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**October 1, 2017**

**\$100,000 Stockton Men's Challenger, A USTA Pro Circuit Tour Event**

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**KORDA, TURSUNOV NOTCH VICTORIES IN 2017 STOCKTON CHALLENGER QUALIFYING**

**Two Pacific players advance with wild card victories**

Stockton, Calif. -Players with strong ties to the ATP World Tour shined as they won on the first day of qualifying at the second \$100,000 Stockton Men's Challenger tournament, a USTA Pro Circuit event, on Saturday at the Eve Zimmerman Tennis Center.

Wild card Sebastian Korda, a 17-year-old from Bradenton, Fla., and the son of former world No. 2 Petr Korda, came back by winning four games in a row in the third set, beating Stanford's Thomas Fawcett 3-6, 6-2, 7-5.

"I'm just playing and having fun right now, and traveling with my friends," said 6-foot-4 Sebastian, who is ranked No. 20 in the ITF 18-under junior boys rankings. He played in Milan and the French Open and Wimbledon junior events.

Though he won Saturday on hard courts, Korda said, "Internationally, playing on the clay, it's completely different. I prefer clay, because of the way you have to compete for every point. Hard courts are faster, and they beat up the body, but it's a fun surface."

Petr Korda played from 1987 until 1999, winning his only Grand Slam singles title at the 1998 Australian Open, and also made the 1992 French Open final.

Former world 20th-ranked Dmitry Tursunov of Russia breezed to a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Andrew Carter of Greensboro, N.C.

"One thing that I have going for me is more experience (than the younger players), and then somewhere you find a little bit of youth and energy," said Tursunov, 34, who won seven career titles on the ATP Tour. "I sort of look at each match as a test, and I try to win with what I've got."

Two University of the Pacific players took advantage of familiarity on their home courts. Bernardo Oliveira, a senior from Brazil, defeated Denis Semenikhin of the USA 6-0, 6-0, and sophomore John Lieu defeated Pacific freshman Daniel Orlita 6-2, 6-3.

"I was a little surprised with the win, but it's been awhile since I had won a match 6-0, 6-0," Oliveira said. "It's a little different (playing in the pros) because in the pros you play ad scoring where in college you play no ad. ... The atmosphere is a lot different as well, but in terms of physically preparing it's the same ... It's good to play (at home) because of the wind, we practice here, we learn to deal with it and move on."

Pacific sophomore Tadiwa Chinamo lost a three-setter to Collin Altamirano of Sacramento 4-6, 6-2, 6-0.

All four Pacific players received wildcards for qualifying. Sophomore Akram El Sallaly was awarded a wild card in the main draw, which starts Monday.

Jenson Brooksby, a 16-year-old from Sacramento ranked No. 18th nationally and third in Northern California defeated Takanyi Garanganga of Zimbabwe 6-0, 6-3. The two met previously at a USTA Futures event in Laguna



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Niguel, in which Brooksby lost 6-3, 7-5 in the quarterfinals.

"I knew (Garanganga) played well the last time, but I knew I needed to serve to his body and play aggressively, competing and taking advantage of game points and serving to better targets."

In other matches, Alexios Halebian beat fellow American Boris Kozlov 4-6, 6-0, 7-5; Matias Franco Descotte of Argentina defeated Matthew Barton of Australia 6-0, 5-0, ret.; Eric Johnson of the U.S. outlasted Jumpei Yamasaki of Japan 4-6, 7-6, 6-1; Sekou Bangoura beat fellow American Nick Chappell 7-6, 6-4; Denmark's Frederik Nielsen defeated Curtis Clarke of Great Britain 6-1, 6-4; Ruan Roelofse of South Africa 6-7, 6-2, 6-1; and Alejandro Gonzalez of Colombia beat Greg Jones of Australia 6-2, 6-0.

Qualifying continues at 10 a.m. today at the Eve Zimmerman Tennis Center. Admission is free. Tickets for the main draw starting Monday are available at [evezimmermantenniscenter.com](http://evezimmermantenniscenter.com).

For more information on the tournament, visit [evezimmermantenniscenter.com](http://evezimmermantenniscenter.com), [ustaproccircuit.com](http://ustaproccircuit.com) and [atpworldtour.com](http://atpworldtour.com).

## **STOCKTON MEN'S CHALLENGER**

**A USTA Pro Circuit Event**

**Saturday, September 30, 2017**

**Eve Zimmerman Tennis Center**

**Stockton, Calif.**

**Purse: \$100,000**

**Surface: Hard-Outdoor**

**Saturday, September 30 -- RESULTS**

**Singles-Qualifying round**

(4) Sekou Bangoura, United States, d. Nick Chappell, United States, 7-6 (4), 6-4.

Jenson Brooksby, United States, d. (5) Takanyi Garanganga, Zimbabwe, 6-0, 6-3.

(6) Alejandro Gonzalez, Colombia, d. Greg Jones, Australia, 6-2, 6-0.

Matias Franco Descotte, Argentina, d. Matthew Barton, United States, 6-3, 5-0, ret.

Ruan Roelofse, South Africa, d. (8) Naoki Nakagawa, Japan, 6-7 (5), 6-2, 6-1.

Dmitry Tursunov, Russia, d. Andrew Carter, United States, 6-3, 6-3.

Eric Johnson, United States, d. Jumpei Yamasaki, Japan 4-6, 7-6 (4), 6-1.

WC-Sebastian Korda, United States, d. WC-Thomas Fawcett, United States, 3-6, 6-2, 7-5.



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Frederik Nielsen, Denmark, d. Curtis Clark, Great Britain, 6-1, 6-4.

Alexios Halebian, United States, d. Boris Kozlov, United States, 4-6, 6-0, 7-5.

WC-Bernardo Oliveira, Brazil, d. Denis Semeníkhin, United States, 6-0, 6-0.

WC-John Lieu, United States, d. WC-Daniel Orlita, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-3.

Collin Altamirano, United States, d. Tadiwa Chinamo, Zimbabwe, 4-6, 6-2, 6-0.

## **Sunday, October 1 -- SCHEDULE**

### **Singles-Qualifying round**

#### **Stadium Court - Starting at 10 a.m.**

(3) Jan Choinski, Germany, vs. Alexios Halebian, United States, followed by

(4) Sekou Bangoura, United States, vs. WC-John Lieu, followed by

Doubles qualifying-first available court

#### **Court 2 - Starting at 10 a.m.**

Eric Johnson vs. Jenson Brooksby, followed by

(2) Jay Clarke, Great Britain, vs. Sebastian Korda, followed by

Collin Altamirano vs. Ruan Roelofse

#### **Court 6 - Starting at 10 a.m.**

WC- Bernardo Oliveira, South Africa, vs. Matias Franco Descotte, followed by

Frederik Nielsen vs. Alejandro Gonzalez, followed by

Doubles qualifying not before 1 p.m.

