



ROGER FEDERER

Roger, Novak ousted

AFF, Shanghai



Roger Federer's trademark cool spectacularly deserted him and he was given a point penalty as he followed Novak Djokovic out of the Shanghai Masters quarterfinals yesterday.

Alexander Zverev defeated the usually unflappable Swiss 6-3, 6-7 (7/9), 6-3 in a dramatic match that saw Federer twice hit the ball out of the court in anger and row with the umpire.

The sixth-ranked Zverev, 22, faces Matteo Berrettini in the semifinals on Saturday after the Italian defeated Austria's Dominic Thiem in straight sets.

Former number one Federer evaded questions about the umpire afterwards, shrugging his shoulders and firing back at one reporter: "So you can write something on Twitter, yeah?"

The 20-time Grand Slam champion saved five match points to force a deciding set, but he then became engaged in a continual war of words with the chair umpire.

His point deduction came at 3-0 and 30-15 down in the third set, as the 38-year-old threatened to unravel and he pinged

another ball towards the crowd.

Federer said that he "played alright", but was effusive about the rise of Zverev, Daniil Medvedev and Stefanos Tsitsipas, all in the semifinals in Shanghai.

"The young guys are knocking on the door big time, it's exciting, it's great," he said. Zverev has 11 career titles, but only one arrived this year.

Meanwhile, Tsitsipas said that he scares the "Big Three" after the young Greek stunned world number one Djokovic in their quarter-final.

The 21-year-old has now defeated Djokovic, Federer and Rafael Nadal this year to burnish his fast-growing reputation.

On Saturday though he faces the red-hot 23-year-old Medvedev -- who he has never beaten.

Tsitsipas recovered from losing the opening three games in just seven minutes to shock the reigning champion Djokovic 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.

Calling it the best comeback of his nascent career, the seventh-ranked Tsitsipas said he had dreamt of beating the "Big Three".

It was a double celebration for Tsitsipas, who also confirmed his place in the prestigious season-ending ATP Finals.



NOVAK DJOKOVIC (R)

India in command after Kohli epic

AFF, Pune



Virat Kohli hit a career-best 254 to go past batting great Don Bradman's Test tally of 6,996 runs and

put India in command of the second Test against South Africa on Friday.

Kohli recorded his seventh double century before he declared India's first innings on 601 for five in Pune.

His 225-run fifth-wicket stand with Ravindra Jadeja, who made 91, pulverised the South African bowling after the hosts elected to bat first.

The tourists were precariously placed at 36 for three at stumps with paceman Umesh Yadav claiming the two openers.

Yadav trapped Aiden Markram lbw without scoring and then bowled Dean Elgar for six as the Proteas slipped to 14 for two.

Mohammed Shami sent back Temba Bavuma caught behind for eight as South Africa slipped for 33 for three.

Theunis de Bruyn on 22 and fast bowler Anrich Nortje, on two, were batting at the close with South Africa needing another 366 runs to avoid a follow-on.

Kohli made the day his own with a marathon innings that extended India's domination after they resumed on 273 for three.

Playing his 50th Test as captain, Kohli surpassed Bradman's total and then swept spinner Senuran Muthusamy for two to reach 200 and get the stadium crowd to its feet.

The benchmark puts him in the top 50 Test run-getters, a field led by Indian icon

Sachin Tendulkar with 15,921 runs in 200 matches.

Muthusamy had Kohli caught at slip on 208 with his left-arm spin but TV replays showed he had overstepped the bowling line and the delivery was a no-ball.

Kohli and Jadeja attacked the opposition bowlers with a string of fours and sixes.

Kohli smashed Muthusamy for a boundary to go past his previous-best Test score of 243. He was unconquered with 33 fours and two sixes when he declared the innings.

Jadeja hit eight fours and two sixes in his 104-ball blitz.

The skipper started the day on 63, surviving hostile fast bowling from Kagiso Rabada and Vernon Philander.

He brought up his hundred before lunch with a delightful straight drive for a boundary off Philander.

He put on 178 with overnight partner Ajinkya Rahane, who made 58 before becoming spinner Keshav Maharaj's 100th Test victim.

India had already been boosted by opener Mayank Agarwal's second successive hundred on Thursday.

A series victory for India, who won the first of the three Tests on Sunday, will see them beat the record of 10 straight home series wins they share with Australia.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: First innings 601 for 5 declared (Agarwal 108, Pujara 58, Kohli 254 not out, Rahane 59, Jadeja 91; Rabada 3-93)

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 36 (De Bruyn 20 not out; Yadav 2-16)



KOHLI... 254 not out

Dhaka Metro boosted by Sunny's six

SPORTS REPORTER



Left-arm spinner Arafat Sunny bagged six wickets as Dhaka Metropolis fought

back to bowl Chattogram Division out for 290 on the second day of the opening round of the National Cricket League at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

In reply, Dhaka Metro lost openers Shadman Islam (8) and Rakim Ahmed (6) early but skipper Marshall Ayub (21 not out) and Shamsur Rahman (26 not out) held the ship together and ended the day on 66 for two, still trailing by 224 runs.

Resuming the day on a healthy 147 for three, Chattogram's Pinak Ghosh was dismissed by pacer Shahidul Islam after adding just two

to his overnight score of 30. The other overnight batsman Tasamul Haque added 67 runs with Mahidul Islam for the fifth wicket, but then it was the experienced Sunny who took charge as he broke the partnership by removing the latter for 30.

The 33-year-old then rattled through Chattogram's batting order and picked all remaining five wickets, including Tasamul who was bowled after scoring a team high of 90 off 249 balls. It was Sunny's 19th first-class five-wicket haul and he ended with six for 87 from 39.5 overs.

In Fatullah, Rajshahi were trailing Dhaka Division's first-innings score of 240 by 67 runs with four wickets in hand at the close. The reliable Mushfiqur Rahim top-scored as Rajshahi posted 173 for six.

Dhaka pacer Sumon Khan was

on a roll as he removed the top three Rajshahi batsmen in Mizanur Rahman (1), Junaid Siddique (2) and Avishek Mitra (6). Rajshahi were struggling on 14 for three before skipper Jahurul Islam and Mushfiqur added 121 for the fourth wicket.

Mushfiqur was eventually dismissed by off-spinner Shuvagata Hom after scoring 75 off 116 balls with the help of seven fours and three sixes. Rajshahi once again lost their way with the bat with national player Sabbir Rahman scoring just 11. Jahurul was unbeaten on 57 runs and will have to carry Rajshahi's hopes on the third day.

Earlier, resuming on 143 for seven, Dhaka's overnight batsman Taibur Rahman top-scored with an unbeaten 123-ball 88 that featured nine fours and a six, an instrumental hand in his side posting a challenging total.

National left-arm spinner Taijul Islam bagged four, pacer Shafiqul Islam took three and Forhad Reza picked up two wickets for Rajshahi.

At the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium, Rangpur posted 169 for five against hosts Khulna after the first day was washed out without a ball being bowled. After a delayed start due to a wet outfield, Rangpur lost wickets at regular intervals with Naeem Islam top-scoring with 48. Tanbir Hayder (40 not out) and Sohrawardi Shuvo (31 not out) will resume the third day.

In Rajshahi too, play started late yesterday after the first day was washed out on Thursday. Sylhet posted 68 for three in the 31 overs of play possible against Barishal yesterday.

Barishal pacer Kamrul Islam removed both openers Imtiaz Hossain (6) and Tawfik Khan (16) before Zakir Hasan (32 not out) and skipper Alok Kapali (8 not out) batted till the close.



PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Dhaka Metro spinner Arafat Sunny (2nd from R) bagged his 19th fifer in first-class cricket on Day Two of their NCL match against Chattogram Division yesterday.

Elliott given 14-day ban

REUTERS, London

Liverpool youngster Harvey Elliott has been suspended from all domestic club football for 14 days after using offensive language to mock Tottenham Hotspur striker Harry Kane in a video posted on social media.

Elliott issued an apology when the video came to light earlier this season. He was also fined 350 pounds (\$443) and asked to complete a "face-to-face education course".

Fati called up to U-21s

AGENCIES, Barcelona



Barcelona teenager Ansu Fati has been called up to the Spain Under-21s squad for the first time.

The 16-year-old only received clearance to play for Spain on Thursday, and is being thrown into the mix in the country's youth system at the earliest opportunity.

Many felt Fati would have been called up to the Spanish ranks in time for the upcoming U17 World Cup, which gets under way in Brazil later in October.

But an injury to Barcelona team-mate Carles Perez has given him an opportunity to bed into the system at a higher level.

He will now be in with a chance of featuring in Spain U21s European Championships qualifier against Montenegro on Tuesday.

Belgium qualify first following 9-0 rout

AFF, Paris



Belgium became the first team to qualify for the 2020 European Championship finals as Romelu Lukaku scored twice in a 9-0 thrashing of San Marino in Brussels on Thursday, while the Netherlands needed a late comeback to beat Northern Ireland.

Lukaku took his record Belgium international tally past 50 goals as Roberto Martinez's Group I leaders opened up an unassailable 11-point lead over third-placed Cyprus with three games remaining.

The world-number-one ranked side booked their spot at next year's tournament, which will be played at 12 venues across Europe, after seven straight qualifying wins.

Russia appear set to take the second automatic slot from the group, after a 4-0 win over Scotland moved them eight points ahead of Cyprus.

Belgium will be one of the favourites as they look to lift a first major international title when the Euros get underway on June 12.

Their victory at the King Baudouin Stadium matched their record winning margin of nine goals, having previously beaten Zambia and Gibraltar 9-0 in 1994 and 2017 respectively and hammered San Marino 10-1 in 2001.

Belgium were forced to wait



Belgium's Youri Tielemans (R) celebrates after scoring their sixth goal in a 9-0 demolition of San Marino in Euro 2020 qualifier at the King Baudouin Stadium in Brussels on Thursday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

until the 28th minute for the initial breakthrough on Thursday, which arrived when Leicester midfielder Youri Tielemans fed Lukaku, who fired home his landmark goal.

The floodgates then opened, as Nacer Chadli slotted into the corner from the edge of the area three minutes later, and visiting defender Cristian Broli scored a comical own goal 10 minutes before the interval.

Lukaku wasted little time in making it 51 Belgium goals with a low, right-footed effort, before Toby Alderweireld's deflected strike and

Tielemans' drive made it six before half-time.

Substitute Christian Benteke drilled in number seven with 11 minutes remaining, 18-year-old Yari Verschaeren scored his first international goal from the penalty spot, and Atalanta defender Timothy Castagne completed the rout in the 90th minute.

Elsewhere, Memphis Depay's late brace rescued the Netherlands a 3-1 win over Northern Ireland which sent Ronald Koeman's men top of Group C.



The Daffodil Captain Cup Golf Tournament 2019, a three-day competition, began at the Kurmitola Golf Club in Dhaka yesterday. Air Chief Marshal Masihuhuzzaman Serniabat, among others, was present during the inauguration as chief guest of the event.

PHOTO: COLLECTED