

BOXING

Anani upsets champion Martin

By SHARON ROBB

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FORT LAUDERDALE — Unheralded Sumya Anani knocked off WBC and WBA champion Christy Martin of Orlando in one of the biggest upsets in women's boxing Friday night at War Memorial Auditorium.

Anani, 26, of Shawnee, Kan., pummeled the 30-year-old veteran of 38 fights with four straight lefts, had Martin against the ropes by the third round and went on to win a 10-round majority decision.

The judges had it 95-95, 96-94, 96-94. Anani won the last four rounds on two judges' cards.

"It wasn't my night," Martin said. "I didn't feel like I could win even when I got to the arena.

"I am not taking anything away from her. She is a good fighter, but it was a head butt that cut me early, and when she knocked me down it was all elbows and arms."

It was Martin's first loss since 1989 when she lost to Andrea DeShong, who Anani (12-0) beat with a six-round decision March 28. Anani handed Martin the sec-

ond loss of her career and snapped her string of 15 wins.

"This is all so overwhelming," said Anani (12-0, 7 KOs), summoned by Don King immediately after the fight. "In a way I am surprised. I thought I had to knock her out to win. I thought I had her when I had her against the ropes. I paced myself better than she did."

Martin (34-2-2, 26 KOs), the most recognizable woman in boxing, finished bloodied with two badly swollen and bruised eyes.

Melissa Salamone of Miami Beach remained undefeated with

a fourth-round TKO of Tawayna Broxton (1-7) of Forest Park, Ga.

The IBF junior flyweight championship fight between Rantanapol Vorapin and Will Grigsby was to start later.

Former world champion Freddie Pendleton of Miami (44-23-4, 32 KOs) knocked out Freddy Rojas early in the seventh round of a scheduled 10-round super lightweight bout.

Super lightweight Randall Bailey of Miami, looking for a title shot, left little doubt he is ready with a second-round victory over listless Manuel De Leon (12-19, 7

KOs) in a scheduled 10-round bout. Bailey (17-0, 17 KOs) won on the three-knockdown rule.

In other bouts:

Junior bantamweight No. 1 contender Ratanachai Vorapin of Thailand (29-3, 20 KOs) knocked out Mexico's Jesus Garcia at 2:39 of the second round.

1996 Olympian Nate Jones (9-0-1) remained unbeaten with a 6-round unanimous decision over Joseph Vegas of Miami (2-2).

Heavyweight Larry Donald won a unanimous 10-round decision over Mike Sedillo.

Heavyweight Sedrick Fields (6-6, 5 KOs), of Richmond, Va., upset Rick Jackson (22-3) of Houston with a unanimous 10-round decision.

Heavyweight Melvin Foster (23-7-1, 17 KOs), of Washington, D.C., won a unanimous 10-round decision over Jade Scott (25-3, 20 KOs) of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Daniel Seda of Puerto Rico (8-0, 7 KOs) def. Jose Disla of Miami (2-5-1), third-round TKO.

Ricardo Vargas of Mexico (26-6-3, 8 KOs) def. Ruben Contreras of El Paso, Texas (6-8-2, 3 KOs), fourth-round TKO.