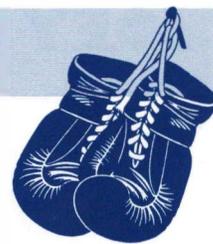




## Ring 44 Inductee



# MICKEY O'DONNELL



Fred G. Schmand, was his real name, born in Buffalo, NY July 31, 1904, a graduate of Masten Park High School, a lifelong Boy Scout, a champion cross-country runner, a varsity football and star baseball player.

While in high school, Fred tried his hands in professional boxing as well, taking his ring name of "Mickey O'Donnell", because he "wasn't quite sure if he would be good or bad or sideways as a fighter". His first fight was a 6 round draw against Patsy Newman. After high school he traveled to Burleson College in Greenville, Texas and made the football team as a walk-on. After leaving college, he started his professional baseball career playing for the Shamokin team in the New York-Pennsylvania league, the property of the New York Giants. He played baseball at the same time as his boxing career until 1926.

During his heyday, Mickey trained at Singers Gym between 1922 and 1936 and fought about 30 professional fights in Buffalo. He started out as a lightweight, junior welterweight and then a welterweight. Records were sketchy in those days and are seldom complete. He also took the name of "Packy Moran" while fighting out of Chicago, Denver, San Francisco and Salt Lake City in 1927 but money wasn't very lucrative and Jimmy Goodrich

convinced him to move back to Buffalo where the action was. He fought many formidable opponents in his career such as Joe Trippi, Bobby Tracey, Luke Carr, Willie Lavin, Virgil Kinkade, Ray Romney and Tommy Mitchell, to name a few.

The fight that Mickey remembered best was against Jimmy Goodrich, former World Lightweight Champion, in front of 22,000 at Bison Stadium on August 20, 1928. A fight Mickey called his biggest bout of his career. Mickey was Jimmy Goodrich's protégé and sparring partner, he was also Frankie Schoell's sparring partner. Mickey also fought on the undercard of Jimmy Slattery's fight against Schoendorf when Jimmy was a middleweight in 1926.

After his boxing career ended he continued playing organized baseball locally. When World War II started, he enlisted in the Navy at the age of 41. Mickey was assigned to an USS Transport Ship, where he arranged, instructed and refereed boxing matches to entertain the troops. After the war, he returned to Western New York and continued playing organized baseball into his 50's.

Fred passed on August 25, 1986 leaving behind a son, James T. Schmand, six grandchildren, many great grandchildren.

Tonight, we proudly induct Mickey O'Donnell into Ring #44's Boxing Hall of Fame!