

Akron, Ohio
Nov. 16, 1970

Dear Mrs. Gray:

Fate is showing great improvement. He is now boxing again. He can jab short but still has a little pain when he throws a long jab. But the soreness is working out and I think he can go by late December. His weight has went up to 155 but I don't think this will pose any great problem.

Percy Pugh is rated Number one Welter in most of the ratings. He does not belong there as he has been boxing light weights and having plenty of trouble with them.

The New Orleans promoter Heard Ragan is working on a Davis - Pugh fight.

My old friend - Emile Brunson of the La. Commission is also pushing for us.

If it can be made Fate would have to make 147. Pugh is fast and clever but he can be hit. Adrian Davis had him down 3 times but could not finish the job. I believe that if Fate puts him down he will stay for the full count.

Provided Fate has no more shoulder trouble - we should go for broke in 1971 - as a Welter weight. He is stronger than most Welters.

In his Mexico City fight with Jose Napoles - he went in at 144½ but was still able to bull the great Napoles around. This was another of those hard luck bouts which Davis seems to have so often.

Napoles butted him in the first round. The wire like hair of Napoles head cut Fate on the right eye ball. He fought with vision in the right eye completely gone for 6 more rounds. He won the 3rd 4th and 5th rounds and did it in a convincing manner. The eye kept getting worse and I was afraid of serious injury. I asked the referee to stop it - which he did in the 7th when Fate got cut again over the eye. Fate does not know to this day that I had our corner man - Manuel Moreno ask the ref to call it off. Any way the Champion could not put Fate out and I have always wondered what would have happened had he been able to continue with two good eyes. Maybe he will get an other chance some day soon.

John.

P.S.

Do you think that Davis should box in a six or 8 rounder as a tune up bout to see how the shoulder holds up? This could be arranged before making any "big" fights.

We will try and arrange for him to spend a week end in Indianapolis so you can look him over - of course this must be OK with you.

We can send someone in to spar with him.

If and when a major bout is made we will work out a plan for you to train him for at least two weeks before fight time.

John.

596 Carpenter St.
Akron Ohio 44310

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PM
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Mr. Hiawatha Gray
3006 Graceland
Indianapolis, Ind.

My Ticket - SAW