

May 4: Rafael Espinoza-Edward Vazquez Featherweight World Title Battle Confirmed as Naoya Inoue-Ramon Cardenas Co-Feature at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas

Inoue-Cardenas Undisputed Junior Featherweight Showdown and Espinoza-Vazquez Headline Cinco De Mayo Weekend Extravaganza

Tickets On Sale Friday, March 14 at 10 a.m. PT via [AXS.com](https://www.axs.com)



LAS VEGAS (March 13, 2025) — Featherweight boxing has long been central to Mexico’s pugilistic tradition, and **Rafael “El Divino” Espinoza** is ready to honor that legacy on Cinco de Mayo Weekend.

Espinoza will defend his WBO featherweight world title against former world title challenger **Edward Vazquez** on Sunday, May 4, at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Espinoza-Vazquez, presented in association with Zanfer Promotions and DiBella Entertainment, will be the co-feature to the undisputed junior featherweight showdown between pound-for-pound icon **Naoya Inoue** and San Antonio native **Ramon Cardenas**.

Promoted by Top Rank, in association with Ohashi Promotion, Teiken Promotions, and Sampson Boxing, pre-sale tickets are available now by clicking [HERE](#). The public on-sale is scheduled for Friday, March 14, at 10 a.m. PT via [AXS.com](https://www.axs.com).

Broadcast and undercard information will be announced soon.

“Rafael Espinoza is a towering featherweight with the power and skills to be a world champion for years to come, and we’re excited to showcase him on such a meaningful weekend for Mexican boxing,” said Top Rank Chairman Bob Arum “Edward Vazquez is a tough, determined challenger who knows this is his shot to change everything. Fans at T-Mobile Arena are in for a treat as Espinoza shares the spotlight with the incomparable Naoya Inoue on this historic Cinco de Mayo card.”

Espinoza (26-0, 22 KOs) built his career almost exclusively in Mexico before shocking two-time Olympic gold medalist Robeisy Ramirez for the WBO crown in December 2023. Dropped in the fifth, he stormed back to floor the Cuban in the 12th and secured a majority decision in ESPN's Upset of the Year. He defended his title in June with a fourth-round TKO over Sergio Chirino, then ran it back with Ramirez in December, breaking him down and stopping him in six. Now, Espinoza looks to make his third world title defense in a division long ruled by Mexican greats like Salvador Sanchez, Erik Morales, Marco Antonio Barrera, and Juan Manuel Marquez.

Espinoza said, "I'm thrilled to return to the ring, especially in the city where I always dreamed of fighting, Las Vegas. Fighting at T-Mobile Arena is also a dream come true, which adds even more excitement for me. Edward Vazquez is a tough fighter who wants to take what's mine. But I'm prepared to show him that I'm here to stay as a champion. I cannot wait for May 4 to reaffirm that once again."

Vazquez (17-2, 4 KOs), from Fort Worth, Texas, compiled an 11-0 record before suffering a highly controversial split decision defeat to eventual world champion Raymond Ford in February 2022. He rebounded with four victories before stepping up in weight to challenge undefeated IBF junior lightweight champion Joe Cordina in November 2023. Vazquez gave Cordina all he could handle in Monte Carlo, but Cordina retained his title with a majority decision. He returned to form with a decision over Daniel Bailey last May before blasting out Kenneth Taylor in four in October.

Vazquez said, "May 4 can't get here soon enough. I started boxing at eight years old and have been a pro for over nine years. Nothing has ever been handed to me. I earned this opportunity. Espinoza is a fantastic fighter and a deserving champion, but he has never stepped into the ring with someone like 'Kid' Vazquez."

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