

Detroit, Mich. (January 28) - NABO and WBC International Heavyweight Champion Johnathon Banks hosted a media workout at Bad Boy Gym in Detroit on Tuesday, January 22 in preparation for his upcoming rematch against Seth "Mayhem" Mitchell on Saturday, February 16 at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City which will be televised live on HBO World Championship Boxing® beginning at 10:30 p.m. ET/PT. He also hosted a roundtable discussion last Saturday, January 19 in New York City during which he discussed his upcoming fight. Here's what Banks had to say about his upcoming fight at those two media gatherings.

Written by The Sweet Science Monday, 28 January 2013 16:38

#### **JOHNATHON BANKS ROUNDTABLE QUOTES**

"Seth Mitchell has contradicted himself. Right after the fight he was very humble, gave me respect for the win and said he was going to have to go back to the drawing board, work his way back to the position he was in. Now I hear him saying things like 'I didn't win the fight or knock him out because I was the better man that night' and that it was his mistakes that were the cause of the loss. I find that to be out of character for this guy who seemed to be humble and respectful of me as a fighter prior to the first fight. When I lost to Adamek as a cruiserweight, I lost.

"I can see him coming for the knockout this time. He says he is going to be different this time. I believe he will be.

"I've been doing this a long time and it is a lonely man's sport. I've experienced the bottom, middle and top. I experienced hunger and what it really feels like to sacrifice to have your dreams come true.

"I had a great night that night [November 17]. I had a lot of confidence and a special motivation. Once you feel your reason for being there, you get out there, find your rhythm and go to work. It was a great night and I do wish Emanuel [Steward] were there physically to see it happen. He would have been so happy. I miss him everyday still but know he is happy for me and will continue to lend me his spirit when I am training or getting ready for a fight.

"After I won I was in a great position and thought, okay, let's move on. It took so long for the first fight to happen as it was pushed back, postponed and now here we are again. I just said to myself 'I'm just going to have to stay here a little bit longer.' I'm fine with that because I'm confident the results will be the same as the first fight in the sense that I will come out victorious.

"For me to be fighting back on HBO so soon after the first fight is a great opportunity. If your goal is to become the heavyweight champion of the world, you should be fighting on the world network, which for me is HBO.

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"I think fans look at the heavyweight division differently now. I feel that I can knockout anyone I catch. I feel very strongly I can do that.

"I think the American heavyweight division is crawling back from the hole it found itself in these past few years. There are a lot of talented fighters right now on the scene and that makes the division very exciting.

"It's been a long time since I've trained for a fight at home in Detroit instead of overseas, but it's been exactly the same. I do what I need to and get ready for the fight in a very quiet, professional atmosphere, just like it's always been. I've got a job to do and it doesn't matter where it's at."

## **JOHNATHON BANKS WORKOUT QUOTES**

"Like all of my camps, I'm working on my balance, my speed and on my defense, making sure the little things are taken care of.

"I like a quiet camp, even here in Detroit, no time for socializing with friends leading up to the fight. Just Sugar (Hill) and I like it always is. Wladimir calls all the time so we talk a great deal as we would at his camps.

"I did two weeks of conditioning in Los Angeles and now we'll have four weeks in Detroit until fight week.

"My schedule is up at 5 a.m., run for an hour, breakfast at 8 a.m., nap, lunch at noon and gym at 2 p.m. It almost feels like I should be doing something else because I was so busy in my last camp training Wladimir while also preparing for the first bout with Mitchell. Like my plate is only half full.

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"After my first professional loss it took a little while to regain my confidence, but I'm sure Seth will have his. I'm preparing for the very best, focused Mitchell. I expect him to be much better this time and I'll be ready."

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Broner vs. Rees, a 12-round fight for Broner's WBC Lightweight World Championship will take place Saturday, February 16 at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The event is promoted by Golden Boy Promotions, R&R Promotions, sponsored by Caesars Atlantic City, Corona and AT&T and will be televised live on HBO World Championship Boxing beginning at 10:30 p.m. ET/PT. The co-main event will be a 12-round heavyweight clash between Johnathon Banks and Seth "Mayhem" Mitchell for Banks' NABO and WBC International Heavyweight titles which is co-promoted by K2 Promotions.

Tickets priced at \$200, \$100, \$50 and \$25, plus applicable taxes and service charges, are available for purchase at the Boardwalk Hall box office, by calling Ticketmaster at (800) 736-1420

online at

www.ticketmaster.com

or

#### Comment on this article

#### Radam G says:

Seth Mitchell is the typical football player who refuses to believe that a skilled, courageous boxer will toast his arse 99 out of 100 times, if not a 100 out of a 100 times. Mitchell may last longer, but he will get a worse arse thrashing. Holla!

#### brownsugar says:

I can agree with RG up to a certain point,.....

Dees College Kids Dees days, So disrepectful to be talkin bout there elders like that.

I don't think Mitchell will make it to the pinnacle of the sport, but with the expert guidance of a powerful promoter (like Hayman.... shussssshh) he could possibly grab an alphabet title at least

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temporarilly some day.

But I think fighting Banks is Mitchells purpose.... his purpose in the boxing universe is to show that a diligent dedicated athlete, even though he lacks certain fundamental skills, can weaponize himself with enough stamina punching power, and a responsible defense (to quote Max Kellerman) to the extent he can defeat a seasoned pro who has more than 3 times the years and experience in the sport if he can remained focus and execute his plan.

This fight is facinating to me on so many levels... and it exists in microcosm unto itself. If Mitchell wins it sets up a dramatic rubber match and the series becomes greater than the sum of it's parts....

As far as Mitchell chances..... The mathematics are simple.

If Mitchell can wing 25 - 30 haymakers without getting taken out in the process... he's bound to catch Banks with at least one of them. And once he does... if he does... Banks will be very hard pressed to recover.

Mitchell's been hyped to the point that boxing fans everywhere want to see if he can rise from the ashes.

I think he can do it.... if he just remembers to tuck that chin.

#### Radam G says:

I cannot see Mitch pulling a phoenix. Those ashes have been blown away and won't be coming back together. A knockout messes up a none kick@sser.

I see Mitch being super gunshy and trying to roll with finesse. Something he ain't. He is crude and cannot accept it. That football-tough mindset is hampering him and those around him.

This dude should not be allowed in the same zip code with a seasoned-skilled heavyweight. They will all kayo him. Their savviness is against him. He will always beat the ©ocky Witherspoon ones. Holla!

## Bernie Campbell says:

Muscle Memmory, reflexes, temperate demeanor! This guy is conditioned to lay out Quartebacks, dude does not have the command of his reflexes to enter combat with someone who knows what hes doing out there! A Football player's got someone watching his back all the time! Its culture shock when youre in that ring alone!

## Radam G says:

Ditto BC! And you didn't even attack Sam Watson and his boys. Hehehe! "The threatre of the

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unexoected" is rolling. Holla!