



BEST MATCH: MEN'S  
year in review year in review  
2011



## roger federer stuns novak djokovic in paris

7-6, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6

Some great matches are predicated on athleticism and some suspense; others on pure rivalry. Roger Federer's stunning upset of Novak Djokovic in the 2011 French Open semifinals had all that and much more.

Djokovic and Federer provided enough electricity to power all of Paris as the decidedly pro-Federer Chatrier crowd cheered its way to euphoria when the Swiss maestro pulled ahead of Djokovic two sets to love. While Federer painted the lines and scorched winners with regularity, Djokovic appeared perplexed.

Valiantly clinging to his 43-match winning streak, Djokovic won the third set then served for the fourth. Federer, however, would have too much magic on this day. He closed the match in four, and the crowd went wild.

All the elements – Djokovic's streak, Federer's greatness, the Chatrier ambience and gorgeous clay-court tennis – combined to make this a match for the ages. It was the match of the French Open and the match of the year.

### HONORABLE MENTION



## novak djokovic defeats rafael nadal in n.y.

6-2, 6-4, 6-7, 6-1

Rafael Nadal gave every ounce of effort he could muster in the US Open final, but for the sixth consecutive time in 2011, Novak Djokovic was simply too fabulous. Still, this battle had moments where the two archrivals struggled mightily to seize control of the match. All the while, the tennis was breathtakingly physical, played at an almost superhuman level.

Even as a jubilant Djokovic celebrated becoming just the sixth player in Open Era history to win three Grand Slams in one season, we could sense that this match was only the beginning of what promises to be a compelling rivalry in men's tennis for years to come.

"Six straight losses, for sure that's painful," said Nadal. "But I'm going to work every day until that changes."

