

Kyrgios topples idol Tsonga



Australian Open: Day 5 highlights

World number one Rafa Nadal stormed into the fourth round of the Australian Open with a 6-1 6-3 6-1 victory over Bosnia's Damir Dzumhur, while home favourite Nick Kyrgios ousted Jo-Wilfried Tsonga with a hard-fought win.

Kyrgios will face world number three Grigor Dimitrov next, following the Bulgarian's victory over Andrey Rublev.

Women's world number two Caroline Wozniacki and fourth-seed Elina Svitolina also eased to third round wins at Melbourne Park along with Slovakia's Magdalena Rybarikova, Spaniard Carla Suarez Navarro and Belgian Elise Mertens.

Estonian Anett Kontaveit pulled off the only major upset of the day as she knocked out French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko, leaving Maria Sharapova and Angelique Kerber as the only two former grand slam winners left in the women's draw.

Former world number ones Kerber and Sharapova will face off in their highly-anticipated third round fixture today.

Meanwhile, sixth-seed Marin Cilic, Briton Kyle Edmund, Argentine Diego Schwartzman and Spaniard Pablo Carreno Busta progressed to the fourth round of the men's draw. (Reuters)

Melbourne

Australia's Nick Kyrgios won an electric four-setter with his idol Jo-Wilfried Tsonga to advance to the round of 16 at the Australian Open yesterday.

The 17th seeded Kyrgios needed three tiebreakers to win a crunch match with the former finalist 7-6 (7/5), 4-6, 7-6 (8/6), 7-6 (7/5) in 3hr 17min in a spectacular night match on Rod Laver Arena.

It pitches the volatile Australian into a round of 16 showdown with Bulgaria's world No.3 Grigor Dimitrov on Sunday.

Kyrgios, urged on by his home crowd, traded breathtaking volleys with Tsonga, who lost to Novak Djokovic in the 2008 Australian final when Kyrgios

was a 12-year-old fan.

"It was amazing. I've never won a match on this court before but playing Jo I was obviously very nervous," Kyrgios said.

"He was a guy I looked up to as a kid, still do, he's a great guy. I'm just so happy to get through.

"I was getting prepared for a fifth set in that (fourth set) tiebreaker.

"I thought he was going to hit two big first serves and I was in a lot of trouble but I stayed composed, tied to make some returns and fight it out."

The match had some drama just after the third set when an incensed Tsonga yelled at the chair umpire in French about a vocal member of the crowd.

Tsonga was heard to say "bring him here, he needs to come down

here".

He said it three times before the umpire warned the French star, telling him: "You have to stop, you have to stop. Nothing good can come from it."

Tsonga was then issued with a code violation for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Kyrgios won his first home ATP Tour title at the lead-up Brisbane International -- beating Dimitrov along the way -- and is looking to go further than a quarter-final appearance in Melbourne three years ago. (AFP)



Nick Kyrgios of Australia returns a shot during the men's singles third round match against Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France

Caroline Wozniacki



Angry Wozniacki battles past Bertens after tantrum

Melbourne

Second seed Caroline Wozniacki overcame a late temper tantrum to forge into the fourth round of the Australian Open with a 6-4 6-3 win over Kiki Bertens yesterday.

Serving for the match at 5-3 under the lights of Rod Laver Arena, the former world number one harangued the chair umpire when a line call went against her and pounded her racquet into the blue hardcourt when Bertens saved a second match point.

Bertens, seeded 30th, cancelled out a third match point with a ripping return down the line but Wozniacki sealed the fourth with a huge serve that the Dutchwoman could only fire long.

In her previous match, Wozniacki had to save two match points on an epic comeback from 5-1 down in the third set against Croatian Jana Fett, so she was thrilled to avoid another drawn-out battle against Bertens.

"Right now I'm playing with house money," the Dane, a semi-finalist at Melbourne Park in 2011, said in her post-match interview on court.

"Right now I've got nothing to lose ... I got a second chance and I'm going to try to take it and see how far I can go."

Wozniacki will meet Slovakian 19th seed Magdalena Rybarikova for a place in the quarter-finals. (Reuters)

Grigor Dimitrov



Dimitrov battles past Rublev into last 16

Melbourne

Bulgaria's world No 3 Grigor Dimitrov wrestled with his serve before dousing young Russian Andrey Rublev to reach the round of 16 at the Australian Open yesterday.

Dimitrov, who needed five sets to scramble past American qualifier Mackenzie McDonald in the second round, held on for a fluctuating 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 win in just over three hours on Rod Laver Arena.

He will next face Australia's 17th seed Nick Kyrgios for a place in the quarter-finals.

But Dimitrov is grappling with his serve and gave up 15 double faults, including an embarrassing three when he was serving for the third set. His unrestrained joy upon winning showed his relief at finally putting Rublev away in the topsy-turvy contest. (AFP)