

WTA Website: www.wtatennis.com | @WTA | facebook.com/wta
Tournament Website: www.creditonecharlestonopen.com
WTA Communications: Samantha Siegel (SSiegel@wtatennis.com)
WTA Media Information: wtastats@wtatennis.com

FINAL – SUNDAY, APRIL 5

[1] Jessica Pegula (USA #5) vs. Yuliia Starodubtseva (UKR #89)

First meeting

Pegula:

- Defending champion Pegula is making her 8th appearance at Charleston
- She has won her last 9 matches at Charleston – 5 wins en route to last year’s title (d. fellow American Kenin in final) and 4 wins this year
- Reached this week’s final with four 3-set victories; overall, Pegula is 10-1 in 3-set matches this year (the one loss was to Rybakina at Miami)
- Has won her last 15 WTA Tour matches vs. players ranked outside the Top 50; her most recent loss to a player ranked outside the Top 50 was to No.386 (and former World No.11) Anastasija Sevastova at 2025 Montreal
- She is a three-time WTA 500 champion, winning those titles at 2024 Berlin (d. Kalinskaya in final), 2025 Bad Homburg (d. Swiatek in final) and 2025 Charleston
- Has won 23 matches so far in 2026, tied with Aryna Sabalenka for the most match-wins on Tour this year
- Seeking to make it three straight American titles in Charleston – Danielle Collins won the title in 2024, and Pegula won it last year
- Will maintain her World No.5 spot in Monday’s updated PIF WTA Rankings

Starodubtseva:

- Making tournament debut at Charleston – she was initially the No.1 seed in qualifying but moved into the main draw before play began
- Has reached the first Tour-level SF and final of her career this week; she had previously been 0-2 in Tour-level QFs (l. eventual champion Kartal at 2024 Monastir; l. eventual champion Gauff at 2024 Beijing)
- Has won 7 of her last 8 main draw matches – in her previous event, she reached 3r at WTA 1000 Miami as a qualifier (l. Anisimova)
- Aiming for her first career Top 10 win – she has an 0-5 record vs. Top 10 players in her career (0-1 in 2026, l. No.6 Anisimova at Miami)
- Has become the first Ukrainian to reach the Charleston semifinals and final; the previous best Charleston result by a Ukrainian was Anhelina Kalinina’s QF finish in 2022 (l. eventual runner-up Jabeur)
- Before this week, her best finish at a WTA 500 event was R16 at 2025 Ningbo (l. Bencic)
- She will surpass her current career-high ranking of No.63 in Monday’s updated PIF WTA Rankings – projected to reach No.53 with runner-up finish or No.42 with a title



MATCH NOTES

CREDIT ONE CHARLESTON OPEN - CHARLESTON, SC, USA

2026-03-30 - 2026-04-05 | \$ 2,300,000



5

JESSICA PEGULA (1)
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

89

YULIA STARODUBTSEVA
UKRAINE

1994-02-24	Date of Birth	2000-02-17
Boca Raton, FL, USA	Residence	
Right-handed (two-handed backhand)	Plays	Right-Handed
5' 7" (1.70m)	Height	5' 6" (1.72m)
3	Career-High Ranking	63
\$23,837,508	Career Prize Money	\$1,790,066
\$1,969,873	Season Prize Money	\$202,798
1 / 10	Singles Titles YTD / Career	0 / 0
62-28 (Runner-Up: 2024 US OPEN)	Grand Slam W-L (best)	4-9 (Round of 32: 2025 ROLAND GARROS)
4-0 / 20-6 (Champion: 2025)	YTD / Career CHARLESTON W-L (best)	5-0 / 5-0 (Runner-Up: 2026)
23-4 / 278-132	YTD / Career W-L	7-3 / 23-28



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**JESSICA
PEGULA**

**YULIYA
STARODUBTSEVA**

HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

YEAR	TOURNAMENT	SURFACE	ROUND	WINNER	SCORE/ RESULT	TIME
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First career meeting

RANKING HISTORY

TOP RANK	YEAR-END	YEAR	TOP RANK	YEAR-END
5	-	2026	89	-
3	6	2025	63	116
3	7	2024	79	97
3	5	2023	160	160
3	3	2022	-	-
18	18	2021	-	-
59	62	2020	-	-
55	76	2019	-	-
124	125	2018	1144	-
165	632	2017	1082	1145



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STARODUBTSEVA**

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

2r: d. Y. PUTINTSEVA (#72) 4-6 6-4 7-5 (3h 10m)
3r: d. E. COCCIARETTO (#43) 1-6 6-1 7-6 (2h 5m)
QF: d. D. SHNAIDER (#19) 3-6 6-3 6-2 (2h 10m)
SF: d. I. JOVIC (#16) 6-4 5-7 6-3 (2h 35m)

Total time on court: 10h 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making 8th appearance at Charleston; she is the defending champion (d. Kenin in last year's final) and has won her last 9 matches at this event
- After 1r bye, defeated Yulia Putintseva, No.14 seed Elisabetta Cocciaretto, No.7 seed Diana Shnaider and No.4 seed Iva Jovic this week
- Reached this week's final with four 3-set wins; overall, Pegula is 10-1 in 3-set matches this year (the one loss was to Rybakina at Miami)
- Faces No.89 Yuliia Starodubtseva in today's final; Pegula has won her last 15 WTA Tour matches vs. players ranked outside Top 50 (most recent loss to player outside Top 50 was to No.386 Sevastova at 2025 Montreal)
- This is her 22nd career WTA singles final and she is seeking her 11th career WTA singles title
- Aiming for her 2nd title of the year; she won WTA 1000 Dubai title in February (d. Svitolina in F)
- She is a 3-time WTA 500 champion, winning titles at 2024 Berlin (d. Kalinskaya in F), 2025 Bad Homburg (d. Swiatek in F) and 2025 Charleston
- Owns 15-6 career Tour-level record against players from Ukraine (2-1 in 2026: d. Svitolina in Dubai F and d. Yastremska at Brisbane; l. Kostyuk at Brisbane)
- One of her 10 career WTA singles titles has come on clay: here at Charleston last year
- Is No.1 seed this week; this is the 16th time in her career being the top seed at a WTA event, and her 4th straight year being the No.1 seed at Charleston
- Seeking to make it 3 straight American titles in Charleston - Danielle Collins won the title in 2024 and Pegula won it last year
- Is currently ranked No.5; this time last year was ranked No.4. Reached a career-high ranking of No.3 in October 2022
- Will maintain her World No.5 position in Monday's updated rankings

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

1r: d. S. ZHANG (#62) 6-3 6-0 (52m)
2r: d. E. GORGODZE (#164) 3-6 6-1 6-2 (1h 59m)
3r: d. R. ZARAZUA (#85) 6-1 6-0 (1h 1m)
QF: d. M. KESSLER (#53) 6-4 6-4 (1h 36m)
SF: d. M. KEYS (#18) 6-1 6-4 (1h 13m)

Total time on court: 6h 41m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making tournament debut at Charleston - she was initially the No.1 seed in qualifying but moved into the main draw before play began
- Defeated Zhang Shuai, Ekaterine Gorgodze, Renata Zarazua, McCartney Kessler and No.5 seed Madison Keys to make her 1st career WTA final
- She also reached her first Tour-level SF this week; she had previously gone 0-2 in Tour-level QFs, at Monastir in 2024 (l. eventual champion Kartal) and WTA 1000 Beijing in 2024 (l. eventual champion Gauff)
- Has won 7 of her last 8 main draw matches; she reached Miami 3r last week as a qualifier (l. Anisimova)
- Faces No.5 Jessica Pegula in today's final; Starodubtseva has an 0-5 career record vs. Top 10 players (0-1 in 2026, l. No.6 Anisimova at Miami)
- Owns 2-3 career Tour-level record against players from United States of America (2-1 in 2026: d. Kessler and Keys in the last 2 rounds here; l. Anisimova at Miami)
- Before this week, her career-best Tour-level clay-court result was R16 at WTA 1000 Madrid in 2025 (l. M.Andreeva)
- This week also marks her career-best result at a WTA 500 event; before this week, her best WTA 500 finish was R16 at 2025 Ningbo (l. Bencic)
- Has become the first Ukrainian to make the Charleston SF and F; previous best Charleston result by a Ukrainian was Anhelina Kalinina's QF finish in 2022 (l. eventual runner-up Jabeur)
- Is currently ranked No.89; this time last year was ranked No.103. Reached career-high ranking of No.63 in August 2025
- Will post a new career-high ranking on Monday: projected to reach No.53 with R-Up or No.42 with title



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**YULIYA
STARODUBTSEVA**

RECENT TOURNAMENT HISTORY

2025	Result	Rank: 4	Seed: 1
F	W	S. KENIN (#44)	6-3 7-5
SF	W	E. ALEXandroVA (#26)	6-2 2-6 7-5
QF	W	D. COLLINS (#22)	1-6 6-3 6-0
3r	W	A. TOMLJANOVIC (#87)	6-3 6-2
2r	W	I. SHYMANOVICH (#215)	6-0 6-3

2024	Result	Rank: 5	Seed: 1
SF	L	D. KASATKINA (#11)	6-4 4-6 7-6(5)
QF	W	V. AZARENKA (#26)	6-4 3-6 7-6(7)
3r	W	M. LINETTE (#63)	6-2 6-2
2r	W	A. ANISIMOVA (#264)	3-6 6-4 7-6(3)

2023	Result	Rank: 3	Seed: 1
SF	L	B. BENCIC (#11)	7-5 7-6(5)
QF	W	P. BADOSA (#33)	6-3 7-6(6)
3r	W	I. BEGU (#37)	7-5 4-6 6-4
2r	W	A. BLINKOVA (#63)	6-2 6-0

2022	Result	Rank: 13	Seed: 6
3r	L	C. VANDEWEGHE (#168)	6-4 3-6 6-4
2r	W	J. PAOLINI (#48)	6-2 6-1

2019	Result	Rank: 81	Seed: -
3r	L	P. MARTIC (#53)	2-6 6-3 6-2
2r	W	A. SEVASTOVA (#12)	6-4 6-2
1r	W	I. KHROMACHEVA (#139)	1-6 7-6(4) 6-1

- Making her tournament debut in Main Draw Singles



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SEASON 2026 HISTORY

- Made QF at Miami (l. Rybakina)
- Reached QF at Indian Wells (l. eventual R-Up Rybakina)
- Champion run at Dubai (d. R-Up Svitolina in F)
- Reached SF at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Rybakina)
- Reached SF at Brisbane (l. eventual R-Up Kostyuk)

- Made 3r at Miami (as qualifier, l. Anisimova)
- Fell in 1r at Australian Open (as qualifier, l. Tomljanovic)
- Played 1r at Auckland (as qualifier, l. Boulter)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
128	2	Aces	17	86
63.0%	57	First serve %	68.2%	14
70.5%	14	First Serve points won %	65.4%	50
51.7%	6	Second serve points won %	50.8%	13
63.5%	4	Overall service points won %	60.8%	21
79.2%	4	Service games won %	71.0%	32
61.0%	15	Break points saved %	56.1%	50
38.7%	22	First serve return points won %	41.6%	8
56.2%	35	Second serve return points won %	62.8%	1
40.7%	88	Break points converted %	52.1%	15
37.4%	29	Return games won %	48.5%	2
45.2%	20	Return points won %	49.5%	1



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TITLES

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (10)

2026 - DUBAI
2025 - BAD HOMBURG, CHARLESTON, AUSTIN
2024 - TORONTO, BERLIN
2023 - SEOUL, MONTREAL
2022 - GUADALAJARA
2019 - WASHINGTON DC

Runner-Up (11)

2025 - WUHAN, MIAMI, ADELAIDE
2024 - US OPEN, CINCINNATI
2023 - WTA FINALS, TOKYO, DOHA
2022 - MADRID
2020 - AUCKLAND
2018 - QUEBEC CITY

DOUBLES FINALS

Champion (7)

2023 - MIAMI (w/Gauff), DOHA (w/Gauff)
2022 - SAN DIEGO (w/Gauff), TORONTO (w/Gauff),
WASHINGTON DC (w/Routliffe), DOHA (w/Gauff),
MELBOURNE 250 #1 (w/Muhammad)

Runner-Up (5)

2024 - WUHAN (w/Muhammad), SAN DIEGO
(w/Krawczyk)
2023 - ROME (w/Gauff), MADRID (w/Gauff)
2022 - ROLAND GARROS (w/Gauff)



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GRAND SLAMS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
SF				2026	1r			
3r	4r	1r	SF	2025	1r	3r	2r	1r
2r		2r	RUP	2024	1r	1r	2r	1r
QF	3r	QF	4r	2023				
QF	QF	3r	QF	2022				
QF	3r	2r	3r	2021				
1r	1r		3r	2020				
	1r	1r	1r	2019				
				2018				
				2017				
			1r	2016				
			2r	2015				



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CAREER MILESTONES

- Won three singles titles in 2025 across all three surfaces - Bad Homburg (grass), Charleston (clay) and Austin (hard); also had runner-up finishes at Wuhan, Miami and Adelaide
- Qualified for the 2025 WTA Finals for a fourth consecutive year and reached the semifinals for the second time after 2023
- In 2024, won two singles titles - Toronto (WTA 1000) and Berlin - en route to year-end ranking of No.7, her third-straight year-end Top 10 finish; two-time runner-up at Cincinnati and US Open; joined Rosie Casals (1970), Evonne Goolagong Cawley (1973) and Serena Williams (2013) as the only women in the Open Era to make the final at the Canadian Open, Cincinnati Open and US Open in the same season
- Also qualified for the 2024 WTA Finals (withdrew during round-robin play due to left knee injury)
- Won two titles in 2023, her second WTA 1000 tournament at Montreal and also WTA 250 Seoul. Also finished R-Up at Doha, Tokyo and at the WTA Finals in Cancun
- In doubles ascended to No.1 ranking (co-ranked with Coco Gauff) after 2023 US Open
- Achieved career-high No.3 in October 2022 after defeating four Grand Slam champions at Guadalajara, en route to ending three-year wait for second WTA title (d. Sakkari in F)
- Qualified for WTA Finals in both singles and doubles (w/Gauff), thus becoming the first Americans to debut in singles and doubles at the season-ending showpiece since Davenport in 1994
- Reached QF at three of the four majors in 2022, breaking into Top 10 after doing so at Roland Garros (June 6, 2022)
- One of seven players to win 40 or more matches in 2022, alongside Swiatek, Jabeur, Garcia, Sakkari, Kasatkina and Bencic
- In 2021, reached the QF or better on seven occasions, including at the Australian Open
- Broke into Top 20 on November 1, 2021
- Began 2020 with runner-up finish at Auckland (l. S.Williams), other standout results were a QF at Western & Southern Open (as qualifier, l. Mertens) and a 3r showing at US Open (l. Kvitova)
- On the doubles court in 2020, reached QFs of Roland Garros (w/Muhammad) and Cincinnati (w/Rogers)
- Won her first WTA title at 2019 Washington DC (d. Giorgi in F)
- Highlights in 2025 were R16 runs at WTA 1000 Madrid and WTA 500 Ningbo as well as posting her best Grand Slam result at Roland Garros with 3r as a qualifier. Reached a new career-high ranking of No.63 on August 11
- A breakthrough year in 2024 saw her start the year at No.150, before climbing to a career high ranking of No.79 on Oct 7, 2024 after reaching QFs at WTA 250 Monastir (as a qualifier, l. eventual champion Kartal) and WTA 1000 Beijing (as a qualifier, l. eventual champion Gauff).
- She began 2024 by reaching her first Tour-level main draw as a qualifier at Australian Open and facing a Top 10 player for the first time (l. No.6 Jabeur in 1r).
- In 2024 as a qualifier, she reached the main draw of all four Slams for the first time, winning her first Tour-level main draw match at Wimbledon (l. Sun in 2r).
- Won four ITF circuit titles in 2023 including W60 events in Sumter, Dallas, and Rancho Sante Fe. Earned a spot in Grand Slam qualifying for the first time at 2023 US Open (l. Naef). Reached career high ranking of No. 151 on November 27, 2023.
- Played only one ITF tournament between 2018 and 2022, returning to the courts for the 2023 season.
- Made professional debut on ITF circuit in 2016 at 16 years of age.

- Also in 2019, fell in 1r on main draw debut at Roland-Garros (l. eventual champion Barty) and Wimbledon (l. Buzarnescu) and Miami (as a qualifier, l. Konta)
- Broke into Top 100 for the first time on February 4, 2019 following back-to-back R-Up finishes at WTA 125K Series event at Newport Beach and W100 ITF Circuit tournament in Midland-MI, USA
- Highlights of 2018 included finishing R-Up as a qualifier at Quebec City (l. Parmentier in F), recording SF finish at Houston WTA 125K Series tournament (l. S.Peng) and reaching QF or better at 10 ITF events
- Did not play between January and August 2017 after undergoing hip surgery. Primarily played at ITF Circuit events for the rest of the year, winning two doubles titles with Townsend
- Played a mixture of WTA and ITF Circuit events in 2016 with highlight coming at Washington DC, where she defeated No.14 Stosur for first Top 20 win of career on her way to a SF finish (l. Davis)
- Reached 2r in Grand Slam main draw debut at 2015 US Open (as qualifier, d. Van Uytvanck, l. Cibulkova)
- Sidelined from tennis for a year and a half between 2013 and 2015 due to a right knee injury
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2009 Ponte Vedra Beach and WTA main draw debut at 2012 Indian Wells

OTHER INFORMATION

- Working with the coaching team of Mark Knowles and Mark Merklein
- Recently parted ways with coach David Witt; formerly with Michael Joyce
- Parents are Terrence (works in oil and gas) and Kim (business owner); her parents are principal owners of the Buffalo Bills (NFL), while Terry Pegula also owns hockey team the Buffalo Sabres (NHL)
- Brothers are Michael and Matthew, sisters are Laura and Kelly; also has three pets - Laura played Division I college tennis at the University of Pittsburgh
- Introduced to tennis by family at age 7
- Nickname is JP
- Favorite shot is backhand down the line; favorite tournament is the US Open
- Tennis idol was Martina Hingis
- One word to describe her would be "Determined"
- Owns her own skincare company called 'Ready 24'
- Also enjoys golf, sports, and design
- Married Taylor Gahagen in October 2021
- Passionate about new charity with her husband called A Lending Paw

- Coached by Pearse Dolan
- Favorite shot is forehand and favors playing on hardcourt
- At age of 17 went to Old Dominion University, Virginia
- Started playing tennis at 5 years old in Ukraine