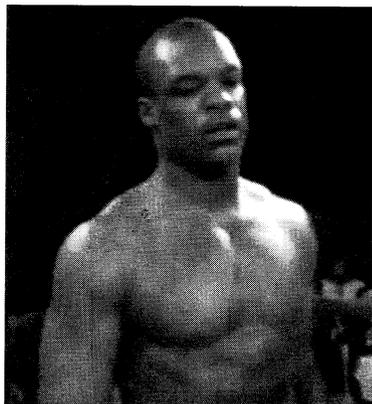




Ring 44 Inductee

BILLY TOMPKINS



Growing up on Buffalo's west side Billy Tompkins earned the nickname "Knock'em Silly" for his many knockouts in his amateur and professional boxing career. Billy became interested in boxing in 1987 at 20 years old and started training at Johnny Sudac's gym on Michigan and Eagle Streets. Later he would move to the Babcock Boy's Club and trained with Jackie Donnelly.

Tompkins had an impressive amateur career compiling a record of 67-6 with 57 knockouts. He fought tough Kevin Rozier twice in 1988 before entering into tournaments including a championship at the Mayor's Cup in Washington, DC. In 1989 he earned a silver medal at the Empire State Games. In 1990 Billy earned another silver medal in the Empire State Games losing to future world champion Shannon Briggs. In 1990 he would win the New York State Golden Gloves title as well as the 1991 National Golden Gloves Tournament in Iowa.

Billy turned pro in August of 1991 and reeled off nine straight wins with eight knockouts to start his career. After having some contract problems in 1994 he decided to take some time off for a few years but soon found himself being called upon as a good sparring partner for many ranked fighters. Tompkins would work with Joe Mesi, Ray Mercer, Shannon Briggs, Bruce Seldon, Obed Sullivan and Carl "The Truth" Williams among others. While training with Razor Ruddock in 1995, Ruddock tried to hurt him during a sparring session so Billy did what he did best, knocked him out!

Resuming his career after a three-year layoff Billy had seven more fights, winning five of them including four by knockout. Unfortunately Billy never found the financial backing he needed to continue fighting so he decided to hang up the gloves in 1998 with a 14-2 record.

Nowadays Billy stays in great shape and works as a personal trainer, teaching fitness and boxing.

Tonight we are proud to honor and induct Billy Tompkins into Ring 44's Buffalo Boxing Hall of Fame.