

**Ten years ago, an Iowa attorney** named Adam Pollack wrote a biography of John L. Sullivan that was published by McFarland & Company. Pollack subsequently authored biographies of James J. Corbett, Bob Fitzsimmons, Marvin Hart, Tommy Burns and Jack Johnson that were published under his own Win by KO imprint. But something stuck in his craw.

“‘John L. Sullivan’ was my first book,” Pollack recently told this writer. “And 10 years later, I felt that I could do a better job. I’m a better researcher now than I was then. I’m a better writer now than I was then. And McFarland wouldn’t let me use all the photos I wanted in the first book, which bothered me because I think you need photos to bring Sullivan to life.”

Pollack has now published a revised biography of Sullivan. The book has more than 200 photos, including original Police Gazette artwork from the 1880s. That’s important to Pollack because, in his words, “It’s what you would have seen if you were following Sullivan 125 years ago. And it enables you to understand more fully how boxing became a national sport and Sullivan became America’s first sports superstar.”

Pollack’s revised work is also better written than its predecessor and more

detailed with regard to Sullivan's personal life and several of his more important fights.

