

TYSON

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Asked if he was concerned about how his body would react to being punched hard following his four-year layoff, he replied with a smile, "I haven't been hit too much when I have been fighting."

On strategy for his comeback fight with unheralded Peter McNeeley, Tyson said, "I am going to do my thing, and you know what my thing is."

Following in the footsteps of Muhammad Ali, Tyson, who converted to Islam while in jail, said he intended to adopt a Moslem name eventually but would not say when.

McNeeley, who will fight Tyson at the MGM Grand hotel, has a 36-1 record, amassed against little-known opponents.

King defended his decision to put McNeeley in the ring with Tyson, calling him "a worthy opponent."

McNeeley will have by far his

biggest payday for stepping out of obscurity to meet Tyson. He will receive a reported \$700,000, while Tyson pulls in just under \$6 million.

Of Tyson, King said: "Mike is already the people's champion around the world."

"What we are launching today is a campaign for the undisputed heavyweight championship of the world."

In his inimitable fashion, the flamboyant King took over the proceedings, launching into an hour-long monologue replete with old jokes and exhortations to a worldwide television audience to ante up \$50 per household to watch the fight on pay-per-view television.

At one point, reporters got a glimpse of an even quieter side of Tyson. The former champion appeared so bored by King's ramblings that he yawned visibly, closed his eyes and rested his head on the dais.

Tyson Rebukes Promoter King In Public

LAS VEGAS - Mike Tyson faced the news media Wednesday in a news conference designed to drum up publicity for the former world heavyweight boxing champion's comeback fight Saturday against unheralded Peter McNeeley.

Tyson sparred with reporters, explained how Islam has changed his view of life and, at one point, even rebuked his promoter, Don King.

During an answer to a question, Tyson was interrupted by King, whom Tyson had been content in the past to let dominate his public appearances.

With hands raised in exasperation, Tyson turned his head toward King at the podium and said: "Please be quiet when I'm talking."

Tyson predicted he would knock out McNeeley in Tyson's first ring battle in more than four years, following three years in

prison for rape.

Tyson responded to various questions about the scheduled 10-round fight, for which he is a 17-1 favorite. He referred to boxing as "my calling from God. This is what I do. This is what I'm interested in doing."

One reporter sparked Tyson's anger. The reporter asked the former champion if he had said that he believes that the people closest to him would betray him one day.

"I said what I wanted to say and that's what I feel and the other reasons why I go back (to

King and his former associates) are none of your business," Tyson said calmly from the top row of the dais.

"It's people like you ... who they call assassins ... guys who lurk behind school buses and wait for you to fall in the snow," Tyson said. "So these people kill your character and that's what you are a character killer."

Then King broke into a smile and shouted, "hear, hear, hear hear, hear hear. Alright next question. That's the best thing," King said talking over Tyson's words.

Tyson snapped at King to not interrupt. Tyson was asked whether Islam makes him assess opponents differently.

"That's not true at all. It's just a way of life. Islam is just a way of life. And I'm sure the majority of you people are more informed in Islam than you let on to be but you asked questions to try to find loopholes ... it's almost impossible not to know. It's universal. It's a way of humanity and it's a way of life. you know me I'm not going to split the Red Sea. ... I'm just more conscious about my involvement in life."

PLAZA

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Others claim the fence provides insult in immediately assuming that the black community is going to steal from the store. Westside Action Alliance Korps-Uplifting People (WAAK-UP) president Marzette Lewis joins a group of protesters. WAAK-UP requested, through Ward 1 Councilman Michael McDonald, that the fence be removed. No other Vons stores, with the

exception of a store in South Central Los Angeles, has a fence bordering it, according to the organization. McDonald says he has contacted Vons representatives. He says he was totally surprised by the placement of the fence. The dialogue, according to the Councilman, has allowed for several concessions and a new-found level of openness with the corporation. "Vons has agreed

to expand the entrances and exits to the property and paint the fence," says McDonald. "From this point, there won't be anymore surprises." The Councilman did not comment on whether the fence would be removed. Representatives from the City of Las Vegas Urban Planning division commented that the store was classified in a category by the grocery chain which mandated the placement of the fence.

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REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO TWO ADVISORY COMMITTEES

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Citizens Advisory Committee advises the Commission on issues related to mass transportation, streets and highway construction, transportation demand management, air quality and other issues as may arise from time to time.

OLDER AMERICANS/DISABILITIES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Older Americans / Persons With Disabilities Transportation Advisory Committee advises the Commission on issues of interest to older Americans and persons with disabilities, including fixed route and paratransit bus services.

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) is requesting that persons interested in serving on either of these advisory committees make application for possible appointment to one of the committees. The unpaid committee appointments are made by the Commission for a two year term. Meetings are held once monthly during the afternoon or in the early evening. Those interested in appointment should contact the RTC to receive a questionnaire.

Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. September 5, 1995.

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