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1300:games-stevenson:

1982

by Lionel martin

havana, aug 18, reuter -- teofilo stevenson, the cuban heavyweight with a dynamite right that won him three olympic crowns in succession, garnered the gold medal last night of the 14th central american and caribbean games, jnd by doing so, showed that his defeat at the world amateur championships last may might have been only a fluke.

stevenson, whose great aspiration is to win his fourth olympic title at los angeles in 1984, told reuter before last night's bout that he feels in tip top shape.

when asked about his defeat in munich last may to italian super-heavyweight francisco damiant by a 5-0 decision, stevenson said he had felt +tense+ that night, and moreover, his tactics against the rough and tumble damiani had been wrong.

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in his two outings during the 14th central american and caeribbean games which ended yesterday, stevenson won easy victories over outmatched opponents.

but even though his total time in the ring was less than five minutes, stevenson showed himself to be fast, aggressive and in a killer spirit.

he wiped out nelson rosa of puerto rico with a right to the jaw that had the pudgy pugilist literally hanging on the ropes --but totally unconscious.

in his second outing in the final event, stevenson unleashed a few strong jabs and a moderately powerful right when his opponent dropped to the canvas and refused to get up --although the referee judged he was capable of doing so-- to confront his opponent.

--reuter lem/syl