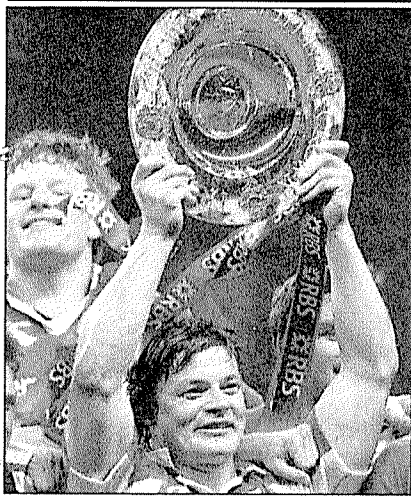


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EchoScores



RUGBY

This Six Nations championship has been by no means perfect. Ireland stuttered against Italy, were positively bipolar in Paris where they floundered in the first half before exploding in the second, flattered to deceive against fragile Wales, struggled to see off limited Scotland, and then had all the luck against England.

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CSL SOCCER

Lansdowne Bhoys added some Brazilian flair to their squad during the winter break and were rewarded with a goalless draw at former champs' New York Athletic at the start of the spring half of the 2005-2006 Cosmopolitan Soccer League season last Sunday.

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GOLF

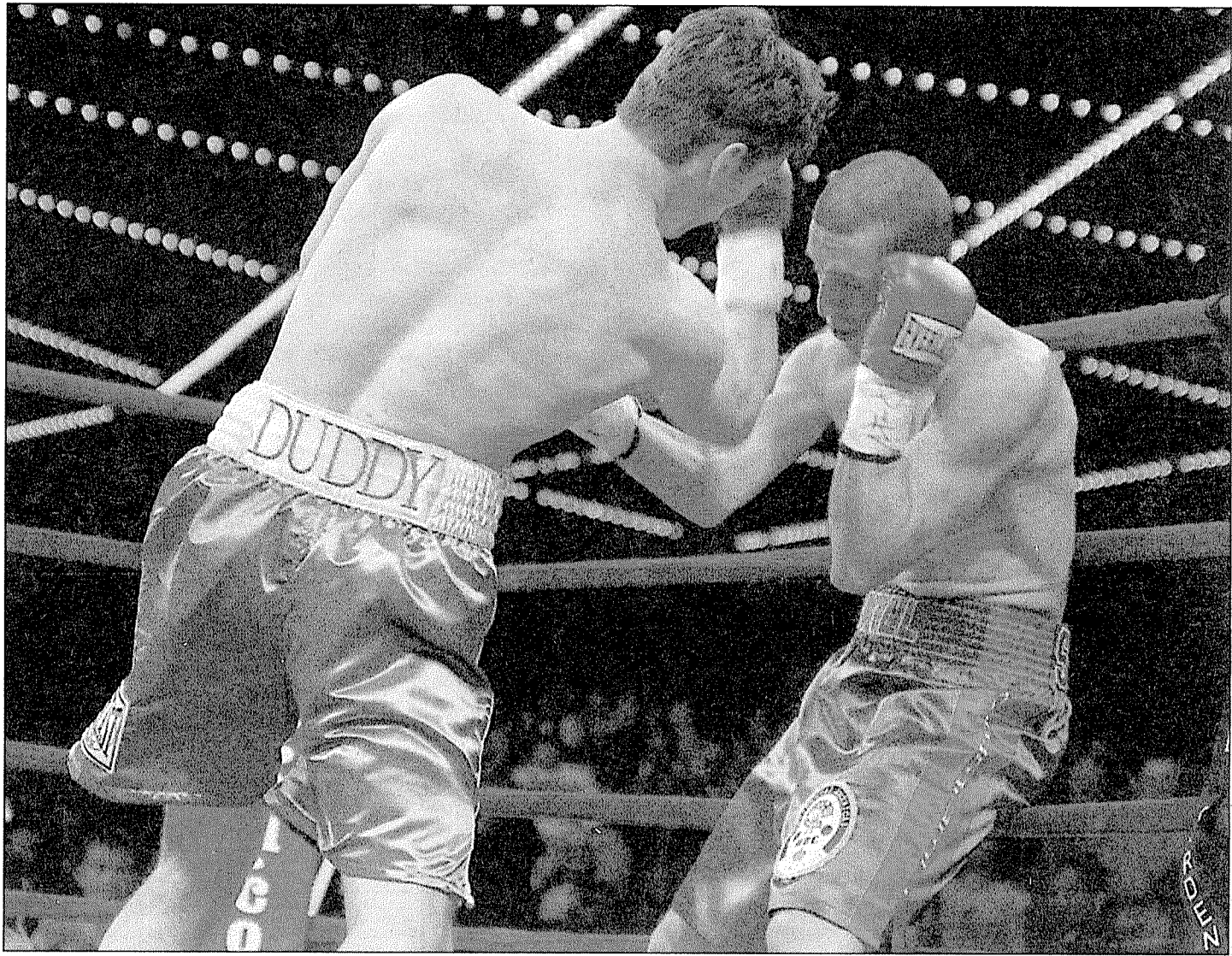
Darren Clarke finished solo third in the Bay Hill Invitational in Orlando, Fla., based largely on a sublime third round in which he shot 63 (33-30) and carded nine birdies, with no bogeys. Starting the third round near the bottom of the leaderboard, Clarke rocketed upward and ended the day tied for second place, four strokes off the leader, Rod Pampling.

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GOLDEN GLOVES

Don O'Regan bid farewell to boxing after dropping a points decision to old rival and defending 178-pound open titlist William Rosinsky in the semi-finals of the New York Daily News Golden Gloves at the Electric Industry Center in Flushing on St. Patrick's Day.

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John Duddy shows off some of what made his Garden fight against Shelby Pudwill short and sweet last Thursday.

BOB KOLB

Demolition man

By Jay Mwamba

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In one of the shortest title fights at Madison Square Garden in recent times, John Duddy knocked out Shelby Pudwill one minute and 51 seconds into the first round to capture the vacant WBC Continental Americas middleweight belt last Thursday night.

The big punching Duddy jumped on Pudwill from the first bell and had the North Dakotan down three times before referee Wayne Kelly stopped the scheduled 10-round contest.

The 5,600-capacity Theater at the Garden, swathed in green and packed to the rafters, was delirious as the Derry Destroyer brought the biggest Irish boxing event in New York City in years to a stunning conclusion on St. Patrick's Day eve.

The Irish were indomitable. Not even the last-minute cancellation of the Matt Macklin-Chris Troupe fight could dampen the occasion.

Arklow light middleweight James Moore, showing that he's another champion in the making, broke down the now 9-3-2 (3 KOs) Jose Felix in three rounds. County Clare heavyweight James Clancy outclassed Mitch Rose

Derry's Duddy takes title in 111 seconds

over four heats, while junior light-weight Maureen "The Kerry Kid" Shea beat up on LeAnne Villarreal for four stanzas.

Brooklyn welterweight Martin Wright, the latest addition to first time promoter Eddie McLoughlin's stable, starched Joseph Davis at 2:40 of the first round on his debut to complete the sweep on the Irish Ropes Promotions' maiden show.

Duddy was almost a minute quicker in the main event to claim the quickest knockout on an unforgettable night.

"Never would I have believed in my wildest dreams that I'd come in Madison Square Garden on St. Patrick's Day (eve) and knock him out in the first round," Duddy said after winning his first title in the pro ranks.

The blowout started with a left hook that exploded high on Pudwill's tem-

ple, hastily introducing the 11-year veteran to the canvas.

"The first time I landed the left hook and knocked him down I knew that I was going to knock him out," said Duddy, who, at 26, was four years younger than his foe.

Pudwill beat Kelly's count but would never recover.

"You could see when he got up his legs were not there," Duddy said.

A right hook to the head set up the second knockdown, and once Pudwill had survived that too, Duddy bore in with another right hook to the ear that decked his man for the third and last time.

It was the 160-pound prospect's 13th victory by KO in 16 fights.

Pudwill, whose record dropped to 21-3-1 (9 KOs), was apologetic when he bumped into Duddy back stage after the fight.

See **DUDDY**, Page 41

