

Dear Editor:

I was fortunate enough to watch the fight of Manny Pacquiao against Antonio Margarito on television last Saturday night together with other Filipino friends in Florida.

A few days before the fight we were worried that he would be thoroughly devastated because he was fighting a guy who was much taller (five inches) and heavier (17 pounds) than him in a higher fighting category.

Aside from that there was this distraction of him not having trained well because of his recent but successful run for Congress.

Our worries were all for naught because it was Pacquiao who devastated Margarito in 12 rounds because of his speed, skill, stamina, strength and ability to receive blows that would have otherwise knocked down a superior fighter.

It was a victory of David over Goliath.

It was not his victory though that makes me proud of him.

In the 11th round when he knew that his opponent was defenseless, he kept looking at the referee as if pleading for him to stop the fight, but to no avail.

In the 12th and final round, he kept his distance from Margarito, not running away to avoid blows but to spare Margarito more harm.

Thanks, Manny

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It turned out later that Margarito was hospitalized and diagnosed with a blow-out fracture of his right eye socket.

Pacquiao is a gentleman boxer and a sportsman.

In his immediate post-fight interview, Pacquiao was humble in victory and thankful to Freddie Roach (his trainer who has Parkinson's) and to God for blessing him with his skills as a fighter.

The burden of the Filipino nation was on his shoulders that night and he did our country a lot of good.

For an hour there we forgot all our personal and national worries.

Thank you Manny Pacquiao. You make me proud to be a Filipino.

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