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BOOZE, SILVERBERG HEAD UP 2007 CONNECTICUT BOXING HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Dinner to honor six will be held November 30 at Mohegan Sun

Former world champions Tyrone Booze of Hartford , Pinky Silverberg of Ansonia and Lou Brouillard of Danielson head up a class of six that will be inducted into the Connecticut Boxing Hall of Fame on Nov. 30 at the Mohegan Sun Casino.

Johnny Cesario of Hartford , Vic Cardell of Hartford and Joe Rossi of Naugatuck are also part of what will be the third induction class for the Connecticut Boxing Hall of Fame. Willie Pep, Marlon Starling, Christopher "Bat" Battalino, Louis "Kid" Kaplan, Johnny Duke and Maxie Rosenbloom comprised the class of 2005. Chico Vejar, Gaspar Ortega, Nathan Mann, Lou Bogash, John Burns and Manny Leibert were inducted in 2006.

Booze won the World Boxing Organization cruiserweight title in July of 1992 when he went to England and scored a seventh-round knockout of Derek Angol, who was 26-0. Booze fought the likes of former world champions Evander Holyfield, Dwight Muhammad Qawi and Eddie Mustafa Muhammad during his career. Booze made one successful title defense and finished with a career record of 22-12-2 with one no contest.

Silverberg captured the vacant National Boxing Association world flyweight title in March of 1927. Silverberg was declared the winner when Ruby Bradley was disqualified in the seventh round of a bout at the State Armory in Bridgeport . Silverberg was beaten by Bradley in his first title defense. Silverberg owned a career record of 34-34-14 with one no contest. He died in 1964. Brouillard captured a world welterweight title in October of 1931 when he gained a win by unanimous decision over Young Jack Thompson in a 15-round bout. Brouillard, who was also a New England welterweight champion retired in 1940 with a record of 109-29-3. He died in 1984.

Cesario was a New England middleweight champion in 1946. He beat International Boxing Hall of Famer Carmen Basilio in 1951. He also beat Cardell in their only meeting. Cesario lost in 1955 to Vejar. Cesario began his career 41-0 before settling for an 87-14-4 career record. He died in 1997.

Cardell had 99 pro fights (65-27-7, 18 KOs). In the 1950s, Cardell took on some of the best fighters of that era. He defeated Basilio by split decision in 1950, but lost in the rematch in 1953. Cardell also had fights with Cesario and Vejar.

Upon being discharged from Army in 1940, Rossi formed a boxing club at the Naugatuck YMCA. He developed numerous top-flight amateurs and a few professionals. One pro was Irish Pat Mallane, who had a draw with world lightweight champ Paddy DeMarco. Rossi fought as a semi-pro, winning 48 bouts, including the Connecticut lightweight title. Rossi also helped coach a U.S. boxing team. Rossi is currently enshrined in Naugatuck's Outstanding Athletes Hall of Fame.

Tickets are \$60 per person and may be obtained by calling Mike Murtha at 1-860-862-7580 or 1-860-862-7583, or by calling Sherman Cain at the Manchester Journal Inquirer at 1-800-237-3606 (ext. 321).

For further information on the Connecticut Boxing Hall of Fame please call the president of the CBHOF, Glenn Feldman at 860-930-0434 or visit ctboxinghof.com.

