



FAYEZ SAROFIM & CO. U.S. MEN'S CLAY COURT CHAMPIONSHIP – ATP MEDIA NOTES

DAY 4 – THURSDAY 3 APRIL 2025

River Oaks Country Club | Houston, TX, USA | 31 March - 6 April 2025

ATP Tour

ATPTour.com

@ATPTour

#ThisIsTennis

Tournament

mensclaycourt.com

@mensclaycourt

#USClay

Media

Interview Queries: alexander.scott@atptour.com

Facts & Stats Queries: mediainfo@atptour.com

Press Officer: Pete Holtermann (pete@holtermanninc.com)

LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: THURSDAY SECOND-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

NOTE: Last time 6, 7, or 8 Americans reached the quarterfinals of an ATP Tour event:

6 – 2024 Newport (Eubanks, Giron, Kovacevic, McDonald, Michelsen, Opelka)

7 – 1995 San Jose (Agassi, Chang, Courier, Grabb, MacPhie, Br. Shelton, Washington)

8 – 1991 Orlando (Adams, Agassi, Arias, Gilbert, Pate, Rostagno, Sampras, Washington)

STADIUM COURT

Mackenzie McDonald (USA) vs [4] Brandon Nakashima (USA)

McDonald Leads 4-0

21 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati (U.S.A.)	Hard	R64	Mackenzie McDonald	7-5 6-2
23 Australian Open (Australia)	Hard	R128	Mackenzie McDonald	7-6(5) 7-6(1) 1-6 6-7(10) 6-4
23 Acapulco (Mexico)	Hard	R16	Mackenzie McDonald	6-2 6-0
24 Atlanta (U.S.A.)	Hard	R32	Mackenzie McDonald	6-2 6-4

Other Meeting

20 Orlando CH (U.S.A.)	Hard	QF	Brandon Nakashima	6-3 7-6(8)
------------------------	------	----	-------------------	------------

Mackenzie McDonald | Age: 29 | World No. 100 | Career-High No. 37 | 2025: 4-3 (3x 2R) | Houston: 1-3 (2025 2R)

> Broke into Top 50 in February 2022 and achieved career-high No. 37 in October 2023 after undergoing right hamstring surgery in 2019 and falling out of Top 250 in 2020.

> Defeated former champions Kyrgios and Nishikori en route to 1st ATP Tour final at 2021 Washington, then won 1st ATP Tour title in doubles at 2022 Tokyo w/Melo.

> Upset defending champion and World No. 2 Nadal in 2023 Australian Open 2R for biggest win of career and No. 7 Rublev en route to 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at 2023 Toronto.

> Advanced to 2018 Wimbledon 4R as No. 103 and 2021 Australian Open 4R as No. 192, becoming lowest-ranked player in Australian Open 4R since No. 248 Canas in 2004.

> Qualified for 2013 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati at age 18 by defeating USC legend Johnson, then went on to win 2016 NCAA singles and doubles titles for UCLA.

NOTE: McDonald seeks 18th ATP Tour QF (5-12), 1st since Newport in July (l. to Opelka) and 1st on clay. He looks for biggest win since defeating No. 15 Auger-Aliassime in 2023 US Open 1R and earned all 6 ATP Tour wins outside Davis Cup since last July on home soil.

Brandon Nakashima | Age: 23 | World No. 33 | Career-High No. 32 | 2025: 10-8 (Acapulco SF) | Houston: 2-1 ('24 QF)

> Former World No. 3 junior broke into Top 50 in July 2022 and achieved career-high No. 32 in March 2025.

> Returned to Milan and went 5-0 to capture 2022 Next Gen ATP Finals title after reaching SF in 2021.

> Defeated countryman Giron to win 1st ATP Tour title in hometown of San Diego in 2022 and ended season on 16-1 run in tiebreaks.

> Played in back-to-back ATP Tour finals at Los Cabos and Atlanta as 19-year-old in 2021, becoming youngest American to reach multiple finals since Roddick in 2001-02.

> Reached Roland Garros 3R, Wimbledon 4R and US Open 3R in 2022, highlighted by first Top 20 wins of career over No. 16 Shapovalov in Wimbledon 2R and No. 19 Dimitrov in US Open 2R, before reaching US Open 4R in 2024 with wins over No. 15 Rune and No. 18 Musetti.

NOTE: Nakashima looks for 3rd ATP Tour QF on clay after 2023 Lyon (l. to Fils in SF) and Houston last year (l. to Shelton). He aims to avoid 5 straight losses against an opponent for 1st time in career (0-4 vs. McDonald, Shelton).

[8] Kei Nishikori (JPN) vs Christopher Eubanks (USA)

First Meeting

Kei Nishikori | Age: 35 | World No. 66 | Career-High No. 4 | 2025: 8-6 (Hong Kong Final) | Houston: 5-2 (2011 Final)

> Top Asian men's player in history, achieving career-high No. 4 in 2015.

> Earned biggest of 449 career wins over No. 1 Djokovic at 2014 US Open to become 1st Asian Grand Slam men's singles finalist.

- > Captured 1st of 12 ATP Tour titles at 2008 Delray Beach as 18-year-old Q ranked 244th and remains youngest champion on tour since Hewitt, 16, at 1998 Adelaide.
- > Six-time ATP 500 champion, four-time ATP Masters 1000 finalist, four-time Nitto ATP Finals qualifier and 2016 Rio Olympics bronze medallist.
- > Owns highest winning percentage among active players in deciding sets (155-60, .721) and trails only behind Alcaraz and Djokovic for 3rd-highest winning percentage among active players in fifth sets (29-6, .784).

NOTE: Nishikori seeks 450th tour-level win (449-297) and would be the 1st Asian man to achieve this feat. He is seeded at an ATP Tour event for the first time since 2021 ATP Masters 1000 Miami and seeks 1st tour-level quarterfinal on clay since 2019 Roland Garros (l. to Nadal).

Most Tour-Level Wins (Active Male Players)

Player	Record	Player	Record
Novak Djokovic	1136-227	Stan Wawrinka	579-367*
Richard Gasquet	608-406	Alexander Zverev	477-204
Marin Cilic	590-339	Grigor Dimitrov	468-297
Gael Monfils	579-340	Kei Nishikori	449-297

*Plays Bucharest 2R vs. Martinez on Thursday

Christopher Eubanks | Age: 28 | World No. 117 | Career-High No. 29 | 2025: 2-4 (2x 2R) | Houston: 1-1 (2025 2R)

- > Earned personal-best 21 wins and made his Top 100 debut at age 26 in 2023, peaking at No. 29 in July soon after advancing to Wimbledon QF, defeating No. 5 Tsitsipas for biggest win of career in 4R.
- > Broke into Top 100 by reaching 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at 2023 Miami as Q in March and Top 50 by capturing 1st ATP Tour title at 2023 Mallorca (d. Mannarino) in June.
- > Defeated countrymen Fritz and Donaldson in his hometown for 1st ATP Tour wins en route to 2017 Atlanta QF as WC.
- > Beat then-No. 106 Auger-Aliassime en route to qualifying at 2019 Australian Open and Martinez for 1st Grand Slam main draw win at 2022 US Open.
- > Played college tennis at Georgia Tech from 2015-17 and was a 2-time All-American and 2-time ACC Player of the Year.

NOTE: Eubanks aims to reach his 9th tour-level quarter-final (2-6), 6th on home soil and 1st on clay. He is 2-6 vs. Top 100 on the surface (including Challengers) with win vs. No. 82 Hijikata in 1R this week.

Adam Walton (AUS) vs [2] Frances Tiafoe (USA)

25 Brisbane (Australia)

Hard R32 Frances Tiafoe

Tiafoe Leads 1-0

7-6(5) 6-3

Adam Walton | Age: 25 | World No. 85 (Career-High) | 2025: 4-7 (Miami 4R) | Houston: 1-0 (2025 2R)

- > After starting 2024 season as No. 176 on PIF ATP Rankings, broke into Top 100 in May that year before reaching career-high No. 85 in March 2025 after advancing to ATP Masters 1000 Miami 4R as LL.
- > Made ATP Tour debut at 2024 Adelaide as Q and defeated former semi-finalist Hanfmann in 2024 Mallorca 1R for 1st win and No. 72 Coria at 2024 Wimbledon for 1st Grand Slam main draw match win.
- > Owns 78-47 Challenger record (4-5 in finals), capturing his 1st title at 2023 Cary.
- > Played college tennis for University of Tennessee for five years from 2017 and credits college tennis with improving his tennis and physique.

NOTE: Walton posted his first ATP Tour win on clay vs. Mmoh in 1R and bids to reach 1st ATP Tour QF (0-3 in R16 matches). He seeks biggest win of career and is 0-6 vs. Top 50, defeating No. 52 Kecmanovic in Atlanta in July.

Frances Tiafoe | Age: 27 | World No. 17 | Career-High No. 10 | 2025: 6-6 (2x 3R) | Houston: 10-5 (2023 Title)

- > Former World No. 2 junior achieved career-high No. 10 in June 2023 after lifting 3rd title in Stuttgart, saving 1 MP vs. Struff in the final to own ATP Tour titles on all three surfaces.
- > Joined Fritz in Top 10 to mark 1st time two American men were ranked in Top 10 since 2012.
- > Defeated 4-time champion Nadal en route to 2022 US Open SF, becoming that event's 1st American men's semi-finalist since Roddick in 2006 and returned to US Open SF in 2024, losing to Fritz in all-American match.
- > Led Team World to 2022 Laver Cup title, teaming w/Sock to defeat Federer/Nadal in Swiss' final match before clinching cup with win over Tsitsipas.
- > Rallyed from 3-5 in third set and saved 2 MPs vs. Rune to reach 1st ATP Masters 1000 final at 2024 Cincinnati.
- > Won 1st ATP Tour title as 20-year-old at 2018 Delray Beach and remains youngest American champion since Roddick, 19, at 2002 Houston and 2nd ATP Tour title at 2023 Houston.
- > Parents emigrated from Sierra Leone in 1996 and father was Head of Maintenance at Junior Tennis Champions Center in Maryland, where Frances and his twin brother Franklin trained as kids.

NOTE: Tiafoe seeks 4th consecutive Houston QF (2022 QF, 2023 Title, 2024 Final) and is 6-0 in opening rounds this year. He claimed his lone ATP Tour clay title at this venue in 2023 (d. Etcheverry).

[5] Alex Michelsen (USA) vs [LL] Adrian Mannarino (FRA)

Series Tied 1-1

23 Newport (U.S.A.)

Grass F

Adrian Mannarino

6-2 6-4

24 Mallorca (Spain)

Grass R16

Alex Michelsen

7-6(5) 6-4

Alex Michelsen | Age: 20 | World No. 34 | Career-High No. 32 | 2025: 12-8 (Delray Beach SF) | Houston: 1-1 (25 2R)
> Broke inside Top 50 in August 2024 and achieved career-high No. 32 in March 2025, not long after defeating former finalist Tsitsipas en route to 1st Grand Slam 4R at Australian Open.

> At 2024 Australian Open, became youngest American man in Grand Slam 3R since Young at 2007 US Open.

> Earned 1st ATP Tour win and reached 1st QF, SF and final at 2023 Newport, becoming youngest American ATP Tour finalist since Fritz at 2016 Memphis and reached 2nd final at 2024 Newport (held 1 MP vs. Giron).

> Defeated No. 9 de Minaur for biggest win of career in 2024 Los Cabos 2R, before squandering 3 MPs in QF against eventual champion Thompson.

> Also reached 2024 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati doubles final w/McDonald after defeating him in qualifying.

NOTE: Michelsen looks for 12th ATP Tour QF (5-6), 6th on home soil, and 2nd on clay after Geneva last May (l. to Machac). He would be the youngest American quarterfinalist in Houston since Fritz, 20, in 2018 (l. to Johnson in SF).

Adrian Mannarino | Age: 36 | World No. 144 | Career-High No. 17 | 2025: 1-4 (Houston 2R) | Houston: 1-0 (2025 2R)

> Ended 11 straight years in Top 75 of PIF ATP Rankings (2013-23) and became the oldest man to break into Top 20 at age 35 in PIF ATP Rankings history, achieving career-high No. 17 in January 2024.

> Captured 1st ATP Tour title in 7th final of career at 2019 's-Hertogenbosch, 2nd title in 11th final of career at 2022 Winston-Salem.

> Posted personal-best 43 wins in 2023, highlighted by ATP Tour titles in Newport, Astana and Sofia.

> Earned first Top 5 win over No. 5 Cilic to reach biggest final of career at 2017 Tokyo and biggest win of career over No. 3 Medvedev at 2023 's-Hertogenbosch.

> Reached Australian Open 4R in 2022 and 2024 and Wimbledon 4R in 2013, 2017 and 2018, but owns 0-22 record vs. Top-10 players at Grand Slams.

NOTE: Mannarino seeks 63rd ATP Tour QF (25-36 + 1 W/O loss), 2nd on clay after 2016 Nice (l. to Thiem in SF). He aims to win consecutive matches for first time since ATP Masters 1000 Paris in October (l. to Thompson in 3R) and is 6-25 vs. Top 50 on clay, seeking first win since beating No. 39 Karatsev at 2022 Lyon.

Oldest Quarter-Finalists in Tournament History – Mannarino would be the 4th-oldest at 36 years and 9 months.

Player	Age	Year/Result
Ivo Karlovic	39y 1m	2018 SF (l. to Sandgren)
John Isner	36y 11m	2022 Final (l. to Opelka)
Luis Ayala	36y 10m	1969* QF (l. to Graebner)
Feliciano Lopez	35y 7m	2017 QF (l. to Sock)
Ruben Ramirez-Hidalgo	35y 3m	2013 QF (l. to R. Williams)

*Tournament held in Indianapolis