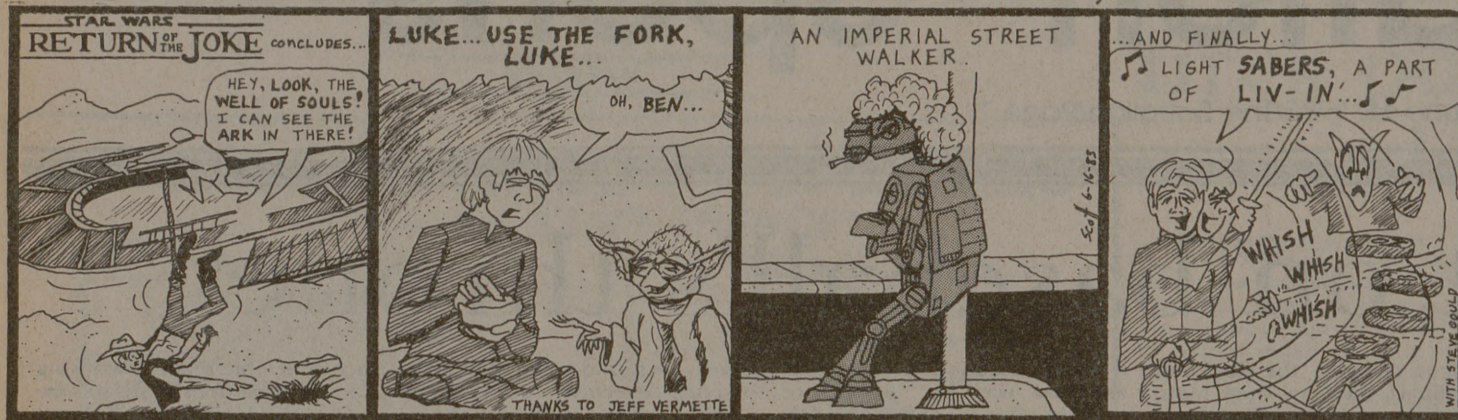


Warped

by Scott McCullar



Duran seeking to rejuvenate his career in title bout with Moore

United Press International
NEW YORK — Roberto Duran will be fighting tonight to recapture past glory and Davey Moore will be looking for his first taste of it.

Duran, the former world lightweight and World Boxing Council welterweight champion, faces Moore for the World Boxing Association junior middleweight title in a scheduled 15-

round bout at Madison Square Garden.

The fight, which will be televised on closed circuit and selected pay TV outlets.

"Roberto Duran is over the hill but he still has his name and beating him will take me to the big money fights," said the 24-year-old Moore, who is the least experienced of the current champions with a 12-0 record.

"Duran was a great lightweight, a good welterweight and a mediocre junior middleweight. There's a big difference fighting people at 135 pounds and fighting them at 154. Not only can't he be as physical, he's a lot older now and he's not as strong.

"I don't think it will be all that tough a fight. He passed his peak a long time ago and I'm still getting close to reaching mine.

For Duran, who is 32 today, the bout will be the 80th of his pro career. He is 75-4 with 56 knockouts. Moore's pro career consists of only 46 rounds. After ruling the lightweight division in the 1970s and handing Sugar Ray Leonard the only defeat of his career—in June, 1980 to win the WBC welterweight title on a 15-round decision—Duran's career went into a crash dive.

Five months after defeating Leonard at Montreal, Duran abruptly quit in the eighth round of their rematch.

He retired briefly and then

returned as a junior middleweight. After unimpressive victories over Nino Gonzalez and Luigi Minichillo, Duran got a title shot but was beaten soundly in 15 rounds by WBC champion Wilfred Benitez in January, 1982. His career appeared to be over after being outpointed by unknown Kirkland Laing and barely beating Jimmy Batten last year but he bounced back with an impressive four-round demolition of former welterweight champion Pipino Cuevas in January.

Observers say Duran has looked like the Duran of old in training, putting combinations together, slipping punches and moving well.



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Nicklaus looking at another chance at Open title record

United Press International
OAKMONT, Pa. — The late Henry C. Fownes Jr., the man who carved Oakmont Country Club's golf course out of mountain-top farmland overlooking the Allegheny River, would have liked Jack Nicklaus and his philosophy.

"Golf was never meant to be fair," Nicklaus said on the eve of the 83rd U.S. Open today on Fownes' course, where a rookie Nicklaus won his first tournament, the 1962 Open.

That was Fownes' philosophy too. "A shot poorly played should be a shot irrevocably

lost," he said in creating a course barren of water hazards, but gluttonously rich in deep bunkers, thick, toe-tripping rough and bizarrely banked greens.

And so, perhaps because of his philosophy, Nicklaus has prepared himself better mentally for playing this course than some of the younger experienced members of the field of 156, including early favorite Seve Ballesteros.

The younger golfers spent much of their time during the first three rounds of practice complaining about the unfairness of the course and the tough

conditions while Nicklaus quietly made some physical and mental adjustments in his game to make yet another attempt to win what would be a record fifth Open championship.

The physical conditions of the course, particularly the rough and the fast greens, he said, are "about as tough as I've seen, but I don't think Oakmont is as tough the way it is set up as some courses we've played.

The course plays to 6,972 yards and at a par of 71. The golfers have predicted winning scores ranging from 4-under to 2-over. They've also predicted

that no more than two dozen and perhaps as few as 10 golfers have the ability to win at Oakmont.

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Porter leads Cardinals past Philadelphia, 7-6

United Press International
The most trouble Darrell Porter had in his pinch-hit appearance against Steve Carlton Wednesday night was getting up to home plate.

Porter, a left-handed hitter, stroked the game-tying single off perhaps the best left-handed pitcher in baseball during St. Louis' four-run eighth inning that produced a 7-6 victory over Carlton and the Phillies.

Porter was stunned when manager Whitey Herzog summoned him to hit for winning pitcher Kevin Hagen.

"When Whitey called for me, I thought I was going to go in and catch," Porter said. "And then he told me I was going to hit for Kevin. I just had time to get my glasses cleaned, get my helmet on and get a bat in my hands and I was up there."

Elsewhere in the NL, San Francisco blasted Houston 7-1, Montreal topped Pittsburgh 7-4, Chicago clubbed New York 7-4, San Diego clipped Cincinnati 5-1 and Atlanta shaded Los Angeles 3-2.

BRAVES 3, DODGERS 2 — At Los Angeles, Dale Murphy's sacrifice fly with one out in the ninth capped a two-run rally that lifted the Braves. Jerry Royster's bases-loaded single off losing pitcher Dave Stewart's leg tied the game.

EXPOS 7, PIRATES 4 — At

Pittsburgh, Andre Dawson drove in four runs with a home run, a single and a sacrifice fly to lead the Expos. Ray Burris pitched 7 1-3 innings to raise his record to 2-2, gaining his first triumph as a starter since he blanked Los Angeles in Game Two of the 1980 NL playoffs.

CUBS 7, METS 4 — At New York, Jay Johnstone's bases-loaded single in the 10th inning drove in two runs to lift the Cubs.

PADRES 5, REDS 1 — At San Diego, Whitson pitched a three-hitter and drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single and Terry Kennedy hit a two-run homer to lead the Padres.

In the American League, it was Baltimore 11, Milwaukee 8 in 10 innings; Oakland 10, Toronto 1; New York 8, Cleveland 5; Detroit 4, Boston 2; Chicago 5, California 2; Minnesota 6, Kansas City 2 and Seattle 6, Texas 4. Giants 7, Astros 1.

A'S 10, BLUE JAYS 1 — While things remained relatively quiet on the American League trading front, Davey Lopes raised enough noise to leave Toronto in ruins. He didn't stop on the field, either.

Lopes, who went 3-for-4, raised his RBI total to 33. Bill Krueger, 5-5, struck out eight and walked two to record his first major-league complete game.

ORIOLES 11, BREWERS 4 — At Milwaukee, Cal Ripken a three-run homer in the seventh and doubled for more runs in a four-run eighth inning, which tied the game after six innings.

TIGERS 4, RED SOX 3 — Detroit, Chet Lemon hit a breaking solo homer to get out in the sixth to ignite the Tigers.

YANKEES 8, INDIANS 4 — At Cleveland, Graig Nettles led a five-run first with a run homer and Steve Douvan doubled home two runs to the Yankees snap a four-game losing streak.

WHITE SOX 5, ANGELS 4 — At Chicago, Angel led in a run with two runs in the fifth to lead the White Sox.

TWINS 6, ROYALS 3 — Minneapolis, rookie Scott Lincecum doubled twice and added a run to pace a 13-hit attack that guided the Twins to a win over their three-game series opponent.

In the only significant swing in the AL, Oakland right-hander Matt Keough pitched Ben Callahan's bases-loaded single in the seventh to lead the Yankees over the Tribe.

Rumors suggest renewal of Steinbrenner tradition

by Milton Richman
UPI Sports Editor

"What did I do? I didn't murder anybody."

Billy Martin was wondering what could possibly possess George Steinbrenner to fire him a third time.

No, he hadn't gotten word of it yet. He was simply answering questions put to him by reporters in Cleveland Wednesday night after the Yankees snapped their four-game losing streak with an 8-5 victory over the Indians, and those questions concerned published reports that Steinbrenner was on the verge of firing him as manager of the New York Yankees again.

"I haven't heard from George all day," Martin revealed. He was completely composed and relaxed. Most of his condition centered around the

Yankees' acquisition of pitcher Matt Keough from the Oakland A's for a couple of minor leaguers, pitcher Ben Callahan and first baseman-designated hitter Marshall Brant. Martin was elated by the addition of Keough, whom he managed with the A's and personally recommended to the Yankees.

Earlier Wednesday, Martin seemed deeply depressed and was expecting the worst. He was aware that Steinbrenner had flown to Cleveland and that rumors were swirling that the Yankee owner was about to dismiss him for the Yankees' poor showing so far and for conduct unbecoming a manager.

Among the transgressions Martin presumably was going to be held accountable for was not showing for a workout in Milwaukee last Thursday; for repeated conversations he was reported to have had with a girl sitting near the Yankee dugout during one of the contests with the Brewers; and for taking naps in the manager's office before ball games.

From the way he looked, Martin seemed to know that Stein-

brenner was coming to land for the purpose of firing him for the third time years. But he picked up cheerfully after the Yankees over the Tribe.

Apart from Martin, one reason Steinbrenner fired Cleveland was to visit his in a hospital in Fairview, N.J. Somewhere along the line was a leak from a Yankee that Martin was about to be fired, and it is entirely possible that Steinbrenner has in mind and still has.

History has a way of repeating itself. Once before, at almost to the day in July 1977, Steinbrenner had fired his mind to fire his manager of the Yankees, who changed his mind.

For the moment, Martin is managing the Yankees. He may not be doing so well, but one of the things in this is a five-year contract he signed this year for \$1.5 million additional side benefits makes the agreement lucrative.

Mother caught delivering pot

United Press International
MILWAUKEE — Some mothers bake hacksaw blades into cakes for their imprisoned sons but U.S. District Judge Robert W. Warren had to deal with a mom who dropped marijuana in the lilacs for her son in the federal penitentiary at Marion, Ill.

The son, serving five years on a drug charge, asked his mother — whose name was withheld at the judge's request — for marijuana. She got a package of less than 3 ounces from his friends and dropped it in lilac bushes

outside the penitentiary where she was caught.

"We hear all sorts of stories here but in cases like that I just turn my mental aid off," Warren said. "The instinct is to throw the book at them."

He made an exception for 62-year-old Milwaukee so she could keep her pension. He sentenced her to 10 days in a halfway house instead of the normal sentence he would have imposed.

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