

## Is Tony Thompson The Best American Heavyweight Boxer?



*Tony Thompson Lets People Know How He Feels (Photo Credit NY Daily News)*

Before you get your britches in a bunch, you better know some recent U.S. Heavyweight history. Prior to July 8, 2008, who was the top rated Heavyweight contender? Hint: His Nickname was "The Tiger." Yes, Tony Thompson! In a highly anticipated Heavyweight Title fight, Tony Thompson challenged Wladimir Klitschko in July 2008 and lost a competitive fight by 11<sup>th</sup> round KO. To date, it was arguably the best challenge Klitschko has had since his loss to the late Corrie Saunders. Since Eddie Chambers lost by 12<sup>th</sup> round KO to Wladimir Klitschko in 2010, who has been the best American Heavyweight? (Cricket...) Exactly, and that is why I ask Is Tony Thompson the Best American Heavyweight Boxer?

Tony Thompson won five straight fights to get back into contention for a rematch with Klitschko. He KO'd Adam Serin, Chazz Witherspoon, Owen Beck, Paul "The Italian Hitman" Marinaccio, and Maurice Harris. While the list wasn't Murderers' Row, it did include two highly celebrated up and comers for their time in Witherspoon and Harris. Thompson would face Klitschko in July 2012. This time, the outcome wasn't so favorable and somewhat embarrassing as Dr. Steelhammer pounded the piss out of Thompson and scored a 6th round KO win.

Since Thompson's loss, the American Heavyweight has had some new blood rise to the surface: Seth Mitchell, Deontay Wilder, Bryant Jennings, Johnathon Banks, and Malik Scott. It has also had a steep decline in Chris Arreola, Steve Cunningham, and the missing Kevin Johnson. Mitchell is extremely raw, Wilder is blatantly untested, Jennings is ultra-talented, but might be too light in the ass, Banks, well, we know he loves the sport, but is he a willing participant, and Scott can fight, but he will duck everybody to get a title. Yes, I question Mr. Scott's heart. It takes courage to get in the ring, and I respect that. But, DO NOT tell me how bad you are when you will openly avoid (Duck) good fighters. That rant is for Malik Scott.



*(Photo Credit Thesun.com.uk)*

The End? I thought Tony Thompson was “Toast!” After his loss to Klitschko, I said, “I hope to never see him in the ring, again...He is too old!” With foot in mouth, I say today, “I want to see him face the young bloods. I want to see him against Mitchell, Wilder, and Jennings.” I do not want to see him face Banks. Styles make fights and that would be U-G-L-Y... ugly. Thompson, if nothing else, is the American Gatekeeper. All Title shots should go through him (until someone steps up and beats him).

Tony Thompson is the best the U.S. has to offer. David Price and his wrecked management team will attest, and so will all of the Heavyweight fighters avoiding him. U.S. Heavyweights you have two options: Fight Thompson, risk losing, and get really good or avoid Thompson, fight a bunch of tomato cans, and really embarrass yourself against the Klitschkos? The choice is yours! Either way, Tony Thompson is the best Heavyweight...in America.

By Chris Williams

Reply to this article on Twitter @cboxinginfo

Reply or Like us on Facebook <http://on.fb.me/13yJn2j>