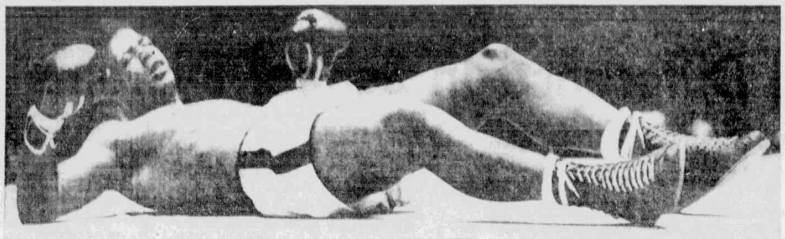
SWEDE KILLED BITTER MEMORIES



FALLING FROM THE THRONE . . . is Floyd Patterson, who watched from his back as championship was taken

SPORTS
THE CHARLOTTE NEWS
BOB QUINCY, Sports Editor
Ronald Green — Max Muhleman — Larry Harris

By Bob Quincy

Charlotte News Sports Editor

New Champ 'Vanted' To Be Alone

Everybody says, "Gee, I didn't know Ingemar could fight."

Neither did Floyd Patterson.

The new champ from Sweden is just like Greta Garbo—he "vants to be alone" in a ring.

And his right hand offers more "bust" than Anita Eckberg, the luscious amazon, from the same healthful country. Well done!

* * *

—Little Lou Is Charmer Of The Islands

North Carolina State's Lou Pucillo, the Atlantic Coast's little All-American basketballer, is making Puerto Ricans do flips.

Lou is playing summer ball there with John Richter and they've taken Manila by storm. One writer called Pucillo "the ... thinnedest athlete" he has ever seen.

On his return, Lou will try his behind-the-back tricks with the St. Louis Hawks of the NBA. He's almost too small (5-9) but he might be the guy they need to take Slater Martin's role.

* * *

—The Memories Of Stillman's Offer A Book

At the end of this month, Stillman's gym in New York closes for good.

There's a book just in the memories of the place, which once was the haven for all aspiring boxers.

Back when Primo Carnera was champ, if that's the word, a workout in Stillman's would draw more than 1,000 sightseers. Today it is lucky to draw an occasional athlete.

* * *

—Dirt On The Plate Meant Just That To Ump

Umpire Neil Kent, who chased First Baseman Harry Warner of the Hornets last Thursday night after a brief verbal encounter was asked why the suddenness?

"He kicked dirt on home plate," said Kent.

...Is that so drastic?

"It's like," said the arbiter, "throwing a shovel full of rubbish on the dining room table."

* * *

—Concerning Salary And Homer Run Product

Washington "murderer's row" of former Charlotte Hornets Bob Allison, Harm Killebrew and Jim Lemon homered yesterday in an 8-4 victory over Kansas City.

It was Killebrew's 25th, Allison's 20th and Lemon's 18th.

Yet, all three don't make as much cash as teammate Roy Seivers, last year's runner-up to Mickey Mantle with 39. Allison and Killebrew draw less than $8,000 each. Lemon's salary is $14,000. Seivers earns a paycheck of $36,000. And the four of them nowhere approach the salary of Ted Williams, who now has three homers and a $125,000 income.

The "big four" of the Senators earn a combined payroll of $65,000. They've hammered 69 homers.

* * *

—Tigers Avoided Shutout For Three Years

When Penn State shutout Clemson, 7-0, in the College World Series last week, it marked the first time in 82 games the Tigers had been whitewashed.

Last team to turn the trick was Wake Forest in 1956. Seven seniors of the Clemson squad were never shutout in their career at the South Carolina institution.

* * *

—The Kids At State Really Have A Mascot

It will be a growling, snarling North Carolina State next fall on the gridiron.

Some of the students puts their heads together and decided the Wolfpack of Earl Edwards should have a mascot. So they went out and bought a live wolf.

Only one problem. The beastie is something of an expense, costs $1 per day to house and feed. The student body will be called upon to contribute to the cause, their donations keeping the critter in chow and clean sheets.

"If North Carolina's ram gets too sassy," vow the State lads, "we'll turn our baby loose." One question: after the ram, then what?

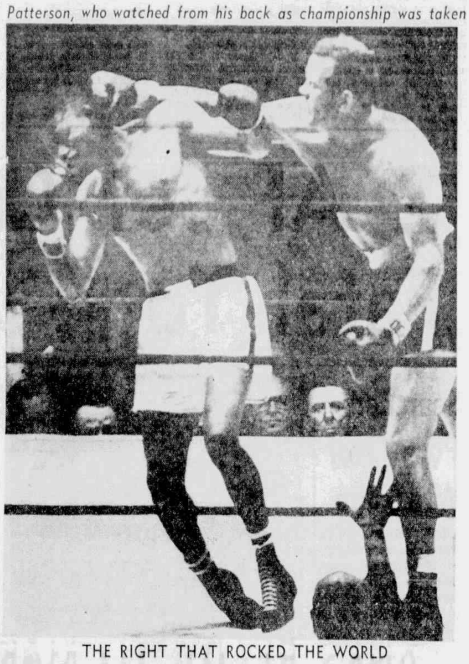
JOHANSSON KEPT HIS LUCKY CHARM CLOSE

NEW YORK (AP)—Ingemar Johansson kept fingering an object in his hand while he talked to friends and newspapermen at a midtown hotel after he won the heavyweight boxing championship.

"It's a charm someone sent to me," Ingo said. "I've been carrying it around with me." A silver key chain with a silver boxing glove attached.

"Is that a good luck charm?" he was asked.

"It must be," he grinned.



THE RIGHT THAT ROCKED THE WORLD

Ingemar Johansson tags Floyd Patterson in third round of last night's fight with the right that astounded fight figures all over the world. Patterson hit the deck like a man who'd been hit with an ax.

Win Was Greatest Upset Ever

NEW YORK (AP)—It took Ingemar Johansson less than seven years to rise from a pathetic—practically disgraced—amateur to the heavyweight champion of the world.

In the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki, Finland, Johansson was paired with American Eddie Sanders in the heavyweight final. But the referee disqualified Ingemar, then 19, for running and refusing to fight.

Ironically, Sanders later died from injuries suffered in a professional bout.

The road was a long one for Johansson. For a time, it appeared that he never would live down the embarrassment of that day in 1952.

* * *

BUT FRIDAY night in the Yankee Stadium, he stopped Floyd Patterson in the 3rd round and become the heavyweight champion of the world. And all his bitter memories were stamped out.

This was rated by experts as one of the most startling upsets in the history of the heavyweight division. Johansson was not supposed to have a chance against the hard-punching Patterson.

Since winning the heavyweight title from Archie Moore, Patterson had gone into the ring five times in defense of his crown. Five opponents were counted out before the bout had gone its full length.

Johansson was to be No. 6. The Swede's training methods had been criticized, even ridiculed. He was too interested in night life, some said. Other complained that he did not work hard enough against his sparring partners.

* * *

AND, ASKED others, where is his vaunted right, the punch that was supposed to earn him his right to climb into the ring against Patterson. Johansson shrugged off all criticism. As for his right, he said he was saving it for Patterson.

That he was. After the fight had run an even course for two round Johansson came out swinging with his right in the third. He hit Patterson with a right to the forehead and the champion went down in a heap. The count reached nine before Patterson got up.

Even then, the 30,000-odd spectators who braved an early evening rain were not too disturbed. Patterson had been knocked down before and had come back to turn the tables on his opponent.

* * *

BUT LIKE a streak of lightning, Johansson's right—the same one that was nowhere to be found in his trainig camp—flashed, and down went Patterson again.

Six times, the champion tumbled to the canvas. Six times, he rose wearily to his feet. But the end had been in sight from the very first time he was toppled. That was the blow that made him glassy-eyed. The others merely hastened the end.

Again, for the seventh time, Johansson's right caught Patterson on the head. And for the seventh time in the round, Floyd went down. This time, veteran referee Ruby Goldstein — himself a former fighter—droned "one" then decided to end it all. He walked over to Johansson and raised the Swede's hand in victory.

Facts 'n Figures

NEW YORK (AP)—Financial facts and figures on last night's world heavyweight championship bout between Ingemar Johansson and Floyd Patterson. Compiled from estimates in absence of exact figures.

Attendance—30,000.
Gross receipts—$425,000.
Net receipts—$365,000.
Patterson's share—$110,000.
Johansson's share—$75,000.
Closed circuit television receipts—$1,000,000.
Patterson's share of the TV—$300,000.
Johansson's share of the TV—$50,000.
Radio rights, U. S. and Foreign—$125,000.
Patterson's share of radio—$50,000.
Johansson's share of radio—$25,000.
Potential movie income—$500,000.
Patterson's share of movies—$250,000.
Johansson's share of movies—$100,000.
Patterson's purse $560,000.
Johansson's purse—$350,000.

After It Was Over

Floyd Didn't Make Mistake, Ingo Just Made A Good Move

By MAX MUHLEMAN

YANKEE STADIUM, New York — After the brawl is over:

Local experts quickly sized up the rematch — which must come within 90 days — as a "sure bet" to pull better than a million dollar gate.

This would make no one happier than Promoter Bill Rosensohn, who reportedly needed $500,000 at the turnstiles to break even.

Rosensohn said he figured total receipts would total out at "Between $400,000 and $425,000."

* * *

FLOYD PATTERSON, the defeated, departed immediately after the bout for his mother's home in Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Ingemar Johansson, the conquering invader, returned to his Manhattan hotel and announced he plans "several days of having a good time" before returning to Sweden.

* * *

PATTERSON'S only audible comment at a meeting with dressing room press was in reply to the question, "Were you ever hit that hard before?"

Floyd's answer: "Evidently not."

Although Cus D'Amato, Patterson's manager, refused to say Floyd made a defensive mistake when he stepped into Johansson's first right, one of Patterson's handlers was more expressive.

Said he, "Johansson gave him a little feint, which Floyd fell for. It wasn't so much a mistake on Floyd's part as it was a good move on Johansson's part."

* * *

D'AMATO SAID his only comment to Patterson prior to the start of the fateful third round was: "He's hard to corner, isn't he?"

Floyd, Cus related, agreed.

* * *

POLICE STATIONED around Johansson's dressing room door had to resort to tactics ordinarily used in cases of mob violence to control the impatient press.

Most of the 1,000 who were granted working credentials were already at Johansson's room before he made it back from the ring.

AMONG THOSE who confessed to getting well on the long odds against Johansson was Sugar Ray Robinson.

Archie Moore had been a Patterson supporter.

D'Amato put in an appearance at Johansson's celebration party, where he announced that his "fight against forces detrimental to boxing will continue, you may be sure."

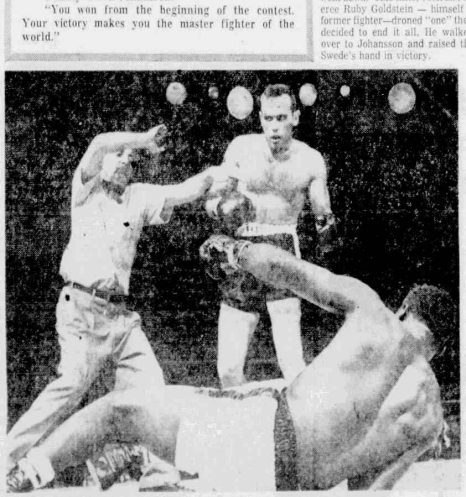
'MASTER FIGHTER OF WORLD,' SAYS TUNNEY

STAMFORD, Conn. (AP)—Gene Tunney, who retired as unbeaten heavyweight champion 30 years ago, was strong in his praise of Ingemar Johansson, the new champion.

"I only met him once before last night's fight and I was highly impressed," said Tunney on his return home from last night's title fight in New York. "I always considered Patterson a built-up novice but this Johansson, he is a real fighter."

Tunney wired Johansson:

"You won from the beginning of the contest. Your victory makes you the master fighter of the world."



IT'S ALL OVER . . . Ref Ruby Goldstein rushes between fallen Floyd Patterson, attacking Ingemar Johansson.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Will U. S. Accept The Champ Now?

By MAX MUHLEMAN
Charlotte News Sports Writer

YANKEE STADIUM, New York — The writer who occupied the adjacent seat was unmistakably Swedish. He reeked of a herring which had not seen the Baltic Sea in over a week. Worse, he could speak English.

MUHLEMAN

So it was that while Jose Torres was turning in the only praiseworthy boxing performance of the night in a preliminary, My Viking neighbor blessed me with the advance battle plans of his countryman, one Ingemar Johansson.

"It will be so," he explained. "Ingemar is as quick on his feet as Patterson is with his hands. Ingemar will keep the left in Patterson's face. Ingemar will sidestep any big punch of Patterson. Soon, Patterson will drop his hands, Yust a little. Boom. Ingemar will fire the right. It will be over. Boom."

At 10:28 p. m., New York Time, Floyd Patterson stepped out of the Yankees' dugout, sweaty and silent under a terrybloth robe. At the same time, from the visitors' dugout, emerged Johansson, grinning and flashing his dimples in unruffled Swedish splendor.

TWENTY MINUTES later Ingemar exploded the "Toonder and Lightning' he had warned was lurking in his fabled right hand.

The timing of Floyd Patterson's dethroning was ironic. At precisely the same moment on the previous night, Patterson had stopped his training entourage, which was accompanying him in a late walk, to look at his watch. He made the observation, "It would be about the third round now."

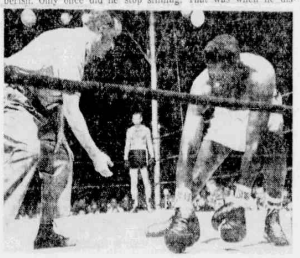
Three rounds. Seldom have so many been so wrong. New York writers had given it to Patterson en masse. By fight day they had become so disgusted with Ingemar Johansson's inferiority they began ridiculing him as a cut below Brian London, Patterson's inept previous foe.

There was only one camp which entertained any other thought — the Swede's. They were immensely confident that once Ingemar stepped into the Yankee Stadium ring, their country would be known for something other than smorgasbord.

JUST AS THE fish-scented writer had predicted. Floyd dropped his hands once and it was over. It was a straight right, flush to mouth and nose. As Ingemar had said he would do, he caught Patterson stepping into it. The rest was flourish. In regaining his feet six times, Patterson won his only solace—a dramatic display of courage. He was battered as badly as Eddie Machen had gotten it.

In a subterranean corridor of the stadium Ingemar's mother expressed the hope that perhaps the Americans would not make fun of her son now. "When Ingo hit him and knocked him down the first time," she beamed, "I knew it was over."

Meanwhile, Ingo was living it up in his dressing room. He smiled continually at the horde of writers and photographers who begged for a word but got mostly Swedish gibberish. Only once did he stop smiling. That was when he disrobed for his shower. Photographers followed him to the stall, despite efforts of police to provide a bit of privacy for the new world heavyweight champion. Ingemar frowned his first public frown. The wolfpack dispersed.



WHEN INGEMAR reappeared he remarked that one thing Patterson did puzzled him. "Dirty look," he explained. "After the second round he gave me the dirty look."

No one could explain this, not even Cus D'Amato, who relayed Patterson's answers to the press afterwards. "I know nothing about it," said Cus. "But I do know that I am not as surprised with this outcome as many might think.

"To those who had analyzed the fight, this was no shock. Johansson, just as many of Floyd's previous opponents, was badly undersold. When two heavyweights get together you cannot overlook either man's knockout ability."

Without waiting for another question, D'Amato moved eloquently to the rematch subject. "I would like to predict, however," he broadcasted, "that Floyd Patterson will become the first heavyweight ever to lose his title and then win it back."

* * *

THERE WERE MANY in the audience who had their doubts. One was Rocky Marciano, a heavyweight who ruled without experiencing a night such as Patterson had endured.

"I've never seen a punch like that," confessed the ex-champion. "Johansson is the best European heavyweight I ever saw."

There was a muffled laugh from behind. I turned to find the Swedish writer who had predicted the outcome for me earlier.

He pulled me aside. "I heard that," he grinned. "The best 'European' heavyweight the Swedes will get rich off those stubborn American fight people."

"How is that?" I inquired.

"**TWO WEEKS AGO** I bet $400. I got 10-1 odds. I am $4,000 richer. People here will keep talking like Marciano until by time for the rematch, Patterson will be a big favorite again. And then I will make another bet on Ingemar, you see?"

It was all quite disturbingly clear.

Shame on American bookies.

But they got theirs. You might say they were struck by "Toonder and lightning," which, as Floyd Patterson will attest, is a painful way to get it.

Rematch In September

NEW YORK (AP)— Promoter Bill Rosensohn said today he planned an Ingemar Johansson-Floyd Patterson rematch in September but would not start working on the date or site until July 20.

AGONY WAS written on the face of Floyd Patterson's wife as she watched him fall again and again.

The youthful promoter estimated he lost about $40,000 on last night's rain-spattered show at Yankee Stadium.

"It was worth it," said Rosensohn at a noon press conference still thrilled by Johansson's TKO victory and prospects of a million dollar return match.