



Home

- ▶ Opinion
- EXPRESS EDITORIAL**
- SELWYN RYAN**
- KIRK MEIGHOO**
- ▶ **Business**
 - Energy
 - Regional
 - Exchange Rates
 - Share Prices
 - Mutual Funds
 - Directory
- ▶ **Sports**
- ▶ **Letters**
- ▶ **Cartoon**
- ▶ **Features**
- ▶ **Weather**
- TV6**
- Tobago News**
- Magazines**
 - ▶ **Business**
 - ▶ **Sports**
 - ▶ **Woman**
 - ▶ **Mix**
- ▶ **Classifieds**
- ▶ **Shopping**
- ▶ **Advertising**
- Search**

Type:

Keyword:

more than 20000 people will see this AD today
click to show them your ad instead

[E-mail to a friend](#)
[View printable version](#)

Ramnarine lands world title

Ian Prescott iprescott@trinidadexpress.com

Monday, May 30th 2005



American Yvonne Caples (right) admires her work after landing a left to the jaw of Trinidad and Tobago's Ria Ramnarine in their WIBA mini-flyweight world title fight. Ramnarine won on a split decision

"Show the entire fight on television, and let the whole of Trinidad and Tobago judge for themselves."

That was the response of Tansley Thompson, a local boxing promoter, manager of Commonwealth Games silver medallist Kertson Manswell and former close associate of ex-World Boxing Association (WBA) light-heavyweight champion Leslie "Tiger" Stewart. Thompson was commenting on what many considered a 'home-cooked' decision that landed Trinidad and Tobago's Ria

CLASSIFIEDS

Shop online

www.caribuy.com

BUY NOW on CARIBUY

AVAILABLE AT :

Featured Links

- ▶ [Study in the U.S](#)
- ▶ [Lingerie](#)
- ▶ [Lingerie: Bra](#)
- ▶ [BestcaribbeanJobs](#)
- ▶ [ReachCaribbean](#)
- ▶ [BestcaribbeanHolidays](#)
- ▶ [Bestcaribbeanwedding](#)
- ▶ [BestcaribbeanHomes](#)
- ▶ [TheTobagoNews](#)
- ▶ [Stabroeknews](#)
- ▶ [VirginIslandDailyNews](#)

Contacts

- ▶ [Webmaster](#)
- ▶ [The Editor](#)

REGIONAL NEWS

- [VI DailyNews](#)
- [Stabroek News](#)
- [Barbados Nation](#)
- [Jamaica Observer](#)

[CCN Group](#)

[Reach Caribbean](#)

[Children's Fund](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

Ramnarine the Women's International Boxing Association (WIBA) mini-flyweight (105 lbs) world title at the Jean Pierre Complex, on Friday night.

Ramnarine won by a 2-1 split decision over American Yvonne Caples. Trinidad and Tobago judge George St Aude (97-93) and Barbadian Derek Herbert (97-93) gave Ramnarine the fight, while Guyanese Andre Thorne (97-93) ruled in favour of the American.

Further analysis of the scores indicate that the two judges in favour of Ramnarine saw her winning seven rounds. Additionally, they did not credit Caples for a second round knockdown by giving her the round 10-8. Match supervisor Molly Boxhill said Herbert was aware that Ramnarine had hit the deck, but did not see it as a knockdown, despite the fact that referee Tommy Thomas sent Caples to her corner and gave Ramnarine a standing eight count.

Like Thompson, many in the local boxing fraternity felt Caples had won by a landslide. Going into the final round, 26-year-old Ramnarine appeared to need a knockout to win, after she was picked apart by a quicker, technically superior southpaw, who landed the cleaner, heavier blows throughout the ten-round affair. Ramnarine was on the deck in the second round from a flash knockdown when Caples landed a clean left counter flush on her jaw after the T&T fighter had lunged in and missed with the right.

Thompson said that while he is no boxing judge, Ramnarine might not have won a single round.

"If any of my boxers have to win like that, I'd rather lose," Thompson said. "From what I could see, it was a case of Ria needing a knockout to win the fight."

Following the ten-round world title duel, the Express spoke to several persons, including local fighters, promoters, two prominent local coaches and boxing officials, and they were unanimous in their disgust at the outcome. Joining the fray was controversial promoter Buxo Potts who also felt Caples had clearly won.

One of the night's officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said: "It's a most unfair decision and it should not happen in Trinidad and Tobago."

He was one of two well-respected officials who offered the same opinion.

A local boxer felt likewise.

"If people come here and we do them that, they will also do the same when we go outside."

However, Clyde Forde, acting president of the Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Boxing Association, supported Ramnarine.

"I think Ria won the fight. Trinidadians need to be more patriotic and support their fighter," he said.

An elated Ramnarine rated Caples as the best woman she had fought, and was delighted to be T&T's first female world boxing champion. But while the local fighter and the fight promoter, her manager Bharath Ramoutar, celebrated, Caples sat alone in her dressing room. In a soft, disappointed voice, and on the verge of tears, Caples said:

"It happens to me all the time. It's like you win a fight, and it's taken away from you."

She was reflecting on a previous world title shot, in Japan, where she lost a decision many, including WIBA president Ryan Wissow, felt she had won.

"I saw that she (Ramnarine) was pretty slow, her punches were very wide, and I made up my mind I could out-box her."

The loser's American manager Leroy Caldwell was very upset and said he may never return to T&T.

"I thought we won the fight. In fact, we won every round. We should have gotten a clear decision. Even Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder would have come up with a better result than that."

The fight itself started just after ten o'clock with a lot of noisy fanfare for Ramnarine, who was bidding to do T&T proud by winning the title.

In the first round, Caples had the edge, setting up the local contender with the long right jab. Ramnarine was always open to be hit by her opponent's left and was stopped in her tracks every time the American connected.

Ramnarine tried bobbing and weaving, but she was always

that second slower than Caples, who stuck the jab out and moved away before Ramnarine got set to throw her fists. A quick left from Caples sent Ramnarine to the canvas in the second round.

Caples looked the better fighter, mixing up her punches, jabbing to the head and stomach and dishing out the occasional uppercut and hook. Ramnarine, on the other hand, wasn't getting anything off.

Caples won the fourth round and looked good landing a left to Ramnarine's jaw. At that stage, every local supporter was worried, but Ramnarine had a better round, and might have actually won the fifth. The sixth saw Caples sticking out the jab and disappearing out of range. She also landed several lefts flush on Ramnarine's face, but the round was fairly close.

A wicked uppercut tilted Ramnarine's head backwards, as Caples rushed out at the start of the seventh round and proceeded to dominate. Ramnarine looked to undo the damage by being more aggressive in the eighth. She threw a few combinations, but Caples again landed the cleaner punches. Ramnarine landed a solid right to the American's jaw in the ninth, but Caples delivered good combinations. And by the tenth round, all but Ramnarine's most loyal fans were silent.

The final round was the best of the fight as the T&T pugilist mixed it up. Caples, though, landed the cleaner, harder punches and clearly won the round...not according to two of the judges, who saw it as a clear loss for the American.

Both fighters said afterwards they would consider a rematch.

-
- **Wi row Goes on**
 - **Maraj, Kelly, Simmons called for 'A' team**
 - **Burns, Brown in CAC Seniors 29**
 - **Dinas knocks Chanders**
 - **Backing away from the abyss**
 - **Weston goes after WBA women's title**
 - **Vernon 'Jabber' Romney dies**
 - **Victories for Coaching School, Lakers in TFA**
 - **Raiders derail Cruz Control**
 - **Bermuda lose opening match of ICC Trophy**
 - **Salandy must fight Pardo or lose fight**

- Lara, Chanderpaul, Gayle make Super Series cut
- Manager: WI 'A' team wanted to abandon second 'Test'



[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Politics](#) | [Features](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Sports](#) | [Cartoon](#) | [Archives](#) | [Woman](#) |
[MIX](#) | [Classified](#) | [Business](#) | [Market](#) | [TV6](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Advertising](#)

Site designed and managed by CCN New Ventures. Editor at large: Keith Smith, Editor: Omatie Lyder, TV News; Natalie Williams, Copyright 2005 All rights reserved. Trinidad Express 35 Independence Sq, Port of Spain, Trinidad. Express newspaper and TV6 are subsidiaries of Caribbean Communications Network, <http://www.ccngroup.com> Powered by www.cpsgsoftware.com