UFC 91: Randy Couture vs Brock Lesnar Fight Picks

Contributed by Matt Foust
Saturday, 15 November 2008
Last Updated Monday, 17 November 2008

Tonight the man known as "The Natural" will make his long awaited return to the UFC. Randy Couture, who stills holds the UFC's heavyweight title, has not fought since August of 2007 when he took out Gabriel Gonzaga by way of TKO. Couture's opponent this evening at UFC 91 will be MMA's fastest rising star, Brock Lesnar. The highly anticipated event will take place at 9:00pm ET at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada and can be seen live on Pay Per View.

MMA Fight Picks at BetUS.com have the 265lb Lesnar as a -140 favorite to take the belt from Couture.

Couture is perhaps the most widely recognized name is MMA today and, even though still an active fighter, is a member of the UFC Hall of Fame. He currently sports a 16-8 record at the age of 45 and he has been a title holder in both the heavyweight and light heavyweight divisions.

The former Army soldier and Oklahoma State wrestler captured the heavyweight title back on March 3rd, 2007 when he beat Tim Sylvia by unanimous decision. In October of 2007, Couture announced that he was quitting the UFC over a contract dispute. He was upset that fighters of equal or lesser caliber were being paid a bigger share than he was.

In September of this year Couture ended his dispute with UFC and inked a new three fight deal, the first of which will be this evening's bout with Lesnar.

Lesnar is a former All-American wrestler at the University of Minnesota and WWE champion. He has been training in MMA since 2006 and he has two UFC fights to his credit. In his first UFC match, Lesnar was submitted (knee bar) in the first round by Frank Mir. He redeemed himself this past August with a dominating unanimous decision over the hard hitting Heath Herring.

This should be an interesting match-up in many ways. Couture certainly has more experience, but Lesnar is bigger, stronger, and younger. "The Natural" is adept at a variety of fighting styles; he may need to use all of them to overcome the powerful Minnesotan.

Point-Spreads.com also reported earlier this week that a lawsuit had been filed against Couture in Las Vegas by New York based event production company, TOAST. The suit claims that Couture owes TOAST $125,000 for an event they helped produce on behalf of the Xtreme Couture GI Foundation. He will certainly need to put this distraction out of his mind if he is to retain his heavyweight title tonight.

BetUS.com's UFC 91: Randy Couture vs Brock Lesnar Fight Picks

Randy Couture +110

Brock Lesnar -140

Other matches on the nine fight card include: Kenny Florian (-200) vs Joe Stevenson (+160), Nate Quarry (+190) vs Demian Maia (-240), and Matt Brown (-210) vs Ryan Thomas (+165).