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Welcome to the
BBColumn
Magazine
Issue 2



Welcome to the second issue of the BBColumn magazine, we are the biggest boxing website in Birmingham and the Black Country and are committed to reporting on all aspects of the noble art in our area. In the quarterly magazine you will find reports on all the professional shows from the last 3 month's that have happened in Birmingham and the Black Country. We also have interviews and in-depth report's on some of the top fighters in the Midlands and also pick out some of the top prospects to look out for.

We hope you enjoy reading the article's and reports which have been re-edited from our website to give you a hard copy of what we do. We would love to get your feed back so please feel free to contact us via email - Birminghamboxingcolumn@gmail.com or via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Also if you would like to advertise in the magazine or on the website please contact us via the same channels.

Once again thank you for purchasing the magazine and please continue to check out bbcolum.com for all your boxing news in Birmingham and the Black Country.

Bbcolumn.com

Welcome to Fightden



Welcome to Fightden is the flagship show on the Birmingham Boxing Column's YouTube channel. Dexter Hastings has interviewed some of the top fighters in Birmingham and the Black Country which includes the likes of Sam Eggington, Craig Cunningham, Tommy Langford and Frankie Gavin.

With over 80 shows behind him Dexter has established the show as a must see for Midlands boxing fans.

To check out all the interviews please go to our YouTube site Birmingham Boxing Column.

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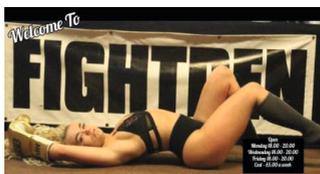
Magazine

BOXING COLUMN

Birmingham Boxing Column Magazine

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Magazine

D'Animal Poleaxes Previously Undefeated Pole

Written by Dan Mole & Dexter Hastings



Andrew Robinson has travelled to Poland and ripped the '0' from Damian Jonak on Saturday evening.

The IBO Continental Middleweight Champion defeated Jonak, who went into the fight with an impressive 41-0-1 record, by split decision in Katowice after eight absorbing rounds.

Robinson started well as he established his jab and made his superior reach count. 36 year-old Jonak hit back and enjoyed some success in the second and third stanzas as he persevered with his double jab, overhand

right combination. As the bout wore on, Robinson got to grips with the stocky Pole's one dimensional attack. Claiming centre of the ring and picking his shots well, the Birmingham boxer finished the fight strongly.



Surprisingly given the fight was in Jonak's home country, but deservedly, Robinson picked up a memorable split decision.

"I am so happy," he told bcb-promotions.com. "It's been a long camp and Jonak's been my focus for many months. I knew, and my team knew, I could come to Poland and get the win.

"I'm the most dangerous Middleweight in Britain. I've come over her and beaten a fighter who hasn't lost in 42 fights.

"I'm always fit and always ready. I will fight anybody. This is a statement. Bring on the next big fight."

BCB Promotions would like to thank MB Promotions for their hospitality and to thank the people of Poland for their support during our trip. Images (c) MB Promotions



Robinson gets his hand raised

Dexter's Thoughts



Well D'Animal went to eat and had a feast in Poland, not many people gave Robinson a chance against Jonak not because he was not equipped to beat him but because you usually have to knock you opponent out to get a draw when traveling abroad. Robinson has show great discipline and determination as he put in months if training working with his trainer Malcom Malvin to topple the unbeaten Pole in his own back yard. Robinson deserves so much praise and respect for achieving this as I know myself that feeling of everyone expecting you to lose against an unbeaten fighter.

Robinson's trainer Malcom Malvin may recall a match 9 years ago on the unlicensed scene when I took on they highly rated and very, very dangerous knock out king Malcom Stowe for the CBU Cruiserweight title. Stowe was unbeaten in nine fights and had knocked out 8 of them, I was the proverbial Lamb to the Slaughter and no one expecting it to go past a round. It went the full six rounds and I came out victorious in a fight that is still talked about.

Robinson must now be in the running for something big, he must be inline for another crack at a British title again or the commonwealth or even the European. After this great achievement D'Animal needs to eat some more.

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River Wilson Bent out due to hand injury

Written by Dexter Hastings



Hot prospect River Wilson-Bent has been forced to pull out of his fight on May 17th due to an on going hand injury. The 25 year from Coventry has been fighting with this hand injury for over five years and has finally been referred for an operation. Wilson-Bent made his pro debut in November of 2018 winning on points, he then jump back in the ring in December of the same year winning via stoppage with both fights being on Tommy Owens Promotions shows at Villa park. River kept up his momentum winning his third fight in his home town of Coventry on a Tommy Owens Promotions show in March of 2019 held for there Coventry boxers.



Wilson-Bent took to social media to tell his supporters he was having to pull out of his next fight. River wrote "Unfortunately I have had to pull out of the show on the 17th May due to an on going hand injury. I've struggle to get the full potential out of my right hand for over 5 years now and finally I have been referred and given my operation date. Il cannot wait to be back in the ring punching harder than ever we are looking to be back in the ring towards the end of the year. I would like to thank everyone that has supported me along the way in getting this problem finally sorted.



Dexter's Thoughts



It was a shame to hear that River was going to have to pull out of the show on May 17th but if he has the opportunity to get his hand sorted he has to take it. River has stated that he has struggled with this injury for 5 years and has not got the full potential out if his right hand, all I'm can say is God help his opponents when he does get it fixed. Wilson-Bent is looking to be back out by the end of the year and fingers crossed he is. I have seen River fight a few times now and he is looking like he has the potential to get to British or even European standard. The Birmingham Boxing Column wish's River a speedy recovery and hope to see him in the squared circle soon.

Williams stopped in Battle of Britain

Written by Dexter Hastings Pictures by Manjit Narotra



Wolverhampton boxer Kyle Williams (27) was sensational stopped in the fifth round when he took of British Bantamweight champion Kash Farooq for the Lonsdale Belt. Farooq (23) with a unbeaten record of 11 wins with no defeats was fighting in his home town of Glasgow at the Glasgow sporting club (25/4)19). Both fighters came in at 8 stone 5 with Williams who was unbeaten in 10 fights earning a share of the first round with both getting good shots off.

Farooq really worked Williams body in the second picking his shots well when going from body to head. Williams worked hard but was always on the back foot and got caught with a nice right hook putting him down with the help of Williams being off balance. Williams took a eight count off the ref as the bell went to end the round. The third round was dominated by Farooq who worked the body and head well, Williams continued to battle hard but it was Farooq's round. Williams started the forth round brightly but Farooq weathered the storm and came back strong working the body and head well with nice combinations.



Williams battled hard in the fifth but Farooq was relentless with his body shots, Farooq caught Williams with a low blow which the ref gave Williams time to recover from. When he did Williams continued to battle and trade shots with Farooq, Williams was then caught with a cracking right hook which put him down, Williams struggled to get back to his feet but he did with the ref waving off the fight 2 minutes four seconds into the fifth round.

Williams talked after to a BBC reporter where he said he felt that he had let his people down. He also said "I will learn from this, take something from it and come again". He finished by saying "I will win the British title one day".

Dexter's Thoughts



Well Kyle didn't get the result but can walk away with his head held high. On the night Farooq was just too strong and too good for the BcB fighter, take nothing away from Williams he fought like the warrior I know he is and even after the second round knock down I thought Williams could still win. Farooq had a very good game plan working the body well and catching Williams with some good shots to the head. Williams was always on the back foot and boxed well, but it was Farooq's pressure and shot selection that won him the fight. Williams deserves a lot of credit for traveling to Scotland putting his unbeaten record on the line against an unbeaten fighter and leaving it all in the ring. Williams has stated that he will learn from this fight and come again and I believe he will. I'm sure Williams will return soon and be contesting for titles again in the near future. The Birmingham Boxing Column wishes Kyle a speedy return to the ring.



Frustrating night for Langford

Written by Dexter Hastings Pictures by Manjit Narotra.



Former British Middleweight champ Tommy Langford had a frustrating night as he took on Lerrone Richards for the Commonwealth and WBO international title at Wembley arena London (27/4)19). Langford (29) who had moved up to super Middleweight at the start of the year started the fight well as he took a share of the first round as both fighter sized each other up. There was not much between them in the next five rounds with unbeaten Richards boxing out of an awkward southpaw stance forcing Langford to come forward and press the fight.

Langford had a good seventh round just nicking it with some quality shots, but was being to forced to press Richards as he continued to frustrate with a very awkward style of boxing. Rounds eight and nine you would have to give to Richards as he countered well as Langford pressed and pressured him. Round 10 was a great one for Richards banging in some world class combinations with some sweet left uppercuts. Langford weathered the storm well and continued to press and pressure to the bell.



Richards bossed the 11th with nice combinations and some great uppercuts, Langford continued to battle hard and take the fight to his opponent which seemed to help Richards awkward style. In the final round Richards seem to know he had the fight on points and picked his shots well as Langford continued to pressed to the final bell. When the score cards came in they were unanimous judge Terry O'Connor had it 118- 110, judge Phil Edwards had it 116 – 113 and judge Robert Williams had it 118 – 111 all in favour of Richards.



Tommy Langford took to social media after the fight to make this statement, he wrote, very frustrating night at the office. I've lost a decision without really being in a fight. If that makes sense! Lerrone is the king of negativity he's very clever and made it work for him. I was always trying to press and make the fight but credit where it's due he rigidly stuck to what he's good at. Extremely frustrating! I'll dust myself off and see what's next! Sorry to all the fans and supporters but thank you for all your belief and support.

Dexter's Thoughts



Very frustrating night for Langford against a fighter who had a very awkward style, Richards awkward style won him this fight as Langford was forced to change his style to make this contest a fight. Styles make fights and the two fighters styles didn't gel, which made this not a very good match to watch. The first 6 rounds were close and could have gone either way, but the second part of the fight was mostly Richards as he countered Langford who was forced to press to make the fight competitive. I can see why Langford was so frustrated, Richards has a very awkward southpaw style which is going to frustrate a lot of fighters as he moves up the ranks, but it's works for him. Langford was a massive Middleweight and used that to his advantage in his old division, against Richards he didn't have that physical presents as his opponent looked bigger than him. Langford can come back from this fight and can still be looking at titles fights. The Birmingham Boxing Column looks forward to seeing Langford back in the ring soon.

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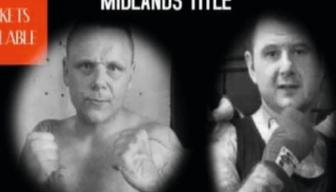
Contact us @ gggpromotions.co.uk Tel 07948698080

GGG Promotions has been an established white collar Promotion for the last 4 years. There first few shows where at the "Home of Unlicensed boxing" the Irish centre before moving there show around Birmingham. GGG Promotions have now secured a new venue in the heart of the city centre 2nd city suite that can hold more than 800 people for there boxing events. There main event is a cruiserweight titke fight for GGG's version of the Midlands title and is set for 4 rounds between Addison and Hurley. Also on the show there will be the Inspirational fighter Josh Hodgins who will be looking to start a new streak after a few defeats. This is shaping up to be a great show at a great venue. For tickets contact the boxers or GGG Promotions

GGG Promotions have also started an academy for aspring fighters where they are given training for 8 weeks and given the chance to fight on one of there shows.

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Promotion Title



LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT

HODGINS VS. BATES

SEPTEMBER 20TH 2019

2nd City Suite Birmingham



Hodgins wins first title

Written by Dexter Hastings



"The Bandit" Josh Hodgins has claimed his first ever white-collar promotion title at a boxing event at Pryzm night club (Friday 5th April). Hodgins who fights out of Fightden boxing gym took on the current light heavyweight promotion champion Ricky Grimshaw over 4 two minute rounds winning them all. Hodgins who is known for being a tough journey man bullied his opponent pushing him back with nice combinations which all ending with the newly found left hook. Grimshaw had his moments in the fight when Hodgins gave him the space to box getting some nice jabs and some tidy combinations off. On the night Hodgins was just so strong and stuck to his game plan well to claim his first promotion belt.



After the show while we tucked into a cracking Balti and had a few beers I asked the "Bandit" how he felt he did in the fight and what it meant for him to win a title? He told me "I just made sure I stuck to the game plan and threw more punches than I usually do especially letting my right go as I don't normally through it enough due to my shoulder after surgery". Hodgins continued "It's been a mental block but now I think I'm over it especially with you giving me a kick up the arse in my last fight telling me to throw more punches and then doing my corner tonight giving me two wins in a row". "As for winning the title I'm just happy to be competing let alone being a promotion champion. Josh ended by saying "I would like to thank all the Fightden lads and the team that have helped me get back in fighting form, also a big thank you to Craig Taylor, Nathan Nash and you Dex, Craig and Nathan have always done my corner and you have helped me to be more positive in the ring.



Hodgins who two years ago was having surgery on a career ending shoulder injury has worked hard at Fightden to get back to a fantastic standard of fitness. He has now been on the road as a journey man for the passed year accepting any fight on any show and getting a few good wins against ticket sellers who were expected to get there hand raised. Hodgins was back out the week after on another white collar show at the former home of unlicensed boxing the Irish centre Digbeth and won in a second round stoppage getting his third win in a row. He kept his winning streak going at another White collar show beating a tough former amateur on points. The streak was ended at the Bulinhgton hotel in Birmingham when his Fightden stable mate lbbby "The Black McGregor" beat him on points in a very tough fight.

Dexter's Thoughts



I was so proud of Josh last night and if any fighter deserved a title it is him. He has battled back from a career ending injury and has adapted his style to compensate for this. Josh has been a proper journey man the last year and has taken any fights that have been offered to him, but there have been a few promotions that have took advantage of Hodgins eagerness to fight and kind nature. As an away boxer and a non ticket seller Hodgins receives a purse and some of the purses he has been given have been a total joke. Hodgins has taken these fights and has told me he just wants to fight which is all well and good but this is a sport where you can get proper hurt so the promotors should be at least paying him the going rate. I had the honour to do his corner for this title fight and he stuck to the plan we had formed to perfection. I have told Hodgins on a number of occasions that he is so much more than just a journey man but he is happy staying on the road and doing the home shows for Fightden when they come round. Josh has now asked me to do his corner for his fights and also to negotiate his purse money with the promotors, so if you want "The Bandit" on your show and you want to give your ticket sellers a proper challenge contact myself or Josh.

May the Forth be with You

Tommy Owens Promotions

(4/5/19)

written by Dexter Hastings



Tommy Owens Promotions held their latest show (May the 4th be with you) at the Holte suite Villa park (4/5/19). There were six bouts of boxing on the show with four of them being over 4 three minute rounds. Starting the show in the home corner we have Tion Gibbs who is unbeaten in 5 fights, next up there was Jack O'Keeffe, Ellis Blake and Sean Daly who were all unbeaten heading into this show. Doing his first six rounder was Shabaz Masoud who is unbeaten in 4 fights and headlining the show we had Raza Hamza having his first 8 rounder who was also unbeaten in 13 contests. With David Nikolich comparing, Shaun Messer refereeing and the stunning Genna Bell from C.P. Agency doing the ring cards the night was set for a great night of boxing

Results

Fight 1 Tion Gibbs v Lee Hallett

4x3 Welterweight

Result Dexter - 40-36 Ref - 40-36

Gibbs wins on points

Fight 2 Jack O'Keeffe v Ibrar Rivaz

4x3 Welterweight

Result Dexter 40-36 Ref 40-36

O'Keeffe wins on points

Fight 3 Ellis Blake v Michael Williams

4x3 Welterweight

Results Dexter - 39-38 Ref - 40-37

Blake wins on points

Fight 4 Sean Daly v Richard Samuel

4x3 Super Welterweight

Results Dexter - 40-36 Ref - 40-37

Daly wins on points

Fight 5 Shabaz Masoud v Braylan Mairena

6x3 Super Featherweight

Result Dexter - 60-54 Ref - 60-54

Masoud wins on points

Fight 6 Raza Hamza v Elvis Guillen

8x3 Featherweight

Result Dexter 79 - 71 Ref - 79 - 71

Hamza wins on points

Dexter's Thoughts



Well what a great night of boxing with six unbeaten fighters keeping there unbeaten records against some tough journeyman, I don't think these boxers get the credit they deserve fighting on the road week in week out, but they really earned there money tonight with all of them seeing the final bell.

It was great seeing Tion Gibbs back in the ring, he had a steady start to his fight but when he got his timing right he looked the quality boxer we all know he is. I'm looking forward to seeing him in the ring more often this year.



There was "no beef" for the vegan Jack O'Keeffe who cruised to victory against a tricky opponent in Riyaz. O'Keeffe got some quality shots off tonight and really showed that he should get a crack at a Midlands title.

Ellis Blake continued his unbeaten start to his career and had to dig deep a few times in this fight as Williams really put the pressure on. Blake dealt with it well and showed great movement and shot selection to come out on top.



The Sean Daly fight was a very entertaining one, Daly controlled the first two rounds with some nice tidy boxing keeping his opponent on the end of his jab. But it wouldn't be a Sean Daly fight with out a tare up and round 3 and 4 were just that. Daly is a talented boxer and does not mind a tare up, but as he moves up the ranks he should try and rely more on his boxing skills as anyone can get caught out in a tare up.

Shabaz Masoud looked good in his first six rounder, he has got a very Naseem Hamed like style which he used well against Mairena. He could well have an exciting future ahead of him, but will this style work when he starts moving up the ranks? It will be exciting to see if Masoud can do this at the higher levels.



Raza Hamza looked really good in his first eight rounder, you had to give Guillen credit for getting to the end of the fight with some of the shot he was caught with. Hamza has had 14 fights winning 13 with one draw, he must be in line for a crack at the Midlands title. From what I saw tonight he would be in with a shout of claiming his first title.

On a personal note I would like to thank all the people who brought a copy of the bccolumn magazine at the show, many thanks for you support. I would also like to thank all at Tommy Owens Promotions for letting me sell the magazine there and for sponsoring the website for another year.

Ultimate Boxer III undercard



Birmingham boxing was well represented on the ultimate boxer III undercard at the Indigo arena London (11/5/19) with two unbeaten fighters competing on the show. There was D&A gyms Idris Virgo doing a 4 rounder and Ultimate Boxer II Champion Shakan Pitters who boxes out of Eastside gym doing a six rounder. The column has just focused on the two Brummie lads for this report.

Virgo who has 3 wins with no defeats was up first after the quarter finals of the tournament taking on Rene Molick who had won 2 and lost 4.

Idris Virgo v Rene Molick
4x3
Super Middleweight



Good jabbing by Virgo at the start of the first but was forced back for the first part of the round as Molick pressed him and pushed him back. Virgo was caught with a lovely right hand but was also tripped by Molick which put Virgo down, the ref rightly did not deem this as a knock down. Molick sustained a cut above his right eye after an accidental clash of heads, Molick continued to bang in shots with Virgo coming back strong in the last minute of the round.

In the second round Molick came out swinging putting Virgo on the back foot, Virgo got some good counters off and fought back with some good shots of his own with this fight looking like it was going to be a cracker. The ref then got the doctor to look at Molick's eye and he deemed that he could not continue. The ref had no choice but to stop the fight in 1 minute 50 seconds of the second round giving a technical draw.



Result
Technical Draw

After the semi finals it was time for Eastsides Shakan Pitters (11-0) to step in the ring where he was doing a six rounder against a fight he had fought and beat before Dmitri Kalinovskij.

Shakan Pitters v Dmitri Kalinovskij
6x3
Cruiserweight



Pitters controlled the first round with nice sharp jabs and good combinations making Kalinovskij cover up. In the second Pitters was in total control with everything coming off the h Jab, Kalinovskij was already in several mode as he just covered up. Very negative display by Kalinovskij in the third as Pitters was in total control. Pitters started shooting out some spiteful jabs and some heavy combinations in the forth as he started to step up the pace with Kalinovskij looking to see the round out. The fifth was dominated by Pitters getting some explosive shots off near the end of the round. Pitters again banged in some heavy shots in the final round with Kalinovskij covering up well, he did let his hands go but there was nothing to worry Pitters.

Result
Dexter - 60-54
Ref - 60-54
Pitters wins on points

Dexter's Thoughts



Birmingham was well represented at the ultimate boxxer III, Idris Virgo was up against a tough opponent in Molick who had came to win. Molick really put it on Virgo with the fight looking like it was going to be a cracker. It was a shame that it had to be stopped due to a accidental clash of heads which has put a draw on Virgo's record. Idris is still unbeaten and can go back to D&A gym and work with his trainer Anthony Hull on keeping his unbeaten record going.

Shakan Pitters had a easy night against Dmitri Kalinovskij who was so negative in the fight it was frustrating to watch. Pitters did all he could to make it entertaining but it takes two to make a fight and Kalinovskij was not interested in engaging as he went into journeyman mode from the first bell. This is the second time Pitters had fought Kalinovskij as he faced him earlier in his career in a four round at Villa park on the Tommy Owens Promotions show and I got to say Kalinovskij put up more of a fight in that one. This is another "W" in Shakans win column making him 12 without defeat, I am sure he will be looking for a title shot soon hopefully at the English level or above as I think he has surpassed the Midlands title.

The Column looks forward to seeing both these fights back in the ring soon .

Showtime

BBC Promotions

12/5/19

Written by Dexter Hastings



Black country boxing promotions held there "Showtime" show at Walsall town hall (12,5,19). There were 7 bouts of boxing on the show with three of them being over 4 three minute rounds and 3 over six three minute rounds. There was also a female bout on the card with the baby face assassin Amy Timlin making he pro debut over 4 two minute rounds. Refreeing on the night was Kevin Parker and comparing on the night was Mr "make some noise, and let's get it on" Ben Walters. For some reason there were no ring girls at the show.

Fight 1 - Kane Baker v Andy Harris

4x3 - Lightweight

Results - Dexter - 40-36 - Ref - 40-36

Baker wins on points.

Fight 2 – Ruben Campbell v MJ Hall

4x3 – Super Lightweight

Result – Dexter - 40-37 – Ref - 40-38

Campbell wins on points

Fight 3 = Amy Timlin v Roz Mari Sylanova

4x2 - Super Bantamweight

Result - Dexter - 40-35 - Ref - 40-35

Timlin wins on points

Fight 4 – Conah Walker v Nathen Bendon

6x3 – Super Welterweight

Result – Dexter - 58-56 – Ref - 58-56

Walker wins on points

Fight 5 – Ricky Summers v Harry Mathews

6x3 – Light Heavyweight

Result - Dexter - 60-54 - Ref - 60-54

Summers wins on points

Fight 6 – Liam Davies v Pablo Navaroe

4x3 – Super Bantamweight

Result – Davies wins second round Ko

Fight 7

Kellie Ball v Lewis Van Poetsch

6x3 - Super Middleweight

Result - Dexter - 58-55 - Ref - 58-55

Ball wins on points

Dexter's Thoughts

What a great show Black Country boxing put on at the Walsall town hall with some good battling fights and some new prospect showing what they can do.



We have to start with the main event, Kelcie Ball was having his first fight back after being stopped by Ryan Kelly in the summer of last year and did have a bit of ring rust. Ball who has now moved up to the Middleweight took on the very experience Lewis Van Poetsch at super Middleweight. Ball started well but you could see a bit of ring rust, he was caught with a cracking right hand and showed a lot of heart and fighting spirit to get off the canvas and continued. Van Poetsch could smell a shock on the cards and poured on the pressure with Ball battling back hard to not just see the final round but to win every round but the one he was dropped in. Ball

will have learnt a lot about himself in this fight and came away with a win as well, he can go back to Smoking Joe's gym and work on sharpening the tools he has already got with his trainer Shaun Cogan. There was talk going around that there could be a potential fight between Ball and former Midlands area Middleweight champ Tyler Denny this would be a great fight if it could be made but would have to be for a title. With Denny giving up his Midlands title it would have to be for at least an English.

Liam Davies shone tonight with a great second round stoppage, the super Bantamweight was relentless and did not let his opponent off the hook until he was counted out. Davies is looking like he is a very exciting prospect and has also got a massive support which doesn't hurt, very impressive win by the 23 year old.



Ricky Summers put on a very controlled display where he showcased what he has been working on with new trainer Spencer Mccracken at Eastside gym. It was a great display of his skills with a great jab and good shot selection. There could be big fight news in July for Ricky I look forward to seeing the Digger in title contention soon.



Conah Walker against Nathan Bendon has to go down as fight of the night, we had two talented prospects who were both without defeats before this fight, put there unbeaten records on the line. This was a great battling fight with Walker coming out as the winner. It was the first six rounder for both fighters and they left it all in the ring, Walker who is trained by legend Ricky Hatton has a great future ahead of him but Bendon can walk away from this fight with his head held high.

Bendon gave a pedigree prospect a very hard and close run fight and again I'm sure he has learnt a lot from this fight. I'm sure his trainer Shaun Cogan from Smoking Joe's gym will be proud of his fighter.



Amy Timlin looked good when she was allowed to boxes against an opponent who just wanted to hold. I could see that Timlin was getting frustrated with all the holding but she stuck to her boxing and won the fight with ease. Timlin showed me enough that she will do well in the pro ranks and joins the ever growing BcB female stable of boxers.



Ruben Campbell had a good test on his debut against the very talented southpaw MJ Hall, Campbell was made to work for all four rounds as Hall put him through his paces. Campbell passed the test with flying colours winning his first fight, I look forward to seeing him in the squared circle soon.

Kane Baker was in a bloody battle with both fighters sustaining cut early in the first round from an accidental clash of heads. This didn't stop the action as both fighters continued to battle hard with Baker going through the gears winning all four rounds. After getting this fight out of the way he can now focus on his next challenge of fighting for the English Lightweight title in September. The Birmingham Boxing Column will be doing a full report on Bakers English title challenge as we get more information.



The Birmingham Boxing Column would like to thank BcB for having the column at there show .

Two Years in the Game Sean Daly

Written by Dexter Hastings



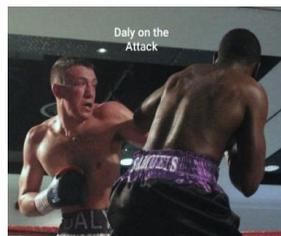
Sean Daly is a 26 year old professional boxer from Burtwood, the orthodox Welterweight stands at 5 foot 11 and comes from a kickboxing background. As a kickboxer Daly had an impressive record of 31 fights in 34 fights, he amassed 14 titles in his kickboxing career and fought fighters from Denmark, German, France, Russia and Ireland.

Daly has been boxing 9 years with two of them being as a pro in September of this year, he currently holds a unbeaten professional record of 8 wins without defeat. He is trained at Eastside gym by Spencer McCracken and at Platinum gym by Lee Goodwin and is managed by Jon Pegg.

I asked Daly who his favourite boxer and why? Sean told me " Got to be Mike Tyson, the most exciting, most explosive boxer and a absolute geezer".

My next question was what is the best fight you have seen? Daly informed me, live it has to be a recent one, Frampton v Warrington, the fight lived up to the expectations and the atmosphere was electric".

I then asked the unbeaten fighter, what inspired you to take up boxing? He said " I was inspired to try something new by my good friend and fellow professional Luke Jones after being bored with football, and I never looked back. I love the training, sparring and the respect that the sport teaches".



My final question to Daly was, what has been your hardest fight? The twin told me "I have had a few excellent wars as a kickboxer but one that sticks firmly was a British title fight against Akkone Wannlis over 5 rounds, that was a great fight that I won and took the belt. I wish him the best as now he is a professional MMA fighter". He then talked about his boxing career and said "I have had a few that were great fights but as a professional I would have to say Lee Gunter has been my hardest".

Sean will be facing one of his hardest challenges at the end of June when he takes on the very Smoking Joe's very capable Fighter Ben Fields, Ben has been making waves up and down the country taking on all comers and getting some upsets along the way. The result and report on this fight will be in the Summer Brawl report at the end of this magazine.

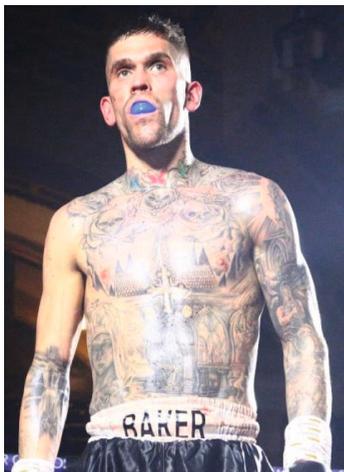
Dexter's Thoughts



Sean has been in the pro game for nearly 2 years now and has smashed every opponent that has come in his way. He is a entertaining fighter who is not scared to get into a tare up with his opponent and does at every given occasion. I have followed Daly's career from the start and saw everyone one of his fights, he has a massive following and they let themselves be heard chanting his name down Villa park on the Tommy Owens Promotions shows. He is in one of the hottest contested divisions in the Midlands and I think Daly needs a few six rounder's and then he will be ready to contest for a title. Kaissee Benjamin is the current Midlands area welterweight champion and is also Sean's stable mate at Eastside gym, but Benjamin should be looking for a crack at the English title sometime this year which could leave the way for Daly to get his first title. Daly has taken on the hard hitting Ben Fields in the final article in the magazine this has been put as a 50/50 fight, check the "Summer Brawl" peace at the back of the magazine for the result. The Birmingham Boxing Column looks forward to seeing Daly continue his progression in his career.

Baker gets a crack at the English title.

Written by Dexter Hastings



Kane Baker has been given the chance to fight for the English Lightweight title in September against current English champion Myron Mills (23). Mills has a very impressive record of 12 straight wins but did lose his last fight to the unbeaten Welsh man Gavin Gwynne in Newport on points in a 10 round fight. Mills won the lightweight English title in May of 2018 stopping the hard hitting Marcus Ffrench in 4 rounds in his home town of Derby. Mills has also won the IBF youth lightweight title beating Luke Paddock on a split decision on the ill fated night at Walsall town hall when a boxing fan lost his life due to a fatal stabbing out side the event. Baker (28) is the current Midlands lightweight champion after beating the unbeaten Ishmael Ellis on points at the Tommy Owens Promotions show at Villa park in December of 2018. Baker who came through the unlicensed /white collar boxing ranks has a very good record himself winning 10 out of 15 fights with all 5 of his defeats coming on the road against some of the top prospects in Britain.

I caught up with Kane and asked him how it feels to be offered this crack at the English title? Baker told me "To been given the chance to fight for an English is like a double world title to me (the Midlands was my world title), I'm privileged. I have to be real with my boxing, some people are born to be the best and some are born to fight the best I'm the latter. It's about accepting what I am and what I'm not, I'm not going to lie to myself. To come this late into the game and achieve what I have is a dream to me I would of quite happily retired on my Midlands area win because I honestly never believed I could get to Midlands level".

I then asked the likeable Kane where the fight would be? He told me "There is no venue confirmed for the fight yet but it will be in Derby or Leicester, either way it's a nice away day which my people love".

My final question for the Midlands champ was how do you think the fight will go? Baker said "I'm hoping the fight will show a different side of me having been able to have a full camp as I've never had longer than 4 weeks for a fight. Also I plan to be strict with my diet and I will need to change my lifestyle big time and up my training if I want to take this belt off a true champion fighting away".

Kane finished by saying "Whatever happens on the night I just hope people get to see an improved Kane Baker and more importantly everyone safe and sound".





Baker v Harris

Dexter's Thoughts



Dexter & Kane

Kane Baker is one of the most likeable lads I have met in boxing, a kid who came from the unlicensed ranks turned pro to earn some cash and make some stories to tell the grand kids when he gets older. Kane shocked a lot of people when he beat Ishmael Ellis for the vacant Midlands area Lightweight title but I was not one of them. I had seen Kane boxes many times winning and losing but the one thing he has always shown is heart. This is a great opportunity for Kane but on a real note he is fighting a very talent champion in Myron Mills. When Mill fought for the IBF youth Lightweight title against Paddock he put on a fantastic display of boxing, showing power, movement and speed. This will be a big ask for Baker but he has never been one to turn down a fight and if he dedicates himself with his training and diet we might just have a new English champ. So come on Birmingham and the Black Country let's get behind Kane.

Female Take Over

Written by Dexter Hastings



Over the last few year there has been a surge in female boxers entering the pro ranks especially coming out of Birmingham and the Black Country. With the Irish Queen Multiple world champion Katie Taylor propelling female boxing into the public eye female boxing is on the rise and is only going to get bigger. The Birmingham Boxing Column has interviewed a number of female boxers and I myself have been very impressed with the technical skills of the fairer sex. The column will now look at some of the top and up and coming female fighters coming out of Birmingham and the Black Country.



The first fighter we look at is the “Black Widow” Lauren Johnson. Johnson is the first ever Birmingham female fighter to get a pro licence, the welterweight fighter is also a Vegan. Johnson is signed to BcB promotions and when she is not in the squared circle or training she work as a door person. Johnson who had an amateur career of 23 fights winning national and Midlands titles which includes 15 wins turned to the pro ranks on the 4th March 2017 beating Monika Antonik on points at Walsall town hall. Southpaw Johnson then went on and beat Boriskava Goranova 6 months later on points again at the Walsall town hall. Lauren’s 3rd fight (9/6/18) was a 8 rounder at the Willow Banqueting suite Willenhall for a challenge belt against Klaudia Vigh winning on points. Lauren has had nearly a year away from the square circle but will return on the BcB show called “Sunday Service” at the Venue Dudley on Sunday 28th July.



Rachel Ball

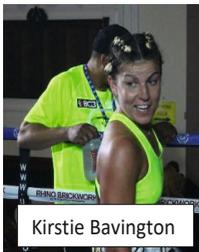
Next up we have "The Ginger Matador" Rachel Ball, Ball is a former 3 time kickboxing world champion and turned over to the noble art in December of 2017 beating Claudia Ferenczi in a four rounder on points. In 2018 Ball took her record to 4 without defeat beating Bojana Libiszewsja over 6 rounds then Monika Antonik in a four rounder and ended 2018 with one of the fights of the year beating Eftychia Kathopouli in a knockdown bloody battle at the Stadium suite Walsall FC. Ball started 2019 on the road heading to Norway to put her unbeaten record on the line against another unbeaten fighter Katharina Thanderz who was 10 an 0 at the time. Ball lost on a majority decision with one of the judges giving it a draw, myself I thought Ball did more than enough to win the fight. The Column nicknamed her the Ginger Matador after in my opinion she controlled the ring in this fight with great movement and shot selection.



Dani Hodges

Dani Hodges is a former kickboxer who has moved to noble art of boxing. Known as the "Pocket Rocket" the 32 year old Flyweight made her official debut on Friday 20th July 2018 at the Bescot Stadium Walsall winning a hard fought match against Teodora Hristova. Hodges then won her next fight at the Walsall town hall (22/9/18) beating Sonia Kios on points. Hodges has kept her momentum going in 2019 already having 2 fights beating Roz Mari Silyanova, Lauren Parker. The Pocket Rocket then jumped on a Frank Warren Promotions show where Billy Joe Saunders was head lining taking on Lisa Whiteside on her pro debut, Dani lost this fight on points but it was always going to be hard fighting away from home. Dani has come from a taekwondo background winning numerous area and national tournaments. The single mom has also competed in Kickboxing winning an area and national title in this discipline as well. Hodges also had a few white collar fights

before she chose to enter the professional ranks with Black Country Boxing, Dani is looking like she could be a real contender in the Flyweight ranks. Hodges is back out on 20th July at the BcB show "Peaky Blinders" at the H- Suite Edgbaston Birmingham.



Kirstie Bavington

Kirstie Bavington is a former female footballer who has switched over to the pro ranks of the noble art. The 25 year old welterweight has played for football teams like Wolves, West Brom, Birmingham city and Crystal Palace. Bavington made her debut a Tommy Owens Promotions show at the Holte suite on the 19th May 2018 securing a hard fought draw. Bavington then won her second fight at the Venue Dudley beating Elaine Greenan (7/7/18) This was a much better performance than her first and you could see how well she had improved ten fold. Bavington has fought twice this year already first getting a 2nd round stoppage victory against Katarina Vistica at Walsall town hall (9/3/19). Bavington is improving with every fight and has now been given the opportunity to fight Cherelle Brown for the WBC international title on the 20th July London.



Amy Timlin

Last but by no means least we have 19 year old Amy Timlin, the former Kickboxing has won multiple titles in the discipline which include British, Commonwealth, European and World titles. Timlin has signed with BcB promotions and made her debut on the Black Country Boxing "Showtime" show at Walsall town hall (11/4/19) beating Roz Mari Sylanova on points. This young fighter is looking to emulate her hero Katie Taylor and make her mark on the female boxing scene. Timlins is on the BcB July 6th show "The Heat is on" at Walsall town hall.

Dexter's Thoughts



Well the female take over has begun and I got to say I welcome it, the skill level of the fairer sex is at a very high level. They also have it a lot harder with these opponents who are mostly eastern European always come to fight hard and win. With the stable of female fighters the BcB has amassed I am sure we will see a British, European, Commonwealth or even a world champion come out of the Midlands soon. Whatever female achieves this, they will also make History being the first female to enter the Birmingham Boxing Column's "Hall of Fame".





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Morris loses title challenge on points.

Written by Dexter Hastings



Ludlow's Craig Morris narrowly lost out on his English super Welterweight title challenge in a cracking fight against Jack Flatley. Morris took on Flatley in his home town of Bolton at the Whites Hotel where he battled hard going the full 10 round losing on the judges score cards. The fight seemed a lot closer than the 3 judges had it, they scored the contest 98-93, 97-93 and 97-93 all in favour of Flatley.

The fight has already been referred to as a small hall thriller and a contender for fight of the year. Morris (27) gave Flatley trouble from his southpaw stances all the way through the 10 round fight as they went

toe to toe in the squared circle.

Flatley 24 who had now took his unbeaten record to 15 wins and 1 draw said after the fight "I can't give enough respect to Craig Morris for that fight. I'm champion of England and in an absolute war".

He continued "I think a lot of people are already talking about that as a fight of the year contender on a small hall show. I know I've got a big heart. I've shown that in the past and I definitely showed it in that fight."



The former Welterweight Midlands area champion took to social media and wrote this, he said "Thanks for all the messages off everyone since and before the fight my phones gone wild. Gutted about the result on Saturday, worked so hard for it and the end scores did not reflect the fight. On another note I wouldn't of performed and been in that position without my team. Stumpy Chinnock I cannot thank this man enough for his time and everything he puts into camp every time, he is one of a kind. I'd like to thank Bcb and Dave for getting me to the point of fighting for an English title, Paul for all his work in the corner and support. My sponsors Mapei UK Ltd Sigma UK Jrs construction, Worm dangling, Morris autos, SS plumbing, Buck & Bear Barbershop, Fletch, Tippy, Walls, Thank you

all. To all the travelling fans that made it, I'm so grateful for your support every time and to my dad that does his best to sort as much of the tickets as possible taking the pressure off! Also to my beautiful wife Lorna Morris for all her work and support all the time couldn't do it without you.

Dexter's Thoughts



I have watched Morris boxes on BcB shows on a number of occasions and have always been impressed, he has a good work rate and a come forward attitude which is always a crowd pleaser. Morris was always going to be up against it going to Bolton taking on an unbeaten fighter in Flatley. The score cards did not reflect the effort Morris put into this fight, but this happens when you fight away from home. Morris can walk away feeling very proud of himself and I'm sure he will be back in title contention very soon. The one thing he has proved is that he is at English level and above. The Birmingham boxing column looks forward to seeing Morris back in the ring soon.

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Amateur Sensation Delicious Orié

Written by Dexter Hastings



Delicious Orié is a 21 year old amateur boxer from Birmingham, the super heavyweight who fights out of the jewellery quarter ABC gym has claimed the English national amateur title in Manchester at the national amateur championships and has also won the Tri nations this year. Delicious stands a 6 foot 6 and fights out of an orthodox stance, his current amateur record is very impressive winning 27 out of 29 bouts of boxing.

Delicious is trained at the Jewellery quarter gym by Michael Maguire, Nigel Larkin and Ant Rogan and is also studying economics at Aston university. He has won the very prestigious Super Heavyweight Elite Haringey title and has just won the English national amateur title beating Gideon Antwi on points in Manchester.

Delicious who has been called the “new Joshua” by experts in the game has just competed in the Tri nations where the top fighters from England, Scotland and Wales go at it to see who is the best in Britain. Orié took home the super heavyweight title in fine fashion ending a great season for the big man.



Delicious has stated in previous interviews that he wants to turn over to the professional ranks but not just yet. He has stated that he wants to continue in the amateur ranks to build up his pedigree and build up the hype around him.

Delicious has been boxing for 3 years and his favourite boxer is Mike Tyson as he admired his discipline. When I asked him what inspired him to take up the noble art he told me “I believe that I am very hard working, disciplined and athletic, I put them all together and thought let me try boxing”.

My next question was about 2020 Olympics and if he had aspirations of representing Great Britain? He told me “No not the 2020 Olympics but the 2024 Olympics is a possibility”.

My final question to the half Russian, half Nigerian giant was, who has been your hardest fight? He informed me “All my fights have been challenging I couldn't give you a fight I struggled most in”

Dexter's Thoughts



A lot of people in the know are tipping Delicious to be the next Anthony Joshua and they may be right. I have watched a few of his fights on YouTube and can see he has a good amateur style, throws lots of punches and gets some nice combos off. Delicious has won the English super Heavyweight national ABC title and has ended the season winning the Tri nations beating the best in Britain.

Orié has stated that he wants to eventually turn pro but not for a few years, he has aspirations of representing England at the 2024 Olympics and emulating one of his inspirations Anthony Joshua. He is a young

man who will be fitting his amateur career around his study's at Aston uni where he is studying economics. We may have to wait a while before we see Delicious in the pro ranks but the Birmingham Boxing Column looks forward to reporting on Delicious Orié when him and his team choose to turn to the pro ranks.

Super Cooper wins 10 round battle

Written by Dexter Hastings



Shaun Cooper has won his first 10 round fight against Boy Jones jr on the "King of Herts" show (18.5.19) at the Lamax stadium Stevenage. The fight was supposed to be for the WBO youth Lightweight title but Cooper was 3 ounces over as he was only offered the fight at 8 days notice, so the belt was not on the line. Cooper (22) who was unbeaten in 8 fights went toe to toe with Jones jr in this too and throw battle where both fighters showed heart, determination and courage as they went to war.



It was a very close fight which went the full ten rounds and as the final bell went neither fighter could be sure how the judges were going to call it. The scorecards gave it to Cooper on a majority decision with judge Terry O'Connor having it 97-93 Cooper, Matteo Montella 96-94 Cooper and Benoit Roussel 95-95 Draw. This has put Shaun right up in the lime light completing his first 10 rounder on such a big stage and taking him to 9 - 0.

I managed to catch up with Cooper and asked him how he was feeling after his great performance, he told me "I'm absolutely buzzing that I went there as the underdog and came out as the winner, I'm over the moon with my performance I listened to my coach and did what we had worked on in the gym in such a short time and it paid off". I then asked Shaun what is next for team Cooper? He told me "I'm a ten round fighter now and we have offered Jones jr the re-match for WBO lightweight title". Cooper finished by saying "give me a proper camp and I'll make 9.9 easy".



I also got to chat to Shaun's dad Micky, the proud dad told me "I'm on cloud nine mate, Shaun boxed really well, he showed true heart, he controlled the fight and took the centre of the ring". Micky continued "I had it 7 to 3 in Shaun's favour and he boxed fantastic with only 8 days notice". When I asked him about Shaun having a potential rematch for the WBO youth Lightweight title. Micky said, "I don't think they will want it, I know with a proper camp Shaun would win again".

Dexter's Thoughts



Well I think Mr Jones Jr's team really under estimated Shaun Cooper, it's just a shame he couldn't drop that last 3 ounces to make it for the title. Shaun has offered them the rematch and I know he would make the weight easy with a proper camp and if he could beat Jones jr with 8 days notice what would he do with a proper camp. He has completed his first 10 rounder and he has got to be looking at fighting ether in a rematch with Jones Jr for the WBO youth lightweight title, or for the Midlands area or even the English. The future looks bright for Shaun Cooper.

Hodges loses to hot prospect

Written by Dexter Hastings



Dani Hodges lost on points to the 2018 Commonwealth games flyweight gold medallist Lisa Whiteside as she made her pro debut (18.5.19). Hodges had taken the 4 round fight at short notice which was on the undercard of the "King of Herts" show with Billy Joe Saunders headlining it at the Lamex stadium Stevenage. Hodges The "Pocket Rocket" made a good account of herself giving the hot prospect a good 4 round test with the ref scoring it 40-36 to Whiteside.



Hodges took to social media after the fight to put this status up. She wrote "All I can say is we learn, we rebuild, we grow, I did not get the win tonight but I showed why I belong on this stage. Its madness just the girl from Chasetown out on stage with the elites, can't get my head round it. To hear so many people say on a fight a card like this, how much they enjoyed our war it was their favourite fight makes me so proud of myself and more importantly proud of female boxing. A big status coming thanking everyone but right now I'm going to sit with my boys and girls who travelled their support feels like a win in itself and enjoy the rest of the night I've earned it. The Pocket Rocket will not be resting for long as she is going with fellow stable mate Kristie Bavington to a boxing camp in Tenerife.

Dexter's Thoughts



Well you got to give the pocket rocket a lot of credit for taking this fight at such short notice against a fighter who is being groomed for stardom. Hodges will learn a lot from this fight and gas put her self up on the big stage for the world to see and did herself and her team proud. Dani is a cracking boxer and is technical very good and she always shows loads of heart and bottle when she fights. Hodges is a credit to female boxing and is putting it on the map with her fellow BcB female stable mates. I look forward to reporting on her next fight when I'm sure she will be back to winning ways.



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Foster Claims Commonwealth Title

written by Dexter Hastings



British super Bantamweight champion Brad Foster has now added the super Bantamweight Commonwealth title to his collection after stopping Ashley Lane in the final round of their title fight. Both belts were on the line as the two champions went to war on the undercard of "King of Herts" show headlined by Billy Joe Saunders and aired live on BT sports. Foster from Litchfield dominated the early part of the fight and had Lane on the floor in the first round. Lane fought back hard and going into the final round he had closed the gap. In the final round Lane was caught with a low blow which he took 1 minute to recover from, he continued but was then caught by a big right hand by Foster just near the end of the fight. Lane managed to answer the standing eight count but the ref stopped the fight with only 2 seconds of the left.



Brad took to social media after and wrote this "Got the Job done Last Night! British and Commonwealth Champion yeeeharr! Magical night for me being live on BT Sports. Big loves to the barmy army that came to support me yesterday love.

Big up to my sponsors helping out on the journey-ORJ Solicitors, S.Hutchings Grab&Hire, M&B Demolition, Tyres R Us (Erdington), Peak Supps and Shakespeare Pharmaceuticals

Massive Respect to my opponent Ash lane, top respectful bloke and top fighter, I'm sure he will be back!

Dexter's Thoughts



All I can say is wow! In two short months Brad "The Blade" Foster has acquired the British and Commonwealth super Bantamweight titles at the age of 21. The young fighter has managed to do this in just 12 fights and holds a unbeaten record with the only blemish a draw against Brett Fidoe. He has signed with Frank Warren Promotions which will propel him into the national and world lime light and I guess the next step could either being winning the Lonsdale belt out right or going for the European title. What ever Brad and his team choose to do I'm sure youngest Birmingham boxing column Hall of Famer will be victorious, we could even be looking at a potential world champion.

Sen enters Ultimate Boxer IV

Written by Dexter Hastings



“Slugger” Matt Sen (31) has been called up for the next instalment of the ultimate boxer series this time in the cruiserweight division. Ultimate boxer IV will be held in Manchester at the Altrincham ice arena on July 19th 2019. The Ultimate boxer if you don't know is a prize fighter style tournament with eight of the hottest prospects in a division fighting potentially three times in one night over 3, three minute rounds to receive the lions share of the £50,000 prize money and the prestigious golden robe. Sen from Wolverhampton who is trained by Spencer McCracken out of Eastside gym has some big shoes to fill with the golden robe already being won by Eastside gym fighters Shakan Pitters and Drew Brown at Light heavyweight and Welterweight.

I caught up with Matt who has won 5 out of 6 pro bouts and asked him a few questions about the Ultimate Boxer. My first question was, how did you feel when you got the confirmation you were in the tournament? Sen told me “I spoke to Spencer about the show and he thought it would be ideal for me due to my style. Once we had confirmation, I was super excited. What a huge opportunity and platform to showcase my skills and all the new things we have been working on.



I then asked the slugger what he knew about his opponents? The told me “To be honest, I don't know much about my opponents and with the greatest of respect nor am I much bothered. I know my strengths and weaknesses going into this tournament. I know there are some good boxers in the tournament and we are working every day to make the days count”.

My final question for Matt was how he thought he would do in the tournament? “I'm not going into this tournament as just a number. I know there will always be favourites and I may not be the best boxer in the tournament on paper, but I will be the best, most aggressive and spiteful boxer on the night and that prize money and golden robe is coming back to Birmingham”.

Dexter's Thoughts



What a challenge Sen has set himself, he has always wanted to challenge himself and this may be the perfect platform for him to do it. Matt will have to be at the top of his game in his quest for the Golden robe and the lions share of the prize money. Matt is learning all the time at Eastside under the tutelage of Spencer McCracken and with his heart and determination will make his mark on the Ultimate boxer and bring back the golden robe.

Baillie Claims Midlands Area Title

Written by Dexter Hastings & Dan Mole

With only two weeks notice Josh Baillie has won the vacant Midlands Super Featherweight area title against Leo D'Erlanger at the Deco arena Northampton (25/5/19).

Report BcB Dan Mole



Josh Baillie forced Leo D'Erlanger to retire in his corner before the fourth round began. Baillie won the BBBofC Midlands Area super featherweight title with ease on Saturday and in a show of dominance. From the first bell Baillie looked like the stronger fighter and rocked D'Erlanger a number of times with some smooth and powerful shots.

During the third round D'Erlanger looked defeated and broken and once he took the stool the drive to step up for the next round was gone from him. Baillie had out boxed, outperformed and out classed D'Erlanger in just three rounds. Before this retirement D'Erlanger seemed to apply pressure during the fight at times however, he was no match for the power and dominance that Baillie possessed.

I caught up with the new Featherweight Midlands area champ and asked him how he felt when he got the news he was fighting for the title? Josh told me "I felt great getting offered the fight and I bit my managers hand off".



My next question was how did he feel when the ref stopped the fight? Baillie who trains at Red Corner gym under the guidance of Glenn Smith and Paul Hudson told me "I was just warming into it. I wanted to showcase more of what I've got and felt comfortable in there to start doing that. I cut him over the left eye and think he said he couldn't see, he could! I just think I'd broke his heart".

Baillie continued "He gave me his best shots in the first couple rounds and I smiled at him. He won the first two but I came back into it in the 3rd and was going to turn the screw in the 4th".

My final question to Josh was what is next for the new champ? He told me "I think there is a plan to defend the Midlands then push on, I want a shot at the English but if anything comes up in between I wouldn't turn it down".

Dexter's Thoughts



look forward to defending his Midlands title.

With just two weeks notice Baillie wins the Midlands Featherweight title and what a well deserved victory. Baillie has had an up and down boxing career but this is more to do with him having a lot of fights on the road. I have always rated Baillie ever since I first saw him fight in 2016 beating the then unbeaten Manny Zaber at the Walsall town hall winning a British challenge belt. This is only his second fight in the last 18 months and I'm hoping to see him in the squared circle more in the next year, I

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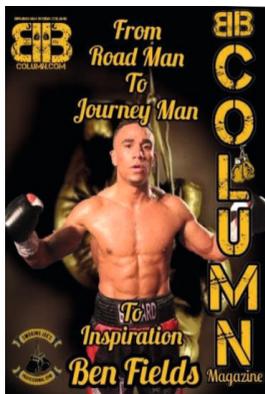


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Sugar Kaned by Ben Fields

Written by Dexter Hastings



Birmingham inspirational boxer Ben Field beat the unbeaten "Sugar" Kane Gardener live on Spike TV on the under card of the Hughie Fury fight (25/5/19). Fields who had already fought Gardner just a few weeks earlier in a cracking 6 rounder took this four round fight in Manchester with only 4 hours notice. Kane (23) was looking to make a statement after the first fight ended with Fields bullying him for the final two rounds. Kane had boxed really well for the first 4 winning 3 of them and drawing one on my card. This was reflected 58-56 verdict by the ref. In the rematch Fields (29) did not waste any time coming out fast and pressuring Gardener from the start of the first bell. Gardener was put down by a big right hook which caught him round the back of the head but the ref counted him, Ben poured on the pressure and won the first round convincingly. Fields continued to pressure in the second but Gardener had got his jab working, Fields edged the round by finishing the stronger with cheeky elbow near the end of round in homage of his

unlicensed back ground. Gardner really got his jab going in the third taking the round with good movement and keeping his distance from Fields who was always a threat. The final round was a back and forth one with Gardener working well behind his jab and wobbling Fields who managed to stay on his feet. Fields fought back hard and finished the round strong to get a share of the round in my opinion. The ref scored the fight 38 to 37 in Ben Fields favour, myself I had it 39 to 37 to Fields.

Ben took to social media after the fight and wrote this, "What a night, best win of career by far Live on 5 spike, you can watch on catch up on 'My5' app if you get chance (1hr 8mins). Want to say a big thanks for all the support, to my trainer Shaun Cogan you have done a great job with me in just over 2 years. Big respect to Jon Pegg for the opportunities he has been getting us, thanks to all those that are part of my journey and long may it continue. I'm truly grateful at the moment, but there is no time to rest on my laurels, my mind is set on 29th June, Villa Park Another undefeated fighter in my sights, this one is not to be missed".

Dexter's Thoughts



The poster says it all from Road man to Journeyman to a full on inspiration, Ben Fields is an icon to what the noble art can do for a person. Just a few years ago Ben was just a recovering drug addict with a violent criminal record, he was someone most people would right off as a lost cause. Fields dedicated himself to the noble art and has pushed his body to the limit from when he first walked into Fightden at 13 stone to now fighting out of pro sister gym Smoking Joe's at a trim 10 stone. It has been my honour to witness this transformation and if I had not been told about his passed I would think that this polite, helpful and cheerful man had always been an upstanding citizen.

This was a great win for Ben who has no fear about going on the road and taking on all comers and is getting the reputation for causing upsets. He has a massive fight coming up against another unbeaten fight in the very popular Sean Daly at the Holte suite, Villa park on the Tommy Owen's Promotions show 29th June. This in my opinion is a true 50/50 fight and I can honestly not call it, Fields will be going into

this fight on a high and I am just happy to say I will be the to see this great.

Quick update, as the road warrior that Ben is he headed down to York Hall Bethnal Green (8.6.19) and took on hot prospect Denis Denikajev scoring an away draw.

Hot Prospect Liam Davies

Written by Dexter Hastings



Liam Davies is a 23 year professional boxer from Telford, the Super Bantamweight so far has had 4 pro fights and won them all. Davies who stands at 5 foot 8 and fights out of an orthodox stance had a very impressive amateur career before turning pro winning 79 out 100 fights.

Davis started his pro career at the end of 2018 at the Hoilday inn Birmingham beating Khvicha Gigolashvili on points. He kicked on from there fighting again in February of 2019 at the Walsall town hall against Stefan Slavchev winning on points in an impressive display of boxing where he dropped his opponent in the second round. His third fight was in May of this year again at the Walsall town hall where he stopped his opponent in the second round in another clinical display of

boxing. Davies then made it 4 on the the BcB show at the Kings Hall in Stoke on Trent (21.6.19) beating Edward Bjorklund on points.



In his amateur career Davies got to two ABA finals, but as junior won a schoolboys championship and a European bronze (2010). He has also won the Haringate gold medal at senior and junior level.

Davies told me he has been boxing most of his life as his granddad used to run the gym and his dad was a professional boxer. Davies told me "I've always been round the gym and I suppose that's what made me want to box, I watched my dad when I was a youngster, I then boxed for my dads gym Donnington boxing club for most my amateur career but I done my last couple of years with Aurther Daly an James

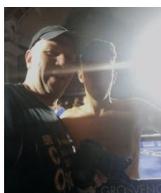
Conway at Kings Heath boxing club in Northampton where I actually won Haringate gold medal as a senior".

I then asked the talented fighter who his favourite boxer was and why? He told me "At the moment its Canelo Alveraz, I just love his slickness and his skill is on another level". I then asked him what is the best fight he has seen? Liam told me "Best first I've seen has got to be Pacquiao against Marquez, it was a classics"!

My final question first the young prospect was what has been your hardest fight? He said "I'd have to say my hardest fights so far would be as an amateur, I boxed a lad called Mohammed Ali 3 times an he smashed me twice.



Dexter's Thoughts



I have been at all 3 of Davies fights and have been impressed every time, he is a very talented fighter who has technical skills and has already proved he can bang. He has a massive following and is looking like be will be a good prospect in the super Bantamweight /Featherweight divisions. He reminds me a lot of the former super Featherweight champ James Beech Jr who is also normally a super Bantamweight, if Davies continues progressing as he is maybe the two BcB fighters could be meeting for a big title in the future. All I can really say is that Liam Davies is looking like a very good prospect who has the youth and the potential to go far in the noble art. I look forward to reporting on his journey.



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Welborn Stopped in Eighth for Commonwealth title

Written by Dexter Hastings



Former British champion and world title challenger Jason Welborn was stopped in the eighth round of his Super Welterweight title challenge for the Commonwealth title by Jason Metcarf (30). Welborn (33) started the fight well getting a share of the first round as they both felt each other out and then winning the second. The fight started to turn in Metcarf's favour from the third round with Welborn being kept at the end of a nice sharp jab and some great movement by Metcarf when Welborn came in with his attacks.

Metcarf's jab was the telling shot in round four, five and six as the unbeaten fighter dictated the pace of the fight. Welborn always looked dangerous when he came in close but Metcarf was controlling the fight, both fighters were warned in the sixth round for hitting low.



The seventh started with both fighters standing toe to toe which suited Welborn, Metcarf soon went back to working behind his jab getting some good combinations to win the round. The eighth started well with Welborn looking to get inside and put the pressure on Metcarf. Welborn was hit low again with Metcarf having a point taken off him by the referee, Welborn was given time to recover and was able to continue. Both fighters went toe to toe again banging in hooks to the head and body. Welborn was then caught with a cracking left hook body shot that put him down, Welborn looked hurt but managed to get to his feet at the count of eight. The ref after talking to Welborn but called the fight off as he was

unable to continue.

Dexter's Thoughts



Great effort by Welborn, but it was Metcarf's jab in my opinion that was the differences in this fight. Metcarf was able to dictate and control a lot of the rounds with the jab, Welborn was always a threat when he pressured but Metcarf showed some good movement to avoided a lot of his attacks. Both fighters were warned about low blows in the sixth and Metcarf had a point taken off him in the eighth for another low blow. The fight came to a end soon after this with Welborn being given time to recover from the low blow and then getting caught in the next exchange with a cracking body shot

which put him down. Welborn beat the count but didn't look like he wanted to continue, weather this was down to the low blow before it is hard to say but I don't think it helped. I'm sure Welborn will learn and come again, he is more than able to continue to fight at this level and I can see him fighting for more titles soon.



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Davis loses title challenge

Written by Dexter Hastings



"Showtime" Sean Davis and his Smoking Joe's team travel to Doncaster to take on the undefeated Reece Mould (11-0) for the vacant English Featherweight title (22.6.19). Davis (29) who's record was 14 wins out of 16 bouts was the former English Super Bantamweight champion and had moved up to Featherweight for this fight. Mould (24) had a massive support behind him as he was fighting in his home town at the Doncaster racecourse.

The first round start well for Davis who was working well behind his jab and getting his shots off, Mould from the first bell was trying to bang in body shots as this is how Davis has been stopped in the passed. With about a minute gone in the first round Davis was caught with a big over hand right which seemed to stun him as he took a knee and a 8 count. Davis rose to his feet and stayed composed continuing his high work rate, Davis was then caught again with the same shot with him having to take a knee again. Davis took the eight count and battled for the final minute of the round as Mould could sense an early night, with Davis finishing the stronger out of the two. Davis started the second round really well continuing to box at a high pace, Mould came back with some good shots and always looked dangerous but this was Davis's round. In the third Davis again started well and seemed to have shaken off that nightmare first round pressing Mould with good shots and a high work rate. Mould unloaded near the end of the round with some big shots catching Davis with another big right hand which made Davis touch down with his gloves and was counted by the ref, Davis took the count and the bell rang just before they were told to continue.

In the first exchange of the fourth round Davis was caught with a cracking left hand which he went down heavy from, as the ref went to count his corner threw the towel in with the ref then stopping the fight. Davis was given medical treatment in the ring but recovered after been give oxygen to congratulate Mould and watch him receive the English Featherweight title.



Dexter's Thoughts



I think I have made it quite clear that I'm a big Sean Davis fan, I have seen his highs and his lows in a great career that is far from over. I watched Davis train for this fight and I can tell you he put everything into it and was determined to be victorious and I can honestly say I thought he would win with ease. Mould was a relatively untested fighter but you have to say he passed the test tonight, but in my opinion it was all down to the weight.

Davis is a super Bantamweight and moved up to featherweight for this one and I think that was the differences. In the fight Mould looked the much bigger fighter and was hitting his size as I have seen Davis in wars at super Bantamweight and has always taken a shot well. It was Moulds power that was the telling tale of this fight and I think if Davis continues in boxing it should be at Super Bantamweight. Sean has nothing to prove to anyone and has shown heart determination throughout his career. To be honest I'd still like to see him take on Brad Foster for the super Bantamweight British and Commonwealth titles, I think this would still be a great fight with two top lads from the west Midlands getting it on.

The Birmingham boxing column will continue following Sean "Showtime" Davis career with his smoking Joe's team behind him.

Summer Brawl .TOPromotions

Written by Dexter Hastings Photos by James Deen



Tommy Owens promotions held there final show of the season at the Holte suite, Villa park. The show was called Summer Brawl and had a total of seven fights on the card. There were 4 fights to be contested over four 3 minute rounds with some of the Midlands finest on display. Kicking off the show with a 4 rounder was the "Savage" Sam Eggington who was coming back from a defeat against the world class Liam Smith. We then had Coventry's David Seymour, the hard hitting Kaisee Benjamin and the talented Corri Gibbs all doing 4 rounder's. There were also three 6 rounder's with Tion Gibbs taking on Clayton Bricknell with both fighters putting there unbeaten records on the line. Next up was Ishmael Ellis who was looking and another win and showcases his skills. Final we had the main event a mouth watering 6 rounder between the unbeaten Sean Daly and the inspirational Ben Fields in what was a anticipated as a full on war. Referring on the night was Shaun Messer and Chirs Deen, master of ceremonies was David Nikolich and with the stunning Louise and Dee from C.P.Agency the stage was set for truly great night of boxing.

Results

Fight 1 – Super Welterweight 4x3
Sam Eggington v Jordan Grunnum
Result – Dexter – 40-36 Ref - 40-36
Eggington wins points

Fight 2 – super Bantamweight 4x3
David Seymour v Steven Maguire
Result – Dexter = 39-37 Ref - 39-37
Seymour wins points

Fight 3 – super Welterweight 4x3
Kaisee Benjamin v Richard Samuels
Result – Dexter 40 -36 Ref - 40-36
Benjamin wins on points

Fight 4 – Super Lightweight 4x3
Cori Gibbs v Jamie Quinn
Result – Dexter 40-36 Ref - 40-36
Gibbs wins on points

Fight 6 Welterweight 6x3
Ishmael Ellis v Lee Hallett
Result – Dexter - 60- 56 Ref -58-56
Ellis wins on



Featured fights

Fight 5

Tion Gibbs v Clayton Bricknell

9.13 6x3 9.12

Super Lightweight



Both fighters started well getting their shots off in the first, even round. In the second there was some good boxing from both fighters who were showing there skills off well, Gibbs just edged this round for me.



Great third round with both fighters getting there shots off, again I would have to give it to Gibbs as he took control in the second part of the round.

Bracknell came out firing in the forth but Gibbs was back in control as he picked his shots well as he moved around the ring, Bricknell was always a threat but this round was Gibbs. Round five saw Bricknell get some good shots off but as the round went on Gibbs took control with some nice combinations. Bricknell still had his moments in the round but it was Gibbs round. A hard fought final

round with both fighters landing heavy shots leaving everything in the ring. Bricknell banged in some great shot but you had to give it Gibbs as he controlled the pace of the round.

Results

Dexter - 60-55

Ref – 60-56



Gibbs wins on points

Main Event

Sean Daly v Ben Fields

10.4 6x3 10.6

Welterweight



Fields started the first round like a rocket banging in shots from the first bell, Daly tried to control the round with his jab but was forced to get into a war as Fields banged in some good shots and over hand rights. Fields started fasted in the second again banging in some heavy shots. Daly started to get his jab going and got some nice shots off but Fields got the eye catching shots off too win the round. Daly had Fields at the end of his jab at the start of the third round, but it soon turned back into a war as both fighters went toe too toe with Fields again winning the round with the eye catching shots.



Round four was a full on war with the fight going back and fourth, Daly was cut above his left eye in this very close round. The fifth was another toe too toe round with both fighters getting heavy shots off, this was another round I couldn't split them. It was the same again in the final round with both fighters going for it leaving every think in the ring. Fields banged in some heavy shots with Daly banging in heavy shots of his own. Fields continued to press and banged in some cracking hooks with both fighters banging shots until the final bell.

Results

Dexter – 59 -56

Ref – 59-56



Fields wins on points

Dexter's Thoughts



What a show, honestly what a show, when I saw the line up for it with the likes of Eggington, Daly, Benjamin and the Gibbs brothers I was looking forward to this show. Then TOP put two 50/50 fights on the card with Tion Gibbs taking on Clayton Bricknell and Sean Daly taking on Ben Fields. Let's start with Daly against Fields what a fight, Fields came flying out and turn this six rounder into a full on war. Daly was happy to oblige and both fighters went at it for six hard rounds with Fields coming out the winner. This was Daly's first defeat but I think he will learn more in this six rounder than he gas in his previous 8 fights. He showed heart, determination, a cast iron jaw and when he returns to the ring I am sure he will be back to winning ways. As for Ben Fields a lot of people fancied him to win and he did not let them down, there are now rumour circling that Fields may be in line for a crack at a English title and I think this would be well deserved.

In the second 50/50 fight Tion Gibbs took on Clayton Bricknell with Tion's experience shining through. In my opinion this was always going to be a big ask for Bricknell but he rolled the dice and looked a threat all the way through the fight and again will have learned a lot and should come back stronger. This was another cracking fight and I hope more prospects put there undefeated records on the line.



Sam Eggington shook off some of the ring rust in his 4 rounder going through the gears as his shot got harder and his timing got better. I'm sure the Savage will be back on a Matchroom show soon. Myself I would like to see Eggington take on British super Welterweight champ Ted Cheeseman, if Eggington beat him it would make him a two weight British champ witch wouldn't be bad for someone who is only 24.

Ishmael Ellis complete a hard six rounder against a trick southpaw, Ellis dealt with it well and got the win and seems to have put his one defeat behind him. He should be looking to be in title contention very soon.

Older Gibbs brother Cori looked fantastic as he tested out his injured hand that stopped him fighting earlier this year. His movement and shot selection were on point as always and finger crossed he gets a shot at a title soon.



Midlands area Welterweight champ Kaisee Benjamin also looked good tonight he banged in heavy shots from start to finish and his shot selection was great. Benjamin in my opinion is destined for much bigger titles and I can see at least a English title coming his way in the near future.

David Seymour boxed really well closing his opponent down and getting some great combinations off. He looks better and better every time I see him and I can see him continuing his winning steak for a long time.



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