Sentinel-Voice file photo

Boxing manager Rock Newman at a happier time with ex-steward/former heavyweight champ Riddick Bowe.

## Newman—Riddick's apology vindication

By Albert C. Jones Sentinel-Voice

While in prison, Riddick Bowe, the former undisputed heavyweight champion of the world, flew a kite, apologized, and Rock Newman, his former manager, was exonerated when a lawsuit alleging theft of money was dropped.

"That lawsuit was baseless and absurd to begin with," said Newman. "I thought he was being manipulated and used by people trying to run a con game on him. It was as sad as it was annoying. Never was I really concerned about the outcome of the lawsuit. But when you have charges to deal with, it is an annoyance."

Bowe was released from prison on Monday, May 17 after serving 17 months for kidnapping his first wife and their children in 1998. The 36-year-old boxer was released from a federal prison near Cumberland, Md. He will be under home detention until his sentence ends June 8, said his attorney, Steven Silverman. Bowe was released early for good conduct.

"I'm really glad to see any brother get out of the prison system," said Newman, who has not spoken with the fighter since his incarceration. "I'm glad for him that he has done his time."

As heard on the street, the allegation of malfeasance had a greater impact than the actual lawsuit. Now, the apology, in the form of a hand-written letter, has been heard all around the world.

Bowe could not be reached for comment. However, in part, the letter, which is dated April 27, reads:

"I have withdrawn all my legal claims against you," Bowe wrote. "I was lied to and misled by a former advisor into thinking that you had stolen money from me. You have now provided every detail about how my finances were handled. I understand now that I was wrong to claim you took money from me and that it was unfair of me to bring the action against you.

"When you were my manager, you always tried to show me and explain to me everything you were doing for me," Bowe wrote. "I can see now that you took great care of me and of my finances. You did a great job for me throughout my career and I highly recommend you to any athlete looking for management, representation and guid-

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## Jubilee

(Continued from Page 1) to purchase my own home? What do I need to do to become self-sufficient? How can I access free health services since I don't have the money to pay for it? What can my kids get involved in that I don't have to pay an arm and a leg for? What's safe in the community that my family and I can do together?

"A frican-American women are at a high risk for getting HIV/AIDS, so let's test them early and give them some help and hopefully expand their lives," English said. "We also set up a kid's zone where they can play and eat free."

A news conference was held at noon to distribute some proclamations given to event sponsors by the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas. County Commissioners, in partnership with the Gang Enforcement Unit of Metro Police, are kicking off an effort to keep the community safe during the summer. KCEP-FM provided a live remote broadcast during the news conference, announcing the effort of the safe summer project.

The Rev. Dr. William Fowler, pastor at Victory Missionary Baptist Church, opened the news conference and introduced the members of the dais who were on hand to talk about the safe summer project.

"We are grateful to you who have come out to participate and we want to thank the dignitaries assembled



The Victory Missionary Baptist Church's praise step team performs a routine during Saturday's community clean up.

Sentinel-Voice photo by Lés Pierres Streater

here at this "V" Community Jubilee," Fowler said. "For as long as I can remember, social organizations, fraternal organizations and law enforcement organizations have taken the lead in our community as it relates to helping our community celebrate the liberties and freedom that belong to us.

"We have Independence Day where as a nation we celebrate our independence, our struggle for independence, our Hispanic neighbors celebrate Cinco de Mayo, African-Americans have Juneteenth and these are days given to celebrate the struggle for independence," Fowler said. "I felt led by God to lead us from the spiritual community to have us celebrate our independence that has been given to us by our Lord, Jesus Christ, and we say that unapologetically."

Jerry Simone, of the gang task force, spoke about the work that the unit is doing to bring together the community, law enforcement, social agencies and elected officials in a grassroots effort to reduce gang crime and gang activities. The focus of the gang task force is to work on prevention, intervention and suppression of gang crime and gang activities, Simone said.

Metropolitan Sheriff Bill Young commented that how grateful his department is with the support of Pastor Fowler and the church community.

Dr. Alonzo Jones unveiled the new safe summer project titled "Operation Everlasting Peace," which is a community movement to create a renaissance of harmony by empowering the community with the resources that will meet their needs. The hope of "Operation Everlasting Peace" is to empower communities that create their own balance and equilibrium.

Before the Jubilee event, there was a community cleanup surrounding the area of the event and a follow-up to restore the area at the Jubilee back to where it was prior to the event.

