

Pacquiao reclaims belt and elite standing with a win over Bradley

Written by Rich Mazon
Thursday, 17 April 2014 10:30



Boxing superstar Manny Pacquiao (right) delivers a right hand to Timothy Bradley Jr. at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on April 12. Pacquiao won a unanimous decision. □ *(Photo by Dr. Ed de la Vega)*

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Special to the Filipino Reporter

LAS VEGAS — Manny Pacquiao and Timothy Bradley Jr. climbed the ring of the MGM Grand Garden Arena determined to earn the victory that they wanted badly since this fight was announced.

And with the the bright lights of Las Vegas shining on them and 15,601 enthusiastic fans waiting for their every move — both fighters tried to put a showing that they are the better man in that ring and erased all doubts of their first meeting in 2012.

That produced an exciting and thrilling 12 rounds of heated action in the ring last Saturday.

Pacquiao recovered the welterweight world title he lost to Bradley in 2012 by defeating the previously unbeaten American by a clear and this time an untarnished unanimous decision that made him a world champion again.

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Judges at ringside tallied the following scores of 116-112, 116-112 and 118-110 for the 35-year-old Pacquiao who executed a fiery but smart performance over an opponent that is five years his junior.

And unlike the controversial outcome of their first fight, this decision was devoid of controversy.

The Filipino superstar boxer and congressman was like the Pacquiao of old, delivering punches in bunches that overwhelmed Bradley.

What was not there was his vaunted knockout power — one that has been missing since 2009 when he last scored a knockout win.

And his opponent last Saturday can attest to it.

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Manny Pacquiao reclaims the welterweight title by defeating Timothy Bradley by unanimous decision at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on April 12. Pacquiao won via unanimous decision after Bradley was knocked down twice in the eighth round. Pacquiao's victory was a significant moment in his career, as it marked his return to the top of the welterweight division.

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(Photo by Dr. Ed de la Vega)