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Malloy Wins Gold at Judo World Cup

Local favorite Delgado earns bronze



MIAMI, Fla. – Marti Malloy (San Jose, Calif.) was able to defend her title in overtime and Angelica Delgado (Miami, Fla.) took advantage of her hometown crowd to earn a bronze as the 2011 USA Judo World Cup got underway Friday at the Doral Golf Resort and Spa in Miami. This year's event is considered to be one of the largest ever held in the U.S. with more than 700 athletes participating and representing over 50 countries.

Malloy came into the event as the defending champion in the women's 57kg division and earned a bye in the first round. She then defeated Russia's Pari Surakatova, Spain's Isabel Fernandez and Canada's Joliane Melancon before facing Miryam Roper of Germany in the final.

Most of the match was fought on the ground as both fighters searched for arm locks before Malloy won on a huge shoulder throw for ippon just seven seconds into overtime.

"I kind of had tunnel vision for the first five minutes. I kept gripping the same way and the way that she was defending made it hard," said Malloy. "Then in the first exchange during golden score I got the grip I wanted and the opportunity presented itself."

Delgado lives just minutes from Doral as was evident by her large and boisterous cheering section.

"It's nice to have my parents, friends and family that see me train so hard day in and day out get a chance to see the results," said Delgado. "I was so relieved when I won. There's a lot of pressure when you're fighting at home, but it's definitely more rewarding to win in front of your family and friends."

Delgado lost her semifinal match in the women's 52kg division against eventual gold medalist Romy Tarangul (Germany), before facing off against Columbia's Yulieth Sanchez for a bronze medal. Delgado defeated Sanchez on a throw called osoto-gari for ippon a little over halfway through the match. It wasn't the first time she has used the move against Sanchez.

"I beat her last year at another World Cup on basically the same throw. I was looking for it the whole match and was hoping that she didn't expect it," Delgado explained. "I'm trying to be more patient and confident in my attacks. I still have a lot to learn, but it's a good start."

The 2011 USA Judo World Cup continues Saturday with competition slated to begin at 10:00am. Headlining the event for the U.S. is current women's 78kg World Champion Kayla Harrison (Wakefield, Mass.) along with medal contenders Kyle Vashkulat (Glenville, N.Y.) and Anthony Turner (Miami, Fla.).

Visit www.judoworldcupmiami.com for more information and complete coverage of the 2011 USA Judo World Cup.
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