



DICK LOADMAN

BANTAMWEIGHT/FEATHERWEIGHT

1912-1925

In early 1959 Dick Loadman and Eddie Shevlin died within days of each other. Jersey Jones writing in "The Ring" memorialized these two fighters, "A pair of rugged campaigners who were good enough to fight champions but never good enough to win titles." Dick Loadman, born January 1, 1912 was originally from the town of Homestead, Pennsylvania, the home of the Carnegie Steel Company. Fighting as an amateur bantamweight, he was the Middle Atlantic Champion for two years.

Loadman turned pro in 1912 and fought them all in the bantamweight division and many of the top fighters in the featherweight division. He made a career of tangling with opponents who were, had been or later became champions. Jimmy Goodrich, future lightweight champion was a featherweight when Loadman met him in Buffalo. As a bantam he battled Kid Williams three times, in Buffalo, Milwaukee and Baltimore; Joe Lynch twice, in Providence and New York, and he knocked out Johnny Kewpie "Ertle" in Milwaukee when Ertle was disputing William's claim to the title.

Some of Loadman's biggest fights were held in Baltimore. On November 27, 1916 he knocked out title claimant Johnny Kewpie Ertle. Loadman put in a weak and brief claim to the title. On October 1 of the following year he lost a 12-round decision to Kid Williams. On February 6, 1918 Loadman lost a 15-round decision to title claimant Memphis Pat Moore.

On October 26, 1916 Dick lost a six-round decision in Philadelphia to one of boxing's greatest legend Lew Tendler. Both Tendler and Williams are members of the International Boxing Hall of Fame,

On November 27, 1913 Dick Loadman, just 14 months into his pro career lost a newspaper decision to Kid Williams at the Riverview Rink near the North Avenue Bridge. Prior to the fight a Milwaukee newspaper made this comment about Loadman, "strongly touted in his division." On September 15, 1916 Dick lost a 10-round newspaper decision to Kid Williams in Buffalo. The Courier Express commented on the fight, "a whirlwind, sensational, toe-toe battle."

Dick's impressive record also included bouts with Richie Mitchell, Earl Puryear, Joe Burman, Al Shubert, Eddie Campi, Kid Koster, Eddie and Phil

O' Dowd, Ernie Goozman, Benny Valger, Little Jack Sharkey and Eddie O'Keefe. One of Loadman's most outstanding performances was a decision victory over George K'O' Chaney in Baltimore.

Hugh Shannon assumed management over Dick Loadman 1916 and continued in that position until the fighter's retirement in 1925. He trained in Jimmy Duffy's training camp throughout his local career. Loadman had close to 200 fights and was never knocked out. According to the veteran manager "Loadman was the easiest to handle of all the boxers I ever managed. He never argued about opponents or purses. He was ready to fight anybody at any time. Dick was the strongest I've ever seen, even stronger than Kid Williams."

Tonight Ring 44 of The National Veteran Boxers Association is proud to induct Dick Loadman into the 2011 Buffalo Boxing Hall of Fame.

1923

09-04 Eddie Wimler..... Mingo Junction W NWS 8

1922

12-18 Dickie Dundee Buffalo..... L PTS 10

11-13 Chick Suggs..... New Bedford L PTS 10

1922 Continued

10-30 Charley Manty New Bedford L PTS 10

10-23 Jake Gross..... Louisville..... L NWS 12

10-19 Bernie Hahn..... SteubenvilleL NWS 10

04-03 Mickey Travers Lynn L PTS 10