

Memo | CAPTAIN COURIER



➔ FOUR-TIME GRAND SLAM CHAMPION JIM COURIER IS THE NEWLY APPOINTED U.S. 40TH DAVIS CUP CAPTAIN. COURIER REPLACES PATRICK MCENROE WHEN THE TEAM TRAVELS TO CHILE FOR WORLD GROUP PLAY IN MARCH 2011.

"Jim will continue to bring class and character to the role of US Davis Cup Captain along with an outstanding pedigree in Davis Cup competition," said Lucy Garvin, USTA President. In addition to his dogged enthusiasm for training, Courier has very impressive Davis Cup statistics. He holds the American record for five set singles wins (5) and most decisive 5th rubber victories (3). The Florida native has lifted the trophy on two occasions and holds a 17-10 all-time record in Davis Cup play. -C.O.

Kudos
Sam Stosur



➔ Samantha Stosur won the Diamond ACES Award for the 2010 season for promoting the sport of women's tennis to fans, media, and local communities. "It's very important for players to give back to the sport and do everything we can to grow it and promote it globally," said Stosur.



➔ Tommy Haas and fiance Sara Foster became proud parents, November 14. "Today was the most exciting day of my life. Sara and I welcomed our baby girl and we are head over heels in love," said Haas on Facebook. Haas, absent from the Tour for several months, recovers from injuries and surgeries.

HAPPENING | TENNIS NIGHT IN AMERICA

➔ Whether you were in stitches or consternation when Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi had their globally televised "spitting contest" at the Hit for Haiti in Indian Wells, you're no doubt excited that they're meeting again in the Big Apple February 28, 2011. Held at Madison Square Garden, the event will begin with an eight game pro-set between John McEnroe and his old nemesis Ivan Lendl. Then Pete and Andre will tangle in a best-of-three set match. The competition, thick with tension, is worth every minute! www.thegarden.com -C.O.



BY THE NUMBERS
THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN

➔ Once known as the "forgotten" Slam, many tennis stars skipped the Australian Open (Bjorn Borg only played once!) due to unendurable travel time and relatively low prize money. But since the early '80s, when the likes of John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl first entered the draw, the Tour has grown exponentially in Melbourne. While it doesn't carry the cachet of Wimbledon or possess the artistic feel of Roland Garros, Melbourne has gained status in the global tennis world for developing a winning formula that is very modern, very adaptive, and very compelling. The Tournament that Roger Federer dubbed "the happy slam" has grown into a global force, and tennis is better because of it.

23
Number of years since the Australian Open was played on grass (1987, Kooyong)

5
Number of years since an Aussie man has played the final (Hewitt, '05)

19
Number of years that 'Rebound Ace' surface was used (The AO switched to Plexicushion in '08)

5:14
Longest match ever played (Nadal d. Verdasco, 2009)

BY CHRIS ODDO



653,860

Total attendance for 2010 (50k above previous high)

37

Age of oldest previous singles champion, Ken Rosewall, 1972

16

Age of youngest previous singles champion, Martina Hingis, 1997

\$2,600

Round-trip airfare from New York to Melbourne



MILESTONE | 900th match

➔ Roger Federer, 29, played his 900th Tour-level match when he faced American Taylor Dent October 21, 2010. Federer is the first active player to reach the goal. Incidentally, the Swiss has never retired in a match during his career. -C.O.

Kudos

2010 No. 1 Year-end Rankings

- ➔ Men's Singles: Rafael Nadal [SPA]
- Women's Singles: Caroline Wozniacki [DEN]
- Men's Doubles: Bob and Mike Bryan [USA]
- Women's Doubles: Flavia Pennetta [ITA] and Gisela Dulko [ARG]

HAPPENING | AFFORDABLE AUSTRALIA

➔ Australian Open tournament officials determined that keeping the event affordable to the masses is paramount, so the Ground Pass, the ultimate Grand Slam value at \$29, will cost the same as last year. At \$49 for any session, Hisense Arena prices aren't budging either. "That's a great value when you consider that last year that would have allowed you to see the likes of Serena Williams, Andy Murray, Kim Clijsters, Justine Henin, Novak Djokovic, Andy Roddick, Jo Wilfried-Tsonga, James Blake or Dinara Safina," say officials. In general, though, visitors will see an overall increase in most ticket prices by 7 percent. Those interested in seeing the most coveted match of the event, the men's final, it'll sell for \$339 a ticket, a 17 percent bump from last year.

Feb. 5-6

- ➔ **Fed Cup 2011 First Round World Group Matches**
 - > Italy vs. Australia (Hobart, Australia)
 - > Russia vs. France (Moscow, Russia)
 - > Slovak Republic vs. Czech Republic (Bratislava, Slovak Republic)
 - > Belgium vs. United States (Merksem, Belgium)

Mar. 4-6

- ➔ **Davis Cup 2011 First Round World Group Matches**
 - > Serbia vs. India (Serbia)
 - > Russia vs. Sweden (Sweden)
 - > Czech Republic vs. Kazakhstan (Czech Republic)
 - > Argentina vs. Romania (Argentina)
 - > Chile vs. United States (Chile)
 - > Belgium vs. Spain (Belgium)
 - > Germany vs. Croatia (Croatia)
 - > Austria vs. France (Austria)

Australian Symbol

➔ The Kangaroo, a marsupial mammal characterized by a distinctive pouch, is the national symbol of Australia. The largest of the species can grow over six feet and weigh over 300 pounds. It moves at a comfortable speed of 15 miles per hour, hopping on its powerful hind legs and using its thick long tail to balance. If the kangaroo is excited or in danger it may hop up to 44 mph and leap over obstacles 10 feet high. The female, or flyer, usually has one young, or joey, per year. Immediately after birth, the joey crawls up the mother's body and enters the pouch. It won't fully abandon the pouch until it reaches 7 to 10 months of age. The Kangaroos life expectancy is 4 to 6 years.



Kangaroos generally hop at a speed of about 13-15 miles per hour.