Using Present Participles as Adjectives

Select one of the words from the list below to fill in the blanks. Some of the names of these famous players could be the key to finding the right answer. If you do not know them, look them up.

leading   struggling   closing
starting   competing   defending
amazing   recovering   challenging
boxing

1. The ____________ coach is trying very hard to win games this season. He may be out of a job.

2. In court, the lawyers presented their ____________ arguments either for or against the famous basketball players.

3. Pedro Martinez was the ____________ pitcher for the Red Sox for many years.

4. Muhammed Ali had a great ____________ career. Unfortunately, he is now ill with Parkinson’s disease.

5. One of the Marlins’ best batters was hurt while trying to steal a base. He is not playing for a couple of weeks as per doctor’s orders. He is a ____________ player.

6. Sammy Sosa’s ____________ story of his childhood days in Dominican Republic is interesting.

7. When a boxer wins a title, he wants to keep it. If he fights to keep his title, he is the ____________ champion.

8. The Olympics is the perfect place to watch ____________ athletes.

9. The Hurricanes play football very well. When other teams play them, they know they will face a ____________ opponent.

10. During the weekend, the ____________ college in basketball will play for the championship.

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