J&T BANKA OSTRAVA OPEN — SEMIFINALS

[3] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #12) vs. JENNIFER BRADY (USA #26)

First Meeting
In QF match yesterday, Sabalenka came back to win final twelve games of the match after losing the first ten... Brady looking for just her second career WTA final appearance after winning first title earlier this year at Lexington... By comparison, Sabalenka owns a total of six WTA titles

MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #23) vs. [4] VICTORIA AZARENKA (BLR #14)

First Meeting
A win for Sakkari today would mark fifth Top 20 win of the year and advance her to third career WTA final... Azarenka looking to book milestone 40th final appearance of career... Sakkari is the only semifinalist yet to win a title this year

A LOOK AT THE SEMIFINALISTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAYER</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>NAT</th>
<th>SEASON (MD) W/L*</th>
<th>CAREER W/L*</th>
<th>CAREER PRIZE $^</th>
<th>CAREER TITLES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maria Sakkari</td>
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*Includes current tournament / ^ Does not include current tournament

SEMIFINAL RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAYER</th>
<th>LAST FINAL REACHED (final result)</th>
<th>CAREER SF W/L*</th>
<th>CAREER F W/L*</th>
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<tr>
<td>[3] Aryna Sabalenka</td>
<td>2020 Doha (WON)</td>
<td>10-6</td>
<td>6-4</td>
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<td>Maria Sakkari</td>
<td>2019 Rabat (WON)</td>
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<td>Jennifer Brady</td>
<td>2020 Lexington (WON)</td>
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*Not including walkovers

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A SNAPSHOT OF 2020 – THE YEAR SO FAR

- **One Top 10 Debut:** Sofia Kenin (at No.7 on February 3)
- **Fewest games dropped en route to a title:** Jennifer Brady (24, Lexington)
- **Lowest-ranked title winner:** Patricia Maria Tig (No.88, Istanbul)
- **Multiple finals:** Elena Rybakina: 5 (Shenzhen – R-Up; Hobart – W; St. Petersburg – R-Up; Dubai – R-Up; Strasbourg – R-Up); Sofia Kenin: 3 (Australian Open – W; Lyon – W; Roland Garros – R-Up); Simona Halep: 3 (Dubai – W; Prague – W; Rome – W); Naomi Osaka: 2 (Western & Southern Open – R-Up; US Open – W); Victoria Azarenka (Western & Southern Open – W; US Open – R-Up); Karolina Pliskova: 2 (Brisbane – W; Rome – R-Up); Elina Svitolina: 2 (Monterrey – W; Strasbourg – W)
- **Maiden titles (3):** Ekaterina Alexandrova (Shenzhen), Jennifer Brady (Lexington), Patricia Maria Tig (Istanbul)
- **Youngest title winner:** Iga Swiatek, Roland Garros (19y 4m 12d)
- **Oldest title winner:** Serena Williams, Auckland (38y 3m 17d)
- **Aces leaders:** Elena Rybakina – 193, Serena Williams – 178, Garbiñe Muguruza – 160, Naomi Osaka – 141, Kristyna Pliskova – 137
- **Most aces in a match (22):** Alison Van Uytvanck (l. vs. Sofia Kenin 7-6(5) 6-7(2) 7-6(2) – Lyon, SF)
- **Match win leaders:** Elise Mertens – 30, Elena Rybakina – 29, Sofia Kenin – 24, Simona Halep – 23, Garbiñe Muguruza – 23
- **Most three-set matches played:** Garbiñe Muguruza (10-5 record), Sofia Kenin (10-3)
- **Most doubles titles (4):** Barbora Strycova / Hsieh Su-Wei (Brisbane, Dubai, Doha, Rome)
- **Best result by a qualifier (R-Up):** Leonie Kung (Hua Hin), Leylah Fernandez (Acapulco), Eugenie Bouchard (Istanbul)
- **Longest match:** 3h 33m – Heather Watson d. Elise Mertens 6-7(5) 6-4 7-5 (Hobart, QF)
- **Shortest (completed) match:** 39m – Ekaterina Alexandrova d. Storm Sanders 6-1 6-0 (Strasbourg, R1)
- **Most Top 10 wins (3):** Garbiñe Muguruza (No.3 Simona Halep, No.5 Elina Svitilina and No.10 Kiki Bertens – all at Australian Open) and Jelena Ostapenko (No.7 Sofia Kenin – Fed Cup, No.8 Kiki Bertens – Strasbourg, No.4 Karolina Pliskova – Roland Garros)
[3] ARyna SABALENKA (BLR #12) vs. Jennifer BRADY (USA #26)

Head to Head: 0-0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARYNA SABALENKA</th>
<th>WTA RANKING</th>
<th>JENNIFER BRADY</th>
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* Updated entering 2020 Ostrava SF

**ROAD TO THE SEMIFINALS**

**[3] ARyna SABALENKA (BLR #12)**

QF: d. [Q] Sara Sorribes Tormo (ESP #73) 0-6,6-4,6-0 (2h02)
R16: d. [Q] Cori Gauff (USA #55) 1-6,7-5,7-6(2) (2h13)
R32: BYE

Total games: 54
Won/lost: 27-27
Sets won/lost: 4-2
Total time on court: 4h15
Average time on court: 2h08
Average rank of opponent: 64

**Jennifer BRADY (USA #26)**

QF: d. [Q] Veronika Kudermetova (RUS #47) 6-7(5),6-3,6-1 (1h57)
R16: d. [Q] Daria Kasatkina (RUS #75) 7-5,6-2 (1h46)
R32: d. Dayana Yastremska (UKR #29) 3-6,7-6(6),6-1 (2h01)

Total games: 78
Won/lost: 47-31
Sets won/lost: 6-2
Total time on court: 5h44
Average time on court: 1h55
Average rank of opponent: 50

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Insights from SAP
SABALENKA:

**Ostrava**
- Contesting inaugural J&T Banka Ostrava Open as the No.3 seed
- After 1r bye, mounted impressive comeback over No.55 qualifier Gauff after being down 2-5 in the third set, was as close as two points away from losing the match
- The win avenged her tough three-set loss to the young American just two months ago in Lexington where she lost 12 of the last 15 points
- In a lopsided QF match, posted another impressive comeback over qualifier No.73 Sorribes Tormo after losing the first ten games then winning the next twelve
- Appearing in her fourth SF of the season (1-2 record) also reaching the final eight at Adelaide (l. Yastremska in SF), Doha (d. Kvitova in F) and Strasbourg (l. eventual champion Svitolina in SF)
- Faces No.26 Brady today hoping to reach 11th career final and second of the season after winning sixth career title in Doha – all of her titles have been won on hardcourts.
- Owns 10-6 record in career SF appearances and 16-7 record against American opposition including 2r match over teenager Gauff
- Excluding Fed Cup matches, only made two main draw appearances at WTA indoor hardcourt events prior to this week – fell 1r at 2018 Québec City (l. Lepchenko) and made SF run at 2019 St. Petersburg (l. eventual champion Bertens)
- One of two Belarusians in action this week, both of whom making it to the SF (also Azarenka)
- Has also advanced to SF in doubles this week with partner Mertens as the top seeds – play No.4 seeds Flipkens/Schuurs for a spot in the final later today

**Season**
- Advanced to 3r for the first time at Roland Garros (l. Jabeur in 3s)
- Posted SF run at Strasbourg (l. eventual champion Svitolina in 3s)
- Made US Open 2r (l. eventual R-Up Azarenka) after 3r showing at Western & Southern Open (l. Pegula)
- In doubles w/Mertens, made QFs at Western & Southern Open and US Open (as defending champions, l. eventual champions Siegemund/Zvonareva)
- On return following the Tour’s five-month hiatus, made 2r at Lexington (l. Gauff in 3s)
- In February, won sixth career title at Doha (d. Kvitova in F); now 6-4 in singles finals
- Reached QF at Dubai (l. eventual champion Halep)
- Represented Belarus in Fed Cup play-off victory vs. the Netherlands. Teamed up with Sasnovich in doubles to seal the victory (d. Bertens/Schuurs on a third-set tie-break). In singles, d. Rus, l. Bertens
- Fell 1r at Australian Open (l. Suárez Navarro)
- Posted SF run at Adelaide (l. Yastremska). Upset No.4 Halep in QF at Adelaide to score fifth Top 5 win of her career, having previously beaten No.2 Wozniacki (2018 Montréal), No.5 Garcia (2018 Cincinnati), No.5 Kvitova (2018 US Open) and No.1 Barty (2019 Wuhan)
- Opened 2020 campaign with 2r exit at Shenzhen as the defending champion (l. Kr.Pliskova)

**Career Milestones**
- Ended as World No.11 for the second straight year in 2019 after capturing three WTA singles titles at Shenzhen (d. Riske in F), Wuhan (d. Riske in F) and Zhuhai (d. Bertens in F)
Became first player to successfully defend Wuhan title (d. Kontaveit in 2018 F). Also finished runner-up in doubles with Mertens in 2019 (l. Duan/Kudermetova in F)
During summer hard court season made R-Up finish at San Jose (l. S.Zheng)
Made Top 10 debut on January 28, 2019 following 3r run at 2019 Australian Open
Captured first Grand Slam doubles trophy at US Open (w/Mertens, d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Earlier in the season, the pair claimed the ‘Sunshine Double’ by winning back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejcikova/Siniakova in F) and Miami (d. Stosur/Zhang in F)
Qualified for WTA Finals Shenzhen (w/Mertens), going 1-2 in the round robin stage
Enjoyed breakthrough season in 2018, lifting two titles, at New Haven (d. Suárez Navarro in F) and Wuhan (d. Kontaveit in F), winning 46 matches and finishing at No.11 in the rankings
Also in 2018, was R-Up at Lugano (l. Mertens) and Eastbourne (l. Wozniacki), made SF at Cincinnati, reached five QFs and produced a career-best Grand Slam run to R16 at US Open
Posted first Top 100 season finish in 2017, ending year at No.78. Season highlight was reaching first tour-level final at Tianjin (l. Sharapova) and making SF at Tashkent (l. Babos)
Made Grand Slam main draw debut 2017 Wimbledon, falling in 2r (as qualifier, l. Witthoeft), and WTA main draw debut at 2017 Dubai (as qualifier, l. Ka.Bondarenko)
Member of Belarus Fed Cup Team that advanced to competition final in 2017 – went 1-1 in singles and 0-1 in doubles as side lost to USA
Scored first Top 20 win of career with defeat of No.13 Stephens during 2017 Fed Cup final in Minsk
Rounded out season by lifting WTA 125k Series title at Mumbai (d. Jakupovic)
Owns three WTA doubles titles – all coming alongside Mertens during 2019 season (Indian Wells, Miami and US Open)
In 2016 rose nearly 400 places in the rankings, ending year at No.155
WTA qualifying debut came at 2016 Rabat
Made debut on ITF Circuit in Minsk in 2012

Grand Slam History
Made her 12th Grand Slam main draw appearance at 2020 Roland Garros
Advanced to R16 for first time at 2018 US Open (l. eventual champion Osaka in 3s)
Best singles showing at Australian Open was 3r run in 2019 (l. Anisimova)
First Grand Slam win came during 2r showing on Grand Slam debut at 2017 Wimbledon (as qualifier, d. Khromacheva, l. Witthoeft)
Made 1r exit on next three major appearances, at 2018 Australian Open (l. Barty), 2018 Roland Garros (l. Bertens) and 2018 Wimbledon (l. Buzarnescu)
Won career first Grand Slam title of any kind, in doubles at 2019 US Open (w/Mertens) – pair defeated Azarenka/Barty in final

Personal
Currently without a full-time coach; previously coached by Dmitry Tursunov and Didi Kindlmann
Started playing tennis when she was 6 by accident when her father Sergey drove by the tennis courts and decided to give it a try
Loves to laugh, has a sweet tooth and considers something sweet as a perfect present
Loves her grandmother’s cooking, and looks forward to her pancakes when she is away from home
She spends her time off with family, catching up with friends, or reading
Her favorite book is The Count of Monte Cristo
BRADY:

**Ostrava**

- Entered the inaugural J&T Banka Ostrava Open as one of three Americans in the main draw, also Gauff, (l. Sabalenka in 2r), and Anisimova (l. Mertens in 1r)
- Fired 12 aces and rallied from a set down to see off No.29 Yastremska in 1r
- 2r victory over No.75 Kasatkina marked 50th career main draw victory for the American
- Earned 30th career victory over Top 50 ranked opponents with QF win over qualifier No.47 Kudermetova
- Has now advanced to fourth SF of the year: also Dubai (l. eventual champion Halep in SF), Lexington (d. Teichmann in F) and US Open (l. eventual champion Osaka in SF)
- Faces No.12 Sabalenka today aiming to book second WTA final appearance of career after winning first title at Lexington earlier this year
- Owns career 1-4 record in SF matches, before 2020 had only reached two previous SFs at 2017 Hong Kong (l. Gavrilova) and 2019 Nottingham (l. Garcia)
- A win today would be 11th career win over a Top 20 player and sixth of the year after posting wins over No.1 Barty at Brisbane, No.6 Svitolina, No.17 Vondrousova and No.16 Muguruza at Dubai and No.19 Riske at Doha
- Has compiled a 13-3 record since returning to play, with 11 of those victories coming in straight sets. Has won 24 sets conceding four games or less during this span
- Contesting this week’s event one spot off from career-high ranking of No.25, achieved on September 14, 2020 after the American’s breakthrough run at the US Open
- Prior to this week, was previously 0-3 at indoor tournaments with 1r losses at 2017 Stuttgart (clay, l. Strycova), 2017 Quebec City (carpet, l. Andreescu) and 2020 St. Petersburg (hardcourt, l. Kuznetsova)

**Season**

- Suffered 1r loss at Roland Garros (l. Tauson)
- Posted career-best Grand Slam run at the US Open by reaching the final four (l. eventual champion Osaka)
- Made 1r exit at Western & Southern Open (l. Pegula)
- Lifted maiden WTA title at Lexington (d. Teichmann in F) - did not drop a set and broken just three times all week; made Top 40 debut at No.40 following the tournament (August 17, 2020)
- Prior to the tour’s resumption, performed in a series of exhibitions and World Team Tennis matches in the US, posting a 12-7 record including wins over Grand Slam champions Azarenka and Stephens
- Shortly before tour’s hiatus, fell 2r at Doha (l. Jabeur)
- Enjoyed one of her career-best weeks at Dubai, where, as a qualifier, she advanced to first SF at a Premier level (l. eventual champion Halep); defeated No.6 Svitolina, No.17 Vondrousova and No.16 Muguruza en route
- Suffered 1r exit at St Petersburg (l. Kuznetsova)
- Fell in the 1r at Australian Open (l. Halep) but progressed to QF in doubles w/Dolehide (l. Hsieh/ Strycova)
- In opening event of the season, made QF at Brisbane (as qualifier, l. Kvitova) – scored first career Top 10 win over World No.1 Barty in 2r; broke into Top 50 afterwards (No.49 on January 13, 2020)
**Career Milestones**

- Achieved career-high ranking of No.25 following 2020 US Open SF run (September 14, 2020)
- Ended 2019 season back in Top 60 after dipping as low as No.125 at one point. Season highlights included SF run at Nottingham (l. eventual champion Garcia), 3r showings at Dubai (l. eventual R-Up Kvitova), Indian Wells (l. Barty) and Beijing (l. Andreescu)
- Finished 2018 ranked No.116 following her first Top 100 finish in 2017 (No. 64). Best results included reaching SFs at $100k ITF/Midland-USA (l. Loeb) and $80k ITF/Charlottesville-USA (l. Duque-Mariño), 2r showing at Indian Wells (l. Garcia), Roland Garros (l. Putintseva) and Wimbledon (l. Kontaveit)
- Posted first Top 100 year-end finish in 2017 (at No.64) during a campaign in which she reached first WTA career SF at 2017 Hong Kong (l. eventual R-Up Gavrilova)
- Made R16 at 2017 Australian Open and US Open
-Posted first WTA main draw wins during QF run at 2016 Guangzhou (d. Pivovarova and Kovinic)
- Made first four main draw appearances at tour level in 2016 – at Rio de Janeiro (as qualifier, l. Hercog in 1r), Stanford and Montréal
- Made WTA qualifying draw at 2015 Cincinnati (l. Falconi in 1r)
- Owns four singles and four doubles ITF Circuit titles
- Made professional debut at $10k ITF/Evansville, IN-USA (l. 1r)

**Grand Slam History**

- Recorded career-best Grand Slam run on home soil at 2020 US Open (l. eventual champion Osaka)
- Came through qualifying at 2017 Australian Open and went on to become first major debutante to reach R16 at a Slam since Smitkova at 2014 Wimbledon. Defeated Zanevska in 1r, Watson in 2r (saved 5mp) and No.14 seed Vesnina in 3r, losing to Lucic-Baroni; became first American female qualifier to reach R16 at the Australian Open in Open Era
- Also became just sixth player to make R16 on Australian Open debut in last 21 years: V.Williams (1998), Suárez Navarro (2009), Bouchard (2014), Gasparyan and Konta (2016)
- Also reached R16 at 2017 US Open (l. Ka.Pliskova) and made 2r at Roland Garros (2018-19) and Wimbledon (2017-18)

**Personal**

- Attended the University of California, Los Angeles, part of the NCAA Division 1 Women’s Tennis National Championship winning Bruins team in 2014. Completed sophomore year before turning pro in 2015
- Hired Michael Geserer (previously with Goerges) at end of 2019, spent offseason training in Germany for first time
- Mother’s name is Elizabeth; father’s name is Patrick; has twin sister, Jessica
MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #23) vs. [4] VICTORIA AZARENKA (BLR #14)

Head to Head: 0-0

MARIA SAKKARI

WTA RANKING
PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD

DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)
YTD PRIZE MONEY
CAREER PRIZE MONEY
SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)
Doubles Titles (YTD / CAREER)
Ostrava W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD & Q) *
YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD & Q) *
YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD & Q) *

* Updated entering 2020 Ostrava SF

MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #23)

QF: d. ONS JABEUR (TUN #32) 3-6,6-3,6-1 (1h38)
R16: d. [1] ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #5) 6-1,6-3 (1h16)
R32: d. [WC] KRISTYNA PLISKOVA (CZE #68) 6-3,6-3 (1h19)

Total games: 61
Won/lost: 39-22
Sets won/lost: 6-1
Total time on court: 4h13
Average time on court: 1h24
Average rank of opponent: 35

VICTORIA AZARENKA

WTA RANKING
PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD

DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)
YTD PRIZE MONEY
CAREER PRIZE MONEY
SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)
Doubles Titles (YTD / CAREER)
Ostrava W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *
YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD & Q) *
YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD & Q) *
YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD & Q) *

* Updated entering 2020 Ostrava SF

VICTORIA AZARENKA (BLR #14)

QF: d. [7] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #21) 6-4,6-1 (1h30)
R16: d. [Q] BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #85) 6-1,6-3,6-1 (2h13)
R32: BYE

Total games: 40
Won/lost: 26-14
Sets won/lost: 4-1
Total time on court: 3h43
Average time on court: 1h52
Average rank of opponent: 53

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Insights from SAP
SAKKARI:

**Ostrava**
- Contests inaugural J&T Banka Ostrava Open this week as lone Greek representative
- In 1r, avenged loss to Kr.Pliskova at Palermo with a straight sets victory to claim her 90th career main draw victory
- Ousted top seed Svitolina in straight sets in 2r to book third QF appearance of 2020 - also St. Petersburg (l. Rybakina in SF) and the Western & Southern Open (l. Konta in QF)
- Win over No.5 Svitolina was fourth career Top 5 win and second of the year, other wins have come over No.5 Ka.Pliskova (2018 Rome), No.5 Kvitova (2019 Rome, via ret.) and No.5 Bencic (2020 St. Petersburg)
- The victory was also her fifth win over the No.1 seed at a tournament - also at 2016 Istanbul (d. Schmiedlova), 2019 Rabat (d. Mertens and went on to win title), 2019 San Jose (d. Svitolina) and 2020 St. Petersburg (d. Bencic)
- In QF, came back from a set and a break down to defeat No.32 Jabeur booking ninth career WTA SF appearance and second of the year
- Faces No.14 Azarenka today looking for third WTA final appearance of career and first since winning title at 2019 Rabat (d. Konta in F); also made final at 2018 San Jose (l. Buzarnescu)
- Owns 2-6 career record in SF matches with 0-1 record this year after falling to Rybakina at St. Petersburg
- A win today would be 18th career win over a Top 20 player and fifth of the year: including win over No.5 Svitolina in 2r also defeated No.11 Keys at Australian Open, No.5 Bencic at St Petersburg and No.9 S.Williams at the Western and Southern Open
- Owns 6-5 career record at indoor hardcourt matches with all previous wins coming this year during SF run at St. Petersburg

**Season**
- Upset by Cinderella qualifier Trevisan in 3r Roland Garros
- Produced R16 showing at US Open falling to S.Williams in 3s who she had just beaten the week earlier
- Made QF run at Western & Southern Open (d. Gauff, Putintseva and S.Williams before falling to Konta)
- Returned to competitive action following tour’s hiatus at Palermo in August, falling in 1r (l. Kr.Pliskova); was No.3 seed at Palermo – her joint-highest seeding at a WTA event (also during SF run at 2018 Seoul)
- Broke into Top 20 just before the break on Feb. 24
- Prior to this, made 3r at Doha (l. eventual champion Sabalenka) and fell 1r at Dubai (l. Sabalenka)
- Posted SF run at St. Petersburg (l. eventual R-Up Rybakina) – her first SF since 2019 San Jose
- Made the R16 at Australian Open (l. Kvitova) – her best result at the majors – to become the first Greek woman to reach this stage at a Grand Slam since Eleni Daniilidou at 2004 Wimbledon
- Fell 2r at Adelaide (l. Vekic) after a 1r exit at Brisbane (l. Osaka)

**Grand Slam History**
- Contested 19th Grand Slam main draw at 2020 Roland Garros
- Fell R16 at 2020 Australian Open (l. Kvitova) to become the first Greek woman to reach this stage at a Slam since Eleni Daniilidou at 2004 Wimbledon
- Tied her best Grand Slam result at 2020 US Open falling to S.Williams in R16
- By reaching 3r at 2017 Australian Open, became first Greek woman to reach this stage at a Slam since Daniilidou at 2005 Wimbledon (l. Pennetta)
- At 2016 Australian Open, by reaching 2r (d. Y.Wang, l. Suárez Navarro) became the first woman from Greece to win a main draw match at a Slam since Daniilidou d. Ka.Pliskova at 2013 Australian Open

**Career Milestones**

- Broke into Top 20 on February 24, 2020
- Finished 2019 at No.23 – the best year-end finish of her career (up from No.41 in 2018)
- Season highlight was winning maiden WTA title at Rabat, recovering from a set and break down to defeat Konta in final
- Made 3r at Australian Open (l. Barty), Wimbledon (l. Svitolina) and US Open (l. Barty)
- Closed out season by qualifying for WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai for first time in career (fell in RR stage)
- 2018 season highlights included reaching her first tour-level final at San Jose (l. Buzarnescu), scoring first career Top 5 win after defeat of No.5 Ka.Pliskova in Rome as well as reaching SF at Istanbul (l. Hercog) and Seoul (l. Bertens)
- Notched first Top 10 victory of career over No.6 Wozniacki en route to first WTA SF of career at 2017 Wuhan Open
- Since then has posted a further eight Top 10 wins, against No.5 Ka.Pliskova (2018 Rome), No.6 Bertens (2019 Charleston), No.5 Kvitova (2019 Rome, via ret.), No.7 Svitolina (2019 San Jose), No.6 Kvitova and No.9 Sabalenka (both at 2019 Cincinnati), No.5 Bencic (2020 St. Petersburg) and No.9 S.Williams (2020 Western & Southern Open)
- Broke into Top 50 for first time at No.49 on October 9, 2017
- Reached first career WTA QF at 2016 Istanbul (as qualifier, l. Kovinic) – achieved her then best win-by-ranking defeating No.34 Schmiedlova in 1r
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2012 Palermo
- Made debut on ITF Circuit in 2010; owns seven ITF Circuit singles titles and five in doubles

**Personal**

- Born and grew up in Athens, Greece, before moving to Barcelona aged 18 – has trained there for two years
- Mother, Angeliki Kanellopoulou, was tennis player
- Tried karate and gymnastics but was thrown out of class for laughing too much
- Currently coached by Tom Hill

**AZARENKA:**

**Ostrava**

- Contesting the inaugural J&T Banka Ostrava Open as the No.4 seed
- Enters the tournament ranked No.14, up from No.50 this time last year
- Outside of Serena (39 years old), she is the oldest player ranked inside the Top 20 at 31 years of age
- Following 1r bye – her first since 2016 Rome – defeated No.85 qualifier Krejcikova in three sets to reach QF
- Doubled down on record over No.21 Mertens following a decisive victory by the Belarusian at 2020 US Open QF stage where she only lost one game to the Belgian
- Has now advanced to at least the QF stage in four out of her last five events. In comparison, this is the first time she’s produced a run of form like this since 2016 (Brisbane, Melbourne, Indian Wells, Miami)
- Her dominant run has seen her compile a 17-3 record, including 13 victories in straight sets, and 25 sets won by ceding three games or less
- Faces No.23 Sakkari today hoping to book third final of the year, all of which have come since the restart – Western & Southern Open (d. Osaka in F, walkover) and US Open (l. Osaka in F)
- Has not reached at least three finals in one year since 2016 when she won titles at Brisbane, Indian Wells and Miami
- Owns 39-19 record in career SF matches, has not fallen at this stage since 2018 Miami (l. eventual champion Stephens)
- Hoping to reach milestone 40th career singles final (20-18 record)
• Has lost to a player outside the Top 20 three times this year: No.71 Zidansek at Monterrey, No.67 V.Williams at Lexington and No.161 Schmiedlova at Roland Garros
• Played doubles this week with partner Muchova (l. Ostapenko/Zvonareva in 1r)

**Season**

• Coming off 2r loss at Roland Garros (l. Schmiedlova)
• Posted QF showing at Rome (l. Muguruza); beat No.5 Kenin 6-0 6-0 in 2r to register first Top 5 win since 2019 Stuttgart (d. No.4 Ka.Pliskova)
• Finished R-Up for the third time at US Open (l. Osaka in 3s); now 21-18 in singles finals
• Success at US Open propelled her back into Top 20 for the first time since 2016
• Upset No.11 Sabalenka, No.18 Mertens and No.8 S.Williams en route to record the 122nd, 123rd and 124th Top 20 wins of her career and reach first major final since 2013 US Open – seven-year between major finals is second-longest in Open Era behind V.Williams (seven years, 207 days between 2009 Wimbledon and 2017 Australian Open)
• Made history alongside S.Williams in New York by becoming the first pair of mothers to reach the semifinals at the same Grand Slam
• Lifted 21st career title at Western & Southern Open when final opponent Osaka withdrew w/left hamstring injury
• Suffered 1r exit at Lexington (l. V.Williams) in her second WTA event of 2020
• Opened 2020 season with 1r exit at Monterrey (l. Zidansek), having not contested any events in Australia due to personal reasons

**Career Milestones**

• Last tournament of 2019 was the US Open, where she fell to Sabalenka in 1r; also reached the doubles final w/Barty (l. Mertens/Sabalenga)
• Highlight of 2019 was 37th singles final at Monterrey (d. No.5 Kerber in SF, l. Muguruza in F via ret. w/leg injury). Also made QFs at Acapulco (l. Kenin), Stuttgart (l. Kontaveit via ret.) and Rome (l. Ka.Pliskova)
• On February 2, 2019 returned to Top 50 for first time following the birth of her child, Leo
• Highlights of 2018 season included SF at Miami (l. Stephens) and QF at San Jose and Tokyo
• Made return to tennis in June 2017 following birth of first child in December 2016
• Comeback tournament was Mallorca, reaching 2r (d. Ozaki, l. Konjuh). Prior to 2017 Mallorca, last tournament contested was 2016 Roland Garros (1r)
• Followed this with R16 at Wimbledon (l. Halep). Did not play after Wimbledon due to personal reasons
• Ended 2016 ranked No.13, despite missing second half of season after going on maternity leave (announced pregnancy mid-July). Lifted three titles, at Brisbane and ‘Sunshine Double’ of Indian Wells and Miami – third woman to achieve feat after Graf in 1994 and 1996 and Clijsters in 2005
• Posted 26-3 record for first six months of 2016 with losses coming at the Australian Open (QF, l. Kerber), Rome (2r, l. Begu) and Roland Garros (ret. vs. Knapp w/right knee injury)
• Limited to total of 23 events over 2014-15 seasons due to variety of injuries
• Posted five consecutive Top 10 finishes between 2009 and 2013, qualifying for the WTA Finals on each occasion (l. Kvitova in 2011 final in Istanbul)
• Ascended to World No.1 after 2012 Australian Open and held top spot for a total of 51 weeks
• Began 2012 with 26-match win streak – best start since Hingis went 37-0 in 1997. Went on to win tour-leading 69 matches in 2012, season highlighted by six titles, finishing as WTA’s year-end No.1
• Won two medals for Belarus at 2012 Olympics bronze in singles and mixed doubles gold (w/Mirnyi)
• Made WTA main draw debut at 2005 Kolkata
• ITF Junior World Champion for 2005 – reached first tour-level semifinal at Guangzhou the same year
Grand Slam History

- Contested landmark 50th major at 2020 US Open – one of nine active players to reach this milestone
- Two-time major champion, winning Australian Open in 2012 (d. Sharapova in F) and 2013 (d. Li in F)
- Also a three-time runner-up, at 2012 (l. S.Williams in 3s), 2013 (l. S.Williams in 3s) and 2020 US Open (l. Osaka in 3s)
- Advanced to Wimbledon SF in 2011 and 2012, while best result at Roland Garros is also SF run in 2013
- Four-time doubles R-Up, at 2008 Australian Open (w/Peer), 2009 Roland Garros (w/Vesnina), 2011 Australian Open (w/Kirilenko), 2019 US Open (w/Barty)
- Two-time Grand Slam mixed doubles champion, at 2007 US Open (w/Mirnyi) and 2008 Roland Garros (w/B. Bryan). Most recently finished as mixed doubles R-Up at 2018 Wimbledon (w/J.Murray)
- Won girls’ singles titles at the Australian Open and US Open in 2005

Personal

- Currently coached by Dorian Descloix. Formerly coached by Wim Fissette, Sam Sumyk and Michael Joyce
- Gave birth to son Leo in December 2016
- Introduced to tennis at age 7 by mother Alla; father’s name is Fedor and older brother is Max