

Halep, Wawrinka beat the heat; Murray rallies

BY STEVE KEATING
REUTERS

NEW YORK — Simona Halep and Stan Wawrinka beat the heat with straight-sets wins to reach the US OPEN third round

of a sweltering U.S. Open on Thursday while American hope Jack Sock wilted under the punishing conditions, collapsing on the court.

However, Andy Murray and Johanna Konta showed British players can sweat it out for a win as both went the distance to claim second round victories.

Third seed Murray came out ice cold on a broiling afternoon but caught fire and rallied for a five-set 5-7, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-1 win over Frenchman Adrian Mannarino.

Konta, meanwhile, provided the upset of the day after toiling for three hours and 27 minutes under a blazing sun to see off ninth-seeded Spaniard and Wimbledon finalist Garbine Muguruza 7-6(4), 6-7(4), 6-2.

"We need to believe, which is not always easy," Murray

told reporters. "Obviously, I had quite a few opportunities, I think I was one for seven on breakpoints (in the first set).

"I just wasn't able to break at any of the important moments, unfortunately. I just had to kind of tell myself that I would get there eventually. Managed to turn it round."

As courtside temperatures pushed past 100 degrees Fahrenheit at Arthur Ashe Stadium, Romanian second seed Halep wasted little time finishing off Ukraine qualifier Kateryna Bondarenko 6-3, 6-4 in just 76 minutes before escaping to the air-conditioned comfort of the players' lounge.

Fifth-seeded Swiss Wawrinka outslugged promising South Korean teenager Chung Hyeon, but still needed three tiebreaks to sweat out a 7-6(2), 7-6(4), 7-6(6) second round decision.

"Today was a really tough day with the conditions," Wawrinka said. "You have to really be careful how you get ready for the match, what you eat, what you're going to do and what you're going to take



BRENDAN MCDERMID | REUTERS

Andy Murray of Britain returns a shot to Adrian Mannarino of France during their second round match at the U.S. Open Championships in New York on Thursday.

during the match. "I know that I'm ready physically to battle for long hours in that condition. Today was hot, was humid, but still we play three hours and I'm feeling OK."

Next up for the French

Open champion is Ruben Bemelmans of Belgium, who advanced when Sock retired due to cramping while leading 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 1-2.

Sock had looked in control of the match but began to show signs of distress in the

third set, then sent shockwaves through the crowd when he began to cramp and dropped to the court as medical staff rushed to his aid.

The American grimaced in pain as he was wrapped in chilled towels with bags of

ice also placed around his body.

A wheelchair was brought out but after several minutes, Sock was helped to his feet and, assisted by a trainer under each arm, limped off the court.

The week-long heatwave has taken a heavy toll at the year's final grand slam with 12 players retiring due to the conditions or because of injuries in the opening round before Sock added his name to the casualty list in the second.

There was more upbeat news for American fans, however, as 13th seed John Isner blasted his way into the third round, pounding 17 aces in a 6-3, 6-4, 6-3 win over Russia's Michael Youzhny, while Donald Young claimed his second-round match with a 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 decision over Britain's Aljaz Bedene.

Germany's Angelique Kerber, the 11th seed, also took the express route into the third round by taming Italian Karin Knapp 7-5, 6-2, while 20th seed Victoria Azarenka of Belarus was a 7-5, 6-4 winner over Belgium's Yanina Wickmayer.

Fans

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think there were a lot of holes in the NFL's approach," said Husson University head coach Gabby Price.

Houlton High School football coach Brian Reynolds said he believes many teams manipulate ball pressure and that Brady most likely knew about it. The issue that appears to have irked the NFL was that Brady destroyed a cellphone that might have contained text messages to team employees who were in charge of handling game balls.

"It was an unprecedented suspension," Reynolds said. "It seemed like due process never really happened. They couldn't really get him on hard evidence."

"There were a lot of what-ifs and well maybes and possibly he knew something but he may not have known everything,"

concluded veteran official Ralph Damren of Old Town.

Alan Kochis of Brewer, a longtime football official who is the secretary-assigner for the Bangor chapter of the Maine Association of Football Officials, thought the investigation was much ado about nothing and the penalty excessive.

"I thought the whole thing was blown out of proportion to begin with, and I'm not even a Patriots fan," he said. "I'm a Packers fan, but I thought the four games were a little bit much."

UMaine junior quarterback Dan Collins is a lifelong Philadelphia Eagles fan. He respects Brady the player but was a little surprised about the ruling.

"I thought they would suspend him just because the balls were deflated, which everyone knew," he said. "They had to figure out if it was his fault or not."

Damren said that the inflation of footballs definitely

can be affected by temperature changes.

"When it gets down to 20 degrees I've had busses roll in from two-hour trips in high school and you'll squeeze a football and pull out a gauge, and it's down to 8 pounds per square inch," he said. "The coach will swear up and down that they pumped them up before they left the school."

Given that, and the fact the Patriots dominated the Indianapolis Colts with properly inflated footballs in the second half of the AFC playoff game during which the inflation issue was discovered, many New England fans thought the issue was, well, overblown.

The NFL announced Thursday that it plans to appeal Berman's decision. Regardless of the final outcome, the Patriots already have paid a hefty price for the scandal that has consumed the last 7 1/2 months.

"The NFL already has got

ten [Patriots owner] Robert Kraft's million dollars [via a fine], so the price of [Gillette] razors will go up a little bit, and the Patriots lost a couple of draft picks, so there was a penalty paid," Damren concluded.

Rich Kimball has spent countless hours discussing the "Deflategate" scandal on his "Downtown" afternoon show on WZON radio (620 AM). He didn't hold back when asked for his reaction to Thursday's news.

"The Brady decision is a victory for common sense," Kimball said. "The NFL is the most corrupt, mismanaged league in all of pro sports, which is saying something. "I still think Brady and his boys were bending the rules a little bit, but for a league that tolerates anything just short of murder, it was ludicrous to bring the hammer down on Brady."

BDN sports reporter Ernie Clark contributed to this report.

MCI shuts out Maranacook 14-0

PITTSFIELD — Kali Doiron, Victoria Friend and April McAlpine each recorded a hat trick to help the

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

Maine Central Institute Huskies roll to the season-opening win, 14-0 over the Maranacook Black Bears in high school field hockey action Thursday.

Taylor Hall, Madisyn Hartley, Allison Hughes, Riley Trafton and Addi Williams each added a goal for the Huskies. McAlpine contributed four assists.

MCI goalie Mikayla Carr had one save on one shot while Maranacook of Readfield goalie Sarah Mason made 10 saves on 33 shots.

saves on 11 shots for Leavitt. Mount View had 12 corners and Leavitt had 9 corners.

JV: Leavitt 3-0

Winslow 2, Belfast 0

At Belfast, Sabrina Jandreau scored on an assist by Natalie Greene with 19:12 remaining in first half to give Winslow all the scoring it needed for the win.

Jessica Greeley scored the second goal with 14:27 remaining for the Black Raiders.

Winslow goalie Delaney Wood stopped all 19 shots she faced. Belfast goalie Morgan Fernald made 13 saves on 15 shots.

JV: Belfast 5-0

Women's Soccer

Providence 2, Maine 1

At Providence, R.I., the University of Maine women's soccer team suffered its first loss of the season Thursday night when Providence College's Casey Estey scored with 14 seconds left in the game to lift the Friars to a 2-1 victory over the Black Bears.

Catherine Zimmerman assisted on the winning goal for Providence (4-1) after Ashley Robinson had tied it for Maine (3-1) with an unassisted goal with about seven minutes left in the game.

Rachel Ugolik scored a first-half goal from an Estey assist for the Friars.

Maine outshot Providence 13-10 with Providence goalie Kristyn Shea making three saves and Maine's Claudia Dube-Trempe finishing with four.

Leavitt 3, Mount View 2

At Turner, Kierstin Leclerc recorded a goal and an assist to help Leavitt nip the Mustangs from Mount View.

Allie Belaine opened the scoring for Leavitt with 22:13 left in the first half on Leclerc's assist. In the second half, Mount View's Reanna Boulay scored unassisted off a corner play with 24:36 on the clock to tie the game.

Leclerc scored unassisted with 19:55 on the clock and Leavitt went up by two on Ashley Mathieu's goal with 15:44 left in the game. Mount View came back one more time with an unassisted goal by Michelle Bilodeau with 9:22 left to play.

Mount View goalie Alexis Bowman made 11 saves on 14 shots. Hailey DeMascio had 9

Goodell won't attending Pats' opener

REUTERS

Commissioner Roger Goodell will not be in attendance at Gillette Stadium for the NFL opener between the Patriots and the Pittsburgh Steelers next Thursday, an NFL spokesman told FOX Sports.

Goodell "believes the focus should be on the game

on the field and the festivities celebrating the Patriots' Super Bowl championship."

A federal judge on Thursday nullified the NFL's four-game suspension of Brady.

Brady did not suit up for the Patriots final preseason game Thursday night when the New York Giants edged the Patriots 12-9 in Foxborough, Mass.

Schools

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and split end Tanner Goodine involved in the attack.

Defensively Bangor will seek to pressure Verrill to assist the secondary play of Dorman and Goodine at cornerback and the combination of Lewis, Nick Canarr, Blake Kenney and Luke Tuell at the safety slots.

Nokomis Warriors at Brewer Witches, 7 p.m. Friday:

Brewer opened a lot of eyes with its convincing preseason win at Bangor, but now the games count and the Witches can't afford to make too much of what was an emotional exhibition-game victory over its rival from across the Penobscot. But emotions aside, coach Nick Arthers' club displayed a rugged ground game paced by halfback Dylan Severance and fullback Trey Wood along with strong play defensively by its front seven against the Rams. Enthusiasm and participation numbers are up at Nokomis under third-year head coach Matt O'Connell, and the Warriors are now eligible for postseason play after playing down in Class C in recent years.

Winslow Black Raiders at Belfast Lions, 7 p.m. Friday:

It may be opening night, but this Class C North clash could have significant playoff implications, given that Winslow and Belfast have met in the Class C semifinals each of the last two years. Both teams have considerable talent back from last year's playoff meeting, when Winslow eliminated Belfast 34-18 en route to the state title. Winslow is loaded defensively, meaning this game may come down to whether Belfast's defense can subdue a Winslow offense that graduated its three biggest weapons from a year ago in halfback Dylan Hapworth, tight end Justin Martin and quarterback Bobby Chenard.

Hampden Academy Broncos at Brunswick Dragons, 7 p.m. Friday: The schedule maker did debuting Hampden head coach

BDN Football Forecast		Bob Kelleter GUEST		Joseph Cyr STAFF		Ernie Clark STAFF		John Holyoke STAFF		Joe McLaughlin STAFF		Larry Mahoney STAFF		Ryan McLaughlin STAFF		Pete Warner STAFF		Your Picks READER	
Bucksport at Medomak	35-28	12-20	28-14	28-14	22-10	24-14	34-6	21-6											
Camden Hills at Mount View	7-21	24-13	6-20	13-22	12-21	14-12	6-7	15-21											
Cony at Mt. Blue	24-12	13-17	22-28	21-20	14-13	23-24	20-21	28-22											
Dexter at Houlton	18-19	12-28	12-14	14-12	12-14	18-12	6-7	7-6											
Edward Little at Bangor	13-14	27-41	14-27	18-22	13-17	13-14	13-14	13-14											
Hampden at Brunswick	12-34	23-21	6-28	17-24	14-24	17-21	6-20	12-16											
John Bapst at Hermon	26-13	17-9	20-18	21-8	17-13	16-15	21-13	23-7											
Lawrence at Skowhegan	28-14	20-23	21-22	14-12	21-17	24-20	21-6	15-8											
MDI at Foxcroft	19-13	21-20	27-14	32-27	12-14	16-14	13-14	16-14											
Messalonskee at Gardiner	21-20	21-13	18-12	24-21	10-6	16-12	7-6	20-14											
Nokomis at Brewer	6-28	10-17	14-30	12-32	10-24	20-24	6-34	8-27											
Oceanside at Madison/Carrabec	19-21	21-13	16-28	17-12	13-14	7-12	7-6	9-17											
Orono at Ellsworth/Sumner	35-7	35-21	24-6	27-21	21-14	13-6	17-6	25-6											
Stearns at Mattanawcook	6-34	27-21	8-22	21-27	10-24	21-28	13-24	12-13											
Washington Acad. at MCI	12-44	10-35	6-30	10-24	17-30	12-24	6-17	6-26											
Waterville at Old Town	7-27	22-21	6-30	34-20	17-20	20-14	21-20	21-12											
Winslow at Belfast	33-13	20-24	20-19	27-18	24-14	29-21	20-6	14-13											
Maine at Boston College	20-19	13-24	14-35	21-34	12-28	17-27	7-35	10-17											
Alfred at Husson	13-28	17-24	23-24	17-28	8-22	17-28	13-21	14-13											
Maine Maritime at SUNY Maritime	24-21	14-13	27-28	20-21	7-21	13-14	7-14	30-31											
LAST SEASON	136-64	---	161-38	156-43	153-46	152-47	151-48	138-61											
PERCENTAGE (*combined guests)	.680	---	.809	.784	.765	.760	.755	.690											

The 50th Bangor Daily News Football Forecast kicks off this season with the addition of Houlton Pioneer Times reporter Joseph Cyr.

Cyr is a 1989 graduate of Houlton High School and a 1993 graduate of the University of Maine at Presque Isle, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in business management. He covered high school sports in the Rockland area for 13

years (1996-2009) before returning to his roots in Houlton.

Cyr now covers news and sports in southern Aroostook County. An avid fan of the New England Patriots, he resides in Houlton with his wife and two daughters.

Among current BDN staff participants, Ernie Clark maintains an eye on making some Forecast history of his own. Last fall, he annexed

his sixth staff crown with a 161-38 record (.809) that bested runner-up John Holyoke, BDN's Outdoors editor, by five games.

Sports editor Joe McLaughlin finished third at 153-46, followed by Larry Mahoney (152-47) and Ryan McLaughlin (151-48).

The 2014 guest championship was shared by Brandon Portwine of Bangor and Lester Cowan of Old Town, each of whom had 16-4 weeks.

Scott Flagg no favor as he seeks to help the Broncos improve on last fall's one-win campaign. Brunswick advanced to the Class B state championship game a year ago and returns a strong physical presence along the line of scrimmage to create opportunities for returning quarterback Thomas Hanson and senior running back Will Bessey, who rushed for 1,600 yards and 20 touchdowns in 2014.

John Bapst Crusaders at Hermon Hawks, 7 p.m. Friday: John Bapst of Ban-

gor makes its debut in the Class C North Big Ten Conference after a seven-win campaign last fall in the LTC Class D ranks. Coach Dan O'Connell's club hopes to use its returning experience led by fourth-year starter Spencer Barron to get off to a good start against a youthful Hermon club that's still in a building phase under second-year head coach Brad Deuring.

Bucksport Golden Bucks at Medomak Valley Panthers, 1 p.m. Saturday at Waldoboro: This will be

an historic afternoon on the midcoast where Medomak Valley hosts its first varsity football game. The Panthers have built their program up from the youth ranks over the last five years and as a result have sizeable junior and senior classes eager to begin varsity play. After heavy graduation losses in June, Bucksport will be less experienced than in recent seasons but has generations of tradition to back on-field leaders, such as wideouts Hayden Craig and Jake Gauvin.

to rank eighth in Division III. On offense, Husson features one of the region's premier running backs in John Smith. He burst onto the scene as a freshman to rush for 1,408 yards and 13 touchdowns, netting 6.2 yards per carry on the way to ECFC Rookie of the Year recognition.

"John is an outstanding player and loves the sport of football as much as anyone I've been around," Price said.

He is complemented by Hampden Academy product Logan Steward, a junior who ran for 405 yards and six scores in 2014.

The Eagles, who churned out 225 ypg rushing, must replace three All-ECFC players up front, where senior tackle John Walker and junior offensive tackle Matt Archer, and senior guards Seth Batty and

Tyler Lyle are veterans. They're joined by junior center Jim Osgood and sophomore guard Austin Odd.

Bangor graduate Joe Seccareccia is the senior quarterback. He completed 122 of 245 passes good for 1,490 yards and 14 TDs with 10 interceptions last season and ran for 301 yards and three scores.

"We're excited about Joe's development and his maturity," Price said.

Junior Deon Wiggins (33 receptions, 491 yds., six TDs) again heads the wide receiver corps, which welcomes back sophomores Greg Moore and Robenson Saintard and senior Josiah Hartley.

"Wide receiver is the position with the most depth on the football team," Price said. "We seem to have more skill players than we've ever had."

Husson also will look to a Bangor's Seth Freudenberger as the place-kicker while either Jon Geagan or Seccareccia will handle punts.