



## caroline wozniacki's GRAND SLAM SHORT FALL

Caroline Wozniacki first secured the world No. 1 ranking in October 2010 and returned to the top spot in February 13, 2011. She's now ranked ninth in number of weeks spent at No. 1, ahead of seven-time Grand Slam winner Venus Williams and three-time Slam winners Maria Sharapova and Kim Clijsters. Normally this achievement would be cause for celebration, but in Wozniacki's case, it appears the sky is falling. Wozniacki has yet to win a career-defining Slam.

In an era where experience trumps youth and power trumps finesse, the defensive Dane missed her window to win a Slam in 2011 when she failed to convert on match point against Li Na in the Australian Open semifinals. Titles in three of her next five tournaments provided hope, but when Wozniacki crashed out of the French Open in the third round – winning only four games in the match – against Daniela Hantuchova, hopes sagged. Wimbledon proved disappointing as well, falling to Dominika Cibulkova in the fourth round. Wozniacki made a run at the US Open but faced Serena Williams in the semis and was blasted off the court by the powerful American.

"She's going to have to try and become more offensive," says former world No. 1 and Tennis Channel commentator Lindsay Davenport. "That means moving up in court positioning and trying to flatten that forehand... You just don't see the Grand Slam coming until she's willing to take more risk."



Leslie Blitman (2)

### HONORABLE MENTION

## kim clijsters



Kim Clijsters started the year like a house on fire, winning the Australian Open and compiling the Tour's longest winning streak, but she was doused by buckets of bad luck for the rest of 2011. Clijsters limped into Paris and lost in the second round of the French Open, and then a plethora of injuries (shoulder, foot, abdomen) kept her from competing at Wimbledon and the US Open.