

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

# The Golden Boy retires

LOS ANGELES—The Golden Boy Oscar De La Hoya announced his retirement Tuesday, April 14. In front of friends, associates, fans and even Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, De La Hoya said that he's hanging up his gloves and will focus on "creating a legacy outside the ring."

"The last four months have been difficult for me. I'm announcing my retirement from the sport of boxing," said De La Hoya, who choked up several times as he made the announcement at a noon press conference in Nokia Plaza LA Live in downtown Los Angeles. "I've been doing this since I was five years old. This is the love of my life. Boxing is my passion. When I can't compete at a high level, it's not fair to me, not fair to the fans, not fair to anyone... I've come to the conclusion that it's over in the ring for me."

De La Hoya is one of the most decorated and financially successful boxers in the history of the sport. The former 1989 Golden Gloves

winner, and US gold medalist in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, De La Hoya captured 10 world titles in six different weight divisions during a 17-year professional career.

He's also been the most successful pay-per-view fighter, his fights netting over \$660 million in revenues.

Still, after losing a very lopsided victory to Philippine champion Manny Pacquiao in December, he knew he had enough.

"I've been going back and forth with this retirement decision," said De La Hoya. "I'd say to myself I can do this one more time. I can still train and compete, but when you're an athlete who has competed in the highest level... when you're body doesn't respond, you can't do anything about it."

De La Hoya said that he's going to focus on his business endeavors. Besides Golden Boy Promotions, De La Hoya is active with many charitable and cancer organizations.

"That's what I have to do now," he said. "Be the best that I can be



Photo by Tom Hogan-Hoganphotos/Golden Boy Promotions

outside the ring. I believe I can leave a legacy outside the ring, and that's just as important to me."

"This is truly a bittersweet day for boxing and its fans throughout the world as Oscar's name has been synonymous with sport for nearly two decades," added Golden Boy CEO Richard Schaefer. "It has been a privilege and honor for me to work with this amazing champion and watch the brilliance of his career both in and out of the ring."

De La Hoya retires from the ring with a 39-6, 30 KO record. (Joseph Pimentel)

# Obstruction of justice vs. Failon, 5 others

PAGE 1 ◀ helps Pacifico Apacible, Carlota Morbos, Wilfreda Bolliser, and Glen Palan before the Quezon City prosecutor's office, said Senior Superintendent Franklin Mabanag, the city police's criminal investigation chief.

Mabanag said Failon, who was at his wife's death bed, was considered "at large" because he was not present during the inquest.

Arteche, Apacible, Mobos, Bolliser, and Palan were placed under police custody, but Arteche was allowed to go to see her sister at the hospital after the proceedings, Mabanag said.

Lawyer Alfred Molo, who represents all the accused except Failon, said his clients would post bail as soon as the court opens on April 17.

Etong expired shortly after police said they would no longer force Failon to go to the Quezon City prosecutor's office for inquest proceedings.

Before she died, Etong's relatives at the hospital refused to submit her to a paraffin test, Mabanag said in an earlier interview with reporters.

A paraffin test determines whether or not there are traces of gunpowder on a person's hand.

Failon claimed he discovered his wife bloodied inside their daughter's bathroom last April 14.

The primetime news anchor underwent a paraffin test last April 15. The result was negative.

Mean Arteche went hysterical when informed of her sister's death by telephone, saying she could not forgive police for taking them from her sister's deathbed.

"Hindi ko kayo mapapatawad [I will never forgive you]," she told police.

She was with her sister, Pamela, at the Quezon City prosecutor's office. ■

# Pinoy lawyer wins award in US

PAGE 1 ◀ outstanding contributions to the effort to achieve solutions to environmental problems through international law and institutions. CIEL is a nonprofit organization working to use

international law and institutions to protect the environment, promote human health, and ensure a just and sustainable society. It was founded in 1989 and is based in Washington. ■

**AyalaLand** ...your most trusted real estate company!

ALVEO Avida

Investment Opportunities for you today.  
Planning for your retirement?  
Reconnect with Filipino heritage.  
Preparing for a long-term security.  
Eyeing for vacation, half-way or primary properties?

CONDO Makati, Quezon City, Manila, Parañaque, The Fort etc.  
LOT only or HOUSE & LOT Laguna, Bataan, Pampanga, Cavite, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Bacolod, Antipolo, Batangas etc.

TERMS In-house, Bank-Financing, Deferred Cash As low as Pbp 1.2M, \$270 Monthly amortization

**INQUIRE TODAY & WIN GADGETS!!! YES, I am interested...**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred time to call: \_\_\_\_\_  
Interested in: (Condo) \_\_\_\_\_ (H/L) \_\_\_\_\_ TERMS: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your inquiries to:  
STEVENSÓN DERODAR  
875 THIRD ST., 8th FLOOR  
SUITE 202 RFD EXPRESS  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

CELL: 949-349-2229  
LANDLINE: 212-644-6700  
Email: stevenson@ayalaland.com  
Web: www.ayalaland.com

# Failon wife dies in hospital-doctor

PAGE 1 ◀ Doctors tried to revive her for 15 minutes by applying electric shocks, he said.

The family was asked whether the doctors should continue with the emergency procedure, and they agreed to have it terminated upon seeing that the patient had "flat-lined," Gascon said.

Earlier, at around 8:15pm, Delfin Lee, a friend of Failon's, told reporters that doctors had started performing "emergency treatment" on Trina after a drop in her blood pressure.

"She took a turn for the worse at around 8:30pm or earlier," Gascon said. ■

# Charice brings down Dodger Stadium

PAGE 1 ◀ then flew over the stadium and blue and white confetti streamed down to the stands.

And the fans loved Charice's performance.

Many fans in the dugout club (the seats right behind homeplate where she performed) walked towards the aisle to congratulate Charice on a well-done performance.

"Unbelievable," said an elderly woman who stopped Charice and gave her a hug. "What a performance. It brought tears to my eyes."

Despite having such a stellar performance, Charice remained humble.

She said she had butterflies in her stomach before heading out to the field. This is the first time she ever sang the *Star Spangled Banner*, she said.

"I think the people enjoyed it," said Charice in Tagalog to the *Asian Journal*.

Charice arrived in Los Angeles late Sunday night (April 12), and through the help of Atty. Michael Gurfinkel and his wife, Millie, the *Asian Journal* was given the chance to get an exclusive interview.

For the past year, Charice seems to have been everywhere. She sang in the *David Foster and Friends* concert in Las Vegas, was invited by Andrea Bocelli to sing in his birthday party in Italy, sang in front of 50,000 football fans in the Netherlands and performed with diva Celine Dion.

She also made the jump to Hollywood.

The last time Charice was in Los Angeles, she was in Hollywood shooting a scene in the upcoming movie *Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel*. She plays herself in the movie. She said that she'd be competing against the chipmunks in a school talent competition.

She's also recording another album.

Charice said that she feels very blessed with the number of opportunities she's receiving in her career.

"Everything is happening so fast," she said. "I was on *Ellen* (hosted by Ellen DeGeneres) in 2007, and then in 2008, a lot of things happened. And then now in 2009, I feel like there's more opportunities coming my way—the movie I didn't expect, album I didn't really expect, and that I was considered to sing the [RP] National Anthem for [Manny] Pacquiao. I congratulate Martin Nievera [for being selected] but I didn't expect to be considered. And now, I just sang the [US] National Anthem for the Dodgers."

She said she owes many of her accomplishments to her fans.

"Many have been following me since *Little Big Star* and up to now," said Charice. "I really thank them and also to the new fans who are supporting me. Keep supporting me. Thank you very much. I love you all." ■

She said she owes many of her accomplishments to her fans.

"Many have been following me since *Little Big Star* and up to now," said Charice. "I really thank them and also to the new fans who are supporting me. Keep supporting me. Thank you very much. I love you all." ■

# Bloomberg courts Asian voters

PAGE 1 ◀ includes Robin Mui, CEO of the Singtao Daily; Yong Hwa Ha, incoming President, Korean American Association of Greater New York and Inderjit Singh, Executive Chair of the South Asian Community Council; Peter Koo, President of the Flushing Chinese Business Association, among others, a veritable who's who in the Asian American community.

"I am honored to have such strong support in the Asian Community, and thank you for putting the future of our City first," said Mayor Bloomberg. "This election is about leadership, not partisanship. It's about creating good jobs, helping small businesses and building more affordable housing for working families. It's about every community: from Flushing to Sunset Park and from Jackson Heights to Chinatown."

Bloomberg said that the diverse group could be "the broadest coalition in New York City history." The mayor also acknowledged the current economic situation

not only in the city but also in the entire country.

"We all know that these tough economic times are and will continue to affect us all. But by investing in a five borough economic opportunity plan, we can bring our city through this economic crisis and keep New York strong and working. That's the vision that all of us here share. It's a vision that will require all of us to work as New Yorkers, together," he said.

"This is the year of the ox, and the ox celebrates hard work and persistence," the mayor said during the announcement. "These are the values that are going to help get us through this year and they are the values that our administration is taking to heart."

Bloomberg highlighted the issues that matter: the grants and other incentives the city is offering to small-business owners, its success in reducing crime and his efforts to improve the quality of public schools.

"We are doing everything we can to support small business

owners. We are offering loans to keep their doors open, we are offering entrepreneurs to launch small businesses by providing training and education classes. Small businesses are the backbone of our city," he stated.

For Filipino American community leader Myrna Littlewort, supporting Bloomberg for his third term is a no-brainer. "I believe in what he has done to New York City and I believe he is one of the best mayors this city has ever seen," Littlewort said.

"He keeps everyone safe in the city. If you noticed, he doesn't authorize any raids for undocumented aliens. He also doesn't discriminate because anyone who gets sick can just go to our clinics and hospitals, Mayor Bloomberg endorses them to be taken care of instead of getting them arrested," she added.

Antonio Rodriguez agrees. "I voted for him the last two times, and I am voting for him again. *Maganda naman ang nagawa niya doon sa two terms niya eh, saka walang kalaban*," he said. ■

# FREE 20 minutes

when you enroll with TAWAG NA DIRECT NOW!



The No. 1 choice of Filipinos worldwide!

Call Philippines for as low as **10.9¢ a minute**

- Sign up today and get 20 Minutes FREE instantly
- This offer is limited and will expire soon. So Call Now!
- Customer Service-Oriented Company.
- Currently used by over 30,000 Filipinos in the U.S. and Canada.
- Over 9 years of service & growing to our Kababayans.
- 24/7 Customer Service

TAWAG NA DIRECT OFFERS THE LOWEST RATES IN LONG DISTANCE SERVICES. FOR AS LOW AS 11.9 CENTS PER MINUTE, YOU CAN CALL ANY LANDLINE IN THE PHILIPPINES FROM OUR TOLL-FREE ACCESS NUMBERS FROM THE US, CANADA AND HAWAII.

Call our toll free number NOW!  
**1-877-379-6439**

PROMO CODE: FASO

Detach this card to get instant savings

Record Your Registered Number Here: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

**HOW TO USE THE SERVICE:**

1. Dial: 1-800-680-5054 Listen and follow instructions. To recharge press 2.
2. Enter your registered number. If dialing from unregistered location, then enter your personal security code.
3. Domestic Call: Dial 1+ Area Code + Telephone number

International Call from the U.S.: Dial 011+ Country Code + City Code + Local Number

**INSTANT \$3 BONUS**

PROMO CODE: FASO

Get \$3 or 20 minutes FREE CALLING TIME when you enroll visit [www.mytawagnadirect.com](http://www.mytawagnadirect.com) or call 1-800-760-4748

# Pacquiao: Speed will be the key

PAGE 1 ◀ during that fight.

It's the same blueprint that Roach and Neri expect from Pacquiao come fight night against Hatton.

For the record, Hatton has said in a number of different interviews that he will be just as fast or even faster than Pacquiao when the two meet on May 2 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Hatton said that he would be faster, stronger and bigger than any man Pacquiao has ever fought.

But that's all talk, said Roach.

"Speed is a God-given gift," he said. "You can improve it if you relax, but talk is talk we'll see on the night."

Pacquiao told the *Asian Journal* that he's not underestimating Hatton like many of those around him.

But Pacquiao does believe that speed will be his advantage against Hatton.

"I think the speed will be the key to this fight," said Pacquiao to the *Asian Journal*. "I'm not underestimating the speed of Ricky Hatton, but I think I am faster than him."

Roach and Neri both agree that the key for Pacquiao is to not stand in front and trade toe to toe with Hatton.

Neri said that all throughout training camp they have been working on Pacquiao's jab to neutralize Hatton's forward aggressive style. Neri, who admitted to watching all of Hatton's previous fights, said that Pacquiao has to prepare for any roughhouse tactic Hatton might do.

Hatton has a history of grabbing and then punching (during the clinch), pushing, and head butts, said Neri.

"That's why it's important when Hatton comes forward, Manny needs to throw that jab, then move to the side," said Neri.

"He has to land those combinations and go side to side. It's all about footwork," said Roach.

"The jab is very important in this fight," added Pacquiao. "Hatton is not too fast so the jab is very effective in this fight."

Pacquiao also added that he is preparing for a possible dirty fight.

"We're preparing for that style that's what we're focusing on right now," he said.

Pacquiao wouldn't give a prediction on the outcome of the match but Roach and Neri are expecting an easy victory.

"Probably early," said Neri. "Watch for Manny's left hook."

Hatton has a history of grabbing and then punching (during the clinch), pushing, and head butts, said Neri.

"That's why it's important when Hatton comes forward, Manny needs to throw that jab, then move to the side," said Neri.

"He has to land those combinations and go side to side. It's all about footwork," said Roach.

"The jab is very important in this fight," added Pacquiao. "Hatton is not too fast so the jab is very effective in this fight."

Pacquiao also added that he is preparing for a possible dirty fight.

"We're preparing for that style that's what we're focusing on right now," he said.

Pacquiao wouldn't give a prediction on the outcome of the match but Roach and Neri are expecting an easy victory.

"Probably early," said Neri. "Watch for Manny's left hook."

# On De La Hoya's retirement

Pacquiao reiterated what he told De La Hoya after winning their December match.

"He's still my idol," said Pacquiao.

Pacquiao said that De La Hoya has been good for the sport of boxing but that it was also time for him to hang up his gloves.

"I think he made a good decision," said Pacquiao. "He's already made a lot in boxing and whatever happens, people won't forget him. He's a great fighter and he's still my idol." (Joseph Pimentel)

# On De La Hoya's retirement

Pacquiao reiterated what he told De La Hoya after winning their December match.

"He's still my idol," said Pacquiao.

Pacquiao said that De La Hoya has been good for the sport of boxing but that it was also time for him to hang up his gloves.

"I think he made a good decision," said Pacquiao. "He's already made a lot in boxing and whatever happens, people won't forget him. He's a great fighter and he's still my idol." (Joseph Pimentel)

# On De La Hoya's retirement

Pacquiao reiterated what he told De La Hoya after winning their December match.

"He's still my idol," said Pacquiao.

Pacquiao said that De La Hoya has been good for the sport of boxing but that it was also time for him to hang up his gloves.

"I think he made a good decision," said Pacquiao. "He's already made a lot in boxing and whatever happens, people won't forget him. He's a great fighter and he's still my idol." (Joseph Pimentel)