

# Eala and Osaka advance, No. 3 Auger-Aliassime falls at US Open

BY BRIAN MAHONEY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Alex Eala and her fans are headed to the weekend at the U.S. Open, along with two-time champion Naomi Osaka.

So is Madison Keys — just barely — but not No. 3 Felix Auger-Aliassime, who became the highest-seeded player knocked out of the tournament thus far.

Osaka recovered after a mid-match lapse to advance to the third round with a 6-2, 5-7, 6-1 victory over Katerina Siniakova on Thursday, before Eala beat Oleksandra Oliynykova 6-1, 6-4.

Doubles play also began, though Serena and Venus Williams won't play their first-round match until Friday night against Hao-Ching Chan and Maya Joint, who beat Serena in singles play at Wimbledon this summer.

Eala, the No. 17 seed from the Philippines, gave her passionate backers reason to cheer immediately by winning the first nine points against her Ukrainian opponent, who had won their only previous meeting.

"I think everybody represents something in their own way; I'm Filipino and I proudly represent that," Eala said. "And a lot of the crowd here today is Filipino and I'm sure they share in that sentiment."

Osaka wore silver and white under her long white jacket with a white visor as she arrived for her match in Arthur Ashe Stadium, three days after she was dressed in black with her hair done in

cornrows under a headband in a tribute to former NBA superstar Allen Iverson for her opener at night.

The No. 13 seed won the first set in 30 minutes and then opened a 4-2 lead in the second. But her level of play took a substantial dip, with 20 unforced errors in the set after only four in the first.

Osaka quickly regained control, breaking for a 2-0 lead in the third before finishing a 19-shot rally with a volley for a winner en route to taking the next game, appearing more relieved than excited by her nice touch.

"The match was definitely really tough and I don't know, I just felt like I had to fight," Osaka said. "I definitely had a couple opportunities in the second set and I think I was a little bit too hard on myself. So I took the bathroom break, regrouped a little, came back and just tried to have no regrets."

**AUGER-ALIASSIME TUMBLES OUT AND KEYS BARELY HANGS ON**

Auger-Aliassime said he was feeling dizzy and seeing spots and couldn't recover, falling to Karen Khachanov 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

"Karen is a great player. Look, I cannot beat him or anybody in this draw feeling the way I felt today," the Canadian said. "If I cannot move, we're not talking about tennis here."

The highest seed to fall so far had been No. 4 Novak Djokovic, who lost in the first round at the U.S. Open for the first time in the 24-time Grand

Slam champion's career.

Keys, the 2017 runner-up, also was on the verge of an early exit before erasing five match points and edging Anna Bondar 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 (10-5).

"That was something, huh? No stress, though, we all knew I had it right?" Keys joked to the fans afterward.

Other winners included 2022 champion Iga Swiatek and 2025 runner-up Amanda Anisimova. Taylor Fritz, the 2024 men's runner-up, eased to 6-0, 6-1, 6-1 victory over Mattia Bellucci.

**GAUFF, ZVEREV AND MONFILS HIGHLIGHT THE NIGHT ACTION**

Coco Gauff, who won her first major title at Flushing Meadows in 2023, faces Paula Badosa in a night match that will be followed by No. 1 Alexander Zverev, who hopes for an easier time against Quentin Halys after he needed five sets to edge Lorenzo Sonego on Tuesday, barely avoiding becoming the first No. 1 seed to lose in the first round of a men's major since 2003.

Badosa will be playing for the second straight day, forced to finish her first-round match Wednesday after play was suspended Tuesday because of rain that hampered the tournament for multiple days. The sun was out again Thursday when play began.

Also in action is Gael Monfils, who is planning to retire after this year but won Tuesday on his 40th birthday to prolong his Grand Slam career and advance to face No. 14 Learner Tien.

# Roberts weighs day off for Ohtani after 4-strikeout game

BY BETH HARRIS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles Dodgers manager Dave Roberts saw a physically compromised Shohei Ohtani at the plate Wednesday night when the four-time MVP was 0 for 4 with four strikeouts.

He plans to have a conversation with the training staff and Ohtani on Thursday to "really try to figure out where he's at physically" and weigh giving him a day off, although Roberts said he doesn't think a stint on the injured list is necessary.

"I saw the same thing that everyone saw," Roberts said after an 8-6 loss in 10 innings to the St. Louis Cardinals. "You could see the swing wasn't the swing that we're used to seeing. He's not close to optimal."

The two-way superstar hasn't pitched in a game since July 3 because of lingering pain in his left knee and right biceps, which may be affecting his offense. He is hitting .279 after striking out four consecutive times for the first time this season.

"I know he feels that he needs to post and be in the lineup and if he's upright he should play," Roberts said. "I respect that, but if he's feeling the way that he visibly looks, then it's really not helping anyone."

Earlier Wednesday, Roberts had said he had no indication that Ohtani was physically ailing.

After the game, the manager said, "I've seen it over the last couple weeks where he hasn't been who he is."

Ohtani hasn't spoken to the media in two weeks.

"I still feel there's enough days on the cal-



WILLIAM LIANG/Associated Press

**Los Angeles Dodgers' Shohei Ohtani (17) strikes out during the sixth inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals on Wednesday in Los Angeles.**

endar of the season that we have plenty of time to make whatever decision we make and to have him come out of it in a better spot," Roberts said.

The Dodgers remain uncertain whether Ohtani will pitch again this season.

He threw a 20-pitch bullpen session last Friday but was scratched from a potential start at Detroit two days later. Roberts said that until he sees Ohtani throw another bullpen he won't know the next step in his pitching progression.

Asked if it's possible Ohtani won't pitch again this season, Roberts said, "It's an option."

Before being shut down, Ohtani was 8-2 with a 1.79 ERA in 14 starts.

If Ohtani can't start on the mound, would he be a candidate to play at an outfield corner?

"Not on the table right now," Roberts said.

Ohtani hasn't played the outfield in the major leagues since 2021, when he appeared there in seven games for the Los Angeles Angels.

If Ohtani isn't physically capable of starting a game, it's possible he could enter as a reliever.

If he starts as the designated hitter and then moves to the mound, the so-called Ohtani Rule would kick in and the Dodgers would lose their DH for the rest of the game. But if he moves from the mound to the outfield, he could remain in the lineup.

# SafeSport database visitors surge

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER — The U.S. Center for SafeSport more than doubled the number of new visitors to its online Centralized Disciplinary Database in the month after it started making public announcements about people placed on its banned list.

The center said Thursday that 6,300 new visitors looked at the database between July 21 — the date the initiative was launched — and Aug. 20. That marked a 125% increase over the previous period in 2025.

The center, in charge of combating abuse in Olympic sports, has long published the database. But without publicizing who lands on the list, people had to access the database and know who they were looking for to learn about banned and restricted people in their orbit.

Now, the center delivers a weekly email with updates about people added to the list; the updates include cases taken to arbitration that have reached a decision.

In addition to sports media, among those who commonly receive the email are national governing bodies and club owners.

"Recognizing how underutilized this tool has been, we are investing in amplifying it nationwide with the hope of increasing transparency and fostering safer sport environments," CEO Benita Fitzgerald Mosley said in a news release announcing the numbers.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given, that sealed bids will be received by the City of Vine Grove, Hardin County, Kentucky, hereinafter referred to as the Owner, for the construction of the following project: CREEKVALE DRIVE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Sealed bids may be delivered or forwarded by certified mail, until 3:00 p.m. local time on the 25th day of September, 2026 to the City of Vine Grove, 300 West Main Street, Vine Grove, KY 40175. Proposals received after such hour will be returned unopened. After the hour of 3:00 p.m. on September 25, 2026, the bids shall be opened and publicly read aloud. The place of opening shall be the City of Vine Grove, City Hall, 300 West Main Street, Vine Grove, KY 40175. All interested citizens are invited to attend. Should any citizens require special provisions, such as handicapped modifications or non-english translation personnel, the City of Vine Grove will provide such provisions as long as the request is made by September 18, 2026.

The project generally consists of the following: removal of existing bridge structure and abutments; construction of new bridge abutments; installation of provided concrete box beams and appurtenances; construction of concrete bridge deck; general clearing, excavation, earthwork and grading; installation of provided guardrail; maintenance of traffic for road closure; replacement and modification of roadway approaches; restoration and seeding.

Plans are available for public inspection at City Hall. Copies of the Plans and Specifications for the project may be obtained from Heritage Engineering LLC, at 642 South 4th Street, Suite 100, Louisville, KY 40202 or via email at [tmarconi@heritageeng.com](mailto:tmarconi@heritageeng.com). There is no charge for PDF copies of the plans or specifications. Questions pertaining to the plans and specifications shall be directed to Mr. Tony Marconi, P.E. via email at [tmarconi@heritageeng.com](mailto:tmarconi@heritageeng.com) or (502) 562-1412, ext. 1226. All questions must be submitted no later than 5 pm on Thursday September 17, 2022. The work to be performed and the bid to be submitted shall include sufficient and proper sums for all general construction, mechanical installation, labor, materials, permits, licenses, insurance, and so forth incidental to and required for the construction of the facilities.

Each bid must be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the title of the Project and the name and address of Bidder. All bids must be submitted on the bid forms as identified in the Contract Documents.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check or acceptable bidder's bond made payable to the Owner, in a sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount of the highest aggregate bid. The check or bond will be held by the Owner as evidence that the bidder will, if awarded the project, enter into a contract with the Owner upon notification to do so within ten (10) days of said notification.

Approved performance and payment bonds guaranteeing faithful and proper performance of the work and supplying of materials, to be executed by an acceptable surety company, will be required of the Contractor at the time of contract execution. The bonds will be in the amount of 100% of the Contract Price and must be in full force and effect throughout the term of the Construction Contract plus a period of twelve (12) months from the date of substantial completion.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any bid, or all bids, or to accept any bid or bids, or to make such combination of bids as may seem desirable, and to waive any and all informalities in bidding. Any bid may be withdrawn prior to the above scheduled time for the opening of bids or authorized postponement thereof. Any bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered. No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for at least ninety (90) days.

A conditional or qualified Bid will not be accepted.

All bidders shall be certified for bridge construction with the Kentucky Department of Transportation. Each Bidder shall provide proof of certification with their bid.

Award will be made to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder. The lowest, responsive, responsible bidder must not be debarred, suspended, or otherwise be excluded from or ineligible for participation in federally assisted programs under Executive Order 12549.

All applicable laws, ordinances, and the rules and regulations of all authorities having jurisdiction over construction of the project shall apply to the project throughout.

Bids shall be properly and completely executed on bid forms included in the Specifications.

The Owner may make such investigations as deemed necessary to determine the ability of the Bidder to perform the work and the Bidder shall furnish to the Owner all such information and data for this purpose as the Owner may request. The Owner reserves the right to reject any bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such Bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the Agreement and to complete the work contemplated therein.

Each Bidder is responsible for inspecting the Project site(s) and for reading and being thoroughly familiar with the Plans and Specifications. The failure or omission of any Bidder to do any of the foregoing shall in no way relieve any Bidder from any obligation with respect to its Bid.

Bidders on this work shall be required to comply with the provisions of the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended. The Bidders shall also comply with the requirements of 41 CFR Part 60 – 4 entitled Construction Contractors - Affirmative Action Requirements.

CITY OF VINE GROVE