

## 13 Brilliant Hamilton takes record seventh pole in Australia



## 14 Osmond snatches world gold as Olympic champion Zagitova crashes



## 15 Ronaldo's last-gasp two-goal show steals Salah limelight



KEY BISCAZYNE: Monica Puig of Puerto Rico plays a shot against Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark during Day 5 of the Miami Open at the Crandon Park Tennis Center in Key Biscayne, Florida. — AFP

# Wozniacki, Osaka crash out of Miami

## Djokovic ousted, but Cilic moves on

**MIAMI:** World No. 2 Caroline Wozniacki and rising star Naomi Osaka became early round casualties while veteran Venus Williams survived a scare to book her third round spot at the Miami Open on Friday. Wozniacki slumped to a shock 0-6, 6-4, 6-4 defeat to Monica Puig of Puerto Rico while Osaka's bid for the "Sunshine Double" of Indian Wells and Miami Open titles ended with a 6-4, 6-2 loss to fourth seeded Ukrainian Elina Svitolina.

The 24-year-old Puig compared her win over reigning Australian Open champion Wozniacki to her gold medal triumph at the 2016 Rio Olympics. "It felt like Rio all over again," Puig said. "I have been waiting for this and to finally start finding myself again." The 27-year-old Wozniacki appeared to be headed to an easy victory after winning the first set in less than 30 minutes before the wheels fell off. World number 82 Puig clinched the win with a blistering forehand winner on the second match

point. "I just tried to stay positive," she said. "I didn't think I played that poorly in the first set. She's a great player so I had to stay focused and keep fighting."

Puig became the first Puerto Rican athlete to win gold in any sport at the Olympics when she beat Germany's Angelique Kerber in the final. It was another disappointing exit for Wozniacki, who finally silenced her critics earlier this year with her maiden Grand Slam title in Melbourne, where she defeated Simona Halep in the final.

Wozniacki drops to 17-5 on the season as she has now crashed out of her last two tournaments in stunning fashion. In her most recent WTA event in Indian Wells, Wozniacki was upset in the round of 16 by Russian dynamo Daria Kasatkina.

Japan's Osaka came into the second-round match against Svitolina on an eight-match winning streak that included her dream run to the Indian Wells title and a first-round triumph here over 23-time Grand Slam cham-

pion Serena Williams. But it was Svitolina who emerged with a victory thanks to a solid service performance that saw her win nearly 80 percent of points on her first serve.

Six-time champion Novak Djokovic's hopes of turning around his season at the Miami Open ended in the second round when he was defeated 6-3 6-4 by Frenchman Benoit Paire on Friday. The loss snapped a 16-match winning streak in the tournament for the ninth-seeded Serb, who had been eliminated in the second round at Indian Wells but said before the match his right elbow was pain free for the first time in a long while. He had won the tournament in 2014, 2015 and 2016 but missed last year's event with the elbow injury.

The defeat also ended a streak of 21 consecutive victories over players from France for the former world number one. Paire, who had lost his only other meeting with Djokovic, delivered nine aces to only two for the Serb and won 71 percent of his service points.

Meanwhile, second seeded Croatian Marin Cilic moved into the third round with a 7-5 6-3 triumph over Frenchman Pierre-Hugues Herbert. But the early upsets did not end with Djokovic's loss. David Goffin was unsuccessful in his return from an eye injury, the seventh seeded Belgian falling to Portugal's Joao Sousa 6-0 6-1.

In other second-round action on Friday, seven-time Grand Slam champion Williams stormed back from deficits in each set to defeat world number 88 Natalia Vikhlyantseva 7-5, 6-4. The 37-year-old American improved to 7-3 on the season as she clinched the victory on the second match point when the 21-year-old Russian smacked a forehand wide. Williams trailed 2-5 in the first set but won five straight games to take the opener. She also rallied in the second set, falling behind 0-3 before winning six of the next seven for the victory. Ninth-seeded Czech Petra Kvitova defeated 19-year-old Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus 7-5, 3-6, 6-3. —Agencies

## Curry returns as Warriors beat Hawks

**OAKLAND:** Stephen Curry scored 29 points in 25 minutes before sustaining a sprained MCL in his left knee as the Golden State Warriors beat the Atlanta Hawks 106-94 Friday in Oakland, Calif. Curry, making a comeback from a sprained right ankle that forced him to miss the previous six games, got rolled up on by falling teammate JaVale McGee in a third-quarter collision near the Atlanta basket. In obvious pain, Curry limped to the bench and subsequently to the locker room, and was quickly ruled out for the remainder of the game. He will undergo an MRI exam yesterday, the Warriors announced. Nick Young scored 24 points for Golden State, which was without injured All-Stars Kevin Durant, Draymond Green and Klay Thompson. Tarean Prince led the Hawks with 20 points.

### CELTICS 105, TRAIL BLAZERS 100

Marcus Morris scored 30 points as Boston rallied from a 12-point deficit to pull out a win at Portland. Terry Rozier added 16 points for the Celtics, who outscored Portland 38-23 in the fourth quarter. Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum each scored 26 points for the Trail Blazers, who

lost their second straight game following a 13-game win streak. Al-Farouq Aminu collected 16 points and 10 rebounds for Portland.

### SPURS 124, JAZZ 120 (OT)

LaMarcus Aldridge poured in a career-high 45 points, including 28 in the first half, as San Antonio defeated visiting Utah in overtime in a game with huge playoff implications. Donovan Mitchell's 3-pointer for Utah with 3.6 seconds to play in regulation capped a furious final two minutes of the fourth quarter and sent the game into overtime tied at 114. The victory was the Spurs' season-best sixth in a row. San Antonio is tied with New Orleans for fifth place in the Western Conference a game behind fourth-place Oklahoma City with nine games to play. The Jazz hold a one-game edge over Denver for eighth place in the West.

### RAPTORS 116, NETS 112

Kyle Lowry had 25 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds and Jonas Valanciunas added 23 points and eight rebounds to help Toronto rally over visiting Brooklyn. DeMar DeRozan scored 21 points, Fred VanVleet added 16, Pascal Siakam contributed 11 points and eight rebounds and Serge Ibaka scored 10 points for the Raptors. D'Angelo Russell had 18 points, 13 assists and 11 rebounds for his first career triple-double. Rondae Hollis-Jefferson had 18 points and seven rebounds and Allen Crabbe scored 18 points for the Nets.

### THUNDER 105, HEAT 99

Russell Westbrook scored 17 points in the fourth quar-

ter as Oklahoma City rallied to beat visiting Miami. The Heat led 71-66 with 10:06 remaining in the fourth quarter, but the Thunder went on a 10-0 run to take command on the way to their seventh win in eight games. Westbrook led the Thunder with a game-high 29 points, 13 rebounds and eight assists. Steven Adams had 24 points and 12 rebounds. James Johnson led the Heat with 23 points, and Goran Dragic had 20.

### PACERS 109, CLIPPERS 104

Bojan Bogdanovic scored 28 points on 12-of-18 shooting to lead Indiana over Los Angeles, the 13th time Bogdanovic scored 20 or more points this season. He averaged 6.8 points in the previous five games. Indiana's Thaddeus Young delivered 16 points and 10 rebounds, and Victor Oladipo added 18 points despite a 4-of-16 shooting effort. The Pacers' magic number for clinching a playoff spot is one. Lou Williams led the Clippers with 25 points on 10-of-18 shooting. Tobias Harris scored 18 points for Los Angeles, and DeAndre Jordan added 14 points and 11 rebounds.

### NUGGETS 108, WIZARDS 100

Nikola Jokic and Jamal Murray each scored 25 points to lead Denver to victory host Washington. Will Barton added 22 points for the Nuggets, who are looking to end a four-year playoff drought. Bradley Beal had 24 points and Markieff Morris scored 17 for Washington. Nuggets leading scorer Gary Harris missed his fourth consecutive game with a right knee injury.

### CAVALIERS 120, SUNS 95

JR Smith hit consecutive 3-pointers during a 20-2, second-quarter flurry that sent Cleveland to a home victory over Phoenix. LeBron James had a game-high 27 points in just 29 minutes as the Cavaliers won their fourth straight game while sending the Suns to their 10th consecutive defeat. Troy Daniels had a team-high 20 points for the Suns, who remained tied with Memphis for the fewest wins in the NBA with 19.

### TIMBERWOLVES 108, KNICKS 104

Karl-Anthony Towns had 24 points and 13 rebounds and Andrew Wiggins added 17 points and 11 rebounds to lead Minnesota over host New York. Tim Hardaway Jr. had 39 points and Trey Burke added 15 points off the bench to lead the Knicks, who lost their second consecutive game. After New York went ahead 82-77 with 1:36 left in the third quarter on a Hardaway basket, the Wolves went on a 10-0 run to regain control, and they led by as much as 11 in the second half.

### BUCKS 118, BULLS 105

Shabazz Muhammad scored a season-high 21 points as Milwaukee's bench provided the offensive spark in an easy victory over host Chicago. Milwaukee was playing without forward Giannis Antetokounmpo, who sprained his right foot in a loss to the Los Angeles Clippers on Wednesday night. In the absence of Antetokounmpo, the league's fourth-leading scorer, Khris Middleton and Eric Bledsoe helped pick up the slack, combining for 29 points. Denzel Valentine topped the Bulls with 20 points. — Reuters