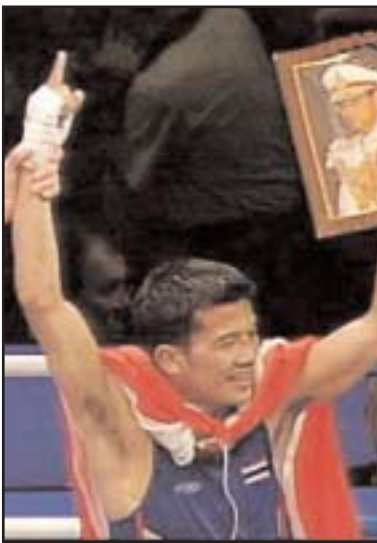


Thai News Australia

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Holding a picture of the King, Somluck celebrates his victory at the 1996 Olympics.

Can Somluck Do It Again

Remember Somluck Kamsing? He was the boxer who won Thailand's first gold at an Olympic games back at the Atlanta Games in 1996. Now at the ripe old age of 32 he wants to do it again at the Athens Games this year.

Since that win Somluck has become a celebrity in Thailand, starring in soap operas and movies, recording a chart topping album, and opening a successful barbeque restaurant in Bangkok.

Somluck was hailed a hero in

his homeland after his victory in the featherweight division at the 1996 Games, a feat, which earned him US\$500,000, a house, a naval promotion to sub-lieutenant, a monthly salary and tax exemption from the Thai government.

Unfortunately his preparation for the Sydney Olympics in 2000 suffered because of his new lifestyle and he was

knocked out (of the competition) in the quarterfinals. He retired soon after.

Whether he can get in shape again in time and even come in under the 57 kilograms that the featherweight class requires remains to be seen but he insists he is still good enough to win and has never lost his fighting edge.

Mail Thief Sprung By Video

Mail getting to its intended recipient in Thailand is still somewhat of a problem. Thefts are a little too common and recently the Patong Post Office [our postal address, by the way] installed five hidden cameras to try and find out who was getting a little greedy.

The cameras quickly picked up one of the managers, Prawit Prateep Na Thalang, going through envelopes looking for

booty. Unfortunately, the police were not called in immediately and the thief scarpered.

Hopefully, now the cameras are in place, mail theft will be reduced. It is still worth remembering that when sending any mail into and out of Thailand, make sure it is registered. That way, at least there is a paper trail as to where it is going.



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