

## UFC

**Moderator: Dana White**  
**September 2, 2008**  
**2:00 p.m. CT**

Operator: Good day everyone. Welcome to this UFC conference call. Just a reminder that today's conference is being recorded.

At this time, I would like to turn the conference over to Dana White, UFC President. Please go ahead.

Dana White: Good afternoon, everybody. Thanks for calling in. I appreciate it. And thanks for the – sticking around for the delay. Sorry about that.

We obviously called you in here. I've two heavyweights on the phone. We have scheduled a megafight between these two on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, at the MGM Grand Arena here in Las Vegas. It will be Randy "The Natural" Couture, the heavyweight champion of the UFC, versus Brock Lesnar.

Obviously, everybody knows that the last, I don't know, nine months to a year, we had some problems with Randy. We've resolved them all and he is – he's always been the heavyweight champion of the UFC. We've – it took us some time to get everything straight. But I think we're all good now and ready to move forward and get Randy back out there fighting again.

So why don't we get questions. I'm sure people have a lot of questions. Let's get them going.

Operator: Thank you, everyone. If you would like to ask a question, please press star one at this time.

Once again, it is star one to ask a question. We'll pause for just a moment.

First, we'll go to Franklin McNeil, ESPN.com.

Franklin McNeil: Hi, Dana. How are you doing?

Dana White: Good, buddy. How are you?

Franklin McNeil: I'm OK. Obviously, I want to know that now that everything's been resolved with Randy, regardless of the outcome of the fight, will he continue to compete in UFC afterwards?

Dana White: Yes. Yes, no matter whether Randy wins or loses, he will still be in the UFC.

Franklin McNeil: Next question will be how does that affect any chance of him in a Fedor fight down the road?

Dana White: Yes, obviously, you know, he's made it very clear how bad he wants to fight Fedor. And we're going to do everything in our power to make a Fedor fight happen. But we're not going to mess with anybody's contracts.

You know, he's under contract right now to another promotion. And if he becomes available or something can be worked out with that other promotion, obviously everybody knows how crazy we are about protecting our contracts. Well, we would never do that to somebody else. So if the Fedor fight can be made, if he becomes available or whatever, then, absolutely, we would love to make the Fedor fight.

Franklin McNeil: Great. I'll let someone else come and ask questions. I'll get back on later.

Dana White: Thanks, buddy.

Franklin McNeil: All right now.

Operator: And next we'll go to Todd Martin, CBSsports.com.

Todd Martin: Hi, Dana. A quick couple logistical questions. First, how many rounds is the fight going to be?

Dana White: It's for the title.

Todd Martin: OK. Five rounds.

Dana White: Yes.

Todd Martin: And is – sorry – you said November 15<sup>th</sup> and said Las Vegas, not Portland?

Dana White: Yes. It's at the MGM Grand.

Todd Martin: OK, what happened with Portland?

Dana White: Nothing. We never made an announcement that we were fighting in Portland. People asked and we said, we're looking at Portland. People like to run with rumors and it's at the MGM.

Todd Martin: But you were talking with Portland to try to get them, right?

Dana White: I talk to venues every day.

Todd Martin: OK. I ...

Dana White: ... Virginia right now, too. I don't know if we'll end up there, but we're talking to a lot of people.

Todd Martin: OK, so you're still interested in moving them in the future then potentially?

Dana White: Absolutely. We're definitely going to Portland, Oregon. Definitely.

Todd Martin: And a question about Randy and you. Obviously, you had really good relations with Rand for awhile. And you know, this has created a lot of stress between you. So you think you're going to potentially get to a point where Randy is an ambassador and a commentator again for UFC? Or do you think too much has been under the bridge? Are you just going to have the fights now, but you're not going to be able to rehabilitate it to the level it was before?

Dana White: Listen, I think everybody knows my personality and how I get you know. When I don't like somebody, I make it very clear that I don't like them. If I don't like you, you don't ever have to worry or wonder if I do or I don't. I pretty much let you know.

Through this whole thing, I never hated Randy or said anything really bad about Randy you know. You know the worst thing I think I said about Randy through this whole thing, I think I called him confused. That's it. Pretty mild for me. So I like Randy. I always have. This whole thing never made sense to me. So ((inaudible)).

Todd Martin: ((inaudible))

Dana White: What?

Todd Martin: So you'd just like it if it didn't happen at this point and move on?

Dana White: Yes, I mean, he's sitting right next to me right now. We're you know and I've talked to him many times. I've seen him at the fights when he was cornering guys and you know we've never – never had that kind of relationship, where I was like, “Oh, there's that fucker. I don't want to talk to him or I don't like him.” I've never felt that way about him, ever.

So you know there's was some business issues and some things that you know here we are.

Todd Martin: OK, thank you.

Operator: And we'll take the next question today from Ross Schneiderman of New York Times.

Ross Schneiderman: Hey, Dana, how's it going?

Dana White: Good. How are you?

Ross Schneiderman: Good, good. Hey, my first question is, what does this mean now for Frank Mir and Nogueira. And what does it mean for the winner of the Brock and Randy fight?

Dana White: Yes. The winner of the Brock/Randy fight will be the heavyweight champion of the UFC. Obviously, the reality show is already in motion and those two are already scheduled the fight. So Nogueira and Mir will fight for the interim. And then it will be champion versus champion when this thing's all done. So it's a pretty interesting little tournament.

Ross Schneiderman: And when do you expect that fight to happen to decide who the real heavyweight champion is?

Dana White: That'll happen right after the reality show. It'll happen in December. That will be on our December card. This will go November 15th.

Ross Schneiderman: OK.

Dana White: And then, the winner will wait to see who winds the interim fight in December, and then we'll have a heavyweight fight next year.

Ross Schneiderman: All right and then, one second. And have the two of – Randy or Brock – and maybe they can answer this question eventually – but have they ever trained together or anything like that?

Randy Couture: No, I was out of college and kind of out of the loop and wrestling when Brock came through Minnesota. I did watch him wrestle, watched him compete in college, but we've never been on the mat together.

Ross Schneiderman: All right. All right. I'll come back with some more questions, though, let other people ask for now.

Dana White: Thanks.

Operator: And next we'll go to Fox News' Mike Straka.

Mike Straka: Hey, Dana, sorry about that. I'm at the RNC here.

I wanted to quick – does that mean that you and Randy have no more legal issues. You settled?  
Everything is cool, (modee)?

Dana White: Everything is cool, (modee).

Mike Straka: All right, great. Randy, are you ready for Brock?

Randy Couture: I'm not ready yet, no, but I will be in about 10 weeks.

Mike Straka: I mean, what do you see – obviously, you saw him fight Heath Herrin. And there was some issues on the ground game. Do you think that you want to wrestle with him or do you want to keep him up?

Randy Couture: We'll see. I haven't studies him. I haven't looked at tape yet and studied him, but I will definitely figure that out. And obviously, he's a great, big guy on the ground or standing. He poses some interesting problems. So I've got to go to work and find the answers to those questions.

Mike Straka: Hey, Brock, you've obviously seen Randy fight two, big guys, Tim Sylvia and Gonzaga. What is your strategy. I mean, obviously, just going in, I know you didn't train yet. But what do you think you need to do to take care of Couture?

Brock Lesnar: Once again, we're down here in crunch time. This really ((inaudible)), which is today, for us. I mean, we really haven't sat down and ((inaudible)) send here out there, what we need to do to you know. My whole goal coming into this company is to get a shot at the UFC heavyweight title. And so for me you know this is a great opportunity, and one that anybody in my position wouldn't turn down. So Ray poses all kinds of threats. And we're going to try to nullify them and to try to win that title that night.

Mike Straka: All right, Dana, I'm going to do what everybody else did. I'll come back later on and open it for somebody else.

Dana White: Thanks, Mike.

Operator: Now Kevin Iole with Yahoo Sports.

Kevin Iole: Hi, guys. Dana, could you explain, or Randy, how this scene got to this point where you came to this settlement. When did you guys first begin talking about this?

And is your con – Randy, is your contract changed? Or is it as it was when you left the UFC last October?

Randy Couture: Well, obviously you know when you're in a, you know, a legal situation like we're in, you're talking every day. So you know this thing was moving forward and we ended up resolving it. You know we never went to court. The furthest we ever got was depositions. So we were happy to resolve it.

Kevin Iole: Is there any changes in you know Randy's contract or did you do anything to sweeten the pot, or on either side, to make it – because you know when there's a lawsuit usually to settle, what one side has to give and the other side has to give. So what did you guys do to be able to you know come to the middle one and reach common ground?

Randy Couture: Well, I think there were some compromises made on both sides. And I know the UFC at this point is working diligently to try and find a way to make the Fedor Fight happen, which obviously, is what started this whole thing a year ago. So you know there's a lot of variables

there. But I think, overall, I think we're both happy and we both want to move forward in a positive way.

Dana White: All I give a shit about is he's back and he's fighting.

Kevin Iole: Hey, one last question, Randy, if I could. The phrase you used when you resigned the last time, swimming upstream you know the issues that you had that led to that, do you feel that they're adequately resolved now? Or you know are you just you know biting the bullet because of your age and you feel like you know time is of the essence in your career?

Randy Couture: Well, I think that we've cleared the air. We've addressed a lot of those issues. We're both in a different place and we're both, the company and myself, are trying to move forward. I think we understand each other. And certainly you know I would much rather fight in the Octagon than anywhere else. And spending the last year in legal fights is not some place I've had a very good time. And so you know I certainly under time constraints, too. I'm 45. I can't sit around in courtrooms for very long. I want to fight.

Kevin Iole: Thank you. Good luck.

Dana White: Thanks, Kev.

Operator: Thank you. We'll take our next question today from Anthony Springer, Fightnews.com.

Anthony Springer: Hi. This first question is for Dana. I'm curious to know how is it that Brock Lesnar came to become named the number one contender.

Dana White: Well, it's not that he was named the number one contender; he looked damn good against Heath Herrin. You know Heath Herrin is a guy who's had a ton of experience, fought in big fights

all over the world, Holland, Prague, the UFC, has fought all the best in the world, and he was completely dominated by Brock Lesnar.

You know we put the feelers out there. You know there were talks about him fighting Chet Congo. Fans weren't very interested in that. At the end of the day, one of the great things about the UFC, we're not caught up in the boxing, political bullshit, so we can basically put on fights that fans want to see. And I think this is a very interesting heavyweight tournament going on here with Couture and Lesnar.

I can tell you this right now. Mark my words on this one. Couture versus Lesnar will be the biggest fight in UFC history. So obviously, it's a fight that people want to see. And then the winner of that fight will face the winner of Mir and Nogueira.

Anthony Springer: Thank you. And this next question is for Brock. You came into the UFC saying that you only wanted to fight the best. Was there a point where – was this a fight that you were approached about or a fight that you camp had asked for?

Brock Lesnar: Was this a fight that we asked for? Well, it's kind of ironic. When we were going over – after I fought Heath Herrin, Joe Silver we're walking to the press conference and he's like, "We're thinking about having a fight in November." And I'm like, shit. All's I'm think about is taking my wife and getting on my Harley and heading to Wyoming you know and so now, I'm in Wyoming, I'm thinking about they proposed this fight against Chet Congo, and I'm like, "Yeah you know what?

That's fine. I'll fight whoever." And then I'm (shooting) on my motorcycle and I had a split-second thought of, "I wonder what the hell it would take to get Randy Couture back in business again. And I'd really like to fight Randy." And then the thought never crossed my mind and then like, six

days later, Dana calls and says, "Hey, what about Randy Couture versus Brock Lesnar for the heavyweight title." And I'm like, "I'm in. Where do I sign?"

And also, things happen in mysterious ways. And like I said, I'm fortunate. I'm honored to get in the Octagon with Randy and you know so it's very exciting all the way around.

Anthony Springer: And the final question is for Randy. After the long layoff, are you concerned at all about ring rust going into this fight in November?

Randy Couture: No, I've been off before and I've been very active. I've had a lot of guys in the camp fight and been through a lot of training camps in the last nine, 10 months. So I'm not concerned to ring rust at all.

Male: Actually, he looks better after his layoff last time. He took a year off and came back and you know destroyed Tim Sylvia and did it to Gonzaga.

Anthony Springer: That's my final question. I'll let somebody else get in. Thanks a lot, guys. And best of luck to both of you in November.

Brock Lesnar: Thanks.

Randy Couture: Thank you.

Operator: Next we'll hear from AOL Sports' Michael Smith.

Michael Smith: Hey, Randy, how much do you weigh right now? How much will you weigh when you step into the Octagon against Brock? And how big an issue do you think it is that you're fighting a guy so much bigger than you?

Randy Couture: Yesterday after practice, I weighed 224 and a half. And I would suspect that walking into the fight on fight night, I will weigh right around that same amount, 225. I stay right around there. It doesn't fluctuate a whole lot.

Michael Smith: And is it a concern to fight such a much bigger guy?

Randy Couture: Well, I think earlier in my career, it was a concern. I don't think I was technically prepared to deal with the size difference. I think over the last six years or so, I've developed as a fighter and although there are things you have to consider when facing a guy the size of Brock or Tim or Gabe, or any of these guys in the heavyweight division, I think it's (over accountable). I think you just have to be a little wiser about the places you put yourself in the fray, in the fight.

Michael Smith: And then, one other thing. If you retire without having fought Fedor, do you think something will be missing from your legacy?

And conversely, do you think that Fedor never fights in the UFC, something is missing from his legacy?

Randy Couture: Well, I don't think anything's missing from my legacy. I could retire today and be perfectly fine. I'm fighting because I love to fight. Do I want to fight Fedor? Absolutely. I think you know most people consider I'm the number one heavyweight walking around now. And I want you know I want to take that away from him.

I think that as a competitor, that's important to me. You know I can't speak for him. I don't know what's important to him or you know he's expressed interest in this fight. But yes, I think if people are to take him seriously and really give him the credit as the number one heavyweight in the world, then he needs to come fight me. And that makes sense to me.

Michael Smith: Thanks, Randy.

Operator: Up next we'll hear from Sergio Non of USA Today.

Sergio Non: Hi. I have two questions, one for Randy, one for Dana. I guess first of all, Dana, at this point, how confident are you that you'd be able to sign or do a deal with Fedor to bring him in?

Dana White: I don't know. I mean, obviously, like Randy was just saying a minute ago when the last gentleman asked a question about Fedor's legacy. I don't know if Fedor cares about his legacy or how important it is to him to beat the heavyweight champion in the UFC. If any of that stuff matters to him, then, yes, he should fight here. I mean, we're going to offer him a fair deal. You know beating Ray – Chuck Liddell said a long time ago. Beating Randy Couture means something you know. So if it means something to him, we'll see you know.

And the thing that I told the gentleman when we first started this call is, you got to understand this. Fedor's under contract with somebody else right now. And everybody's knows how hard we are protecting our contracts. So that's another obstacle in this whole deal. We would never you know fear with somebody else's contract, so we'll see.

Sergio Non: All right. And for Randy, you've said before that at this point in your career, only certain fights make sense for you. Brock looked great in his last fight. But at the same time, he only has three professional fights. Why does fighting Brock at this point make sense?

Randy Couture: Well, I think it makes sense because it's a part of a resolution for getting back on good terms with the UFC and taking a step towards, hopefully, making that Fedor fight happen. That's why it makes sense.

Sergio Non: OK. Thanks.

Operator: And next we'll hear from Dave Carmichael, CBS Radio.

Dave Carmichael: Hey, how are you?

Dana White: Hey, buddy.

Dave Carmichael: Hey, all right, so you've outlined it and I came a little late to the show, but it sounds like it's a good time to be you. You've got this fight, a possible Griffen-Liddell, a possible (Pense) Pierre. You've got a lot of super fights that could be coming up. The Golden Deuce though, of course, is (fate) or you just mentioned it'd be another contract with the Affliction guys.

A lot has been said about your guys' rules, the exclusivity. Are you at a point where you're willing to bend any of those long-standing UFC rules to possibly make this happen, split the promotion, anything like that?

Dana White: No. When he's done with his contract, we would love to talk to Fedor about fighting in the UFC and facing Randy Couture.

Dave Carmichael: Hey, Randy, on behalf of everyone, it's great to have you back and in the ring. I want to follow up on the last question, which was why does Brock make sense for you. It sounds like, basically, the USF – this is all basically, for you it sounds like a road and the end of that road has Fedor Emelianenko. Obviously, that's a major motivator in you coming back?

Randy Couture: Well, yes, obviously, that's what we've been working for for a year now. But I mean, fights are big fights. Obviously, the Lesnar fight is a big fight. He's a big guy. And you know I know that I have faith that UFC is again working diligently to find a way to make the Fedor fight

happen. And so obviously, that's an end game for me to be considered the number one heavyweight in the world and kind of take that away from him. And this is a step in that direction.

Dave Carmichael: All right. Finally, Dana, do you think you match Randy's motivation as far as making that fight happen? I mean, is it as important to you guys where it's almost an obsession down the road to do everything you can to make that Fedor-Randy fight happen?

Dana White: Yes, well, here's the thing. This is what we do. What we do is, we want to put on big fights everybody wants to see, and we want to know who the number one fighter in the world is. I mean, that's been my beef with Fedor this whole time. You know it's one thing to call somebody number one. Randy's proven it. Georges St. Pierre approves it. Anderson Sylvia approves it. Forrest Griffin. BJ Penn. Go down the line. All these guys prove it they're the best in the world. If you want to be the best in the world, you've got to fight the best in the world. And he has that opportunity if he wants it.

Dave Carmichael: All right. And then my final question and I'll get out of the way is, with that being said, I think the question everyone's going to be asking is, why not, why are you not in a place where you're going to explore bending some of those rules doing a co-promotion, doing a lot of stuff you haven't done in the past. If that's the end game, and you've spoken many times on how difficult it is to nail something down with Fedor. Why are you guys not in a position where maybe you bend this one time?

Dana White: Yes, I'm not going to do anything to you know he's under contract right now with these guys. He's under contract. I'm not going to do something like that. These guys are dying on the vine. They'll be gone in a couple months anyway and then Fedor will have to come here.

Listen, you're not under contract if the company isn't in business any more. So we'll figure it out. Randy Couture's going to fight November 15th. He's going to fight Brock Lesnar in the biggest

fight in UFC history. This thing's going to do over one million pay-per-view buys. And the rest of the heavyweight division will be figured out in December. And I would be fucking horrified if Affliction is still in business by January. They're going to burn a lot of cash in the next couple of months, believe me. Good luck to them. And I'll be sitting here waiting to see what happens. Obviously, I would love to make the Fedor-Randy fight. We're trying to make it you know long before this every happened.

Dave Carmichael: All right, gentlemen. Thank you and good work.

Dana White: Thanks.

Operator: And our next question today will come from Miguel Lopez, Long Beach Press Telegram.

Miguel Lopez, your line is open.

And hearing no response, we'll move to Neil Davidson, Canadian Press.

Neil Davidson: Thank you. Randy, Dana, any time you get lawyers out of the way, I guess it's a victory.

But Randy, I guess, when you go to sleep at night, is this the outcome you wanted?

Randy Couture: I think it's a step in the right direction, absolutely. You know, I'd rather be fighting Fedor in November, but I think we're headed on – we're on the right road. I think we're headed in that direction and you know with any luck if things work out, we'll get there.

Neil Davidson: When you announced your resignation, you talked about swimming upstream with UFC management and you seemed to raise some issues of remuneration that other fighters would be interested in. I think some people saw that you were doing is taking a stand for other fighters.

Those issues with UFC management in terms of payments and things like that, you think there's any progress that has been made out of all of this?

Randy Couture: I think things change slowly and surely all the time, and I think we've cleared the air, at least personally for me, we've cleared the air on a lot of those issues. Could there always be improvement? Absolutely. But I'm comfortable with the ways things stand right now. And you know we're talking about other issues with fighters and things that are important to me and the EOC's considering some of those things as well. So we'll see what happens.

Neil Davidson: And, Dana, if I may ask you a supplemental? I think you said during this discussion that Randy's contract was the second richest in the UFC at the time of his departure. Where does he rank now?

Dana White: I don't even know. Off the top of my head, I couldn't even answer that question. Who gives a shit. He's back. That's all I care about.

Neil Davidson; And my last one would be, obviously, this Ultimate Fighter show is thrown a (spanner) in the works, but doesn't Nogueira have the right to feel a little left out of this?

Dana White: It has and it hasn't. You know Nogueira is going to do his stint on the Ultimate Fighter. He's going to fight Frank Mir in a fight that you know a lot of people want to see who the best ground fighter – best heavyweight on the ground is and we'll find out in that fight. And I think – I actually think that this is a pretty cool tournament.

I think right now, Nogueira is probably thrilled that Randy Couture is back. You know, Randy Couture has the title. He won it from the man who beat the man. And to really be called the champ, you've got to beat the guy who beat the guy. And I think everybody's just thrilled that the guy is back.

Neil Davidson: And if you'll allow me one more, Dana. Why do you think this fight is going to be the biggest in UFC history? Is that your gut or have you done the research?

Dana White: Yes, we actually do research on these things, if you can believe it or not. And we obviously, Randy Couture coming back after all the you know all the stuff that had happened, he's one of the most popular fighters every in UFC history.

And after Brock Lesnar's beating of Heath Herrin, a lot of people are interested in Brock Lesnar now, not just WWE fans. But if you look at the amount of you know buzz and energy that will be created through this fight you know when we start breaking it down and looking at it, and the amount of WWE fans that probably would never watch a UFC that will that night to see if Brock Lesnar can beat Randy Couture.

It's a big fight.

Neil Davidson: Thank you, all of you.

Dana White: Thank you.

Operator: We'll take the next question today from Ben Fowlkes of Sports Illustrated.

Ben Fowlkes: Hi. My question's for Dana. Now that you have your heavyweight champ back, why keep the interim championship around? Isn't it kind of meaningless at this point?

Dana White: No, because he actually won it and when we do this little tournament that we're going to do here in November, these two will fight. And then in December, the other two heavyweights will fight. And it will be champion versus champion. And then we'll find out who the real one is.

Ben Fowlkes: And, Randy, since you had said that before the potential match up with Nogueira didn't interest you as much. And now, that looks like that could very easily be the culmination of this heavyweight tournament, does that make it more interesting for you now? Or is it still just a stepping stone to maybe eventually get to Fedor?

Randy Couture: I would never disrespect Nogueira. It's not that it was not interesting, it's just that it first and foremost in my mind, I've been trying to find a way to fight Fedor. And I know that hasn't really gone away, but we've chosen a little bit different path and maybe a path of least resistance, if you will, other than all the other crap that we've been dealing with for the last 10 months. I think we're truly on the same road here in finding a way of making that fight happen sooner or later.

Dana White: And we're in a great place, too, where you know when everybody you know talks all the heavyweight division is so lackluster and the heavyweight division this and the heavyweight division that. The heavyweight division's looking pretty damn good right now.

Ben Fowlkes: All right. Thank you.

Operator: And we'll now go to George Willis, New York Post.

George Willis: Hello, gentlemen.

Male: Hi.

George Willis: Randy, did you follow the Brett Favre saga and did you have any reflection on your own career, your own situation, wanting to compete again and knowing that you were getting older? Was there any parallels there for you?

Randy Couture: I'm not sure about any parallels. It may have been a closer parallel when I officially retired after the third Chuck Liddell fight, and then came back the next year to fight Tim, came out of retirement, felt like I wanted to compete more. I definitely see a parallel there.

I think the situation I've been in this last year has been a little bit different. I did follow – and obviously, Brett's a friend of mine – and I'm glad things have worked out for him. I'm anxious to see him compete even though it's in New York with the Jets instead of with the Packers, but it's all good.

George Willis: And what are your views of the popularity of the sport rising to new heights, so to speak, in the time you've been out. Do you see it at a whole new level? And where can it go with you coming back?

Randy Couture: I'm not sure how big a factor me coming back is in the continued rise of the sport. I just see the sport continue to solidify itself as the combative sport for this generation. And I think young you know more and more fighters are getting on board, more and more fighters are getting a chance to make a living, and to you know show what makes martial arts is all about. And I think that's what's important.

George Willis: All right. Thank you.

Operator: We'll take the next question from Anthony Springer, Fightnews.com.

Anthony Springer: The first question is for Randy. With your eyes on the possible Fedor fight, will it be difficult for you not to overlook the upcoming fight with Lesnar in November?

Randy Couture: How can you overlook a guy that size? There's just no way. I absolutely take Brock Lesnar very, very seriously. I you know coming from a wrestling background, I know exactly what

he's capable of. I have a lot of respect for him as an athlete and there is no way I'll be overlooking Brock Lesnar.

Anthony Springer: And this last question is Dana. A lot of people have criticized the UFC's heavyweight division as you alluded to before. What does this fight mean for the heavyweight, not only for the heavyweight division but also for the UFC?

Dana White: That's big. You know what? Heavyweight divisions in you know any combat sport have been introduced you know rough for a long time. You know right when you think it's down and out, we've been on a slow building phase with it any way. We've got some really interesting young heavyweights out there. And obviously, with the addition of Brock Lesnar and now Randy Couture is back, Nogueira, Mir you know like I said, over the next year, we're going to see some really great heavyweight fights.

Anthony Springer: That was my final question. Thanks, guys.

Dana White: Thank you.

Operator: And next we'll go to Doug Jeffrey, Ultimate Grappling.

Doug Jeffrey: This is a question for both Dana and Randy. Can you guys describe how it feels to finally have this problem resolved?

Randy Couture: It feels pretty damn good.

Dana White: It feels good for me, too.

Randy Couture: I feel like I've been walking around under a black cloud for the last year and so to kind of have the clouds dissipate and see a little sunshine for a change is pretty nice.

Dana White: And (it's not) for me. As I said before, he's somebody that I've always like and respected you know so this thing's been shitty for me since day one. I like fighting with Tito.

Doug Jeffrey: Dana, can you also talk about what it will take to get Fedor? You said you guys would have to provide a fair deal. Can you elaborate on what a fair deal might entail?

Dana White: Well, first of all, he's under contract with somebody else. That's the first obstacle. You know and like I said before, we would never interfere with anybody else's contract because you know how crazy we are about ours. So that's the first obstacle.

You get past that one, he's not under contract any more or they release him, whatever the deal might be, then you've got to sit down and deal with it. See, people think it's so easy to like, "Oh, Dana's a jackass. Sign Fedor." Yes, like I don't want to sign Fedor. It's just never that easy. I didn't want to be in this argument with Randy Couture either. You know it's just not everybody's going to get along and not everybody's going to you know see things the same way all the time. It's tough. I've got 250 guys under contract now that you have to make happy every day. So it's not easy.

Doug Jeffrey: OK. A final question for Dana; can you explain earlier you said that you didn't think Affliction would be in business by January. Can you elaborate on that, too?

Dana White: Yes, I'm not an idiot so I'm assuming they won't be. They're losing shit loads of money and in this economy right now, losing money is a really bad thing. There's nobody out there looking to fund anything. Nobody's spending any money. Nobody's investing in anything. And when you're

losing the kind of money that these guys are losing, you've got to sell a lot of t-shirts, man, to get that money back.

And the other thing is, when you start focusing on something that's not truly your business, they're not in the fight business. It would be like me saying, "You know what? I'm going to start an entire new t-shirt company tomorrow." You know it's not what I do. It's not my business.

Doug Jeffrey: OK, very good.

Dana White: You start to lose focus on your main business. You know right now they're making money at that. But they're throwing it all out the window in the fight business. So I just don't see it. But you know these guys aren't dumb guys. They're going to figure it out real quick and decide that this whole MMA thing isn't working out for them.

Doug Jeffrey: OK, thank you. Appreciate it.

Operator: Up next, we'll hear from Elias Cepeda, Inside Fighting.

Elias Cepeda: Thank you. First question's for Randy. Randy, how big a part of your decision was (best) in that did it become clear to you in any way – you don't have to get into the specifics that involve the ((inaudible)), did it become clear to you at least in your mind that, you wouldn't be able to fight elsewhere other than the UFC? Or what other thing that came to play in your decision?

Randy Couture: I'm sorry. I didn't understand the first part of the question.

Elias Cepeda: I'm sorry. Basically, I'm wondering if it became clear to you that you wouldn't actually be able to fight in another promotion or fight Fedor elsewhere outside of the UFC and if that was a big part of your decision to come back so to speak? Or if there are in fact other reasons?

Randy Couture: The biggest part of my decision was, first of all, communicating with Lorenzo and Dana about kind of clearing up a lot of the things that I was feeling and dealing with. The second part was getting frustrated with our legal system and being tired of throwing money at you know lawyers and the legal system with no end in sight. I want to fight. That's what I do. It's what I do best. And the best place for me to fight is in the cage in the Octagon, not in the courtroom, not anywhere else.

Elias Cepeda: Got you. Got you. Knowing now, or having the experiences you've had now for close to the last year, if you knew what you do now back then in October of '07, do you think you would tell yourself back then that you know you'd rather just keep fighting? Do you see at that point and then hope they get Fedor rather than go through all this?

Randy Couture: I really haven't had a chance to think about that. Obviously, the last year hasn't been a lot of fun. I could have lived without the headaches and all the other crap that's gone on, but I hadn't really thought about that.

Elias Cepeda: Both, I'll talk to you again soon. It's good to have you back.

Dana, I have a question for you, too, really quickly. In your mind, did this resolution, generally speaking, does it kind of validate your whole stance in this whole thing about you know resigning versus retirement and what it takes to kind of get out of UFC contracts?

Dana White: Listen, my statement on this whole thing, it's all behind me. I don't give a shit about any of it. All I care about is that Randy Couture's back in the (OSA). That's all I care about.

Elias Cepeda: Good.

Dana White: I'm not thinking about yesterday or any of the things that were said or done. The deal is done. All I care about is that he's back. He's fighting Brock Lesnar in the biggest pay-per-view in the history of the UFC. That's all I care about. I'm like a giddy, little girl right now. I'm happy. I don't care about any of that shit.

Elias Cepeda: Well, last ((inaudible)) question. You've been very vocal you know calling for – and in many ways just the five of you calling for Fedor to you know fight – to fight in UFC basically and fight people like Randy Couture, other champions. ((inaudible)) you said you know you'd be stupid if you didn't want to sign Fedor. I wonder if you could talk about, what would you want to have Fedor if he doesn't have a big name here? Is it to make Randy happy? Is it because you actually have footage of him and you think you could help build him into a star? I mean, talk about the reasons you would want to have Fedor you know sign that if you guys are already doing pretty well without him.

Dana White: Well, here's the thing. It's obvious he was the (Pride) heavyweight champion. You know he's beat a lot of good guys. And you know people consider him the best. It drives me insane when they call him the pound-for-pound best fighter in the world. That drives me absolutely crazy.

Guys who are pound-for-pound the best in the world, have been continuously fighting the best in the world. They continue to fight all the best in the world and that's how they get to that ranking.

When anybody says something like that, there's only one way to find out who the best is, and how good they really are. To have them fight the best. You know if he wants to really cement his legacy and he really you know is the best fighter in the world, he has to come here to do it eventually you know. He's going to have to fight these guys here.

I want to see if he's the best. Let's find out.

Elias Cepeda: OK.

Dana White: You know everybody can talk shit and say this guy's the best. There's only one way to find out. He's got to fight.

Elias Cepeda: That's cool. Thank you both.

Dana White: Thank you.

Operator: Next up is Dan Wetzel, Yahoo Sports.

Dan Wetzel: Yes, Dana, Brock Lesnar in, obviously with an eye on this type of thing happening, are you – just talk about how quickly it's come together that he's going to headline the biggest card ever and fight for the title.

Dana White: I know. No, no, you're right. I'll tell you right now and I told Brock this, too. I was like, when he had his first fight when Frank Mir came out. He looked great you know and then got caught in the mission, which you know anybody who's been around the game long enough will tell you you know there's a big experience factor there. I was blown away, blown away by his performance again Heath Herrin.

Heath Herrin, what a lot of people don't understand, there was a lot of bad blood between Brock and Heath. Heath was pissed off that he had to fight Brock Lesnar. And he took that fight very serious. He trained really hard for it. And he felt that Brock didn't belong in the same arena with him. He said, I've been around this sport of years. I've got to fight this fake wrestling guy and this and that.

And I'm like, bro', he's not a fake wrestling guy. He's a real wrestling guy. He came from real wrestling. And anybody knows, anybody knows who knows this sport, the most important base you can have is wrestling. If you look at any of the guys who've done extremely well you know their base is wrestling. Even Chuck, as good of a striker as he is, if he didn't have such a good wrestling base, he'd spend most of the fights on his back.

So Brock has a great base and I was blown away by his performance against Heath Herrin. And it's just like he said earlier, this just happened you know. And after seeing him with Heath, I think he's ready to take on anybody.

Dan Wetzel: Brock, same thing, kind of question. You know you make this gamble, I'm going to come next March like fighter zone UFC, bank here's your opportunity. How excited are you for it and how – are you at all surprised how quickly it came together for you?

Brock Lesnar: Well, from day one, my whole goal was to take it one fight at a time and that's exactly how you have to do it to get to the top. So for me, I have to fight these guys to become the best. So I mean, Frank Mir, Heath Herrin, now Randy Couture. So I'm very excited.

Not a lot of people get this opportunity you know but not a lot of people are me either. And so you know I had to win against Heath Herrin and that puts me in this spot. Would anybody else turn it down? Absolutely not you know. And a win over Randy Couture for Brock Lesnar, (they had some of the fights) become the UFC heavyweight champion after that.

Dan Wetzel: A lot of talk about Randy righting Fedor. Would you fight him?

Brock Lesnar: Fighting Fedor?

Dan Wetzel: Yes.

Brock Lesnar: You know I'm hearing all of this talk about Fedor Emelianenko. Who gives a shit about Fedor, all right? I don't care. I'm fighting Randy Couture. That's what this press conference is about. I don't give a damn about Fedor. I'm tired of hearing about fucking Fedor, all right. Randy Couture is fighting Brock Lesnar November 15<sup>th</sup>.

His number one concern should be Brock Lesnar and Dana White could care less about Fedor. Everybody's beating around the bush. Yes, you want that fight. I don't give a damn. But I'm sick and tired. I'm sitting on the phone listening about Fedor. He's not ((inaudible)) company. He might not ever be ((inaudible)) company, so who fucking gives a shit.

Dan Wetzel: Do you think this is kind of a continuation of what Dana said about Heath, that you're not getting taken seriously because the time you spent not in quote unquote "in real wrestling?"

Brock Lesnar: Well, no, and anybody that's in this sport that real wrestling, that without a real wrestling base, I think they're swimming up stream. I think Randy Couture's is right there. You know Randy would be the first one to tell you and I'll be the first one – Dana will be the first one to tell you that. Hey listen, if you don't have a wrestling background in this sport, it's going to be pretty tough to succeed.

Dan Wetzel: Right. Thanks, man.

Brock Lesnar: Thank you.

Operator: Next up is Oliver Cobb of Ringside.

Oliver Cobb: Hey, guys. Dana, quick question for you; are you going to be going to work with Spike TV just to (fight) a proper promotion like some sort of multi-week piece like you had with De La Hoya and Mayweather?

Dana White: Absolutely. Yes. We will – we always do countdown shows where we're talking about this countdown show for Brock and Randy probably being a two or three-part series on Spike TV.

Oliver Cobb: Very good and Randy, a question for you. Do you currently hold a license to fight in Nevada?

Randy Couture: I think it's still current, yes.

Oliver Cobb: OK, cool. Best of luck, guys.

Randy Couture: ... end of the year but yes, it's good until – I think it's still good until January, I think, or December.

Oliver Cobb: OK, thank you, guys.

Dana White: If not, we'll buy him one.

Operator: Next, we'll hear from Larry Vollmer, Jr. with the Journal News.

Mr. Vollmer, you line is open.

Larry Vollmer: Yes, I'm here. Sorry. Do you think that if Randy Couture is successful against Brock Lesnar, that Fedor Emelianenko will drop some of his ...

Brock Lesnar: Ah, shit, here we go. Fedor.

Larry Vollmer: Sorry, Brock. Sorry, Brock, I didn't mean to bring him up again.

Brock Lesnar: I mean, these guys are tired of ((inaudible)) about Fedor, too. And they're not telling you, but I'll tell you on behalf of them.

Larry Vollmer: Do you think if he was very successful against Brock that he would drop some of his demands about fighting in ensemble tournaments and some of the other things that he wants to do?

Dana White: It's more than that. His manager had a lot of crazy stuff. I would have to think that a lot of the crazy stuff is gone. And listen, at the end of the day, this is where all the best heavyweights are. If you want to be considered one of the best heavyweights, you've got to fight one of these guys. So we'll see what happens.

Listen, let me tell you this, OK? Randy Couture is relevant. Fedor is not, OK? Randy Couture's mainstream. Everybody knows who he is. He's the champion of the biggest organization in the world where all the best fighters in the world are. Beating Randy Couture means something. So that's up to Fedor.

Larry Vollmer: OK. Brock, I didn't mean to send you any disrespect. And, Randy, I'm glad you're back and looking forward to the fight.

Male: Thanks, buddy.

Brock Lesnar: Thank you.

Operator: And next, we'll hear from Leif Knutson, Fox Twin Cities.

Leif Knutson: Hello. This is for Brock. In your preview to your ((inaudible)) fight, you talked about Randy Couture coming out to fight Sylvia and Sylvia letting a 197-pound guy push him around. Has your opinion changed on that since your fight's been lined up here?

Brock Lesnar: Not at all. You know I think Randy's a smart guy. He knows how to fight in ((inaudible)). But you know Randy Couture meet Tim Sylvia is like apples and oranges, OK? So Randy understands that he's up against a different beast you know in this fight and you know so I mean, Randy said earlier today that he's going in at 225 pounds. Well, I'm coming in at 265 pounds. And so there's a huge weight difference. And I know and Randy knows that when there's a weight difference, he's going to have to you know he's a smart guy. He's going to train to beat me and I'm going to train to beat him. So we're both on the same page when it comes to that.

Leif Knutson: Sounds good. Randy, now, sorry, Brock, plug your years, but if you were to lose this fight that – are you concerned about the fight with Fedor should it happen, lost any luster?

Randy Couture: Things happen the way the happen. And I can't spend any time worrying about that. I've got one guy standing in front of me right now and that's going to happen November 15th and that's Brock Lesnar. The rest of those other pieces fall in place the way they're suppose to. There's you know there are powers that be that take care of those things.

Leif Knutson: Fair enough. Last question for Dana. You have 25 fighters on the roster. You have all these rival organizations that are snatching up talent that you cut, are you keeping more guys on your roster just to keep them off of rival rosters?

Dana White: No, they can have whoever I cut, whoever isn't worthy of fighting in the UFC, they're more than happy to have.

Leif Knutson: OK, where does this leave Fabresio Werdum?

Dana White: Werdum's in the mix still. Yes, no, Werdum's in the mix, too. Like I said, we've got a lot of interesting heavyweights out there right now. We've been in this rebuilding phase in the heavyweight division and obviously, all the things that are coming together now, like I said, the heavyweight division is very exciting again.

Leif Knutson: Yes. Thanks a lot, guys.

Male: Thank you.

Male: Thanks.

Operator: Next question today comes from Hywel Tague of Fighters Only.

Hywel Tague: Hi, guys. Dana, first question for you, please; had you to got around to the – back into the UFC for November, would Brock have been quite so close to a title shot?

Dana White: No, because the other title was – those other two guys with – Nogueira was fighting in December. That fight's already set. So no, it wouldn't have been a title fight.

Hywel Tague: OK. A question for Brock. Mentally and technically, how prepared do you feel for this fight with Randy. I mean, this is a large step up in class you know the fights you've had so far. You've only had three fights. So how do you feel about entering this fight?

Brock Lesnar: Well, yes, I'm going up against a guy with a lot more experience than myself, which I have done in every fight I've been in. So once training camp starts for me and you know we're going to

you know we're no dummies here either you know. We're going to figure out how to beat Randy Couture. As this is like how we figured out how to beat Heath Herrin. So I will come into this fight well-prepared and with a game plan to win the title that night.

Hywel Tague: Thank you and another question for Brock. You mentioned earlier that you were coming into the Octagon, you'll be weighing in at 265. Might I ask, how much do you cut down to 265, please?

Brock Lesnar: I've got to cut about 16 pounds.

Hywel Tague: Thank you. And then, just one final question, please, directed towards Randy. I'd like to know your feelings toward a fight with (Issy Menatoro) or Frank Mir. Obviously, not looking past the Brock Lesnar fight. But should you beat Brock, how do you feel about facing the winner of that fight?

Randy Couture: I think they're both great fighters. Obviously, they're strengths are a little different. They're both submission guys. They're adept on the ground. That'll be an interesting fight for me to watch and see who kind of has their way. But we'll cross that bridge when we get to it.

Hywel Tague: OK, thank you very much for your time, guys.

Dana White: And just so you know for all you media guys you know we have the fight UFC 88 in Atlanta this weekend and with Chuck and Rashad. And Randy will be attending. Randy will be at the fight with me. So you guys can grab pictures and interview there too.

Operator: We'll now go to Dave Meltzer, Yahoo Sports.

Dave Meltzer: Dana, a couple of questions for you. Do you think this is going to beat De La Hoya and Pacquiao in pay-per-view?

Dana White: Beat who?

Dave Meltzer: De La Hoya and Manny Pacquiao?

Dana White: That's a good question. De La Hoya's such a monster, man. You know that guy can lose nine fights in a row and still do a million-and-a-half pay-per view buys. I don't know. This one is going to be a big one, though. We're expecting anywhere from a million to 1.5.

Dave Meltzer: Wow. Now, with Randy, either one of you can answer this. Is this a new contract you signed with Randy or is Randy returning under the terms of his old deal? And is it like a three-fight deal or is it you know how long is this new deal with Randy? Or is it a new deal?

Randy Couture: It's a new deal, new fight, three-fight deal, new contract, cleared up and did away with all the other nonsense and all the other stuff resolved, all the issues, and we're moving forward.

Dave Meltzer: Randy, do you consider this probably the last fighting contract you're going to sign in your career?

Randy Couture: Well, I started this 11 years ago, taking it one fight at a time. And that's gotten me this far. I don't see changing that attitude any time soon. So I've never placed limits on myself. I feel like I'm the best fighter I've ever been right now. So we'll just have to see.

Dave Meltzer: And for Dana, in a theoretical, when it comes to Fedor. Let's just say Randy runs the table, or anyone. Or even if Brock runs the table, or Nogueira runs the table, someone you know

whoever comes out ahead and Fedor is available for whatever reason, but will only sign a one fight deal, are you interested? Or you not interested in that type of a deal?

Dana White: You always got to ask me all the negative, hypotheticals you know. No, I wouldn't sign a one fight deal with him to come in and fight you know. Listen, when you're negotiating, both sides have to give on some stuff you know. And obviously, if he wants to come in and fight for the title and fight one of the greatest fighters ever in UFC history, he's going to have to fight a couple fights.

Dave Meltzer: OK. Good enough.

Dana White: Thanks, Dave.

Dave Meltzer: All right. You're very welcome.

Operator: We'll now go to Jose Rodriguez from Sunmedia Canada.

Jose Rodriguez: Hey, guys, congratulations and obviously good news for fight fans.

Dana, a question for you. Are we to assume now that all and any court action is just dead?

Dana White: Yes. We're done.

Jose Rodriguez: Yes?

Dana White: We're no longer in a court battle with Randy Couture.

Jose Rodriguez: Good stuff. Now, do you think in all this that maybe Frank Mir gets cheated a little bit seeing the guy who he beat is now fighting for the legit belt?

Dana White: No. Frank's fighting for a title to the ((inaudible)). Both guys will have a title. And it will be champion versus champion. I don't think – listen, at the end of the day, I don't think anybody should feel like they're getting fucked in this deal. I think if you're a heavyweight fighter, the most important thing you know when you win the title is that you won it from the guy who beat the guy.

You don't want to be the guy that has to come in and be – yeah, but Randy went away and he never really got the chance to fight Randy. You know what I mean? You don't ever want that situation. Everybody is looking to cement their legacy. I beat all the best guys that were out there while I was a heavyweight or a middleweight or a lightweight, waterier it might be. And if Randy went away and those guys didn't have that opportunity, I think that's when you feel cheated.

Jose Rodriguez: Fair enough. This is a question for Randy. Randy, looking back, I guess, to almost a full year ago now, any regrets?

Randy Couture: I would have – I don't know – I could have lived a lot of it. And you always kind of look back and hopes things would have went differently or – so I mean, I don't know if there're regrets but I certainly wish that things could have gone better, could have made better decisions, could have done things differently.

Jose Rodriguez: Now, I sense a bit of frustration from Brock at the word Fedor keeps coming up. Do you think you're leaving him with the impression, perhaps, a little bit that you're looking a little beyond Brock Lesnar?

Randy Couture: I think I made it perfectly clear that I'm not looking beyond Brock Lesnar at all. Yes, I've been diligently trying to get Fedor to the table and find a place and a way to fight him. And that desire's still not gone away. But that doesn't mean that I take Brock Lesnar lightly. And I'm definitely not looking past him. So I don't think he feels that way. I just think he's tired of hearing about Fedor.

Brock Lesnar: Well, I'm not you know let's get to the facts here. The facts are that it's me and Randy Couture. And Fedor isn't with the company so why are we wasting our breath on talking about a guy or a match that might not ever happen. This may ...

Dana White: Welcome to my world, Brock. That's the world I live in every day. I don't get it either but what are you going to do?

Brock Lesnar: Well you know this is what's happening. I don't know how many times you guys say it, this is for real. This fight's going to happen. Randy Couture and Fedor, it might never happen. And you know this fight is going to happen. I'm on the telephone talking about this fight.

Jose Rodriguez: No, if ((inaudible)) just follow up with that with you, Brock. How much does it piss you off that you know perhaps Randy has mentioned the word Fedor quite a bit and so has Dana.

Brock Lesnar: Well you know I'm not frustrated about it. I mean, we're here talking about a fight between myself and Randy. And you know there's no sense in my years of business and whatnot, we talk about things that are going to happen, the things that are going to sell tickets, OK? And I wanted this fight with Randy for a – since before I even signed a contract with UFC. So I'm ecstatic for it. And you know I just feel like you know I'm wasting my time sitting, listening to everybody talking about ((inaudible)) Randy you know.

Dana White: And the crazy thing about is, the crazy thing about it is, any guy out there right now, the thing is that Randy has Fedor on his mind because Fedor was the champ of the pride and whatever. Other personal reasons Randy has for wanting to fight Fedor, but let me tell you what the reality is? People who are coming up in the UFC heavyweight division, they want to fight Brock and Randy Couture.

Fedor is irrelevant, completely irrelevant. That's but – in the media and everybody like to talk about the guys that we don't have. Oh, if some other dude pops up and isn't under contract, that's the fight we want to talk about. Just like Brock says, Brocks coming in – I'm used to this shit. I'm used to it. Brock's coming in from the outside. Randy Couture is the guy everybody wants to fight. He's the man. Randy Couture is the man. Chuck Liddell said it before. Beating Randy Couture means something. That's the fight that I want. He's the one that has the legacy into this and that. Fedor is completely, fucking irrelevant. Completely.

But it's what you guys like to talk about for some reason. I don't know.

Jose Rodriguez: And again, in defense of the media though, the reason we're talking about it is because obviously, that was a part of bringing this deal to – and it was mentioned by both Randy and yourself.

Brock Lesnar: But that' water under the bridge. These guys, I don't know how many times they got to say it, they're sitting in the room together, may be outside water under the bridge. We're here to talk about a fight between myself and Randy Couture. Everything is – who cares about what a deal is when Dana said it earlier, hey, he doesn't care what happens. Randy doesn't care what happened before. They're in the room together and they're doing business.

Jose Rodriguez: And, guys, I appreciate your passion. You have no idea.

Back to Dana just for one mast question. Dana, I know that you're just looking forward not looking back and all the rest of that stuff, do you think that that's easy to do, just move forward and forget about the things that were said for the last 11 months?

Dana White: I already have, to be honest with you. I already have. I fiercely and you know I'd say it if I didn't. I'd already have. I'm happy. I'm really happy about this.

Jose Rodriguez: Good stuff. Well, guys you know we appreciate you guys coming together on that deal and best of luck November 15th.

Male: Thank you.

Male: Thank you.

Operator: We'll take the next question from Nick Solomon, Jabsngrabs.com

Nick Solomon: Good afternoon, gentlemen. Thank you for taking our calls today. Congratulations on coming to resolution.

First question's for you, Dana. Dana, there was talk that a third lawsuit was in play between the Zuffa and HDNet. Will that by any chance cause any problems for the proposed November 15th fight between Brock and Randy?

Dana White: No. My dispute with Randy Couture is done. I'm not saying I might dispute with anybody else has done, but my dispute with Randy Couture is over. It's behind us. Randy Couture is fighting Brock Lesnar on November 15th at the MGM Grand.

Nick Solomon: OK, Brock, if I could speak to you for a moment. Could you address the fact that here you are within one calendar year being with UFC, on your third fight in, fighting for the heavyweight title, has that rushed you? Obviously that was your goal but is that rush at this point?

Brock Lesnar: Hey, man, nothing you know I don't feel rushed at all. I haven't turned down any fights that Dana has offered to me. This is a super fight. This is a fight that puts me closer to become the UFC heavyweight champion. So no, I'm right on track.

Dana White: And do you want to know what the reality is? Brock will tell you this. Brock came to me and we met one time at one of the UFCs and he said, "I want to fight in the UFC." He had one fight. I said, "Brock, this is not the place you want to learn how to fight, man. Every fight in the UFC is a tough fight. You know there are the guys who made it. You know this is it. It's all going to be tough fights." And Brock said to me, he said, "I don't care. I only want to fight the best. That's why I want to be here." He said, "I'm either good at this thing or I'm not. And we're going to find out." Is that not what happened, Brock?

Brock Lesnar: Exactly what happened. You know what? I've never set – I've always set high standards for myself. I stick my neck out you know. If you're going to – in the business world, you got spend money to make money. And I lay it all on the line win or lose. And you know hopefully, a win comes out of it and you move forward.

Nick Solomon: Yes, clearly, Brock, you are good at this thing called fighting.

Randy, you are going to be facing a guy who you have not too much footage to look at. You have the Herrin fight and you have the Frank Mir fight, two completely different fights and Brock looked so much better in the Herrin fight than he did in the Mir fight. How dangerous is it for you to fight somebody you have very limited exposure on?

Randy Couture: Well, every single guy is dangerous. There hasn't been a guy I've faced in 11 years that hasn't been dangerous in one way or the other. Brock's no different. Yes, I don't have a lot of footage just to study, but you know I have a pretty good idea where Brock's coming from because it's the same place I came from.

I was a collegiate wrestler than made the transition to fighting. So I think I understand. I can take a look at the two fights that I have seen and study those and kind of see his tendencies and all those things. And you know he's big, athletic, very, very good fighter. So it should be very interesting.

Mick Solomon: OK, the last question. It might frustrate you guys and I apologize in advance if it does. Win or lose the fight with Brock on the 15th, the UFC and yourself still be continue to aggressively pursue a fight some time down the road with Fedor?

Dana White: Did you just get on the call? We've talked about this a million times. We've talked about this a million times.

Listen, Fedor's irrelevant. Will we want Fedor? We want to make that fight if we can. He's under contract with somebody else. We'd love to do it. We'll see what happens. We would never interfere with somebody else's contract. We'll see what happens.

Nick Solomon: OK. Thank you very much. And good luck on the show. It's just going to be fantastic.

Dana White: Thank you, buddy.

Male: Thanks.

Dana White: All right, guys. We'll take one more question and then we've got to wrap it up. Brock's got to catch a plane and Randy's got to get back to the gym.

Operator: And our final question today will come from Michael Smith of AOL Sports.

Mike Smith: Yes, I'll make the final question about both Fedor and Kimbo Slice. No, I'm just kidding.

Dana White: Perfect.

Mike Smith: Randy, can you talk about what your relationship with Mark Cuban and was he disappointed with your decision to return to the UFC?

Randy Couture: No, Mark wasn't disappointed in the decision. I think ultimately Mark wants what's best for me in – he's a very interesting guy and I think all along has just kind of tried to find a way to facilitate what he thought I wanted. And for a while, that was finding a way to make the Fedor fight happen somewhere else. And now, I think that the best course and the best path is to find a way to make the Fedor fight happen in the UFC and with the UFC.

And he's in line with that. I think as a person in the media, he's like to be able to have more access to the UFC like everybody else, and get you know a regular media coverage and footage and all those things for his channel and his media outlet. And hopefully you know that he can talk to Dana and Lorenzo and find a way to make that happen, regardless of what we've been through in this last year.

Mike Smith: Thanks, man.

Dana White: Thank you. And guys, thank you so much for taking the time, and then we got bumped back an hour. And thanks for waiting and calling in. Really appreciate it.

We'll see you this weekend in Atlanta. Chuck Liddell versus Rashad Evans. Thank you, guys.

Male: Thanks.

Male: Thanks, Brock.

Operator: And everyone, that does conclude today's conference. Thank you all for your participation.

Have a great day.

END