

“Sugar” Shane Mosley
Born – September 7, 1971
Height – 5-9
Weight – 147 (welterweight)
Hometown – Pomona, California
Trainer – Jack Mosley
Pro Record – 44-4 (37 KOs), 1 NC

He's scaled every mountain there was to climb in boxing. He's fought his way to world championships at lightweight, welterweight (twice), and junior middleweight, became known as the best pound-for-pound fighter in boxing and has become a household name to boxing enthusiasts.

It would be easy for "Sugar" Shane Mosley to be a content man. But Mosley will not be content until he climbs back to the top of the mountain again, which means not only winning more world championships (an amazing feat for any fighter, but one in line with the hallowed “Sugar” name, shared by Mosley with the legendary “Sugars”, Robinson and Leonard) but by also ascending back to the number one spot on the mythical pound for pound list, which will only happen by taking on the best in the world, fight in and fight out, something the 35-year old craves.

Mosley has consistently overcome the odds since turning pro. Despite not having the hype around him that was afforded to some of his peers, he came up the hard way, fought the best competition, won his fights, and eventually won four world titles, earning the 1998 Fighter of the Year award along the way.

By that time, casual sports fans would be calling Mosley an “overnight sensation”, but Sugar Shane’s road to the top was anything but smooth. Born in Lynwood, California in September, 1971, and boxing since the tender age of eight, Shane was a three-time National Amateur champion and a 1992 Olympic team member, in compiling an amateur record of 250+ wins. Upon leaving the amateur ranks, he was labeled a “can’t miss” prospect for stardom.

Mosley showed brilliance in his professional debut, a five round blowout of former California State champion Greg Puente on February 11, 1993, and the future looked bright for this latter-day “Sugar”. Unfortunately, promotional difficulties plagued his early career, and the boxing world would not take notice of Mosley until he brought a 23-0 record (22 knockouts) into the ring against IBF lightweight champion Phillip Holiday. Displaying speed, power, and ring savvy, Mosley thrashed Holiday over 12 rounds and walked away with a world title. He followed up this win with an 11th round knockout of tough Manuel Gomez.

Mosley’s subsequent title defenses caught an unsuspecting boxing public by surprise. Knockout after knockout piled up, as did the accolades from the media. HBO commentator and world champion Roy Jones Jr. proclaimed, after Mosley knocked out John John Molina, “He’s the best lightweight in history, maybe after Roberto Duran.”

In 1998, Mosley defended his title five times, winning all by knockout. This amazing twelve months led the Boxing Writers Association of America to name "Sugar" Shane "Fighter of the Year". As BWAA president Chris Thorne said, "Sugar brought a lot of class to boxing in 1998. He deserves all accolades he's receiving."

These accolades later included being named the 13th best lightweight of all-time by The Ring Magazine

Mosley continued his reign of terror in 1999, defending his title two more times by knockout before difficulties making the 135 pound limit proved tougher than any opponent. While it would have been simpler for Shane to move up five pounds to junior welterweight, "Sugar" wanted to go to where the toughest opponents were: welterweight.

It was at welterweight that the most notable win of the first half of Shane's career occurred, when on June 17, 2000, at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, he clearly outboxed cross-town rival Oscar De La Hoya and won the WBC Welterweight Title.

It was only the third fight at 147 pounds for Mosley, a move many critics questioned, and those critics weren't silenced even after resounding wins over Wilfredo Rivera and Willy Wise at welterweight. De La Hoya, though, found out what power boxing is all about on that night in the Staples Center before 20,000 rabid boxing fans.

Power boxing is the concept that Shane and his father Jack developed, taking advantage of Shane's superb conditioning and extraordinarily high punch output.

The fight with De La Hoya was close at the midway point, but Shane picked up the pace considerably in the second half of the fight. Many experts believe Shane swept rounds 7 through 12, but there was no doubt when the bout was over that Shane was the new King of the Welterweights.

De La Hoya declined an immediate rematch, so Mosley sought the best competition he could find. Antonio Diaz was one of the toughest men in the division, but Shane was better in every area and stopped him in the sixth round on Nov. 11, 2000. "Shane is good, real good," Diaz said. "He's the best I've ever seen."

The following March, Shane dismantled Australian Shannan Taylor, who had been highly regarded by the media. Many felt he would provide Shane a stiff test, but that was not to be.

Taylor wasn't nearly as fast or as strong as Shane, who stopped him in the sixth round on March 10, 2001, at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

He then cut down former junior middleweight Adrian Stone on July 21, needing only three rounds to stop the bigger man.

By then, he was universally regarded as one of the top three pound-for-pound fighters in boxing and was considered the best by a large number of experts.

Shane, who turned 30 on September 7, 2001, proved his champion's heart by calling out Vernon Forrest, who was the best available 147-pounder.

The two had been amateur rivals and fought a nip-and-tuck battle in the finals of the 1992 Olympic Trials that went Forrest's way.

When they met as pros at Madison Square Garden, they were considered the two best 147-pounders in the world.

Shane's power boxing allowed him to dominate the first round, but things turned in the second. An accidental head butt in the second round turned the fight around and Forrest went on to score a decision. Later in the year, Mosley was again unable to solve Forrest, in what will go down as one the best fight series of the year.

Mosley put his frustrating 2002 behind him though, and after a no contest with former world champion Raul Marquez on February 8, 2003, Sugar Shane returned to the win column in a big way on September 13, 2003, when he scored a hard fought unanimous decision over De La Hoya in their long anticipated rematch, earning the WBC and WBA junior middleweight titles in the process.

And though an easy win or two would have been a fitting reward for such a victory, Mosley kept his warrior's reputation intact by fighting the toughest possible opponent in his next fight, the much-avoided Winky Wright. The two boxing superstars would engage in two exciting bouts on March 13 and November 20 of 2004, and though Wright would win both fights via decision, many boxing observers believed "Sugar" Shane had done enough to win the rematch.

Undeterred by this chain of events, Mosley was back in the gym with new trainer John David Jackson (a former world champion himself) almost immediately. His new goal: to move back down to welterweight and dominate the division again.

The first step on that mission took place on April 23, 2005, when Mosley made a triumphant return to 147 pounds with a lopsided ten round decision over rugged contender David Estrada.

Another clear cut victory, this one over previously unbeaten knockout artist Jose Luis Cruz, came on September 17, and it was clear that these wins not only re-established Mosley in the division, but ensured an exciting run for a world championship in the coming months.

But first, there was the irresistible pull of another big fight against Fernando Vargas on February 25, 2006, and even though it meant moving back up to 154 pounds and fighting a bigger man, Mosley was up to the challenge and he proved it on fight night, using his

speed, combinations, and body punching to pound out a tenth round TKO victory over his fellow Southern Californian, a two-time world junior middleweight champ.

And while most fighters would have been content with getting the win and moving on, Mosley is not most fighters, and after the epic nature of the first bout and the fans' desire to see the two superstars clash again, Sugar Shane agreed to a second fight, and on Saturday, July 15, 2006, with his father Jack again in the corner, Mosley was even more emphatic in victory as he stopped Vargas in six one-sided rounds that firmly re-established the Pomona native as one of boxing's best, pound for pound.

In 2007, Mosley added yet another world title to his trophy case, impressively decisioning crafty Luis Collazo on February 10th to win the interim WBC welterweight championship, and on November 10th, Sugar Shane will look to bring the WBA 147-pound title into his possession when he battles Puerto Rican superstar Miguel Cotto at New York City's Madison Square Garden in one of the most highly-anticipated bouts of this era.

THE PROFESSIONAL RECORD OF
SHANE DONIEL MOSLEY

LYNWOOD, CA
 Date of Birth: 09/07/1971

Won-Lost-Draw-KO'S
 44 4 0 37

1993

Feb 11	GREG PUENTE, HOLLYWOOD, CA.....	KO	5	PRO DEB	136
Apr 24	ARNULFO VILLA, SAN BERNARDINO, CA....	KO	1		137
Jul 21	PEY CASTILLO, RESEDA, CA.....	KO	1		137
Aug 25	ROBERTO URIAS, HOLLYWOOD, CA.....	KO	5		138
Sep 27	MIGUEL PENA, INGLEWOOD, CA.....	KO	1		136
Oct 25	JUAN ARANDA, INGLEWOOD, CA.....	KO	2		136
Dec 06	PAULINO GONZALEZ, INGLEWOOD, CA.....	KO	2		136

1994

Jan 20	FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ, IRVINE, CA.....	KO	2		137
Feb 04	LORENZO GARCIA, OXNARD, CA.....	KO	5		134
Mar 26	OSCAR LOPEZ, POMONA, CA.....	W	10		134
Apr 29	LORENZO GARCIA, SANTA CRUZ, CA.....	TKO	3		138
Jun 30	JOHN BRYANT, IRVINE, CA.....	KO	8		134
Jul 24	NARCISO VALENZUELA, LA, CA.....	KO	5		136
Aug 06	MAURO GUTIERREZ, POMONA, CA.....	TKO	9		137
Sep 09	LOUIS RAMIREZ, LA, CA.....	TKO	10		136
Nov 12	JOSE MADRID, SANTA CRUZ, CA.....	KO	4		136

1995

Apr 12	RAUL HERNANDEZ, WOODLAND HILLS, CA...	KO	2		137
Jul 20	MAURICIO ACEVES, ANAHEIM, CA.....	KO	4		137

1996

Jan 23	MIKE BRYAN, BILOXI, MS.....	TKO	1		140
Nov 01	RAMON FELIX, INDIO, CA.....	KO	1		137
Dec 21	JOSEPH MURRAY, UNCASVILLE, CT.....	TKO	3		135

1997

Feb 06	ELIAS QUIROZ, BEVERLY HILLS, CA.....	KO	4		142
Apr 09	MIKE SMITH, WESTMONT, IL.....	KO	4		136
Aug 02	PHILIP HOLIDAY, UNCASVILLE, CT.....	W	12	IBF	135
Nov 25	MANUEL GOMEZ, EL PASO, TX.....	KO	11	IBF	133

1998

Feb 06	DEMETRIO CEBALLOS, UNCASVILLE, CT....	TKO	8	IBF	135
May 09	JUAN MOLINA, AC, NJ.....	TKO	8	IBF	135

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Jun 27	WILFRIDO RUIZ, PHILADELPHIA, PA.....	KO	5	IBF	134
Sep 22	EDUARDO MORALES, NY, NY.....	TKO	5	IBF	134
Nov 14	JAMES LEIJA, LEDYARD, CT.....	TKO	9	IBF	135

1999

Jan 09	GOLDEN JOHNSON, PENSACOLA, FL.....	KO	7	IBF	134
Apr 17	JOHN BROWN, INDIO, CA.....	KO	8	IBF	135
Sep 25	WILFREDO RIVERA, TEMECULA, CA.....	KO	10		146

2000

Jan 22	WILLY WISE, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	TKO	3		148
Jun 17	OSCAR DE LA HOYA, LA, CA.....	W(S)	12	WBCIBA	147
Nov 04	ANTONIO DIAZ, NY, NY.....	TKO	6	WBC	146

2001

Mar 10	SHANNAN TAYLOR, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	TKO	5	WBC	147
Jul 21	ADRIAN STONE, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	KO	3	WBC	147

2002

Jan 26	VERNON FORREST, NY, NY.....	L	12	WBC	146
Jul 20	VERNON FORREST, INDIANAPOLIS, IN.....	L	12	WBC	147

2003

Feb 08	RAUL MARQUEZ, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	ND	3		154
Sep 13	OSCAR DE LA HOYA, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	W	12	BA/BC	154

2004

Mar 13	RONALD WRIGHT, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	L	12	BABCBF	154
Nov 20	RONALD WRIGHT, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	L(M)	12	BA/BC	154

2005

Apr 23	DAVID ESTRADA, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	W	10		148
Sep 17	JOSE CRUZ-FELIX, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	W	10		148

2006

Feb 25	FERNANDO VARGAS, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	TKO	10	WBA/ELIM	152
Jul 15	FERNANDO VARGAS, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	TKO	6		153

2007

Feb 10	LUIS COLLAZO, LAS VEGAS, NV.....	W	12	WBC-I	147
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