

## SPORTS

# Top-seeded Medvedev wins as Pliskova upset at Indian Wells



Angelique Kerber of Germany, returns to Daria Kasatkina, of Russia, at the BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament on Oct 11, in Indian Wells, Calif. (AP)

## Gauff falls, Kerber advances

**INDIAN WELLS, Calif., Oct. 12, (AP):** Top-seeded Daniil Medvedev beat Filip Krajinovic 6-2, 7-6 (1) to reach the round of 16 on a gusty day at the BNP Paribas Open. Karolina Pliskova, the women's top seed, was upset by Beatriz Haddad Maia.

### TENNIS

Medvedev, the U.S. Open champion, connected on 70% of his first serves and fired four aces despite challenging weather conditions.

Haddad Maia got into the main draw as a lucky loser. She lost in the final round of qualifying and got in when No. 29 seed Nadia Podoroska withdrew with a thigh injury. Haddad Maia inherited Podoroska's first-round bye and then beat Mayir Sherif in the second round.

Ranked 115th, the Brazilian reached the round of 16 at a WTA 1000 event for the first time.

On a windy day at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden, Pliskova held serve to tie the second set 5-5, but she got broken eight times in the match. Haddad



Daniil Medvedev of Russia, runs to return a shot to Filip Krajinovic, of Serbia, at the BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament on Oct 11, in Indian Wells, Calif. (AP)

Maia held and then broke Pliskova in the final game to wrap up her second career win over a Top-5 player.

No. 15 Coco Gauff lost to 21st-seeded Paula Badosa 6-2, 6-2 in a match that was briefly suspended by rain on a night of wild weather in the desert. No. 10 Angelique Kerber defeated

## Former-NBA guard Smith makes tourney 'debut' as college golfer

**BURLINGTON, N.C., Oct. 12, (AP):** J.R. Smith couldn't help but feel anxious.

Sure, he had spent 16 years playing in the NBA, making millions and winning two world championships in packed arenas at the highest level of a global sport. But he had never been in the situation like he was Monday: lining up tee shots as a 36-year-old freshman walk-on playing his first college golf tournament for North Carolina A&T at Elon's Phoenix Invitational.

"I was nervous, I was," said Smith, who shot a 12-over-par 83 in Round 1 and then a 7-over 78 in Round 2. "I didn't really know what to expect."

That's easy to understand considering how massive of a change it represents for Smith. Exactly one year earlier, to the day, he was a shirtless part of an oncourt celebration with LeBron

James after the Los Angeles Lakers had just closed out a title run in the Florida pandemic bubble.

Smith had since been drawn to the Greensboro school because of his interest in attending a Historically Black College or University, which follows a push by the NBA and its players to support HBCU traditions and culture in this year's All-Star Game in Atlanta.

On Monday, Smith's pride came from representing a HBCU for the first time as an Aggies golfer at the two-day event at Alamance Country Club.

"We're such a small part of the percentage of the country, let alone the budgeting system," Smith said with a laugh. "Because I see everybody else has got vans and all this other stuff. But it's great. It's great to represent them. It's great for the school to get the recognition because they deserve it, and my fellow classmates."

20th-seeded Daria Kasatkina 6-2, 1-6, 6-4. No. 12 Ons Jabeur beat Danielle Collins 6-1, 6-3 for her Tour-leading 46th match win of the year.

No. 16 seed Bianca Andreescu, the 2019 champion, lost to 18th-seeded Anett Kontaveit 7-6 (5), 6-3. On the men's side, No. 6 Casper

Ruud outlasted Lloyd Harris 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-4. No. 8 Hubert Hurkacz and 10th-seeded Diego Schwartzman advanced. No. 16 Reilly Opelka lost to 23rd-ranked Grigor Dimitrov 6-3, 6-4.

No. 9 Denis Shapovalov was beaten by 19th-seeded Aslan Karatsev 7-5, 6-2.

### NHL Roundup

#### Nichol promoted to assistant GM

## Blackhawks agree to 1-year contract with D Gustafsson

**CHICAGO, Oct. 12, (AP):** The Chicago Blackhawks brought back Erik Gustafsson, agreeing to a one-year contract with the free-agent defenseman.

Gustafsson was released by the New York Islanders on Sunday. The deal with Chicago is worth \$800,000.

The return of Gustafsson bolsters the Blackhawks' blue line after they lost young defensemen Caleb Jones and Wyatt Kalynuk to injuries. Jones sprained his left wrist, and Kalynuk sprained his right ankle.

Jones was placed on long-term injured reserve on Monday, and Kalynuk and defenseman Alec Regula went on IR. Regula is dealing with lower back trouble.

The Blackhawks visit Colorado on Wednesday for their season opener.

The 29-year-old Gustafsson made his NHL debut with Chicago in 2015. He set career highs with 17 goals and 43 assists in 79 games for the Blackhawks during the 2018-19 season.

He was traded to Calgary in February 2020 for a third-round draft pick. He played for Philadelphia and Montreal last season, finishing with a goal and 11 assists in 29 games. Gustafsson has 30 goals and 109 assists in 281 NHL games.

The Blackhawks also re-assigned four players to Rockford of the AHL; forwards MacKenzie Entwistle and Philipp Kurashev, and goaltenders Collin Delia and Malcolm Subban.

The Nashville Predators have promoted Scott Nichol to assistant general manager going into his 13th season overall with the franchise.

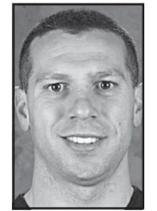
General manager David Poile announced the promotion.

Nichol will continue as general manager of the AHL's Milwaukee Admirals and as the Predators' director of player development. Poile called this the next step with Nichol the third assistant general manager joining Jeff Kealty, who oversees scouting, and Brian Poile, who runs hockey operations.

"When you combine Scott's work ethic and foundational understanding of what it takes to work in the NHL, you can see why he has been able to be successful at this level," Poile said.

Nichol played for the Predators from 2005-09. He played in 662 career NHL games and helped San Jose reach back-to-back Western Conference Finals in 2010 and 2011. Nichol still holds the franchise record for short-handed goals in a game and a period with two in the second period of a win at St. Louis on Jan. 19, 2008.

He rejoined the franchise in 2013-14 as director of player development. He took over as GM of the Admirals in 2018. He has helped develop Filip Forsberg, Colton Sissons, Eeli Tolvanen and Tanner Jeannot among others.



Nichol

The Tampa Bay Lightning have signed Jon Cooper to a three-year extension through the 2024-25 season, rewarding their coach after the team won consecutive Stanley Cup titles.

Cooper has been behind bench with the Lightning since March 2013, and the team has made five appearances in the Eastern Conference Final. It has played in the Stanley Cup Final three times over the past seven seasons.

"Unequivocally, Coop is the best person for the job," general manager Julien BriseBois said. "He is a great leader, spokesperson and ambassador for our organization. We are lucky to have him as our head coach and I very much look forward to our continued partnership."

Cooper, the longest tenured coach in the NHL, has a 383-197-53 record in just over eight seasons with Tampa Bay.



New York Islanders goalie Ilya Sorokin, (right), stops a shot attempt from New Jersey Devils' Yegor Sharangovich as New York Islanders' Erik Gustafsson, (left), defends during an NHL preseason hockey game, on Oct. 2, in Bridgeport, Conn. (AP)

# World swim body aims for more integrity, better marketing

**GENEVA, Oct. 12, (AP):** Acknowledging its poor or non-existent relations with athletes, world swimming body FINA detailed plans to reform itself aiming to win back trust and better promote the sport.

Priorities include creating an independent integrity unit modeled on track and field's to end the system of in-house handling of doping cases.

"Athletes, in particular, have had little faith in the integrity of the FINA anti-doping, adjudication and ethical system," wrote a panel of advisors appointed by the governing body to draft ideas.

In swimming's highest-profile recent doping case, a FINA tribunal decision that cleared Chinese star Sun Yang to compete at the 2019 world championships provoked protests from some of his opponents.

Sun was then banned by the Court of Arbitration for Sport for eight years - then at a retrial for four years - after the World Anti-Doping Agency challenged the FINA ruling.



Tom Shields of the US on his way to win the men's 200-meter butterfly finals during the second leg of this year's Swimming World Cup in the Duna Arena in Budapest, Hungary, on Oct. 8. (AP)

If FINA member federations approve the idea in December, the proposed Aquatics Integrity Unit should start work next June. It

would investigate cases and prosecute them at the CAS anti-doping tribunal.

A modernizing slate of changes was prom-

ised when FINA's then-senior vice president Husain al-Musallam was elected unopposed in June to lead the Lausanne-based body.

The new Kuwaiti president's key hire was a first new director general in 35 years, Brent Nowicki, an American lawyer recruited from CAS where he had been managing counsel.

### SWIMMING

The previous FINA leadership style was widely criticized on Monday in a reform draft that spoke of "significant issues of transparency and communication," a "passive" marketing strategy, and commercial rights deals "more like a transaction than a partnership."

The international events schedule was criticized for offering quantity over quality, with too many held in Asia or Europe and broadcast with little innovation that failed to promote athletes.

"FINA should do a better job of telling the

stories of its athletes," the reform document said, also recommending increased prize money.

The document noted "the lack of relationships with athletes" was a barrier to producing more digital content which was key to FINA's future strategy.

FINA is currently being sued by three Olympic gold medalists, Katinka Hosszu of Hungary and Americans Michael Andrew and Tom Shields, in an antitrust suit filed in a California court in 2018.

Al-Musallam has pledged to engage more with athletes and held talks with Matt Biondi, the American swim great who leads the new International Swimmers' Alliance.

The word FINA, the acronym of its traditional name in French, was also recommended to be dropped.

"The world wants engagement, excitement, and a brand it can identify with," said the reform authors, chaired by veteran Olympic lawyer and long-time FINA advisor François Carrard.

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**LOST**  
A 10th & 12th grade board certificate was lost on June 2021. It is a CBSE board certificate of 10th grade of the year 2017 and 12th grade of year 2019. Who so ever finds it, My Name RAKIBUL ISLAM Certificate No. 72587 - Indian central school - Jaleeb Al shayoukh kuwait please contact +965 98065208

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