

J RUSSELL PELTZ' BOXING MEMOIR, THIRTY DOLLARS AND A CUT EYE, NOW ON SALE

PHILADELPHIA, PA – In 2019, J Russell Peltz celebrated 50 years as a boxing promoter. Beginning this week, 50 years of boxing stories from the Hall of Famer are revealed in Peltz' memoir, *Thirty Dollars and a Cut Eye*. The book is available for purchase via Peltz' website (peltzboxing.com) and major book retailers.

The 404-page book chronicles Peltz's first time watching fights on television at the age of 12 in 1959, to his first experience at a live boxing event at 14, and takes readers through his half century in the business. Peltz promoted over 1,000 boxing events, and more than 40 world championship fights.

Peltz' savant-like ability to remember details of fights that took place half a century ago, what happened every round, every conversation, every travesty, and every scandal, makes *Thirty Dollars and a Cut Eye* a must-read for boxing fans. A lifetime collector, Peltz saved every contract he ever signed, all the fight programs, posters, videos, along with the profit-and-loss statements from each promotion.

From his days directing the career of middleweight legend Bennie Briscoe, through his hot-and-cold relationship with ill-fated junior lightweight Tyrone Everett and the controversial title fight with Alfredo Escalera, the five bouts he promoted with Marvelous Marvin Hagler (including Hagler's first two defeats), the matches he featured with Emile Griffith, Thomas Hearn and Aaron Pryor, his years with Joltin' Jeff Chandler, the time his office building was fire-bombed, and through his silent interest in the career of

Arturo Gatti—you don't want to miss it. Peltz has promoted cards at every major venue in Philadelphia as well as nearly every casino in Atlantic City, and his business has taken him around the world, from Argentina to France, and from Italy to Beijing.

There are 60 photos in the book, many of which have never been published.

"The book contains it all," said Peltz. "The facts, the figures, and the finances. Nothing was off limits. I've spoken with over 30 men who boxed for me. Some of them had nice things to say—others, not so much, but it's all in there. I'm as proud of this book as I am of anything I've ever done in boxing."

To celebrate the debut of *Thirty Dollars and a Cut Eye*, Peltz will host a book launch party on Oct. 21 at 7 pm. at the 2300 Arena in South Philadelphia. The event will be open to the public, and, in addition to signing copies of the book for those in attendance, Peltz will be screening some of the most memorable Philly-area fights from the past 50 years.

Readers can purchase the book at the book launch and at peltzboxing.com, or through Amazon or Barnes & Noble. Readers who purchase the book via peltzboxing.com will have the opportunity to have the book inscribed.

Video: Peltz Boxing 50th Anniversary Weigh In

J RUSSELL PELTZ HONORED BY PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL

PHILADELPHIA PA – Members of the Philadelphia City Council presented a resolution honoring J Russell Peltz at this morning's council meeting on behalf of President Darrell Clarke. The resolution recognized Peltz' contribution to the city over 50 years of promoting boxing in Philadelphia. President Clarke serves as the City Councilman for District 5, where Peltz promoted his first boxing event at the Blue Horizon on September 30, 1969.

The resolution gave a brief history of Peltz' career before thanking him for the profound impact he had on the city over the last 50 years. It also expressed the wish that the next generation of boxing promoters continue to preserve Philadelphia's legacy as a boxing stronghold.

Peltz was gracious in his remarks, and had the crowd laughing when he began speaking about his career.

"I'm humbled to be honored by the city," he began, "because if you think about it, the only thing I've done over the last 50 years is start fights that other people finish.

"I've grown up in the greatest fight city in the world," he continued. "Some of the greatest fighters of all time have fought for me – hall of fame fighters – beginning with my first love, Bennie Briscoe in 1969, and going all the way up through one of my fighters winning a world title in Beijing, China a couple years ago by the name of Jason Sosa."

He closed his remarks with a story about playing "Cowboys & Indians" as a kid, and how he thought it would be so cool if

he could just play the game as an adult, instead of going to work every day. "Honestly, that's what my career has been like," he said, and thanked the Council for the honor.

Peltz was joined in attendance by his wife, Linda, and his protege and the promoter of Friday's "Blood, Sweat and 50 Years" fight card at 2300 Arena, Michelle Rosado.

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Tickets for Blood, Sweat & 50 Years are available at 2300arena.com, or by calling 215-765-9022.

Philly Fight Night Brunson vs. Garcia Airs on Comcast

Tune in on these dates to watch the junior middleweight showdown between Philadelphia's Tyrone Brunson and Ismael "Tito" Garcia of South Jersey.

Friday, December 9 – 9 p.m. on TCN Philly

Saturday, December 10 – 8 p.m. on CSN Philly

Saturday, December 24 – 9 p.m. on TCN Philly

Thursday, January 5 – 7 p.m. on CSN Philly

The broadcast schedule for Philly Fight Night – Farmer vs. Zenuaj on Dec. 2 will be released in the coming weeks.

Like us on Facebook at: Joe Hand Promotions, Peltz Boxing, and BAM Boxing

Visit us on Instagram at: @JoeHandPromo, @PeltzBoxing, and @BAMBoxingInc

Follow us on Twitter: @JoeHandPromo, @Peltzboxing, and @BAMBoxingInc

Hashtag the conversation using #PFN & #PhillyFightNight

Ex-NFL Defensive End Ray Edwards Boxes Dan Pasciolla In CBS Sports Sports Network-Televised Heavyweight Bout Sept. 15 at the 2300 Arena in Philadelphia

Philadelphia, PA – Former NFL defensive end Ray Edwards will box Dan Pasciolla in a six-round contest between southpaw heavyweights on Thursday, Sept.15, at the 2300 Arena.

In the main event, Thomas LaManna, of Millville, NJ, and Dusty Hernandez-Harrison, of Washington, DC, meet in a scheduled 10-round bout for the vacant USBA Welterweight title. The card is promoted by Final Forum Boxing, Peltz Boxing Promotions & GH3 Promotions and will be broadcast live on the CBS Sports Network. First of four televised fights begins at 10pm (EST).

Edwards, 31, of Cincinnati, OH, is 11-0-1, 7 KOs. The seven-year defensive end from the Minnesota Vikings and Atlanta Falcons began boxing in 2011 during the NFL owners' lockout and devoted his full-time to it in 2013. He has been learning his craft and is ready to step up in competition. Edwards knocked out Steven Tyner, of New York, in two rounds his last fight Aug. 26 in Minneapolis, MN.

Pasciolla, 31, of Brick, NJ, is 8-1-1 after three years as a

pro. He has beaten solid East Coast competition in Bill Marks, John Lennox, Donnie Palmer and former world cruiserweight champion Imamu Mayfield. In his last bout July 22 in Atlantic City, Pasciolla avenged his only defeat with a six-round unanimous over Dante Selby, of Philadelphia.

In another six-round bout, undefeated welterweight Kenneth Sims Jr. faces grizzled veteran Gilbert Venegas.

Sims Jr., 22, of Chicago, IL, is 7-0, 2 KOs, in two years as a pro. He is coming off a six-round decision over Tavorus Teague, of Bakersfield, CA, on March 11 in Tustin, CA.

Venegas, 39, of East Moline, IL, is 14-24-5, 8 KOs, against some of the best at 147 and 154 pounds. Venegas turned pro in 1999 and has wins over Ed Paredes, Rogelio De La Torre and Lance Williams and he is coming off a six-round draw with undefeated Daniel Denny on Aug. 19 in Wittenberg, WI. Venegas also has boxed Nate Campbell, Jermall Charlo, Mike Jones, Jaime Herrera and Sammy Vasquez and he also boxed a draw with Jesus Soto-Karass.

2016 United States Olympic alternate LeRoy Davila (2-0, 1 KO), of New Brunswick, NJ, will rematch with Edgar Cortes (3-3) of Vineland, NJ, in a bantamweight bout scheduled for six rounds. Davila defeated Cortes by four-round decision on July 22 in Mashantucket, CT. Cortes later earned a four-round decision over Alex Barbosa on Aug. 26 in the loser's Philadelphia backyard.

Opening up the television broadcast will be 17-year-old Devin Haney (9-0, 5 KOs), of Las Vegas, NV, will have his 10th contest in eight months when fights Mike Fowler (5-2, 2 KOs), of Milwaukee, WI.

In a four-round welterweight bout, Jaron "Boots" Ennis (5-0, 5 KOs), of Philadelphia, battles Eddie Diaz (2-4-2), of Torrance, CA.

In six-round bouts:

Anthony Young (13-2, 5 KOs) of Atlantic City, NJ, takes on Malik Jackson (3-9-4, 2 KO's) of Newark, New Jersey.

In a four-round bout, it will be a battle of New Jersey-based super middleweights as Darryl Bunting (2-0-2, 1 KO), of Asbury Park, meets Darryl Gause (1-0), of Vineland.

Tickets for the nine-fight card, which begins at 7 pm, are priced at \$75, \$50 and \$40. They are available at Peltz Boxing (215-765-0922), at the 2300 Arena (267-273-0945) and Bam Boxing (215-280-6709).

Thomas LaManna will hold a media workout on Monday, September 12th at the Joe Hand Gym in Philadelphia at noon

LaManna Sees Big Opportunity In Sept. 15 Fight With Dusty Hernandez-Harrison

Philadelphia, PA – Welterweight prospect Thomas "Cornflake" LaManna took time out from training to discuss his much-anticipated Sept. 15 showdown with Dusty Hernandez-Harrison at the 2300 Arena in Philadelphia and live on CBS Sports Network

What are your thoughts on Dusty Hernandez-Harrison?

I think he is better than what people are given him credit for. He is 29-0-1 for a reason. He has defeated everyone that they have put in front of him (except the one draw).

How important is this fight for your career?

This is a career-defining fight. The winner gets a world ranking. It is for the USBA title and a spot in the Top 15 (in the world). This is a big opportunity for both of us. I am zoned in and I will do what I have to do to get the win. It is a huge opportunity. I have a loss and I don't like that feeling.

You just mentioned that you have a loss. What did you learn from that defeat that will help prepare you for this upcoming fight with Dusty?

The Douglas loss has prepared me for this. Being a headline fighter on television. We will be seen by more people being on CBS Sports Network. I am five fights more mature since my loss. I have been fighting solid competition and I have been more active.

What in those five fights has helped you prepare for this fight?

None of those guys are comparable to Dusty, but I fought guys with different styles and went some rounds with them when people may have questioned my stamina. I fought a rugged guy in Ayi Bruce and a crafty southpaw in Ariel Vasquez. Those guys aren't killers, but I was getting work in.

What things have you fixed since the loss to Douglas? Did you feel you were overmatched in the fight?

It opened my eyes and it showed me that I needed to fix stuff. My diet and daily living. I was overmatched in maybe size, but I really felt going into that fight that I would beat him.

What are you doing different?

My diet and other things I do when I am not training. I was a middleweight because I was too lazy to drop down in weight. I have made a lot of adjustments.

You started out at middleweight, but you have eased your way down to welterweight. How difficult has that been and what type of advantage does this play into the September 15 fight?

I was always a big middleweight, but strength-wise I wasn't. Now at welterweight, I am more explosive, faster, more experienced and now I can dictate the action. This is the first time he (Harrison) is fighting someone bigger than him. He has been fighting smaller guys. He now will have to face punches from a grown man.

The fight was originally scheduled for Atlantic City, where you would have been involved in the promotional aspects of the show. That would have entailed doing a lot of work behind the scenes, which would have taken some time away from training. Are you relieved that the fight is in Philadelphia?

I am thankful for that. I know I would have had to get involved in the promotional aspect and some of the stuff leading up to the fight. To me it doesn't matter where the fight is. Philadelphia is a neutral ground. As long as there is a ring, it doesn't matter where it takes place

Why this fight right now?

It's time. He has fought one tough guy and if you saw the fight, he lost it (officially a draw with Mike Dallas). I have no doubt in my mind that I will win the fight and maybe even stop him. But it is a great opportunity to get showcased on national television for the USBA title.

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ABOUT SEPT. 15

Welterweights Thomas LaManna and Dusty Hernandez-Harrison will collide in a scheduled 10-round bout for the vacant USBA Welterweight title on Thursday, Sept. 15, at the 2300 Arena. The card is promoted by Final Forum Boxing, Peltz Boxing

Promotions & GH3 Promotions and will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network, beginning at 10pm.

Tickets for the nine-fight card, which begins at 7pm, are priced at \$75, \$50 and \$40 They are available at Peltz Boxing (215-765-0922), at the 2300 Arena (267-273-0945) and Bam Boxing (215-280-6709).

Video: Avery Sparrow

Weights from Philadelphia

Jason Sosa 130.6 Jorge Pazos 129.7
Victor Vasquez 134 Tyrell Samuel 132.9
Jerome Rodriguez 135.1 Avery Sparrow 134.8
David Gonzales 141.6 Ryan Belasco 140.8
Ismael Garcia 161.1 Fred Jenkins, Jr. 163.6
Edgar Cortes 121.8 Antonio Conigliaro 120.3
Albert Manuykan 137.4 Scott Kelleher 139.4

Venue: 2300 Arena
2300 South Swanson Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148

First Bout: 7pm

Tickets available at \$50 & \$75

Promoter: Peltz Boxing, BAM Boxing, Top Rank, Joe Hand Promotions

Peltz Boxing Celebrates 46th Year Anniversary

While preparing for Friday's Puerto Rican Boxing Classic at the 2300 Arena in Philadelphia, promoter J Russell Peltz, International Boxing Hall of Fame, class of 2004, recalls his start in boxing 46 years ago.

Today I celebrate-or perhaps observe-the 46th anniversary of my first fight as a boxing promoter. I could have waited another four years to write this story, but that seems like a long time from now and an even longer bet to reach that milestone.

I saw only a few minutes of my first boxing card. It was Sept. 30, 1969, at the Blue Horizon-not yet legendary-and I was busy in the box office with mom, selling tickets to the last of the 1,606 people we squeezed in there that night to watch middleweight Bennie Briscoe destroy Tito Marshall in their rematch. We actually turned people away that night and that's something I would never do again. What was I thinking?

There was a miscommunication with the union that supplied the ticket sellers so when they failed to show, I hired mom-gratis, of course-and she helped to sell the tickets.

I was 22 years old, 15 months after graduating from Temple University and less than 30 days removed from working full-time on the sports staff at The Evening Bulletin. I had coveted the boxing beat at The Bulletin, but I got impatient when Jack Fried, the boxing writer, got an extension on his mandatory retirement at age 65 and I wasn't about to hang around waiting for him to retire or, as dad would say, kick the bucket.

So I did what every 22-year-old college grad who was raised on the prestigious Main Line would do-I became a boxing promoter.

I had saved about \$5,000 in college since I had worked full-time on what they called the Lobster Shift at The Bulletin, starting the summer after my junior year at Temple. I worked from midnight to 8 am, editing stories, writing captions and headlines and doing re-writes. Then I'd drive from 30th & Market Street to North Broad Street for my senior year at Temple, go to class from 9 am to 1 pm, then drive home to Bala Cynwyd to go to sleep.

It was a post-Olympic year in Philly and there was talent on every street corner. I remember the late summer of 1969, driving up Columbia Avenue-now Cecil B. Moore-and turning right after 22d Street where Columbia turns into Ridge. Two buildings from the corner stood the aptly named Roach's Café. On top of Roach's Café, up a steep flight of stairs, was Champs Gym, run by Quenzell McCall, who had made his bones training Percy Bassett and Leotis Martin and Kitten Hayward and Briscoe and many other top Philly fighters.

I met Sam Solomon, a friendly round-faced man who owned a Laundromat in West Philadelphia, and he introduced me to his new fighter, a 17-year-old stud who was looking to turn pro. His name was Eugene Hart. Sam nicknamed him Cyclone.

A year earlier, at a gym in the basement of the Annunciation Church at 12th & Norris, just off Temple's campus, I had interviewed another young amateur boxer for a story I wrote for The Bulletin. His name was Bobby Watts. They called him Boogaloo.

There had not been a pro fight card in Philly since May and local fans were ready for some action.

I had dreamed of having my boyhood idol, Hall-of-Famer Harold Johnson, in the main event but I could not afford the \$2,000 he wanted. I had become friendly with Pat Duffy, having

written some stories about amateur boxing while I was at The Bulletin. Duffy controlled the amateurs in the tri-state area and he had his hand in the pros as well. He was involved with Leotis Martin and Sammy Goss and Bennie Briscoe and for a guarantee of \$1,000 against a percentage of the gate receipts I got Briscoe to fight a rematch with Marshall, who had beaten Bennie four years earlier.

Duffy also had a heavyweight named Jerry Judge, from the Kensington section of Philly, and I added him to the card in his pro debut. On the poster I identified Judge as the Kensington Heavyweight Champion. Really!

George Hill, who was training at Champs Gym, agreed to make his own pro debut against Judge.

Jimmy Toppi, Jr., owned the Blue Horizon. He had promoted fights at various Philly venues in the 1940s and 1950s and as soon as he heard about my main event, he predicted a sellout. Toppi would close his office every day at 2 pm, so I would drive over to the Blue Horizon from my apartment in the Germantown section of the city, park outside and wait to see if any customers would show up to buy tickets. Whenever I saw someone ring the doorbell at the Blue Horizon, I'd get out of my car, call over to them and sell them tickets out of my trunk.

The card came together, although Watts' original opponent, North Philly neighbor Lloyd Bad News Nelson, canceled out a couple of weeks before the show and it wasn't until close to Sept. 30 that I found Ron Nesby, who was training at Gil Clancy's gym in New York.

Dad was in the plumbing, heating and air-conditioning business and he took 100 ringside tickets and gave them out to his business associates. He paid me for all of them-they were \$5 apiece. I guess he was worried I wouldn't make it in boxing. My uncle Bob came to the fight and he got sick after eating a

Blue Horizon hotdog.

I was at the gyms every night, Champs and the 23rd PAL in North Philly, Passyunk and the Juniper Gym in South Philly. There were others but those were the Fab Four.

Malcolm "Flash" Gordon, a long-haired New York boxing junkie who had bought a mimeograph machine with his Bar Mitzvah money years earlier, agreed to sell his now-legendary programs at the fight for 25 cents each.

Tom Cushman, the boxing writer for the Daily News, was a major player. I had met Cushman in Oklahoma City a few years earlier. He had stopped there—on his way East from Denver to start his new job at the Daily News—to cover Temple's basketball team in a Christmas tournament and I was there as a correspondent for The Bulletin.

Cushman knew that boxing writers from other newspapers in town took money under the table from promoters to write pre-fight stories and he told me if he ever caught me doing that I could kiss our friendship goodbye. Not a chance!

The Inquirer headline the day before my card: Is Peltz Ready To Get Skinned?

We sold out. At the time, the 1,606 fans in attendance represented the largest crowd in the Blue Horizon's history. The gate was \$6,010 with tickets priced at \$3 and \$5. Briscoe's percentage came to \$1,314.58 and Marshall walked out with \$788.75.

Middleweight Oscar Coor beat Clarence Finney in an all-local four-rounder to open the card—on time, naturally, at 8 pm—and Cyclone Hart blew away South Philly's Sheldon Moore, who didn't answer the bell for round two. Jerry Judge worked hard and stopped George Hill in the fourth round and Boogaloo Watts out-boxed Ron Nesby in a 6. In the main event, Briscoe had a blast. He nailed Marshall below the belt early and when Tito

complained to the ref, Bennie went upstairs and it was all over in 60 seconds. Marshall never boxed again.

Columnist Sandy Grady was there from The Bulletin. His story the next day—Crazy Dream Comes True—told about my prediction in college that one day my friends would be coming to my fight cards. He also wrote that my (first) wife and I were living in an apartment in Germantown and the only things in it were a mattress, a TV set and a cat named Ophelia. With the money we made that night (\$1,438.83), Grady wrote that perhaps now we would buy some furniture.

A few months earlier, my wife had asked me what made me think I could be successful in this business. I told her that it would take me about six months to blow my savings but I'd have a great scrapbook one day to show our kids about the time their daddy was a boxing promoter.

VICTOR VASQUEZ-TYRELL SAMUEL BOUT TOPS OCT. 2 PRELIMS AT PUERTO RICAN CLASSIC IN PHILLY

Philadelphia, PA — Popular lightweight Victor Vasquez, of Philadelphia, hopes to extend his modest three-fight winning streak when he takes on Tyrell Samuel, of Baltimore, MD, in the six-round semifinal as part of the Puerto Rican Boxing Classic on Friday evening, Oct. 2, at the 2300 Arena at 2300 South Swanson Street.

Headlining the seven-bout card is an eight-round junior

lightweight contest between world-rated Jason Sosa, of Camden, NJ, and Jorge Pazos, of Chumuchil, Mexico. First fight starts at 7pm.

Vasquez (above left), 32, has won three straight at the 2300 Arena, stopping Jose L. Guzman, of The Bronx, and Osnel Charles, of Atlantic City, and earning a six-round decision over Gerald Smith, of Philadelphia.

Vasquez is known as the Fighting Barber since he works in that profession at Consider It Done in North Philadelphia.

A pro boxer since 2006, Vasquez has a record of 19-9-1, 9 KOs.

Samuel (above right), 33, has been fighting as a pro even longer, having turned pro in 2005 and winning his first nine fights. He has beaten Gustavo Dailey, of Philadelphia, Joey Tiberi, of Newark, DE, and Carlos Vinan, of Newark, NJ.

In his most ambitious starts, Samuel dropped decisions to Eric Hunter, of Philadelphia, over eight rounds, and to Dorin Spivey, of Virginia Beach, VA, over 10 rounds.

Junior middleweight Ismael "Tito" Garcia, of Vineland, NJ, considered by boxing insiders to be one of the best prospects in the area, goes against Yusmani Abreu, of Cuba, in a six-round match.

Garcia, 28, has been plagued by inactivity since turning pro in 2010 and has boxed only nine times in more than five years, winning eight-four by knockout-and fighting one No Contest.

In his last fight May 8 at the 2300 Arena, Garcia knocked out Tommy Ayers, of Cincinnati, OH, in the first round.

Abreu, 35 now living in Las Vegas, NV, is a solid fighter with a poor record (4-11-2). The combined record of his 17 opponents is 95-21-5 and he turned pro in 2005 in Mexico against Gilberto Flores Hernandez, who was left-handed and 12-4 at the time. Abreu has boxed nine men who were

undefeated.

A third six-rounder features a rematch between junior welterweights David Gonzales, of Philadelphia, and Ryan Belasco, of Wilmington, DE. They boxed a six-round draw on May 8 in the same ring.

Gonzales, 25, is 5-0-2, 1 KO. Belasco, 31, is 18-6-5, 3 KOs.

Three additional four-rounders complete the card: Edgar Cortes, of Vineland, NJ, vs. Antonio Conigliaro, St. Clair, PA, super bantamweights; Scott Kelleher, Philadelphia, vs. Alberto Manuykan, Union City, NJ, junior welterweights; Avery Sparrow, Philadelphia, vs. tba, lightweights.

The seven-bout fight card figures to attract a sold-out crowd.

From bantamweight Sixto Escobar, who became the first Puerto Rican world champion in 1935, to current title-holder Danny Garcia, of Philadelphia, Puerto Ricans have had a long and storied history in boxing.

Among area fighters looking to display their talents on the Oct. 2 card are local Puerto Rican fighters from Philadelphia and New Jersey. Many of them bring a loyal following to their fights.

In addition, invitations to attend and sign autographs will be sent to outstanding Puerto Rican fighters up and down the East Coast.

About Oct. 2

The Inaugural Puerto Rican Boxing Classic, featuring seven bouts, begins at 7pm at the 2300 Arena at 2300 South Swanson Street in South Philadelphia. Doors open at 6 pm. The Oct. 2 event is being sponsored by Parx Casino, DonQ Rum, The Penthouse Club, Lyrics Lounge, Nationwide Auto Warranties and Cricket Wireless. The card will be streamed live by www.gofightlive.tv and on a delayed basis by Comcast

SportsNet. Tickets are \$50 and \$75 and can be purchased by calling Peltz Boxing (215-765-0922) and Wanamaker's Tickets (215-568-2400). Tickets also can be purchased online at www.peltzboxing.com and www.wanatix.com

. The Oct. 2 card is promoted by Peltz Boxing, Top Rank, Joe Hand Promotions and BAM Boxing.

About Oct. 4

The Puerto Rican Day Parade is the Crown Jewel of the Puerto Rican Festival every year in Philadelphia. It is a showcase of Puerto Rican and Latin culture. The Parade begins Sunday morning, Oct. 4, at the Eakins Oval in center city and continues throughout the day along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway with music, concerts and vendors selling their wares. City officials expect more than 5,000 people to attend. The Parade, one of the first of its kind to be televised, will be aired on ABC-TV locally and on Univision nationally