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Newcomer beats famous champion in women's mixed martial arts

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Mixed martial arts fighter Ronda Rousey trains at the Glendale Fighting Club in Glendale, California, July 15, 2015. Photo: AP/Jae C. Hong

Holly Holm and Ronda Rousey are two of the best fighters in the sport of mixed martial arts. It is also known as ultimate fighting. The sport is a mix of boxing, kickboxing, and wrestling.

On Sunday, Holm beat Rousey. She won in the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC).

The fight took place in Australia. More than 56,000 people went to watch the fight.

Ronda Rousey was thought to be unbeatable. Holm was the underdog. Rousey was a champion at mixed martial arts. Holm was a champion boxer. Now Holm is a champion at mixed martial arts, too.

Surprise Win In Second Round

Holm surprised the sporting world with a winning knockout in the second round.

Rousey was sent to a hospital. She is OK. She stayed overnight just to be safe.

"Everything we worked on ended up being used," Holm said after the fight. She now has 10 wins and no losses.

Rousey, age 28, is six years younger than Holm. She appeared very tired by the end of the first round. She badly missed with a punch when Holm ducked. Rousey was hit by Holm's left hand over and over. One punch set up a left kick to the head. That ended the fight.

Rousey seemed ready for the match. In fights before facing Holm, she beat three other fighters in just seconds. Those quick wins made her one of the most famous sports stars in the world.

"A Lot Of Respect" For Star's Record

"I have a lot of respect for Ronda," Holm said. "This wouldn't have meant as much if it hadn't been for what she has done."

In her first two UFC fights, Holm was careful. A judge decided that she won. She did not score any knockouts.

UFC President Dana White said he will set up a rematch.

White first wanted to have Miesha Tate fight Rousey.

Skills Made An Interesting Match

Then they decided to go with Holm. Rousey had already beaten Tate twice. Also, Holm was a boxer so it made for an interesting fight.

"I made this fight. This is the fight I went after," White said. "Obviously, I thought Ronda would have more answers."

Before the fight, Rousey was acting strangely. At weigh-in a day earlier, she charged at Holm and called her a phony.

Rousey is also making a movie.

She could have a rematch if she wants. White does not expect her to be back any time soon, though.

Quiz

- 1 Which sentence from the article BEST states one of its main ideas?
 - (A) Ronda Rousey was thought to be unbeatable.
 - (B) She badly missed with a punch when Holm ducked.
 - (C) White first wanted to have Miesha Tate fight Rousey.
 - (D) Rousey is also making a movie.
- 2 What is the article MOSTLY about?
 - (A) two mixed martial artists and how they became involved in the sport
 - (B) two mixed martial artists and why they enjoy the sport
 - (C) a mixed martial-arts match in which there was a surprising winner
 - (D) a mixed martial-arts match that ended exactly as everyone expected it to
- 3 Read this sentence from the section "Surprise Win In Second Round."

She appeared very tired by the end of the first round.

Which word could replace the phrase "very tired" without changing its meaning?

- (A) upset
- (B) inactive
- (C) surprised
- (D) exhausted

4 Read these sentences from the section "Skills Made An Interesting Match."

She could have a rematch if she wants. White does not expect her to be back any time soon, though.

What is a "rematch"?

- (A) a chance to do the fight again
- (B) a change to the result of the match
- (C) an announcement of who won the fight
- (D) an argument about whether the fight was fair