

## Masterful Manny: Pacquiao Wows Crowd in Macau, Beats Rios Via UD

Written by Michael Woods

Sunday, 24 November 2013 00:17

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The Philippines, post typhoon, deserves some good tidings, and Manny Pacquiao did what he could to provide that in the main event at the Cotai Arena in Macao, on a Top Rank card shown on HBO pay per view on Sunday morning, Saturday night in the US. Pacquiao had his way with Brandon Rios, fighting a sharp, smart, disciplined fight against Rios, who was two steps slow and severely lacking in the hand speed department against a rock-solid Pacman. Manny had said we'd see "the old Manny," and not an old Manny, and did he deliver. His mobility gave Rios fits, and not even the most cynical of us worried as we went to the cards. The scores were 120-108, 119-109 and 118-110 for the Congressman.

"This fight is for you," Manny said, to the people affected by the typhoon.

Manny went 281-790 to 138-502 for the loser.

After, Pacquiao (*seen having his way with overmatched Rios in Chris Farina-Top Rank photo*) said to Max Kellerman he is all the way back from his back to back losses, to Tim Bradley and Juan Manuel Marquez. He wanted a KO, but said Rios was "very tough." Manny said he did get hurt at one point, maybe the fifth. He referenced going to pay respects to the Rios corner after. He said he has a job to do in the ring but we are all brothers and sisters after that. Did he re-establish himself, and who does he want next? His time is not over yet, he said, and next? It's up to Bob Arum, "I don't know yet."

Rios after said that Manny had speed, but his power wasn't much. He got snippy with Max, asking him to assess his performance, after Max asked him if he thought he proved something. "Do you think I'm a punching bag?" he barked at Max, who stood his ground nicely. "I don't think you're a punching bag, I think you're incredibly determined," the announcer said, and moved on. Rios called Manny "one of the greatest boxers in the world besides Mayweather" but reiterated that Manny's speed was too much.

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Congressman Pacquiao, who turns 35 on Dec. 17, weighed 145 (150 on fight night) at the weigh-in while the 27-year-old Rios was 146 1/2 (159 on fight night).

13,101 people were in the arena watching.

Pacman was 54-5-2 entering the ring at the largest casino in the world. Rios, born in Texas, who grew up in Kansas, living in CA, was 31-1-1. The WBO international welter crown was up for grabs.

In the first, the lefty Pacman, an eight-time world champ, worked the left to the body. Rios went down, a slip, at :51. Rios worked his free right in a clinch late. A left lead to the head for Manny got in clean and hard. The hand speed differential was obvious.

In the second, Rios had better luck. He came forward, but not foolishly. Then Manny flurried to the body at the minute mark. A right sent Manny back, and then Manny poured it on late in a tight round. "Don't get in a fight, keep boxing this guy," Freddie Roach said after.

In the third, Manny stuck and moved, to good effect. The movement was winning this round for Manny. Robert Garcia said to be aggressive but smart, and he asked for uppercut, and not to chase Manny.

In the fourth, Manny worked with the right, and the jab set the table some too. Right hooks worked for Manny. He kept his movement up and Rios didn't follow willy nilly, but he wasn't busy enough to score the round. In the fifth, a straight left landed hard and Rios grinned, but man did it score. An underneath right scored clean then, and lefts to the body impressed the crowd, heavily pro Manny. Manny mostly moved to his right, away from Rios' right hand, all night. Garcia asked Rios to remember the gym work and the plan.

In the sixth, Manny kept on fighting smart, sticking, then moving. His body work, with both hands, was obvious. Manny started ripping after complaining Rios went low. We saw blood then

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on Rios' left eye.

In the seventh, Manny kept on whacking away, looking strong and disciplined. His right eye was swelling by this time and Rios needed to ramp it up, get rumbling. Manny shook his head after Rios flurried, telling him he had nothing.

In the eighth, Manny let Rios come to him, and then launched and jetted. Rinse and repeat. A left hook landed clean on Manny, at 1:05 but he didn't blink twice. Manny again won the round with effective aggression. "Let's go Brandon," said Garcia, in Spanish. "You got to stay close to him," he said. Roach said the hook-left hand, under and out was the working plan.

In the ninth, a seven punch combo wowed the crowd, for Manny. The ref warned Rios for being chippy at 1:15; he needed to do something different. He didn't, not enough. Garcia asked Rios to stay in closer, and "throw more punches, don't throw from far away." In the tenth, Manny looked energized, and stayed smart. The Rios face didn't look all that healthy. In the 11th, Rios had much better luck. Manny seemed a bit tired, and Rios landed scoring shots. But Manny still outlanded him. In the 12th, Manny again popped and then ducked under, to his right, not risking getting caught retreating straight back. Blood seeped from Rios' left eye as he peered through his gloves. We went to the cards..

Manny went to Rios' corner to pay respects after the round, and that included ex pal and strength coach Alez Ariza, who kicked his trainer Roach in the chest a few days before, and mocked his Parkinson's Syndrome.

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**amayseng says:**

Manny peppered Rios and boxed his ears off in a boxing lesson....

Manny fought smart and controlled.

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Rios is a walking punching bag when fighting an elite athlete and boxer like Pacman.

I hope Rios didnt take so much punishment that he STUTTERS the rest of his life like he was doing in that

video making fun of another individual who is disabled and handicap to certain extents due to a disease...

or DONT I ??

i predicted based off emotion, i should have realized pac was gonna punish rios for 12 rounds and embarrass

him...

manny can not only dazzle with speed and power, he can BOX....

### **amayseng says:**

oh and Rios didnt land 140 punches or whatever compubox counted, he probably only landed 50

i dont count arm holding pitty pat slaps when tied up

### **TotoyBato says:**

Rios was a punching bag. Pacquiao took it easy on the punching bag.

### **Radam G says:**

Bam Bam was full of fright, instead of fear. From the first time that he got clocked, his noggin he couldn't clear. He couldn't handle the big-fight atmosphere. He definitely didn't have "The Eye of the Tiger," but the eye of a-struck-in-the-path-of-a-headlight deer.

To himself, he and Team Rios, told a lot of lies. Just before the start of the bout, he had dragonflies, instead of butterflies. With condition coach Alex Ariza, he ought to cut ties. Or to elite boxing, say his goodbyes. Holla!

### **kidcanvas says:**

rios got what he deserved a beaten , ignorant punching bag Max ,not just a punching bag

### **jzzy says:**

Manny exposed Rios for what he is, a loser with limited intelligence, class and zero boxing ability. Garcia

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provided no help whatsoever from the corner, where was their plan B? This was reminiscent of the Pac/Clottey

fight, another lopsided paint job by Manny. Rios absorbed a frightful amount of punishment and yes he is a

punching bag well on the way to palookaville. That bitch Ariza is running out of meal tickets.

### **mortcola says:**

No sign of decline. Pac was destroying Marquez before he walked into that punch. And last night he showed more speed and stamina than in years. Max claimed he was pretty damn good but the old Manny. Maybe the new god-fearing version really doesn't like to hurt people. But more likely is that he hits hard enough to bust the big welters' faces and bodies up, and KO some of them, but the size difference shows in whether he gets the KO. But, still, that was a prime, quick, focused fighter in there. And Rios is already slurring.

### **Grimm says:**

Barnburner turned boring: pure exhibition from Manny.

### **amayseng says:**

[QUOTE=jzzy;40415]Manny exposed Rios for what he is, a loser with limited intelligence, class and zero boxing ability. Garcia

provided no help whatsoever from the corner, where was their plan B? This was reminiscent of the Pac/Clottey

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punching bag well on the way to palookaville. That bitch Ariza is running out of meal tickets.[/QUOTE]

Beautifully said my friend

### **amayseng says:**

[QUOTE=Radam G;40409]Bam Bam was full of fright, instead of fear. From the first time that he got clocked, his noggin he couldn't clear. He couldn't handle the big-fight atmosphere. He definitely didn't have "The Eye of the Tiger," but the eye of a-struck-in-the-path-of-a-headlight deer.

To himself, he and Team Rios, told a lot of lies. Just before the start of the bout, he had dragonflies, instead of butterflies. With condition coach Alex Ariza, he ought to cut ties. Or to elite boxing, say his goodbyes. Holla![/QUOTE]

in that first round Rios was being cautious with that high guard and manny landed some body shots that made Rios go backwards and was hurt to the body prob for the first time ever, and you know he thought holy \*\*\*\* this dude is on a different level and fought terrified to become a

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hatton highlight reel knockout...

### Radam G says:

Bam Bam says that Da Manny is manos de rapido, but that he cannot hit. Wow! He made Bam Bam's mug look like s\*\*t. And for a pugilist who couldn't hit, Da Manny had Bam Bam looking like a bobbling-headed doll all China day and U.S. America night. Bam Bam was never in the fight. Tonight, his mug is one carved-up, swollen sight. He looks as if he were definitely in a Macau massacre. Holla!

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of course rios was hurt and felt the power he just wont admit it. There was a reason his gloves were glued to his head in a turtle guard.

Manny didnt even really sit down on his shots either

### Carmine Cas says:

Manny looked really good, he fought a smart fight and did what he was supposed to do against Rios

### brownsugar says:

Even though the uncompromising non stop aggressive style of Paq's youth is gone, he still fought a masterful fight against an opponent who was as made to order as a pepperoni pizza. Manny floats like a dragonfly and stings like a hornet.

the pride of the Phillipines Islands reminded of those insects who glide on the surface tension of water....too elusive for Rios to engage..... picking his spots... painting Rios's face like an Asian Picasso.

Rios was being out classed in every department and had no chance to win while suffering the most lopsided loss of his career.

I was surprised he sounded offended when Max asked him if felt like a punching bag.

Manny looked sharp last night....putting on a performance that would have made Mayweather proud.

Speaking of Mayweather ....its time to make that fight.

### ultimoshogun says:

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Manny's a class act...the way he hugged Rios and then his corner(including Ariza) after the fight was surprising to me. Always good to see great sportsmanship like that despite all the ugly things that were said between the two camps.

### **DaveB says:**

The fight shows that Pacquiao has still got great boxing skills and it looked like what you would think it would look like if he did. It wasn't an exciting fight. Where does Pacquiao go from here? Marquez is going to want parity to fight him and he may not want to fight him at all regardless. Mayweather and him will not get it on. Bradley would fight him but probably no one wants to pay to see that. So now I wonder what Mayweather and Pacquiao are going to do because fights like these have no drama and who else is out there to make a challenge? They have fought everyone except one another.

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Agreed DaveB

Except for seeing how Paq rebounded from his chilling KO loss ... there was about as much drama in this fight as a sparring match.

Whose next?

Provnikov is a friend and won't fight.

Broner is unproven at the weight.

Thurman is an All Hayman fighter.

Cotto is too big

Garcia is on showtime.

Marquez is chasing a rematch with Bradley.

Bradley can't sell tickets but Paq can...so we'll see.

Matthysse has been eliminated.

I wouldn't mind seeing Alexander getting the call...but its unlikely.

Khan needs to prove he can compete at the top level again.

That leaves Mayweather.

### **DaveB says:**

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Yes, seeing if he could come off that loss was the question. After the first round you could see that the loss wasn't an issue. Rios does what Rios does so it was a good outing for Pac and it was why the fight was made. If Pac didn't have it any more Rios would have been a bad choice. Your breakdown of the future fights was interesting. Add in the Cotto is now a friend and that a lot of the good fighters are Showtime fighters in addition to all the other things that you stated plus Bradley may feel that he was slighted when he wanted an immediate rematch, the future doesn't seem so bright. Ditto for Mayweather.

### **Radam G says:**

Boksing is "The theatre is the unexpected." Promotion Lou D was all up in China. And don't believe for a sec that it was because of that quitting-on-da-stool heavyweight he was promoting.

Either Da Manny or Miguel Cotto will likely be dancing with Sergio Martinez next. And the California HEAD-and-FEET Bambi will likely get the Russian Rocky rocky again. Holla!

### **gibola says:**

Rios too slow of hand and foot - end of story. I'd rather talk about two tremendous, competitive fights I saw at the weekend - Froch v Groves and the cruiser fight between YP Hernandez v Alexeev. Groves decked Froch hard with a right hand in R1 and nearly KO'd him at the end of the round. Groves continued to land and hurt Froch while building a lead on the scorecards. Froch was taking a beating but kept coming and was turning the tide when he hurt Groves in the 9th and the ref jumped in somewhat prematurely. It was a great fight.

Hernandez decked Alexeev early then got wobbled and hurt through the middle rounds and as Alexeev was coming on strong. Hernandez then KO'd Alexeev with a desperation one-punch hook/uppercut. Very good fight.

If you can find either on the net I'd give 'em a watch.

### **Carmine Cas says:**

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Manny vs Sergio? Wow