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National Museum of African American History and Culture

Program for boxing match between Tony Doyle and Joe Frazier

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THE BLUE LINE at The Spectrum is a luxuriously-appointed dining club and cocktail lounge opening in late September for Philadelphia Flyers and Philadelphia 76ers season ticket holders. With accommodations for 300 persons, The Blue Line will be serving at every hockey game and basketball game plus other events with a first-class menu of foods and beverages. In addition, it will be open on an exclusive membership basis for luncheon and dinner all year. The Blue Line will be open Sundays and daily until 3 am. A limited number of Blue Line memberships remain at \$25 for season ticket holders for \$50 for others. Decide today to become a part of the exclusive Blue Line at The Spectrum. Reserve your membership now.

Elegance, relaxation and gracious dining to better serve our season ticket holders.

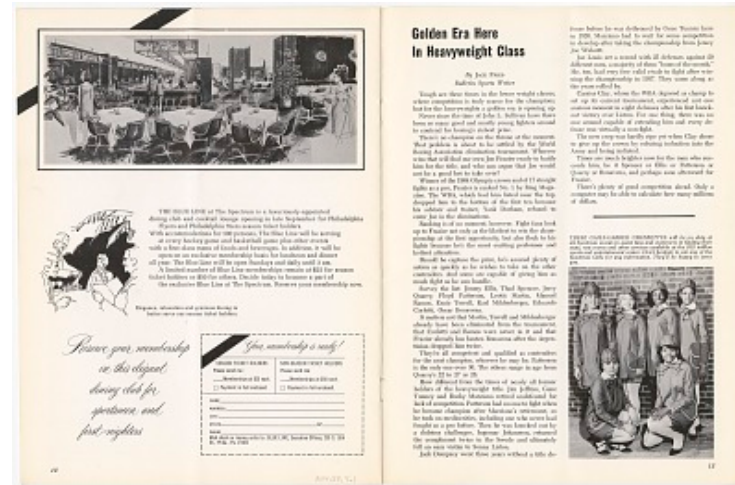
[[form]]
Your membership is ready!

NON-SEASON TICKET HOLDERS
Please send me:
[[blank space]] Memberships at \$50 each.
[[box]] Payment in full enclosed.

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By Jack Fried



Bulletin Sports Writer

Tough are these times in the lower weight classes, where competition is truly scarce for the champions, but for the heavyweights a golden era is opening up.

Never since the time of John L. Sullivan have there been so many good and mostly young fighters around to contend for boxing's richest prize.

There's no champion on the throne at the moment. That problem is about to be settled by the World Boxing Association elimination tournament. Whoever wins that will find our own Joe Frazier ready to battle him for the title, and who can argue that Joe would not be a good bet to take over?

Winner of the 1964 Olympic crown and of 17 straight fights as a pro, Frazier is ranked No. 1 by Ring Magazine. The WBA, which had him listed near the top, dropped him to the bottom of the first ten because his adviser and trainer, Yank Durham, refused to enter Joe in the eliminations.

Ranking is of no moment, however. Fight fans look up to Frazier not only as the likeliest to win the championship at the first opportunity, but also flock to his fights because he's the most exciting performer and hottest attraction.

Should he capture the prize, he's assured plenty of action as quickly as he wishes to take on the other contenders. And some are capable of giving him as much fight as he can handle.

Survey the list: Jimmy Ellis, Thad Spencer, Jerry Quarry, Floyd Patterson, Leotis Martin, Manuel Ramos, Ernie Terrell, Karl Mildenberger, Eduardo Corletti, Oscar Bonavena.

It matters not that Martin, Terrell and Mildenberger already have been eliminated from the tournament, that Corletti and Ramos were never in it and that Frazier already has beaten Bonavena after the Argentinian dropped him twice.

They're all competent and qualified as contenders for the next champion, whoever he may be. Patterson is the only one over 30. The others range in age from Quarry's 22 to 27 or 28.

How different from the times of nearly all former holders of the heavyweight title. Jim Jeffries, Gene Tunney and Rocky Marciano retired undefeated for lack of competition. Patterson had no one to fight when he became champion after Marciano's retirement, so he took on mediocrities, including one who never had fought as a pro before. Then he was knocked out by a dubious challenger, Ingemar Johansson, returned the compliment twice to the Swede and ultimately fell an easy victim to Sonny Liston.

Jack Dempsey went three years without a title defense before he was dethroned by Gene Tunney here in 1926. Marciano had to wait for some competition to develop after taking the championship from Jersey Joe Walcott.

Joe Louis set a record with 25 defenses against 20 different men, a majority of them "bums of the month." He, too, had very few valid rivals to fight after winning the championship in 1937. They came along as the years rolled by.

Cassius Clay, whom the WBC deposed as champ to set up its current tournament, experienced not one anxious moment in eight defenses after his first knockout victory over Liston. For one thing, there was no one around capable of extending him and every defense was virtually a non-fight.

The new crop was hardly ripe yet when Clay chose to give up the crown by refusing induction into the Army and being indicted.

Times are much brighter now for the man who succeeds him, be it Spencer or Ellis or Patterson or Quarry or Bonavena, and perhaps soon afterward for Frazier.

There's plenty of good competition ahead. Only a computer may be able to calculate how many millions of dollars.
[[line]]

THESE GAILY-GARBED USHERETTES will be on duty at all Spectrum events to assist fans and customers in finding their seats, rest rooms and other services available at the \$12 million sports and entertainment center. Don't hesitate to ask any of the Spectrum Girls for any information. They'll be happy to serve you.
[[image - black & white photograph of the Spectrum Girls]]



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