

Wimbledon



Serena Williams celebrates winning a point against Victoria Azarenka of Belarus during their singles match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Tuesday.

AP Photo/Pavel Golovkin

Williams gets past Azarenka; Sharapova next

By HOWARD FENDRICH
Associated Press

LONDON — Even as Serena Williams piled up aces and groundstroke winners from all angles, even as she stormed through seven games in a row and 10 of the last 13 in yet another comeback, her Wimbledon quarterfinal against Victoria Azarenka never felt like a runaway.

That’s because Azarenka, a two-time major champion and former No. 1 in her own right, was playing spectacular tennis, too, nearly the equal of Williams in every facet.

Nearly.

For when Williams finds her best game, she becomes unbeatable. And for her past 26 Grand Slam matches she is, indeed, unbeaten. Erasing an early deficit at Centre Court, Williams got past Azarenka 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 Tuesday with the help of 17 aces and a remarkable ratio of 46 winners to 12 unforced errors.

“It’s been up and down, up and down, but somehow I’m still alive. I don’t know how,” said Williams, who twice was two points from losing to Britain’s Heather Watson in the third round and is now 14-0 in three-setters and 37-1 overall in 2015. “So we’ll see what happens, but I’m just happy to still be here.”

She is closing in on a fourth consecutive major title for a self-styled Serena Slam, which she already accomplished in 2002-03. Pull that off, and Williams also will have the third leg of a calendar-year Grand Slam and go to the U.S. Open with a chance to become the first player since Steffi Graf in 1988 to win all four major trophies in one season.

“I haven’t seen her play like this, honestly,” said Azarenka, who has lost 17 of

20 matches against Williams and all 10 meetings at majors, including after leading by a set and a break at the French Open in May.

In Thursday’s semifinals, No. 1 Williams faces No. 4 Maria Sharapova, who beat unseeded American CoCo Vandeweghe 6-3, 6-7 (3), 6-2.

Williams is 17-2 against Sharapova, including 16 straight victories. But one of Sharapova’s wins came at Wimbledon, in the 2004 final, when at age 17 she stunned Williams for the first of her five Grand Slam titles.

“Definitely no secrets between each other’s games,” Sharapova said.

Williams, whose major trophy count is at 20, said of the matchup: “I look forward to it.”

Here was the scouting report from Williams’ coach, Patrick Mouratoglou: “If she plays like today, I don’t think anyone can compete.”

Pick an adjective for Williams-Azarenka. Intense. Riveting. Entertaining. Sublime. For 2 hours, 4 minutes on a windy, cloudy day, that’s what this was. Both hit the ball hard. Both covered the court from corner to corner.

“We put on a great show,” Azarenka said.

The other semifinal is No. 13 Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland against No. 20 Garbine Muguruza of Spain.

The men’s quarterfinals are Wednesday: Novak Djokovic vs. Marin Cilic, Roger Federer vs. Gilles Simon, Andy Murray vs. Vasek Pospisil, and Stan Wawrinka vs. Richard Gasquet. Djokovic finished his 6-7 (6), 6-7 (6), 6-1, 6-4, 7-5 fourth-round victory over Kevin Anderson on Tuesday; it was suspended because of darkness after four sets Monday.

Tour de France

Martin overtakes cautious Froome

By JEROME PUGMIRE
Associated Press

CAMBRAI, France — Having stayed safe on the treacherous cobblestones, Chris Froome cared little about conceding the race leader’s yellow jersey to Tony Martin on Tuesday’s fourth stage of an action-packed Tour de France.

After crashing out of last year’s race early, following three crashes in two days, Froome had good reason to be nervous given that this stage featured seven sections of cobbles.

But the nightmare scenario never materialized, and the British rider repelled the attacks of defending Tour champion Vincenzo Nibali as the valiant Italian failed to claw back time on him.

“I wasn’t trying to show how strong I was on the cobbles today; it was about staying out of trouble,” said Froome, the 2013 Tour champion. “Congratulations to Tony for his late attack.”

Relieved after cruising through the final paved section, Froome did not chase as the German rider peeled away some 3 kilometers (2



AP Photo/Christophe Ena

Stage winner Germany’s Tony Martin, right, and the pack ride over a cobblestone sector during the fourth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 223.5 kilometers (138.9 miles) with start in Seraing, Belgium, and finish in Cambrai, France, Tuesday, July 7, 2015.

miles) from the line to clinch a fifth Tour stage win and take the yellow after narrowly missing it on stage 1.

“While Tony’s a great time trialist, he’s not going to be there in the mountains,” Froome said. “I’m happy to see the jersey go to him rather than any of the big overall rivals. This is the perfect situation for us.”

Ferocious side-winds in stage 3, a huge crash on stage 4 that took down 20 riders and put five out of the

race, and Tuesday’s cobbles have presented riders with a dangerous cocktail of hazards.

Froome’s come through them unscathed and with a healthy lead over his rivals.

He leads two-time Tour champion Alberto Contador by 36 seconds; Nibali by 1:38 and Colombian rider Nairo Quintana, the 2013 runner-up, by 1:56.

“We can all let off a big sigh of relief after today,” Froome said. “It was a

WNBA

Tulsa snaps losing streak; Schimmel sits for Atlanta

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Plenette Pierson scored 24 points, going 10 of 14 from the field, to help the Tulsa Shock beat the Atlanta Dream 85-75 on Tuesday night to snap a three-game losing streak.

Tulsa only made one field goal, a Pierson 3-pointer for a 10-point lead, in the first nine minutes of the fourth quarter. Atlanta’s Angel

McCoughtry hit two free throws with 1:15 remaining to cut its deficit to 73-72.

But Tulsa’s Brianna Kiesel answered with a layup and the Shock made 10 of 10 free throws down the stretch.

Riquana Williams added 23 points, going 18 for 20 at



the free throw line, for Tulsa (9-4). Kiesel finished with 16 points and Courtney Paris grabbed

10 rebounds. Tulsa won its first game since losing Skylar Diggins to a torn anterior cruciate ligament on June 28. She was the WNBA’s most improved player last season and was

stressful stage and sketchy on the cobbles, and I know we’ll all be sleeping a lot better tonight.”

The 30-year-old Martin, a three-time world time trial champion who finished second to Rohan Dennis in stage 1’s time trial, fell into the arms of his teammates after the stage. Countryman John Degenkolb finished second and Slovak Peter Sagan was third.

“All the pressure of the last days has come off,” said Martin, who was one second behind Froome overnight. “I was really on the limit. I got round the last corner and I was surprised I could make it.”

After the final cobblestone section, he got a flat tire and swapped bikes with teammate Matteo Trentin.

“Changing the bike, with the wrong position, I was just thinking to finish,” Martin said. “Suddenly, five kilometers (from) the finish, I just decided to give it a chance.”

He leads Froome by 12 seconds and American rider Tejay Van Garderen — shaping up as a dangerous outsider — by 25 seconds.

Rodeo

DeMoss, Cooper enjoy merriest Cowboy Christmas

PRCA Media

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Many cowboys took in large hauls during the week of Cowboy Christmas, but none prospered more than Cody DeMoss and Tuf Cooper.

With \$3,568,182 up for grabs at 32 Christmas rodeos, there was a lot of cash to be won.

DeMoss entered the June 29 through July 5 week already leading the saddle bronc riding in the Windham Weaponry High Performance PRCA World Standings with \$68,171. Thanks to a large amount of success in Canada, he earned \$22,791 – the most of any PRCA competitor during Cowboy Christmas.

DeMoss won both the Ponoka Stampede and Airdrie ProRodeo in Alberta, which made up

the bulk of his big week. The \$17,720 he earned in Ponoka was punctuated with an 88.25-point ride on Outlaw Buckner’s Lunatic Party to win the showdown round July 1.

He added another \$3,772 in Airdrie, and picked up \$1,299 at the Cody (Wyo.) Stampede. In total, his lead in the world standings grew to \$19,512 over Taos Muncy, who earned \$16,376 during the Fourth of July run.

Cooper wasn’t far behind his roughstock counterpart, earning \$22,640. However, he needed to hit more rodeos to be the top timed-event cowboy of Christmas in July.

The three-time world champion tie-down roper cashed big checks in several places, led by \$5,847 at the St. Paul (Ore.) Rodeo, \$5,405 at the Greeley (Colo.) Stampede and \$4,939 at the World’s Oldest Rodeo in

Prescott, Ariz.

“It’s great to have a big week any week during the year, but to do it during Cowboy Christmas, our biggest week of the year, is really great,” Cooper said. “The most important thing is having a positive attitude, and I went to all the big rodeos and I drew well, and things worked out.”

The only rodeo title Cooper captured was at the Molalla (Ore.) Buckeroo Rodeo, where he earned \$2,559 for tying Hunter Herrin for the title after both men made runs of 7.6 seconds.

The defending world champion also made \$2,360 in Ponoka and \$1,530 at the Home of Champions Rodeo in Red Lodge, Mont. He moved from sixth to fourth in the July 6 world standings. It’s the second-straight season that Cooper has been the top PRCA timed-event

performer during Cowboy Christmas.

Other cowboys who had fruitful Christmas runs were team roper, tie-down roper and steer roper Trevor Brazile (\$21,668), team ropers Aaron Tsinigine and Ryan Motes (\$20,010 each) and tie-down roper Caleb Smidt (\$18,994). Evan Jayne was the best bareback rider with \$18,285 and Tanner Milan was the top steer wrestler with \$18,063. Shane Proctor was the only bull rider in the top 20 of PRCA earners with \$15,952.

Jayne, a Marseille, France, native, vaulted to the top of the bareback riding world standings, and holds a \$1,298 lead over four-time World Champion Bobby Mote. Jayne is seeking to become the first European-born bareback rider to qualify for the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo.

HERMISTON: Jones homers for Pendleton

Continued from 1B

inning. Angel Barren got the first of his three hits with bases loaded, but Pendleton responded with two runs to take the lead in the bottom of the frame.

Brogan Biggerstaff reached base on an error, then went from first to third on a groundout to shortstop. He then beat the throw home on a grounder to third, and Kyle Field gave Pendleton the lead when he later scored on an infield error.

Hermiston wouldn’t trail for long, though, and took the lead in the top of the second when Tolan doubled to drive in Spencer Juul and Chase Elliott, who had reached base on a walk and single, respectively.

Hermiston stretched its lead to 8-2 before Pendleton’s Jimmy Jones hit a solo home run in the bottom of the fourth inning, but Hermiston took advantage of a pitching change in the top of the fifth and went yard twice to give the game its final tally.

PENDLETON: State to be held in Hermiston

Continued from 1B

Keefer Breshears (2 for 4) were the only Pendleton players with multiple hits, and Breshears tied Chas Corbett for a team high with three runs scored. Gavin Clark, Colson Primus and Cooley all scored twice.

Hermiston may not have gotten any hits, but Brian Davison picked up an RBI on a groundout that scored Kaiden Dammeyer in the fourth. Rodriguez

Edmiston hit a two-run homer and then Randolph hit a three-run homer three at-bats later before Pendleton could get its first out. Edmiston’s other home run was a solo shot to lead off the fourth.

Tolan retired Pendleton on three straight groundouts in the bottom of the fifth.

Edmiston, Randolph and Barren all drove in three runs for Hermiston.

Jones went 2 for 2 to lead Pendleton, and Field added an RBI.

Schwirse faced 33 batters in his start and struck out three while walking two and allowing three runs, one earned, on five hits.

Parker Persinger got the start for Pendleton and lasted four complete while striking out seven, walking two and surrendering eight runs, six earned, on nine hits.

Hermiston’s opponent in today’s championship had not been reported by press time.

scored Hermiston’s other run on an error.

Austin Garberg started on the mound for Hermiston but didn’t get much support and gave up 13 runs, three earned, on five hits, five walks and on hit batsman.

Pendleton will play in the championship game today at 3 p.m. Their opponent had not been reported by press time. The winner will advance to the state tournament starting July 25 in Hermiston.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

MLB				
American League East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	44	39	.530	—
Baltimore	43	41	.512	1½
Toronto	44	42	.512	1½
Tampa Bay	43	43	.500	2½
Boston	40	45	.471	5
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	48	33	.593	—
Minnesota	45	39	.536	4½
Detroit	42	41	.506	7
Cleveland	39	44	.470	10
Chicago	37	44	.457	11
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	49	37	.570	—
Los Angeles	45	38	.542	2½
Texas	41	43	.488	7
Seattle	39	45	.464	9
Oakland	39	47	.453	10

Monday’s Late Game				
Detroit 12, Seattle 5				
Tuesday’s Games				
Kansas City 9, Tampa Bay 5, 1st game				
Oakland 4-1, N.Y. Yankees 3, 10 innings				
Cleveland 2, Houston 0				
Boston 4, Miami 3				
Arizona 4, Texas 2				
Minnesota 8, Baltimore 3				
Kansas City 7, Tampa Bay 1, 2nd game				
Toronto 2, Chicago White Sox 1				
L.A. Angels 10, Colorado 2				
Seattle 7, Detroit 6, 11 innings				
Today’s Games				
Baltimore (U.Jimenez 7-4) at Minnesota				
(Milone 4-1), 10:10 a.m.				
Detroit (An.Sanchez 7-7) at Seattle (Happ 4-5), 12:40 p.m.				
Oakland (Kazmir 5-5) at N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 3-8), 4:05 p.m.				
Houston (Straily 0-0) at Cleveland (Bauer 7-5), 4:10 p.m.				
Miami (Koehler 7-4) at Boston (Porcello 4-9), 4:10 p.m.				
Arizona (Hellickson 6-5) at Texas (M.Harrison 0-0), 5:05 p.m.				
Tampa Bay (Archer 9-5) at Kansas City (Guthrie 6-5), 5:10 p.m.				
Toronto (Hutchison 8-2) at Chicago White Sox (Danks 4-9), 5:10 p.m.				
L.A. Angels (Shoemaker 4-7) at Colorado (Rusin 3-3), 5:40 p.m.				

National League East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Washington	46	38	.548	—
New York	42	42	.506	3½
Atlanta	42	42	.500	4
Miami	35	49	.417	11

Baseball

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
St. Louis	54	30	.643	—
Pittsburgh	49	34	.590	4½
Chicago	46	37	.554	7½
Cincinnati	38	44	.463	15
Milwaukee	36	50	.419	19
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	47	38	.553	—
San Francisco	43	42	.506	4
Arizona	41	42	.494	5
San Diego	39	47	.453	8½
Colorado	35	48	.422	11

Monday’s Late Game				
Atlanta (Heheran 6-4) at Milwaukee (Fiers 4-7), 11:10 a.m.				
Tuesday’s Games				
Chicago Cubs 7, St. Louis 4, 1st game				
Cincinnati 5, Washington 0				
Pittsburgh 3, San Diego 2				
Boston 4, Miami 3				
Arizona 4, Texas 2				
Chicago Cubs 5, St. Louis 3, 2nd game				
Atlanta 4, Milwaukee 3				
L.A. Angels 10, Colorado 2				
Philadelphia 7, L.A. Dodgers 2				
San Francisco 3, N.Y. Mets 0				
Today’s Games				
Atlanta (Heheran 6-4) at Milwaukee (Fiers 4-7), 11:10 a.m.				
N.Y. Mets (deGrom 8-6) at San Francisco (Peavy 0-3), 12:45 p.m.				
Cincinnati (Lorenzen 3-3) at Washington (G.Gonzalez 6-4), 4:05 p.m.				
San Diego (Cashner 3-9) at Pittsburgh (Mor-ton 6-2), 4:05 p.m.				
Miami (Koehler 7-4) at Boston (Porcello 4-9), 4:10 p.m.				
Arizona (Hellickson 6-5) at Texas (M.Harrison 0-0), 5:05 p.m.				
St. Louis (Wacha 10-3) at Chicago Cubs (Ham-mel 5-4), 5:05 p.m.				
L.A. Angels (Shoemaker 4-7) at Colorado (Rusin 3-3), 5:40 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Morgan 1-1) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 5-6), 7:10 p.m.				

Tennis

Wimbledon				
Tuesday’s Results				
At The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club				
London				
Purse: \$42.1 million (Grand Slam)				
Surface: Grass-Outdoor				
Singles				
Men Fourth Round				
Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. Kevin Anderson (14), South Africa, 6-7 (6), 6-7 (6), 6-1, 6-4, 7-5.				
Women Quarterfinals				
Garbine Muguruza (20), Spain, def. Timea Bacsinszky (15), Switzerland, 7-5, 6-3.				
Maria Sharapova (4), Russia, def. CoCo Van-				

deweghe, United States, 6-3, 6-7 (3), 6-2. Agnieszka Radwanska (13), Poland, def. Madison Keys (21), United States, 7-6 (3), 3-6, 6-3. Serena Williams (1), United States, def. Victoria Azarenka (23), Belarus, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Doubles
Men Quarterfinals
Jamie Murray, Britain and John Peers (13), Australia, def. Alexander Peya, Austria, and Bruno Soares (8), Brazil, 6-4, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
Jean-Julien Rojer, Netherlands, and Horia Tecau (4), Romania, def. Marcin Matkowski, Poland, and Nenad Zimonjic (7), Serbia, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6.

Basketball

WNBA

Tuesday's Game

Tulsa 85, Atlanta 75

Today's Games

Seattle at Indiana, 9 a.m.

Los Angeles at San Antonio, 5 p.m.