

All-Time Heavyweight Champion Tournament 2010

Joe Louis vs Shannon Briggs

Briggs looks like a Deer caught in headlights as the opening round gets underway. He survives a rocky opening round and seems to be surprised to be making his way to ring center as round two gets underway. By the third, Briggs realizes the “Brown Bomber” is just a man, after all (even though he hasn’t won either round). By the fourth, Briggs gains a little confidence and starts throwing more punches. A right cross drops Briggs on his back in the 5th, and Louis finishes the job with unerring efficiency at the 2:45 mark. Shannon’s cornermen fill him in on the details of his defeat as they walk back towards the dressing room.

Muhammad Ali vs. Trevor Berbick

A prime Ali does what the “post-prime” version couldn’t do in the Bahamas. Beat Trevor Berbick. Ali breaks down Berbick over the course of the 15-round fight and the outcome is never in doubt. A three-punch combination sends Berbick to the floor in the 15th and final round. Berbick, swollen badly around both eyes and bleeding profusely from a cut over the right eye from the 9th round on – has no answers. He tries unsuccessfully to lift his exhausted carcass off the floor before referee Stanley Christodoulou’s count reaches ten.

Jack Johnson vs. Ingemar Johansson

It’s no surprise when we conclude there’s no way on planet earth that Ingo’s going to outpoint “Lil Arthur.” What we’re wondering is, what’ll happen if he lands his “Ingo’s Bingo” directly on Johnson’s chin. As this one turned out, we were still wondering when – in the 12th round, an thoroughly “pounded” Johansson went down for the count of 9 after being ripped by a Johnson combination that finished with a ripping uppercut. Johansson rose at 9 but was, for all intensive purposes, done for the night. With Johansson’s right reduced to the impact of the marshmallow from the 13th on, Johnson turned up the heat in the 14th and dropped Johansson for good in the 15th and final round.

George Foreman vs. Tommy Burns

Little 5’ 7” Tommy Burns put his head into George Foreman’s chest and swung away! He took a ferocious beating along the way but wasn’t dropped for the first time until the 11th round! By that time, the crowd was cheering wildly for the huge, Canadian underdog. Burns hit the floor again in the 12th – barely beating the count. By the 13th round, Foreman was out of gas but Burns was so beat up and lumped up around the eyes, both fighter stumbled through the 14th and 15th rounds. The final scores – all for Big George – 147-137 twice and 148-136.

Rocky Marciano vs. Leon Spinks

Rocky puts on a workman-like performance, slowly breaking Leon Spinks down with punches to the head and body. A combination capped off by a bludgeoned right to the jaw drops Spinks face first to the canvas with 15 seconds remaining in 4th round. He doesn't come close to beating the count.

Jack Dempsey vs. Tommy Morrison

Dempsey comes out like a whirlwind and a few punches into the fight, drops Morrison with a perfectly timed left hook to one knee. Morrison gets up and survives the round. After surviving the 2nd, Morrison begins to fight in spurts in the 3rd. Tommy then begins to get a little braver and takes a pounding in the process. With his left eye badly swollen and bleeding, Morrison hits the canvas for the second time in the 6th. He rises only to get engulfed in a torrent of leather. With seconds left in the 6th, referee Stanley Christodoulou rescues Morrison as he sags through the ropes.

Mike Tyson vs. Jess Willard

A prime Mike Tyson is a larger version of a prime Jack Dempsey in many ways. Tyson races out of his corner with bad intentions from the opening bell. Big Jess Willard gets nailed with two huge uppercuts and never recovers. The fight is stopped at the 2:55 mark of the opening round with Willard out on his feet.

Larry Holmes vs. John Tate

Holmes dishes out the most brutal, one-sided pounding of the tournament thus far. Tate takes a beating in this one and arises from a few knockdowns to somehow still be standing when the bell sounds ending the 15th round. Holmes used one of the best jabs in the history of the Heavyweight division to dictate the pace and the fight from the outset. Holmes comes away with a 15-round, one-sided, unanimous decision win.

Gene Tunney vs. Mike Weaver

In the opening round, Weaver cracked Tunney with a hard right hand that buckled his knees. Unfortunately, for Weaver, his best opportunity of the fight slipped away in the opening frame. Tunney employed a hit and move strategy throughout and while Weaver's size and power advantage gave him sporadic success... it wasn't enough to keep the fight competitive on the scorecards. By the 10th, Weaver was missing more and more punches and paying with hard, crisp counters from Gene Tunney. A counter hook wobbled Weaver badly in the 11th. In the 12th, a hard combination dropped Weaver hard and an exhausted "Hercules" wasn't able to bet Stanley Christodoulou's count.

Sonny Liston vs. Primo Carnera

No surprises here. Carnera takes a lot of leather and by the 3rd round, there's noticeable swelling around his right eye. Primo actually had a good round in the 5th, boxing well and moving out of range before Liston could really set down on his punches. It was the only round he won in the fight, but he won it clearly on all three scorecards. Obviously, it was a wake-up call for Liston who pressed Carnera in the 6th, hurt him badly, and stopped him without about 50-seconds left in the round. Although there weren't any knockdowns scored, referee Stanley Christodoulou stopped the bout at just the right time.

Joe Frazier vs. Gerrie Coetzee

This fight was fun while it lasted. In the opening round, Coetzee did his very best to drop the big "bionic" right hand on Frazier's head – and did, several times in the opening round. Coetzee clearly took the opening frame. In the 2nd, he continued to land hard clean shots... the only difference being – Frazier was beginning to land a few big shots of his own. By the third round, Joe was "Smokin'" but Coetzee continue to let his hands go. Joe pounded Coetzee throughout the fourth and with about 15-seconds remaining on the clock in the 5th, put him down for the count. Coetzee has nothing to be ashamed about. He made it interesting while it lasted.

Evander Holyfield vs. Sultan Ibragimov

Holyfield comes out quickly and takes the opening two rounds by being the busier fighter. In the 3rd, a combination from Holyfield drops Ibragimov hard. He beats the count at 8 and survives the round. In the fourth, a big right hand from Ibragimov opens a huge gash over Holyfield's left eye. Chuck Bodak, however, does a great job in between rounds and Holyfield elects to box Ibragimov the rest of the way. By the 7th, Sultan's right eye is almost swollen shut Holyfield's repeated jabs and right hands. By the 9th, there are cuts above and beneath the eye. The fight is stopped by the referee with seconds remaining in the 10th when Ibragimov's eye swells shut and he's no longer able to adequately defend himself.

James Jeffries vs. Oleg Maskaev

Big Jeff had a little too much "under the hood" for Maskaev and slowly wore the big Russian down with heavy, crunching blows to the head and body. When referee Stanley Christodoulou stepped in with seconds remaining in the 9th round, the only thing holding Maskaev up with the ropes and Jeffries' punches. The belief that, had Jeffries fought in the modern era, he would have been someone on the level of an Oleg Maskaev has officially been erased.

Jim Corbett vs. John Ruiz

Ruiz opened the first round by roughing the smaller Corbett up and fighting "ugly" from the opening bell. In the 2nd, Corbett starts working the jab and utilizing lateral movement. From that point on, Ruiz was never in the fight. Behind a stinging jab and fast in and out movement, Ruiz follows Corbett around the ring, unable to corner his fleet-footed foe. By the 7th, Ruiz's left eye is swelling horribly from

absorbing Corbett's repeated jabs. A cut opens above the same eye in the 9th. By the 9th, Ruiz is eating punches from all angles as his left eye is all but shut. On the advice of the ringside physician, referee Stanley Christodoulou stops the bout with moments remaining in the round – awarding a TKO victory to Corbett.

Riddick Bowe vs. Bruce Seldon

In a rematch of a real-life encounter, the Atlantic City Express made it out of the first round before getting hit with anything big. Big Daddy Bowe's style, however, is still all wrong for Seldon. Seldon takes a pounding before making the first of three trips to the canvas in the 4th. The final trip, compliments of a left hook, puts him there for the full count.

Lennox Lewis vs. Tony Tubbs

This fight wasn't particularly exciting until the 6th round. Until that point, Lennox Lewis used his jab and right hand to more or less keep a tentative Tony Tubbs from taking any chances. In plain English, the first five rounds were rather boring. In the 6th, however, all that changed! A lazy left from Lewis was slipped by Tubbs who then jumped in with a quick left hook that caught Lewis right on the chin. Lewis went down in a heap! He beat the count at 6 but was on very unsteady legs upon arising. Tubbs went for broke, but threw wild punches and let a stumbling Lennox Lewis off the hook. Emmanuel Steward did a great job to revive Lewis in between rounds and Lewis reversed the tide completely in the 7th and pounded Tony Tubbs badly – causing the right eye to swell badly by the conclusion of the round. From that point, it was all downhill for a brave Tony Tubbs. Tubbs managed to arise from three knockdowns in the 9th to barely survive the round. In the 11th, he visited the floor once more via a big right hand from Lewis – where he remained for the count.

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