A black and white, high-contrast portrait of a man, likely a boxer, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. He has a mustache and is wearing a dark, possibly leather, garment. The image is framed by a thick black border.

Best Wishes
from the
Middleweight
Champion
of the
World

Marvelous
Marvin Hagler



1979

Town of Provincetown

MASSACHUSETTS 02657
(617) 487-3900

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: the citizens of the Town of Provincetown are proud that you, Marvin Hagler, contender for the Middleweight Championship Title, have chosen our town as your adopted home and have found the necessary tranquility and seclusion to train adequately for your prior winnings;

WHEREAS: the citizens now offer in return, their confidence, and sincerely support your dedication and diligent effort to achieve your acclaim to the Middleweight Title of the World;

WHEREAS: you are commended for your disciplined effort to pursue your goal and for altruistically giving of your time and knowledge to discuss your exceling sport with the local youth which will help to instill a sense of values towards fairmindedness and perpetuate healthy attitudes towards sportsmanship;

WHEREAS: on behalf of those citizens who cannot witness your performance personally, be it resolved that spiritually we are there to inspire your fulfillment to gain the championship;

NOW THEREFORE: we, the Board of Selectmen, do hereby proclaim "MARVIN HAGLER DAY" in the Town of Provincetown on the 30th day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy nine.

Mary Jo Avellar
Mary Jo Avellar, Chairman

George D. Bryant
George D. Bryant, Clerk

Frederic Ambrose
Frederic Ambrose

Marvin E. Coble, III
Marvin E. Coble, III

Munro Moore
Munro Moore



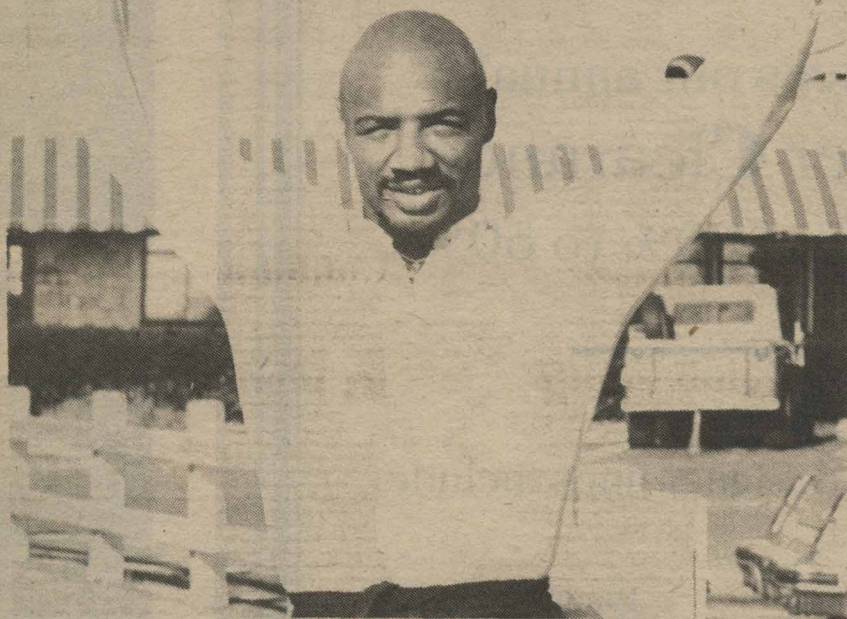
First Landing Place of the Pilgrims



/rw

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THE WONDERFUL, MARVELOUS**

MARVIN HAGLER



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PROVINCETOWN INN TRAINING CAMP

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SEP 29 1980

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN
TOWN HALL
PROVINCETOWN MA 02657

THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

TDMT PROVINCETOWN MA 41/37 09-28 1152A EST
INT MARVELOUS MARVIN HAGLER, CARE BAILEYS HOTEL
LONDON (ENGLAND)
I JOIN WITH THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND THE PEOPLE OF PROVINCETOWN IN
CONGRATULATING YOU ON YOUR VICTORY, PROVINCETOWN IS PROUD OF YOU.
WILLIAM A MCNULTY TOWN MANAGER PROVINCETOWN MA

11:51 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

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5241 (R1/78)

Hagler gets a champion's welcome



THE CHAMP COMES HOME — Middleweight champion Marvin Hagler shows his wife Bertha the 'key to the city' of Brockton. Hagler was honored yesterday by hundreds of cheering fans at welcome-home festivities after his three-round technical knockout Saturday of England's Alan Minter. (UPI Photo)

By GREGORY KATZ
Staff Writer

BROCKTON — The journey that started 11 years ago when a skinny kid named Marvin Hagler walked into a Brockton gym looking for something to do came to a marvelous conclusion yesterday.

The pomp and circumstance of a marching band, the tributes from politicians and the placards held high meant but one thing. "Marvelous" Marvin Hagler finally is the crowned, undisputed middleweight champion of the world.

The journey that took him from rundown arenas in New England to glittering pleasure palaces in Las Vegas and Monte Carlo brought Hagler yesterday to the steps of Brockton City Hall, just two blocks from the dingy gym where Goode and Pat Petronelli taught him his brutal trade.

This battered but proud industrial city was traumatized in 1969 when retired heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano, Brockton's most famous resident, died too young in a plane crash. Yesterday, thousands jammed City Hall Plaza to celebrate the crowning of another world champion.

The Mayor gave him the key to the city.

The local Cadillac dealer gave him a set of keys and told him to come down and pick up a new Caddy "whenever you have the chance."

The high school where Hagler had been an alienated, troubled teen-ager, sent its marching band to serenade him as his motorcade snaked through the city streets.

But most importantly, the champ received the cheers he had been denied 48 hours earlier when

rowdy English fight fans greeted his victory with a hail of beer bottles and obscenities.

Hagler was delayed more than two hours because his flight from London was late and then his bags were misplaced, but the crowd grew all afternoon as workers stopped by city hall on their way home.

At 6:15 p.m., the sounds of the marching band could be heard from the plaza. Thousands screamed as the motorcade came into view.

When Hagler finally took the podium, he raised both his arms high and listened to thousands chant "Mar-vin, Mar-vin, Mar-vin." At first he stood motionless with tears in his eyes. Then he smiled. The champ was home.

"It feels good to be here and it feels good to be an American," Hagler said when the cheering died down for a moment. "Maybe it was a crazy dream, but I stuck with it and today it became a reality.

"If you have a dream the way I did, you can do it, too. It ain't gonna be easy, but you can do it. Rocky put Brockton on the map and I'm gonna keep it there."

In a thick Italian accent, Marciano's mother ushered in the new era: "My son rests in peace now and Marvin is champion of the world."

At her words, the crowd started another chant. Hagler stepped in front of the podium, punched the sky with his clenched fist and strutted. He threw his warm-up jacket into the crowd.

"One more time," he said when the chant started to fade.

It was too sweet to allow it to end.

CAMP COOL TIMES, 30 SEPT 80

30 Sept 80

CAPE COD TIMES
28 SEPT. '82

The Champion is Marvelous

Provincetown hails Hagler's title victory

By RICH PLANTE
Staff Sports Writer

PROVINCETOWN — More than 3,000 miles away, Marvelous Marvin Hagler was battering his way to the world middleweight championship with an overwhelming victory against Alan Minter.

The triumph, in Minter's hometown of London, England, was particularly sweet for the Brockton Bomber, who does his training at the Provincetown Inn.

Blow-by-blow account, Page 13

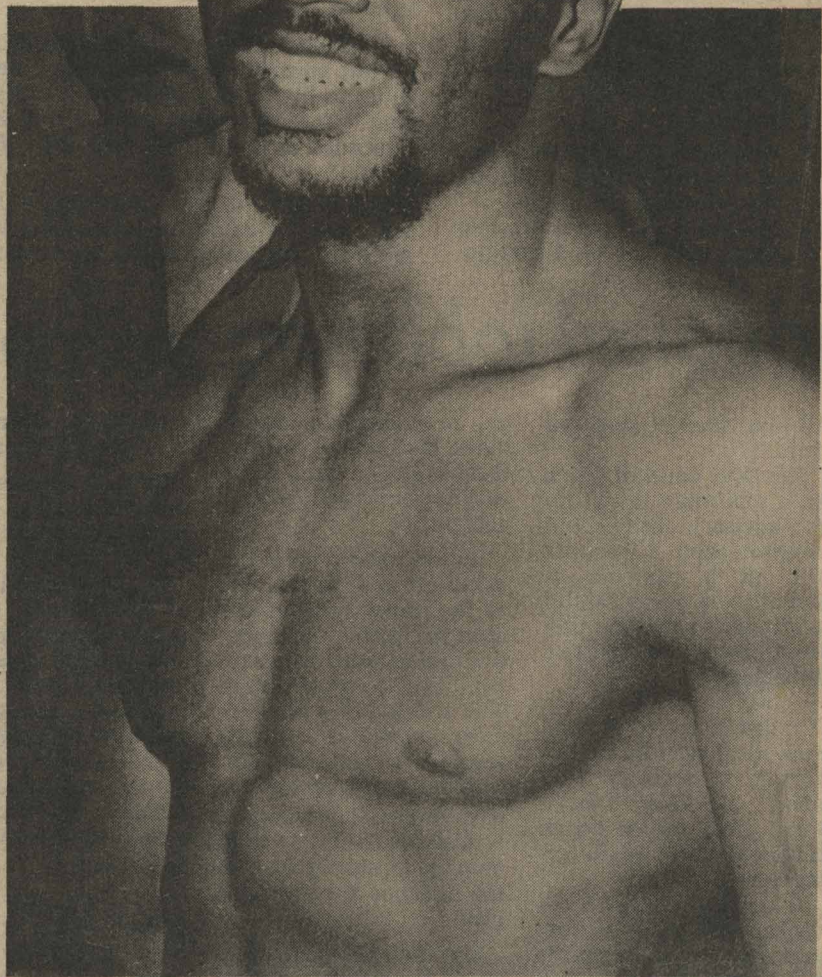
It was also a sweet win for Wayne Perry. A close personal friend of Hagler's, as well as his assistant trainer, Perry couldn't be at ringside for Hagler's greatest achievement Saturday. But while he wasn't there in person, he was there in spirit as he watched the proceedings on television, rejoicing in the emphatic third-round technical knockout.

Then Perry reaped a special measure of satisfaction as Hagler sported his newly won "crown" during the post-fight interview. That simple cardboard ornament, trimmed with gold foil, was a present from Perry to Hagler.

"I made it for him," said the former Provincetown recreation director. "The day he left (for England) I gave it to Pat (Hagler's trainer, Pat Petronelli). We kept it a secret."

The Hagler entourage also kept secret their hope that the fight would proceed just as it did.

"A great deal had been made about the effect the crowd would have on the outcome of the fight,"



MARVELOUS MARVIN HAGLER
...world middleweight champion

said Perry. "Marvin and I talked about that. I said that this could work against him (Minter), that Minter might come in so pumped up that he'd want to exchange punches with Marvin. Sure enough, Minter got that surge of adrenalin and tried to exchange. As soon as I saw that I knew we'd win it."

For a while after the fight it looked as if Hagler might get crowned, but not by a cardboard crest. In an outburst of anger at the stopping of the

fight, several fans tossed bottles and cans into the ring.

"I was concerned because I thought he might have been hit," said Perry. "They talk about the fans in the U.S., but the fans in England are really something else."

The lounge at the Provincetown Inn was also hopping yesterday afternoon. "The people here love Marvin," said one of the waitresses. "We had a town wedding here today,

(Continued on Page 2)

...Hagler

(Continued from Page 1)
so there were a lot of local folks to see the fight. It got a great reaction."

Perry reported that Hagler, who had battled then-champion Vito Anzures to a controversial draw in his first title attempt last November, was "without a doubt in the best shape he's ever been in. He felt he'd let Vito off the hook a couple of times, that he'd taken him too easily."

This time Marvin wore a "Destruction and Destroy" T-shirt, signifying the theme of his pursuit of the crown.

"What he's shooting for now, I'm sure, is a title defense here in New England," said Perry.

For Marvin Hagler and Wayne Perry, Saturday's performance was a crowning achievement, in every sense of the word.

28, 1980

PAGE 13

Hagler stops Minter

*Marvin reigns
in bloody bout*

LONDON (UPI) — Marvin Hagler of the United States captured the undisputed world middleweight crown Saturday, punching Britain's Alan Minter into a bloody state of helplessness until the bout was stopped at 1:45 of the third round.

Related story, Page 17

The 28-year-old, bald-headed challenger from Brockton, Mass., reduced Minter's face to a red mask of blood before Panamanian referee Carlos Berrocal called a halt to the fight because of severe cuts around Minter's left eye.

Minter, whose six previous defeats had also been caused by cuts, made the mistake of trying to mix it up with the explosive punching American. When the bout was halted, angry fans hurled bottles and debris into the ring, forcing the instant evacuation of both fighters, who were escorted to their dressing rooms by dozens of police.

"My plan was to stay away from Hagler for the first six rounds," the 28-year-old said. "I should never have fought the way I did. I got him going in the second round, and I thought 'this is it.

"I went after him but he was too fresh and I came unstuck. I trained and trained not to get involved. Why I did it, I simply don't know."

Hagler was soon finding his target with both hands in the opening round and Minter walked to his corner with a slight trickle of blood flowing from the side of his left eye.

Hagler, who has now stopped 41 of his opponents in collecting 50 victories, two draws and two defeats, caught Minter with a stunning right cross at the start of the second round. Minter replied with a good combination, but the American was the master of the all-southpaw battle.

Hagler countered with two good lefts which rocked the champion and although Minter hit back with a left and right just before the bell, Hagler just shrugged off the punches.

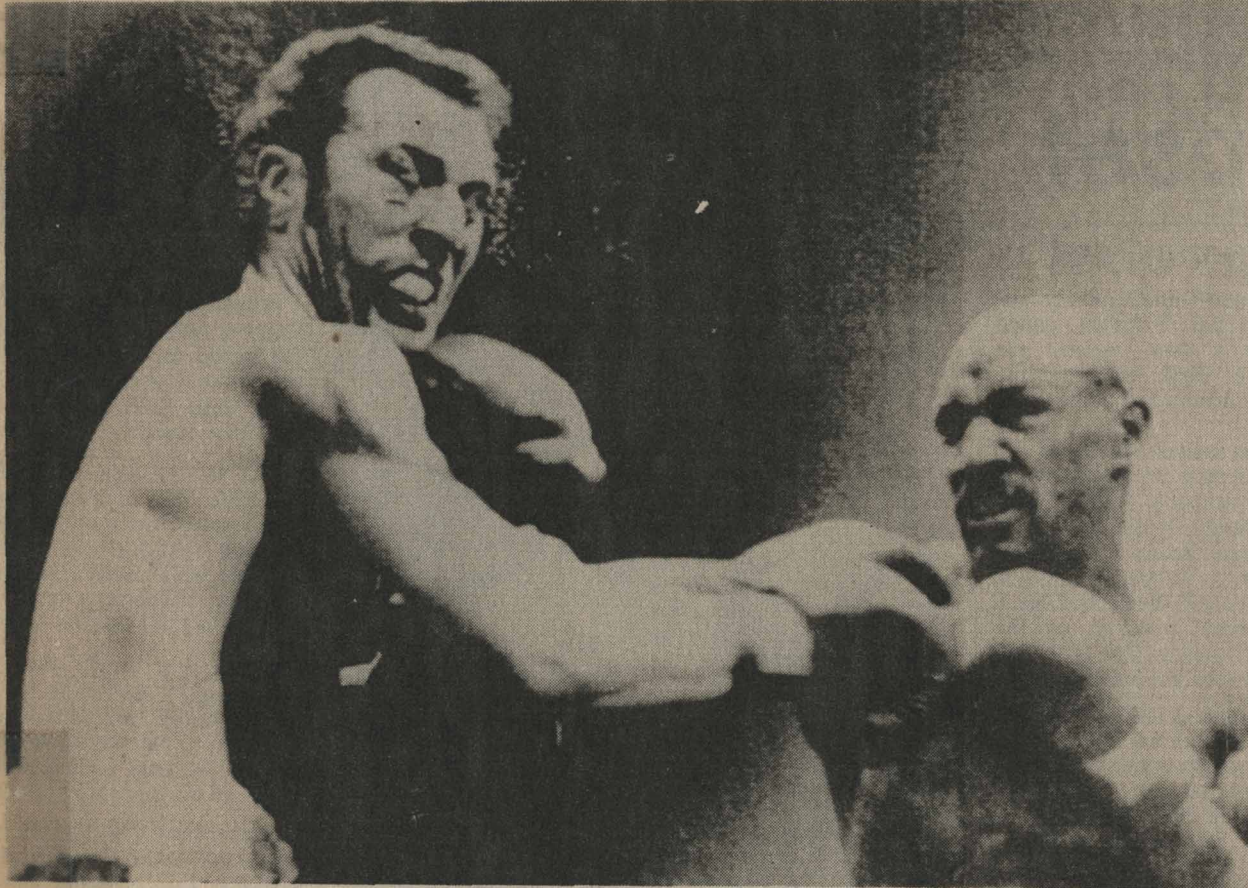
Minter made his way back to his stool with blood dripping from his nose and a cut on his left. Minter, making his second defense of the title which he took from Vito Antuofermo in March and retained against the same boxer nine months later, was given no chance to find his rhythm.

A thundering right cross early in the third round buckled the champion's legs. But Minter battled back bravely, catching the American with good combinations.

As Minter threw a left at Hagler, the challenger weaved out of range and then came in with two crashing rights which sent the Briton staggering to his corner with blood pouring down his face.

The referee called a halt while McCoy tried to clean up the damage. But the injury was too serious for the fight to continue and Hagler had fulfilled his pre-fight promise of taking the belt back to Brockton.

Angry fans threw missiles into the ring because of the early end to the fight.



Marvin Hagler, catches Alan Minter with a hard right hand flush on the jaw in their middleweight title fight Saturday in London. Hagler, who trained for the fight in Provincetown, made short work of

Minter, winning on a TKO in the third round to finally win the championship he has been seeking for many years.

(UPI Photo)

Hagler win came easily

LONDON (UPI) — American Marvin Hagler, who took Alan Minter's undisputed World Middleweight title in just seven minutes, 45 seconds Saturday, was surprised just how easily he beat Britain's "national hero."

"I didn't expect the fight to be that easy," the bald-headed 28-year-old from Brockton, Mass. said. "I was prepared for 15 rounds but I was the better puncher, the better boxer and I was faster than him. I kept beating him to the punch.

"I think part of his trouble was that he was regarded as an idol, a national hero. I thought it was time he was knocked off his high horse. I have fought harder and better fighters than him in America.

"I knew the end was coming when I opened up two cuts underneath both Minter's eyes and then a gash on the side of his head. I knew he couldn't see and I just kept my cool and picked him off with a variety of punches.

"The victory was made all the more sweeter because of the booing that greeted me when I entered the ring and the missiles that were thrown after the fight.

"When the band played "God, Save the Queen", I thought it was disco music."

Hagler offered Minter a rematch now the Briton has been beaten.

"I would like to fight Minter again," the new champion said. "The defeat would have brought him down to earth, although he went out like a good champion.

"He is full of heart but now he will have to start all over again."



Red Smith

Marvelous Marvin Hagler finally gets his due

One right hook broke Alan Minter's presentable face apart and transported the undisputed middleweight championship of the world from Crawley, England, to Brockton, Mass., where it should have been in the first place.

The hook didn't stop Minter but it made it imperative that the referee do so about a minute later.

Justice is not always done in this imperfect world, the meek seldom inherit the earth and the worthy are often cheated, but this time Marvin Hagler got what was coming to him. Marvelous Marv of Brockton has been the best middleweight in the world for some time but the opportunity to prove it was denied for a long while and when at last he got a chance he was short-changed.

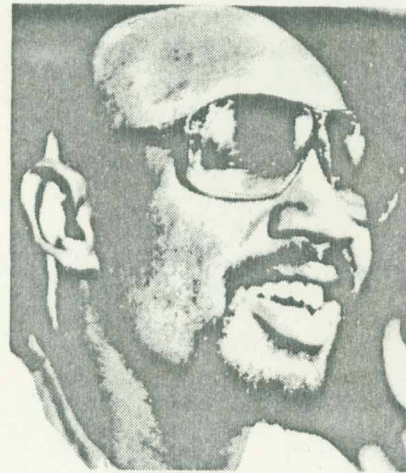
He outpointed Vito Antuofermo for the title last Nov. 30 but the officials called it a draw. Given a second chance last Saturday against Minter, who had won the championship from Antuofermo in the meantime, Hagler took the matter out of the hands of fate and the judges.

Testing Minter in the first round, he punished him in the second, and in the third he made a sanguinary soufflé of the Englishman's features, stopping him a minute and 45 seconds after the bell.

When Carlos Berrocal, the referee, intervened on behalf of Minter, who was blinded by his own blood, unable to put up any kind of defense and a prime candidate for serious injury, the clientele in Wembley Arena responded in the grand old sporting tradition of English soccer fans.

They showered the ring with bottles, beer cans and assorted garbage until platoons of bobbies had hustled the referee and both fighters out of the target zone. In the past when this sort of thing has happened in Madison Square Garden or the Felt Forum there was almost always a Latin-American boxer involved and the rowdiness was attributed to hot Hispanic blood. This performance was staged on that sceptered isle and blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England.

With his shaven head and



MARVIN HAGLER
... champion

Mephistophelean whiskers, Marvin Hagler looks like the embodiment of evil. Outside the ring he wears glasses, which give him the look of a scholarly villain. "All this will do is make me meaner," he said when the judges gave Antuofermo a draw last fall.

"It's gonna make me tough," he said. "That's what it takes to make a champion. Next time I'll put on a little more speed, show a little more combinations, that's what it takes."

He kept his word. In the first round he and Minter felt each other out. In close, Hagler brought up several chopping rights to the head. Early in the second he landed a sharp right-left combination, bringing a show of bravado from Minter, who beckoned his adversary in to fight some more. Hagler obliged, punching. Minter unwisely tried to punch back.

The round ended with blood gushing from a cut under Minter's nose. There were two nicks near Minter's left eye. Hagler said later that he was surprised how easily Minter cut. In the third round Alan impersonated a Christmas turkey.

The right hook — both fighters are southpaws — landed early in the round. It opened a gusher near the left eye. Minter's sight was impaired, his brain muddled. Hagler sprang to the attack. True to his promise, he put on more speed, threw more combinations. He

pounded the head with both hands and Minter tottered about helplessly, trying to paw the blood away, trying to punch back. The referee didn't act a moment too soon.

This is a week for inspecting the state of the Sweet Science from top to bottom. Hagler and Minter took care of the middleweights. Muhammad Ali and Larry Holmes will tell us something, not necessarily inspiring, about the heavyweight division on Thursday. And Saturday afternoon we'll get a look at the little guys when Eusebio Pedroza defends his World Boxing Association featherweight title against Rocky Lockridge in the Playboy Club at Great Gorge, N.J.

New Jersey has a featherweight championship match every 120 years. In the last, Nobby Clark, the British champion, beat Jimmy Elliott, champion of America, in 34 rounds that lasted an hour and two minutes at Palisades, N.J., on May 28, 1860.

Pedroza is the other Panamanian. He shares rank with Roberto Duran as a national hero in Panama but

away from home he is just a tall, skinny guy, five-feet-nine and 126 pounds, with curly hair and an abundant black mustache.

Lockridge grew up in Tacoma, Wash., but fights out of Joe Frazier's gym in Philadelphia where George Benton is dean of men. He had a won-lost record of 210-8 in the amateurs, is unbeaten in 16 professional matches with 14 knockouts. He studies communications at William Paterson College in Wayne, N.J.

How Pedroza manages to stay unknown is a mystery because he has defended his title nine times and fought in such well-known boxing centers as Port Moresby, New Guinea. He has a 2-week-old daughter, Jahmahara, whom he has not yet seen and a 2-year-old, Juleska, whom he has. His favorite television show is "Wonder Woman," the person he would most like to meet is Linda Carter and he wants a Cadillac.

"Who is your best friend?" he was asked.

"Dios," he said. "God."



Marvin Hagler, left, middleweight champ, holds press conference at Boston Garden Monday to discuss his upcoming fight against Venezuela's

undefeated Fulgencio Obelmejias Jan. 17, 1981. Looking on is Robert Arum who is promoting the fight. (UPI Photo)

Hagler-Obelmejias bout scheduled for Jan. 17

*CC Jones
Nov 25, 1980*

BOSTON (UPI) — Brash Marvin Hagler doesn't pull any punches.

And if his uppercuts and jabs are as devastating as his verbal haymakers, Hagler will have no trouble defending his undisputed middleweight championship January against the No. 1 challenger, Fulgencio Obelmejias of Venezuela.

"I don't know too much about this guy, all I know is they gave me a name so I'll go to work," Hagler said Monday. "I fought some of the best in the world on the way up so I'll plan for him just like the others — and I'll destroy him."

"It'll be a good fight. But when the smoke clears, there will only one hand raised," Hagler said, "and it will be mine."

The 15-round bout will be held Jan. 17 at the Boston Garden, the first title fight in Boston since the early 1960s, when Paul Pender dued Terry Downes. Promoter Bob Arum said a sellout would produce a record Boston gate of \$850,000.

Hagler won the middleweight crown in September with a third round TKO over Alan Minter. He will earn in excess of \$500,000 — four times the amount he made against Minter — in his first title defense.

"I've been fighting for peanuts all my life so I'm happy to see the money coming in. When you fight for a lot of money, it also helps you work extra hard," Hagler said.

Obelmejias, undefeated in 29 fights with 27 knockouts, was not present at the announcement. Arum said the Venezuelan would earn a \$25,000 guaranteed purse plus money from television which could push his payday to \$100,000.

Hagler, a 28-year-old bruising southpaw from Brockton, has a 50-2-2 record with 41 knockouts. He wanted his first defense to be against Vito Antuofermo, whom he fought to a controversial draw in a title fight in November 1979, but Antuofermo is recuperating from surgery around his eyes.

"It would be a waste of time because he'd need it all over again," Hagler cracked.

Obelmejias, 27 and one of 10 children, turned pro in 1977. He has fought just once in the United States and is rated the No. 1 challenger by the the World Boxing Council and the World Boxing Association.

Hagler is the only fighter in any division ranked as champion by both groups.

Hagler and Obelmejias have three common victims — Willie Warren, Lamont Lovelady and Ray Phillips. Both the champion and the challenger recorded knockouts against the common opponents.

"He may have 27 knockouts in 29 fights but he hasn't fought Marvin Hagler," the champion sniffed.

Hagler said it was important to him that his first title defense be against an established contender. He spent years waiting for his shot and said he wanted to take the best one at a time.

"Fighting a well-respected guy will keep me in the right frame of mind. I'll be champion for a while so everyone will get a chance. I want to prove I'm a fighting champion," Hagler said.

The bout will be televised in the United States by Home Box Office and will be broadcast live to Latin America and to parts of Europe.

It's plush at the top

Velour covers once-bare ropes at Hagler's camp

By GREGORY KATZ
Staff Writer

PROVINCETOWN — It's the difference between being the champ and being a contender. It's subtle but significant.

The homespun, cardboard sign that used to welcome visitors is gone, replaced by a professionally printed banner, trimmed with red, white and blue bunting, that reads: "Welcome to the training camp of the undisputed middleweight champion of the world, Marvellous Marvin Hagler."

The cheap, 8-track "ghetto blaster" that blared tinny soul music across the Provincetown Inn pool room is gone, replaced by a sleek Panasonic AM-FM stereo radio and cassette player with flashing LED meters and a Dolby noise-reduction unit. It sounds velvety. And the makeshift ring has been fixed up, outfitted with a snug, clean canvas floor and brown velour-covered ropes.

Gone as well is the solitude that brought Marvin Hagler to Provincetown in the first place. Now TV crews light his path and newspapermen trail him night and day.

Now he does knee bends and jumps rope as curious scribes wonder what each move means. His afternoons — previously filled with naps or soap operas — are taken up by magazine photographers from New York City. How he copes with this pressure may well determine how long he stays on top.

He's no longer a contender; he's The Man. The fighter who used to complain about being ignored dines with presidents and travels the globe as a guest of friendly promoters. It's a whole new world.

... ..

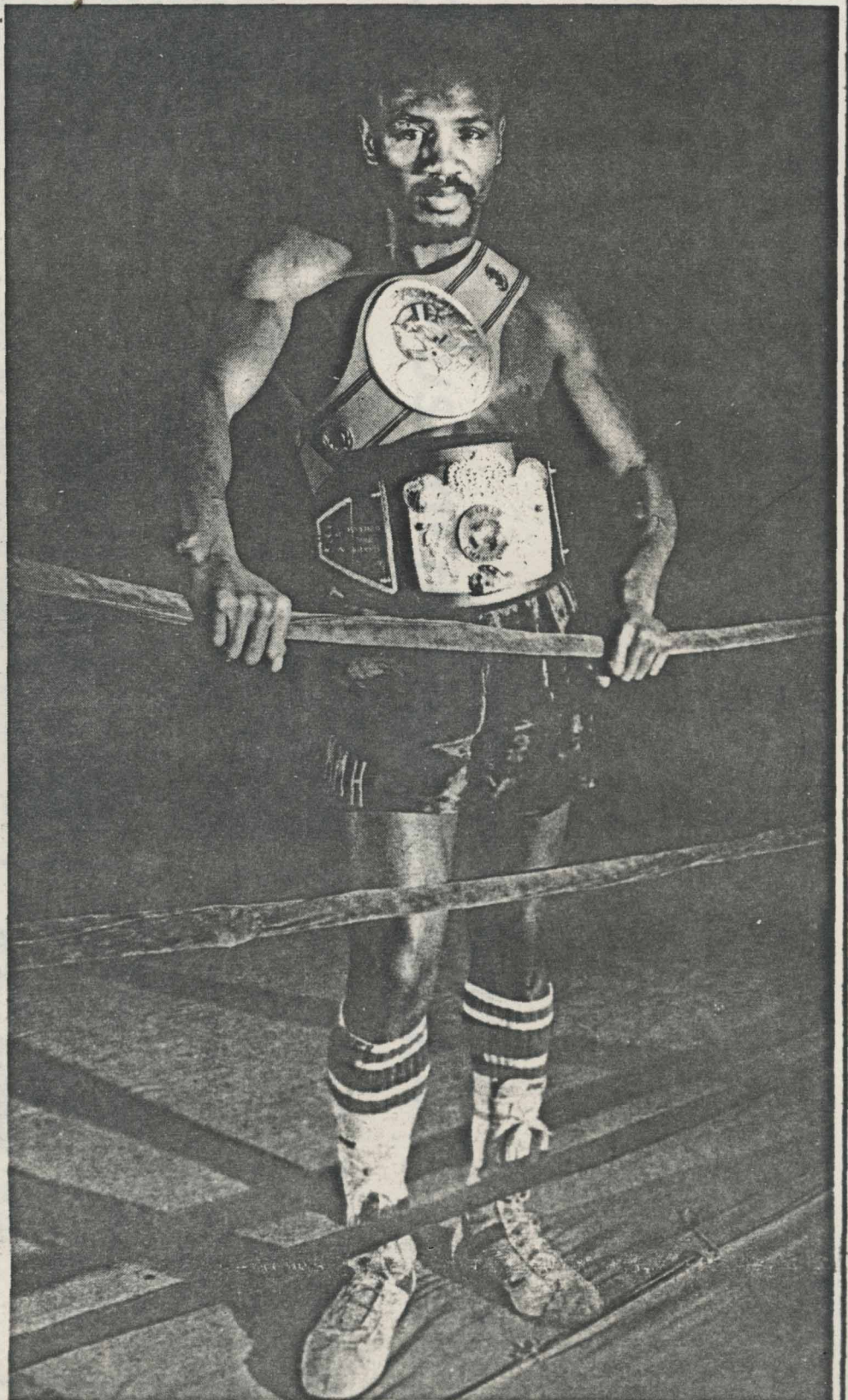
The dream has come true. You could look it up. Marvin Hagler, world champ.

The harbor and vast salt marsh outside the inn resemble an arctic wasteland. Inside, Hagler and his men spend their free time in the comfort of a posh suite paid for by promoter Bob Arum.

The living room is dominated by a color TV console and video cassette recorder. Favored viewing is a tape of Hagler's brutal knockout of Alan Minter, which brought him the title in September. Hagler shares the suite with Goode Petronelli, his trainer, and with sparring partners Willie "the Worm" Monroe and Al Stiles.

"Every kid wants to be like someone he looks up to," Hagler said after a workout this week. "I wanted to be like Floyd Patterson, Sugar Ray Robinson and Muhammad Ali. Now I'm surprised that kids are trying to be like me."

(Continued on Page 11)



BADGES OF A CHAMP — Marvellous Marvin Hagler is back training in Provincetown, sporting the World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association championship belts.
(Staff Photo by Renee DeKona)

... It's plush at the top for Hagler

(Continued from Page 1)

Hagler will finally make good on his longtime promise to bring championship boxing back to Boston when he fights Fully Obel, a.k.a. Fulgencio Obelmejias, on Jan. 17 in his first title defense. The fight will be televised from the Boston Garden, but only on Home Box Office.

To prepare, Hagler has put himself back "in jail," his own description of training camp. As temperatures dipped below zero this week, he stoically put on more layers of clothing and continued his pre-breakfast runs through the Provincetown dunes.

"I've noticed that since I won the championship people tell me to take it easy," he said with a grin. "They tell me I don't have to train as hard, that this guy's no good, but I can't listen to that kind of talk. If I listened to that stuff before, I wouldn't be where I am today."

Where he is is fine indeed. A former construc-

tion worker who grew up in a New Jersey ghetto, Hagler has dined with President Carter ("He admired my championship belt") and toured South Africa, where he and his wife stopped at national parks to gaze at lions, giraffes and zebras.

The money is rolling in. For fighting Obel, an undefeated Venezuelan with 28 knockouts, Hagler will earn a cool half-million bucks. Next fight, maybe more.

"I'm a little more relaxed now that I'm officially the champ," he said. "I feel good that I reached my goal. I've got the respect of people now, the doors are

open. But I'm trying to keep my feet on the ground. I'm working as if Obel has the championship and I have to take it away from him."

Many people said Hagler would forsake Provincetown once he reached

the top. But he's back, and when he's alone he's pleased.

"I like Provincetown and it's good for me to be here away from it all," he said. "I talk to the seagulls still. I'm the same person, only happier."

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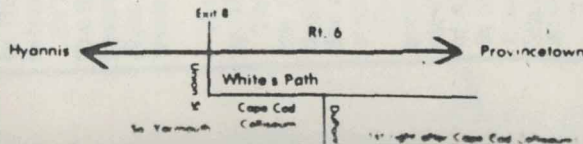


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CAPE COD TIMES CO-OP COORDINATOR SERVICE

CHURCH BOX EXT. 187

Destruction 'Marvelous' only thought

BOSTON (UPI) — Marvin Hagler posed dutifully, figuring he'd give his undefeated challenger one unmolested shot.

Fulgencio Obelmejas turned the camera toward the world middleweight champion, said, "Hey, champion," and snapped the shutter. Hagler scowled and showed a clenched fist.

"I'm not going to take his picture," Hagler growled. "I'll take it when he's on the canvas Saturday night."

Hagler and Obelmejas will meet Jan. 17 at Boston Garden in the champion's first defense of his undisputed middleweight crown. Obelmejas brings a 30-0 record with 28 knockouts into the bout. Hagler was not impressed.

"He hasn't fought Marvin Hagler yet," the bruising southpaw said Thursday. "He knocked out four guys that fought me. The only thing is, after I had gotten through with them, there was nothing left."

Obelmejas has fought most of his bouts in Caracas, but hasn't fought any middleweight rated in the Top 10 by the World Boxing Association or World Boxing Council. Both organizations, however, rate him as the No. 1 challenger.

"Everyone who steps in the ring thinks he can beat me," said Hagler, who won his crown last September with a third-round TKO in London over England's Alan Minter. "I'm looking at him as if he's the champ and I'll have to rip his head off. The only way

they'll carry me out early is if he hits me with one of the ring posts.

"Right now, all I have on my mind is destruction, destroy. I feel very confident, not cocky, just confident."

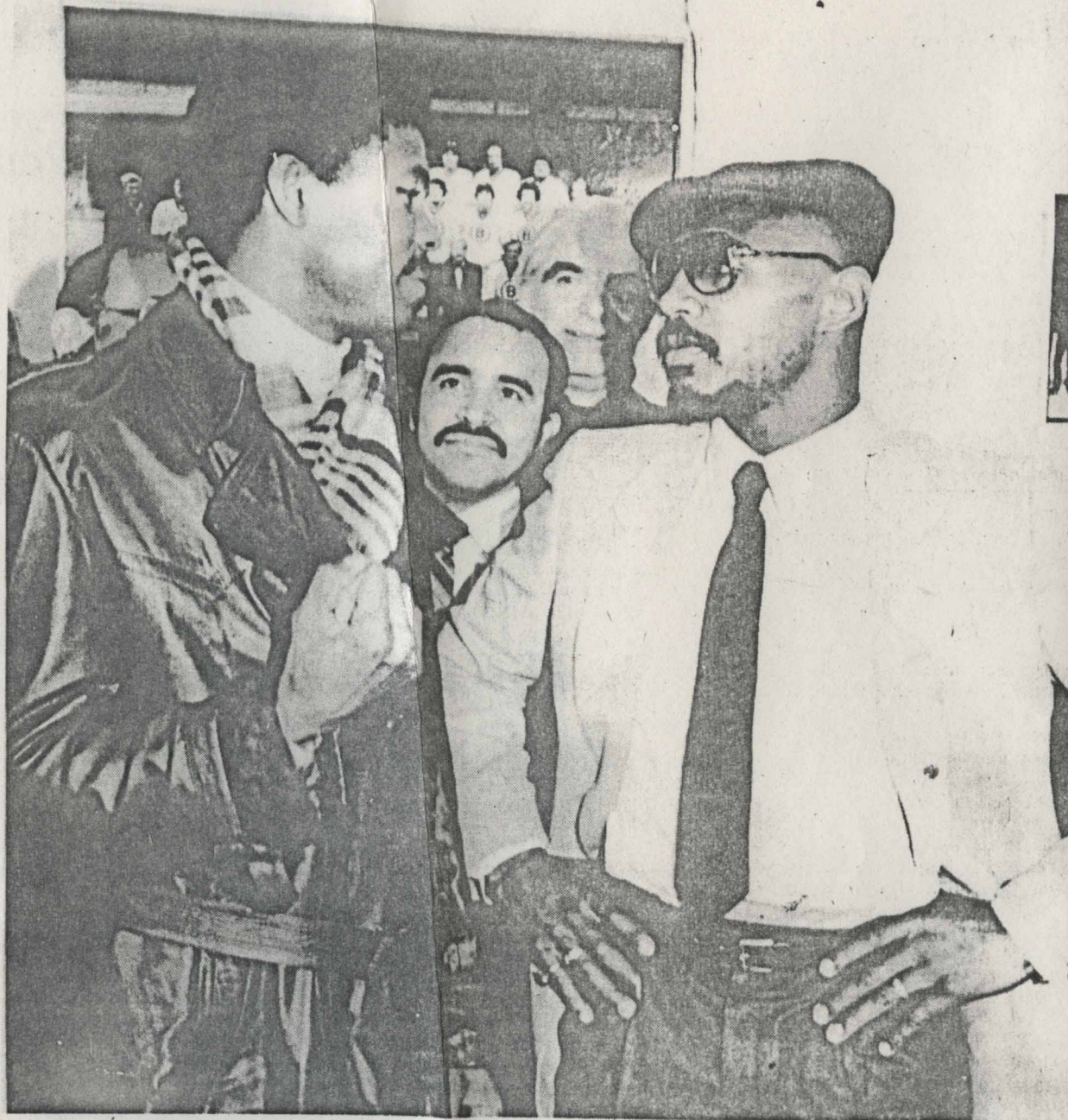
Obelmejas, who speaks no English, turned 28 New Year's Day. He is the Central American and Caribbean champion and has made only one U.S. appearance, that in San Diego in November 1977. His latest bout was in Italy on Nov. 28.

"I deserve to be the champion," he said through an interpreter. "That's what I've wanted to be ever since I started boxing (at age 16). Marvin is a good fighter but I'm sure I can be the champion."

Obelmejas said he had seen Hagler fight four times, including the Minter bout, and indicated he found a weakness in champion's style. Hagler said he had seen films of Obelmejas and has taken on a taller sparing partner to prepare for the challenger.

"I've fought tall fighters before, the best there were," sniffed Hagler, who is 50-2-2 with his last loss coming in 1976. "I will retain my title. There will be no excuses. I'm giving this man the opportunity of his life which no one wanted to give me. I want to fight the best, all the champions should fight the best."

The bout, the first championship fight in Boston since the early 1960s, will be carried live on television to South America and will be broadcast in the United States on Home Box Office. Hagler is guaranteed a purse of about \$500,000.



Middleweight champion Marvin Hagler, right, doesn't seem to be impressed with challenger Fulgencio Obelmejas during their obligatory "confrontation" Thursday at the Boston Garden. Hagler came out of training at

Provincetown for the usual pre-fight hype, but he'll let his boxing do the talking when he puts his title on the line Jan. 17 at the Garden.

(UPI Photo)

Hagler defends title Saturday

ADVOCATE
11/15/81

Marvin Hagler, who devoted years of sweat and toil to win the undisputed middleweight boxing championship of the world, will defend his title for the first time Saturday night at the Boston Garden.

Hagler seems to be in peak condition, after seven grueling weeks of training and self-imposed exile at the Provincetown Inn, ready to tangle with Fulgencio Obelmejias, a little-known Venezuelan who is the undefeated challenger.

Hagler expects to have little trouble disposing of the tall Venezuelan with the impressive knockout record, who is the top contender for the crown.

Obelmejias, or Obel for short, has knocked out 27 or 28 of his opponents, depending on which of several sources you believe, in a career spanning 30 fights. Most of these have been no-names.

"His opposition has been nowhere near what Marvin's fought," said Goody Petronelli, Hagler's veteran trainer.

"That record is deceptive. We've got tapes (videotapes) of him. He's an awkward fighter, although he can hit with both hands.

"I judge a fighter by the caliber of his opponents. So far he hasn't turned me on, but we're not taking him lightly. We're prepared for 15 tough rounds. If a shot comes sooner, Marvin will take it because the chance may not come again."

Obelmejias and Hagler have fought three common opponents, Willie Warren, Sugar Ray Phillips and Lamont Lovelady. Both knocked out all three. But Obelmejias has fought no top-10 fighters while Hagler has taken on, and beaten, the best in his division.

Petronelli said Hagler is prepared to fight aggressively if Obelmejias attempts to use his height and long reach to score points or, if Obelmejias presses him, to box.

"I hope Obelmejias presses him, because then the fight will not go 15 rounds," Petronelli said. Few expect it to go the distance under any circumstances.

Before his title fight against Vito Antofuermo in 1979, which ended in a disappointing draw, Hagler appeared to be overly conditioned, over-excited. He is an intense competitor and was his own worst enemy in that case, getting over-psyched.

"He's peaking just about where I want him," Petronelli said. "His morale is good. He's not over-psyched. He's more, I shouldn't say relaxed, he's taking it calmly."

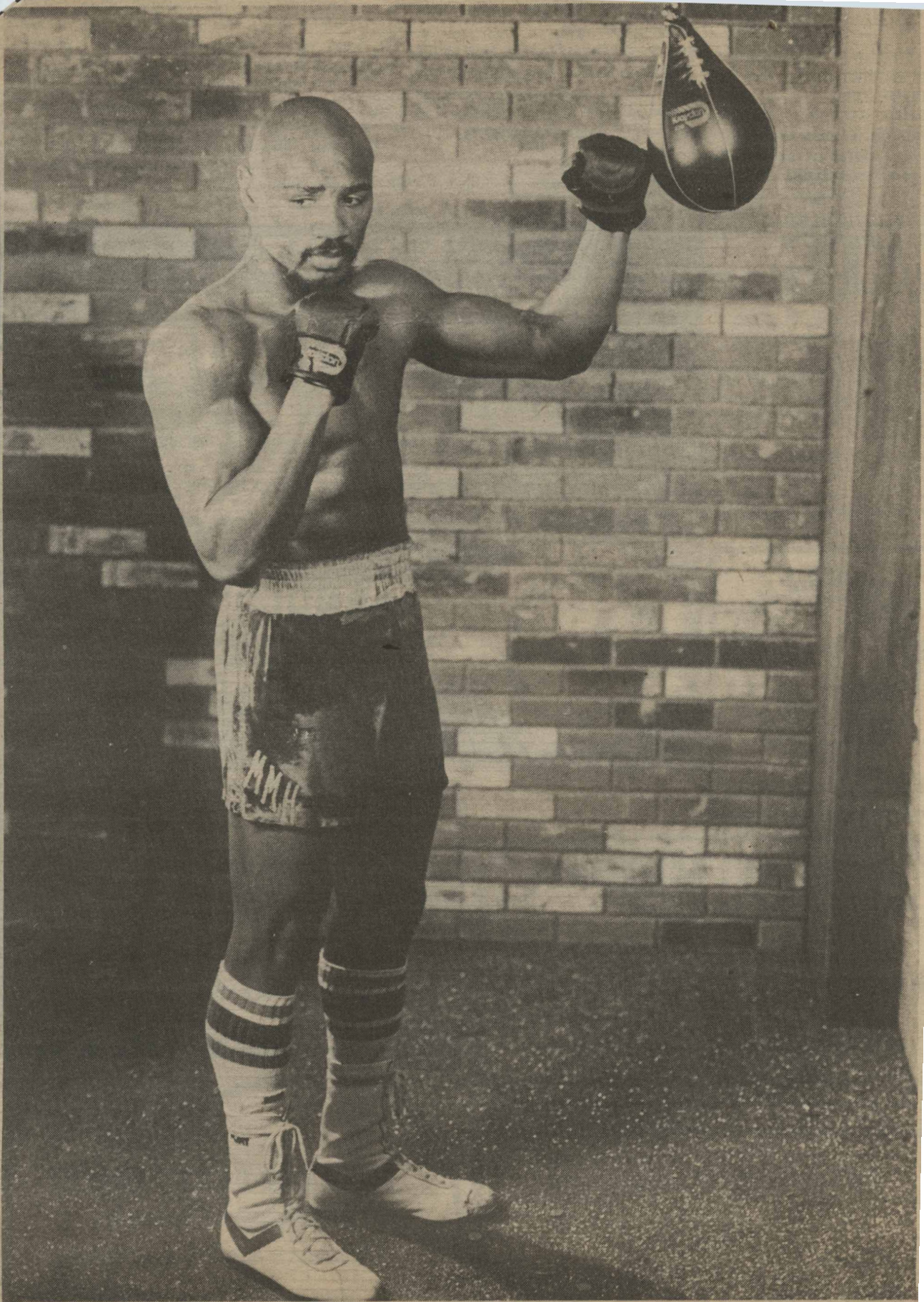
Sparring partners Willie Monroe and Al Styles have been working Hagler hard. Monroe, who fought Hagler three times, is now a Philadelphia policeman. He saw Obelmejias fight in Caracas and said Hagler should have little problem with him.

Petronelli said the videotapes of Obelmejias show that he sometimes hits after the bell. Hagler will be on guard for such tactics, although they will certainly be less acceptable in Boston, Hagler's home turf, than in Venezuela.

The referees have not yet been chosen for the fight but they will be foreign, probably from Europe or South America. No referees will be from either Venezuela or the U.S.

After Obelmejias, if Hagler is still champion, he has a long list of possible contenders from which to choose his next opponent. One is his past nemesis, Antofuermo. Another is Chongpal Park, a top-10 fighter from Korea.

Advocate HAGLER
1/15/81



Marvin Hagler, middleweight champion. Story, Page 3

Advocate photo by Carl Goldberg

Marvelous Marvin celebrates return

By GREGORY KATZ
Staff Writer

BOSTON — Marvin Hagler came home last night.

The man whose quest for the middleweight championship of the world took him to Las Vegas, London and Monte Carlo finally had a chance to do it before the home folks.

And do it Hagler did, successfully deciphering the Fully Obel's curious style, putting the gutsy Venezuelan out on his feet, defenseless, until the referee mercifully ended the Saturday night slaughter 20 seconds into the eighth round.

Hagler made good before the people who believed in him when he was just another fighter, men like 83-year-old promoter Rip Valenti—who dreamed for years of bringing championship boxing back to Boston — and Provincetown Inn owner Brooke Evans, who gave Hagler a training camp to call his own. And he made good before a cheering Provincetown delegation headed Mary-Jo Avellar, chairman of the board of selectmen.

When Hagler entered the ring of the Boston Garden, champion at last, he heard cheers and chants the likes of which he never heard before. Last night Boston — frustrated by the Red

Sox, Celtics and departing Bruins — had a champ of its own.

The venerable Garden was a far cry from the plastic parking-lot facades where Marvin fought in Las Vegas. It was a smoke-filled arena with ordinary folks far out numbering the occasional men in full-length mink coats and the socialites who preened whenever Sugar Ray Leonard sauntered by.

It was a fine night for the Hagler family, with Marvin's half-brother, Robbie Sims, confidently knocking out his opponent in the second round of a preliminary bout while his mother stood on her chair and cheered, giving her younger charger as much attention as she later lavished on Marvin.

Sims changed and emerged in time to join his brother in his corner, chrewing neverously on a toothpick-sized American flag as the Venezuelan national anthem was played in obel's honor.

Sims need not have worried. As his mother said, Marvin was in shape and in control.

"I feel real good," the champ's mother said after Obel had fallen. "Marvin going to keep this title a long time and then Robbie will be ready."

Last night even that seemed possible.

It's Hagler on a TKO

BOSTON (UPI) — It took Marvin Hagler seven years to reach the top and now that he's there he has no intention of stepping down.

The undisputed middleweight champion scored an eight-round TKO Saturday night over No. 1 challenger Fulgencio Obelmejias with a devastating right lead to retain his crown in his first title defense.

Picture, Page 39

"They kept me from the title for a long time and now they're going to have to kill me to take it away," said Hagler, who was the aggressor throughout the scheduled 15-rounder. "He fought a game fight."

Hagler, who has lost only twice in 55 bouts, often accused previous champions of ducking him. He finally claimed the title last September with a third-round TKO over England's Alan Minter.

Saturday night he did no ducking, scoring repeatedly with left-right combinations to the body and head against his taller opponent. Hagler scored a knockdown in the sixth round and Obelmejias was almost in a lull from Hagler's punishing blows when the fight was stopped.

Obelmejias, a 6-foot-1 Venezuelan entered the bout undefeated in 31 bouts with 28 knockouts. But at no time during the fight did he remotely hurt Hagler and he wilted under the champions relentless attack as the bout wore on.

"I don't think Hagler is a tremendous puncher and I don't feel like I was in the ring with the world champion," said Obelmejias, who revealed he had broken his hand in the second round with a blow Hagler's head. "I wanted to stay away from him because I was sick three days before the fight."

Referee Octavio Meyran stopped the fight 20 into the eighth round after Hagler's vicious right lead, the challenger's manager, Rafito Cedenio, requested the fight be stopped, "Because I knew my man was tired and he just couldn't do it any more."

Hagler now has 42 knockouts in his career record of 51 victories and 2 draws. Obelmijias, the Central American and Carriibbean champion,

lost for the first time in 31 bouts, 28 of which he won by KO.

Hagler, who won the title last September with a third round TKO over England's Alan Minter, was not fazed at all by the Venezuelan's punches. Obelmejias frequently swung wildly and could not unleash his right hand for fear of opening himself up to Hagler's punishing left.

After an even first round with both fighters feeling each other out, Hagler began his offensive in the second round, scoring on the combinations. In the third round, he stunned Obelmejias with a left and continued his aggression, cutting off the ring and leaving no room for escape.

Obelmejias had his best round in the seventh, scoring with a left-right combination and opening a tiny cut on Halger's lip. But Hagler's trademark has been his ability to take a punch in return for giving out more.

Meyran had Hagler the winner in every round but the first as did the other two judges, Mike Jacobs and Guy Justras.

Both fighters weighed in at 159½ pounds, just under the 160-pound limit. Hagler entered the fight as a 6-1 favorite based as much on his record as the unknown quantity of his opponent. Obelmejias had fought only one other bout in the United States, that in San Diego in his fourth professional outing in November 1977. Obelmejias won the Central American and Caribbean Middleweight title on Dec. 17, 1978.

Obelmejias also had not fought anyone ranked by either the World Boxing Council or the World Boxing Association, although both groups rated him as the No. 1 challenger. He did lose as an amateur in the 1976 Olympics where he was beaten by Cuba's Luis Martinez in the 165-pound division.

Hagler's appearance at Boston Garden was his first since Feb. 2, 1979, when he knocked out Sugar Ray Seales in the first round. The bout was the first championship fight to be staged in Boston since April 7, 1962, when Paul Pender regained his middleweight crown from England's Terry Downes.

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JAN 19 1981

PROVINCETOWN TOWNHALL JOEL O'BRIEN
COMMERCIAL ST
PROVINCETOWN MA 02657

THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

6174873900 TDMT PROVINCETOWN MA 16 01-17 0956A EST
PMS MARVELOUS MARVIN HAGLER, ASAP TONIGHT, DLR
THE BOSTON GARDEN
CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING MATCH
BOSTON MA
WE'RE WITH YOU ALL THE WAY SO IS THE ENTIRE TOWN WARMEST REGARDS AND
BEST WISHES
PROVINCETOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND TOWN MANAGER

09:57 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

Chamber of commerce honors

At its Annual Spring Dinner Tuesday night, the Provincetown Chamber of Commerce unveiled a new "Welcome to Provincetown" sign and surprised five citizens with awards for their contributions to the town.

Chamber of Commerce President Hal Goodstein, who spoke on behalf of the organization, praised William McNulty, town manager, for his considerable achievement in reorganizing Town Hall in such a short time. McNulty graciously received the award and thanked the people in Town Hall. He said without their help he could never have done it.

Provincetown Selectman Leonard Ferguson and his wife Edith both received praise from the organization for the immense amount of time they have volunteered to the town, particularly at Town Hall. Accepting the award for himself and his wife, who was at a meeting Up Cape, Ferguson quipped he was sorry his wife couldn't be present, but at least her absence gave him the chance to have an attractive date, Ruth Rogers, chamber of commerce treasurer.

Goodstein also presented an award to Marvin Hagler, middle weight world champion.

"A man who has done more in the past year to spread

the good word about Provincetown than any other single individual," Goodstein said.

Goodstein thanked Hagler for choosing Provincetown for his training camp and for praising Provincetown to the press whenever possible.

Hagler's trainer, Pat Petronelli, told the audience they had the opportunity to go to Bermuda to train, but he chose Provincetown because the people here are strong supporters and respect his privacy.

Except for Hagler, none of the other recipients knew they would receive an award, which was an engraved silver Paul Revere bowl. The awards committee members Betty Steele, Les Schaufler, Candice Leonard and Goodstein presented a list of 12 names to the board of directors, who selected the recipients. Goodstein said they hope to make the awards ceremony an annual event.

A special corsage was also presented to Christine Cabral, owner of Christine's Lodge, for being the longest standing member of the Chamber of Commerce. Goodstein said Cabral has owned Christine's Lodge for 50 years and has also been a member of the chamber of commerce for 50 years.

At the same dinner, the chamber of commerce unveiled

Hagler, McNulty, Fergusons

the new "Welcome to Provincetown" signs. Goodstein said there used to be a welcome sign on Route 6A, just outside of town. But the old sign was destroyed by a storm, and the chamber wanted a new sign that would "say more" about what Provincetown is all about. Working with the Provincetown Historical Society, the chamber formed a committee that held a competition.

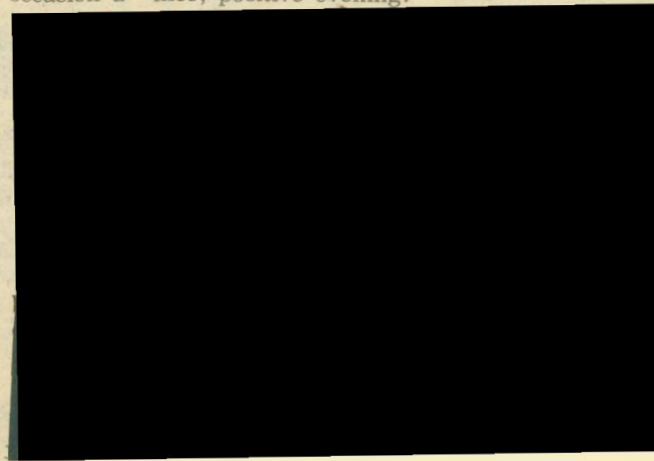
The sign committee members, Muriel Goodwin, Preston Babbitt, Susan Avellar and Gillian Drake, chose from 12 entries, Lower Cape artist Doris Britt's design, which shows a panorama of fishermen, the Pilgrim Monument and the water.

Ernest Irmer, a local sign painter, prepared the boards and the sign's lettering. Britt received her \$150 prize at the dinner.

Goodstein said the chamber of commerce, the historical society and the airport donated money for the first three signs, which cost about \$500 each. He said they will put one sign at the airport, another will replace the old Route 6A sign, and the third will stand outside of town on Route 6.

He said they hope to get donations for three additional signs that would stand at the town wharf and at the Conwell Street and Shank Painter Road exits off Route 6.

About 120 people gathered at the Moors Restaurant for the dinner, awards and the unveiling. Goodstein called the occasion a "nice, positive evening."





Town of Provincetown

MASSACHUSETTS 02657

(617) 487-3900

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: The citizens of the Town of Provincetown take deep pride in having Marvin Hagler, Middleweight Champion of the world, amidst our people, in our Town, during his training preparation for his forthcoming boxing match

WE, the members of the Board of Selectmen desire to place on record our appreciation to him as a fine human being, and of a truly dedicated personality, in the world of sports and in the best interest of the Town, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this proclamation be presented to him with a desire that he be returned to us as the victor once again

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Honorable Board of Selectmen of the Town of Provincetown, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim our best wishes to Marvin Hagler, his family, and his entire entourage on his feat
the citizens of Provincetown are called upon to support the objective of this proclamation that Marvin Hagler might enjoy these unparalleled intentions to the fullest extent possible and be honored with another win.

Given at the Town Hall, Provincetown
this 13th day of June, in the year
of our Lord, one thousand nine
hundred and eighty one.

By the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Mary-Jo Ayellar
Mary-Jo Ayellar, Chairman

George D. Bryant
George D. Bryant

Leonard W. Ferguson
Leonard W. Ferguson, Clerk

Michael Coelho
Michael Coelho

Wayne Perry
Wayne Perry



Town Seal
was placed
here

/rw

First Landing Place of the Pilgrims



1620

Proclamation

hereas: ^{take deep pride in having} The Citizens of the Town of Provincetown are deeply proud to have Marvin Hagler, Middleweight Champion of the World, amidst our people, in our town, during his training preparation for his forthcoming boxing ~~match~~ ^{match}.

we, the members of the Board of Selectmen desire to place on record our appreciation to him as a ~~ferocious~~ ^{fine} human being and of a truly dedicated personality, in the world of sports and in the best interest of the town, therefore be it

Resolved, ^{presented} that this proclamation ~~document~~ be awarded to him with a desire that he be returned to us as the victor once again.

Now, Therefore, We the Honorable Board of Selectmen of the Town of Provincetown in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim our best wishes to Marvin Hagler, his family and his entire entourage on his feat. The citizens of Provincetown ~~have~~ ^{are} ~~are~~ ^{are} called upon to support the objective of this proclamation that Marvin Hagler might enjoy these unparalleled intentions to the fullest extent possible and be honored with another win.

Given at the Town Hall
Provincetown this 13th day
of June, in the year of our
Lord, one thousand nine hundred
and eighty one. (L. T. B. P. 11)

By the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Date of meeting: 8 June 1981 Number of tapes 45

Tape _____ Completed action/date _____
 Number/side/reading _____

Topic: Health Associates of Provincetown Serial no. 1096

Moved, in response to request received from Cape Cod Planning and Development Commission, that the Board of Selectmen has no objection to application being made by Health Associates of Provincetown, Inc., making application for federal grants to support the agency's rural primary care services in the Provincetown-Truro area.

yes	<u>4</u>	no	<u>0</u>
abstaining			<u>1 (mja)</u>
absent			_____
passed			<u>✓</u>
failed			_____

Selectman Avellar abstained because she is on the Board of Directors of Health Associates.

Topic: Marvelous Marvin Hagler Serial no. 1097

Moved to declare 13 June 1981 "Marvelous Marvin Hagler Day" in the Town of Provincetown. Appropriate proclamation to be prepared.

yes	<u>5</u>	no	<u>0</u>
abstaining			_____
absent			_____
passed			<u>✓</u>
failed			_____

Topic: Executive session Serial no. 1098

Moved to go into executive session to decide upon advice to give Town Counsel upon his request for same with respect to type of litigation to be pursued in pending case. Charman Avellar indicated that there being no further business to discuss after the executive session, the Board would adjourn immediately upon conclusion of the Executive session.

yes	<u>5</u>	no	<u>0</u>
abstaining			_____
absent			_____
passed			<u>✓</u>
failed			_____

Board members polled individually. Every member voted "aye."

Topic: Adjournment Serial no. 1099

Adjourned in accord with Chairman Avellar's statement (see previous motion) and proper Board vote to adjourn (at approximately 1:30 a.m., Tuesday morning, 9 June 1981).

yes	<u>5</u>	no	<u>0</u>
abstaining			_____
absent			_____
passed			<u>✓</u>
failed			_____