

Mike Tyson



By Elias ennebt

Early Years



Mike Tyson was born in Brooklyn, New York, United States. He has two siblings: a brother, Rodney, and a sister, Denise. Tyson's father, Jimmy Kirkpatrick, abandoned his family when Tyson was 2, leaving his mother, Lorna Smith, to care for them on her own. The family lived in Bedford-Stuyvesant until their financial burdens necessitated a move to Brownsville when Tyson was 10 years old.¹ She died six years later, leaving 16-year-old Tyson in the care of boxing manager and trainer Cus D'Amato, who would become his legal guardian

Late life



On February 22, 2003, Tyson beat fringe contender Clifford Etienne 49 seconds into round one, once again in Memphis. The pre-fight was marred by rumors of Tyson's lack of fitness and that he took time out from training to party in Las Vegas and get a new facial tattoo. This would be Tyson's final professional victory in the ring.

Titles he had won



WBC Heavyweight Champion November 22, 1986 – February 11, 1990

Succeeded by

WBA Heavyweight Champion March 7, 1987 – February 11, 1990

IBF Heavyweight Champion August 1, 1987 – 11 February 1990

Heavyweight Champion August 1, 1987 – 11 February 1990

WBC Heavyweight Champion March 16, 1996– September 24, 1997

**WBA Heavyweight Champion
September 7, 1996 – November 9, 1996
Succeeded by**



Federal charges



- The match between Tyson and reigning champion Holyfield did not occur. Tyson was arrested in July 1991 for the rape of 18-year-old Desiree Washington, Miss Black Rhode Island, in an Indianapolis hotel room. Tyson's rape trial took place in the Indianapolis courthouse from January 26 to February 10, 1992. The chief prosecutors, David Dreyer, J. Gregory Garrison, and Barbara J. Trathen tried to make Tyson look responsible by documenting his history of problems with attractive young women. Tyson's defense lawyers, Kathleen I. Beggs, Vincent J. Fuller, and F. Lane Heard tried to portray Tyson as the innocent victim and that Washington was a cold and calculated vixen out to hurt Tyson for publicity reasons.

Early Boxing Career



- Mike Tyson made his professional debut on March 6, 1985, in Albany, New York. He defeated Hector Mercedes via a first round knockout. He had 15 bouts in his first year as a professional. Fighting frequently, Tyson won 26 of his first 28 fights by KO/TKO - 16 in the first round. The quality of his opponents gradually increased to journeyman fighters and borderline contenders, like James Tillis, David Jaco, Jesse Ferguson, Mitch Green and Marvis Frazier. His win streak attracted media attention, leading to his being billed as the next great heavyweight champion. D'Amato died in November 1985, relatively early into Tyson's professional career; some speculate that his death was the genesis of many of the troubles Tyson was to experience later as his life and career progressed.

Bibliography

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