I'll be the first to console Emanuel Steward.



Texas A&M freshman Jose Carter lays down a perfect bunt in Saturday's game with Texas Wesleyan in the Texas A&M Invitational Tournament. Carter was safe on the play as the Aggies rolled past TWC 8-0 on their way to the tournament championship.

Staff photo by Brian Tate

Brock, Aggies take own tournament

By FRANK L. CHRISTLIEB
Battalion Staff

Pitcher Lisa Martinez came to Texas A&M University knowing that she would have more competition than she'd ever had in her softball career.

With veteran pitchers Lori Stoll and Shan McDonald returning for their junior years after leading the Texas A&M women's softball team to third-and fourth-place finishes in the AIAW College World Series the past two years, it seemed the freshman would find it difficult becoming a starter.

However, Martinez played a major role in this weekend's Texas A&M Invitational tournament, pitching the Aggies to three of their five wins in the two-day event and defeating Sam Houston State University 1-0 Saturday night to give Texas A&M the championship. She has overcome nervousness, pressure and low-scoring games to pick up four victories during the first week of the Aggies' 1981-82 season.

Texas A&M's record stands at 7-1 after last week's 11-0, 2-1 double-header sweep of Baylor in Waco, and the Aggies' five victories in the tourney.

The Aggies began the tournament Friday afternoon by losing 2-0 to the University of Texas at Arlington, but they rebounded to defeat Baylor 7-3 Friday night, with Martinez pitching a three-hitter and striking out 15.

The Aggies didn't allow the first-game loss to UTA to dampen their spirits, as they won all four of their games Saturday. McDonald won the first game 1-0 over Texas Tech, giving up four hits and pitching a complete game.

In Texas A&M's second game Saturday, Martinez pitched a no-hitter against St. Mary's University, striking out 12 on her way to the victory. McDonald followed with a 8-0 defeat of Texas Weslayan College, raising her record to 3-1. Again, McDonald proved to be nearly untouchable as she gave up only three hits in seven innings.

While the Aggies relied on their pitching in their victories, SHSU used superior hitting to sweep undefeated through its first five tourney games, including a 5-0 victory over St. Mary's, a 7-0 win over Texas Tech and a 9-2 win over TWC.

The tension of the 14-inning championship game would've been enough to send any pitcher to an early shower, but her performances during the first week of the season showed that Martinez remains calm in pressure-filled situations.

"I'm just happy to be playing. I knew when I got here that I was going to have to work hard with the pitchers they have here," the freshman from Bethany, Okla., said.

Martinez gave up three hits and struck out 11, while the Aggies had several scoring opportunities slip away during the regulation seven innings. The Aggies finally won the game in the 14th inning, giving Martinez her fourth win in as many starts.

Carrie Austgen led off the inning with a foul-out, and Mary Resendez followed with a single to rightfield. Martinez came to the plate, squared around to bunt and fooled everyone by swinging away, sending a single over the drawn-in third baseman's head.

Patti Holthaus sacrificed the runners to second and third, bringing freshman designated hitter Josie Carter to the plate. Carter drove a single between short stop and third base, scoring Resendez from third and giving the Aggies a 1-0 win and the tourney championship trophy.

After scoring the winning run, Resendez said the Aggies didn't get any breaks early in the game when they had scoring opportunities. However, she said, "We knew it would break (open), because we had more chances than they did."

This weekend, Texas A&M takes its 7-1 record to Arlington for the UTA Invitational Tournament. Stoll, who has been touring in Japan with the American Softball Association's national team, will join the Aggies this week, giving them a strong three-man pitching rotation.

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