

SQUASH

SENIOR SERVICE AS GAULTIER WINS BRITISH OPEN TITLE

KINGSTON UPON HULL: Gregory Gaultier became the oldest winner of the British Open since Hashim Khan in the late 1950s when he beat Nick Matthew, the oldest finalist since that era, in a four-game final yesterday.

The 34-year-old Frenchman's 8-11, 11-7, 11-3, 11-3 win over the 36-year-old Englishman earned him his third British Open title and made him the oldest ever world number one on a ranking system which began in the

1970s. "There is a lot of emotion in winning such an old and great title as this," said Gaultier. "I am near the end of my career-six months ago I was thinking of hanging my rackets up, but winning this will give me extra motivation."

Gaultier destroyed opponents so efficiently in the earlier rounds that Matthew came to the final having competed for two-and-a-half hours longer than his rival.

By the third game his movement was beginning to slow. There was trouble for Gaultier when he was admonished by the referee for taking his opponent's space late in the second and warned that next time he would lose a conduct stroke. But gone are the moments when Gaultier would sometimes lose concentration, and an immediate surge of eight points in a row which carried him to 6-0 in the third game irrevocably swung the

direction of the match.

Laura Massaro became the first English woman in 58 years to defend the British Open twice when she beat surprise finalist, Sarah-Jane Perry, her seventh-seeded compatriot, by 11-8, 11-8, 5-11, 11-6. It was Perry's first World Series final and by far the biggest final of her career, whereas the 33-year-old Massaro was a former British Open champion, a former world champion, a former world number

one, and was playing her fourth British Open final in five years. The disparity in experience was soon apparent.

The fifth-seeded Massaro had also beaten the two top Egyptians, the world number one Nour El Sherbini and the former world number one Raneem El Welily, and was the more consistent player, more often keeping the ball tight, and waiting more patiently before attempting attacking forays which involved risk.—AFP

BASKETBALL

WALL, WIZARDS BLOW PAST LEBRON, CAVS 127-115

CLEVELAND: John Wall scored 37 points and Bradley Beal added 27 as the Washington Wizards began a challenging road trip by beating LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers 127-115 in the NBA on Saturday night. Wall scored 18 in the first quarter, when the Wizards shot 82 percent, and Washington held on down the stretch to avenge an overtime loss to the NBA champions last month. James, who briefly wore goggles to protect an eye injury sustained Friday night, scored 24 and added 11 rebounds and eight assists. Kyrie Irving added 23 points and Kevin Love 17 for Cleveland, playing at home for the only time in a seven-game stretch.

Washington's victory cut Cleveland's lead in the Eastern Conference to a half-game over idle Boston.

CLIPPERS 108, JAZZ 95

Jamal Crawford scored 28 points off the bench, and Los Angeles beat Utah to clinch a playoff berth for the sixth straight year. The Clippers trail the Jazz by a half-game in their race for the No. 4 playoff seed in the West. Blake Griffin added 15 points and DeAndre Jordan had 15 rebounds for the Clippers. Rudy Gobert had 26 points and 14 rebounds for Utah, and reserve Joe Johnson added 17 points. The Jazz have dropped four of five.

SPURS 106, KNICKS 98

Kawhi Leonard scored 29 points while LaMarcus Aldridge added 19 points and 10 rebounds to help San Antonio beat New York. San Antonio has won four straight heading into home games against Cleveland on Monday and Golden State on Wednesday. The Spurs (56-16) are two games behind the Warriors (58-14) for the league's best record. San Antonio ensured there would not be a repeat of its disap-

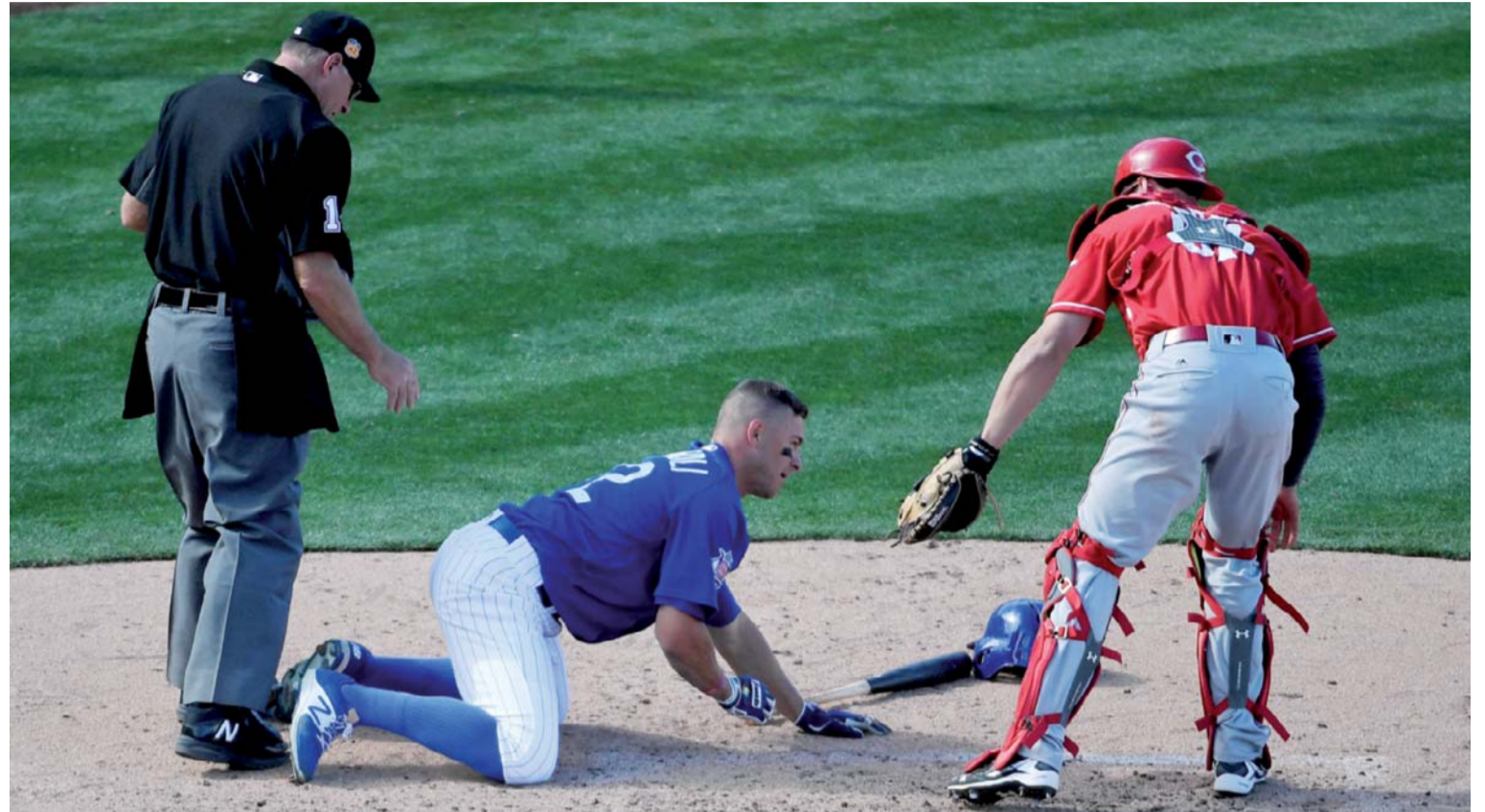
pointing 94-90 loss in New York on Feb. 12, but not without some tense moments. Derrick Rose and Willy Hernangomez each scored 24 points and Hernangomez added 13 rebounds. Mindaugas Kuzminskas had 19 points starting in place of Carmelo Anthony, who missed his second straight game with a sore left knee.

RAPTORS 94, MAVERICKS 86

DeMar DeRozan and Serge Ibaka scored 18 points apiece as Toronto beat Dallas for its fifth straight victory. The Raptors, who came back from 15-point deficits to win each of their last two games, made it a little easier on themselves Saturday. Toronto scored the game's first seven points and never trailed in dealing the Mavericks' playoff hopes a damaging blow. Harrison Barnes scored 23 points for Dallas, which missed 18 of its first 22 3-pointers and finished just 7 of 28 from behind the arc. Patrick Patterson added 14 points for Toronto, including a perfect 4 for 4 on 3-pointers. The Mavericks fell four games behind Denver for the final playoff spot in the West.

TRAIL BLAZERS 112, TIMBERWOLVES 100

CJ McCollum scored 32 points as Portland continued its push for the playoffs with a victory over Minnesota. Damian Lillard added 21 points for the Blazers, who have won 10 of their last 13 games. Portland has seven of its last 10 games at home. The Blazers pulled within a game of the Denver Nuggets for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference. Andrew Wiggins had 20 points for Minnesota, which lost its sixth consecutive game overall and seventh straight on the road. The Timberwolves, who trailed by as many as 24 points in the second half, are six games behind Portland in the West.—AP



LAS VEGAS: Home plate umpire Dan Bellino and Tucker Barnhart #16 of the Cincinnati Reds check on John Andreoli #72 of the Chicago Cubs after he was hit by a pitch from Austin Orewiler (not pictured) during their exhibition game at Cashman Field on Saturday in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Cubs won 11-7.—AFP

BASEBALL

JONES BACK WITH ORIOLES AFTER WINNING WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

SARASOTA: Adam Jones provided perhaps the best highlight of the World Baseball Classic, when he took a home run away from Manny Machado with a spectacular catch in center field. Now Jones and Machado are just teammates again. "Pretty cool catch, pretty great moment," Jones said. "Sorry it had to be my boy Manny, but it's part of the game, part of that process." Jones is back with the Baltimore Orioles at their camp in Sarasota, Florida, after winning the WBC with Team USA. The international tournament was an opportunity that clearly meant a lot to him, and now he's hoping he can accomplish something similar with Baltimore.

"To do it with those guys, it was probably the best experience of my life so far, especially with sports," Jones said. "Hopefully, we can do something special with these guys in the clubhouse with the Orioles, because it was pretty, pretty humbling, pretty special to go out and represent your country, for all the countries to go out and represent their countries." After Jones robbed Machado of a homer, Machado - who was playing for the Dominican Republic - doffed his cap and waved it in salute.

"Great picture with USA across my chest right in front of the logo, in front of some American flags," Jones said. "There's one guy who doesn't look impressed at all by it, sitting off to the left like, 'What?' I've seen the picture. But a pretty great moment, pretty special moment for that team." Jones has been with three Baltimore teams that have appeared in the postseason, but hasn't played in a World Series.

"My main objective obviously is here playing for the Orioles, but that's Major League Baseball. That's just the United States," he said. "This was on a global scale." St. Louis Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina, who played for Puerto Rico, said Jones owed Puerto Ricans an apology. The US beat Puerto Rico in the final, and Jones said reports that Puerto Rico was planning a celebration had motivated the Americans.

"I don't think I said anything wrong. I just said what we've seen motivated us," Jones said. "It wasn't a slight at Puerto Rico by any stretch. I don't think I said anything wrong, and I would never disrespect a country, because that would make totally no sense."

AROUND THE GRAPEFRUIT AND CACTUS LEAGUES
METS 3, BRAVES 0

Mets starter Rafael Montero tossed five shutout innings and allowed four hits and a walk. Michael Conforto hit his third spring homer. Braves starter R.A. Dickey went six innings and gave up two runs on seven hits and a walk. Brandon Phillips had two hits.

PIRATES 5, TIGERS 4

Anibal Sanchez pitched six hitless innings for Detroit, striking out six. Tyler Collins hit a three-run homer off Pirates starter Tyler Glasnow. Glasnow struck out nine in four innings. Adam Frazier and Pittsburgh prospect Austin Meadows both homered and Francisco Cervelli hit a two-run triple.

MARLINS 1, CARDINALS 0

Miami starter Justin Nicolino went five shutout innings, giving up three hits. Derek Dietrich doubled in a run. Cardinals starter Lance Lynn, who hasn't pitched in a big league game since October 2015 due to an elbow injury and subsequent Tommy John surgery, was lifted after one inning for "precautionary reasons," general manager John Mozeliak said during the Cardinals broadcast of the game. Lynn didn't allow a hit or run and struck out one. He's pitched 15 innings this spring to a 1.29 ERA.

YANKEES 6, BLUE JAYS (ss) 5

Yankees first baseman Greg Bird hit his seventh home run this spring, tying Kansas City's Pete O'Brien for the big league lead. Adam Warren was roughed up for four runs on four hits and two walks over 3 1/3 innings. Devon Travis, in his second spring game returning from knee surgery, got two hits for Toronto. Jerrod Saltalamacchia and Ryan Goins both homered. Starter Mat Latos gave up two earned runs on five hits and a walk over three innings.

NATIONALS 4, ASTROS 1

Tanner Roark, in his first start for Washington since the World Baseball Classic, gave up one run on three hits over 5 1/3 innings, striking out five. Team USA teammate Daniel Murphy went 2 for 4 with a two-run double while Trea Turner added an RBI and stolen base. Astros starter Lance McCullers gave up four runs on six hits over 3 1/3 innings. Jose Altuve hit a run-scoring double.

PHILLIES 3, RED SOX (ss) 3, 9 INNINGS

Jackie Bradley Jr. homered for Boston. Kyle Kendrick gave up two runs on eight hits, striking out six through six. Phils starter Alec Asher gave up two runs on three hits and a walk over three innings. Tommy Joseph had two hits.

RED SOX (ss) 7, RAYS 5

Pablo Sandoval, returning from an injury-plagued 2016, hit his fourth spring homer and Rusney Castillo had two hits and scored twice. Rays starter Blake Snell allowed four runs on six hits and a walk over 4 2/3 innings. Corey Dickerson homered and is hitting .367 this spring.

ANGELS 7, DIAMONDBACKS 4

Albert Pujols hit a two-run home run and Andrelton Simmons drove in a pair during a four-run first inning for Los Angeles. Carlos Perez added a two-run shot in the fourth, and Tyler Skaggs gave up a run on four hits over four innings. Arizona's Taijuan Walker was roughed up for six runs - three earned - and eight hits in four innings. Chris Iannetta had a triple and a run scored.

WHITE SOX 10, INDIANS 7

Jose Abreu and Jacob May each homered for Chicago, and Dylan Covey tossed 3 2/3 scoreless innings. Todd Frazier, Melky Cabrera and Tim Anderson were 0 for 3. Carlos Santana hit a two-run home run and Francisco Lindor had two hits for Cleveland. Josh Tomlin went 6 1/3 innings, allowing five runs and nine hits - including four home runs.

CUBS (ss) 11, REDS (ss) 7

Kris Bryant homered and doubled, top prospect Ian Happ had a three-run homer and four RBIs and Chesny Young added a pair of homers for the Cubs. Happ is hitting .417 this spring with a team-leading 17 RBIs. Kyle Hendricks went three shutout innings despite allowing three hits and four walks. Arismendy Alcantara clubbed a two-run homer for Cincinnati against his former team. Robert Stephenson allowed four runs and six hits over four innings, but also went 2 for 3 with a run scored. Jesse Winker had a pair of hits.

REDS (ss) 11, ATHLETICS (ss) 6

Top prospect Amir Garrett went five innings for Cincinnati, giving up six runs, seven hits and three walks. Cincinnati put up six runs in the second, including RBI singles by Jose Peraza and Ryan Raburn and a pair of run-scoring walks by Oakland's Sean Manaea. Manaea gave up six runs, five hits and five walks over three innings. Rajai Davis led off the third with a homer and scored three runs, and

Trevor Plouffe had a triple and an RBI single.

ROYALS 1, BREWERS 0

Raul Mondesi homered in the bottom of the 10th inning to give Kansas City the win. Ian Kennedy struck out seven over six innings, giving up three hits and walking two. Willy Peralta gave up three hits and two walks over 5 2/3 scoreless innings for the Brewers. Travis Shaw tripled and is hitting .348 this spring. The Royals announced left-hander Danny Duffy as their opening day starter. "With what Danny did last year and this spring, we feel he has earned this," manager Ned Yost said.

DODGERS 11, ATHLETICS (ss) 6

Andrew Toles hit a grand slam and Justin Turner hit a solo shot in L.A.'s five-run fourth. Turner had three hits and two RBIs, and Adrian Gonzalez had two hits and an RBI. Chris Taylor had two hits with a walk, an RBI and two runs scored and is hitting .432 this spring. Yasiel Puig went 0 for 4 with three strikeouts. Rich Hill struck out six but gave up four runs, four hits and four walks over 3 2/3 innings. Matt Chapman hit a three-run homer in the first for Oakland. Jesse Hahn was roughed up in his second consecutive start, giving up seven runs - five earned - and eight hits, including two homers, in 3 1/3 innings. He has allowed 12 earned runs and 16 hits in his last 6 2/3 inning.

ROCKIES 7, CUBS (ss) 4

German Marquez struck out six while allowing two runs, five hits and a walk over six innings for Colorado. Mark Reynolds and Dustin Garneau each had two-run doubles in the fifth inning. Garneau, who is hitting .345 this spring, also walked twice. Brett Anderson allowed one unearned run, six hits and a walk in four innings for Chicago. Jason Heyward hit a two-run homer.

MARINERS 3, RANGERS 1

Dillon Overton continued his strong spring, allowing four hits and one run over six innings for Seattle. Ben Gamel produced two runs on a fly-ball double to left that Ryan Rua lost in the sun. Taylor Motter hit a solo shot, and Mitch Haniger had a double. Haniger is hitting .403 this spring and has an eight-game hit streak. Nick Martinez allowed two runs while striking out six over four innings. Jurickson Profar went 0 for 3 and is hitless in 11 at-bats since returning from the World Baseball Classic.

ORIOLES 6, TWINS 3

Gabriel Ynoa gave up just one hit and one walk over five scoreless innings for Baltimore, lowering his ERA to 1.98 this spring. J.J. Hardy and Jonathan Schoop each hit a solo homer, and Chris Davis hit a two-run shot. Seth Smith returned from a hamstring injury and went 2 for 3 with a double. Minnesota's Hector Santiago allowed two runs on four hits and one walk with four strikeouts in four innings. Ehire Adrianza fouled a ball off his foot and was replaced by Benji Gonzalez in the third.

GIANTS 8, PADRES 7

Buster Posey and Brandon Crawford homered and Jae-gyun Hwang singled in the winning run in the ninth after the Giants rallied from a six-run deficit. Posey had two hits and two runs, while Crawford launched a two-run shot in the sixth. Chris Stratton allowed seven runs and nine hits, including three homers, over three innings. Hunter Pence went 0 for 3 and is batting .136 this spring. San Diego's Clayton Richard allowed five runs and eight hits over six innings. Cory Spangenberg had three hits, including his first homer of the spring, Erick Aybar hit a two-run shot and Hunter Renfroe had a two-RBI double.—AP



CLEVELAND: John Wall #2 of the Washington Wizards drives past Kyrie Irving #2 of the Cleveland Cavaliers during the first half at Quicken Loans Arena on Saturday in Cleveland, Ohio.—AFP

FEDERER, WAWRINKA ADVANCE IN MIAMI

MIAMI: Roger Federer survived a brave challenge from American qualifier Frances Tiafoe before emerging with a 7-6 (7/2) 6-3 victory as he got his Miami Open title bid underway on Saturday.

Tiafoe, ranked 101st in the world, struggled against Federer's serve but was strong on his own and forced a first set-break in which the Swiss came out on top.

The 19-year-old son of immigrants from Sierra Leone then broke Federer's serve in the first game of the second set only for the 18-times Grand Slam winner to break back twice and run out a comfortable winner in the end. Federer was full of praise for his opponent and said he would have gained valuable experience from the contest.

"I hope he's going to learn a lot from a match like this just because playing on a court with a lot of people, under pressure, saving break points, making break points, playing breakers. That's what it is about, and it should feed a player like him with a lot of energy moving forward," he said. Federer is in fine form having clinched the Australian Open and Indian Wells so far this year and extended his record to 14-1. The 35-year-old is looking for his third Miami title following wins in 2005 and 2006.

Federer should have met Del Potro in Miami last year but the Swiss had to pull out with an illness and he says he is looking forward to renewing his rivalry with the South American. "We've had some epic

matches against each other: Semis at the French, Olympic semis, finals at the US Open. You name it, we've had some really good ones," he said.

Reigning US Open champion Stan Wawrinka got off to a solid start, beating Argentina's Horacio Zeballos 6-3, 6-4 at Crandon Park on Saturday.

In the absence of Andy Murray and Novak Djokovic, the top two ranked players in the world, Wawrinka is the number one seed and is fired up after reaching the final at Indian Wells last week, where he was beaten by Federer.

"I'm playing better tennis. I feel that I'm playing good here. I took the confidence from Indian Wells. So let's see... When I'm playing well, when I am confident with my game, I know I can beat anybody," said Wawrinka, who turns 32 on Tuesday.

"It has been quite tough conditions these last few days here. Raining, really windy today. It's really windy on the court, so it's never easy.

"I'm happy the way I was moving, the way I was playing, and my attitude in general was really positive," added Wawrinka, who next faces Tunisia's Malek Jaziri, a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 winner over Spain's Feliciano Lopez. Wawrinka will face either Malek Jaziri next after the Tunisian beat Feliciano Lopez 6-3, 4-6, 6-3. Australia's Nick Kyrgios also progressed on Saturday enjoying a 6-4 6-3 win over Bosnian Damir Dzumhur.—AFP