



State, The (Columbia, SC)

1993-12-02

Section: METRO/REGION

Edition: FINAL

Page: 1B

SHERIFF, LAWYER TO SQUARE OFF IN BOXING BENEFIT

CLIF LeBLANC, Staff Writer

Picture Ernest T. Bass sucker-punching "Dud" Wash, the man who stood between Ernest T. and the woman of his dreams, Charlene Darling, on the old "Andy Griffith Show."

That's the caliber of boxing the paying audience is likely to get tonight when a pair of heavyweights, Richland County Sheriff Allen Sloan and defense attorney **Jack Swerling**, duke it out in a fund-raiser to establish a boxing program for kids heading for trouble with the law.

"**Jack** has the height on me, the weight on me and the reach," Sloan said Wednesday at a media event "weigh-in." "I think I can tie him up. I predict I'll put him to sleep," said the 217-pound sheriff, who shed his suit coat and did fisticuff impressions of the Mayberry hick and of Redd Foxx's Fred Sanford character. Mugging for television cameras, Sloan waved and said, "I'd like to say hello to my mom." Asked whether he would fight fair, the sheriff shot back, "No."

When Sloan's frame tipped the scales beyond the 200 mark, his "cut man," 5th Circuit Solicitor Dick Harpootlian, cracked, "It may be a better fight that you think."

The prosecutor said **Swerling**, his former law partner, can hurt an opponent with his size and "that big Rolex and ring he wears."

"He can be very dangerous," Harpootlian said. "**Jack's** big, but he's slow."

Asked whether ambulances will be waiting outside The Township, Harpootlian retorted, "Several units."

Swerling, who tilts the scales in the "upper reaches of 200," was out of town Wednesday and didn't attend the weigh-in at the Sheriff's Department. His cut man, former 5th Circuit Assistant Solicitor Joe McCulloch, came to his fighter's defense.

"If he manages to get **Swerling** off his feet, **Swerling** is going to fall on him," McCulloch said of Sloan. "That's the contingency plan."

"It could be heinous. It could be felonious. It could be baloney-ious."

Bobby Mitchell, who owns Mitchell's Boxing Gym at 903 Huger St., said about a dozen kids ages 8-12 have joined the program at his gym, along with a handful of law enforcement officers.

The local boxing promoter and the other backers say boxing will be a constructive outlet for street toughs who increasingly are venting their anger with weapons. It also will get them to deal with police as teachers and supporters. Sloan said other sports were considered, but the kids who need the outlet all know how to fight.

Mitchell said he is recruiting at the state juvenile correction agency, in schools and in local housing projects.

Sloan, meanwhile, says he is confident of victory tonight. He ordered a trophy and "went ahead and put my name on it."

Harpoottian also predicted **Swerling's** defeat. "We all know that truth and justice always prevail," he said.

Failing that, "If **Swerling** were to win," the prosecutor said, "he's being indicted -- assault on a police officer."

The boxing card begins with a 6 p.m. celebrity barbecue featuring Lamar Parks, a Greenville native who will fight next month for the WBC middleweight title, and Christy Parks, the three-time women's boxing champion. Tickets for the barbecue are \$50. The boxing exhibition begins at 8 p.m. General admission is \$10; ringside seats are \$15. Tickets will be sold at The Township box office, 1703 Taylor St. The phone number is 252-6530.

1-2. Sloan, **Swerling**



Visit other Real Cities sites

[News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Living](#) | [Shop Local](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Real Estate](#)

[About TheState.com](#) | [About the Real Cities Network](#) | [About the McClatchy Company](#)
[Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Copyright](#)



[TheState.com](#) | [News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Living](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Homes](#) |

State, The (Columbia, SC)

1993-12-03

Section: METRO/REGION

Edition: FINAL

Page: 1B

HEAVYWEIGHTS FIGHT

Tim Dominick / The State

Defense attorney **Jack "The Hammer" Swerling**, left, and Richland County Sheriff Allen Sloan duke it out Thursday night at The Township to raise money to establish a boxing program for kids heading for trouble with the law. Sloan hit the canvas in the first of three, one-minute rounds; **Swerling** went down in the second. The fight ended in a draw, and the trophy went to Mitchell's Boxing Gym for children to compete for. About \$3,000 was raised.



Visit other Real Cities sites

[News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Living](#) | [Shop Local](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Real Estate](#)

[About TheState.com](#) | [About the Real Cities Network](#) | [About the McClatchy Company](#)
[Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Copyright](#)