

# Rolex Shanghai Masters

Tuesday, 8 October 2024

Shanghai, China

## Gael Monfils

Mixed Zone



G. MONFILS/U. Humbert

7-6, 2-6, 6-1

### **Q. How special is it to achieve this result at this stage of your career?**

GAEL MONFILS: I'm always happy. As I said last time, any win, it's something, it means that I still got it, can still compete against great players. So, you know, it's another one today, just happy with that.

### **Q. Is it harder playing against a fellow Frenchman?**

GAEL MONFILS: I mean, at this stage of my career I have a lot of experience, I played so many, so for me it's almost the same.

### **Q. You are the second oldest player to reach this stage of the Shanghai Masters. Is age just a number?**

GAEL MONFILS: No, no. I wish, I wish. But as I say, I'm not really thinking about that. I try and give my best. If I have an opportunity, try to take them, and, as I said, be as much in shape that I can.

### **Q. What are your thoughts looking ahead to your next match, which will be against Alcaraz?**

GAEL MONFILS: It will be, for me, a really tough one, and some matches that, you know, you always like to play, in this stage of my career, is to play those great players. As I say, coming up legend. For me, it's just an honor to be on the court with this guy tomorrow, so it's going to be great to face him again.

### **Q. What do you think is working well in your game at the moment?**

GAEL MONFILS: I have no idea, to be honest, you need to ask my coach. Me too, I'm asking my him myself. I try to do the work and be as much, you know, sharp that I can.

### **Q. Are you enjoying your time out on court?**

GAEL MONFILS: Always, always, it's a pleasure for me always. But, you know, we come here, we do a lot of, you know, work, and when you win matches, matches, matches, you know, you're just happy. I want just to give, again, another shot and, you know, when you play big, big, big players, it's always a great opportunity to have more experience.

### **Q. Your last match against Alcaraz in Cincinnati you got victory. Do you think that you can repeat this feat?**

GAEL MONFILS: No, no, I think he will beat me. He will crush me a hundred percent, you know. I think I was just lucky, as I said. Last time I was very fortunate, and it was not a good match from him, and one of my good match from me. His level is unbelievable. I have also done great myself, but he's, as I say, coming up legend. So, I guess he will crush me, but as I say, I will do everything to not be crushed too easy, in a way. But everything is bonus, it's bonus, you know. It's not like I come up on the court, of course, with the attitude, because I have the experience. But now I have the experience, and I can talk like for real, you know, this kid is something else.

So, honestly, it's going to be a 99 percent chance for him, but just to get a percent, you know, so that's why you go. I'm going to enjoy myself, but as a real man I tell you, no, this kid is something else.

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