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April 9, 1987

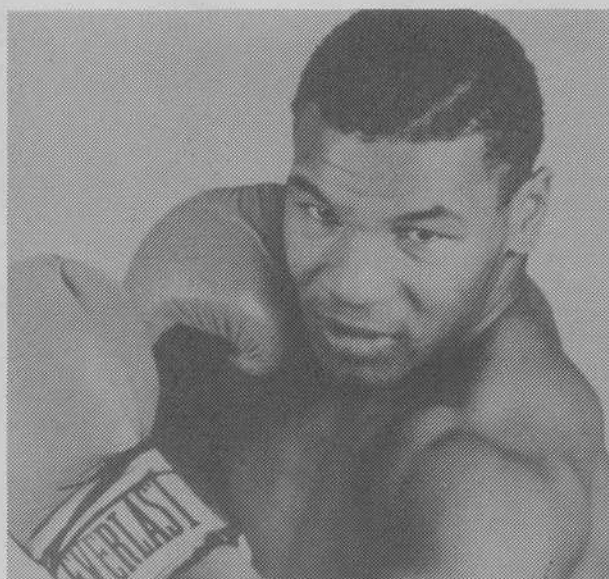


## Tyson-Thomas, Tucker - Douglas Heavyweight World Championships Set For May 30

Mike Tyson will defend his World Boxing Association and World Boxing Council heavyweight championships against No. 1 contender Pinklon Thomas and undefeated Tony Tucker and James "Buster" Douglas will meet for the vacant International Boxing Federation heavyweight title Saturday, May 30, at the Las Vegas Hilton it was announced Friday.

This will be the first time since 1978 that a fighter will defend two heavyweight crowns in one bout. The last time was at the Hilton when Muhammad Ali defended against Leon Spinks.

The championship doubleheader card, promoted by the Las Vegas Hilton and Don King Productions, will be held in the



Mike Tyson

14,600-seat Las Vegas Hilton Outdoor Stadium adjacent to the famed resort hotel/casino.

The card will start at 5 p.m. (PDT) with gates opening at 4.

"We're extremely pleased

to host not only one but two heavyweight championship fights involving all three boxing organizations," said John Giovenco, president of Hilton Nevada Corporation. "This is a major step toward the ultimate unification of this, the most prestigious division in the sport, and the crowning of one champion."

Tyson will be making his first defense of the combined WBA-WBC crowns while Tucker, the IBF's No. 1 contender, and Douglas, that bodys No. 2 challenger, will be fighting for the championship left vacant when Michael Spinks was stripped of that title.

Tyson, at 20 years the youngest person ever to win a heavyweight world championship, is from Catskill, N.Y., and has a record of 29-0 with 26 knockouts.

Thomas, 29, from Wyncotte, Pa., held the WBC heavyweight championship from 1984 to 1986 and has a record of 29-1-1 with 24 knockouts.

The 28-year-old Tucker, at 6-foot-5-inches one of the taller heavyweights in the sport today, is from Grand Rapids, Mich., and has the best record of anyone on the card at 34-0 with 29 knockouts.

Douglas, 27, is from Columbus, Ohio, and has a record of 23-3-1 with 15 knockouts.

Tyson won the WBC heavyweight championship on Nov. 22 at the Hilton when he stopped and dethroned Trevor Berbick in the second round. Tyson added the WBA title in his most recent outing on March 7 at the Hilton when he easily decided James "Bonecrusher" Smith.

Thomas won the WBC heavyweight championship on Aug. 31, 1984, decisioning Tim Witherpoon. Thomas successfully defended against former WBA heavyweight champ Mike Weaver on June 16, 1985, halting him in the eighth round before being decided and upset by Berbick on March 22, 1986.

Thomas' most recent outing was on the March 7 card at the Hilton when he stopped Danny Sutton in the seventh round.

Tucker is coming off a win over James Broad on Sept. 26 in Atlantic City.

Douglas' past two fights have been at the Hilton. On April 19 he beat David Jaco and on Sept. 6 he did the same to Denorvell Collier.

The Tyson-Thomas and Tucker-Douglas title fights will be the eighth and ninth world championship bouts held at the Hilton since December, 1985, more than any other site in this 18-month period.

Tickets are priced at \$50, \$125, \$250, \$400, \$600 and \$750 and now are on sale from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week by calling the Hilton at (702) 732-5320 or 1-800-222-5361.

## Double-Main Featuring Sims, Las Vegas Slugger Duffy Top Card Friday, April 10

A double main event, one bout featuring United States Boxing Association middleweight champion Robbie Sims, tops the card Friday, April 10, at the Showboat Hotel, Casino, Country Club and Bowling Center.

Sims, the younger brother of Marvelous Marvin Hagler, meets Lee Sanders in one 10-round fight while Tim Williams faces Jerry Holly in the second 10-round middleweight bout.

Also on the six-fight card promoted by Bob Arum's Top Rank, Inc. in association with the Showboat will be three undefeated Las Vegas, including light heavyweight slugging sensation Ed Duffy.

Other Las Vegas on the card assembled by matchmaker Mel Greb are light heavyweight David Enroth and bantamweight Akeem Anifowoshe. They join Duffy in six-round bouts. Junior welterweight Joe Belinc appears in an eight-round fight.

The card starts at 6 p.m. in the Showboat Sports Pavilion; doors open at 5.

Tickets are priced at \$12 for general admission and \$20 for ringside reserved and are on sale Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Showboat Sports Pavilion Ticket Office.

Sims, from Brockton, Mass., has a record of 27-4-2 with 19 knockouts and is ranked by all three organizations: No. 3 by the International Boxing Federation, No. 7 by the World Boxing Association and No. 8 by the World Boxing Council. Sanders, from Lake Charles, La., has a record of 12-2 with nine knockouts.

Williams, from San Diego, has a record of 12-2-1 with 10 knockouts and is coming off a draw with the favored Sims in February at the Showboat. Holly, originally from Orlando, Fla., but now fighting out of the Hagler/Sims stable in Brockton, has a record of 17-13 with 13 knockouts.

The 26-year-old Sims has a list of impressive wins, including a first-round knockout of John Collins to win the USBA championship on March 9, 1986, in Las Vegas.

He also stopped Iran Barkley, now the WBA's No. 1.

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