Tokyo 2020: Naomi Osaka out of Olympics tennis tournament after losing to Marketa Vondrousova

There will be no gold medal for the face of the Tokyo Olympics after Naomi Osaka was beaten by Marketa Vondrousova in the third round of the women's singles.

The 23-year-old had hoped to play a starring role in the Games on the court as well as off it but lighting the Olympic flame at the opening ceremony will be the high point.

Osaka had looked good in her first two matches, particularly against Viktorija Golubic on Monday, but former French Open finalist Vondrousova was a step up in level and the young Czech produced an excellent performance under the roof at the Ariake Tennis Park to win 6-1 6-4.

Vondrousova mixed her trademark drop shots with big serves and powerful groundstrokes and defended brilliantly when Osaka got her game going in the second set.

Also out of the women's singles event is French Open champion Barbora Krejcicova, meaning all three Grand Slam champions this year have been eliminated.

World No 1 and Wimbledon winner Ashleigh Barty was beaten in the first round over the weekend, and not long after Australian Open champion Osaka's exit, it was Krejikova who tumbled out, following defeat to Switzerland's Belina Bencic.

Osaka's defeat was the day's big story as the women's quarter-final line-up was completed. The four-time Grand Slam champion did not move as well as she can, perhaps a legacy of the eight-week break she took for mental health reasons prior to this tournament.

Osaka had won 25 of her last 26 matches on hard courts, winning grand slams at the US Open and Australian Open and, particularly given the early defeat for Barty, the stage seemed set for her to claim arguably the biggest title of them all.

But instead, it is 22-year-old Vondrousova who becomes the first player through to the quarter-finals, where she will take on Spain's Paula Badosa after she was a comfortable straight sets winner over Argentina's Nadio Podoroska.

Osaka, who had hoped to become the first Japanese tennis player to win Olympic gold, had no answer to Vondrousova in the first set.

She responded well at the start of the second with a break of serve but was quickly pegged back and, although she saved two match points at 5-4, another followed and Osaka sent a backhand wide.

World No 6 Elina Svitolina is the highest ranked player left in the field, the Ukrainian battled back from losing the first set to beat Greece's Maria Sakkari 5-7 6-3 6-4 to book her place in the last eight.

Svitolina will face Italy's Camila Giorgi after the world No 61 stunned Wimbledon runner-up Karolina Pliskova 6-4, 6-2.

Tokyo Olympics 2020: Tom Dean and Duncan Scott help Great Britain to gold in 4x200m freestyle relay

Tom Dean and Duncan Scott also claimed gold and silver in the individual 200m freestyle final on Tuesday; the gold rush in the pool continues for Great Britain following Adam Peaty, Tom Daley and Matty Lee's successes in 100m breaststroke and synchro 10m platform diving final on Monday

Tom Dean, James Guy, Matthew Richards, Duncan Scott pose after winning the 4x200m freestyle relay final at the 2020 Olympics

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Tom Dean became the first British male swimmer to win more than one gold medal at a single Olympics in 113 years after helping Team GB to victory in the 4x200m freestyle relay final at the Tokyo Aquatics Centre.

Dean produced the performance of his life to triumph in the men's 200m freestyle 24 hours earlier in a British record time, and he made a solid, if unspectacular, start in the relay race before his teammates finished the job.

Alongside Dean was Duncan Scott, who claimed silver in Tuesday's individual race, James Guy and Matthew Richards, and their time of six minutes and 58.58 seconds saw them bag Team GB's third swimming gold of Tokyo 2020.

Dean is therefore the only British male swimmer to claim two golds at the same Games in more than a century, following in the footsteps of Henry Taylor, who prevailed in the men's freestyle 400m and 1500m races in 1908.

GB were favourites heading into the relay - having also qualified fastest from the semi-finals.

Dean started the race and actually performed the slowest of the British quartet, with a time of 1min 45.72secs putting them behind the Russian Olympic Committee and the United States after the first 200m.

Guy, though, established a narrow lead for the pre-race favourites by the halfway stage with his split of 1:44.40 and, despite a sluggish start, Richards had taken that lead to more than a second with his 1:45.01.

Scott, whose runner-up finish behind Dean on Tuesday meant he collected his third Olympic silver, then brought it home in emphatic fashion with 1:43.45 as Britain finished more than three seconds ahead of the second-placed ROC and just 0.03secs off a world record time.

Scott said: "It's really special with these boys. Matt in third was so composed and the boys up front executed their race plans really well. So close to a world record in the end - if anything I'm a bit gutted!"

Dean said: "I can't even put it into words. I couldn't yesterday and I can't today. I can't thank these boys enough, from the bottom of my heart. Unreal."

Scott and Guy were part of the team that won silver in the event in 2016, and the latter added: "As a kid winning an Olympic gold medal was my absolute dream and to do it finally after 25 years is pretty emotional." For 18-year-old Richards, it was his first taste of an Olympic Games, and he said: "When you're racing with guys like this, having a great leg comes easy.

"When they set you up as well as they did and you've got literally one of the best freestylers in the world and one of the best freestylers ever going behind you, (it's a) privilege. And the confidence that gives someone, and the experience, money can't buy it."

Raphael Varane: Man Utd confirm they have reached agreement with Real Madrid for defender

Manchester United have confirmed they have reached an agreement with Real Madrid to sign defender Raphael Varane.

A club statement said: "Manchester United is delighted to announce the club has reached agreement with Real Madrid for the transfer of French international defender and World Cup winner, Raphaël Varane, subject to a medical and to player terms being finalised."

Having already signed England international Jadon Sancho for £73m from Borussia Dortmund, the acquisition of Varane represents a further statement of intent from United.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's team were second in the Premier League last season but finished 12 points behind Manchester City.

He has gone on to make over 350 appearances for the club, and he capped 79 times by France, helping them to World Cup glory in 2018.

He started all four of France's matches at Euro 2020 before they were knocked out on penalties by Switzerland.

If the deal goes through as expected, Varane's first competitive action for United could come when they start their Premier League campaign on August 14 against Leeds United at Old Trafford.

"If Man Utd do get Varane across the line, they are buying one of the best central defenders in Europe. He has been fantastic at Real since day one, he has all the attributes you need and he has been slightly overlooked because of Sergio Ramos.

"But in terms of quality, I do not think there are many better than Varane."

United continue to look busy in the transfer market having recently signed Jadon Sancho from Borussia Dortmund for £73m.

Sancho, whose move to Old Trafford was agreed in principle on July 1, completed a medical earlier this month after his participation at Euro 2020.

He has signed a five-year deal at United, with an option of a further year, and Sancho will wear the No 25 shirt for his new side.

The Hundred: Jonny Bairstow's 72 and Jimmy Neesham's three wickets for five runs take Welsh Fire to win

Jonny Bairstow cracked his second straight Hundred half-century as his superb 72 and Jimmy Neesham's three wickets for five runs from 15 balls took Welsh Fire to victory over winless Southern Brave, who have now lost two from two.

Fire captain Bairstow - playing his final game before linking up with the England Test team - had struggled to get going early on and was on 26 from 25 balls but then took off, nailing 44 from his final 14 deliveries as the home side posted 165 from their 100 balls in Cardiff having been 86-1 after 67.

Ben Duckett (53 off 34) played his part in a scintillating stand with Bairstow of 116 from 63 balls, while Tom Banton blazed 34 from 23 balls at the top of the order after Fire were inserted by Brave.

Brave made a rapid start to the chase with Quinton de Kock (21 off 7) and James Vince (40 off 27) and were 40-0 after 14 balls and 85-1 after 50 balls.

But Fire battled back, principally through Neesham, who dismissed Vince and then took two wickets in a five-ball spell late on that went for only one run as Brave ended on 147-7.

Bairstow had his heart in his mouth on 10 when he pulled Craig Overton to deep square. Ross Whiteley rolled out the full-length dive but was just unable to cling on to what would probably have been the catch of the tournament so far.

Whiteley would have been happy at saving the four - but as the innings progressed and Bairstow went berserk, he would have been left ruing not taking the catch, as difficult as it might have been to execute.

Bairstow - who hit 56 off 36 balls against Northern Superchargers on Saturday night - completed back-to-back fifties in The Hundred from 32 deliveries amid four boundaries in five balls off Colin de Grandhomme.

Later in the night, Vince - who has been in electric form both internationally and domestically of late - looked like he could go on to trump Bairstow's score but then holed out off Neesham with Brave needing 74 from 46 balls.

With Devon Conway out in the previous set of five balls and De Grandhomme out in the next, Brave's race looked run.

Whiteley - who would have been run out on two but for a Bairstow fumble - kept Brave in the hunt with 25 off 14 balls but when he chopped Neesham back onto his stumps, that really was it.

They will be one down on power hitters from here on in with Bairstow now departing for Test math duty with England but what a batting line-up Fire have!

Banton ignited early on on Tuesday night, going six, six, four off spinner Danny Briggs during the first five balls and then clubbing the speedy Tymal Mills for three fours between balls 21 and ball 25.

Duckett, meanwhile, is strong, wristy and innovative, with one passage of play seeing him sweep, or reverse sweep, Brave left-arm wrist-spinner Jake Lintott for four fours in a row.

The Welsh team got up to 165 with Glenn Phillips, Neesham, Ian Cockbain, Matt Critchley and Josh Cobb getting a short hit or no hit at all. The depth in the Cardiff team is remarkable.

Skysport

Tokyo Olympics: Masters champion Hideki Matsuyama hopes for golf gold after Covid-19 recovery

Masters champion Hideki Matsuyama is dreaming of home success at the Tokyo Olympics, having feared Covid-19 may prevent him from competing for Team Japan.

Matsuyama was forced to withdraw from the PGA Tour's Rocket Mortgage Classic in Detroit earlier this month after testing positive for coronavirus, which also resulting him missing out on The Open at Royal St George's.

The 29-year-old hasn't featured competitively since his positive Covid-19 test but has been able to practice since recovering in Japan. He is now looking forward to returning to action as part of a strong line-up - featuring seven of the world's top 20 - in Kawagoe City.

"To be able to represent Japan and play in the home country, in a home Olympics, this is probably the first and last time I'll be able to do that, so I'm very happy to be able to participate in the Olympics here," Matsuyama said on Tuesday.

"Three weeks ago, I got tested positive for Covid-19 and I wasn't really sure if I'll be able to make it to the stage here, so finally I'm here and I'm very happy to be able to be here.

"I tested positive for Covid for about 10 days in duration, so in that time I was staying home and did my best to recover from the symptoms. During that time, I was unable to practice, but once I got back to Japan, I started practicing. So in terms of preparation, it started a little bit with a delay but hopefully I'll be able to be in the best form possible for the event this week."

Matsuyama's Masters victory is his only worldwide top-10 so far in 2021, with the world No 20 finishing no higher than tied-23rd in his four starts since winning the Green Jacket at Augusta National.

The event will take place at Kasumigaseki Country Club, one of the most prestigious clubs in Japan, where Matsuyama previously won Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship in 2010 and booked his first Masters appearance.

"In a way, Kasumigaseki has been a place and catalyst for me to progress and grow, so hopefully I could do the same this week and move on to another level," Matsuyama added.

"Since my Masters win, I haven't had the best results so far this summer, so I'm a little bit nervous, but I'm really looking forward to it, I think it's going to be really fun and I'm going to try to do my best to play well."