



HAWTHORN HIGH SCHOOL

Health, Happiness, Success



Hawthorn High School Report

Andy Murray: An All Star or a One Time Wonder?

A historical event has sent waves throughout the sport community. Recently, Andy Murray became the first British tennis player to reach world number one for the first time since the ranking system came out in 1973. He has gone against all odds and has overcome all expectations by being victorious against tennis legends such as Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal. He has won 18 consecutive matches to become the first British singles player to top the world rankings. Seventeen of those wins have come in the space of just 31 days, and he has now reached the final in 11 of his past 12 tournaments. By reaching number one, Murray joins an exclusive band of tennis all stars. Only 25 other men have risen to the top of the rankings since the system was computerised in 1973, which is one of the reasons the po-

sition is so revered within the sport.

After a year of setbacks with Djokovic having had physical (and personal) issues to contend with since the summer, he has still had a formidable year. This meant that Murray's main opponent was not on top form which gave him the opportunity to become world number 1. To overhaul him, Murray has already had to claim seven titles - won in five countries and three continents. He has competed in 10 countries this year. Travelling across Europe, Asia, North America, South America and Australasia. If ranking points were possible to claim from the Olympics, then Murray would have a massive lead over Djokovic as Murray won the tournament, whereas, Djokovic got knocked out in the third round. Murray has won clay court, grass court and hard court titles. He has won indoors and outdoors. And, even if surfaces have become con-

gruent in recent years, this is another reason why the number one ranking is so treasured. Players are frequently asked to switch surface, climate and time zone to identify the very best in the world over a 12-month period.

This is Murray's greatest achievement as he is the second oldest man to make his debut at world number one. Murray can keep his ranking if he can get further in the Australian Open than Djokovic. Regardless of your views on Andy Murray it is incontestable that due to his skill he has climbed the rankings to become World Number 1.



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