

AMERICAN HEAVYWEIGHT DONNELL HOLMES

Donnell “The Real Touch of Sleep” Holmes is unequivocally one of the most talented and experienced American Heavyweight boxers today. With a record of 33-2-2 (29 KO’s), he has proven himself to be as good as any one of the current top 25 contenders and equally deserving of a Heavyweight title shot.

A winning record isn’t enough, so Holmes trains hard hoping a promoter or a top contender will give him a chance to prove his worth and eventually land him on the short list to challenge the Klitschko reign.



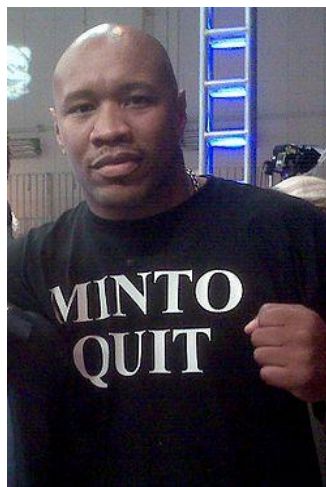
Donnell Holmes Gets Instructions During Training – Photo Credit www.cboxinginfo

“Boxing fans should know I just want my shot at a title. I didn’t duck and won’t duck anybody. I know the shot I get won’t ever be on a level playing field, but just give me one shot.” - Donnell Holmes

Holmes, who was born in a small, southern North Carolina town called Ivanhoe, is a professional boxer that drives a truck for a living. To keep food on the table, a roof over his head, and clothes on his 10 year old son’s back, Holmes drives a truck 5-6 days a week for 10-15 hours per day. While boxing is his passion and holds his dreams, the reality of Donnell’s situation is boxing is glamorous but not profitable, yet. Holmes continues to somehow find 3-4 hours every day to train.

“I lose money taking fights sometimes. People, including you (media), give me a hard time for supposedly turning down fights, but if I’m going to have to get off my truck and take time off to fight, it better be damn well worth it. I explain my situation up front to all promoters, but don’t come to me two weeks before a fight and say we will give you x amount of dollars to fight this guy when I know you already offered twice the amount to somebody else for the same fight. They ain’t losing money if the fight happens.”

Donnell has held the WBC Continental Americas Heavyweight title and the WBF All Americas Heavyweight title. In 2005, Holmes fought in one of the most courageous and thrilling fights ever. Holmes survived a wicked first round knockdown and scored an eighth round TKO of Stacy Frazier to win the WBC title. In 2009, he fought for the WBO, NABO, and WBA Fedecentro title, and walked away extremely disappointed and mad at the sport of boxing. The majority of his anger was directed at his opponent Brian Minto. After Minto suffered a cut over his left eye and said he was unable to see and couldn't continue to start the fifth round, the fight was officially stopped in the fourth. At the time, the cut was ruled an accidental head butt and went to the cards. Minto was up on the cards and was awarded a technical decision. Replays of the bout would clearly show a punch opened the cut on Minto and Holmes' camp would later appeal. Initially, the appeal was won, but for some reason it was later overturned in favor of Minto. Holmes made T-Shirts with a bold statement saying, "Minto Quit."



A rematch was never made and doesn't seem to be in the works, so Holmes has to live with the frustration of the fight for the rest of his life. But, Holmes has turned a corner and has put the disappointments of boxing behind him.

"People should know I gave my all to this sport, because I wanted a shot. I've learned a lot and realize I have to be in great shape all the time, so I train as though my shot is my next fight. If they call me with a two week notice, I'm ready. If they offer me small change, I'll take it. Being an opponent might be the shot I need, so I'm ruining somebody else's dream."

Holmes returns to the ring August 4, 2012 on Babie Girl Productions card at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel in Washington, DC. He will face veteran Deandre McCole. The bout is scheduled for six rounds and is truly a stay busy fight for Holmes. Holmes, who recently sparred with Seth Mitchell, believes a good showing will elevate him to bigger and better fights.

"McCole has experience and I need the work. Seth Mitchell was great work for me. Mitchell could be special one day, because he has a ton of heart and is heavy handed. I'm using every experience to make me better and when my shot comes, I'm going to abuse somebody."

By Chris Williams follow me on twitter @cboxinginfo