

TENNIS

Murray hails Djokovic class

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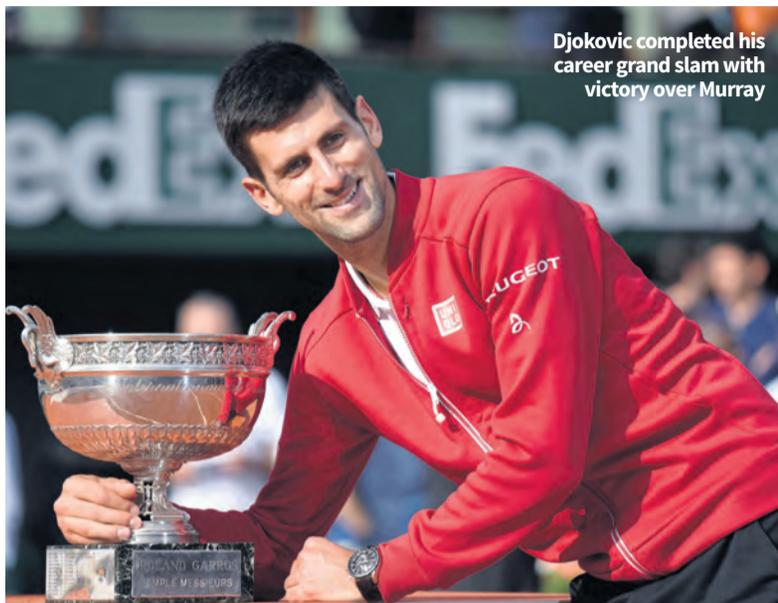
BRITAIN'S Andy Murray paid tribute to the majesty of rival Novak Djokovic after the world No1 completed a career grand slam by claiming his maiden French Open title on the clay of Paris yesterday.

Despite winning the first set in some style, Murray succumbed 2-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 as Djokovic became the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to hold all four slams at the same time. It was also the 12th major title of the Serbian's career.

The 29-year-old is only the eighth man in history to win all four slams and has remained on course to match Laver's achievement of winning all four in a calendar year, having triumphed at the Australian Open in January.

"This is Novak's day and what he has achieved in the last 12 months is phenomenal. Winning all four of the grand slams in one year is an amazing achievement," said Murray.

"It's not happened for an extremely long time and it's going to take a long time for it to happen again. Everyone who came here to watch is extremely



Djokovic completed his career grand slam with victory over Murray

lucky to see it.

"For me, being on the opposite side it sucks to lose the match, but I'm proud to have been a part of today. Congratulations to Novak."

Top seed Djokovic, who is the second

oldest man in history to complete the career grand slam, celebrated victory by emulating three-time champion Gustavo Kuerten by drawing a heart in the clay with his racquet.

"It's a very special moment, the

biggest of my career," said Djokovic. "I felt today something that I never felt before at Roland Garros, I felt the love of the crowd.

"I drew the heart on the court, like Guga [Gustavo Kuerten], which he gave me permission to do. My heart will always be with you on this court."

Murray was the first British man in 79 years to reach the final at Roland Garros, although the Scot's eighth grand slam final defeat meant the wait for a winner - Fred Perry was the last to achieve such a feat in 1936 - goes on.

Five of those losses in a final have now come against Djokovic, but Murray hinted at a more prosperous outcome this time around by reeling off victories in four consecutive games in a composed first set.

Murray had never lost a match at Roland Garros having won the set but things unravelled after failing to convert a break point in the first game of the second. Djokovic then assumed control with devastating effect.

Djokovic, who has now won 13 of the duo's past 15 meetings, continued to press and refused to relinquish any command on proceedings, while any fleeting Murray resistance withered.

IN BRIEF

AMIR EARNS TEST RECALL AND SET TO FACE ENGLAND

CRICKET: Fast bowler Mohammad Amir has been named in Pakistan's squad for this summer's Test series in England, which starts next month. It is the first Test call-up for left-arm seamer Amir, who was handed a five-year ban and imprisoned after being found guilty of spot-fixing during a clash at Lord's in 2010. The first Test begins on 14 July.

FITZPATRICK SWOOPS TO SEAL SECOND EURO TITLE

GOLF: England's Matthew Fitzpatrick claimed his second European Tour title with victory at the Nordea Masters in Stockholm yesterday. The Sheffield-born 21-year-old entered the last day with a five-shot lead and held his nerve to card a final round of 71. Fitzpatrick was four clear as he played the 18th, which he bogeyed, to finish three ahead of Denmark's Lasse Jensen.

CONTADOR ESTABLISHES EARLY LEAD OVER FROOME

CYCLING: Britain's Chris Froome finished 13 seconds behind Spain's Alberto Contador in the opening stage of the Criterium du Dauphine yesterday. Tinkoff rider Contador completed the 4km time trial ascent of Mont Chery in the French Alps in 11 minutes, 36 seconds. Australia's Richie Porte was six seconds adrift in second, with Froome third.

CITY CHAMPIONSHIPS

INTERVIEW

JESSICA FELLOWES TALKS TO TIM MUNTUN OF WORMSLEY CLUB

Nestled in a valley a surprisingly short distance from the M40's junction five, is the beautiful Wormsley Estate, owned by the Getty family. Home to a restored 18th-century walled garden, a library of rare books, Garsington opera, the Island Pavilion and England's finest private cricket ground. Now there's an opportunity for City cricketers to play here, thanks to Tim Munton and his Wormsley Club, which supports City Championships.

The City Cricket Sixes will take place on Wednesday 20 July, with eight teams of six battling for the Mike Gatting, Lord Taverners City six-a-side title. Each team will be captained by a former international cricketer with the first match played at 10am.

The teams entered on this day are all Corporate members of "The Wormsley Club". There is the opportunity for two slots to be

City Cricket Sixes launches at Wormsley the Getty family's estate



taken by City A.M. readers. The cost of entering a team, together with five further guest places for lunch/tea and a tour of the private library is £3,000. The fee also affords the company other membership benefits and the opportunity to attend other Wormsley Club events throughout the summer.

The favourites to win this year's City Cricket Sixes are the BESSO Insurance Group who have won the trophy many times over the past few years.

Wormsley is often described as the most beautiful private cricket ground in the world. Those interested in participating in the City Cricket Sixes should contact Tim Munton: tim@wormsleyestate.com For more details on the sporting calendar, see citychampionships.com



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WEDNESDAY 20th JULY 2016

WORMSLEY

Wormsley is reached by Junction 5 of the M40, 45 minutes' drive from Central London.

For details, contact Tim Munton
tim@wormsleyestate.com