

Durant officially joins Nets, Russell to Warriors

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

LAS VEGAS — The deal bringing Kevin Durant to Brooklyn is official, and he's changing his number along with his address.

The Nets completed a sign-and-trade with the Golden State Warriors on Sunday night, with Brooklyn landing Durant and a protected first-round pick in next year's draft for D'Angelo Russell, Shabazz Napier and Treveon Graham.

Durant said last week he would sign a max deal with Brooklyn, which would be \$141 million over four years, after three seasons with the Warriors. The rest of the deal was worked out over subsequent days, and the NBA signed off on the terms Sunday.

"Along with the rest of the league, our coaching staff has long admired Kevin's incredible skill, resilience and tenacity," Nets coach Kenny Atkinson said. "He has already established himself as a champion and one of the best players of all-time, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome him into our program in Brooklyn."

Durant isn't expected to play at all next season while he recovers from an Achilles injury. When he does return to join a new-look Nets team that added Kyrie Irving as well this summer and officially signed him Sunday, he'll wear No. 7 — after playing in No. 35 throughout his career.

Durant released a statement saying he wore 35 to honor someone "very near and dear" to him.

"But as I start this new chapter in my basketball life, the number I'll be wearing on my back is the Number 7 next time you see me on the floor," Durant said.

Durant is a perennial



AP Photo/Eric Gay

Golden State Warriors forward Kevin Durant is headed to the Brooklyn Nets, who agreed to deals with superstars Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving as part of a sensational start to free agency, giving the longtime No. 2 team in New York top billing in the Big Apple.

All-Star and two-time NBA champion after winning Finals MVP honors with the Warriors in 2017 and 2018. He's a four-time scoring champion and his 22,940 points ranks third among active players. He missed most of this past season's playoffs, first with a calf injury and then the Achilles rupture during the NBA Finals — a series Golden State lost to Toronto in six games.

"We're thankful to Kevin for the incredible things he did for our team and franchise during his three years with the Warriors," Golden State general manager Bob Myers said.

Russell got a \$117 million, four-year contract from the Warriors. He was an All-Star for the first time last season, averaging 21.1 points, 3.9 rebounds, 7.0 assists and 1.2 steals per game.

"We're excited to add a player of D'Angelo's ability to

our roster," Myers said. "He's coming off an All-Star season with the Nets and we feel, at the age of 23, his best basketball is certainly ahead of him in regards to his career trajectory."

Another big free-agent deal got done Sunday when Utah completed the signing of forward Bojan Bogdanovic to a four-year, \$73 million contract.

"We are very pleased to welcome Bojan and his family to our organization," Jazz executive vice president of basketball operations Dennis Lindsey said. "His ability to play both ends of the floor in addition to his exceptional shooting will make him an integral contributor to our franchise and our postseason goals."

Former NBA MVP Derrick Rose also completed his signing with Detroit on Sunday, wrapping up a \$15 million, two-year deal.



AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth

Cori "Coco" Gauff returns the ball to Simona Halep in a women's singles match Monday during the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London.

Coco Gauff's Wimbledon ends against former No. 1

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**

AP Tennis Writer

WIMBLEDON, England — Out of escapes, Coco Gauff knew her captivating Wimbledon ride at age 15 was nearing its conclusion.

The thousands of spectators at Court No. 1 on Monday realized it, too, so they made sure to show their appreciation for the youngest qualifier at the All England Club in the professional era and youngest Week 2 participant since 1991.

Fans, most of whom probably hadn't heard of Gauff until last week, rose and roared as she fended off the initial two match points she faced against 2018 French Open champion Simona Halep. It was reminiscent of the way the Gauff began a comeback victory in her previous match. This time, though,

Gauff could not come through, beaten by the older, more experienced Halep 6-3, 6-3.

"It was really surprising, because you don't really expect this kind of support when you're in another country, not your home country. I really did feel like I was probably playing in New York. I'm just really happy that people believe in me," said Gauff, who beat Venus Williams in the first round for quite a Grand Slam tournament debut.

"I wasn't feeling my best, I wasn't playing my best," Gauff said as she wiped away tears at her news conference, where she noted she wasn't sure why she needed a visit from a doctor in the second set, "but they were still supporting me, no matter what."

While Gauff couldn't get past former No. 1 Halep, another American,

55th-ranked Alison Riske, stopped the 15-match winning streak of the current No. 1, Ash Barty, eliminating her 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.

"Right now, Ash is playing well," Riske said. "I believe that I am, as well."

Tuesday's other quarterfinal on the top half of the women's draw will be No. 19 Johanna Konta of Britain against Barbora Strycova of the Czech Republic. On the bottom half, it'll be No. 8 Elina Svitolina of Ukraine against Karolina Muchova of the Czech Republic, and Halep against Zhang Shuai of China.

Halep is the highest-seeded woman remaining, after Barty was joined on the way out Monday by No. 3 Karolina Pliskova, who twice served for the victory in a 4-6, 7-5, 13-11 loss to Muchova, and No. 6 Petra Kvitova, a two-time champion eliminated by Konta 4-6, 6-2, 6-4.

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