

0. Cinderella Man - Story Preface

1. BOXING: ITS START
2. BOXING: ITS REBIRTH
3. JIM BRADDOCK'S FIRST RISE
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James J. Braddock photograph taken in 1935. Image online courtesy U.S. Library of Congress.

*I may not be a great fighter
but I ain't a bum.*

Jim Braddock
Commenting on his upcoming bout with Max Baer
1935

In the 1920s and '30s, people got the news from newspapers. Favorable reviews of movies (or songs in movies) helped to create film stars. Great write-ups about athletes helped to create sport stars. Damon Runyon was one of those star-creating newspaper writers.

A celebrity himself, who earned enormous sums for his columns and news reports, Runyon's favorable comments about a good song ("Thanks for the Memory") in a poorly reviewed movie (The Big Broadcast of 1938) helped to launch Bob Hope as a household name in the movie business.

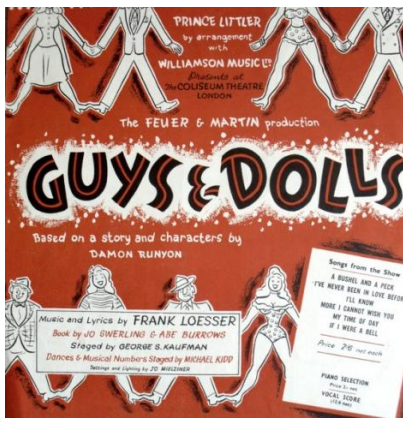
Runyon's comments about boxers—at the time the most-popular athletes in the world—resonated with a public enduring the disastrous years of the Great Depression. It was boxing which got Jim Braddock noticed. It was Damon Runyon who first called Braddock the "Cinderella Man."

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Cinderella-Man)

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See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Cinderella-Man)

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Damon Runyon

Image online, courtesy songbook1.wordpress.com website.

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Thanks for the Memory Song Sheet

Image online, courtesy the americanmusicpreservation.com website featuring Grace Bradley who sang the title song with Shirley Ross.

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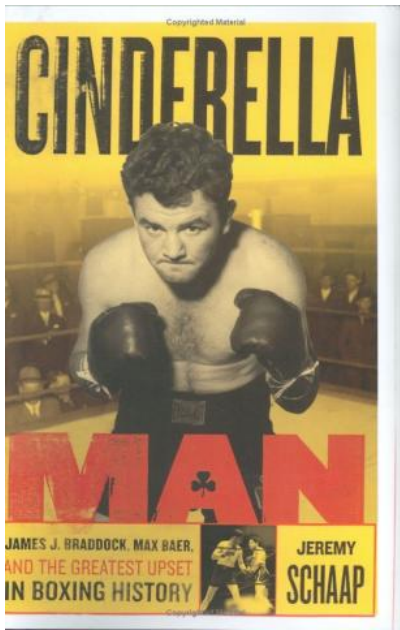


The Big Broadcast of 1938

Image online, courtesy the amazon.com website.

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Cinderella Man by Jeremy Schaap

Book cover image online, courtesy Amazon.

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