

In the House of Upsets, the Eastern Parkway Arena, Brooklyn, N. Y., Pierre Langlois, of France, is dropped in the first round by Joe Giardello, Brooklyn middleweight. Giardello surprised by taking a unanimous ten round decision.

FOUL FILLED BRAWL WON BY GIARDELLO OVER JOEY GIAMBRA IN BROOKLYN

In running his winning sequence at Eastern Parkway to four, Joey Giardello, 155, Philadelphia, edged out Joey Giambra, 155, Buffalo, in a rough, brawling ten spiced by frequent warnings from Referee Harry Ebbets for foul tactics. Giardello was penalized the third and Giambra the fourth for low punching, and throughout the fracas both boys also were guilty of butting and heeling. Giambra was the chief offender, and this apparently counted against him in the final scoring. Though the decision in Giardello's favor was unanimous with all three officials, the Philadelphian's margin was slight. It was a bruising affair all the way, and both rivals had to fight themselves out of some rough spots.

**GIARDELLO: THE POLICEMAN OF THE
OF THE MIDDLEWEIGHTS
.THE 1950'S**



GIL TURNER, pictured above on the left, is shown trying to cover up as Joey Giardello, right, prepares to throw a left hook. In the photo at the left, the eye cut, which Giardello received in the third round of his upset bout with the leading welterweight contender, is shown as the blood streamed down his face. Another photo of fight action on Page 32.—(Staff Photos by Charles

Graham Choice To Even Count With Giardello

Ranking Welterweights Wage TV Bout Tonight In Garden Ring

New York, Dec. 18 (AP) — Billy Graham, 30-year-old veteran of 115 pro-fights, hopes to regain lost prestige tomorrow night in a ten-round rematch with Joey Giardello, his August 4 conqueror.

Beaten by Giardello and then soundly whipped by Kid Gavilan in his second welter title bid, Graham needs a win to stay with the top rankers.

The Madison Square Garden match, scheduled for 10 p. m., will be carried on network radio (ABC) and television (NBC).

Graham's career record of 98 wins, nine defeats and eight draws makes him a choice to even matters with the brawling Philadelphia counter-puncher.

When Graham lost a split decision to Gavilan for the welter title in 1951, they called him the "uncrowned champ." Most newsmen at ringside thought the New Yorker had won it.

Record Not Impressive

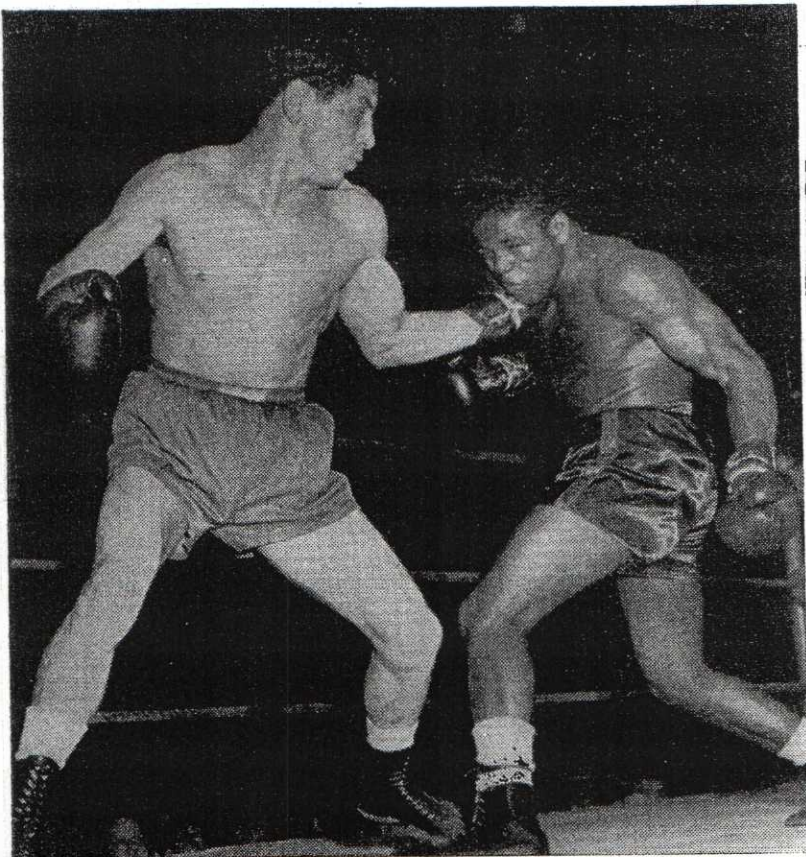
However, Billy has only a 4-2-1 record this year, beating Jimmy Herring, Mike Gillo, Art Solo and Carmen Basilio while drawing with Rocky Castellani and losing to Giardello and Gavilan.

Graham had been out of action for about three months when he took on Giardello at Brooklyn's

BLOODY AND GAME JOEY BORES IN

Giardello wins

Crowd of 7,377 pays \$40,642 to see Gil almost knocked out by downtown middleweight ace at the Arena



The date is April 7, 1953. Joey's left finds Gil Turner's jaw.

Giardello Beats Favored Turner In 10-Round Bout

11-5 Favorite Loses Unanimous Verdict, Reeling at Finish

By JOHN WEBSTER

In one of the most furious hitting duels ever waged in Philadelphia, Joey Giardello, benefited by a seven-pound weight advantage, scored one of the season's more notable upsets when he hammered out 10-round victory over Gil Turner, leading welterweight contender, last night at the Arena.

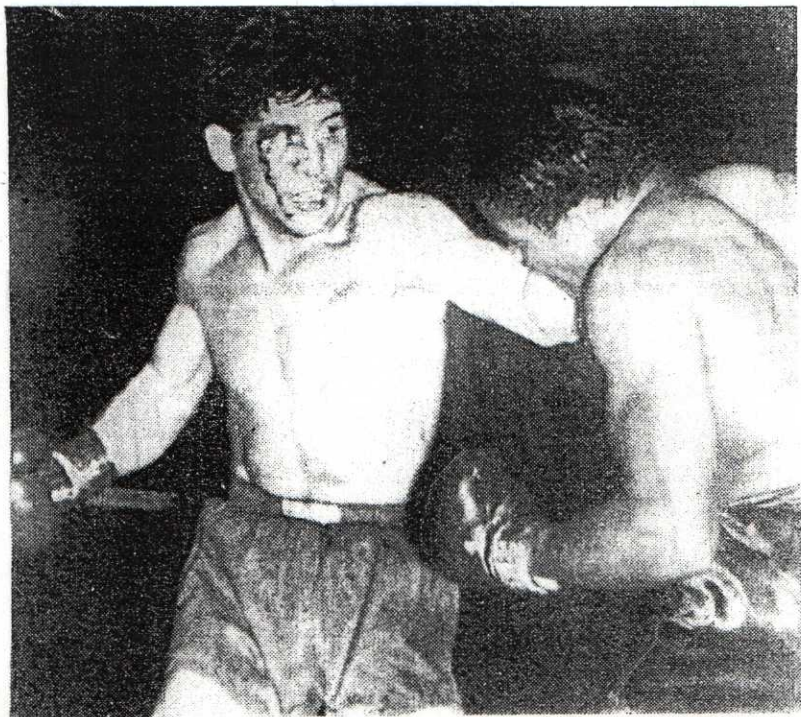
Giardello, 154½, a 22-year-old middleweight from South Philadelphia, turned the tide with a wit-scrambling right cross that shook up Turner, the 11-5 wagering choice, late in the seventh round. From that point, Joey held punch control and went on to win the unanimous decision of Referee Charley Daggert (7-3) and Judges Zach Clayton (5-3-2) and Lou Tress (7-2-1).

On my score sheet, Giardello, who was waging his first major battle here, won by a much narrower margin: 5-4-1.

TURNER GETS BEATING

The 7377 fight fans, who produced a gross gate of \$40,642.98, saw Turner take a more emphatic beating through the last three periods than he'd ever before taken in a ring. He was tipsy and reeling through the eighth and ninth. Rallying on sheer gameness in the final round, Gil threw everything he had left. It wasn't nearly enough.

Giardello, though weary, winded and bloody from the right brow that was split in the third round, was still much the stronger of the two. He could have finished the Germantown youth with one good wallop, but in the final take of a donnybrook he didn't have it left in stock.

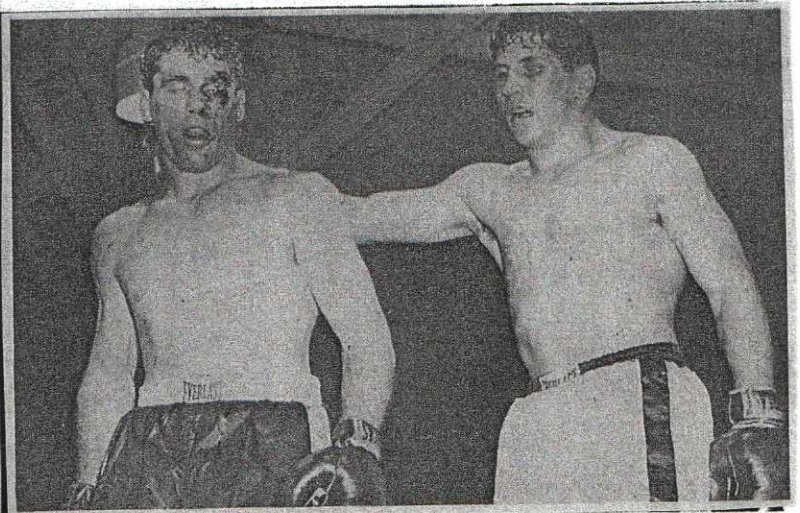


Underdog Giardello (left), bleeding from a split on his brow, hammers away at Gil Turner during their ten rounder in Philadelphia. Giardello won a unanimous decision.

GIARDELLO BEATS CARTIER IMPRESSIVELY



Joey Giardello, Philadelphia middleweight, who moved a step nearer a shot at the title by his unanimous ten round decision over Walter Cartier of New York City at the Eastern Parkway Arena, Brooklyn, N. Y.



GIARDELLO WINS BACK-ALLEY BRAWL WITH PORTUGUEZ



Tuzo Portuguez (left) was shaken completely after Joey Giardello landed a right cross on his chin. They fought for ten rounds with plenty of roughness displayed on both sides. Both were cautioned by Referee Ruby Goldstein on various occasions, but the conclusion showed Joey with plenty of margin on his side at the end of bout.



Referee Ruby Goldstein halting the fight between Joe Giardello and Tuzo Portuguez, (right) to warn them that he will stop the rough battle unless the boys obey the rules. Giardello won the unanimous decision at the Eastern Parkway Arena of New York.

It isn't often that TV fans get a chance to see what a real old time dock fight looks like, but they got it in New York recently when Joe Giardello and Tuzo Portuguez fought ten vicious, dirty rounds at the Eastern Parkway Arena. Butting, use of elbows, hitting on the breaks, use of knees—in fact everything that is termed a foul under the rules of boxing except gouging—the boys apparently didn't know how to handle that properly—was on display.

There even was an attempt by one of the seconds, Joe Friday, handling Portuguez, to get into the ring, probably to take a pot shot at someone. Referee Ruby Goldstein had his hands full. He took away two rounds, one from each fighter for

rough playing. For this, Friday was suspended on the spot by Commissioner Christenberry.

Goldstein would have done well had he tossed both fighters out of the ring, but he did an excellent job by curbing the men after halting the bout and warning them. The fight was the roughest, most turbulent affair seen in New York since the Zivic-Bummy Davis fracas. It was a disgraceful exhibition, one that gave the viewers an opportunity to see the type of boxing that was outlawed when boxing commissions took over.

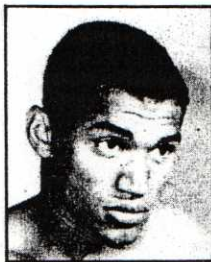
Let's have no more of this. With television at home catering to the youth of the land, it behooves our commissions to act firmly against rowdyism.

Giardello Favored to Beat Cartier in Garden TV Bout

Giardello Strikes Down Cartier for Quick TKO



Joey Giardello (right) poured on a vicious attack in the first round to drop Walter Cartier three times and firmly establish himself as the Number One contender for Bobo Olson's middleweight title.



WILLIE TROY

DANGEROUS middleweight contender . . . Born in Washington, D. C. . . . Now lives in New York City . . . Married, father of a 1 year old son . . . Former Golden Gloves middleweight titleholder . . . Likes all kinds of music . . . 6 ft. 1 inch . . . powerful left hook, good counter puncher . . . Great action fighter . . . Won 19 straight after turning pro . . . Scored 23 kayos in winning 30 of 32 . . . Has never lost a decision . . . Defeated Lee Sala, Moses Ward, Walter Cartier, Tony Anthony, Bobby Jones, Randy Sandy, Billy Kilgore, Terry Moore, Al Winn, Charlie Williams . . . Nine of his bouts have been televised.

Giardello meets Troy in 'natural'

By JACK CUDDY.

NEW YORK, March 19 (UP).—Slickster Joey Giardello and relentless Willie Troy meet tonight at Madison Square Garden in a 10-round middleweight "natural" that has attracted more attention than many a title fight.

Advance sales indicated more than 10,000 fans and \$40,000 best Garden figures for 1954, although the bout will be televised and broadcast nationally.

BETTING HEAVY

Betting was terrific with Giardello of Philadelphia favored slightly at 13-10. However, Troy of New York and formerly of Washington had such heavy backing there was no certainty about his being an underdog at fight time.

It is a significant clash. An impressive victory by either might earn a Summer title shot.

Twenty-three-year-old Giardello, ranked second among the world's 160-pound contenders, was favored slightly because of his experience, speed, skill, footwork and rapid-fire combinations.

But seventh-ranked Troy, 21, was robustly supported because of his persistent driving attack, his stamina and his apparently superior punch that sends him into the ring boasting seven straight knockouts.

"Willie no ditch" has won 26 of his 27 professional bouts, 29 by knockouts. His only defeat was on a TKO by Holly McKinnis on March 4, 1953.

Whirlwind Giardello displayed unexpected punching power in his two fights this year when he tagged rugged Garth Panier with the first knockout of his career on Jan. 8, and stopped Walter Cartier in the first round on Feb. 5.

Giardello stops Troy in 7th

Joey's stock rises; loser down 3 times

By JACK CUDDY
NEW YORK, March 20 (UP). — Sensational Joey Giardello of Philadelphia demanded a Summer shot at the middleweight title today as a reward for stopping dangerous Willie Troy and registering his third straight kayo victory this year.

But Chairman Robert T. Christenberry of the New York State Boxing Commission suggested that Joey first meet Rocy Castellani of Cleveland in a challengers' battle. Each has a \$2500 challengers' check posted with the commission.

GREATEST SHOWING
Dark-haired, muscular Joey gave his greatest performance last night before a rainy-night crowd of 8196 in Madison Square Garden. He floored 6-foot Troy three times and stopped him at 39 seconds of the seventh round. The TKO snapped New Yorker Troy's winning streak at seven consecutive knockouts.

Friends of Giardello insisted he had been guaranteed \$15,000 for the nationally televised and broadcast bout. But Matchmaker Billy Brown declared Joey will get 36 percent of the net gate left from the gross of \$31,225, plus \$4000 of TV-radio money. That would total about \$12,531. Troy received about \$3150.

Giardello, scaling 159 pounds to Troy's 166½, had Willie battered into such helplessness that Referee Al Berl stopped the bout in the seventh round. Joey was favored at 13-10.

Game, ragged, 21-year-old Troy had made a great fight of it despite two trips to the canvas in the first round and one in the second. Each knockdown was caused by booming rights to the head. However, the former resident of Washington was lucky that the bell ended the first round at the count of seven after the second knockdown and ended the second round

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY SEVEN

at the count of eight after the third trip.

Troy had regained his feet each time during the mandatory counting, but he was ready for the coup de grace.

Before suffering his second defeat and second knockout in 28 professional bouts, Troy's long left jabs and "apeater" left hooks bloodied Giardello's nose in the third round, gave him terrific competition in the fourth and won the fifth. But Giardello got his second wind in the sixth and battered Troy so silly, Dr. Vincent Mar-diello examined Willie in his corner at the end of the round.

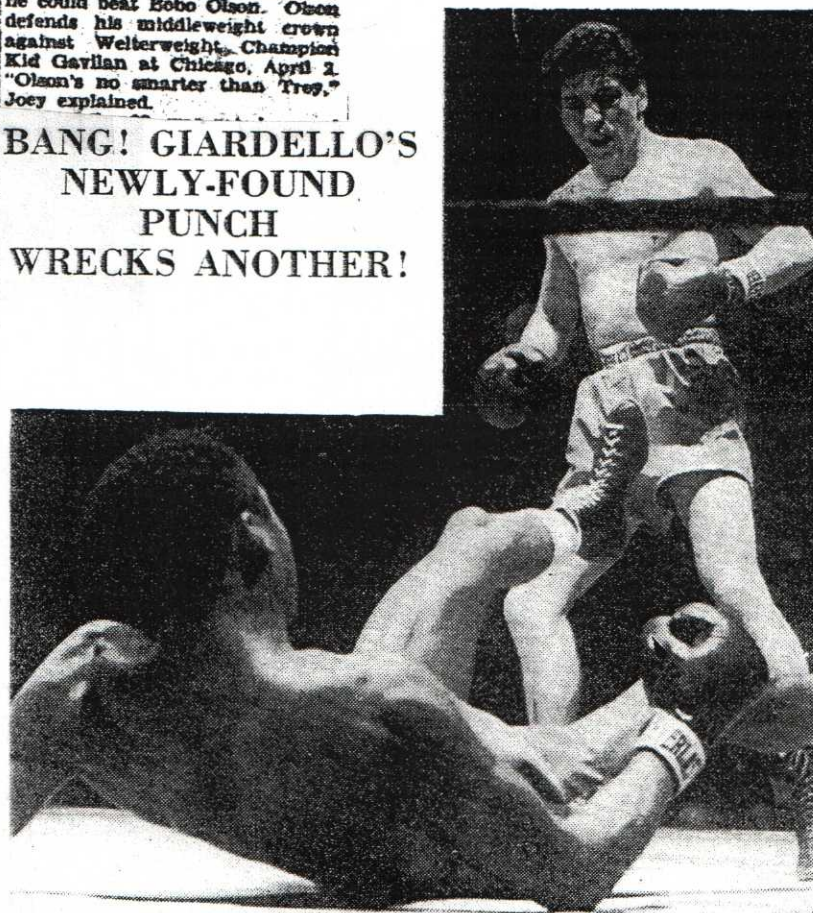
Giardello, who hammered to fame as a whirlwind boxer instead of a puncher, said his consecutive kayoes over Garth Panter, Walter Cartier and Troy convinced him he could beat Bobo Olson. Olson defends his middleweight crown against Welterweight Champion Kid Gavilan at Chicago, April 2. "Olson's no smarter than Troy," Joey explained.

Giardello, 23, was rated second among 100-pound contenders before last night's bout. Rocky Castellani, who won a decision over Joey at Scranton, Pa., Nov. 13, 1961, was rated top man. Troy was No. 7.

Chairman Christenberry said today, "Giardello's three knockouts this year left no doubt in any one's mind that he is at least on a par with Castellani. But it would be best for boxing that they meet in a challenger's fight, and let the winner get a Summer title shot."

Meanwhile, Giardello is considering an outdoor match with Gil Turner in Philadelphia in May or a fight at the Garden on June 14 or 21.

**BANG! GIARDELLO'S
NEWLY-FOUND
PUNCH
WRECKS ANOTHER!**



Giardello nearly finished Troy in riotous first round, when he slugged the Washingtonian to the canvas twice. Willie is seen here going down for the second time. The bell saved him. Troy was dropped again in second, but staged gallant comeback until Giardello's heavy bombardment finally stopped him in seventh. The victory was Joey's third straight knockout in Madison Square Garden, and established the former light-hitting Philadelphian as one of the hardest punchers in the middleweight class.

Few remember that Joey earned the title shot with Olson when he agreed to take on Willie Troy when Troy was the most feared middleweight in the world at that time. This fight and the Bobby Boyd fight (when Boyd was No. 1 after beating Gene Fullmer) I think were his greatest victories and he actually got in top condition for both—which was very rare for Joey.

Giardello Upset By Langlois In Shocker



... Just as he was nailing down a title bid, he was beaten by Pierre Langlois in May of 1954 and had to start climbing all over again.



Joey is beating Tiger Ralph Jones in a ten in Philadelphia in September, 1954. The Tiger just has stopped a telling right in the fifth.

Late rally gives Giardello ring nod over Tiger Jones

By ED DELANEY 9/24/54

It looked as if Joe Giardello was going to "blow" a shot at the world's middleweight crown in the Arena ring last night.

Actually, Philadelphia's hope for the 160-pound crown didn't start finding the range against Ralph (Tiger) Jones until the last two heats of their 10-round affair.

Joey fought in flurries through the first eight rounds and on occasions let Jones take the play away from him.

He stayed close enough to make a good fight of it and then began landing with short left hooks and right crosses to Jones' face and mid-section.

Some of the 1833 fans, who paid a gross gate of \$6294.50, didn't agree with the unanimous verdict given Giardello. They went along with the underdog.

But Giardello came with a rush in the ninth and 10th, especially the latter round, as he slowed up his rival with some telling wallops.

Several times during these two heats he had Jones set up for the finishing blow but "The Tiger" was a tough hombre and fought back tenaciously to throw a real scare into Giardello's corner.

Joey had to weather an early storm for he suffered a cut on his left eyebrow in the third round and blood began streaming down his cheek.

It wasn't deep enough to be real bothersome and Jones wasn't

able to open it deep to perhaps force a halt to the proceedings.

So, Giardello stalked Jones until he found his target in those last two rounds.

One judge, Max Daroff, gave seven rounds to Giardello, two to Jones and called another even. The other judge, Nate Lopinson, called it 6 to 4 in Joey's favor and the referee, Pete Pantaleo, decided it the same way.

The fight which really brought the crowd out of their seats, was Jimmy Soo's sensational finish against Howard (Moony) Curry as the Chinese-American lightweight recorded his 16th straight professional victory.

Soo battered Curry with an avalanche of blows in the eighth and final round of their bout and the fans clamored for a knockout but the beaten scrapper wouldn't go down.

This was a real "Pier 6 brawl" all the way as both fighters threw caution to the winds and tore leather with the rapidity of a machinegun. Often Curry caught Soo with clean rights and the latter was just as efficient with wicked left hooks.



Pierre Langlois



GIARDELLO PLANS TO FIGHT OLSON

Joe Giardello, young Philadelphia middleweight, is shown here being pushed down a corridor by two nuns at St. Agnes' Hospital, Philadelphia, where Joey underwent an operation for the removal of torn cartilage from the left knee. He hopes the operation will put him in condition for his title battle with Champion Bobo Olson in San Francisco's Cow Palace, Dec. 15. This should be one of the really important fights of the year. *But*



Joey's title hopes faded when he served time after a gas station attendant (right) accused him of assault in 1955 . . .

Giardello was signed to fight Olson in San Francisco in Nov. 1954 and was away at training camp in Jersey (I'll look up which training camp) when he snuck out to have a little fun in Atlantic City. On his way back to camp around dawn, he was involved in a auto accident on the Garden State Parkway when his car flipped over three times. One of his friends was said to have lost an eye in the accident and Joey broke the cartiliges in his knee. He spent weeks at St. Agnes hospital before he was released. Frenchman Pierre Langlois substituted for Joey against Olson.

Not long after on Halloween night 1954 Joey, while on crutches, was out partying with some friends when he decided to get some gas and they stopped at a gas station on Broad Street across from Father Devine's Heaven. As they were getting gas from a black station attendant the congregation was just leaving "Father Devine's" when one of the occupants of Joey's car started making rude remarks about the Churchgoers and Joey said to the attendant not to mind what the fellow was saying because he had a big mouth and the attendant was said to reply, "all you guineas have big mouths." One of the guys in Joey's car jumped out an punched the attendant and as they drove away somebody thru a gas can that shattered Joey's cadillac rear window. They went back an tore up the gas station (which was owned by an Italian). Joey claimed he never got out of the car because he couldn't walk but one of his guys grabbed his crutch and hit the attendant with it. Later that night The police, with the gas station attendant, picked up the guys and the attendant identified all but Giardello as the ones who assaulted him and damaged the station. But a few days later Joey was picked up and charged with riotous assault. Joey always claimed that he was brought in as a political ploy by District Attorney Richardson Dillworth, who was running for mayor, to court the black vote in the coming election.

One more thing I want to say about Giardello. After scoring his third straight KO at Madison Square Garden (on national T.V.) over Willie Troy, Giardello was promised a shot at Olson for the title that summer at an outdoor New York ballpark. But Al Neiman who managed Rocky Castellani offered Sid Flaherty \$125 thousand to meet Castellani who was No.2 contender behind Giardello. Being this was \$25 thousand more than the IBC guarantee for an Olson defense against Giardello, Flaherty and the IBC accepted Castellani over Joey. Giardello seemed to go into a free fall after this, losing a huge upset to Langlois and barely squeezing by Bobby Jones and Tiger Jones and on top of this his son Carmine was born retarded. Only after this was Joey granted a shot at Olson who was the IBC house fighter. Giardello might have had underworld people in his management but they werent the right ones. Joey will still tell you that Blinky stole the Saxton fight from him⁸⁹ and his people and Blinky were not exactly on good terms.

PHILADELPHIA MAGAZINE and he states that Joey went from Eshans in the Catskills to Atlantic City and was driving over 100 miles an hour on the way back to camp when he flipped his car.

Giardello Deserving Of Prison

2/55
Middleweight boxer Joey Giardello was sentenced on June 10 to from six to 18 months in the county prison on charges of riot and conspiracy to riot.

Giardello's attorney immediately announced that he would appeal the sentence and Joey was released on bail pending the outcome of the appeal.

Giardello was charged with taking part in the beating of Howard Short 29, an attendant at a gasoline station in Philadelphia. It was testified at the trial that Giardello hit Short with a crutch and threw almost half a dozen cans of oil through a plate glass window.

Three men who were with Giardello the night of the disturbance pleaded guilty to assault and battery. Testimony was introduced which showed that after Giardello hit Small with the crutch the three men with Joey jumped the gas station employer and gave him a vicious beating, after which they destroyed everything in sight. A Coca Cola machine, gas pumps, oil racks, and broke several large plate glass windows.

The pugnacious boxer whose real name is Carmine Tilelo appeared in court nattily dressed, and the toughie accepted the sentence with no outward show of emotion.

Judge Little who sentenced Giardello also directed the boxer to pay the costs of the trial and to make restitution for damages to the gasoline station,

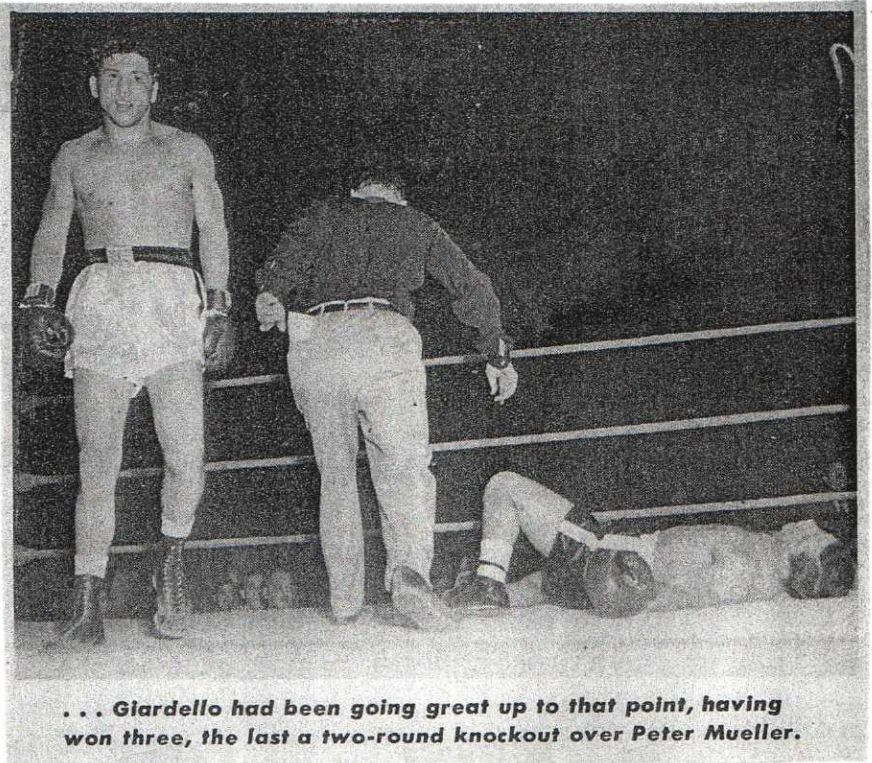
I have no sympathy at all for Giardello who for many years now has been associating with the hoodlum element of Philadelphia. Despite the fact that he has a very lovely wife and three small children, (the real sufferers in this tragedy) he has not paid strict attention to either his family or to the boxing game, and both have suffered through his escapades.

There cannot be one rule for one man and another rule for another. It would have been a miscarriage of justice if Giardello would have been let off with a suspended sentence, just because he happens to be a top rate prizefighter.

The six months in the county jail may give Giardello a little time to think over the harm he has done to his family, to boxing, and to himself.

For the sake of his family, I would like to see Joey straighten himself out and fly right, and since he is only 24 years old he may still find a place in the pugilistic sun.

But as for now, Giardello should be made to serve his jail term.



... Giardello had been going great up to that point, having won three, the last a two-round knockout over Peter Mueller.



Joey Giardello, tough Philadelphia middleweight who was No. 1 contender at the time, stares reflectively into space as he went on trial on assault and battery charges. He was sentenced to a term of six to eighteen months.

GIARDELLO PAROLED

A United Press Dispatch out of Philadelphia:

Middleweight contender Joey Giardello was paroled from Holmesburg Prison today after he said: "I learned my lesson and I know the way to go now." The 24-year-old Philadelphian served 15 weeks of a six to 18-month sentence for slugging gas station attendant Howard Short in October of 1954.

Giardello's petition for parole was approved by Judge Edward P. Little after a 45-minute hearing in City Hall.

THE FIGHTER LOOKED none the worse for his stay in prison. Friends said he lost five pounds while in jail, looked "in the pink," and now weighs 160 pounds . . .

JOEY'S ATTORNEY, Michael Van Mosziker, told the court the boxer was willing to make restitution for damages to the garage a provision of the parole.

The attorney for the owner of the garage said he was satisfied with the offer. The amount was not announced, but it was reported to be about \$1,000.

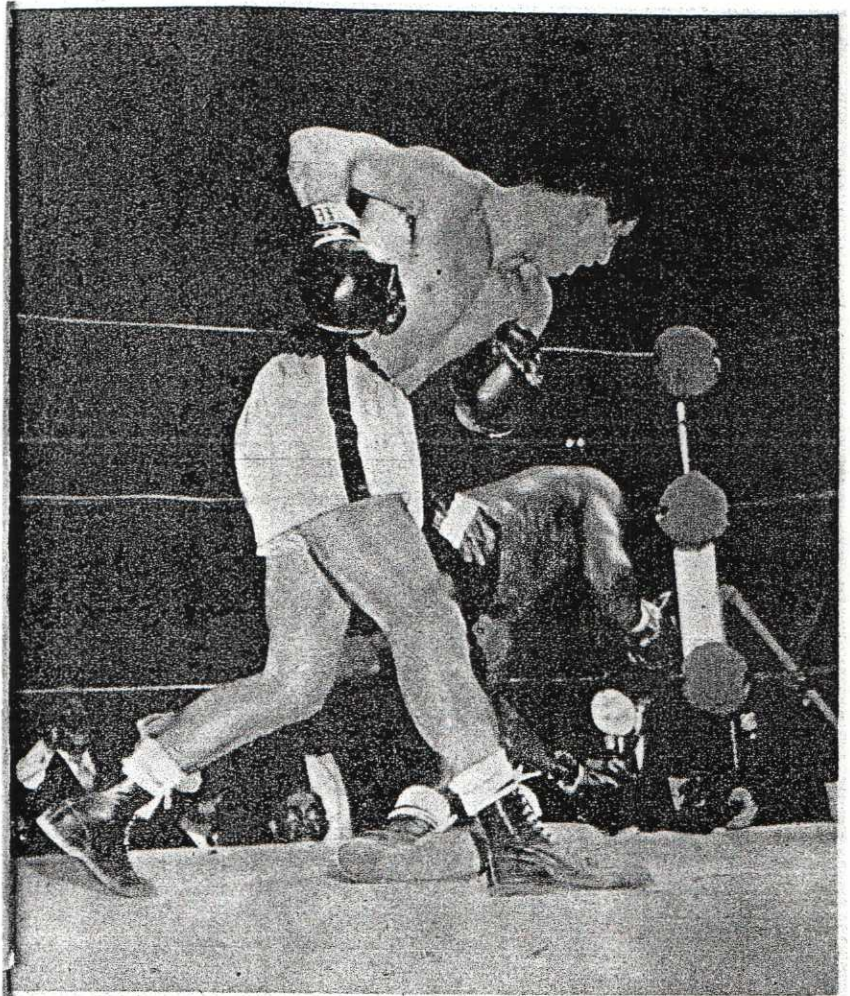
Joey Giardello returns to form by flattening Bobby Boyd.

ITS ABOUT TIME

JOEY GIARDELLO finally flashed the performance that he is capable when he disposed of Bobby Boyd, outstanding middleweight contender, in the fifth round of a slashing battle at Cleveland on the Friday night Gillette TV show. It was an inspiring display on the part of Joey and brought him right back into the ranks of contenders. He looked the part of a champion in every possible department.

Starting the first session, Giardello took command. He lowered the sights on Boyd and dropped his head back with jarring jabs and right handers that shook him up. He dropped Boyd against the ropes just as the bell rang, it being too late to start a count. Boyd made one spurt in the third round, the only round he was able to capture.

Giardello dropped Bobby in the fifth with a right on the chin and upon arising, reeled around the ring in uncertain fashion. The fight could have been stopped at that point to save Boyd from needless damage, but another right exploded which felled him for the full count. As Boyd lay stretched out on the canvas long after the ten was finished, it appeared as if he were badly hurt. It was a sensational finish



Joey Giardello flashed championship form when he disposed of Bobby Boyd in five rounds at Cleveland.

Giardello KO's Boyd

CLEVELAND (UP). — Joey Giardello, the Philadelphia slugger, knocked out Bobby Boyd in 2:25 of the fifth round of their nationally televised 10-rounder here last night.

Giardello matched second ranking middleweight Boyd's class from the early going.

Giardello floored Boyd earlier in the fifth with a sharp left. Boyd went sprawling over the ropes. He came off the ropes at the count of eight, staggering towards his own corner.

GIARDELLO met Boyd coming out with a right cross that sent him sprawling and down for the 10 count.

Boyd was given a taste of what was in store for him in the first round, when Giardello nailed him with a right cross that sent

Giardello Opposes Calhoun

CLEVELAND (UP).— Highly-touted middleweight contenders Joey Giardello and Rory Calhoun counted on heavy artillery to make it "short and sweet" tonight in their 10-round televised fight at the Arena. (Channel 3 will carry the fight at 10 p.m.)

Odds makers rated the twice-postponed "natural" even money chiefly on the point that either fighter can take out an opponent with one wallop.

CALHOUN, won 14 of 28 fights by knockouts. Giardello set down 23 of 83 opponents by the kayo route.

Calhoun's trainer, Charley Goldman, calls his fighter "the most murderous body puncher in the middleweight division," but Giardello can hit hard and is rated a better boxer.

Tonight's bout was the third scheduled between the two: Calhoun canceled last December when a rib injury kept him out of action. Giardello suffered a face cut in a sparring workout while prepping for the second fight in April, and again it was postponed.

The bout is important to both contestants and their chances for a crack at the middleweight crown.

The National Boxing Association ranked Calhoun fifth and Giardello sixth among the middleweights.

Giardello is a Cleveland fan favorite because of his bruising style. He started a string of six victories with a win over Bobby Boyd last September at the Arena.

Giardello Victor, May Meet Sugar

Bout Would Be Staged Next Fall

Joey Decisions Rory Calhoun 5/11/57

CLEVELAND (UP)—Middleweight champion Ray Robinson's manager would "like to see Giardello in the ring with Sugar Ray."

George Gainford, Robinson's manager, said that last night in the arena dressing room of Joey Giardello minutes after the Brooklyn Italian had beaten Rory Calhoun on a split decision in a tough

With welterweight king Carmen Basilio in line for a crack at Robinson next, there probably will be at least a six-month interval before the opportunity Giardello made for himself last night will materialize.

It was an opportunity that the Georgia-born Calhoun of White Plains, N. Y., had been "hurling" for some months.

CHECKS RALLY

Accumulating a point edge in the early rounds, Giardello staved off the powerful Calhoun's bid for a knockout in the closing stanzas to become the second fighter who has vanquished Calhoun. The 22-year-old slugger had won 14 of 27 previous fights by knockouts and been set back only once in his three-year career.

Giardello, who will be 27 in July and has been fighting professionally since 1948, used his experience to good advantage against the

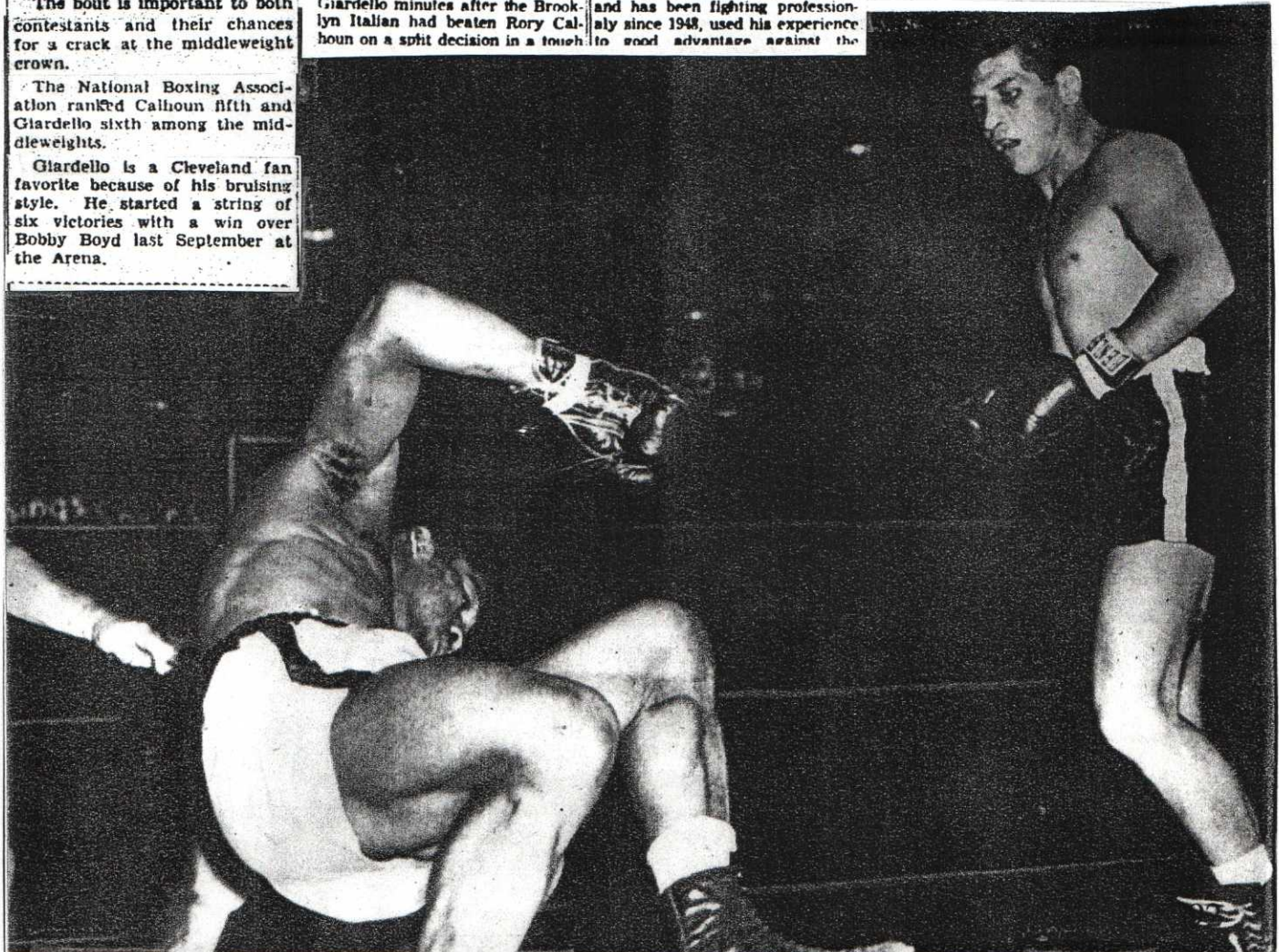
"Maybe I should have boxed him a little more than I did," Joey said afterward. He thought he had won seven rounds.

NO KNOCKDOWNS

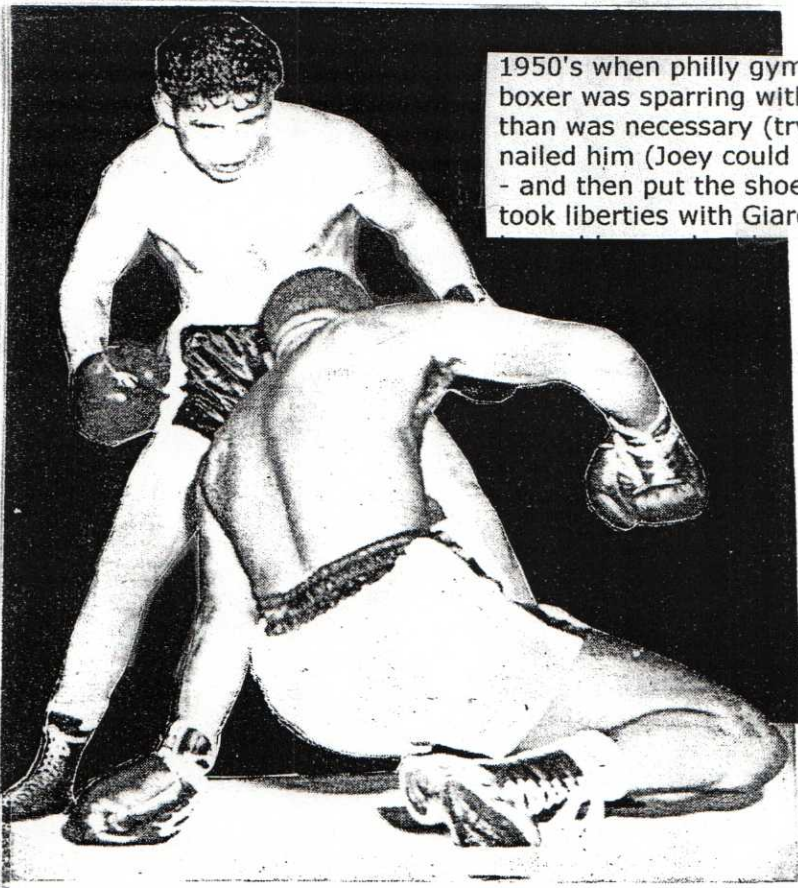
Referee Lou Parker scored it for Calhoun 46-45, with five rounds for Calhoun, four for Giardello and one even. Judge Charlie Bill had it favoring Joey, 46-45, with the rounds 5-4-1, and Judge Hert Williams saw Giardello ahead 47-45 and the rounds 5-3-2. The AP's 47-43 for Giardello gave him seven rounds to Calhoun's three.

There were no knockdowns, although Calhoun lost his balance and went down in the first and third rounds. Giardello missed with a hard punch in the 10th and went tumbling.

Both fighters were bleeding from face cuts before it was over



Middleweight Rory Calhoun slips to canvas after furious exchange with Joey Giardello during the first round of their ding-dong Cleveland match. Giardello won a split decision..



A little Philadelphia boxing lore: back in the 1950's when Philly gym wars were at their peak - a very rugged Philly boxer was sparring with Giardello and getting a little more rambunctious than was necessary (trying to take Giardello's "name") when Joey finally nailed him (Joey could punch when he was so inclined) and flattened him - and then put the shoes to him. For the rest of his career nobody ever took liberties with Giardello in a Philly gym.

► As if acting on a hunch, the year's second largest count of 3,661 turned up for the Joey Giardello-Ralph (Tiger) Jones bout at Miami Beach, and it paid off for them and for Joey. What happened was Jones showered leather on Giardello for a half-minute during the third round when all of a sudden, BANG, a Giardello right found Jones's button, sending him back. A wicked left hook followed and down went the Tiger. He was up at "two" and took the mandatory "eight" count. That knockdown was enough for the whole show and worth the admission alone. Joey, who rates the fourth middleweight slot in The Ring, and Ralph, at eleventh, went on to give the folks a bitter battle and at the finish Giardello had it unanimously. Jimmy Peerless refereed. The judges were Stu Winston and Gus Jacobson. The Chris Dundee-Jim Norris co-promotion drew a gate of \$10,046. Only the Joe Brown-Bud Smith lightweight title bout in February (1957) surpassed it. The winner, from Philadelphia and Rosedale, L. I., weighed 159½, and the loser, from Yonkers, N. Y., and Valley Stream, L. I., 157¼. Ray Sheppard, 154½, beat Gordon Van Loo, 154, in six. Ray Estepa, 136½, won from Freddie Cozart, 136½, in six. Hymie Budow, 131, whipped Francis McCrink, 130, in a four. Clinton Jordan, 130½, TKOed Roosevelt Springer, 128, in the opening round. Tommy Stru, 105, TKOed Tony Rocchio, 185½, in the third heat.

(Above) Tiger Tamed. Joey Giardello, ranking middleweight contender, drops Ralph (Tiger) Jones in third round of their bout at Miami Beach, Fla. Giardello won unanimous ten round decision.

Giardello Wants Shot at Basilio

12/27/57

MIAMI BEACH (UP) - Joey Giardello said today his unanimous decision over Ralph "Tiger" Jones should convince the world he is ready for a shot at the middleweight crown now worn by Carmen Basilio. The fourth-ranked middleweight fought his way out of trouble in the third round last night and rocked Jones with a combination hook and overhand right that sent the Yonkers, N. Y., "Tiger" to the canvas for only the second time in his 69-fight professional career. At the end of the nationally televised 10-rounder, Giardello was winging his

counter punches home with accuracy to gain the unanimous verdict of the two judges and Referee Jimmy Peerless.

Giardello, the Philadelphia "bad boy" who now lives at Rosedale, N. Y., said he has no plans for another fight soon unless "they let me go against Basilio."

"I'm ready now for Basilio, but I suppose they'll make me wait some more. I've been waiting five years for a shot at the title."

JOEY, winning his fifth fight in a row and his 14th without defeat, said he felt tired and rusty coming out for the second round, which Jones won with his boring-in style and sharp left jabs.

But late in the round, Giardello fought out from the ropes. He set the crouching Jones up with a left and crossed with a whistling overhand right that set The Tiger down on the canvas.

Jones started getting up at the count of two but had to wait out the mandatory nine count. He went back to his corner groggy.



RALPH (TIGER) JONES

Aggressive middleweight contender from Yonkers, N. Y. . . . Born in Brooklyn 28 years ago. . . . Started boxing in the P.A.L. . . . Is one of ten children. . . . Started fighting as a pro in 1950. . . . Handed Ray Robinson his lone loss on Sugar Ray's comeback. . . . A top TV favorite. . . . Has appeared on TV 28 times. . . . Has fought all of the top men, holding wins over Charley Humez, Johnny Bratton, Bobby Dykes, Georgie Johnson, Al Andrews. . . . Has won 39 of 59. . . . A two-fisted action plus crowd pleaser.

Giardello Floors Calhoun Twice to Win Easy Decision

Ex-Philadelphian Runs Streak to 17 in Row

San Francisco, May 6—(AP)—Because his work wasn't too hard here and his paycheck was fat, middleweight Joey Giardello would like another San Francisco bout soon—possibly against Holly Mims in June.

The No. 3 contender found Rory Calhoun a much less difficult foe than a year ago and decked him twice last night while winning a one-sided decision at ten rounds in the Cow Palace. Calhoun is ranked No. 7.

Giardello, undefeated in his last 16 fights, hung up his 74th victory. The winning boxer from Rosedale, Long Island, N. Y., weighed 159½ to 158¾ for his free swinging opponent from White Plains, N. Y.

In Cleveland last May 17, Joey won a split decision. This time it was much different.

Giardello counterpunched his way this time. A right, left, right combination to the jaw put Calhoun down for a count of nine in the fourth round and a right on the head dropped him for six in the fifth.

Referee Vern Bybee scored it 99-90; Judge Eddie James saw it 100-89 and Judge Jack Silver had it 98-91. Under the California system, the round winner gets ten points and the loser nine or less.

Giardello drew 30 per cent of the net gate of \$42,279.71, which figures to \$12,683.91, for his 40 minutes of work before a crowd of 8,891 with no radio or television.

Matchmaker Bennie Ford immediately began seeking a foe for Giardello to meet here on June 9 or 16 and Mims, of Washington, D. C., appeared to top the list.

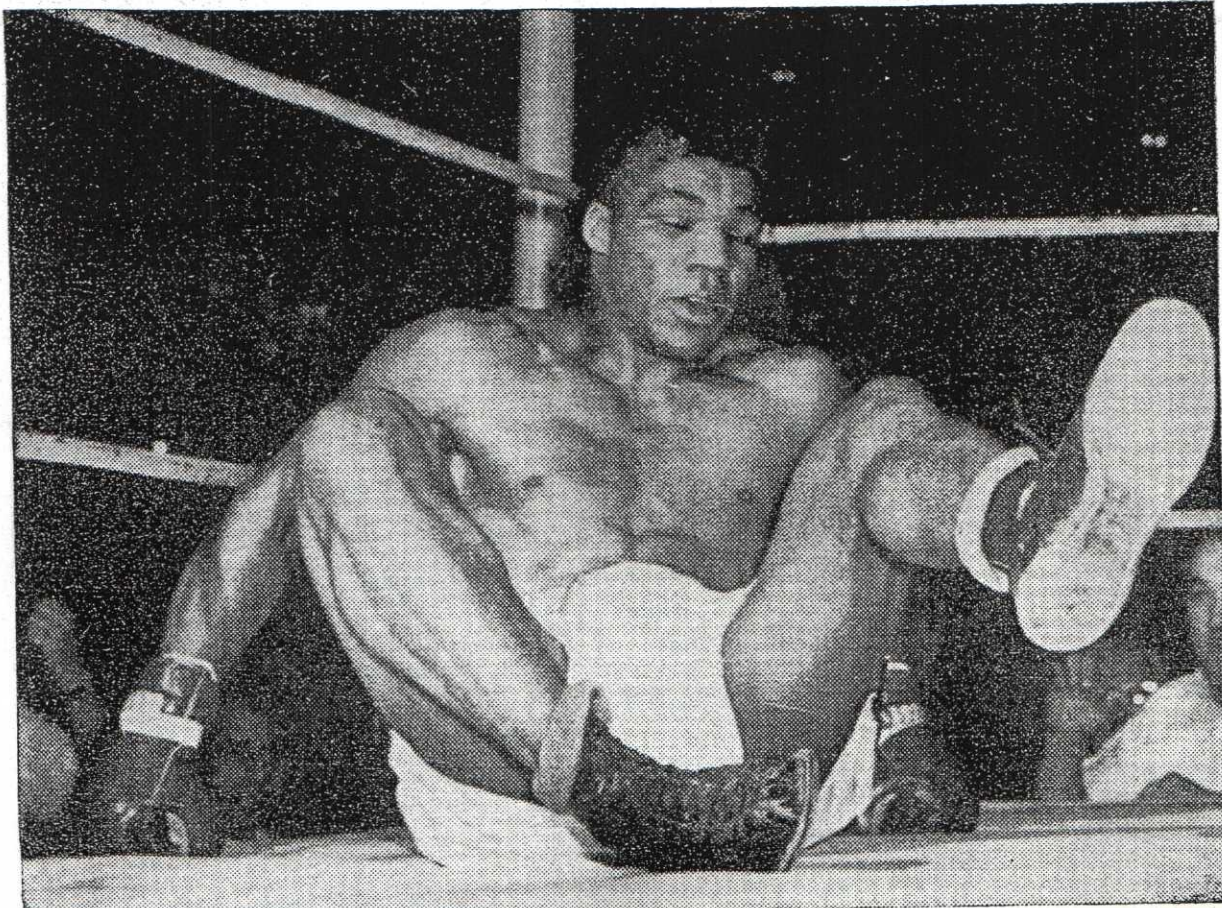
Mims hasn't shown here, but he whipped Spider Webb after the latter knocked out Calhoun in a bristling bout last January 20 that crossed \$50,197.50.

Calhoun said Giardello "hit me good on those knockdowns, but he hit me good because I had to make the fight."

He termed Joey a "sharp, accurate puncher."

Giardello complained frequently during the bout about rabbit punches, but had little to say about them after the fight.

SIT-DOWN STRIKE



Joey Giardello landed the big sit-down strike twice in middleweight battle with Rory Calhoun (seated above) at San Francisco, Calif., and 94 went on to win ten round decision.



SPIDER WEBB (LEFT) VS JOEY GIARDELLO 11/19/58

Bouncing back from his loss to ex-champion Gene Fullmer, Spider Webb turned in an impressive victory over Joey Giardello in their middleweight bout in San Francisco. Webb opened deep cuts over and under Joey's left eye, causing the bout to be halted in the seventh round. Giardello was never able to get going against Webb who changed his counter-punching style to an aggressive one for this important fight.



Mims, Giardello Vie In TV Bout Tonight

5-6-59

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joey Giardello and Holly Mims, each with a yearning eye on the partly vacant middleweight championship, collide tonight in a televised, 10-round bout at Capitol Arena.

Giardello already is exercising the accepted rights of a challenger. Tony Ferrente, who manages Philadelphia Joey, said he has a handshake agreement for his gladiator to meet Carmen Basilio in a title bout later in the year.

Joey has lost his last three fights, including a 7th round knockout by Webb.

Mims, who dropped a decision to Bobby Boyd in his most recent showing, could help himself

and ditch Giardello with a victory.

The fight may be witnessed over the usual Wednesday night TV hookup at 9 p.m. EST.

Joey Wants Webb Again

5-7-59 MBS

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Joey Giardello, disregarding brow cuts he suffered in his nationally televised victory over Holly Mims, bid today for a re-match against Spider Webb to "prove" his right to a shot at the vacant NBA middleweight championship.

Giardello, ranked No. 6 in the 160-pound class, kept his title hopes alive by scoring a split decision over fifth-ranked Mims of Washington in their 10-round bout here Wednesday night.

The next stop, Philadelphia Joey figures, should be a bout with Webb—the man the NBA says should be the first to get a crack at the winner of a proposed Carmen Basilio-Gene Fullmer middleweight title bout.

Giardello, who has been battling for 11 years in an up-and-down career, gained his victory over Mims by the narrowest of margins. Referee Eddie Lefond voted for him, 91-88, and judge Benny Alperstein agreed by a 95-92 count. But judge Julian White-stone saw Mims the winner by a razor-thin margin, 95-94.

Giardello was more marked than Mims at the finish. He was cut over the left eye in the first round and over the right eye in the sixth.

Gory Giardello 5-?-59 Decisions Mims

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Joey Giardello, blood gushing from a slashed face, thrust himself into the middleweight sweepstakes Wednesday night with a last-round finish that gained him a 10-round split decision over Holly Mims.

Giardello, 2-1 underdog in the late betting, rallied from a beating in the eighth round and won the verdict of Referee Eddie LaFond and Judge Benny Alperstein in the nationally televised slugfest.

The decision brought lusty cheers and boos from the sell-out house of 3,000 in Capitol Arena. Backers of Mims, a home town veteran, sprayed the ring with wadded newspapers and paper cups.

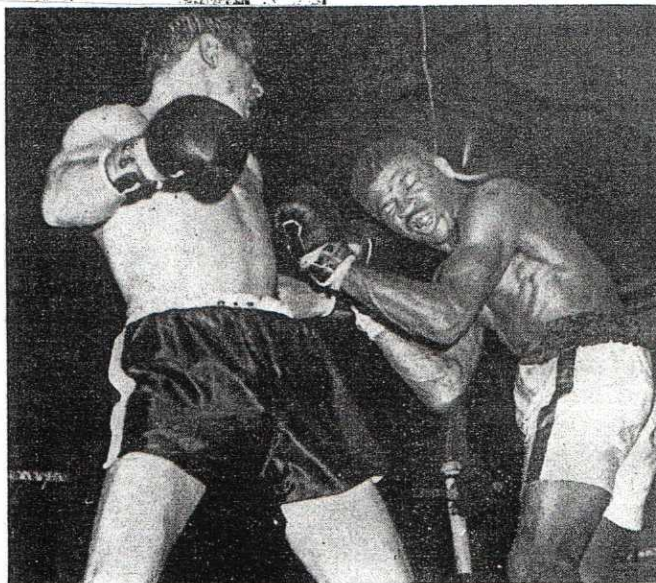
Giardello, 29-year-old Philadelphian, weighed 161 and Mims 156½.

LaFond scored it for Giardello, 91-88, and Alperstein had it 95-92. Judge Julian Whitstone preferred Mims, 95-94. Associated Press gave Giardello

Mims opened a slight cut over Giardello's left eye in the first but really tore a gash on the right side of Joey's face in the furious eighth.

A left-right-left hurt Giardello early in the session and a jolting left buckled him near the end.

But Giardello held off Mims in the ninth and won the chips-down 10th on all three cards.



Joey Giardello (left) vs Holly Mims

In a thrilling and bruising battle between two crafty veterans, Joey Giardello staged a furious assault in the tenth and final round to edge out a split verdict over Holly Mims at the New Capitol Arena in Washington, D. C. Joey, cut over both eyes and staggered by a volley of punches in the eighth round, fought his way out of the fog and closed out with a last ditch rally that gained him the fight. It was a big step back for the Philadelphian who had lost his three previous contests and needed to win to remain among the contenders in the middleweight division.

One last thing I want to mention about Giardello :

When he was serving time in 1955 for the gas station incident, his father, who Joey idolized, passed away. Joey was brought to the funeral pollar under guard. Joey was so upset about the shame he brought to his dad that he went up and swore on his father's casket that he would win the middleweight championship for his dad. (this story was first broken by Jack McKinney before the Fullmer fight and repeated by Larry Merchant after the Tiger title win).

It proved to be anything but easy due to the runaround he got. After beating Bobby Boyd, George Gainsford promised Joey a title shot after the Fullmer fight (Jan. '57). Of course Fullmer won and Joey got sidelined. Then when Joey beat Rory Calhoun in May he eliminated a dangerous opponent that Gainsford wanted no part of and he promised Joey the next shot. Of course the big outdoor Yankee Stadium extravaganza with Basilio came up and Joey was again out. Joey who had kept himself in pretty good shape (for him) during the whole 18 months, winning and thinking he was next in line finally got discouraged and blew some fights but his readiness to take on anybody always brought him back in the limelight. That is how he got the shot at Fullmer and later with Tiger, and always remembering the vow he made on his father's casket kept him going.

Giardello Turns 11-5-59 "Tiger" Tamer

CLEVELAND — (AP) — Joey Giardello evened the score with Dick Tiger of Negeria Wednesday night by winning a unanimous decision in their 10-round middleweight bout. But it was a close one, just like Tiger's decision over Joey in Chicago five weeks ago.

Referee Don Gonzales scored it 45-44 for Giardello, Judge Charles Bill also had it 45-44, and Judge Herb Williams gave Joey a 47-45 margin.

There were no knockdowns, or near knockdowns, but Giardello jabbed a one-inch gash over Tiger's right eye. The cut bled freely.

At 161, Tiger, whose home is now in Liverpool, England,

had a pound advantage on Giardello, a former Philadelphian fighting now from Rosedale, N.Y.

The fight pattern had Tiger moving in and throwing left hooks — many of them wild — and Joey jabbing effectively with his left and landing an occasional right. A couple of Tiger's high hard left hooks caught Joey back of the right ear, but Joey shook them off.

In the ninth the referee took a point away from Tiger for deliberate butting. And in the seventh the referee cautioned Tiger for hitting on the breaks.

Tiger threw two left hooks and a right to Giardello's jaw early in the final round and battered the tiring Joey with two more hard rights in Giardello's corner late in the round.