

Top Takeaways From April 23 Mayweather Call

Written by Michael Woods
Friday, 25 April 2014 10:35



Here are my top takeaways from **Floyd Mayweathers'** conference call on April 23, friends. "Money" provided some solid entertainment as he lobbed shots, some hard, some softer, at various targets.

AMATEUR HOUR Floyd said he did watch **Manny's** win over **Tim Bradley**, and his review was pretty scathing. "Yes, actually I did watch the fight. You know, I haven't seen Pacquiao fight in years. I've seen highlights. I haven't seen Pacquiao since before Miguel Cotto. I thought that he deserved congratulations. He's the better man, but as far as Bradley, whoever he's working out with, they have to make a lot of changes because he's lifting too many weights. I think he's more worried about how he looks when he get on the scale instead of how he performs inside that ring. I thought that Bradley went out there and fought his heart out, but I think he was pulling a lot of shots like an amateur. I think he was making a lot of mistakes and he was very fatigued early on...I think both fighters fought like amateurs. I thought Pacquiao fought like an amateur also, and I wasn't pleased with his performance, but he got the victory the best way he knows how, but I wasn't pleased with his performance and I'm seeing something totally different in Pacquiao."

WHO GOT LEFT OUT? "First, I want to thank **Stephen Espinoza**, I want to thank **SHOWTIME**, I want to thank Here are my top takeaways from Floyd Mayweathers' conference call on Tuesday, friends. "Money" provided some solid entertainment as he lobbed shots, some hard, some softer, at various targets.

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Haymon

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Kelly Swanson

, I want to thank everybody, all the networks and all the people that are covering this fight and all the people that have covered my fights throughout the years," Floyd said. Who was missing? Well, Golden Boy President

Oscar de La Hoya

, for one...HmMMM.

ELLERBE WAS A BUSY BEE Floyd shed light on how Leonard Ellerbe started out on his way to becoming an integral part of Team Mayweather. "Leonard used to go on trips, used to pay his own way to go on trips with us and just help out, and he used to leave his job. He'd leave his job and fly on his own money because he had, I think, it was a six-figure paying job. He also was a fitness trainer. He had another job, so he was making very good money. He left all that, paid his own way to come support me, and one particular time he was doing some charity work for me. He was doing everything to make sure I got up to do my runs, he was doing security work for me and everything, and all he was making, it wasn't big money because I was making good money but I wasn't paying him what I feel like I should have been paying him. But you know, times have changed. He stuck with me through thick and thin. We've been through a lot together. He stuck with me through everything. I'm happy to say he's a multimillionaire now...." That anecdote might be instructive to folks who are taking less now, at whatever they are doing, with hopes for a larger payoff down the line.

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ARIZA A CHEAT-A? Floyd implied quite heavily that fitness coach **Alex Ariza** doesn't play fair with his clients, when he said, "I don't have anything against anyone, but I noticed that when the guy, Alex Ariza, was in Amir Khan's corner and when he faced Maidana, Amir Khan looked super strong in that fight...I go look at Maidana's fights against certain guys, like when he fought (Devon) Alexander, he was strong, he was still coming ahead because he's the kind of guy that comes straight ahead, and liked the looped shots. He wasn't as strong as he was in the

Adrien Broner

fight. In the Adrien Broner fight he was a lot stronger than he was in a lot of his past fights.... I don't know if Alex Ariza plays a major role into that, but when I sit back and I look, I'm looking at Pacquiao versus Bradley and I notice ever since Ariza has not been with Pacquiao anymore there's been a total change in his power. So I look at things like that and I question things like that to myself, but I don't worry about anything and I'm not going to say nothing about Ariza because I think he's a pretty cool guy. I don't really know him, but we got USADA, which is the best in the world, and we're going to continue to go out there and do what we supposed to do." Pretty slick, huh? He implies something, while throwing in a disclaimer, and then finishes up with a mention of the PED testing for the fight. Pret-ty slick, Money. He went back to the well a bit later in the call, when he said, after being asked if he watch Pacman's latest win, "So FightHype had a story out that I was looking at that was very interesting. You go read the story when

Freddie Roach

was saying that he didn't know what Alex Ariza was giving his fighters. He didn't know what he was giving his fighters...It was kind of crazy when I heard that, but like I said before, I don't see the same pop in Pacquiao's shots. Once again, I'm not saying this guy is doing anything, but I don't see the same snap in his shots. He's getting tired when he wasn't getting tired before. I'm seeing something totally different whereas me, I'm still sharp, I'm still smart, I'm not getting fatigued. I wasn't getting fatigued from the beginning, and those are the things that I see. I don't know if you guys see it, but that's what I see." LOL, no, you're not saying "this guy is doing anything" sir...but you are implying it heavily. Slick.

PUSHING BACK ON PUSHOVER TAG Many folks see no path to victory for Marcos Maidana. Floyd pushed back on that notion, when he said, "Adrien Broner's a good boxer and he roughed Adrien Broner up and he got to victory, so we can't say what this guy, what he can or he can't do. We cannot overlook (Maidana). I can't just say he's going to be an easy fight because he's not going to be an easy fight for me, I don't think so....Everybody thinks he's just going to be a pushover, but I don't think so."

FLOYD VS. BHOP Floyd touched on a theoretical scrap between him and **Bernard Hopkins**, which is something Hopkins has mentioned several times, and **Richard Schaefer**

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has entertained, when he said, "I mean, I think everybody's trying to hit the jackpot and fight Floyd Mayweather, from heavyweight all the way down to flyweight. I think Bernard Hopkins, I didn't get to see the fight...But I watched the first couple rounds and I thought that Bernard Hopkins was losing the fight, I guess. Then I went for a six-mile run, so I guess when I was out doing my six-mile run I guess he picked the pace up and I guess he was victorious. But I can't take that away from Bernard Hopkins. He's a legend. He's a legend like myself and of course, you get your biggest payday when you're facing Floyd Mayweather."

MERCHANT WAS A MENACE Floyd and **Larry Merchant** have sparred over the years, and made up...but it seems like Floyd holds a lingering resentment for the former HBO analyst. "So as far as what guy (gave me the hardest fight), a lot of times people say the (Jose Luis)

Castillo

first fight. In the Castillo first fight I wasn't just fighting Castillo; I was fighting Larry Merchant, so he's commentating, persuading everybody to look at the fight a certain way whereas I was hurt in the fight, my arm was hurt in the fight, but there's no excuses. I know I won, and I'm not just saying it just to say it. I know deep in my heart I won." Punchstat numbers may actually be more damning than Merchant's words, but anyway...

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