

Federer Knocked Out by Greek Wunderkind Tsitsipas



Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas reacts after winning a point against Switzerland's Roger Federer during their fourth round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 20, 2019.

MELBOURNE (Reuters) - Roger Federer's bid for a hat-trick of Australian Open titles was crushed on Sunday as Greek wunderkind Stefanos Tsitsipas rose up to floor the Swiss

master and become his nation's first Grand Slam quarter-finalist.

In a match pitting the oldest and youngest players left in the men's draw, the 20-year-old Tsitsipas overhauled Federer 6-7(11) 7-6(3) 7-5 7-6(5) under the lights of Rod Laver Arena, sparking delirium among Greek fans out in force at Melbourne Park.

The 37-year-old Federer, 20 times a Grand Slam champion, will rue his chances, having failed to convert any of the 12 break points he took from Tsitsipas over the course of a riveting clash laden with sparkling shot-making.

Instead, it was Tsitsipas showing a wise head on young shoulders in a final tiebreak of unrelenting tension.

When given a match point after Federer slapped a forehand long, he converted it clinically, forcing a backhand error from the Swiss to announce himself on one of the game's biggest stages.

He raised his arms in triumph and roared at the terraces, bringing tears of joy to his brother's eyes in the players' box.

Tsitsipas may be set for even bigger prizes, with a semi-final on offer should he beat 22nd-seeded Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut.

Vietnam Beat Jordan on Penalties to Reach Asian Cup Quarters



DUBAI (Dispatches) - Vietnam's young guns beat Jordan 4-2 on penalties to reach the quarter-finals of the Asian Cup after the match finished 1-1 following extra time at the Al Maktoum Stadium on Sunday.

Jordan's Baha Seif hit the bar and Vietnam goalkeeper Dang Van Lam saved Ahmad Saleh's effort in the shootout to leave substitute Bui Tien Dung to convert his spot kick and send his side through to a meeting with Japan or Saudi Arabia on Thursday.

The match had finished deadlocked after 120 minutes with Jordan's Baha Abdelrahman

opening the scoring from an indirect free kick in the first half and Nguyen Cong Phuong equalising with a volley six minutes after the break.

South-east Asian champions Vietnam poured forward in search of a winner but, for all their possession, neat interplay and stylish touches, they could not quite carve out a goal.

Jordan had beaten reigning champions Australia and Syria to win their group, while Park Hang-seo's youthful Vietnam team had squeaked through to the last 16 by virtue of having a superior disciplinary record to Lebanon.

Rockets Beat Lakers 138-134 in OT

HOUSTON (AP) - James Harden was the star for the Houston Rockets as usual on Saturday night, but he and the team got a big boost from Eric Gordon in his second game back after recovering from a bruised knee.

Harden scored 48 points, Gordon added 30 and the Rockets overcame a 21-point deficit to beat the Los Angeles Lakers 138-134 in overtime.

The Rockets trailed for most of the night and were down by 18 in the second-half. Gordon sent it to overtime with a 3-pointer, and made four free throws in the last seconds of the extra period.

"He's playing unbelievable," coach Mike D'Antoni said of Gordon.

Coming off 57- and 58-point games, Harden had his 19th straight game with at least 30 and he's had 40 in 10 of the last 13. He was 14 of 30 from the field, going 8 of 19 on 3-pointers, and hit 12 of 15 free throws.



James Harden #13 of the Houston Rockets dribbles the ball defended by Brandon Ingram #14 of the Los Angeles Lakers in the first half at Toyota Center on January 19, 2019 in Houston, Texas.

Harden was asked if Gordon being back after missing eight games before his return on Wednesday night eased the burden on him a little bit.

Brandon Ingram missed a 3 for Los Angeles before Harden hit 1 of 2 free throws to make it 132-130 with less than a minute left. Ingram tied it with a basket, and Harden again made 1 of 2 free throws to make it 133-132.

Los Angeles missed a 3 before Gordon also made just 1 of 2 free throws to leave Houston up by two with 12.6 seconds left. Kyle Kuzma lost the ball and it went out of bounds to give Houston the ball back. Gordon added four free throws after that to secure the victory.

It was the second straight overtime game for both teams after Houston lost to Brooklyn on Wednesday night and Los Angeles beat Oklahoma City on Thursday night.

Liverpool Win 4-3 Thriller as Man United Triumph Again



LIVERPOOL (Dispatches) - Mohamed Salah has scored twice as Liverpool beat Crystal Palace 4-3 to maintain its push for the Premier League title.

Juergen Klopp's side went seven points clear of Manchester City ahead of the champions.

Andros Townsend had given Palace a surprise lead in the first half but, after Salah leveled a minute into the second half, Roberto Firmino put Liverpool

in front in the 53rd minute.

Palace equalized through James Tomkins' header in the 65th but a blunder by visiting goalkeeper Julian Speroni gifted Liverpool the lead again.

The Argentine keeper, who turns 40 in May, was making his first appearance since December 2017 because of injuries to Wayne Hennessey and Vicente Guaita. He palmed James Milner's bouncing cross up in the air, virtually into his own net, before Salah made it 3-2 on the goal-line in the 75th.

Rookie Noel Wins Wengen World Cup Slalom



New kid on the slalom block Clement Noel of France on his way to a maiden world cup victory.

WENGEN, Switzerland (AFP) - French tyro Clement Noel won his first ever World Cup race on Sunday clinching the men's slalom on the iconic Wengen slopes by setting the fastest morning chrono and holding off the opposition with a steady second run.

The 21-year-old is the first Frenchman to win a World Cup slalom since Alexis Pinturault five

years ago. He relegated Austrian pair Manuel Feller to second at 0.08sec and Marcel Hirscher to third at 0.10.

Noel, the 2018 junior world champion in slalom who also came fourth at the Olympic Games, has been straining at the leash in this season's slalom and won high praise a week ago when coming a narrow second to Hirscher on the daunting Adelboden slope.

Impey Wins First Back-to-Back Tour Down Under Titles



Overall race winner South African rider Daryl Impey is the first cyclist to win consecutive titles in the 21 years of the Tour Down Under

ADELAIDE, Australia (AFP) - Willunga Hill to become the first South Africa's Daryl Impey hung on up the torturous final at Australia's Tour Down Under

outside Adelaide on Sunday.

Mitchelton-Scott's Impey, who won last year's UCI season-opening event on countback, dug in to take this year's general classification behind sixth-stage winner Richie Porte of Australia up the physically-demanding three-kilometer (1.9-mile) climb to the finish line.

Impey, with a total time of 20 hours 30 minutes 42 seconds, beat Porte by 13 seconds for the race with Dutchman Wouter Poels of Sky Team a further four seconds away in third place overall.

No one has won consecutive titles in the 21 years of the Tour Down Under, while Porte, the 2017 Tour winner, has been runner-up four times.

Pacquiao Batters Broner in Lopsided Welterweight Bout

LAS VEGAS (AFP) - Manny Pacquiao put on a master class in elite boxing Saturday with a 12-round demolition of Adrien Broner, defending his welterweight title in his first fight on U.S. soil in two years -- and his first as a 40-year-old.

Pacquiao easily won with an impressive display of superior hand speed and destructive power that landed him a unanimous decision victory over the much younger American at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas.

The Filipino star almost knocked Broner down twice in the seventh and ninth rounds and showed that he can still be a force in the highly-competitive division despite turning 40 last month.



Pacquiao (R) easily won with an impressive display of superior hand speed and destructive power that landed him a unanimous decision victory over the much younger American at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas.