



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Combat Zone 28 — The Rock

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## DENNIS OLSON TAKES DOWN JEFF SOUCIE IN MMA MAIN EVENT AT ROCKINGHAM PARK; NATE LAMOTTE WINS UNANIMOUS DECISION IN CO-FEATURE

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by Lynn Snierston

**SALEM, NH** — Dennis Olson utilized his superior strength and conditioning plus a 13-year age advantage to hand Jeff Soucie the first defeat of his professional career in the main event on a mixed martial arts card in the sold-out Sports Club at Rockingham Park on Friday night.

Olson (7-2-0), who hails from Amherst, NH and fights out of Gracie Barra NH in Nashua, got his opponent to the ground and then rained punches down on Soucie (3-1-0) in the second round to force him to tap out with 1:07 elapsed.

“His strength was the difference in the fight, said Soucie, the co-owner and head coach of Team Fury in Methuen, Ma who is 36. “He’s really strong and he’s in very good shape. I trained like a dog for this fight and I don’t like to say that it was the age difference, but I’m gassed. My hat is off to him. He’s a beautiful kid and a very good fighter. He deserved it.”

Olson, 23, went to his ground game early in the fight in the 170 lb. class and then employed moves he perfected as a NH state high school wrestling champion while adding in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu technique to overpower Soucie.

“It was my strength and conditioning and core power that put me over the edge,” said Olson, who intends to go as far as he can in the sport. “I wanted to get him to the ground because I know he’s got knock out power.”

In the co-feature also for 170 pounders, Nate Lamotte, who is from Manchester, NH and fights with Team Burgess, needed the entire four minutes of all three rounds in the night’s most competitive bout to best Rigo Dominici (5-8-0) from Pawtucket, RI. LaMotte (10-4-0) was declared the winner when all three judges scored the fight 30-27 unanimously in his favor.

“I was tired. He’s a lot stronger than I thought and I trained for a 30-round fight,” said LaMotte, elated at the 10th and landmark win of his pro career. “I wanted to grapple with him but I fought him more conservatively than I usually do because he’s so tough. I wanted to finish him earlier, but he’s game.”

LaMotte, also a former NH high school wrestling star, used his superior skills in that discipline to take away the game of Dominici.

“It was a tough fight. That’s for sure,” said LaMotte. In the first of the seven pro fights on the card presented by Combat Zone MMA, the heavyweights got into a smashmouth battle in the 250-lb. class before Cody Lightfoot (4-1-0) of Portsmouth, NH was declared the winner by TKO over James Quelle (1-4-0) of Boston in 3:35 of round three. Next up, Nicky Santos of Derry, NH and fighting out of Team Fury dropped to 0-4-0 when he tapped out in 2:33 of the first round and Peter Cole (2-0-0) of Cortland, NY won his second fight in the 135 lb. division. Randy Smith (7-5-0) of Cortland, NY and the previously undefeated Ed Carr (3-1-0) of Hooksett, NH battled in the 240 lb. class before the referee stopped the fight and awarded the TKO to Smith at 3:29 of round two.

The crowd expressed its displeasure when the ring doctor halted the pro fight between 170-pounders Tom Moreau (3-2-0) of Derry and John Ortolani of Billerica, Ma after only 1:28 in the first round because Moreau of Team Valor was bleeding profusely from a deep cut under his right eye but still wanted to continue. But then the fans got right back into the excitement in the next bout when Brent Kinberger from Manchester grounded and pounded Marcos Maciel (4-5-0) of Everett, Ma and made him tap out in just :51 of round one in the 160 lb. class.

Jamie Courtney (0-1-0) of Haverhill, Ma. and also fighting out of Team Fury and Nate Ainsworth (1-0-0) of St. Johnsbury, Vt., who were both making their debut in the cage, set the tone for the night in the first of four amateur bouts when they went the full three evenly matched rounds before Ainsworth was declared the winner by split decision. In the next bout, Nick Rivera (1-0-0) of Derry, NH needed only 1:44 of the first round to score a TKO over Jesse Donaruma (0-1-0) from Everett Ma in the first fight for them both. Next up, Greg Jackson (2-0-0) of Salem, Ma remained undefeated when Jason Erl (0-1-0) from Syracuse, NY was submitted in :56 of the third round by a rear naked choke hold. In the following fight, Lamont Milton (1-0-0) of

Lynn, Ma. Who is also a Team Fury fighter got the crowd fired up by grounding and pounding Shelby Young (0-1-0) of Nashua, NH in the first round of the final amateur fights. The intense action between the two first-timers continued for the full three rounds until Milton ultimately won by unanimous decision.

Combat Zone MMA will promote another full card of mixed martial arts professional and amateur fights at Rockingham Park on Friday, August 21st.