

DELVIN RODRIGUEZ

Age: 31 (5-4-80)

Residence: Danbury, Connecticut

Birthplace: Santiago, Dominican Republic

Record: 25-5-3, 14 KOs

Height: 6'0"

Stance: Righthanded

Advisor: Stan Hoffman

Manager: A.J. Galante

Trainer: Fernely Feliz

DELVIN RODRIGUEZ (25-5-3, 14 KOs)...

- Ranked IBF #13, WBC #26 at 154 pounds...
- Three-time USBA welterweight champion...
- World title fights: 0-1...
- Former welterweight world title challenger...

At the age of 31, Delvin is a 12-year pro. A veteran contender at 147 pounds, he is coming off a 10 round draw in a sensational battle against **Pawel Wolak**.

It was a sensational fight, one of the best of the year.

After the fight, **Dan Rafael** wrote on ESPN.com [excerpts]: Rodriguez and Wolak battled nose to nose in a fight of the year candidate that had the crowd roaring throughout.

Wolak had burst into the junior middleweight top 10 based on his dominant knockout performance against former titlist **Yuri Foreman** on March 12, Wolak's eighth consecutive victory.

Rodriguez has been turning in a number of crowd-pleasing performances. Both men fought as if their careers were on the line in a blazing action fight filled with clean punching and a lot of guts from both guys.

It was a very close bout. Wolak was aggressive, as usual, and pressured the taller Rodriguez. Rodriguez, meanwhile, tried to box and fire combinations, but he reverted to his natural instincts, which (lucky for us) is to brawl. Many of Rodriguez's shots landed, eventually taking their toll, because Wolak's right eye became horribly swollen - almost all the way shut from about the seventh round on. His face was a mess, but he kept punching and was determined to finish the fight no matter how much pain he was in or how little he could see. Frankly, the fight would have been stopped in many places, especially after the ninth round when it was very obvious that Wolak couldn't see.

You could watch any round of this fight and be highly entertained. Two judges scored the fight even. No complaints about that. [End Rafael item]

Delvin has several impressive wins to his credit: against **Mike Arnaoutis** (W12) in April 2, 2010; **Shamone Alvarez** (W12) in March, 2009; **Oscar Diaz** (TKO11) in July, 2008; **Keenan Collins** (TKO2) in August, 2007; and **Allen Conyers** (W6) in August, 2004.

Fight by Fight – 2011 - in his last fight on 7-15-11 in New York, NY, he had a 10 round draw against **Pawel Wolak** (29-1): the fight headlined at the Roseland Ballroom, and it was fast-paced and exciting, one of the best fights of the year; Delvin, at 6'0" tall, had a four-inch height advantage, and the momentum shifted back and forth; Wolak constantly pressed forward, outworked Delvin, and scored with repeated body punches, but Delvin boxed well and landed sharp combinations; Wolak's right eye was swollen shut from the 7th round on, but he kept pressing forward; Delvin boxed and move more than in the early rounds; scored 97-93 Rodriguez, 95-95, 95-95...

2010 – on 7-30-10 in Miami, OK, he lost a 10 round majority decision against **Ashley Theophane** (26-4-1): the fight headlined at Buffalo Run Casino, and ended with a very questionable decision; Delvin started fast – he outworked Theophane in the early rounds, landed the sharper punches, and appeared to build a lead on the scorecards; Delvin tired in the late rounds and Theophane rallied – he rocked Delvin with a left hook in the 8th round and finished the fight strongly; most observers thought Delvin deserved to win, but the judges scored 96-94, 96-94, 95-95...

WON VACANT USBA W TITLE - on 4-2-10 in Uncasville, CT, he won a 12 round unanimous decision against lefthanded former jr. welterweight world title challenger **Mike Arnaoutis** (22-4-2): the bout headlined at Mohegan Sun, and Delvin dominated most of the fight; he built an early lead with his jab, pressed forward, and consistently outworked Arnaoutis; Arnaoutis was penalized one point for low blows in the 7th round, and cut over his left eye in the 11th; scored 118-109, 119-108, 117-110...

2009 - IBF W TITLE ELIMINATOR - on 11-27-09 in Elk, POL, he lost a 12 round unanimous decision against local favorite **Rafal Jackiewicz** (34-8-1): it was a good fight, and several rounds were close; Delvin boxed well, scored repeatedly with his jab, and generally outworked Jackiewicz; but Jackiewicz landed the sharper punches, and staggered Delvin with a right hand in the 5th round; Delvin came back and scored a knockdown with a series of punches that left Jackiewicz dazed in the 6th, but Jackiewicz recovered and rallied in the following rounds, and the momentum shifted back and forth in the late rounds; it looked like the decision could go either way and some observers thought Delvin deserved to win, but the judges scored 115-112, 116-112, 114-112...

IBF W WORLD TITLE CHALLENGE – on 8-1-09 in Uncasville he lost a 12 round split decision against **Isaac Hlatshwayo** (28-1-1): the fight headlined at the Mohegan Sun, and it was very close; Delvin boxed well in the early rounds and built a lead on the scorecards – he swept the 1st and 2nd rounds on all three scorecards, and won the 3rd on two; Hlatshwayo rallied and swept the 4th and 5th rounds, the 6th was even, then Hlatshwayo staggered Delvin with a right hand and swept the 7th round – after seven rounds, the fight was scored 68-64, 67-66 Hlatshwayo, 67-66 Rodriguez; both fought hard in the late rounds – Delvin won the 8th on two scorecards, Hlatshwayo swept the 9th round, then Delvin won the 10th and 11th on two scorecards; but Hlatshwayo swept the 12th round, and won by scores of 116-112, 116-113 Hlatshwayo, 115-113 Rodriguez...

IBF W TITLE ELIMINATOR - on 3-6-09 in Uncasville he won a 12 round unanimous decision against lefthanded **Shamone Alvarez** (20-1): the bout headlined at the Mohegan Sun, and it was a good fight; the momentum shifted back and forth in the early rounds; Delvin injured his right wrist in the 8th round, but he rallied in the late rounds, using mostly his left hand, and scored a knockdown with a right hand in the 11th round; Alvarez came back and staggered Delvin with a left hand in the 12th round, and the right eyes of both fighters were swollen nearly shut at the end of the fight; scored 115-112, 114-113, 114-113...

2008 – IBF W TITLE ELIMINATOR - on 11-17-08 in Kempton Park, SA, he fought to a 12 round draw against former South African lightweight champion and local favorite **Isaac Hlatshwayo** (28-1): the bout headlined at Emperors Palace, and it was a very close fight; Hlatshwayo started fast – he pressed forward, kept a busier pace in the early rounds, and rocked Delvin with a right hand in the 5th round; Delvin boxed effectively at times – he kept Hlatshwayo off-balance with movement, scored with sharp counterpunches, and scored a devastating knockdown with a right hand in the 9th; Hlatshwayo recovered and went the distance, but Delvin dominated the last two rounds; it looked like the decision could go either way, and the decision was originally announced as a split decision win for Hlatshwayo; but a mistake was found in the addition of the scorecards and the fighters were told about an hour later that the decision was actually a draw; scored 115-112 Rodriguez, 117-110 Hlatshwayo, 114-114...

WON VACANT USBA W TITLE - on 7-16-08 in San Antonio, TX, he TKO'd hometown favorite **Oscar Diaz** (26-2): it was a fast-paced, gruelling battle; Diaz pressed forward and had his moments, but Delvin boxed effectively from long range, consistently landed the harder punches, and dominated most of the fight; Diaz' right eye began to swell in the middle rounds and was later swollen shut; he collapsed in his corner after the 10th round and was rushed to University Hospital, where he underwent brain surgery; the Texas commission records it as a knockout at 0:10 of the 11th round; after the fight, Delvin said, "I really feel bad about that whole situation. It was a big step in my career, but I haven't been able to enjoy my victory. I'm praying he'll come out of that okay."; at last report, Diaz was in a coma that lasted two months, but has come out of that and made a partial recovery...

On 2-15-08 in Uncasville he won a 10 round unanimous decision against previously undefeated 41 year-old lefthander **Troy Browning** (20-0-1): the fight headlined at the Mohegan Sun, and Delvin dominated; he consistently outworked Browning and landed the sharper punches, and won by scores of 100-90, 100-90, 99-91; after the fight, Delvin said, "When I lost the fight at Foxwoods, I kind of got caught up in the emotions. This time, you could see a very calm, smooth Delvin Rodriguez."...

2007 – on 8-24-07 in Bronx, NY, he TKO'd **Keenan Collins** (12-2-1): the fight headlined at the Utopia Theater; Collins was cut badly over his left eye in the 2nd round, and the fight was stopped on the injury at the end of the round; the original ruling was that the cut was caused by an accidental clash of heads and the result was a no contest; later, after reviewing a video of the fight, the New York commission ruled that the cut was caused by a punch and changed the result to a TKO...

LOST USBA W TITLE - on 3-23-07 in Mashantucket, CT, he was TKO'd against **Jesse Feliciano** (14-5-3): the fight headlined at Foxwoods, and Delvin dominated the early rounds; he consistently outboxed and outworked Feliciano, built a lead on the scorecards and cut Feliciano over his left eye; but Feliciano kept pressing forward and gradually wore him down as the rounds progressed – Feliciano scored three knockdowns, all with right hands, in the 8th round, and the referee stopped the fight at 2:42; after seven rounds, Delvin led by scores of 70-63, 70-63, 69-64...

2006 - on 11-25-06 in Sherbrooke, QUE, he TKO'd **Frans Hantindi** (11-10-2): Delvin scored a knockdown with a right hand in the 1st round; Hantindi got up, but Delvin rocked him with a series of punches and the referee stopped the fight at 2:59...

WON VACANT USBA W TITLE - on 5-26-06 in El Paso, TX, he TKO'd **Luis Hernandez** (15-2): Delvin dominated the fight; he staggered Hernandez with a right hand midway through the 1st round, then scored two knockdowns in the 2nd round – the first with a left hook and partial trip, the second with a right hand that dropped Hernandez to his hands and knees; Delvin scored another knockdown with a right hand in the 3rd - Hernandez got up, but Delvin rocked him again and the referee stopped the fight at 1:47; after the fight, Delvin said, "I was afraid of getting headbutted. I saw him before, when he fought Chris Smith. I knew he leads with his head and has these wild swings. But I figured I would get him with my right hand. I'm not a one-punch knockout artist, but a lot of people underestimate my power. I believe I'm ready now for a world title fight. The welterweights are hot right now, but I'll fight anyone they put in front of me."; Delvin was later stripped of the title...

On 2-17-06 in Memphis, TN, he won by disqualification against **Alexis Divison** (16-1): Divison took the fight on short notice, but started fast and rocked Delvin with a right hand in the 1st round; Delvin came back and had the edge in the 2nd and 3rd - he consistently landed the sharper punches and rocked Divison in the 3rd; Divison was warned for various fouls in the each of the first three rounds, and was penalized one point early in the 4th round for punching behind the head; he landed a low blow moments later, and the referee DQ'ed him at 0:28 for "dirty fighting;" looking back, Delvin said, "Before they stopped the fight, I told my coach, 'I think I'm going to take him in the next round.' I already had his number."...

2005 - on 11-23-05 in White Plains, NY, he TKO'd **Virgil McClendon** (22-5): Delvin dominated the fight; he cut McClendon over the left eye in the 1st round, outworked McClendon, and consistently landed the harder punches; McClendon's corner stopped the fight at 0:47 of the 6th round...

On 8-5-05 in Mashantucket he TKO'd **Luther Smith** (22-3-2): it was a spectacular knockout; Delvin cut Smith over the right eye, then scored a knockdown with a series of punches in the 1st round that dropped Smith flat on his face; the ringside doctor entered the ring during the referee's count, and the fight was stopped at 2:59; Smith was taken from the ring on a stretcher...

On 6-7-05 in El Cajon, CA, he TKO'd **Christopher Henry** (19-10): it was an exciting fight; Henry scored a knockdown in the 1st round, but Delvin came back and scored two knockdowns later in the round; Delvin scored two more knockdowns in the 2nd, and the referee stopped the fight at 0:44; looking back, Delvin said, "All boxers face some form of adversity on the way up. I'm glad I got through it and I hope I don't face that again. The guy caught me cold, but when I got up I went right after him. I think that's what boxing fans like, a fighter's heart..."

On 3-18-05 in Mashantucket he won an 8 round unanimous decision against **Marteze Logan** (18-12-2): Delvin generally outworked Logan, landed the sharper punches, and dominated the fight; Delvin scored one knockdown at the bell ending the 1st round, and another knockdown early in the 8th; scored 79-71, 78-72, 77-73...

On 2-4-05 in White Plains he TKO'd **Mikel Williams** (2-5-4): Delvin scored two knockdowns in the 1st round, and the referee stopped the fight at 1:53...

2004 - on 8-24-04 in Poughkeepsie, NY, he won a 6 round unanimous decision against previously undefeated New York prospect **Allen Conyers** (8-0): Conyers was trained by Buddy McGirt, and most observers favored him to win; he kept a busier pace and rocked Delvin in the 2nd round, but Delvin consistently landed the harder punches; Kelvin scored a knockdown in the 5th round - Conyers fell through the ropes onto the arena floor - but made it back into the ring before the count of 10 and finished the fight; scored 59-54 on all three scorecards...

2003 - on 10-27-03 in Constanza, DR, he TKO'd **Franklin Sanchez** (1-1): in the 3rd round...

2002 - on 2-2-02 in Atlantic City, NJ, he lost an 8 round split decision against Brooklyn prospect **Andre Eason** (7-1): Eason kept a busier pace in the early rounds and built a lead, but Delvin came on strongly in the late rounds and rocked Eason with a series of punches in the 8th; scored 78-74, 78-74 Eason, 77-76 Rodriguez...

2001 - on 10-20-01 in Las Vegas, NV, he won a 6 round unanimous decision against **Pedro "Huracan" Garcia** (30-32): scored 60-54, 60-54, 59-55...

On 7-21-01 in Las Vegas he won a 4 round unanimous decision against **Richard Hall** (5-5-1): scored 40-36 on all three scorecards...

2000 - on 9-2-00 in Bayboro, NC, he knocked out **Andre Baker** (3-4): at 2:00 of the 1st round...

On 7-21-00 in Greensboro, NC, he knocked out **Booker Mullins** (1-2): in the 1st round...

1999 - on 11-20-99 in Atlantic City, NJ, he TKO'd **Bobby Dixon** (1-0): in the 3rd round...

On 9-10-99 in Ocala, FL, he won a 4 round unanimous decision against **Andre Baker** (1-0)...

On 8-7-99 in Greenville, SC, he TKO'd **Gary Warren** (0-2): in the 1st round...

On 7-10-99 in Homestead, FL, he had a technical draw against **Rolando Valcarcel** (1-5-1): in the 1st round...

On 6-19-99 in New York, NY, he won a 4 round split decision against **Michael Melvin** (2-0-1): Delvin was knocked down in the 4th round, but won by scores of 38-37, 38-37 Rodriguez, 38-37 Melvin...

On 4-16-99 in Tunica, MS, he TKO'd **Jonet Hernandez** (1-0): at 2:53 of the 2nd round...
He debuted at the age of 18 on 1-30-99 in Atlantic City and won a 4 round unanimous decision against **Hamilton Verano** (0-0-1)...

AMATEUR, PERSONAL BACKGROUND: Delvin said, "I was born in Santiago, Dominican Republic. I have a younger brother and a older sister. My father was a farmer. I grew up on a farm, all kinds of animals and stuff. All kind of crops, rice, corn, beans, even coffee. We basically grew everything, we didn't have to go the city to buy anything.

"I came to Danbury when I was nine and a half, and I've been living here ever since. My family moved over one by one. It started with my grandfather, he took all his sons over here. Then my father came, then my father got my mom, my mom got us.

"There was a PAL gym here in Danbury, and it was like an after-school thing. I went to the gym and everything was like a playground. I started boxing when I was like, 10. What I remember is around 65 amateur fights. I won some Silver Gloves over here, I won like, six Junior Olympics. I went to the regionals and all that.

"Boxing is like my full-time job right now. I play guitar as a hobby. Sometimes if I'm not training for a week, my friend calls me over. I play the guitar and sing a little bit. Spanish music. It's similar to country music.

"I'm single. I got a boy, his name is Delvin Jesus. He turned [nine] on February 14. When I'm at home, I do as much as I can with my kid. He loves boxing.

"I got my U.S. citizenship about four years ago. It's a whole thing you have to go through. First of all, they give you a hundred questions you got to memorize. It's a whole big process. You got to study the history of the United States, stuff that I took in high school back in '98, so I had to go back and study." ...

STRENGTHS: Has good skills and movement...has good punching power...is experienced against good opposition...

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: 33 fights...187 total rounds...12 world title rounds...

AVERAGE LENGTH OF BOUTS: 5.6 rounds...

KNOCKOUT PERCENTAGE: 56 %...

DISTANCE FIGHTS: 12 rounds – 5 (2-2-2)...11 rounds – 1 (1-0)...10 rounds – 2 (1-1)...