

UFC 101 Results: Penn Submits Florian, Retains Belt

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UFC 101 Results: B.J. Penn looked like a man possessed as he made his way to the Octagon tonight, tongue flopping in and out of his mouth, eyes glazed over and absent looking. Turns out he was not possessed, just incredibly focused.

The lightweight champion was a -260 UFC 101 results favorite at Bodog.com entering the fight, but many felt Florian had a chance to overcome Penn if he just hung around long enough. Florian hung around for almost a full four rounds, but his efforts, while commendable, simply were not enough to put away the more talented Hawaiian.

Penn opened the fight with a great deal of energy, dictating the pace early on, but he did not force the issue. The 30 year old "Prodigy" mostly waited for Florian to strike either with the legs or hands, and then he countered with pin-point accuracy. He nearly knocked Florian out in the opening round with a solid right cross to the temple after the Massachusetts native missed with a combination.

Florian, however, weathered the early storm and began to lean on B.J. in the middle rounds in an attempt to wear him out. At times the strategy appeared to be working, in the fourth round, however, Penn proved otherwise as he took Florian to the mat and began to exercise his brilliant jiu-jitsu skills. It was only a matter of time before Penn (3:54) took the top contender's back and sunk in a deep rear choke that resulted in a tap out.

Penn, who is 14-5-1, has now successfully defended his lightweight title three times.

In the co-main event, Anderson "The Spider" Silva, a -340 UFC 101 results moneyline favorite, destroyed Forrest Griffin in one of the most impressive displays ever put on inside the Octagon. Silva, who is the middleweight champion, moved up to the light heavyweight class for the second time in his UFC career. Both fights in the division were ended by Silva via first round knock out.

Griffin, who is one of the top 205lbs. fighters and a former UFC champion in the weight class, came at Silva early, but was unable to land anything of substance. The Brazilian shuffled and bobbed around while gaging Griffin's striking abilities. About two minutes into the round Silva became more aggressive and began countering the former police officer's shots. He wobbled Griffin on a couple of occasions, which setup the hard, straight right that ended the fight at 3:23 into the opening round.

Prior to tonight's fight, some were wondering if maybe Silva was starting to lose his edge, in the process doing damage to his reputation as the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world. Those thoughts are long gone as he made Griffin look like a novice fighter.

Silva, who is 10-0 in the UFC, may be at a cross-roads as he appears to have little competition in the 185lbs. weight class. His jump to light heavyweight may become permanent or, possibly, the UFC could create a catch weight fight between welterweight champion Georges St. Pierre and the incomparable Silva. Bet on sports at online sportsbook Bodog.com and receive a 10% Deposit Bonus and start winning today!