



### Pidcock dominates mountain bike race

Tom Pidcock won the Olympic men's mountain bike race in the hilly countryside southwest of Tokyo on Monday, extending Britain's dominance from the road and track to the dirt. Leaving reigning champion Nino Schurter and his Swiss teammate Mathias Flueckiger behind on the fourth of seven laps, the 21-year-old multidiscipline prodigy proceeded to dominate the toughest course in Olympic history. Flueckiger gave chase in vain and was left with a silver medal. David Valero Serrano of Spain won a surprise bronze.

Pidcock, who splits time between the road and mountain biking, won the World Cup race at Nove Mesto earlier this year to become an Olympic favorite. But then he was hit by a car and broke his collarbone on a training ride, keeping him off a bike for about a week in June, and some wondered whether he'd have the same legs for the Tokyo Games. Turns out they were even better. Olympic organizers originally wanted to carve out a mountain bike course at Yumenoshima, a district in Tokyo, on an artificial island built upon landfill waste. (AP)



Gold medalist Thomas Pidcock of Great Britain bites his medal on the podium during a medal ceremony for the men's cross-country mountain bike competition at the 2020 Summer Olympics, on July 26, in Izu, Japan. (AP)

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### 13-year-old Nishiya wins gold, becomes Japan's youngest medalist

# Skateboarding teens blaze trail for women at Tokyo Olympics



Gold medal winner Momiji Nishiya of Japan holds her medal after winning the women's street skateboarding finals at the 2020 Summer Olympics, on July 26, in Tokyo, Japan. (AP)

TOKYO, July 26, (AP) — On the Olympic podium stood three teenage girls — 13, 13 and 16 — with weighty gold, silver and bronze medals around their young necks, rewards for having landed tricks on their skateboards that most kids their age only get to see on Instagram.

After decades in the shadows of men's skateboarding, the future for the sport's daring, trailblazing women suddenly looked brighter than ever at the Tokyo Games on Monday.

It's anyone's guess how many young girls tuned in to watch Momiji Nishiya of Japan win the debut Olympic skateboarding event for women, giving the host nation a sweep of golds in the street event after Yuto Horigome won the men's event.

But around the world, girls trying to convince their parents that they, too, should be allowed to skate can now point to the 13-year-old from Osaka as an Olympic-sized example of skateboarding's possibilities.

A champion of few words — "Simply delighted," is how she described herself — Nishiya let her board do the talking,

riding it down rails taller than she is. She said she'd celebrate by asking her mother to treat her to a dinner of Japanese yakiniku barbecue.

The silver went to Rayssa Leal, also 13 — Brazil's second silver in skateboarding after Kelvin Hoefler finished in second place on Sunday in the men's event.

### SKATE BOARDING

Both Nishiya and Leal became their countries' youngest ever medalists. The bronze went to 16-year-old Funa Nakayama of Japan.

"Now I can convince all my friends to skateboard everywhere with me," Leal said.

She first caught the skateboarding world's attention as a 7-year-old with a video on Instagram of her attempting, and landing, a jump with a flip down three stairs while wearing a

dress with angel wings.

"Skateboarding is for everyone," she said.

But that hasn't always been true for young girls, even among the 20 female pioneers who rode the rails, ramps and ledges at the Ariake Urban Sports Park.

The field included Leticia Bufoni of Brazil, whose board was snapped in two by her dad when she was a kid to try to stop her from skating. She was 10.

"I cried for hours," she recalled. "He thought girls shouldn't skate because he had never seen a woman skate before." Bufoni added, half-joking, that getting him to relent had been harder than qualifying for the Tokyo Games.

"So I want to be that girl that the little girls can show their parents and be like, 'She can skate. I want to be like her,'" Bufoni said.

Annie Guglia of Canada said she didn't see any other girls skate during her first two years on her board. The first contest she entered, at the age of 13, had no women's category, so organizers had to create one for her.

### Olympic Medalists

#### ARCHERY

##### Men's Team

GOLD: South Korea (Je Deok Kim, Woojin Kim, Jinhyeok Oh)  
SILVER: Taiwan (Yu-Cheng Deng, Chih-Chun Tang, Chun-Heng Wei)  
BRONZE: Japan (Takaharu Furukawa, Yuki Kawata, Hiroki Muto)

#### CANOE SLALOM

##### Men's Canoe

GOLD: Benjamin Savsek, Slovenia  
SILVER: Lukas Rohan, Czech Republic  
BRONZE: Sideris Tasiadis, Germany

#### DIVING

##### Men's Synchronised 10m Platform

GOLD: Britain (Thomas Daley, Matty Lee)  
SILVER: China (Aisen Chen, Yuan Cao)  
BRONZE: Russia (Aleksandr Bondar, Viktor Mini-baev)

#### FENCING

##### Men's Foil Individual

GOLD: Ka Long Cheung, Hong Kong  
SILVER: Daniele Garozzo, Italy  
BRONZE: Alexander Choupenitch, Czech Republic

##### Women's Sabre Individual

GOLD: Sofia Pozdniakova, Russia  
SILVER: Sofya Velikaya, Russia  
BRONZE: Manon Brunet, France

#### ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS

##### Men's Team

GOLD: Russia (Denis Ablyazin, David Belyavskiy, Artur Dalaloyan, Nikita Nagornyy)  
SILVER: Japan (Daiki Hashimoto, Kazuma Kaya, Takeru Kitazono, Wataru Tanigawa)  
BRONZE: China (Chaopan Lin, Wei Sun, Jingyuan Zou, Ruoteng Xiao)

#### JUDO

##### Men — 73 kg

GOLD: Shohei Ono, Japan  
SILVER: Lasha Shavdatuashvili, Georgia  
BRONZE: Changrim An, South Korea  
BRONZE: Tsogetbaatar Tsend-Ochir, Mongolia

##### Women — 57 kg

GOLD: Nora Gjakova, Kosovo  
SILVER: Sarah Leonie Cysique, France  
BRONZE: Tsukasa Yoshida, Japan  
BRONZE: Jessica Klimkait, Canada

#### CYCLING MOUNTAIN BIKE

##### Men's Cross-country

GOLD: Thomas Pidcock, Britain  
SILVER: Mathias Flueckiger, Switzerland  
BRONZE: David Valero Serrano, Spain

#### SHOOTING

##### Skeet Men

GOLD: Vincent Hancock, United States  
SILVER: Jesper Hansen, Denmark  
BRONZE: Eric Delaunay, France  
BRONZE: Abdullah Alrashidi, Kuwait

##### Skeet Women

GOLD: Amber English, United States  
SILVER: Diana Bacosi, Italy  
BRONZE: Meng Wei, China

#### SKATEBOARDING

##### Women's Street

GOLD: Momiji Nishiya, Japan  
SILVER: Rayssa Leal, Brazil  
BRONZE: Funa Nakayama, Japan

#### SWIMMING

##### Men's 100m Breaststroke

GOLD: Adam Peaty, Britain  
SILVER: Arno Kamminga, Netherlands  
BRONZE: Nicolò Martinenghi, Italy

##### Men's 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay

GOLD: United States (Brooks Curry, Blake Pieroni, Bowen Becker, Zach Apple, Caleb Dressel)  
SILVER: Italy (Alessandro Miressi, Santo Condorelli, Lorenzo Zazzeri, Manuel Frigo, Thomas Ceccon)  
BRONZE: Australia (Cameron McEvoy, Zac Incerti, Alexander Graham, Kyle Chalmers, Matthew Temple)

##### Women's 100m Butterfly

GOLD: Margaret Macneil, Canada  
SILVER: Yufei Zhang, China  
BRONZE: Emma McKeon, Australia

##### Women's 400m Freestyle

GOLD: Ariarne Titmus, Australia  
SILVER: Kathleen Ledecy, United States  
BRONZE: Bingjie Li, China

#### TAEKWONDO

##### Men — 80kg

GOLD: Maksim Khramtsov, Russia  
SILVER: Saleh Elsharabaty, Jordan  
BRONZE: Toni Kanaet, Croatia  
BRONZE: Seif Eissa, Egypt

##### Women — 67kg

GOLD: Matea Jelic, Croatia  
SILVER: Lauren Williams, Britain  
BRONZE: Ruth Gbagbi, Ivory Coast  
BRONZE: Hedaya Wahba, Egypt

#### TRIATHLON

##### Men's Individual

GOLD: Kristian Blummenfelt, Norway  
SILVER: Alex Yee, Britain  
BRONZE: Hayden Wilde, New Zealand

#### TABLE TENNIS

##### Mixed Doubles

GOLD: Japan (Jun Mizutani, Mima Ito)  
SILVER: China (Xin Xu, Shiwen Liu)  
BRONZE: Taiwan (Yun Ju Lin, I Ching Cheng)

#### WEIGHTLIFTING

##### Women's 55kg

GOLD: Hidilyn Diaz, Philippines  
SILVER: Qiuyun Liao, China  
BRONZE: Zulfiya Chinshanlo, Kazakhstan

# Judo's elusive star Shohei Ono 'dominates' another Olympics

'I had some fear going into golden score'



Shohei Ono of Japan, (right), and Tsogetbaatar Tsend-Ochir of Mongolia compete during their men's - 73kg judo semifinal match, at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan, on July 26. Inset: Gold medalist Shohei Ono of Japan poses after the medal ceremony. (AP)

### Medvedev and Zverev advance

## Osaka, Djokovic raise profile at Tokyo Games

TOKYO, July 26, (AP) — Naomi Osaka has the hopes of the entire host nation resting on her.

Novak Djokovic is attempting to accomplish something that no man has done before in tennis.

Both players are after something special at the Tokyo Olympics and both produced convincing victories Monday to reach the last 16 at Ariake Tennis Park.

Osaka crushed winners off both wings — forehand and backhand — seemingly at will in a 6-3, 6-2 victory over 49th-ranked Viktorija Golubic of Switzerland. Then Djokovic dispatched 48th-ranked Jan-Lennard Struff of Germany 6-4, 6-3.

Despite this being her first tournament back from a two-month mental health break, Osaka's strong start is hardly a surprise considering that the Olympic tournament is being played on hard courts — the surface on which she has won all four of her Grand Slam titles.

It was similar to the way Osaka overwhelmed Zheng Saisai of China a day earlier and it extended her momentum after carrying

### Gjakova wins gold on mourning day for Kosovo

PRISTINA, Kosovo, July 26, (AP) — Nora Gjakova brought some semblance of joy to Kosovo by winning its second Tokyo Olympics judo gold medal on Monday.

With her country in mourning following the death of 10 people in a road accident on Sunday, the 28-year-old Gjakova took the title with an ippon victory over France's Sarah-Leonie Cysique in the women's 57-kilogram division.

She joined Dstria Krasniqi, who took the 48kg crown on Saturday, as the second and third gold medalists in Kosovo's Olym-

pic history. Majinda Kelmendi won the first at Rio de Janeiro in 2016, also in judo.

Gjakova had reached the final with a shock victory over Japan's Tsukasa Yoshida.

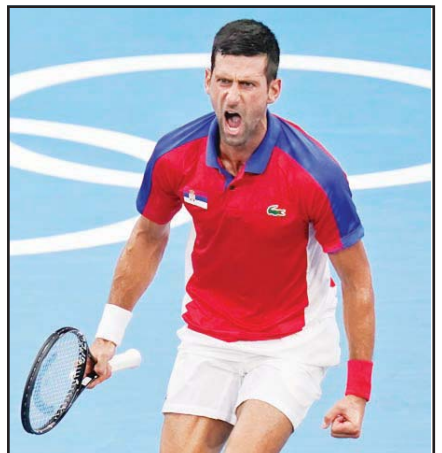
The 1998-1999 war in Kosovo, then a Serbian province, ended after a NATO military intervention that forced Serbia to withdraw its forces. The United Nations ran the territory for nine years before Kosovo in 2008 declared independence, a move that Serbia doesn't recognize.

Kosovo has a population of 1.8 million.

This is Osaka's first event since she withdrew from the French Open in May, revealing that she has dealt with depression. She then sat out Wimbledon.

Two more wins and Osaka will be in line for more honors in her Olympic debut — a medal.

The second-ranked Osaka will next face 2019 French Open runner-up Marketa Von-



Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, reacts after winning a point off Jan-Lennard Struff, of Germany, during the second round of the tennis competition at the 2020 Summer Olympics, on July 26, in Tokyo, Japan.

drousova of the Czech Republic, who beat Mihaela Buzarnescu of Romania 6-1, 6-2.

In windier, cooler and more overcast conditions than the sweltering opening two days of the competition, Osaka compiled 29 winners to Golubic's 14 and had only 11 unforced errors to her opponent's 21. Perhaps more telling was that Osaka required only 65 minutes to dispatch a player coming off a quarterfinal appearance at Wimbledon.

A few other top women struggled.

Donna Vekic of Croatia beat third-seeded Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (3), Alison van Uytvanck of Belgium rallied past 2016 bronze medalist Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic 5-7, 6-3, 6-0, and Paula Badosa eliminated sixth-seeded Iga Swiatek of Poland 6-3, 7-6 (4).

In men's action, second-seeded Daniil Medvedev of ROC and fourth-seeded Alexander Zverev of Germany each advanced quickly. Medvedev beat Sumit Nagal of India 6-2, 6-1 and Zverev eliminated Daniel Elahi Galan of Colombia 6-2, 6-2.

Meanwhile, the International Tennis Federation announced that Dutch player Jean-Julien Rojer tested positive for COVID-19 and was withdrawn from the doubles tournament with partner Wesley Koolhof.

The eighth-seeded pair were scheduled to play Marcus Daniell and Michael Venus of New Zealand. Daniell and Venus received a walkover into the quarterfinals and Rojer was placed in isolation.

TOKYO, July 26, (AP) — Shohei Ono made two of his first three opponents cry when he returned to judo at the Tokyo Olympics after 18 mysterious months away.

These were not small tears, either. Loud, body-shaking sobs emanated from the men who had to walk behind Ono in defeat through the otherwise hushed halls of the Budokan, giving voice to the anguish of extraordinary athletes whose lifetimes of preparation had still left them unequipped to survive four minutes against Japan's elusive judo superstar.

Turkey's Bilal Çiloğlu, the world's No. 9 lightweight, screamed and put his fists to his head after Ono pinned him helplessly to the tatami for an ippon, his wails echoing down the corridors.

Azerbaijan's Rustam Orujov, second ranked in the world and top-seeded in Tokyo, dried his eyes with his untucked gi after Ono ended the rematch of their gold medal bout in Rio de Janeiro with two waza aris 65 seconds apart.

### JUDO

Ono is the most dominant player on a Japanese judo team that might be the best in Olympic history. His combination of brute ferocity and tactical invention have kept him unbeaten since 2015, even in an Olympic weight class stacked with incredible talents — only one of whom has ever even scored a point against Ono.

The 29-year-old Ono is now a two-time Olympic champion after winning five straight matches at the Budokan, completing his return with a superiority over his peers that only he can boast in the modern sport.

Not even two-time Olympic champ Teddy Riner, the massive French heavyweight who went a decade between losses, is as dominant as Ono now.

Ono is also idiosyncratic: He decided not to compete between the start of the coronavirus pandemic and the Olympics, choosing a path to gold that would seem foolish to a judoka without his abilities.

Ono has followed this strategy before: He skipped two straight world championships after Rio, but returned at the Budokan in 2019 to claim his third world title.

Ono apparently feels he benefits more from hard training in Japan's peerless domestic system than on tournament trips to far-flung locations, and his results are unquestionable.

"I was not in a match for a long time, but I decided to be practical," Ono said through a translator. "I tried to engage in the training. I was not idle. I stayed focused."

In the evening, Ono's two fights were tougher. His gold medal bout was an epic showdown with Georgia's Lasha Shavdatuashvili, a fearless veteran who secured his third Olympic medal while getting Ono into several dangerous situations.

"I had some fear going into golden score," Ono admitted.