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OMAHA

WORLD LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP
FEATURING OMAHA'S **TERENCE** **YURIORKIS**
CRAWFORD **GAMBOA**

SATURDAY, JUNE 28
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

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#CrawfordGamboa

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**HERE'S TO HAVING THE HOMETOWN ADVANTAGE.
KEEP MAKING US PROUD, TERENCE "BUD."**

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We welcome sports fans from around the world and impress them season after season (Practice does, after all, make perfect.) Tonight is no different as HBO broadcasts this World Boxing Organization Lightweight Title bout in Omaha and we watch our hometown hero, Terence "Bud" Crawford defend his title.

Omaha just may be the greatest non-major league city in the country.

- The NCAA Men's College World Series is booked through 2035
- An early round of the NCAA men's basketball tournament will be here in 2015
- Olympic Swim Trials will return in 2016
- Omaha will host the equestrian world championship in 2017
- The Ralston Arena was the 2013 site of a 10-team international women's volleyball tournament
- Cuba vs. USA baseball series was played at Werner Park in Papillion
- Sporting event attendance and volunteer records were broken during the prestigious 2013 U. S. Senior Open

And, of course, there is college football and basketball, where we bleed red or blue depending on the game of the day. We get involved – our dedication to the ultimate fan experience.

Bud, you have the momentum, fueled by the drive to pursue your passion. Omaha is proud of you!

Here's to your hometown advantage,

David G. Brown
President and CEO
Greater Omaha Chamber

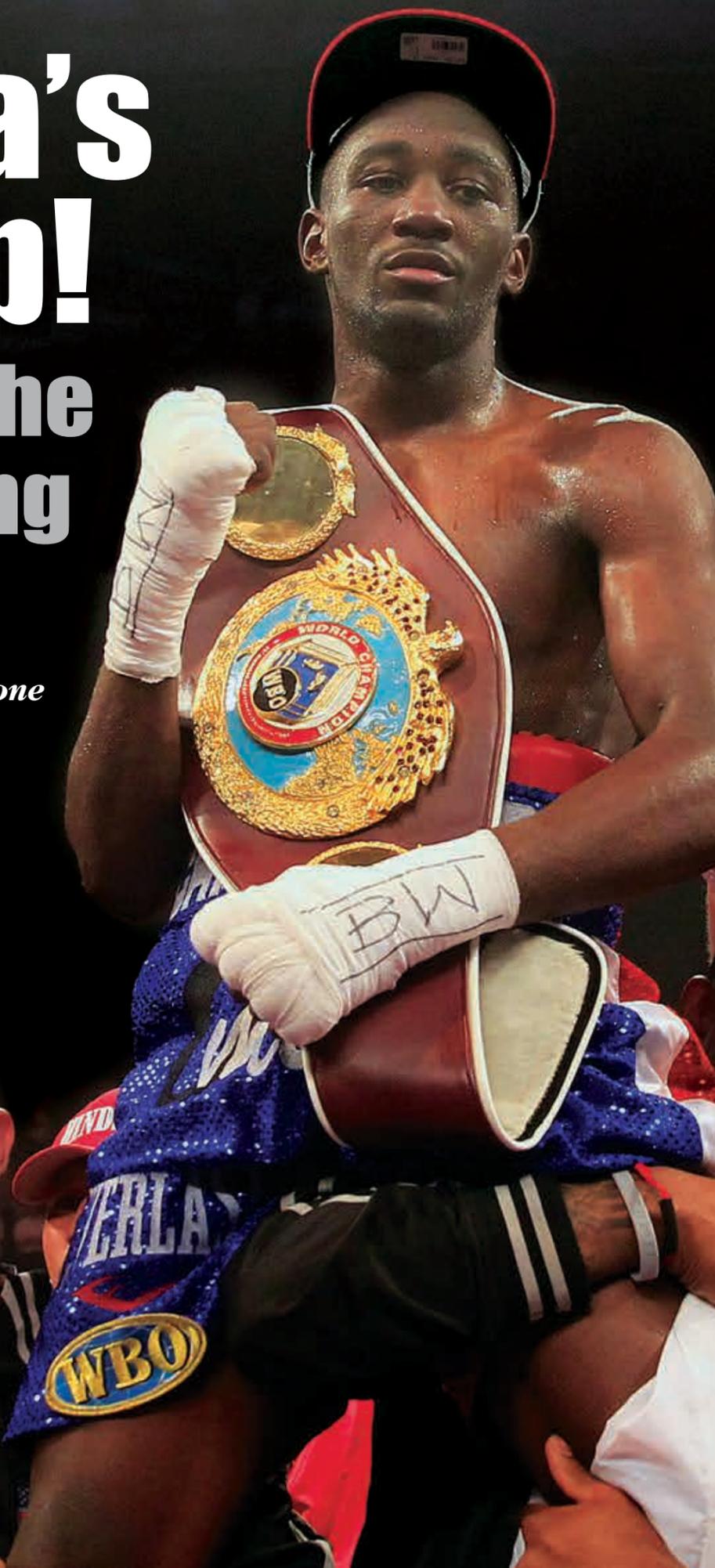
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Omaha's Champ!

Changing the City's Boxing History

by Tony Boone



Terence "Bud" Crawford has singularly changed the history of boxing in Omaha already in 2014.

By winning a world championship and bringing a title fight to his hometown, he's done more of significance in the fight game this year than all the pugilists from the city had before him combined.

And, at age 26, the WBO lightweight champion's best days in the sport may lie ahead.

Tonight, Crawford faces 2004 Olympic gold medalist and former unified featherweight champion Yuriorkis Gamboa in a bout that will be truly unique to this boxing-starved city in Nebraska.

This will be the first world championship fight in Omaha in more than four decades.

The city hasn't played host to any professional boxing event in nearly seven years. The last was an abbreviated four-fight card in December of 2007 at a video game bar that closed its doors long ago.

Omaha does, however, have its own rich and interesting history in the sport.

Max Baer was born here. Jack Johnson, Jack Dempsey, "Sugar" Ray Robinson and Joey Maxim fought here. Dan Daly and Tommy White battled, bare-knuckled, for 91 rounds and nearly six hours here.

A dying Billy Miske won a last bout here to give his family one final Christmas before succumbing to Bright's disease less than two months later at the age of 29. Gerald McClellan decisioned Roy Jones Jr. in the Golden Gloves semifinals here shortly before the latter competed in the 1988 Olympic Games.

And Joe Frazier successfully defended the heavyweight title here, just up the street at the Civic Auditorium, in May of 1972 in the most significant prizefight held in the city to date.

That was long before Crawford began adding new entries into Omaha's boxing annals. A strong case can be made that tonight's bout with Gamboa will be the biggest in the city's fighting history.

It takes place in the arena where, in the eyes of many locally, the Crawford legend began.

In June of 2006, Omaha was the site of the Golden Gloves National Tournament of Champions for the first time in nearly 20 years. And Crawford quickly became the center of attention at the event.

Projected for greatness in the ring by those in the local boxing community from the time he was a youngster, he had already been competing at an elite amateur level before the tournament began. The Gloves, however, gave Omaha its first chance to see their prodigy live against the best in the nation.

The only boxer from the local franchise to advance out of the first round of the tournament, Crawford punched his way through his bracket and into the 132-pound final. On Championship Saturday, more than 3,000 fans came to this very arena to watch their native son compete for the national title.

Crawford controlled the final three rounds of his bout with Jesus Mendez III. In the second, he dropped the former Junior Olympic champion with a combination while fighting off the ropes, then walked right over his fallen foe to the delight of the partisan crowd. Its cheers turned to boos a short time later.

continued next page



Photo: Lawrence Lustig

Had amateur boxing been scored on the 10-point must system as it is now, Crawford would've become Omaha's first Golden Gloves champion in 25 years. Instead, three of the five amateur judges had Mendez edging him via punch count to claim an unpopular decision and the coveted title.

That was the last time Crawford fought in his hometown. He returns to the same arena tonight as Omaha's only professional world boxing champion and Nebraska's first in the last century.

It's taken eight long years for Crawford to earn a homecoming bout in Omaha. He scored one-sided wins in Colorado, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Tennessee and Iowa before recording a scintillating first-round knockout in Grand Island in 2011 in his only professional fight in Nebraska to date.

Victories in Denver, Atlantic City and four in Las Vegas followed before Crawford landed a life-changing opportunity. After accepting the bout on short notice, he easily outboxed junior welterweight Breidis Prescott in his HBO debut in early 2013 to become a legitimate contender for the lightweight title.

Impressive wins over a pair of rated boxers late last year put Crawford in line for a shot at the WBO crown. Going overseas, he dominated longtime champion Ricky Burns over 12 rounds on his home turf in Glasgow, Scotland, in March to cement his legacy as the best fighter to ever come out of Nebraska.

Born here, raised here and trained here, Crawford will make the inaugural defense of his first world title belt here tonight. And when he does, he'll have added to the history of boxing in Omaha once again.



Biography – Terence “Bud” Crawford

Terence “Bud” Crawford was born in Omaha, Nebraska on September 28, 1987. He was raised in the inner-city community of north Omaha and attended the Omaha Public Schools. As generally is the case in most inner-cities of America, Terence had to overcome the challenges and obstacles that are byproducts of poverty, joblessness, and crime. In spite of the fact that Terence involved himself in programs such as the North Omaha B.E.A.R.S. and the C.W. Boxing Club as a very young boy, he found himself gravitating in and out of a negative lifestyle. This later on in life contributed to him being shot in the head two weeks before appearing in a televised ESPN fight for the first time. Ultimately, it was Terence’s love for boxing that led him to spend more time in the boxing gym at C.W. Boxing Club under the tutelage of Carl Washington, Brian McIntyre, Jacque “Red” Spikes, Esau Dieguez, and Midge Mino. It was Carl who convinced Terence as a 7 year old to pursue boxing.

As a young boxer, Terence’s skills were very obvious from the outset. He knew that boxing was going to be his escape from the inner city. Terence’s boxing ability started to become the talk in local boxing circles, with his progression and advancement being looked upon as simply amazing. In 2002, he competed in the US National Silver Gloves tournament at 95lbs, losing to Mike Dallas Jr. In 2004 he competed at the US National Junior Olympics at 125 lbs. He was a quarter-finalist at the 2005 United States Championships at 132lbs, losing to Mike Evans. 2006 was an extremely busy year for Terence in his amateur career. He won a silver medal at the 2006 National Golden Gloves, a bronze medal at the 2006 US Championships, losing to Danny Garcia, a quarter-finalist at the US Under-19 championships, a gold medal at the US Blue and Gold tournament at 132lbs, beating Danny Garcia, and a gold medal at the 2006 National Police Athletic League championships at 60 kg, beating Diego Magdaleno. In 2007, Terence won a gold medal at the 2007 U.S. Pan American Games Box-Offs at 132lbs.

Terence turned pro in 2008 and won his first fight on March 14, 2008, winning by a first round knockout. His professional career has been in full throttle ever since, reeling off 21 more victories, making his career record to date, 22 victories, 0 defeats, 16 by knockouts. Today, Terence is widely considered by many boxing experts to be the class of 135lbs. (Lightweight). He is currently the WBO Lightweight Champion of the World, and is the very first Omahan to earn a world boxing title. He recently beat Ricky Burns in Glasgow, Scotland to win that title. Upon returning to Omaha after winning the title, the Omaha City Council proclaimed March 4, 2014 to be Terence ‘Bud’ Crawford day. It is anticipated that Terence will defend his world title by fighting professionally for the first time in Omaha, Nebraska sometime this summer.

Outside the ring, Terence has started his own youth program called the B & B Boxing Academy. The ‘B & B’ stands for Bud and Brian (Terence’s main boxing trainer) and is located just a few short blocks from the birthplace of Malcolm X. The academy works with young men and girls interested in learning the fine art of boxing. There are also academic and social development pieces with the program. Terence and General Advisor Michael Carter, have launched a city-wide anti-bullying tour through the Omaha schools where they talk to assemblies of students about how bullying can be knocked out. It has received rave reviews from the students, teachers, and administrators in the schools where it has been presented. Terence uses examples in his life to illustrate where his choices almost cost him many things, including his life. The momentum created by Terence’s success in the boxing ring has led to a spirit amongst children in one of the poorest and most crime-ridden neighborhoods in the country, to start to believe that they can be successful in life by dedicating themselves to hard work and dedication. Terence and his fiancé Esha are the proud parents of two young sons, and a daughter. Learn more about Terence at www.teamterencebudcrawford.com.





Photo: Lawrence Lustig



Biography – Yuriorkis Gamboa

Known as El Ciclón de Guantanamo, due to possessing what many boxing analysts refer to as the fastest hands in the business, Yuriorkis Gamboa was born on December 23, 1981 in Guantanamo, Cuba.

At the age of seventeen, Gamboa became part of the Cuban National Boxing team, winning several national titles and winning an Olympic gold medal in the flyweight division at the 2004 Athens Olympics. Despite his Olympic success, Gamboa was forced to sell his Olympic gold medal to support his family.

In 2006, while training with the Cuban team in Venezuela, as a result of their desire to turn professional, Gamboa and two of his teammates defected to Germany. In his professional debut in Germany in April 2007, Gamboa beat Alecan Manvelyan in a unanimous decision. He won his next three fights in Germany before making his United States debut in October of 2007 against Adailton De Jesus, winning by TKO in the sixth round. In Gamboa's tenth professional fight and his HBO debut, he beat Darling Jimenez on a unanimous decision to win the WBC International super featherweight title.

Gamboa's string of wins continued, and a July 2008 first round TKO win against Al Seeger for the North American Boxing Organization featherweight title sealed the deal for a shot at his first world title. Gamboa would go on to win the WBA featherweight title in April 2009 against Jose Rojas, winning on a TKO in the tenth round. After successfully defending his title three times, Gamboa fought a unification bout in September 2010 against Orlando Salido, winning by unanimous decision. This fight unified the WBA and the IBF world featherweight titles. Gamboa became the first Cuban to ever hold the IBF title.

Moving up in weight class, in December 2012, Gamboa fought Michael Farenas and won the super featherweight title by unanimous decision. Gamboa last fought in June of 2013 in Montreal, Canada against Darlays Perez winning by unanimous decision.

Gamboa's current record is a perfect 23 wins and 0 losses, with 16 of those wins coming by knockout. Gamboa's ability to finish fighters is demonstrated by the fact that of those 16 knockouts, 10 of them came within the first two rounds.



Photo: Chris Farina

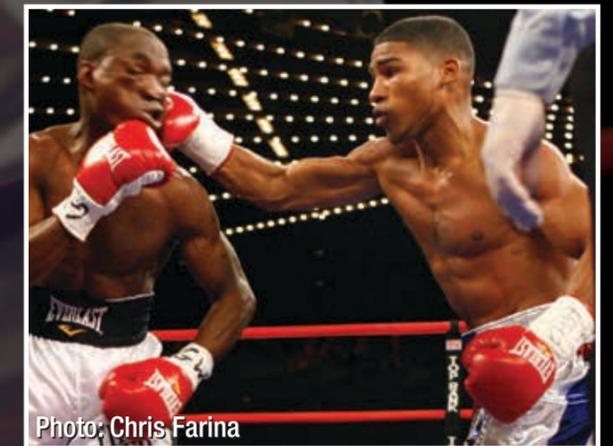


Photo: Chris Farina



Photo: Chris Farina

Omaha's B & B Boxing Academy

Terence "Bud" Crawford and Brian McIntyre (Head Trainer/Manager) created B & B Boxing Academy, located at 3034 Sprague Street in the heart of North Omaha. It has a basic mission of providing youth in North Omaha with a positive and comprehensive alternative to negative behaviors and activities. Terence and Brian have funded this program completely with their own money. It encompasses teaching youth from 8 years old up to young adults of 25 years old the science of boxing and the associated conditioning that is required. The more talented youth in this program compete as members of B & B Academy in local, regional, and national amateur boxing competitions. In between his own fights, Terence is very hands on with the instruction and coaching of the youths in the program. The Academy also includes programs curriculum to work with the youths in their social and academic development as well.

The Academy has applied for its non-profit 501-C3 status and expects an approval within the next 90 days. The Academy's current board of directors include City Councilman Ben Gray, Judge Daryl Lowe, Johnny Rodgers, Hugh Reefer, Tim Dowd, Leon Lewis, William King Jr., Greg Burns, Michael Carter, Brian McIntyre, and Terence Crawford.

PROGRAM SPECIFICS:

Social Development - Terence Crawford and coaches with the B & B Boxing Academy have launched an "anti-bullying" tour called "Knock Out Bullying with Team Crawford." This tour has presented positive messages to assemblies of students in the Omaha Public Schools and District 66 as well, and has been met with great reviews. The message includes the importance of making good choices, working hard to accomplish one's dreams, and an approach to making oneself "bully-proof."

Additionally, once a week current members of the B & B Boxing Academy are required to attend social development presentations and workshops that are designed to assist them in making proper choices in their life.

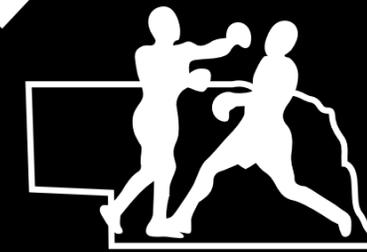
Academic Development - The Academic Development area of the program is in the developmental stages. However, for those school age members, the importance of education is stressed by requiring each member to have their report cards and progress reports submitted so that the Academy's staff understands what each member's academic status and needs are. Tutors and other volunteers are recruited to assist children who are in need.

When funding is available to acquire the necessary computer software and hardware, there will be an IEAP (Individualized Educational Academic Plan) created for each program member based on an assessment of their skills in reading, writing, and math. It is the goal of the program to be able to supply each program member with a laptop loaded with the software that will assist them in their development in areas of their weaknesses. We will use a best practices approach led by an Academic Specialist.

Boxing - The boxing program at the Academy is second to none. Each of the coaches/trainers (including the current WBO world lightweight title holder Terence Crawford), is very experienced in his field. All have mastered the art of scientifically breaking down the sport of boxing and communicating it to their students. In the few months of existence, the Academy has already produced local, regional, and national champions that represent B & B Boxing Academy. There is no doubt that some of these boxers will eventually represent the USA in international and Olympic competition.



B&B BOXING



ACADEMY

OMAHA, NEBRASKA



Omaha's B & B Boxing Academy



BRIAN MCINTYRE – Co-Manager, Head Trainer

Boxing Career – Brian fought a total of 29 years as a boxer, with 18 years as an amateur and 11 years as a professional. His highlights of his amateur years were finishing 2nd in the National Silver Gloves and 2nd in the Junior Olympic Nationals. As a professional, Brian's highlights were fighting for the WBE heavyweight title in 2004 and fighting Butterbean in 2004 as well.

Coaching Career – Brian has been coaching for a total of 12 years. The highlights of his coaching career have included amateur team members winning world titles, and being head coach for Region 6 USA Boxing in 2004. Professionally, the highlight has been coaching Terence Crawford to a world title.

Goals for B & B Boxing Academy – “To continue to help young men in the community have an outlet which will help them obtain a better life. Also, to assist in their development of becoming more responsible and accountable young men and ladies.”

Goals for Terence Crawford – “To be considered one of the best pound-for-pound fighters at the end of his career.”

- How will Terence win the Gamboa fight? “Through sheer hard work and dedication.”
- How does it feel to be the coach of a world champion? “It doesn't feel like things are complete because there are more things out there to conquer. The boxing world doesn't take notice of single title accomplishments, so Terence must strive to win multiple titles and championships.”
- How does it feel to coach Terence in the first title defense fight in the history of Omaha? “I feel honored and feel as though something major and at a very high level has been accomplished for our community.”



RED SPIKES – Assistant Coach

Boxing Career – Red fought a total of 9 years as an amateur fighter. Red was a 3-time Midwest Golden Glove Champion in 2005, 2006, and 2008. He was also a district champion in 2004.

Coaching Career – Red has coached a total of 6 years. The highlight of his amateur coaching career so far has been being named to the national team as a head coach for this region's national golden gloves team. At the top of his list however, is helping to coach Terence Crawford to a world championship. Red has also coached up and coming featherweight prospect Bernard Davis. Additionally, Red has assisted several UFC veteran fighters with their boxing skills, including Jake Ellenberger, Mirsad Bektic, Brian Houston and Houston Alexander.

Goals for B & B Boxing Academy – “To be an outreach center for our youth, where we provide tutoring, and other activities such as basketball, which will make B & B Boxing Academy a community type of resource center. Offer more than boxing, perhaps even music, other sports etc. Even as a child, I have always wanted to play the piano and bass guitar.”

Goals for Terence Crawford – “I would like to see Terence win multi division world championships and reach the top of the pound-for-pound list in the next couple of years, eventually becoming an all time great and a hall of famer.”

- How will Terence win this upcoming fight? “With ring intelligence and ability to adjust, punching power, speed, and range.”
- How does it feel to be the coach of a world champion? “It really hasn't sunk in yet. However, this is a great accomplishment in my life, to be able to go down in history and be affiliated with something of this magnitude.”
- How does it feel to be coaching Terence in the first title defense fight in the history of Omaha? “The magnitude of this is tremendous in the brotherhood of fighters. Terence represents the guys that came before him that did not get the opportunity. A part of history of Omaha.”



ESAU DIEGUEZ – Assistant Coach, Pad Coach

Career as a boxer – Esau fought a total of 17 years as a boxer, with 4 years as an amateur, and 13 as a professional. As an amateur fighter, Esau was a 3-time national champion in Guatemala, from 1988-1991. He missed the Olympic qualifications trials in 1992 due to the unfortunate passing of his mother. Esau fought all over Central America as an amateur. As a professional boxer, Esau fought against 3 world champions.

Coach career – Esau has been working with Terence Crawford since 2004-2005

Goals for B & B Boxing Academy – “The priority is to keep kids off of the street and would like to coach more world champions.”

Goals for Terence Crawford – “I would like to see him become 4-weight class world champion.”

- How will Terence win this upcoming fight? “I would like to see Terence win by knockout.”
- What does it feel like to be the coach of a world champion? “It feels really good and this has been my dream since I started coaching.”
- How does it feel to be coaching Terence in the first title defense fight in the history of Omaha? “This is a dream come true to see Terence fighting in a world title defense fight in the Century Link.”



JAMIE BELT – Strength and conditioning coach

Career as a Trainer – Jamie has been a strength and conditioning coach for 9 years, and lists the training of Terence Crawford as the highlight of his career.

Goals for B & B Boxing Academy – “I would like to see B & B be very successful in what they do and what they accomplish. I would like to see B & B become a bigger club in the city and perhaps have multiple locations.”

- How will Terence win this upcoming fight? “Terence is in the best shape of his life with two weeks to go. Gamboa is not going to overpower him, and Terence will wear him down and knock him out in the later rounds.”
- What does it feel like to be the trainer of a world champion? “It feels good to know that I have been able to work with and train a championship fighter, and very few guys can say that in my profession.”
- How does it feel to be coaching Terence in the first title defense fight in the history of Omaha? “Feels awesome and overwhelming to think about. Very humbling experience on my part to be able to walk out and be a part of something like this.”



JAMES “HARD JAW” HENLEY – Head Coach, Gym Manager

Career as a boxer – James fought 13 years as an amateur fighter. He was a 3-time Midwest Golden Gloves champion, and was a 2006 National Regional champion.

Career as a Coach – James has coached 4 Ringside National Champions and 2 Silver gloves National Champions, all within a 3-year period.

Goals for B & B Boxing Academy – “I want to see the academic program come together for the kids, as well as a job training program for trades.”

Goals for Terence Crawford – “I would like to see Terence continue to be successful so that he and his family can have a better lifestyle.”

- How will Terence win this upcoming fight? “Terence will knock out Gamboa.”
- What does it feel like to be the coach of a world champion? “This is a dream come true and one of the best feelings in the world.”
- How does it feel to be coaching Terence in the first title defense fight in the history of Omaha? “This is a tremendous historical moment and I am glad to be a part of it. I never saw this coming, and now that it's here it's an unbelievable feeling.”



MIDGE MINOR – Assistant Trainer

Career as a boxer – Midge fought 8 years as an amateur boxer. He went to the nationals 3 times and was an all-army, all-service boxer.

Career as a coach – Midge has been in coaching for over 50 years. He includes as highlights of his career Grover Wiley's win over Chavez, as well as Terence Crawford's winning of the world title. Midge has coached many amateur champions over the years.

Goals for Terence Crawford – “I would like to see Terence win all the belts and be on the pound-for-pound list.”

- How will Terence win this upcoming fight? “Just by staying sharp.”
- What does it feel like to be the coach of a world champion? “It feels great because I have worked for it for a long time.”
- How does it feel to be coaching Terence in the first title defense fight in Omaha's history? “Unbelievable! But I always knew he had it in him.”



TELO WILLIFORD – Head of Security for B & B Boxing Academy and Team Crawford

Goals for B & B Boxing Academy – “I work hard to ensure there is always a safe and secure environment surrounding B & B Academy and Team Crawford.”



HUGH REEVE – Attorney for B & B Boxing Academy and Team Crawford

Goals for B & B Boxing Academy – “I want to ensure B & B's world-class program stays based in north Omaha, continues to increase in membership and enjoys an expansion of the facilities.”

Education – Graduate of the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Undergrad and Law School.



MICHAEL CARTER – Acting Board Chairman for B & B Boxing Academy; Advisor for Team Crawford

Goals for B & B Boxing Academy – “I want to help establish and maintain a program that encompasses all facets of youth development. I am also looking forward to the day the Academy builds our own facility.”

Education – First African-American from Nebraska to graduate from Princeton University.

Celebrity Corner

Omaha Predictions



JOHNNY RODGERS - First Heisman Trophy winner from the University of Nebraska, and voted the University of Nebraska's Player of the Century.

Prediction - *"Johnny Rodgers predicts that Terence Crawford will put on a boxing exhibition for his home town fans and will successfully defend his WBO Light Weight Title."*



JOHN BEASLEY - This Omaha actor has had roles in more than 23 movies and 30 television shows. He currently plays in the situational comedy "Soul Man."

Prediction - *"Terence Crawford will win this by a unanimous decision, and on a national level this fight helps to counter the myth that there are no black people in Omaha. It also brings a positive spotlight to our city."*



RON BOONE - Played a combined 13 years in the ABA and NBA for teams such as the Dallas Chaparrals, Utah Stars, Kansas City-Omaha Kings, and the Los Angeles Lakers. Ron currently works in broadcasting for the Utah Jazz.

Prediction - *"Defense will be the key in this fight, and the fight will go the distance with Terence Crawford winning on a decision. Being a former basketball player, I appreciate the importance of good defense."*



BEN GRAY - 2nd District Omaha City Councilman and current board member of B & B Boxing Academy.

Prediction - *"Terence Crawford will win on an 8th round stoppage."*



RON STANDER - A.K.A. the "Bluffs Butcher" fought Joe Frazier for the world heavyweight title in Omaha in 1972, losing on a 4th round TKO stoppage due to cuts.

Prediction - *"Terence Crawford by unanimous decision."*



MARLIN BRISCOE - The first black starting quarterback in NFL history.

Prediction - *"Terence Crawford by unanimous decision."*



DAVID BROWN - CEO of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce

Prediction - *"Omaha is proud of Terence and his success. Crawford by knockout in 6."*





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0	DRAWS	0
16	KO'S	16
26	AGE	33
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70"	REACH	85"
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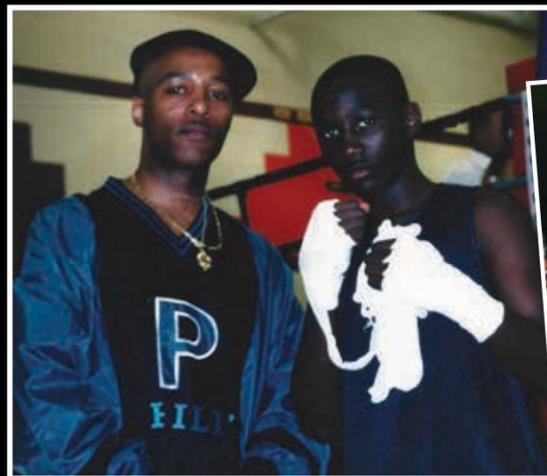
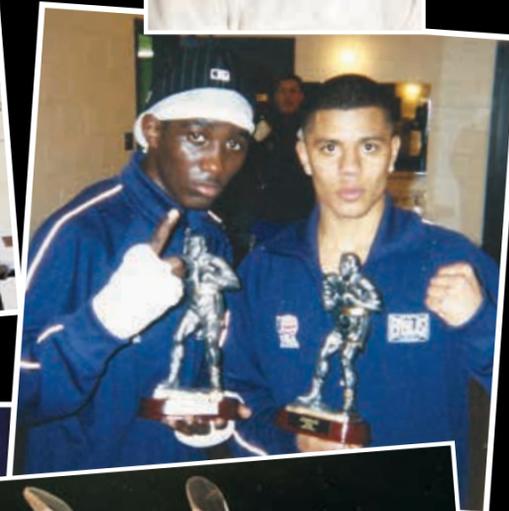
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PERSEVERANCE

The Crawford Years

by Michael Carter



Terence "Bud" Crawford's exposure and transformation into a world-class boxer began at the age of 7.

As the legend goes, a concerned neighborhood role model by the name of Carl Washington spotted a young Terence Crawford hanging out in the street and getting into a lot of mischief.

Carl, who ran his own boxing gym called C.W. Boxing Club, eventually got around to asking Terence if he wanted to box. By the time Terence went home to tell his mother Debra Crawford, Carl was at the front door talking to Debra about Terence boxing. It was at this time that Terence learned of the boxers in his family history, which included his father Terence and his uncles. After learning of this history, his interest was piqued and he started to show up daily at the C.W. Boxing Club.

Terence's skills and temperament for the sport of boxing were clearly evident from the start. Protocol at the C.W. Boxing Club was to sometimes overmatch their young fighters in sparring sessions. This was a way of determining their heart and desire for the sport by putting them into sparring sessions with older more talented kids. If a young boxer did not give in, this practice would in turn jump start their progression in the sport. One of the head trainers at C.W. who still helps train Terence to this day, Midge Minor, was extremely impressed with the heart the young guy displayed and took him under his wings.

Whenever Terence would get beat up during a sparring match, he would come back into the gym the next day proclaiming to want a rematch and would proceed to call out his older nemesis. Terence was always determined to avenge a sparring defeat, regardless as to whom the other boxer was. This is where his drive and determination pushed him to excellence, and Terence developed into one of the most competitive fighters at the C.W. Boxing Club, and one of the best amateur fighters in the country. The rest is history.

The following are some of Terence "Bud" Crawford's major accomplishments as an amateur fighter:

- 👊 Competed in the 2002 US National Silver Gloves tournament (14-15 age range) at 95 lbs, losing to Mike Dallas Jr.
- 👊 Competed at the 2004 US National Junior Olympics at 125 lbs.
- 👊 Quarter-finalist at the 2005 United States (US) championships at 132 lbs, losing to Mike Evans.
- 👊 Won a silver medal at the 2006 National Golden Gloves at 60 kg.
- 👊 Won a bronze medal at the 2006 US championships at 60 kg losing to Danny Garcia.
- 👊 Quarter-finalist at the 2006 US Under-19 championships at 60 kg.
- 👊 Won a gold medal at the US Blue and Gold tournament at 132 lbs beating Danny Garcia.
- 👊 Won a gold medal at the 2006 National Police Athletic League championships at 60 kg beating Diego Magdaleno.
- 👊 Won a gold medal at the 2007 U.S. Pan American Games Box-Offs, 132 Pounds.
- 👊 Competed in the US Olympic trials for the 2008 Games beating Diego Magdaleno, losing to Sadam Ali, beating Mason Menard and losing to Miguel Gonzalez.

Learn more about Terence at www.teamterencebudcrawford.com.

GAME CHANGERS

Omaha's Best-of-the-Best In the Sporting World

by Michael Carter



TERENCE "BUD" CRAWFORD

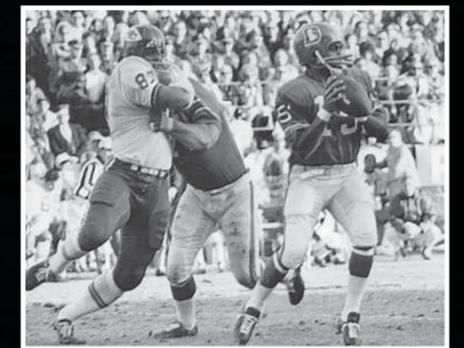
With the world watching, at the end of the introduction of our latest hometown hero, the ring announcer will loudly proclaim, "From Omaha, Nebraska, the WBO Lightweight Champion of the World, **TERENCE 'BUD' CRAWFORD!!!**" This introduction of Omaha's latest and greatest athlete will cause some of the other athletes who have come before him to feel a tremendous sense of pride and even validation. You see, these athletes have often felt that Omaha has been slighted nationally when it comes to being acknowledged for the athletes it has produced. Some will even suggest that for a city of this size, there are no other cities in America that can match the number and quality of athletes produced in Omaha. Even more astonishing is the fact that most of the top athletes produced in our city have come from a condensed geographical footprint in the north and south Omaha communities. This area is bordered generally from the Missouri River to 50th Street to the west, and between Q Street to the south and Kansas Street to the north. In our city's history, there are many athletes that were raised within this footprint that could be profiled here. However, for this article, we will only focus on what we call the "game changers." When you consider that these game changers were raised in this relatively small area of town, it makes the relativity of their accomplishments even more remarkable.

What is a game changer? How do you define a game changer? Perhaps, one definition might pertain to their permanent imprint left on their respective sports. Another definition might involve the inspirational impact that a "game changer" has had on others, which in turn has oftentimes created positive change outside of the sports arena. The most glaring example of this in the sports world would be Muhammad Ali, for his indisputable influence both on the game of boxing and the social impact he has had worldwide.

Terence Bud Crawford has joined the elite ranks of other game changers raised in north and south Omaha, such as Marlin Briscoe, Bob Gibson, Gale Sayers, and Johnny Rodgers. To most outsiders, it generally is a shock that a city of this size has produced the level of athletes that it has over the years. As Terence has ascended to the throne of the WBO Lightweight Champion of the world, some journalists and reporters have expressed surprise that Omaha, Nebraska is capable of producing such a gem as Terence Crawford. Some have even gone as far as to say that they find it incredulous that Terence is from Omaha, Nebraska.

MARLIN BRISCOE

Marlin Briscoe, a game changer from south Omaha, went on to become the first black starting quarterback in the history of the National Football League. In the one year that Marlin was allowed to play quarterback in the NFL, he set the rookie record with the Denver Broncos for touchdown passes in a season. Even after such a brilliant first year Marlin was denied the opportunity to play quarterback ever again. However, he didn't give up on his desire to play in the NFL and went on to become an all-pro wide receiver with the Miami Dolphins, and member of the infamous undefeated Miami Dolphin team of



continued on next page

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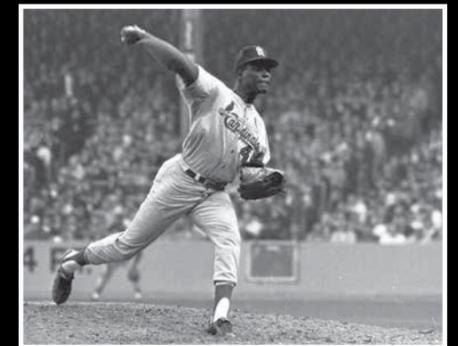
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1972. Marlin Briscoe demonstrated through sheer hard work and determination, that he was going to succeed regardless of the obstacles placed in his way.

Marlin has often been credited with helping to open the doors for future black quarterbacks at both the collegiate and professional levels. His story has been an inspiration to young children all over the country to never give up on themselves and what they have to offer. After a long career, Marlin recently retired from working as a director at the Long Beach Boys and Girls Club. In reference to Terence Crawford's success and what it means for Omaha, Marlin stated, "Terence Crawford's success in the boxing ring adds to the legacy of the long line of great athletes that have come out of Omaha, and helps to seal that legacy of accomplishing historic fetes."

BOB GIBSON

Our next game changer from north Omaha to be profiled is Bob Gibson. Bob enjoyed a 17-year career in Major League Baseball with the St. Louis Cardinals, winning two Cy Young Awards and a league MVP award in 1968. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility, and also was named to Major League Baseball's All-Century team. Bob established a reputation for the way he played the game, and was known as the type of guy that "owned" the plate by going "inside" with brush back pitches even against the most fierce hitters in the game. Bob Gibson has inspired many youngsters in the Omaha inner cities to reach for excellence both in sports and the classroom.



GALE SAYERS

Gale Sayers, another game changer that was raised in north Omaha, had a brief but outstanding National Football League career as a result of knee injuries. After starring at Omaha Central High School, Gale went on to the University of Kansas, becoming a two-time all-American. After being drafted in the first round of the 1965 draft by the Chicago Bears, Gale went on to play six seasons and revolutionized the running back position as it was known at the time. Gale became one of the greatest open field runners in the history of the game. He established himself as one of the league's first "all-purpose" running backs by returning kickoffs as well as punts, something unheard of for a starting running back in today's game. Sayers' name is still etched in the NFL record books in four categories. Gale has been very active in Chicago with his after school programs he established to help children with their leadership development, tutorial assistance, and mentoring.



continued on next page

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JOHNNY "THE JET" RODGERS

Our final game changer from north Omaha to be profiled is Johnny "the Jet" Rodgers. Johnny became the first Heisman Trophy winner from Omaha and the state of Nebraska, and was voted the University of Nebraska's Player of the Century. He has often been described as the most "electrifying" football player in the history of college football. After being drafted in 1973 by the San Diego Chargers, Johnny opted to play in the Canadian Football League which offered him a more lucrative deal. In addition to winning the league's Most Outstanding Rookie Award, Johnny also won league MVP awards twice and led his team to a Grey Cup championship. After receiving a great contract with San Diego, Rodgers returned to the United States to play in the National Football League. However, injuries forced Johnny into retirement after just one season. He returned to Omaha and started foundations that benefit children in the north Omaha community where he was raised. Johnny is currently a board member of Terence Crawford's B & B Boxing Academy.



Johnny commented on the significance of this fight tonight by saying, " 'O-MA-HA,' 'Against The Current,' will be showcased to the world again at the world championship fight, as Terence Crawford puts Nebraska back on the map as 'Sports Capital USA!' We have had some great athletes come out of Omaha, but this is our first champion of the world. Terence could get Omaha as much publicity as Peyton Manning calling out Omaha as an audible in the NFL playoffs games!!"

Although this article's focus is on athletes, any article written about game changers from Omaha in the sports world would not be complete without at least a reference to **Dr. Don Benning**. Dr. Benning, at the age of 26, was named the first black head coach of a major sport at a majority white institution, when he was named the head wrestling coach in 1969 at Omaha University. The countless young people and future coaches he influenced when he pioneered that appointment are unimaginable.

The enormity of what each of the men profiled in this article have achieved through sports will forever be stamped in the history of their sport. Their names will forever be associated with greatness and will continue to inspire our young children to strive for excellence in everything that they do. Let's see . . . the first black quarterback in the history of the NFL . . . a member of Major League Baseball's all-century team . . . , the university of Nebraska's Player of the Century and first Heisman trophy winner . . . an NFL player who revolutionized a position and still holds records after setting them nearly 50 years ago. Yes, these men are truly gems produced by the sometimes unforgiving streets of north and south Omaha. Their accomplishments are of national significance. They are game changers who have represented our city proudly and attribute much of their success to that small footprint called north and south Omaha.

Terence "Bud" Crawford is now a part of this elite group. He is the first world champion boxer in the history of our city which is a record that can never be broken. His legacy in the boxing ring will be forever enhanced by the work he does with the young people in this city through the B & B Boxing Academy, and his Anti-Bullying message he promotes through our schools. Although only 26 years old, and perhaps only at the beginning of a very long and an even more promising boxing career, Terence's membership is already granted, certified, and cemented as Omaha's latest game changer.

Crawford-Gamboa

The Road to Omaha for the Lightweight Championship

by Victor Salazar



Photo: Chris Farina

Not many world champions have taken the path of Omaha, Nebraska's own Terence Crawford. After appearing on numerous Top Rank undercards, Crawford (23-0, 16 KOs) got his big break in March of last year. Khabib Allakhverdiev was set to make his second title defense on HBO against Breidis Prescott March 30th but had to pull out of the fight with an elbow injury 9 days before the fight. That left HBO without an opponent for their co-feature in a card headlined by Brandon Rios and Mike Alvarado.

With Crawford on the card scheduled to fight at lightweight, he took the fight on 9 days notice a division north of 135 lbs. at the Jr. Welterweight limit of 140 lbs. Crawford took the opportunity and ran with it as he kept the bigger Prescott at bay with his long jab and out boxed him en route to a wide unanimous decision.

Crawford won two more times on HBO before his shining moment came and did what not many other boxers are willing to do, travel overseas and fight for a world title in another man's backyard. Again, the young prize fighter took this grand opportunity and flourished as he outclassed Ricky Burns of Scotland snatching the 135 WBO world title this past March.

When you take chances like that you get rewarded, and Crawford's reward is an HBO hometown title defense against another undefeated fighter, Yuriorkis Gamboa on June 28th at the Century Link Center in Omaha, Nebraska.

Yuriorkis Gamboa (23-0, 16 KOs) boomed on to the boxing scene with his lightning quick hands and highlight knockout reels in the featherweight division, where he became a world champion in 2009. During his WBA featherweight title reign, Gamboa soundly defeated the likes of Orlando Salido, Daniel Ponce De Leon, and Jorge Solis. Almost seemingly headed to a clash with Puerto Rican featherweight world champion Juan Manuel "Juanma" Lopez, the bout never occurred because of Lopez' dismantling at the hands of Orlando Salido and the famous "marinate" comment put forth by Bob Arum, the promoter of both.

Gamboa would get his shot at a big fight when he was set to take on then lightweight champion Brandon Rios in April of 2012. For whatever reason be it promotional reasons or not wanting to jump two weight classes, Gamboa skipped the pre-fight promotional press conference and the bout altogether.

Gamboa would be shelved for over a year when he signed onto 50 Cent's SMS Promotions and returned on a Manny Pacquiao undercard at the 130 super featherweight limit against Michael Farenas. Gamboa showed ring rust and was even dropped by Farenas in the fight which he won by decision. He followed up that performance by winning a lackluster decision over Darley Perez in Canada over a year ago when he debut at 135 lbs.

After failed attempts to make a fight with Mikey Garcia, Gamboa chose to step in with one of the best lightweights in the world in Crawford in his hometown. Both fighters have identical records but the outcome of this bout will not be identical. Crawford is the more technical of the two also sporting a better chin in the bigger weight classes. Gamboa has been dropped by smaller guys with lesser talent than Crawford.

However, Crawford has not yet fought a fighter with the fast hands of Gamboa. For Gamboa to be successful he has to get inside of the 70" reach of Crawford with his speed. Gamboa is giving up 5" in reach and is also shorter in height by 3". Gamboa has no doubt faced the better opposition but Crawford will be his best test to date.

In the end Crawford will be too big, too strong, and too good. The old saying goes a good bigger fighter always beats the good smaller fighter and this holds true here. Gamboa will have early success with his hand speed but then Crawford will adjust with his jab and time the smaller fighter who doesn't have the best history with standing upwards. The rumor out of Colorado where Crawford trained was to expect a lot of jabbing and a strong right hand. I see a right hand body shot dropping Gamboa and ending the fight in 8.

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BLUE/AZUL		RED/ROJA
YURIORKIS GAMBOA Miami, FL (23-0, 16 KOs) 32, 5'6", 65"	(12 Rounds – WBO Lightweight Title) Vs.	TERENCE "BUD" CRAWFORD Omaha, NE (23-0, 16 KOs) 26, 5'8", 74"
JOSE UZCATEQUI Tijuana, MEX (22-0, 18 KOs) 23	(10 Rounds – WBO International Middleweight Title) Vs.	MATT KOROBOV Orotukan, RUS (23-0, 14 KOs) 31, 5'11", 70"
PRINCE DOKU, JR. Accra, GHA (18-5, 12 KOs) 27, 5'11", 71.5"	(10 Rounds – NABF Welterweight Title) Vs.	MIKAEL ZEWSKI Trois, CAN (23-0, 18 KOs) 23, 5'10"
TBA Miass, RUS (23-0, 11 KOs)	(6 Rounds – Bantamweight) Vs.	KONSTANTIN PONOMAREV 21, 5'9.5"
ERNIE MARQUEZ Ft. Morgan, CO (9-13-2, 3 KOs) 32, 5'4", 65"	(6 Rounds – Featherweight) Vs.	JOHNNY DETERMAN Omaha, NE (7-0, 6 KOs) 23
JOVANY FUENTES Bayamon, P.R. (5-4, 4 KOs) 23, 5'7", 66.5"	(6 Rounds – Super Featherweight) Vs.	VICTOR PASILLAS East Los Angeles, CA (7-0, 3 KOs) 22, 5'5", 65"
GUILLERMO SANCHEZ Buffalo, NY (13-12-1, 5 KOs) 26, 5'9"	(4 Rounds – Featherweight) Vs.	CASEY RAMOS Austin, TX (16-0, 5 KOs) 24, 5'6"
HEATH CLINE Wichita, KS (0-1, 0 KOs) 35, 5'3"	(4 Rounds – Super Welterweight) Vs.	BERNARD DAVIS Omaha, NE (1-0, 0 KOs) 33
RONNIE PETERSON Moundsview, MN (2-6-0-1, 3 KOs) 24, 5'8", 69"	Vs.	CODY CROWLEY Douro, CAN (Pro Debut) 33

***** PLEASE NOTE: FIGHTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE*****

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