John McCain in the eye of the tiger

by Jay Moore Staff Writer

John McCain's presidential campaign stumbled again this week. The McCain campaign was rebuked again by a popular music artist for not getting permission to play their music during McCain/

Palin rallies. The eighties rock band Survivor asked the campaign to stop playing their hit "Eye of the Tiger" as an intro for the republican candidates.

For those who are old enough to remember, "Eye of the Tiger" was the theme song for Rocky Three. It is

also the song that is played at every monster truck event and air show (think Blue Angels) in the United States. It is a perfect song for the "mavericky" campaign who promises to fight, fight, and fight till the

finish. The problem is they did not ask for permission, and is not the first time.

The McCain camp has been asked by The Foo Fighters, John



Mellencamp, Heart, Van Halen and Jackson Browne to stop using their songs. The Foo Fighters released this

statement, "The saddest thing about this is that 'My Hero' (McCain's song choice) was written as a celebration of the common man and his extraordinary potential. To have it appropriated without our knowledge and

used in a manner that perverts the original sentiment of the lyric just tarnishes the song."

Jackson Browne has even filed suit against McCain for using his song "Running on Empty" in an ad shown in Ohio. It would seem that McCain's

campaign is not vetting its song choice, which is identical to the way they did not vet their choice for Vice President. At least that is consistency.

It is not illegal to play a song against the artist's wishes at a rally. It is a poor campaign tactic though because the result goes something like this: "Survivor has no affiliation with John McCain or Sarah Palin. They have no right to use 'Eye of the Tiger' in any way as part of their campaign. Using our music without our permission can give people the impression that we are supporters — this is not the case," guitarist Frankie Sullivan wrote in a statement.

Sullivan also writes, "Politicians have a habit of saying what they think you want to hear without ever really saying what you need them to say — the truth. There's the truthful answer, and then there is the political response. The political response is the one to beware of, for it is not a response at all; it's spin." The later sentiment is the last thing on earth the McCain/Palin camp wants voters thinking this close to an election; John McCain's words are just spin.

With less than three weeks to go until the election the McCain campaign cannot afford any more blunders. In just the last week voters have seen McCain refer to Obama as "that one" during a nationally televised debate, they have also seen McCain get verbally accosted at his own rally by his own supporters and now this, a smackdown from the guitar player for the Scorpions. This has to be rock bottom.

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