

Sinner storms into Miami quarters

Sinner overcomes 5-2 second-set deficit to stay on course for Indian Wells-Miami double

● Sinner beats Michelsen 7-5, 7-6 to reach quarters

● Tiafoe sets quarter-final with Sinner

● Qualifier Martin Landaluce upset favourite Sebastian Korda

● Zverev advances after twin tiebreak win

AFP | Miami

Jannik Sinner powered into the Miami Open quarter-finals on Tuesday, defeating unseeded American Alex Michelsen in straight sets to stay on course for the "Sunshine Double".

Italian second seed Sinner, who is bidding to follow up his triumph at Indian Wells with victory in Miami, bided his time before completing a 7-5, 7-6 (7/4) win in 1hr 41min.

The four-time Grand Slam champion, who will face 19th seed Frances Tiafoe in the last eight, was made to work hard by the 40th-ranked Michelsen.

After a cagey opening Sinner began to put pressure on Michelsen's serve in the ninth game of the first set, carving out three break points.

Michelsen rode out that storm, but Sinner finally broke through in the 11th game before serving out for the first set.



Jannik Sinner of Italy fades back for a shot against Alex Michelsen of the United States

Michelsen hit back in the second set, breaking Sinner for a 4-2 lead before holding to go 5-2 up.

Michelsen appeared to struggle with the bright late afternoon sunlight on the Hard Rock Stadium's main court and Sinner came roaring back to force a tiebreak.

Sinner sealed the win with a thumping serve that Michelsen could only return wide.

"I feel like I served very well

15
aces from Sinner underlined his clutch serving as he adapted from a night match to tricky daytime conditions in Miami

in important moments and that helped me out, especially in the tough moments," said Sinner, who unfurled 15 aces to Michelsen's three.

"But today was not easy -- I played a night match yesterday and today in the daytime, so the conditions were very different."

Qualifier advances

Home hope Tiafoe advanced to his quarter-final date with

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JANNIK SINNER

Sinner after battling past France's Terence Atmane 6-4, 1-6, 6-4.

Spanish qualifier Martin Landaluce, ranked 151st in the world, upset American 32nd seed Sebastian Korda to score a 2-6, 7-6 (8/6), 6-4 victory.

The win marked another impressive victory for the 20-year-old Landaluce, who eliminated Russian 14th seed Karen Khachanov.

Korda, who had beaten world number one Carlos Alcaraz in the previous round, had a match point late in the second set, but Landaluce survived to set up a quarter-final against Czech 21st seed Jiri Lehecka.

Landaluce, who had failed to register a single win at tour level in 2026 before arriving in Miami, dedicated his latest success to his late grandmother.

"She would have been 101 last week, and she passed away a few months ago. I wanted to give her the victory," Landaluce said.



Landaluce, who arrived in Miami without a single tour-level win this season, beat Khachanov and then saved a match point against Korda to reach the quarter-finals for his late grandmother, who "would have been 101"

Lehecka booked his place in the quarter-finals by ousting sixth seed Taylor Fritz 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-2 in 2hr 25min.

"I just felt that in the third set, if I wanted to beat a guy like Taylor, I just needed to go for it and be aggressive," Lehecka said.

American 22nd seed Tommy Paul set up a quarter-final against France's Arthur Fils after cruising past Argentina's Tomas Etcheverry 6-1, 6-3.

Fils beat Monaco's Valentin Vacherot 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-4.

Argentina's 18th-seeded Francisco Cerundolo followed up his upset of Daniil Medvedev on Monday with a comfortable 6-4, 6-3 defeat of French 31st seed Ugo Humbert.

Cerundolo will face Alexander Zverev in the last eight after the German third seed defeated France's Quentin Halys 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/1).

Gauff outlasts Bencic to reach Miami semi-finals

Fourth seed battles to first Miami semi-final despite injury doubts

● Gauff wins 6-3, 1-6, 6-3 vs Bencic

● Faces Muchova in last four

● Muchova beats Mboko in semis

AFP | Miami

Coco Gauff battled past Belinda Bencic to reach the semi-finals of the Miami Open for the first time on Tuesday with a gruelling 6-3, 1-6, 6-3 victory.

Fourth seed Gauff had considered skipping Miami after being forced to pull out during the fourth round at Indian Wells with a left-arm injury.

But the 22-year-old from Florida, who lives in nearby Delray Beach, was determined to play in what she considers to be her hometown tournament where she had never previously gone further than the last 16.

Gauff's sense of determination was on full display at the Hard Rock Stadium's main court on Tuesday as she weathered fluctuating form against the 12th-seeded Bencic to grind out

victory.

"I honestly didn't think I would be in the semis so I'm really happy and proud of myself," Gauff said.

"I think I proved a lot to myself this week, and I feel like with each match I'm getting better.

"Even though I'm still playing three sets, I feel like the level is getting better and better."

Gauff, the French Open champion, will now face the Czech 13th seed Karolina Muchova in the last four as she chases her first Miami final appearance.

Gauff has won all five of her previous matches against Muchova.



Coco Gauff of the United States returns a shot against Belinda Bencic of Switzerland

"You don't think about the head-to-head," Gauff said.

"There's so many matches that we play that could go either way. I don't really think about it -- especially when I play here, because I know how good she is."

Muchova advanced to the last four earlier with a 7-5, 7-6 (7/5) defeat of Canadian 10th seed Victoria Mboko.

The 29-year-old Muchova admitted she had everything to prove against Gauff.

"I don't have the best record

against Coco, but I feel good," Muchova said. "And you never know."

Despite giving away 10 years to the teenager Mboko, Muchova said she did not feel any sense of disadvantage against her younger opponent.

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COCO GAUFF

5-0

is Coco Gauff's perfect head-to-head record against upcoming semi-final opponent Karolina Muchova

"I keep getting these questions this week like I'm really old or something," Muchova said.

"I don't feel that old -- I feel like I'm still pretty young. In my head, I could be 20."