

# King Nadal reclaims his throne with La Decima

AFP, Paris

Rafael Nadal coasted to a record 10th French Open title on Sunday, demolishing Stan Wawrinka in a brutally one-sided final which also earned the Spaniard a 15th Grand Slam crown.

Nadal, 31, triumphed 6-2, 6-3, 6-1 to become the first man in history to win the same major 10 times.

His collection of Slams now stands just three behind great rival Roger Federer, a staggering statistic coming just a year after he quit Roland Garros with a wrist injury.

Playing in his 22nd Grand Slam final, Nadal triumphed in Paris without dropping a set for a third time.

He also lost just 35 games in total and only six in the final, his most comprehensive victory since allowing Roger Federer four games in the 2008 final.

"It's really incredible. To win La

Decima is very, very special," said Nadal.

"I am very emotional. The feeling I have is impossible to describe. It's difficult to compare with other tournaments but the nerves and adrenaline I feel, it's like no other place."

Once Nicole Kidman had helped unbox the Coupe des Mousquetaires to a crowd already wilting in 30-degree heat, the final was underway.

It was the 22nd Slam finale for Nadal; just the fourth for Wawrinka, the oldest man in the championship match in 44 years.

Sunday was also the first time since 1969 that the Roland Garros final had featured two men over 30.

Despite having spent more than five hours on court getting to the final, 2015 champion Wawrinka had the first break point in the third game.

The 32-year-old couldn't take it and it proved to be the only break point he earned all afternoon.

From there, it was all downhill.

Nadal was unable to convert four break points in the fourth game.

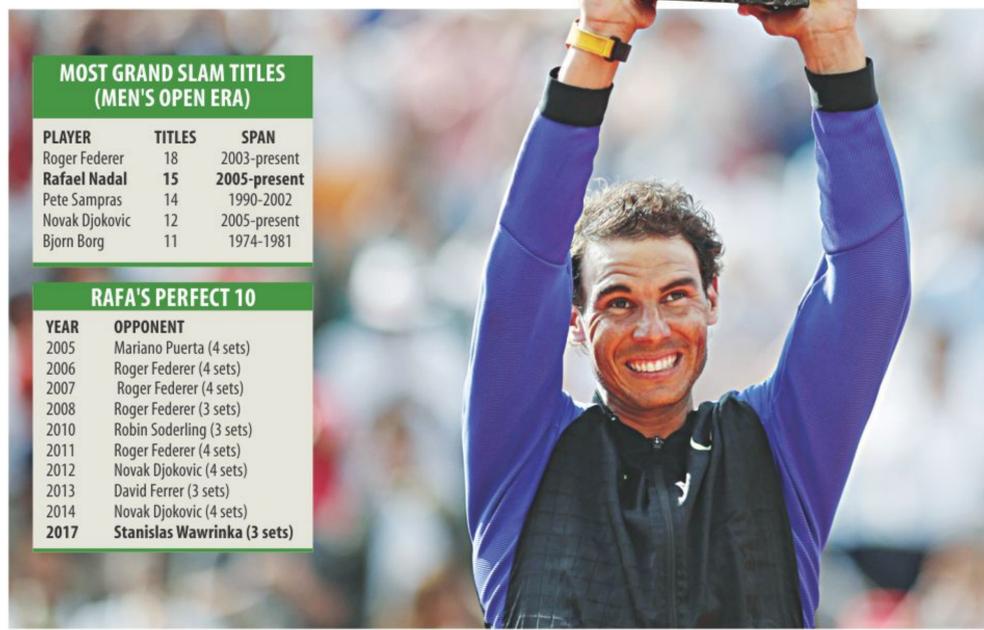
No matter as he broke through for 4-2 and then went to set point in the eighth game after a relentless forehand barrage sapped the will out of Wawrinka.

A backhand which sailed long gave Nadal the first set with the Spaniard having crunched 10 winners to Wawrinka's four while committing half the unforced errors.

Nadal forced Wawrinka into another forehand error to break for 2-0 in the second set before the Swiss halted a run of seven games lost with a hold for 1-3.

But the song remained the same, Nadal taking the set in the ninth game. First game of the third set and Nadal broke again.

Nadal was soon a double break to the good for 4-1, held for 5-1 and then claimed a huge slice of history when Wawrinka limply dropped a backhand into the net.



After two years of separation, King of Clay Rafael Nadal is reunited with his crown, which he won back through a straight-sets demolition of Stanislas Wawrinka in the French Open final at Roland Garros yesterday. Nadal also became the only tennis player to win 10 titles at the same Grand Slam event. PHOTO: REUTERS

### MOST GRAND SLAM TITLES (MEN'S OPEN ERA)

| PLAYER         | TITLES | SPAN         |
|----------------|--------|--------------|
| Roger Federer  | 18     | 2003-present |
| Rafael Nadal   | 15     | 2005-present |
| Pete Sampras   | 14     | 1990-2002    |
| Novak Djokovic | 12     | 2005-present |
| Bjorn Borg     | 11     | 1974-1981    |

### RAFA'S PERFECT 10

| YEAR | OPPONENT                    |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 2005 | Mariano Puerta (4 sets)     |
| 2006 | Roger Federer (4 sets)      |
| 2007 | Roger Federer (4 sets)      |
| 2008 | Roger Federer (3 sets)      |
| 2010 | Robin Soderling (3 sets)    |
| 2011 | Roger Federer (4 sets)      |
| 2012 | Novak Djokovic (4 sets)     |
| 2013 | David Ferrer (3 sets)       |
| 2014 | Novak Djokovic (4 sets)     |
| 2017 | Stanislas Wawrinka (3 sets) |



An emotional Usain Bolt recovered from a moderate start to win his final 100 metres sprint on home soil, clocking 10.03 seconds at the National Stadium in Kingston on Saturday. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Bolt wins final home race

AFP, Kingston



Usain Bolt partied with his devoted fans in an emotional farewell at the National Stadium on Saturday as the world's fastest man ran his final race on Jamaican soil.

Bolt wanted to go out in a blaze of glory as he won the 100 metre "Salute to a Legend" race in front of a raucous crowd of 30,000 on the same track where he launched his international career at the world juniors in 2002.

The 30-year-old Bolt leaped out of the blocks and cruised to victory in a time of 10.03, well below his world record time but good enough to beat a solid field.

"I don't think I have ever been that nervous to run the 100 metres," said Bolt, who is retiring in August following the World Championships.

"Just the atmosphere and the people. The support they came out and gave me, it was really nerve-wracking."

After the race the Bolt took a victory lap then returned to the track and the No. 5 lane where he kissed the finish line before flashing his signature lightning-bolt pose for the final time at home.

"There is no words," Bolt said. "From world juniors to now I have always been getting great support from Jamaica. I never thought I would ever reach this height in track and field. My only aim was to be a 200 metre Olympic champion."

"I have done all I have done. Being a

legend now is something big. But I couldn't have done it without the support of my parents."

The nine-time Olympic gold medalist did not run in the fastest 100 metre race of the evening, but his fans didn't care. He ran in front of a sea of green and yellow clad fans who showed their pride by dancing, waving flags and blowing vuvuzelas while fireworks lit the sky.

Bolt said the reception he received was larger and louder than he anticipated.

"I never expected this. I knew it was going to be big but the stadium was jam-packed with people supporting me. I appreciate that," he said.

"To see everybody turn out shows that what I have done for the sport is a big deal to them."

## QUICK SINGLES

The following are a few samples of stories that did not make the print edition. However, if they pique your interest, you can always read them online on The Daily Star website by simply scanning the QR codes listed below:

### Zia 10th in Mumbai

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman became fifth in the 10th Mumbai Mayor's Cup International Open Chess Tournament which concluded in Mumbai yesterday.

### Bayern sign Gnabry from Bremen

Bayern Munich have completed the signing of Serge Gnabry from Werder Bremen for an unconfirmed fee believed to be in the region of €8 million.

### Southgate heartened by England's resolve

England manager Gareth Southgate said his team's last-gasp 2-2 draw against Scotland demonstrated the kind of mental fortitude he is trying to instill in his players.

### Infantino 'confident' in 2022 despite Qatar crisis

FIFA is confident the diplomatic crisis sweeping Qatar will normalise and not threaten the 2022 World Cup, the organisation's president, Gianni Infantino, said in an interview published Sunday.

# DFAs left out in the lurch

SPORTS REPORTER



14 months after the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) polls, the District Football Associations (DFAs) are still waiting to get their promised financial assistance as well as directives from the BFF to start their respective district football leagues.

Rejuvenation of district football was one of the major agendas in last year's BFF polls in view of the poor state of the country's football and at that time the candidates running for president promised to assist the DFAs with healthy financial packages, but the heart of the country's football remains ignored under the Kazi Salahuddin-led committee.

Since their separation from the government-affiliated District Sports Associations (DSAs) in 2008, most of the DFAs have been sitting idly due to a lack of funding, either by the BFF or the government.

Many of the DFAs have not staged any leagues since their formation, while only 15-18 DFAs have been holding leagues regularly, that too at their own expense. Those few are the ones keeping football in Dhaka alive by providing footballers to different Dhaka clubs. However, even those districts could not hold leagues last year due to financial constraints as well as the much-hyped BFF polls.

Habiganj and Satkhira are two of those districts who hold the league regularly and they are now looking for the Tk 5 lakh per year Salahuddin promised to provide each DFA.

"We did not get any directives regarding the district league from the federation last year but they once instructed us not to rope in local sponsors as they were trying to arrange sponsors for the district league," said Habiganj DFA president Abdur Rahman yesterday.

"But we have been holding the league with financial assistance from sports-loving MP Abu Jahir and we are still ready to begin the league but can't do it without the instructions from BFF," said Rahman. "We are determined to start the league after Ramadan whether or not the BFF gives any

promised money."

Rahman added that around 13 players from Habiganj were playing for different Dhaka clubs and that has been possible because of the district leagues being held regularly, warning that the pipeline of players would soon disappear if they could not hold the league regularly.

"We will start the league as soon as the BFF instructs us," said Satkhira DFA president Sirajul Islam Khan. "We have learnt that Saif PowerTec will sponsor the district league."

"We still didn't get the promised money from the BFF president, but we have already spent around Tk 2 lakh behind our U-18 and U-15 teams. There are also expenditures of approximately Tk 20,000 behind office staff, electricity bills and maintenance, but we don't have any allocation from the federation or the government," added Khan, whose DFA held their district league regularly but had to stop last year due to financial constraints.

There are about 15 male footballers from Satkhira playing at different Dhaka clubs, while there are five to six women footballers, including national team captain Sabina Akhter and defender Masura Parvin among others.

"If DFAs are given a nominal portion of the financial help given to Dhaka clubs, then the scenario of the country's football will change drastically. It is not possible to make changes while sitting in air-conditioned rooms. You have to go from district to district to find out the real problems," said newly elected Rangpur DFA president Manzur Rahmed Azad.

"I have personally helped Rangpur U-18, U-15 and women's U-14 teams take part in national level competitions, but how long can I help financially?" questioned Azad, saying that Rangpur could not hold any league in nine years but adding that he was determined to hold it this year.

Rangpur was one of the major districts from where budding footballers came onto the scene, but cricket's popularity has pushed it to the periphery. There are only five or six footballers from the district, all of whom play for second and third division clubs in Dhaka.

# WALTON

আমাদের পণ্য

## ডোর বড় হলেই কি ফ্রিজ বড়?

সাধারণ ও নিম্নমানের ফ্রিজের ডোর হয় ফ্রিজের তুলনায় অনেক বড়। যা দেখতে বড় হলেও ভেতরে খাবার সংরক্ষণের জায়গা থাকে অনেক কম।

সাধারণ ও নিম্নমানের ডোর বড় ফ্রিজ

ওয়ালটন সঠিকভাবে ড্যাট ও ট্যাক্স পরিশোধসহ নিয়মকানুন মেনে চলার ক্ষেত্রে সর্বদা দৃঢ় প্রতিজ্ঞ। একইভাবে প্রোডাক্ট ডিজাইন ও মানের ব্যাপারেও যথাযথ নৈতিকতা ও সততা বজায় রাখে।

**Huge SPACE এবং সঠিক মাপের ডোর মানেই ওয়ালটন ফ্রিজ**

Intelligent Inverter Compressor

**10 Years Guarantee**

IEC 60335-2-24 Standard  
Tempered glass door

Buy Refrigerator with Intelligent Inverter  
Save Electricity, Be Intelligent

**PHTHALATE Free Gasket**  
Ensures Health Safety

**9 Layer VCM Door**  
High Glossy, Scratch & Corrosion Resistant

● শতাধিক মডেল ও ডিজাইন

**CFC & HCFC Free**  
Green Technology

**eCOZEN**  
Non-Frost Refrigerator Technology  
বরফ ছাড়াই সতেজ

**NANO HEALTHCARE**  
ব্যাকটেরিয়া প্রতিরোধক

**100% COPPER Condenser**  
দীর্ঘস্থায়িত্বের নিশ্চয়তা

Intelligent Inverter Technology  
সর্বোচ্চ বিদ্যুৎ সাশ্রয়ী

দীর্ঘদিন খাবার সতেজ রাখে

ISO 9001 : 2015, ISO 14001 : 2015 & OHSAS 18001 : 2007 Certified Company

সমস্ত এখন বাংলাদেশে

All models are tested by:  
**NUSDAT-UTS**  
ISO/IEC 17025:2005 (BAB Accredited)

Helpline: **16267**  
09612316267

waltonbd.com