

Westchester County V. B. A. Ring 30

STEVE BELLOISE

Steve Belloise, born in New York City on December 16th, 1918 started his professional fistic career on August 24th, 1938, with a sensational 4 round knockout over Vince Califano. He had 8 fights his first year, winning 6. He went thru the next 2 years undefeated beating the likes of Sammy Luftspring, Ceferino Garcia, Paul Griffith, Art Gonzales, and Eddie Dunne to name a few. During this streak he knocked out fellows like Joe Conito, Caesar Ferro, Art Gonzales, Rego Dell, Vic Dellicurti, Wicky Harkins, Marty Marino, Ralph Vona, Ernie Copeland, Lou Roig, Vinnie Vines and Eddie Dunne. His winning streak ended on November 1st, 1940 when he lost a 15 round decision to Ken Overlin while trying to gain the middleweight title. After only 33 bouts Belloise fought for the World title. In this day and age with the shortage of boxers and clubs, it is a great possibility, but Steve accomplished this when boxing was at its peak.

He tried again in December of the same year in a return bout, but was unsuccessful in lifting Overlin's crown. In the first bout with Overlin, Steve dropped him in the 6th and from all appearances Ken was not getting up. The bell sounded, saving Overlin and his title. Under today's rules, the referee would have continued the count and Steve would have been the new champ.

Steve became interested in boxing thru his brother Mike, who later became the world's featherweight king. Mike handled Steve in 12 "smoker" bouts, and was instrumental in teaching him many of the finer points of the game. Mike was also his inspiration and devoted companion until his death a few years back.

In a career that spanned 12 years and 110 pro bouts, with 94 wins of which 58 were by the knockout route and only 13 losses you have to put . . . Steve Belloise into the "SUPERIOR FIGHTER" class.

Belloise was probably the hardest punching lefthook artist of all the middleweights. An example of his punching powers was exhibited while Steve was in a Paris gym workout against a real toughie named Germaine Gabosch who had the distinction of never being floored with the big gloves. Gabosch even refused to wear a headgear, until a big left hook by Steve deposited him on the seat of his pants.