

THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

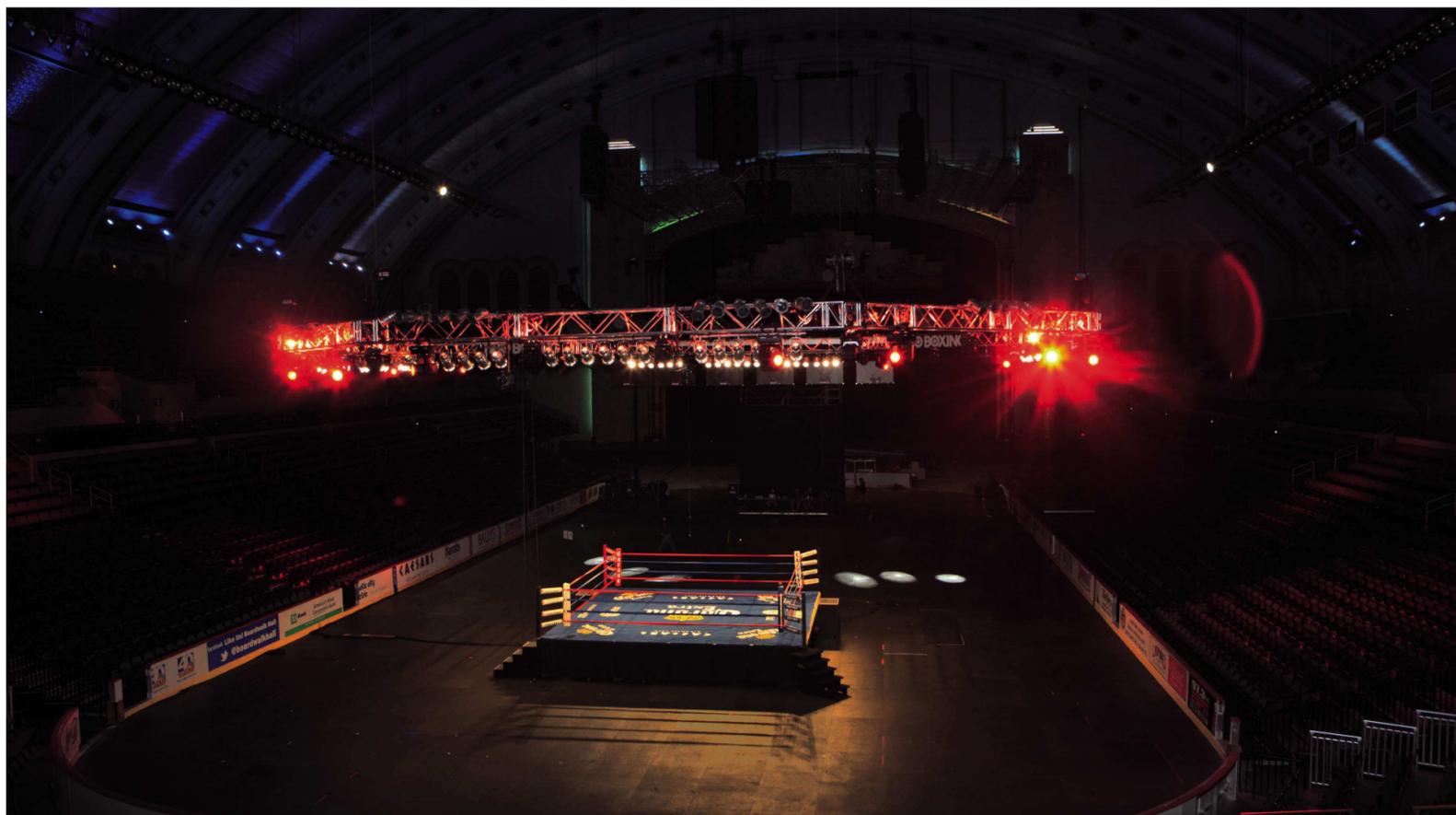


No substitutes

The Who heads to Boardwalk Hall for 50th anniversary tour
PLUS: A look back at the best concept albums **C1**

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015 | Serving Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & southern Ocean counties | PressofAtlanticCity.com | Vol. MMXV, No. 139, ©2015 | Atlantic County Edition

Once Vegas' rival as boxing capital, A.C. lacking resources, desire to stage fight cards



VERNON OGRODNEK / PHOTO EDITOR

Ring leader? Not anymore.

DAVE WEINBERG | STAFF WRITER

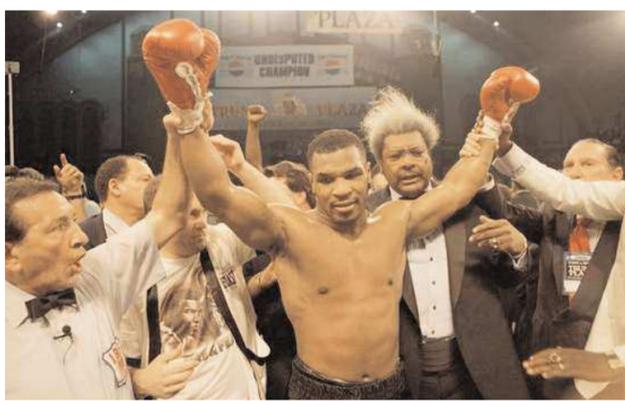
The state's top boxing official is frustrated with Atlantic City. • Since starting his second tenure as commissioner of the New Jersey Athletic Control Board in September, Larry Hazzard has been desperately trying to turn the resort into a boxing town again. • Boxing once thrived in Atlantic City, especially in the 1980s and 1990s. • In 1985, there were a whopping 143 boxing cards. Virtually every casino had fights. But there hasn't been one pro card in Atlantic City in more than six months. A town that once rivaled Las Vegas as the fight capital of the world is in a serious slump.

"When I was a referee back then, I'd work fights at Playboy on Friday, then do a fight on ABC's 'Wide World of Sports' at Harrah's or Sands or somewhere," Hazzard said. "I don't care what anybody says. I think boxing is terrific for casinos, and I'm doing everything I can to get Atlantic City to realize that."

Trouble is, Atlantic City casinos either lack the financial resources or simply don't have the desire to have boxing at their properties. Those that do have fight cards have opted to showcase mixed martial arts.

After Donald Trump dropped out of the boxing scene in the early 1990s, Bally's was at the forefront of boxing on the Boardwalk.

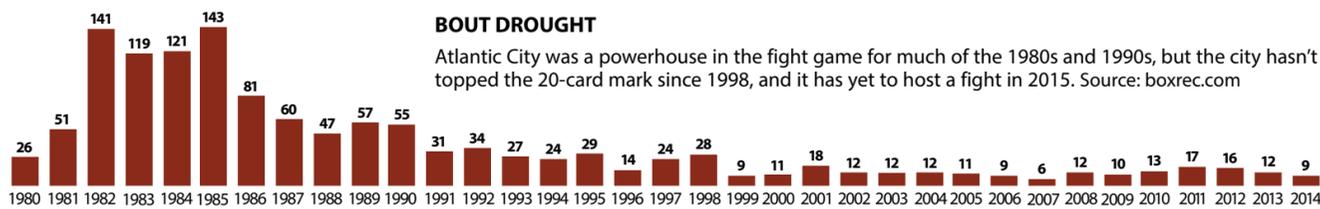
See **BOXING**, A2



AP FILE PHOTO

ONLINE

Boardwalk Hall has seen its fair share of boxing moments, including Mike Tyson's 91-second knockout of Michael Spinks on June 27, 1988. Check out a gallery of our picks for the top 10 fights in A.C. and see video of local amateur boxing at PressofAC.com



BOUT DROUGHT

Atlantic City was a powerhouse in the fight game for much of the 1980s and 1990s, but the city hasn't topped the 20-card mark since 1998, and it has yet to host a fight in 2015. Source: boxrec.com

Obama praises Camden as 'symbol of promise'

CHRISTIAN HETRICK | STAFF WRITER

President Barack Obama described Camden, long considered one of America's most dangerous cities, as a model for community policing Monday during a speech in the city.

"I've come here to Camden to do something that might have been unthinkable a few years ago," Obama said. "And that's to hold you up as a symbol of promise for the nation."

See **OBAMA**, A2

INSIDE
 President restricts combat-style gear for police. **D4**

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Introducing the new Press of A.C.

Today is the first edition of the new Press of Atlantic City. For the past year, The Press staff has been preparing for this more modern version of the daily newspaper, which includes an easier-to-use design, updated nameplate and emphasis on local content.

The Press is at heart a local, community-focused newspaper in an area that is

INSIDE

Your guide to the redesign

packed with news, both good and bad, every day. Our new look emphasizes that by giving readers more local news, opinion and voices in an A section filled with daily, need-to-know stories from throughout the region. The weekly

Hometown supplement some readers received will now be replaced by two daily pages of Hometown, featuring information from all over our four-county coverage area. The Opinion pages will feature a larger variety of voices, cartoons and commentary than ever before, including comments from

See **PRESS**, A8



T-STORMS

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