

# Musings from my Hermitage

By Larry F. Ginsberg

## Hermitage Wire Service archive: Pincus Silverberg



Pinky Silverberg

**January 16, 1964:** Ansonia's own Pinky Silverberg, former NBA World Flyweight Champion who was "robbed" of his title died today at age 59. Silverberg was born on April 5, 1904 and held the Flyweight Title during 1927. He had 89 Official Bouts, won 33 (7 by KO), lost 33 (1 by KO to top contender Willie LaMorte in 1926), 15 draws, 6 no decisions and 2 no contests. He was the younger brother of the Professional Featherweight Herman "Kid Silvers". He was known for fighting the top Flyweights and Bantamweights (when he was no longer able to make weight as a Flyweight) of his era including Dark Cloud Bradley, Kid Chocolate, Panama Al Brown and Midget Wolgast. He was survived by his wife and two children.

**October 17, 1925:** Pinky Silverberg crowned Connecticut Flyweight Champion. Outpoints the current champ Al Beuregard in 10 rounds at the Opera House in Ansonia, CT.

**January 27, 1926:** In a controversial decision Connecticut Flyweight Champion Pinky Silverberg was outpointed in eight rounds by top Negro Flyweight contender Ruby "Dark Cloud" Bradley at Foot Guard Hall in Hartford, CT. Hartford Current Boxing columnist questions decision. "Silverberg outsmarted Bradley, he carried the fight to Bradley and his punches were straighter and truer, he looked good to everybody except the third man in the Ring (referee)."



Ruby "Dark Cloud" Bradley



**April 5, 1926:** Connecticut Flyweight Champion Pinky Silverberg TKO'd by Willie LaMorte in Third Round at the Foot Guard Hall in Hartford, CT.

**January 19, 1927:** In a bout to benefit the great Negro Boxer Sam Langford, now totally blind, Cuban Boxer Black Bill (Eladio Valdes) outpointed Pinky Silverberg in six rounds at the Walker Athletic Club in New York.



Sam Langford



Fidel LaBarba

**October 22, 1927:** Pinky Silverberg wins vacated NBA World Flyweight Title by disqualification at State Armory in Bridgeport, CT. In the seventh round, Dark Cloud Bradley DQ for a low blow. Silverberg unable to continue due to injury. Title vacated due to recent retirement of Fidel LaBarba.

**December 3, 1927:** In a non-title bout, contended above Flyweight limit, Dark Cloud Bradley outpointed NBA World Flyweight Champion Pinky Silverberg in ten rounds at State Armory in Bridgeport. Silverberg hampered by broken hand.

**December 6, 1927:** Highway Robbery! Silverberg stripped of NBA title by President for “unsatisfactory showing” in a non-title bout. Only time in boxing history legitimate champion shorn of belt due to poor performance in non-title bout. It would appear that there is a power struggle among the Flyweight sanctioning bodies to determine a Title Holder.

**September 22, 1928:** Jewish Bantamweight contender Archie Bell outpoints Former Flyweight World Champion, now Bantamweight Pinky Silverberg in six rounds in feature bout at Ridgewood Grove in Brooklyn.

**November 8, 1928:** Sensational Cuban Bantamweight Kid Chocolate outpoints Pinky Silverberg in ten hard fought rounds at New York’s St. Nicholas Arena. Leading Negro contender dominates fight but can’t put away game Silverberg.



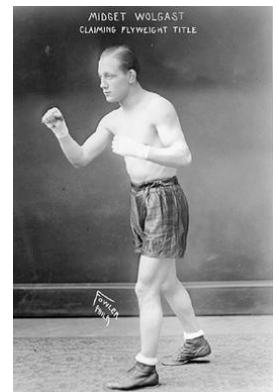
Kid Chocolate



Panama Al Brown

**January 25, 1930:** Reigning NBA World Bantamweight titleholder Panama Al Brown decisions Former NBA Flyweight Champion Pinky Silverberg in ten round non-title bout at Arena Pola in Havana, Cuba. The 5’9” champ used his 5” height and reach advantage to good measure, nullifying Silverberg’s advances with effective left jabs and hard rights’ but could not put Pinky down for the count.

**March 9, 1931:** For the Third time in the past twelve months, this time at the Park Arena in Bridgeport, NYSAC World Flyweight titlist Midget Wolgast decisioned Pinky Silverberg this time in ten rounds. Wolgast was just too fast for the former Flyweight World Champion.



**March 4, 1937:** Former World Flyweight Champion Pinky Silverberg outpoints Frankie Reese in four tough rounds at New York’s Star Casino, then announces retirement from the ring.