

# TOP RANK

**LAS VEGAS, NEV. (January 28, 2013)** -- Top Rank's ultra-talented stable ran the table winning all the major 2012 awards from the Boxing Writers Association of America. The BWAA announced on Sunday that World Boxing Organization junior featherweight champion **NONITO DONAIRE**

was the recipient of its Sugar Ray Robinson "Fighter of the Year" award. Donaire (31-1, 20 KOs) won all four of his world title fights last year, defeating Wilfredo Vazquez, Jr., Jeffrey Mathebula, Toshiaki Nishioka and Jorge Arce, the last two by knockout, to extend his 11-year winning streak to 30 bouts. Capping a career-best year, Donaire had already been named the 2012 Fighter of the Year by

*Yahoo! Sports*

,  
*ESPN*

,  
*Sports Illustrated*

,  
*USA Today*

and many other websites and newspapers.

Donaire's trainer, former International Boxing Federation junior lightweight champion **ROBERT GARCIA**, was named the Eddie Futch "Trainer of the Year," for his work with the Filipino Flash as well as with newly-minted WBO featherweight champion Mikey Garcia and undefeated former World Boxing Association lightweight champion Brandon Rios.

## Top Rank Cleans Up In BWAA Awards

Written by The Sweet Science  
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"Nonito came into his own in 2012. He will do even greater things in 2013 and beyond," said Hall of Fame promoter **Bob Arum**. "He will become the next big pay-per-view star. Robert Garcia truly deserves the award as 2012 Trainer of the Year. As the best young trainer in boxing, his future is tremendous."

"2012 was a text book year for Nonito," added Top Rank president **Todd duBoef**. "Four fights against top division leaders and with decisive, impressive performances."

Manny Pacquiao - Juan Manuel Márquez 4, which was co-promoted with Zanfer Promotions, was named the BWAA's Muhammad Ali - Joe Frazier "Fight of the Year." The action-packed battle, which was held at the sold-out MGM Grand Garden Arena and sold close to 1.2 million pay-per-views in the U.S. alone, featured excitement, drama and a one-punch knockout victory by the Mexican icon Márquez.

Trampler, a Hall of Fame matchmaker, is the co-winner of the Barney Nagler Award for "Long and Meritorious Service" to the sport of boxing.

The BWAA Awards Dinner will be held in New York this spring at a venue and date to be announced.

For more information on Top Rank and the BWAA, go to [www.toprank.com](http://www.toprank.com) and [www.bwaa.org](http://www.bwaa.org) respectively.

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**ArneK. says:**

In my mind, the bigger story here is Arum. Shucks, the dude turns 82 this year and he's still full of \*\*\*\* and vinegar. Back in 2008, I wrote that Don King's influence was greater than Arum because King had his hooks into more fighters, promoted across a wider swath of the globe, and exerted far more sway over the heavyweight division. That was true when I wrote it, but I'd like to retract that observation because Arum had more stamina and has outlasted Don King who, by all accounts, borrowed a leaf from the Tina Turner song: "I don't want to fight no more."

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(He's certainly entitled; King also turns 82 this year.) The great boxing promoters of the 20th century -- Tex Rickard, Mike Jacobs, Jack Solomons in Great Britain -- all will play second fiddle to Arum in the annals of history. Like him or not, he's a marvel.

### **dino da vinci says:**

Hello Mr Lang. I'd have to agree with you. Arum's body of work is staggering. King may have had a better year or two along the way, (Allegedly helped along by helping himself to just north of \$100,000,000.00 of Mike Tyson's money. Settled out-of-court for \$14,000,000.00). And as brilliant as Arum is, he knew to surround himself with a great deal of top tier talent. 'All the King's horses' at DKP pale, when compared to the stable Arum assembled at Top Rank.

### **Radam G says:**

Da BobFather is da KING! His promotion greatness, all the promoting jesters just hate to SING! Big Money Oscar cooks the books. Don King and the other fly-by promoters are a bunch of crooks. Holla!