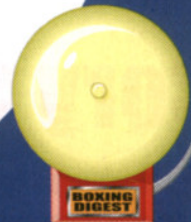


# A ROUND AND A BOUT



## NEW CENTER FOR YOUTH BOXING PROGRAM IN THE SOUTH BRONX



The future home of the Betances Boxing Program



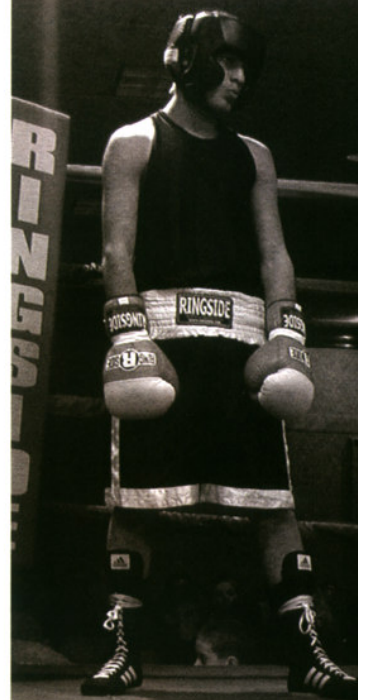
The Betances Boxing Program, one of the top amateur youth boxing programs in New York City, will move into a new state of the art boxing facility when the \$6,700,000 renovation of the Dr. Ramon Emeterio Betances Community Center, located in the Mott Haven section of the South Bronx, is completed in 2005. The program has produced many Golden Glove and Junior Olympic champions since it was founded in 1998, despite the fact that the program currently operates in a basketball gym. Once completed, the community center will have the largest and most modern boxing gym in New York City, according to the center sports director, Jerry Kortright. For the first time, the facility will have a dedicated boxing ring area with bleachers for 300 spectators and dedicated training and locker rooms.

Designed by Stephen Yablon Architect PLLC, a Manhattan based firm, the new 12,290 square foot facility will be a creative reuse of existing structures at the Betances Houses, an eight building NYCHA housing complex located at East 146<sup>th</sup> Street and St. Ann's Avenue. An existing community center on the ground floor of a housing tower and an adjacent one-story basketball gymnasium, the current home of the boxing program, will be joined to form the new facility. The gymnasium structure will be stripped to its structure and reclad in order to increase the amount of natural light and create a distinctive community icon. Above the new façade, a lightweight perforated metal screen will increase the building's street presence while screening new rooftop HVAC equipment. On the first floor, meeting and classrooms will form an interior "courtyard" that will overlook the boxing ring on the lower level. A portion of the roof will be raised to create a dramatic three-story space over the boxing area. "After entering this tough little low charcoal-colored building," Mr. Yablon said, "people will be delightfully surprised to immediately see boxing matches underway in the glass-enclosed luminous central space."

February 2004

BOXING DIGEST

## RINGSIDE



In ballrooms, auditoriums,  
and arenas throughout  
the world,  
tomorrow's champions are  
competing today..



877-4-BOXING  
www.ringside.com

© 2003 Ringside, Inc.