

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Obstruction of justice vs. Failon, 5 others

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but Arteché 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 Arteché 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 II will never forgive you," she told police. She was with her sister, Pamela, at the Quezon City prosecutor's office. ■

Failon wife dies in hospital—doctor

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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. ■

Charice brings down Dodger Stadium

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[difference], she said. "I was just trying to focus on staying awake and not to forget the lyrics." She said singing in front of thousands of people at the home of the Dodgers, Chavez Ravine, was a great opportunity. "You know as I was walking down [to the field] I saw all these pictures of the Dodgers and I was just thinking of all the people, all the celebrities who sang the American National Anthem here," she said. "And here I am. They chose me. I'm not even an American citizen but they chose me to sing the National Anthem. This is really a big opportunity for me."
What's next?
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 Squequel. 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 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." ■

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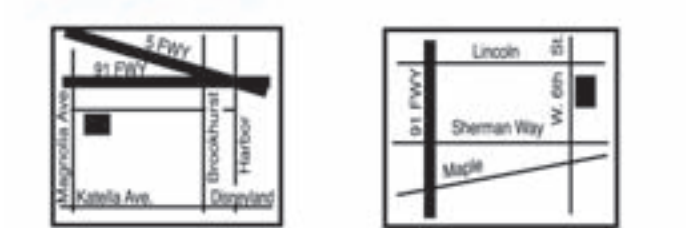


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Pacquiao: Speed will be the key

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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." **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)

The Golden Boy retires

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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 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)

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