

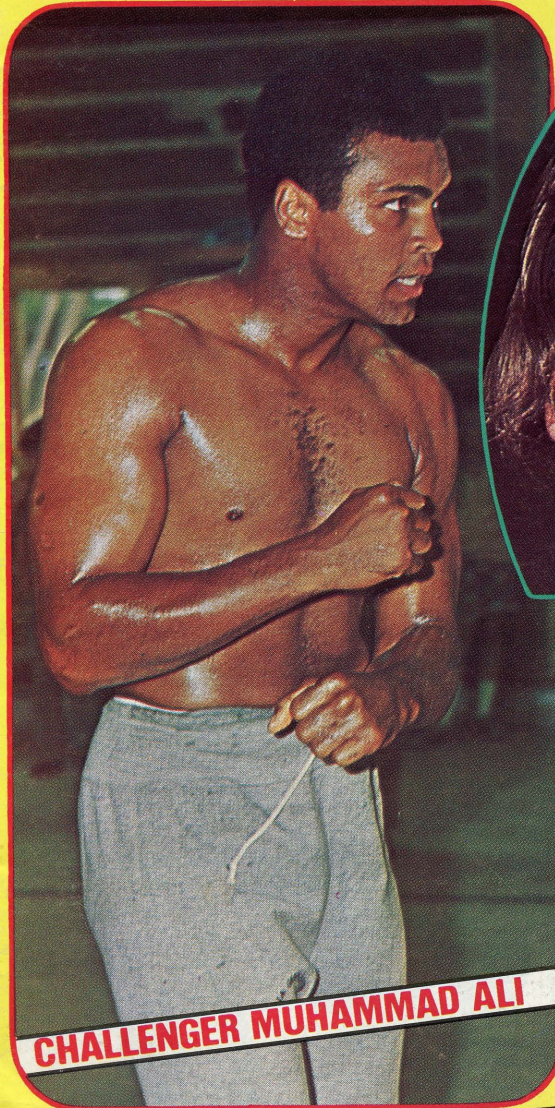
SPECIAL ISSUE

WORLD

Victory Sports Series

SEPTEMBER 1974
47949 75¢

BOXING



EXCLUSIVE

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE ALI-FOREMAN SUPER FIGHT?

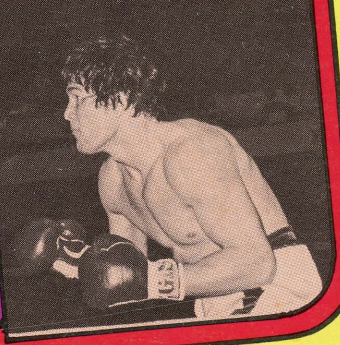
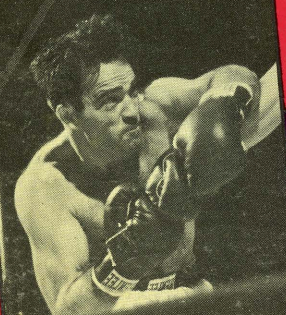
BY JERRY QUARRY

CHALLENGER MUHAMMAD ALI

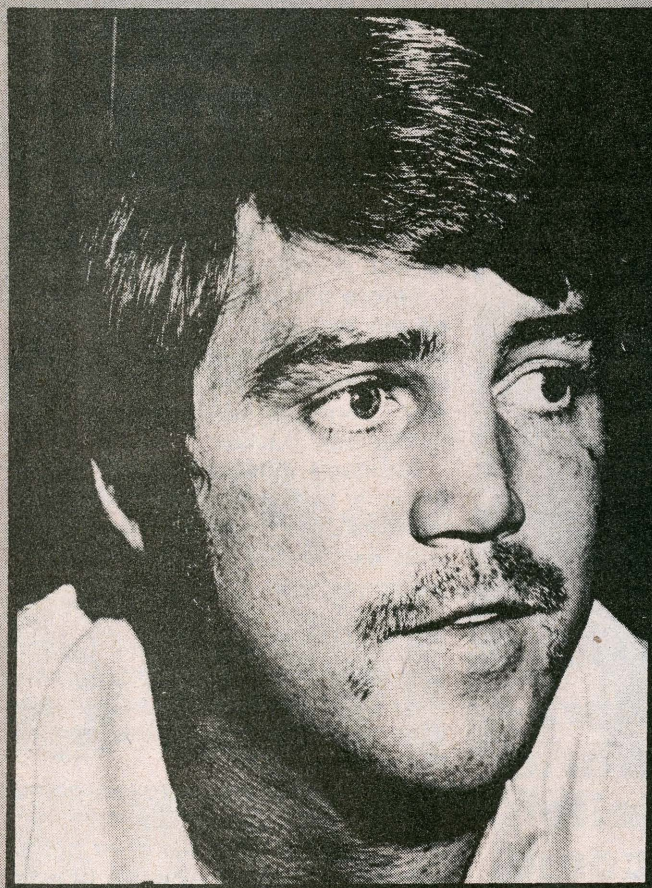
CHAMPION GEORGE FOREMAN

**BOOK-LENGTH FEATURE
THE MARCEL CERDAN LEGEND**

**WHIZ KID TONY LICATA--
UNDEFEATED IN 44 FIGHTS,
AND IMPROVING!**



STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER



BY JERRY QUARRY

"FOREMAN WILL KAYO ALI!"

GEORGE FOREMAN WILL knock out Muhammad Ali at least the fourth round, if not earlier. This is the way I see that fight going.

I see Foreman coming out a little cautious to begin with, trying to see what kind of power Ali might have. Ali will be moving and moving constantly, both left and right, throwing his left jab to let Foreman know that it's there, to let him know he's going to have trouble with that jab.

I see Foreman, still cautious, moving forward behind a left jab of his own. And he has a very good one. He'll try to unload a few of his rights to the body, trying to show disdain for both Ali's punching power and his boxing ability.

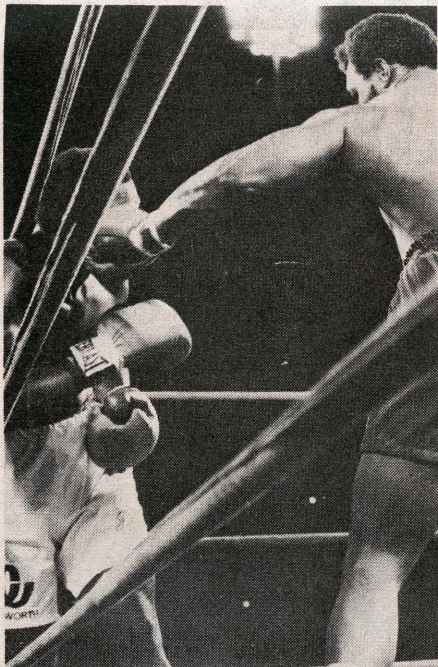
The first round will go more or less to Ali because of his boxing ability and his moving. Foreman will spend the round, like he did in the Norton fight, trying to learn exactly what the other guy has. Ali's jab will be somewhat effective. I don't think he'll have problems with Foreman's reach, but I believe it'll be a defensive jab, thrown while moving, intended to prevent Foreman from getting a clean shot at him. It'll be used strictly to keep Foreman off of him.

At the beginning of the second round, Foreman, showing complete disdain for Ali's power, will begin to work on him. He'll be pushing him to the ropes. It'll look like he's fighting like an amateur because he'll start throwing those heavy, roundhouse punches.

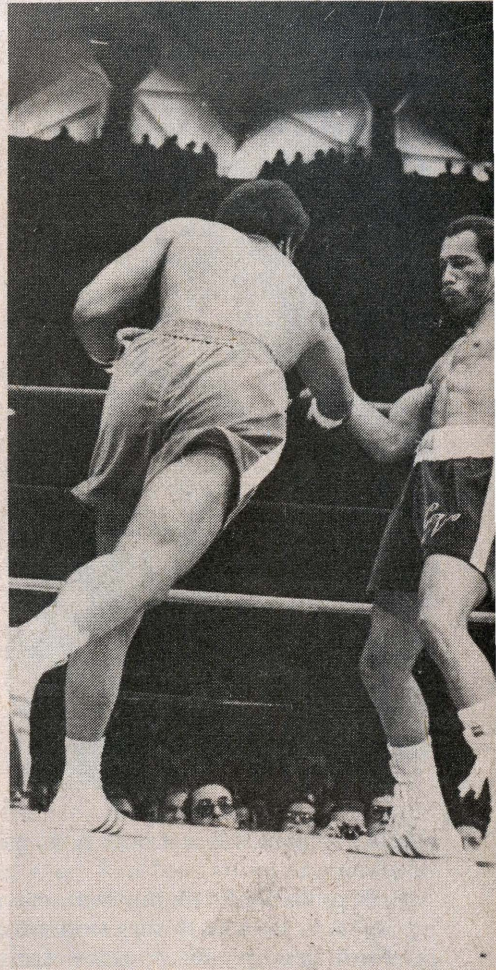
Ali, meanwhile, will be doing anything he can to prevent being trapped along the ropes and being hit with that power Foreman has. Foreman will not be pushing Ali like he pushed Frazier because Ali will not be coming at him. He pushed Frazier off to get punching room. He'll be pushing Ali into the ropes to trap him.

Lately, Ali has been doing quite a bit of laying on the ropes in just about every fight he's been in. This plays right into Foreman's hands. If he does this again he'll

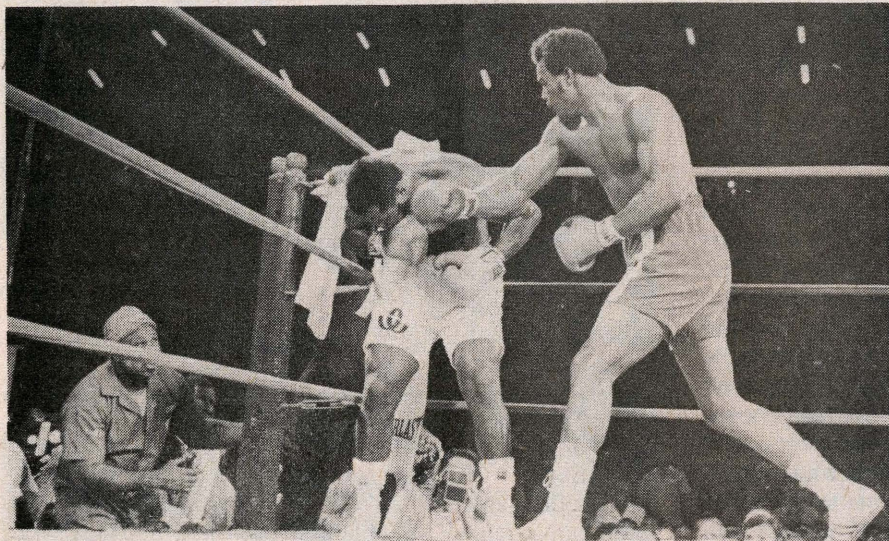
From time to time, heavyweight contender Jerry Quarry will be writing a column exclusively for this magazine. In this, his first, Jerry gives his version of how the Ali-Foreman fight will turn out. We're sure you'll welcome this new addition



At the beginning of the fight, believes Quarry, Foreman will use his good left jab, much as he did in the Norton fight (above) and in the early going against Frazier (left).



"Ali has proven he can take a good shot," notes Quarry, "but I don't think he can take a continued hard assault from Foreman." Jerry sees Foreman roundhouse rights (above and left) starting to connect by the end of the second round. If Ali lays on the ropes—he'll get hurt.



get hurt and hurt early, and probably knocked out. Ali has already proven he can take a good shot. But I don't think he can take a continued assault of hard punches from Foreman. And that's exactly what he's going to start taking by the end of the second round.

Although some people feel Ali's allows himself to get trapped on the ropes as sort of a challenge to his opponent, the truth is he does it because *he has to*. Even in the first fight against Frazier, when he was criticized for allowing Frazier to bang to the body, he did it because he *had* to. He was fighting to *survive* against Frazier. I've been in with Frazier before and Frazier puts the kind of pressure on you that you're looking to rest any time you get the opportunity. That's what he was really doing, not the so-called "games" he said he was playing. That was a farce.

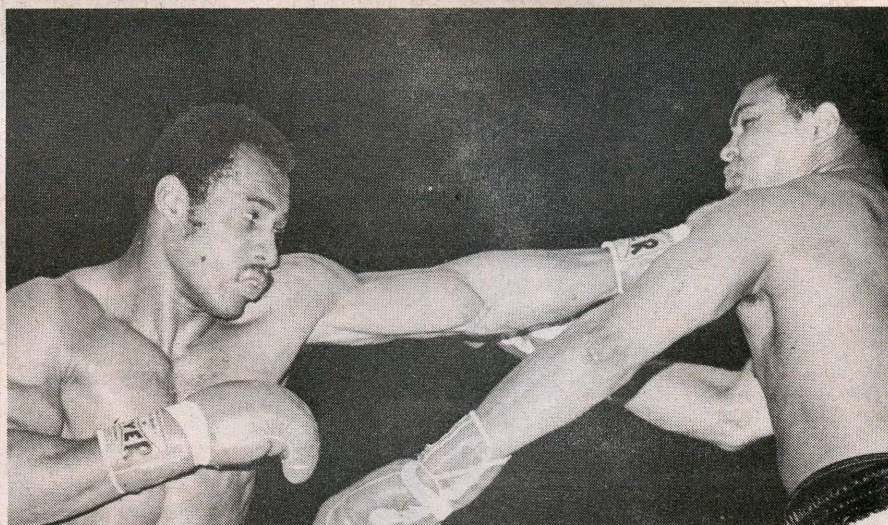
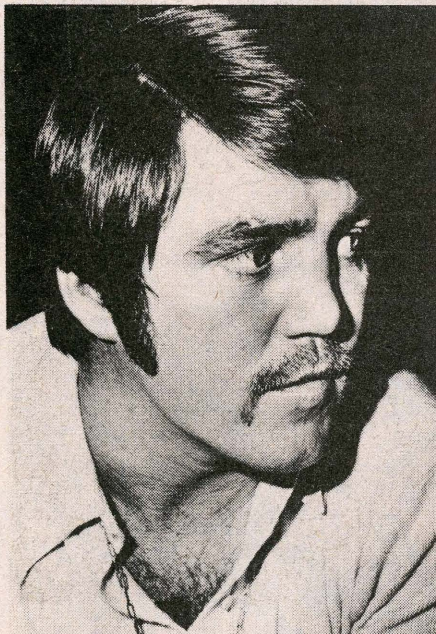
If he lays against the ropes with Foreman he'll get hurt. Foreman's too big. Foreman will be ripping shots to the body from underneath and from the outside . . . those wild, swinging punches. He'll throw them both to the body and head in hopes of catching Ali. I don't think, however, that he'll catch him in the second round.

But as Ali will try to continue his movement those punches will start telling on the arms, the shoulders, in the belly, and they'll start telling as early as the late part of the second round.

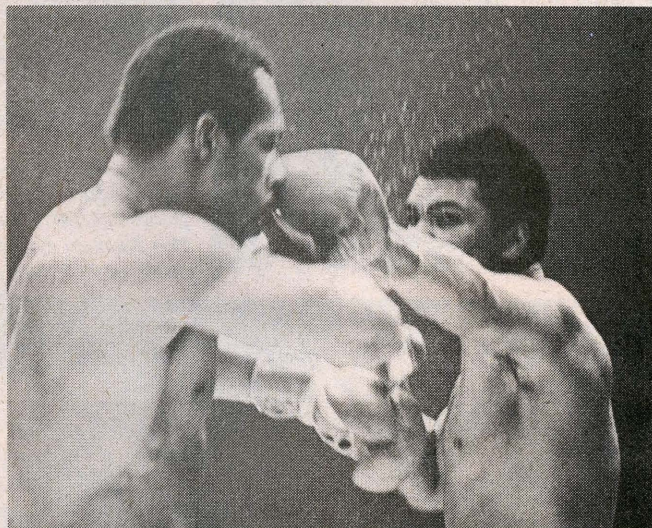
When the third round begins you're going to see a very fleet-footed Ali doing everything he can to try and stay away from Foreman. At this time Foreman will be trying to knock him out. In this round Foreman will nail Ali and Ali will be hurt very badly. He'll probably just survive the round. When he comes out for the fourth

**"I DON'T THINK
FOREMAN CAN
CARRY HIS OWN
BODY WEIGHT
FOR 15 ROUNDS"**

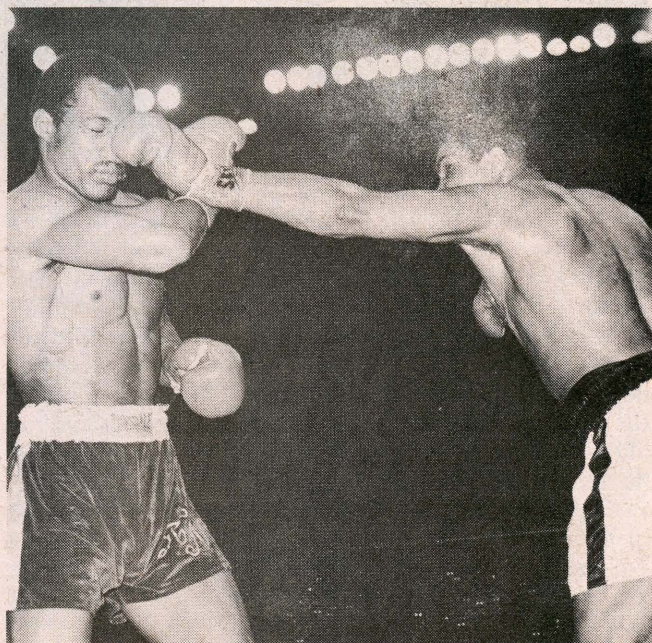
—JERRY QUARRY



If Ken Norton's left jab can reach Ali's jaw (above), George Foreman's can. Ali's best weapon is his left jab (right), but Quarry sees Ali using it only as a defensive measure to keep Foreman off him



"The best strategy for Ali is to run and run and run. He'll have to use the left hand (below) and use it as often as possible. He's got to run like a bandit. But Foreman can move on his feet a lot better than a lot of people think he can. He's not flat-footed. I've seen it."



round Foreman will just push him against the ropes and take him out.

He'll probably finish him with one of the long, looping rights or lefts he throws from way outside. Ali may go down, get up, and go down again, because by this time the punches will have a devastating effect. But it'll definitely be a knockout.

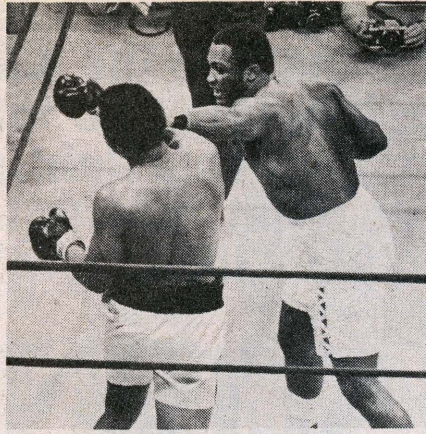
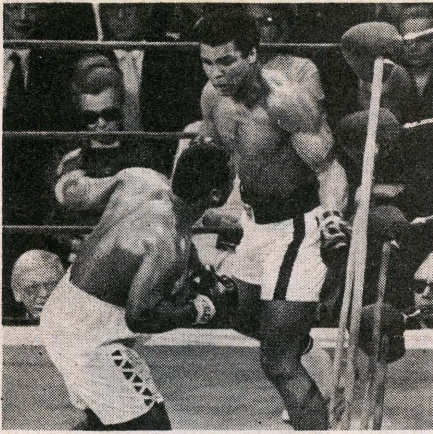
The only way Ali can last past six rounds is if he's in tip-top condition and can revert back to his style of 1965. I don't think he's young enough to do it any more. If this was 1965 I don't think there's any way Foreman could have caught him. He could've danced and jabbed for 15 rounds and piled up enough points to get a decision. In those days Ali could move for 15 rounds and throw 14-15 punch combinations. That would've totally negated all of Foreman's assets. Even his strength and power. You can't hurt a man if you can't hit him.

Now Ali's not nearly as fast on his feet, not nearly as fast with his hands, not nearly as fast in getting away from punches as he was in the past.

The only way Ali could ever hope to win this fight is by going 15 rounds and getting a decision. He can hit Foreman with his Sunday best and there's no way he's going to knock him out. There's no way he can hurt Foreman. That means he *has* to stay away from Foreman for six or seven rounds and let Foreman's own body weight and size tire himself out.

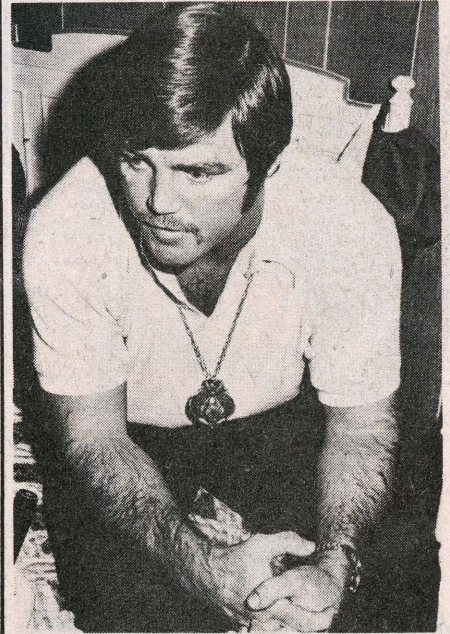
That's the *only* chance Ali has and I don't think he's capable of doing it.

Despite the slim chance of Ali forcing the fight to go the distance, Foreman must train for that possibility.

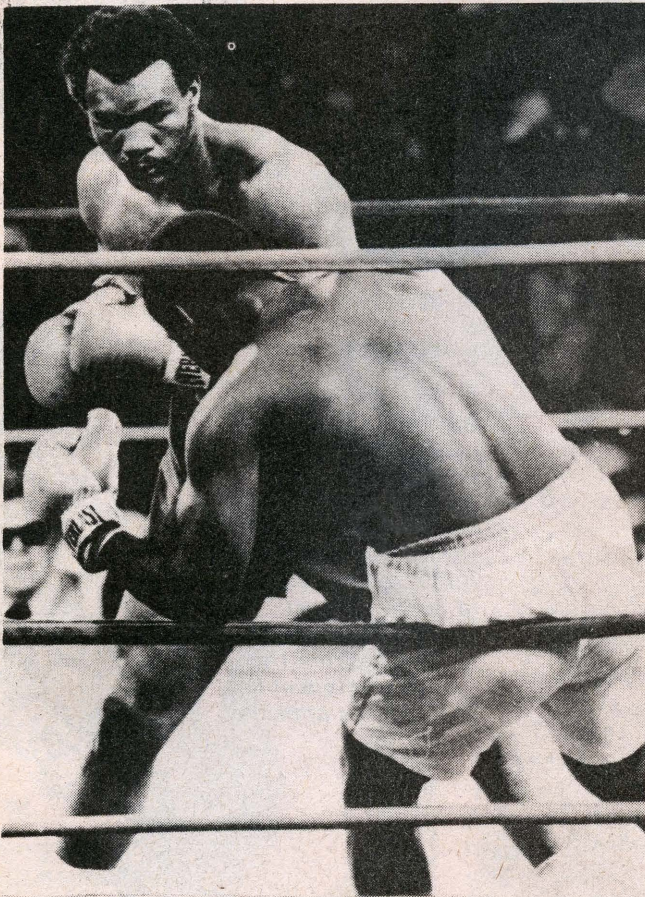
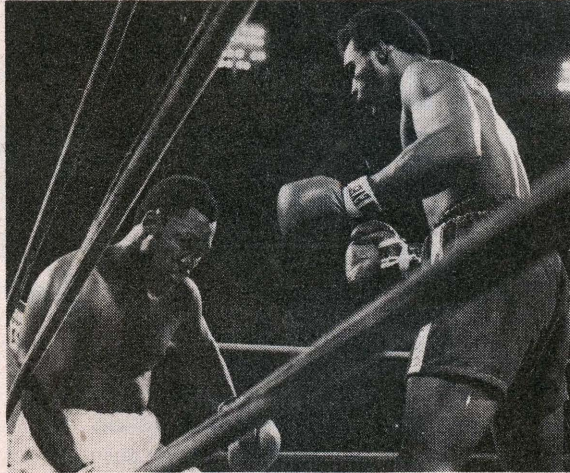


**"FOREMAN
WILL WIN BECAUSE
HE'S TOO STRONG,
PUNCHES TOO
HARD, AND IS
TOO BIG FOR ALI"**

—JERRY QUARRY



"Although some people feel Ali allows himself to get trapped on the ropes as sort of a challenge, the truth is he does it because he HAS to," says Jerry. An example is the series of bouts against Frazier (above and above right). "If he does this with Foreman," adds Jerry, "he'll get hurt," as did Frazier (right and below).



Every man should train for 15 rounds. I don't give a darn how hard a puncher he is. Anything's liable to happen when you're in that ring. You have to be ready. What happens if Foreman hurts his right arm and has to go strictly with his left hand for the rest of the fight?

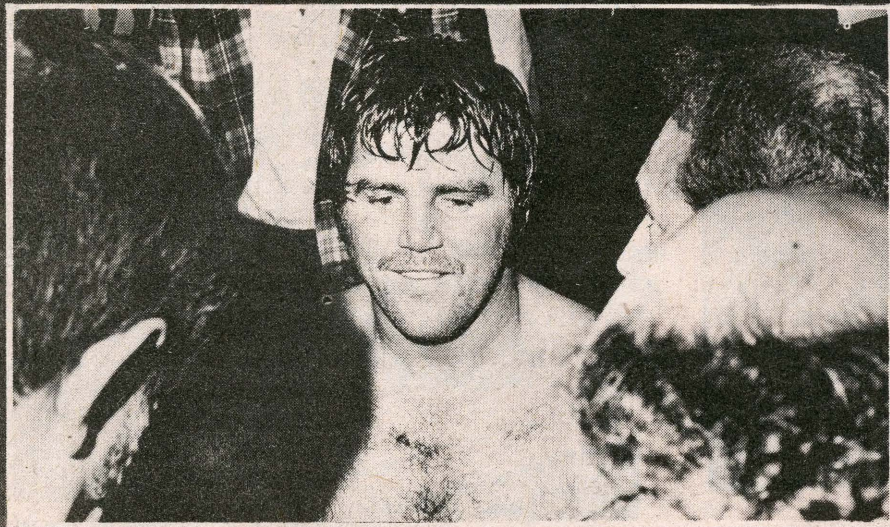
The problem with Foreman is that I don't think he can carry his own body weight for 15 rounds. He's too big and too muscular. Over a period of time, throwing all out, wild, swinging punches as he does—and he does miss a lot of punches—takes a lot out of you. If after seven or eight rounds Ali is still around somehow, then he's got a darn good chance of winning. Foreman's style is such that he counts on knocking a guy out within five or six rounds. With Ali he'll be capable of doing it.

The best strategy for Ali is to run and run and run. He'll have to use the left hand and use it as often as possible. He's got to run like a bandit, very similar to the way Ray Anderson fought Bob Foster a few years back. The only difference could be that Foster is flat-footed and Foreman is not. He can go to his feet and push a fighter if he has to. I've seen him do it. He can move on his feet a lot better than a lot of people think he can.

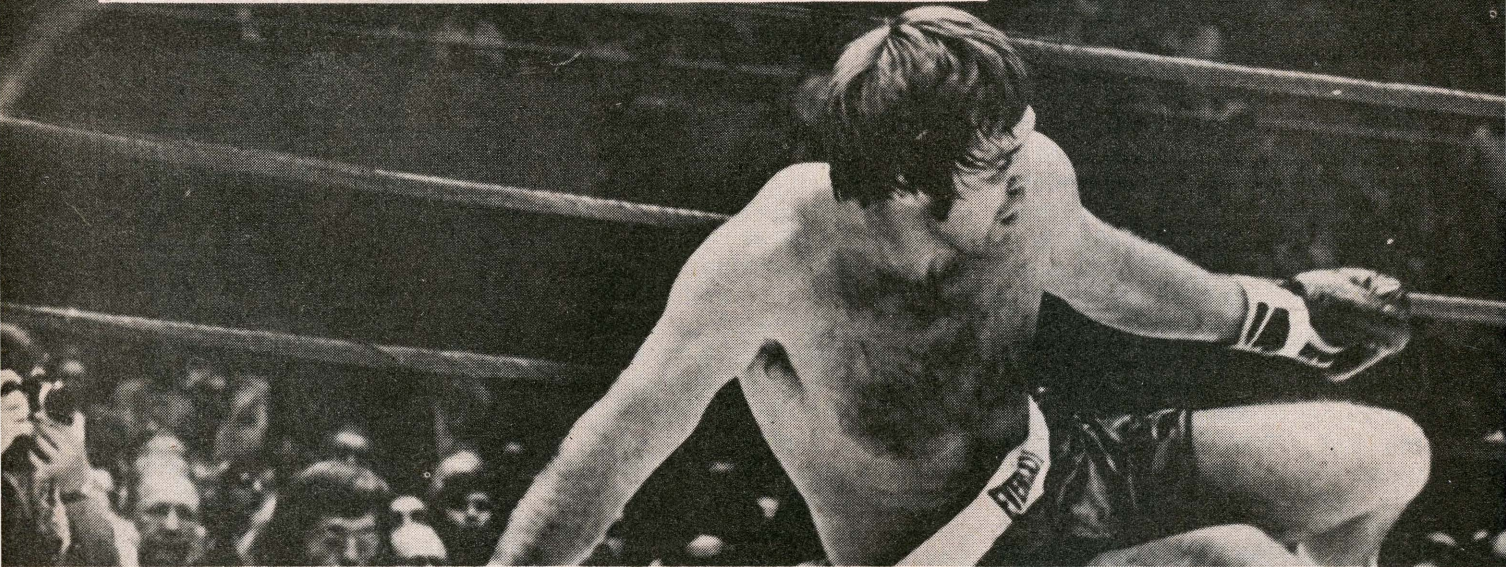
Some people may believe I'm pulling for a Foreman victory because if Ali wins there'll be a rematch and I won't get a title shot for another two years. True. I have to pull for Foreman for just that reason. But as far as predicting Foreman will win it because I want the next shot—no.

Foreman will win it because he's too strong, punches too hard, and is too big for Ali. □

For a few agonizing moments it appeared that Jerry Quarry's "tuneup" with Joe Alexander might kill a half-million fight for Jerry and Joe Frazier!



Surprise! Jerry Quarry finds himself looking up at Joe Alexander. Inset: A grinning Quarry tells reporters how the knockdown happened.



**"THANKS!
I NEEDED THAT!"**



YOU KNOW THE TV commercial where Joe Frazier gets slapped across the face, goes down, gets back up, and says "Thanks. I needed that!"?

That's exactly what Jerry Quarry was thinking about in his dressing room after he survived a first-round knockdown by Joe Alexander and then kayoed Alexander at the end of the second round of their fight at the Nassau (Long Island) Coliseum.

To the surprise of the predominantly pro-Quarry crowd, Jerry hit the deck in the first round when an Alexander left hook—a beautiful punch—caught Jerry flush on the jaw as he was pulling away from it.

Although the blow "shocked" Quarry rather than hurt him, it must've caused a few members of the Top Rank Inc., organization a few grey hairs since they'd already signed a Quarry-Frazier match for Madison Square Garden with heavy guarantees.

More embarrassed than injured, Jerry survived the round and returned to his corner with a sheepish grin on his face. Although Quarry hoped the fight would last awhile so he could get some much needed work, he told trainer Gil Clancy he'd better end it as soon as possible—just in case.

Gil agreed. "Keep your hands up, he instructed Jerry, "and keep your ass off the canvas!"

He did. And as the round progressed Jerry went about his business of making sure further accidents didn't happen. With the precision of a surgeon, Quarry began

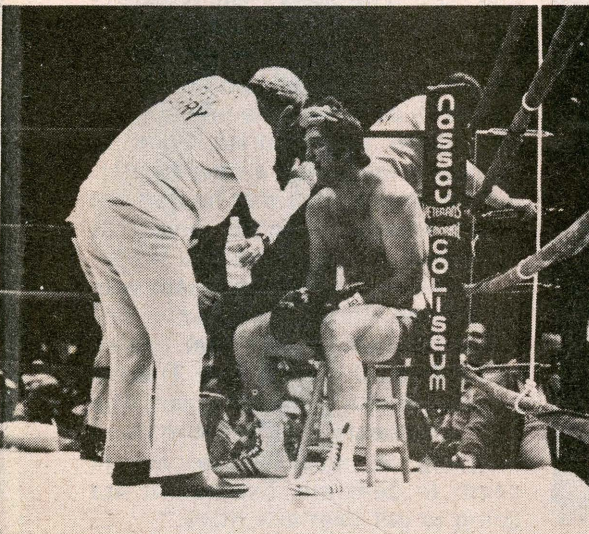
the demolition of Alexander with a left-right combo with about 1½ minutes left in round two. Then, about a minute later, three left hooks and a right cross dumped Alexander on his back. Alexander got up at five but was clearly dazed. Quarry quickly followed with a straight right, a left hook, and another right that stunned Alexander.

Joe's legs turned to rubber as Jerry drove him into the ropes. With 10 seconds remaining a left hook landed squarely. Jerry followed it immediately with a pair of rights, another left hook, and a devastating right cross which put Alexander out and kept him woozy for about a minute after the count ended.

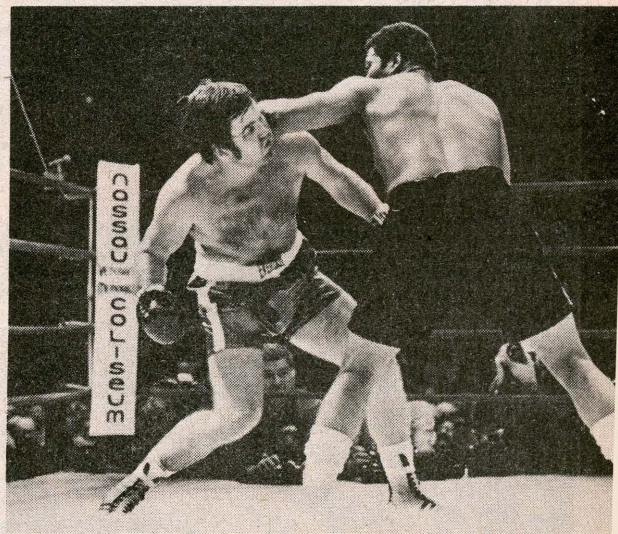
Quarry was very philosophical about the whole thing afterwards. "If you stick your chin up in the air and say 'Come and hit it'—someone's gonna come along and hit it. He hit me as clean as you can hit a guy. I didn't need it, but it woke me up. I sat there saying 'Isn't this ridiculous?' The punch caught me leanin' backwards. And when I'm leanin' backwards and my heels are together, where am I going to go but down? I wasn't hurt when I got up. It was just a shock. He caught me doing the wrong thing at the wrong time."

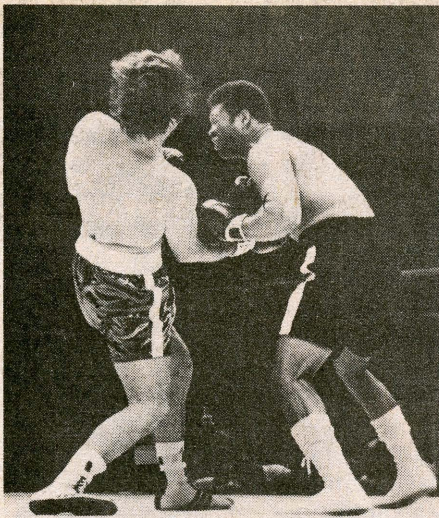
"He was awkward to fight. Coming in sideways, jumping in and out. But by the second round I figured out what to do with him. I had been keeping too much distance between he and I. I had to get closer to him."

Quarry admitted he had made a mistake and got caught. "What a

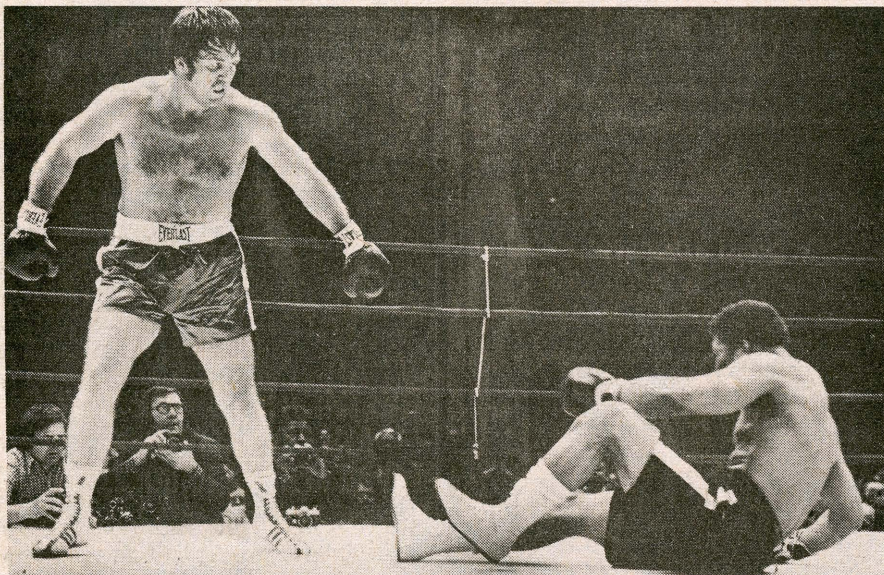


"Keep your hands up and keep your ass off the canvas!" That's what Gil Clancy is instructing Jerry Quarry to do (left) after round one, in which Jerry got dumped. Jerry followed the instructions. He ducks under a left hook (right) and prepares a right uppercut.





This remarkable photo sequence shows the knockout of Alexander. Far left: A powerful right just under the heart makes Joe wince. Left: A followup left hook buckles Joe's knees. Reading down: A right dumps Alexander with such force his legs fly into the air. Bottom: He's out!



fool I was," he remembers thinking. "Sticking my chin out and getting hit like that. I never saw the punch coming. If I had I sure as hell wouldn't have stuck my chin out like that and said 'Hit me.'"

"It was an accident. It could happen to anybody. You gonna tell me Muhammad Ali stuck his chin out on purpose when Frazier caught him? You gonna tell me he stuck it out when Cooper hit him? I wasn't taunting him by sticking my chin out and saying 'Hit me.' He just caught me when I wasn't expecting it."

The blow did snap Jerry out of his first round lethargy, caused by a combination of Alexander's awkwardness and Quarry's lack of work.

"I just haven't had that much action," Jerry noted. "My last fight went just one round. If you look at it, I've had just seven rounds of boxing in the ring since a year ago February 9th. Now how the hell are you gonna be strong?"

"Gil and I talked about getting some work in this fight. I hoped it would last awhile. But the minute I came back to the corner I told Gil 'I'm sorry, Gil. I didn't mean that.' He said 'Alright. Get close to him and start throwing and get him out of there.' So I did."

Quarry did admit the pressure of the Frazier fight and not wanting to blow it made him a little tighter. But he emphasized that he had not taken Alexander lightly and that "I trained my ass off for this fight!"

Jerry emphasized that there was no chance Alexander could've finished him off in that first round. "I'll tell you this right now. There's no chance of me staying down. The man who beats me from here on in is going to have to beat me to death to beat me. Except I'm not going to get beat any more." □

