Revenge Is on the Card
In Four Championships

By RICK WEINBERG
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LAS VEGAS, Nev., May 6 — From May 1993 to January 1994, four World Boxing Council champions — Julio César Chávez, Terry Norris, Julian Jackson and James Leija — all lost their titles. Saturday night, they will try to reclaim those crowns from the same men who took them away.

The card is being hailed as “Revenge: The Rematches.” But just one of the challengers is favored to regain his title in the pay-per-view event, which begins at 9 P.M., Eastern time. That one favorite is Chávez (89-1-1, 77 knockouts), who faces Frankie Randall (49-2-1, 39) for the super-lightweight crown.

Simon Brown (41-2, 30), the super-welterweight champion, is favored to beat Norris (37-4, 23); the middleweight champion, Gerald McClellan, (30-2-2, 28) is given the edge over Jackson (49-2, 45); and the super-featherweight champion, Azumah Nelson (37-2-2, 26), is favored to knock off Leija (27-0, 2).

‘My Life’s Changed’

Randall, who handed Chávez his first and only defeat last Jan. 29, said: “My life’s changed, and there ain’t no way I’m going give it up.”

While Brown played down his emotions, Norris vowed: “You won’t see the same person you saw in Puebla,” where in Mexico he was stunned by Brown in a fourth-round knockout.


On a card in which any of the fights could be billed as a main event, the most intriguing is Chávez-Randall.

Chávez says that after going undefeated in his first 90 bouts, he became bored with boxing and lost his spirit and dedication.

“All I did was win, win, win,” he said through an interpreter, Gladys Rosa. “I took winning for granted.”

Until the loss to Randall.

“That woke me up,” said Chávez, who had 2 points deducted for low blows, became distracted and was leveled with a right hook in the 11th round, the first time in his career he had been knocked down.

“But I’m back in love with this sport,” he said, “and determined to show everyone I’m the best again.”

‘We Deal With Results’

Randall’s trainer, Aron Snowell, laughed at Chávez’s reason for losing.

“You don’t go 12 rounds and hit like he did if you’ve lost your spirit,” Snowell said. “We don’t deal with excuses. We deal with results, and the result is he got beat and will get beat again.”

Randall, who had not received a title shot until meeting Chávez, still thinks he lives in Chávez’s shadow.

“I don’t feel the respect of a champion,” he said.