

Boxer Pacquiao brings his music act to Harrah's Tahoe

Publisher's note: *A bruised Manny Pacquiao will be at Harrah's Lake Tahoe Nov. 16 with his band.*

By Barry Horn, Dallas Morning News

Perhaps the five kind souls on the California athletic commission were doing Antonio Margarito a favor when they refused to license him to fight Manny Pacquiao.

Here in Texas, boxing's regulatory body welcomed Margarito with open arms. In the wake of the beating he took Saturday night from Pacquiao, Texas will be sending Margarito home to Mexico after he undergoes surgery Tuesday to repair a fractured socket around his right eye.

Promoter Bob Arum delivered the medical report Sunday afternoon. He said Margarito was taken to Methodist Dallas Medical Center immediately after the fight at Cowboys Stadium. Doctors are waiting for the swelling to go down before operating, Arum said. He added that the damaged orbital was Margarito's lone medical problem.

Pacquiao mugged Margarito for 36 minutes before 41,734 eyewitnesses in capturing the WBC's 154-pound world championship. The judges' decision wasn't simply unanimous, it was lopsided. One scored it 12 rounds to none. One had it 11-1, and the third had it 10-2.

A 112-pound champion as recently as the final month of the 20th century, Pacquiao has climbed the championship ladder to 122, 126, 130, 135, 140, 147 and now 154 pounds. No one ever had won titles in eight weight divisions. He now weighs in as a legitimate contender for the title as "greatest of all time."

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