

Mariel Zagunis Wins Dallas WC

Contributed by Craig Harkins
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Mariel Zagunis defended home turf and took home her 4th world cup victory of the season, solidifying her position at the top of the points standings heading into regional competition later in the month.

Zagunis defeated Leonore Perrus 15-9 in the final match. In the semi-finals she defeated Ekaterina Diatchenko (RUS) 15-11.

{sidebar id=1}Team Gold Medal winner Olga Kharlan (UKR) looked to be destined for the finals as she bested her first three opponents with a combined 45-20 with none of them scoring in the double-digits against her. Kharlan met her match in France's Perrus who took out the #4 seed 15-11.

#1 seed and 2nd ranked Sophia Velikaia was dispatched in the round of 32 by 2000 Olympian Emily Jacobson 15-14. Jacobson then lost 14-15 to 17th seed Emma Baratta. If Emily is thinking of going for London 2012, this is a good way to start on the comeback trail.

The USA, France and the Ukraine each placed two fencers in the top 8. The US, Italy, and Russia also had 3 fencers finish in the top 16 at the event.

Since winning the Olympic Gold Medal in Beijing, Zagunis has won 4 of the 7 world cup events she has entered and her worst finish is 5th place during the February Grand Prix event in Moscow.

Notables: Chinese fencer Xue Tan did not compete. Eileen Grench took 16th representing Panama.

US Team Selection:

Just as the men's sabre squad for the World Championships was to be determined by final placement in Dallas, so too are the final slots for the Women's Sabre team.

Entering the Dallas World Cup, Mariel Zagunis and Dagmara Wozniak were locks for the US team. The door was open for Caroline Vloka or Alexis Jemal to pass Monica Aksamit and Daria Schneider. Even though Emma Baratta had a great day and finished 8th, she was too far behind in the team point standings for that to count. Vloka and Jemal also needed to make the 8 in order to gain enough points to pass Aksamit and Schneider, so the four for the world championships looks to be set at Zagunis, Wozniak, Aksamit, and Schneider.

Final Results:

Ranking
Name

First name
Country

1
ZAGUNIS
Mariel
USA

2
PERRUS
Leonore
FRA

3
DIATCHENKO
Ekaterina
RUS

3
NAGY
Orsolya
HUN

5
KHARLAN
Olga
UKR

6
KHOMROVA
Olena
UKR

7
MARY
Solenne
FRA

8
BARATTA
Emma
USA

9
BIANCO
Ilaria
ITA

10
VECCHI
Irene
ITA

11

BENITEZ
Alejandra
VEN

12
MARZOCCA
Gioia
ITA

13
DANILOVA
Veronika
RUS

14
JACOBSON
Emily
USA

15
PAGANO
Rosanna
ITA

16
GRENNCH
Eileen
PAN

17
VELIKAIA
Sophia
RUS

18
VERGNE
Carole
FRA

19
KORMILITSYNA
Svetlana
RUS

20
MUHAMMAD
Ibtihaj
USA

21
STAGNI
Livia
ITA

22
PUNDYK
Galyna
UKR

23
OSIER
Lian
USA

24
WIND
Marion
FRA

25
GULOTTA
Loreta
ITA

26
BERENGIER
Julie
FRA

27
KRAVCHUK
Iryna
UKR

28
AKSAMIT
Monica
USA

28
STOLTZ
Marion
FRA

30
BYRNE
Siobhan
IRL

31
KOZLOVA
Nina
UKR

32
GAVRILOVA
Julia
RUS

33
WOZNIAK
Dagmara
USA

34
SOCHA
Aleksandra
POL

35
OVTCHINNIKOVA
Olga
CAN

36
ZHOVNIR
Olga
UKR

37
SCHNEIDER
Daria
USA

38
LUCCHINO
Alessandra
ITA

39
JEMAL
Alexis
USA

39
KUBISSA
Stefanie
GER

41
SAJEWICZ
Izabela
POL

42
JAQUET
Clara
FRA

43
SASSINE
Sandra
CAN

44
CLOUTIER
Julie
CAN

45
PEREZ MAURICE
Maria Belen
ARG

46
HACKING
Ruth Ann
USA

47
DI TRANSO
Irene
ITA

48
RUSSO
Jessica
USA

49
ROBERTS
Samantha
USA

50
STONE
Anne-Elizabeth (eliza)
USA

51
MILLER
Alison
USA

52
PETO
Reka
HUN

53
WHEELER
Diamond
USA

54
BERDER
Cecilia

FRA

55
KOMASHUK
Alina
UKR

56
LIM
Nona Yean Hong
SIN

57
LEE
Kara
USA

58
NICOLL
Chrystall
GBR

59
CONTRERAS
Patricia
VEN

60
POSTIGLIONE
Mariangela
ITA

61
GLON
Nicole
USA

62
DAVIS
Anika
USA

63
PEREZ
Priscilla
PUR

64
GIROUX
Meredith
CAN

65
SASCHENBRECKER

Wendy
CAN

66
POWERS
Skyla
USA

67
MCDONALD
Margaret
USA

68
LATIMER
Catharine
USA

69
ORTIZ
Victoria
PUR

70
MERCADO MENDEZ
Melanie
PUR

71
TANNOUS
Alexandra
USA

72
SUKUNDA
Adrienne
CAN

73
MERZA
Celina
USA

74
MCGHAN
Olivia
CAN