

# Echo Sports

## Aggressive Moore does enough to defeat De Los Santos

By Jay Mwamba  
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James Moore returned to his winning ways with a six round unanimous points decision over the robust Joseph De Los Santos at the Plattdeutsche Park Restaurant in Franklin Square, Long Island, last Friday.

Coming off a loss to NABF titlist Yuri Foreman last December, Moore was eager to avoid another defeat and it showed in his aggressive mode from the first bell.

The Arklow junior middleweight, working behind a long jab and lead rights, went at De Los Santos for the first four rounds, and then slowed down in the last two stanzas. He won by scores of 59-55 on one card and 58-56 on the other two, whilst upping his record to 17-2 [10 KOs].

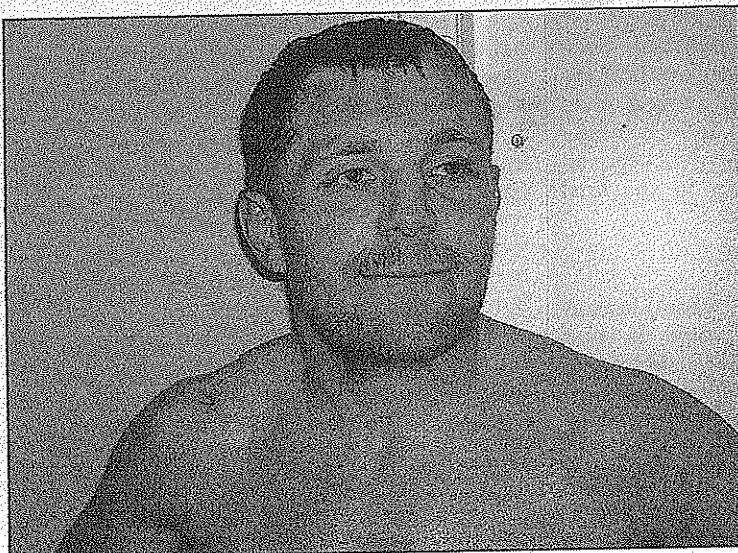
De Los Santos, a Dominican fighting out of Puerto Rico, fell to 4-4-3 [2 KOs]. There were no knockdowns.

"It was alright," Moore, who's 31, later said. "I knew I won the first four rounds. There's still room for improvement. I was a little tight."

Predictably, De Los Santos begged to differ. "It was not a good decision," he said through an interpreter. "I thought I won the fight."

Still, the 32 year-old conceded that Moore fought a good fight.

Indeed, seldom has Moore been so aggressive and light on his feet as he was on his third return to the popular German



James Moore.

eatery.

Although he took a lot of jabs and sneaky rights early on, De Los Santos was no chump. He took his licks and kept on ticking.

The action was fast paced and in Moore's favor as he out-punched and outworked De Los Santos.

The fourth round ended with 5-foot-11 inch Moore tattooing the squat Dominican with several punches after some infighting.

Then the pendulum change.

Admittedly ring rusty after the longest layoff of his pro career, Moore hit the snooze button in the fifth and De Los Santos capitalized on it. He found a home for his right, landing two clean shots and one time and putting the fatigued Irishman on the retreat.

Moore admitted that he was

stunned at one point.

"I waited all fight for his overhand right and he didn't [throw] it until the fifth," he said.

At any rate, Moore took the bona fide middleweight's best shots but was outworked in the fifth round.

He came back a bit in the sixth and final stanza but at the point De Los Santos needed a knock out to salvage the fight.

Moore's dad, Jim, a youth coach with the Irish Amateur Boxing Association who flew in from a junior tournament in Azerbaijan, said his son was trying too hard to knockout De Los Santos.

"He was trying too hard to knockout the man out. He boxed better at a distance. The jab worked very well, that's what won the fight."

Trainer Lennox Blackmoore

was impressed by Moore's hunger and desire even while critiquing his game on the night.

"He needed to use the left hook to the body. I was telling him to stay back and use the jab. He needed to box more, but it's a good comeback," said Blackmoore.

### BIG MAC

Danny McDermott, dubbed "Little Mac," posted the biggest win of his professional career with a second round knockout of top ranked Italian Floriano Pagliara at the Schuetzen Park Ballroom in North Bergen, New Jersey, last Thursday night.

"The fight was a good one," said McDermott, a Jersey City lightweight who upped his record to 8-1-1 [2KOs].

"The first round was just feeling each other out and then

in the second I started to settle in and set up some shots. I caught him flush with a clean right hand that dropped him like a sack of potatoes. He got up and I finished him with a left hook-right hand combination.

"It was defiantly a break through defining moment for me and my career. This guy was the best guy I've faced [9-2, 6 KOs] and ranked sixth in Italy, and I lived up to the moment.

McDermott said he had great sparring for the contest with one of his foils being upcoming 132-pound amateur standout Johnny Lynch, the 17 year-old son of his promoter John Lynch.

"It was a great camp where my trainer Mickey Red and I practiced sitting on our punches over and over again. It paid off," McDermott said.

## Fans' Reds revolution spreads to New York

By Jay Mwamba  
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Are you a Liverpool fan who's disenchanted with the Reds' American owners? Well, then join the action group Spirit of Shankly.

That's the message Paul Rice, chairman of the group, brought to New York last weekend. He spoke to members of LFCNY, the official Liverpool supporters club in the Big Apple, at a lower Manhattan pub on Saturday.

"Our long term [goal] is to rid the club of its current owners and secure fan ownership of the club," Rice told the Echo before the meeting.

Spirit of Shankly, or SOS, was formed in January 2008, around the time Liverpool's owners, George Gillett and Tom Hicks, were reportedly trying to woe Jurgen Klinsmann to replace current manager Rafael Benitez.

Fans dissatisfied with the way the two American businessmen, who bought Liverpool from previous Chairman David Mores in February 2007, were running the 18-time English champions, crammed into a local pub to discuss ways of ending their reign.

About 350 supporters showed up at The Sandon near Anfield, giving birth to SOS, which initially was called the Sons of Shankly after the club's late charismatic boss Bill Shankly, who was manager from 1959 to

1974. Its website quotes Shankly as saying: "The socialism I believe in is everyone working for each other, everyone having a share of the rewards. It's the way I see football, the way I see life."

They believed that the football club was being run in a way detrimental to the supporters and unhappy with what they considered broken promises and the enormous debt saddled on Liverpool FC.

Sixteen months later, SOS has about 3,000 signed members and is gathering momentum. Rice, three of whose four grandparents hailed from Ireland, was in Dublin last month canvassing Irish-based supporters groups there. He's also visited Norway.

"I've been in constant contact with all supporters clubs and been in contact with the New York club for six years," says the life-long Reds fan.

Rice is confident that SOS will ultimately achieve its goals. He counts among its successes in its short existence the fact that it's become a voice to be reckoned; that it's become a banner for fans to rally around and that Liverpool's chief executive, commercial director and manager are aware of SOS's influence.

For more information on the Spirit of Shankly or to join the group, visit: [www.spiritofshankly.co.uk](http://www.spiritofshankly.co.uk).

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