

OPEN SUD DE FRANCE – ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 3 – WEDNESDAY 31 JANUARY 2024

Sud de France Arena | Montpellier, France | 29 January-4 February 2024

ATP Tour
ATPTour.com
@ATPTour
#ThisIsTennis

Tournamentopensuddefrance.com
@OpenSuddeFrance
#OSDF24

Media

Interview Queries: fabienne.benoit@atptour.com Facts & Stats Queries: mediainfo@atptour.com Press Officer: Ophelia Butin (ophelia@north.fr)

LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: WEDNESDAY SINGLES MATCHES

COURT PATRICE DOMINGUEZ

2R: Michael Mmoh (USA) vs [7] Alexandre Muller (FRA) First Meeting

Michael Mmoh | Age: 26 | World No. 133 | Career-High No. 81 | Career: 25-36 (4 QFs) | Event: 1-0 (2024 2R) > Former World No. 2 junior achieved career-high No. 81 after advancing to 3R at 2023 US Open as WC, saving 1 MP in 2R to end compatriot Isner's singles career.

- > Defeated No. 13 A. Zverev to reach 2023 Australian Open 3R as LL, No. 12 Auger-Aliassime at 2023 Wimbledon 1R as LL and No. 11 Khachanov for biggest win of career en route to 2023 US Open 3R.
- > Ended 0-7 start to career and reached 1st ATP Tour QF at 2018 Brisbane as Q.
- > Broke into Top 100 in October 2018 following back-to-back Challenger titles at Columbus and Tiburon.
- > Posted 127-48 record on ITF Junior Circuit from 2011-15, defeating future Top-5 ATP players Rublev and Tsitsipas, and competing in 23 countries, on 6 continents and at 9 Grand Slam events.

NOTE: Mmoh seeks his 5th ATP Tour QF (0-3 + 1 W/O loss), first since 2023 Delray Beach, to become the third American quarter-finalist in tournament history (Isner – 2010 QF, Cressy – 2023 runner-up).

Alexandre Muller | Age: 26 | World No. 71 (Career-High) | Career: 13-21 (1 Final) | Event: 1-0 (2024 2R)

- > Broke into Top 500 in 2016, Top 250 in 2019 and Top 100 in April 2023, earning career-high No. 71 in January 2024 soon after defeating No. 22 Cerundolo to reach 3rd ATP Tour QF at 2024 Auckland.
- > Reached 1st ATP Tour QF at 2023 Doha and defeated No. 21 Musetti for biggest win of career en route to 1st ATP Tour SF and final at 2023 Marrakech to make his Top 100 debut (I. to Carballes Baena).
- > Made tour-level debut at 2017 Roland Garros as a WC (I. to Monteiro) and won first tour-level match at 2021 Australian Open as a LL beating Londero in 1R.
- > Owns a 128-116 Challenger record, winning 1st title at 2022 Blois, saving a MP in his 1R match.
- > Had a tennis court at his childhood home and began playing with his dad at age 6 and says he was better at football than tennis before choosing the latter.

NOTE: Muller is seeded at an ATP Tour event for the first time in his career and is the highest French seed at the event. He looks for his 4th career ATP Tour QF (1-2), second of the season (Auckland) and first on home soil.

1R: Flavio Cobolli (ITA) vs [8] Gael Monfils (FRA) First Meeting

Flavio Cobolli | Age: 21 | World No. 76 (Career-High) | Career: 8-12 (2023 Munich QF) | Event: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Broke into Top 200 in January 2022 and Top 100 in October 2023, achieving career-high No. 76 in January 2024 after earning biggest win of career over No. 18 Jarry en route to 3R at Australian Open as Q.
- > Came through qualifying to earn 2 Top 100 wins en route to 1st ATP Tour QF at 2023 Munich.
- > Saved 3 MPs vs. Giron to win ATP Tour main draw debut 3-6 7-6 at 2021 Parma as 429th-ranked WC.
- > Won Challenger titles at 2022 Zadar and 2023 Lisbon and reached finals at 2021 Rome-2, 2021 Barletta and 2023 Olbia.
- > Peaked at No. 8 in juniors and ended career by winning 2020 Roland Garros boys' doubles title w/Stricker.

NOTE: Cobolli earned a new career-high No. 76 on Monday, after coming from qualifying to earn 1st Top 20 win over No. 18 Jarry in 1R before reaching 3R of Australian Open in his previous event. He is 0-3 vs. Frenchmen on tour-level.



Open Sud de FranceDay 3 – Wednesday 31 January 2024 Page 2 of 3

www.ATPTour.com

Gael Monfils | Age: 37 | World No. 70 | Career-High No. 6 | Career: 541-316 (12 Titles) | Event: 19-5 ('10, '14, '20 Titles) > Former World No. 1 junior achieved career-high No. 6 in 2016 and married former WTA No. 3 Elina Svitolina in 2021.

- > Owns 12 ATP Tour titles, including ATP 500s at 2016 Washington, 2019 Rotterdam and 2020 Rotterdam.
- > Reached at least 1 final in 19 straight seasons (2005-23), including ATP Masters 1000s at 2009 Paris, 2010 Paris and 2016 Monte Carlo.
- > Earned 541 career victories, highlighted by biggest wins over No. 1 Nadal at 2009 Doha and No. 1 Medvedev at 2022 Indian Wells, as well as career-long win streaks of 12 matches and 25 sets in 2020.
- > Advanced to 2008 Roland Garros and 2016 US Open SFs after winning junior titles at Australian Open, Roland Garros and Wimbledon in 2004.

NOTE: Monfils is making his 9th appearance at the event, seeking first win in Montpellier since defeating Pospisil to take the 2020 title. He is tied with Gasquet for most Montpellier titles (3) and aims to become the second man to earn 20 wins in tournament history (Gasquet – 28).

2R: Benoit Paire (FRA) vs [WC] Harold Mayot (FRA)

First Meeting

Benoit Paire | Age: 34 | World No. 112 | Career-High No. 18 | Career: 242-295 (3 Titles) | Event: 12-7 (2013 Final)

- > Rose 99 spots during season to end 2015 at No. 19, then reached career-high No. 18 in January 2016.
- > In 2015, won 1st ATP Tour singles title (Bastad), 3 Challenger titles and 1 Futures title to become 1st player to sweep titles at all 3 levels since Darcis in 2007.
- > Earned personal-best 34 wins and 2 titles in 2019, but owns 19-62 record with 0 SFs since tour resumed from COVID-19 suspension in August 2020.
- > Advanced to Grand Slam 4R on 4 occasions, including at 2015 US Open after saving 2 MPs to defeat 2014 finalist Nishikori in 1R.
- > Defeated No. 3 Wawrinka for biggest win of career at 2017 Madrid, lost to Wawrinka in biggest of 9 career finals at 2015 Tokyo and teamed w/Wawrinka for lone doubles title at 2013 Chennai.

NOTE: Paire looks for his 41st ATP Tour QF (24-16), first since 2021 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati (I. to Rublev) and first on home soil since reaching 2019 Metz SF (I. to Bedene). He defeated No. 49 Murray in 1R for his first Top 50 win since 2022 Australian Open (d. No. 28 Dimitrov in 2R).

Harold Mayot | Age: 21 | World No. 144 (Career-High) | Career: 4-4 (2023 Metz QF) | Event: 1-0 (2024 2R)

- > Former world No. 1 junior earned 1st ranking point in 2019, broke into Top 500 in March 2020, Top 200 in May 2023 and achieved career-high No. 144 in January 2024.
- > Reached 1st ATP Tour QF as Q in his hometown at 2023 Metz, before losing to eventual champion Humbert.
- > Qualified and earned 1st tour-level win at 2023 Wimbledon over compatriot Bonzi (I. to Pella in 2R).
- > Made ATP Tour debut at 2020 Marseille and Grand Slam debut at 2020 Roland Garros as a WC.
- > Owns 56-50 Challenger record (0-2 in finals), highlighted by finals at 2022 Tampere and 2023 Mallorca.
- > Beat compatriot and doubles partner Cazaux in the 2020 Australian Open boys' singles final to become the first Frenchman to win the title since Sidorenko in 2006.

NOTE: Mayot defeated 2018 champion Pouille in 1R and now attempts to reach his 2nd consecutive ATP Tour QF after reaching the stage at Metz in November (I. to Humbert). He would go up to No. 132 on the <u>Pepperstone ATP</u> Live Rankings with a 2R win.

2R: Denis Shapovalov (CAN) vs [2] Alexander Bublik (KAZ) Bublik Leads 2-0

20 Marseille (France) Hard QF Alexander Bublik 7-5 4-6 6-3 21 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid (Spain) Clay R32 Alexander Bublik 6-4 5-7 6-4

Denis Shapovalov | Age: 24 | World No. 137 | Career-High No. 10 | Career: 182-151 (1 Title) | Event: 2-2 (2019 QF) > After becoming 1st Canadian US Open men's singles quarter-finalist in 2020, joined Raonic as 2nd Canadian man in history to break into Top 10.

- > Defeated 2-time champion Murray and earned 5-set wins over Kohlschreiber and Khachanov en route to 1st Grand Slam SF at 2021 Wimbledon.
- > Reached 2019 Paris final and 4 other ATP Masters 1000 SFs, including 2017 Montreal, where he upset No. 2 Nadal and became youngest semi-finalist in series history at age 18 (since 1990).
- > Beat Carreno Busta to begin 2022 ATP Cup final and Kokkinakis to begin 2022 Davis Cup final, helping Canada sweep both team titles.
- > Ended junior career with 2016 Wimbledon boys' singles title, then broke into Top 50 of Pepperstone ATP Rankings less than 15 months later.



Open Sud de FranceDay 3 – Wednesday 31 January 2024 Page 3 of 3

www.ATPTour.com

NOTE: Shapovalov seeks his 38th tour-level quarter-final (20-17), first since 2023 Adelaide-1 in the first week of the season and first Top 30 win since defeating No. 30 F. Cerundolo at 2022 ATP Masters 1000 Paris 1R.

Alexander Bublik | Age: 26 | World No. 27 | Career-High No. 25 | Career: 130-127 (3 Titles) | Event: 6-2 (2022 Title) > Achieved career-high No. 25 in July 2023 after capturing 2nd ATP Tour title at Halle, defeating 5 Top 25 players including No. 9 Sinner in QF and No. 7 Rublev in final to win the biggest title of career.

- > Earned biggest wins of career over A. Zverev as No. 3 in 2022 Montpellier final for 1st ATP Tour title in 5th final and as No. 7 in 2021 Rotterdam 1R.
- > Runner-up at 2019 Newport, 2019 Chengdu, 2021 Antalya, 2021 Singapore, 2022 Newport and 2022 Metz.
- > Posted personal-best 35 wins in 2021 and advanced to ATP Masters 1000 QFs at Miami and Madrid.
- > In doubles, advanced to 2021 Roland Garros final with countryman Golubev and 2020 Australian Open SF with countryman Kukushkin.

NOTE: Bublik is a Top-2 seed at an ATP Tour event for the third time in his career (No. 1 at 2021 Newport, No. 2 at 2021 Astana). He is 16-3 vs. left-handers on tour-level and seeks his 24th ATP Tour QF (14-9), second of the season (Adelaide SF).

COURT 1

1R: [6] Alexander Shevchenko (KAZ) vs [Q] Dalibor Svrcina (CZE) First Tour-Level Meeting Other Meeting

22 Barletta CH (Italy) Clay R32 Alexander Shevchenko 2-6 6-0 6-2

1R: Bernabe Zapata Miralles (ESP) vs Constant Lestienne (FRA) First Tour-Level Meeting Other Meeting

19 Prague CH (Czech Republic) Clay R16 Bernabe Zapata Miralles 6-3 6-7(6) 7-6(1)