



INTERNATIONAL
TENNIS HALL OF FAME

Journalism (6th Grade)

Lesson 1: Bud Collins and the Art of the Interview

Overview: As students work through the activities in this lesson they will be introduced to the different types of stories that make up a newspaper (news, feature, op-ed). The activities that accompany this unit are geared towards the students' multiple intelligences and will provide academic challenges at multiple levels of cognitive complexity while satisfying the goal of working towards mastery of grade appropriate common core standards of Literacy.

Objectives:

Students will be able to-

- Gain background knowledge through vocabulary activities and comprehension activities (such as guided questioning and using appropriate graphic organizers) about journalism, interviewing, and writing.
- Form an understanding of the contribution that Bud Collins made to the sport of tennis.
- Write a thoughtful journalistic story based on facts given.
- Demonstrate what they have learned about journalism, Bud Collins and his significance to the game of tennis, and his place in history by successfully completing activities, group organizers, and by taking part in meaningful classroom discussions.

Lesson Time Suggested: Two class periods



Hall of Famer Bud Collins

As a journalist and television commentator, no media professional had as vibrant a personality as Arthur "Bud" Collins. His trademark bow-ties and colorful trousers that often seemed like they could glow in the dark were custom made from fabrics he collected in his world travels covering tennis for more than 50 years. One thing Collins collected as well: a voluminous knowledge of tennis that was delivered with

infectious enthusiasm. His television commentary was often more entertaining than the match he was covering, and his writings for the *Boston Globe* starting in 1963 provided him a forum to become the preeminent and foremost authority on tennis in the world. Read more about [Bud Collins](#) on the International Tennis Hall of Fame's website.

Bud Collins Objects on Display in the Museum



Pair of Pants Worn by Bud Collins, 2001

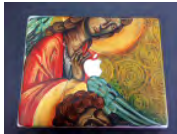
The Andover Shop (American)

Collins has written and talked his way into tennis history, but is also recognized for his striking fashion sense. Sporting bow ties and pants custom-designed from colorful fabrics sourced from around the globe, Bud never fails to make an impression.

Loan courtesy of Bud Collins, 2014

L2014.8.1

Location: Area 2, Tennis & Media Case



Bud Collins's Powerbook G4 Laptop, ca. 2003

Apple, Inc.

(artist) Marcelo Lavallen

Boston-based muralist Marcelo Lavallen customized Bud's laptop with an original work titled "Guardian Angel."

Loan courtesy of Bud Collins, 2014

L2014.8.4

Location: Area 2, Tennis & Media Case

Possible Sources:

- *Boston Globe* sports section
- *Providence Journal* sports section
- *The Bud Collins History of Tennis* by Bud Collins

Materials Needed:

- Vocabulary Builder #1
- [Serena Williams: 2013 Time for Kids Person of the Year Nominee](#)
- [ESPNW: 22 Fun Facts About Serena Williams](#)

- [CNN: Serena Williams Fast Facts](#)
- Fact sheet on Bud Collins
- Photos of Bud Collins
- Fact sheet on Andy Roddick
- [Andy Roddick's Art of the Press Conference](#) (video)
- Fact sheet on Roger Federer
- [Roger Federer Interviews to be Wimbledon Champion](#) (video)
- Match stats on 2009 Wimbledon final
- *A Long Time Coming: Federer wins No. 15* by Bud Collins July 6, 2009

Vocabulary:

- **news story**- a story which conveys the facts - who, what, where, when, how - of the event on which you are reporting
- **feature story**- a story which conveys facts, but also focuses on the stories of people's lives
- **column/editorial**- a piece about a certain topic in which the writer takes a side and argues his/her opinion

Common Core Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.2

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.2.A

Introduce a topic; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.2.B

Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.2.C

Use appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.2.D

Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.2.E

Establish and maintain a formal style.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.2.F

Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.5

With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.6

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of three pages in a single sitting.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.7

Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.8

Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources; assess the credibility of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.9

Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.9.A

Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., "Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres [e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories] in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics").

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.9.B

Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., "Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not").

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.10

Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.2

Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.3

Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.5

Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.6

Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.7

Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.9

Compare and contrast one author's presentation of events with that of another (e.g., a memoir written by and a biography on the same person).

Lesson & Activity

Teaching/Model

1. Vocabulary Builder: Each student will receive a Vocabulary Builder graphic organizer. The teacher will read each word and ask the students to fill in bubble 1 if they have never heard the word before, bubble 2 if they have heard the word but are unsure of the definition or bubble 3 if they know the word and can give the definition and use it in a sentence.
2. The teacher will work collaboratively with the students to come up with a working definition of the words on the graphic organizer and a sentence using the words as they pertain to the lesson at hand.
3. The teacher will present the three different stories about Serena Williams, to show that while the facts of a story don't change, the way a story is presented can change.
4. The teacher will introduce Bud Collins as an important figure in tennis and sports journalism. (1st class end)
5. (2nd class begins) The teacher will review what was learned in the last class about the three different types of stories and Bud Collins.
6. The teacher will present the fact sheets and video clips of Andy Roddick and Roger Federer, and have the students compare and contrast their careers.
7. The teacher will present the match stats from the 2009 Wimbledon men's final between Andy Roddick and Roger Federer.
8. ****Students who exceed or meet expectations:**
 - a. Students will work independently to come up with questions for Roger Federer and Andy Roddick about their match.
 - b. Students will listen to the answers given by the "players" to their questions, and write a news story about the match.
9. ****Students who partially meet or do not yet meet expectations:**
 - a. Students will work in groups to come up with questions for Roger Federer and Andy Roddick about their match.
 - b. Students will listen to the answers given by the "players" to their questions, and write a news story about the match in their groups.
10. A few students will read their story aloud and receive constructive criticism.
11. Students will then read the story by Bud Collins about the match in question.
12. Students will have time to edit their stories.

Bud Collins

As a journalist and television commentator, no media professional had as vibrant a personality as Arthur “Bud” Collins. His trademark bow-ties and colorful trousers that often seemed like they could glow in the dark were custom made from fabrics he collected in his world travels covering tennis for more than 50 years. One thing Collins collected as well: a voluminous knowledge of tennis that was delivered with infectious enthusiasm. His television commentary was often more entertaining than the match he was covering, and his writings for the *Boston Globe* starting in 1963 provided him a forum to become the preeminent and foremost authority on tennis in the world.

Collins was born in Lima, Ohio, attended college at Baldwin-Wallace College but made Boston his home and working headquarters for more than 50 years. He launched his impeccable career as a graduate student at Boston University in 1959, where he found time to write for the *Boston Herald* and coach the tennis team at Brandeis University. He began his journalistic tennis exploits in earnest upon joining the *Boston Globe* in 1963 and made his foray into the electronic media side working for the local Boston PBS radio affiliate WGBH. Collins became a bona fide tennis expert, and in 1968 joined CBS Sports on its tennis broadcasts.

Collins brought wit, charm and an encyclopedia of knowledge to each of his journalist endeavors. While he remained the cornerstone of the *Boston Globe's* tennis coverage, he worked with CBS for four years, becoming a staple of NBC's tennis coverage in 1972, where he remained until 2007. For the next 35 years, *Breakfast at Wimbledon* included strawberries and cream, world class tennis, and Bud Collins. In 2007, he took his indomitable talents to ESPN and the Tennis Channel.

Collins treated tennis fans to his colorful prose by authoring several books, including many updated versions of *Bud Collins' Tennis Encyclopedia*, the “bible” for tennis facts, figures, and authoritative text from the game's leading historians.

As a journalist and television commentator, a historian and a vibrant personality, and as a communicator unlike any other in his time, Bud Collins was at the forefront of

tennis since the early 1960s. Collins covered more major championships than any American reporter, and always conveyed his ample knowledge of the sport with an infectious enthusiasm. Collins gained as much fame as many renowned players, working tirelessly at his craft, not just entertaining but educating the public, adding immeasurably to the popularity of tennis.

While attending his 61st US Open in 2015, the USTA unveiled the Bud Collins US Open Media Center in honor of the great ambassador to the game.



Serena Williams: TFK 2013 Person of the Year Nominee

December 5, 2013

Time for Kids Staff

Serena Williams became a professional tennis player in 1995 and has not slowed down since. Along with her older sister, Venus, Williams has dominated women's tennis for nearly two decades. This year was especially amazing for the all-star athlete.

Williams was born in Michigan in 1981, the youngest in a family with five girls. Her family soon moved to California, where she first learned tennis from her father on public tennis courts outside of Los Angeles. Williams would practice for hours every day. In 1991, she joined the junior United States Tennis Association tour and ranked first in the age 10-and-under division. By 1997, just two years after turning professional, Williams was ranked 99 in the world.

Serena was the first of the Williams sisters to win a Grand Slam title. In 1999, she won the U.S. Open. At the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia, Serena and Venus won gold medals in the doubles event. Serena went on to sweep 23 Grand Slam titles during the decade. But in 2011, Williams had a blood clot in one of her lungs. Her health issues kept her out of the game for several months.

After taking time to recover, Williams came back strong. In 2013, she took her second French Open title, and first in more than a decade, and fifth U.S. Open singles title. She currently holds the most singles, doubles, and mixed doubles titles combined amongst tennis players, male or female. Williams had a total of 78 wins in 2013. At the age of 32, she continues to be at the top of the game, while many tennis athletes her age begin to wind down their careers.

Off the court, Williams serves as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.

She also founded The Serena Williams Secondary School in Kenya, Africa. Williams continues to make appearances at schools and community organizations, particularly for at-risk students.

For her history-making wins and charitable work around the world, Serena Williams is a nominee for TFK's 2013 Person of the Year.

22 Fun Facts about Serena Williams

Aug 24, 2015
espnW.com

In 22 days, Serena Williams will begin her quest for her 22nd major championship to tie Steffi Graf for most in the Open Era. To celebrate the epic career of the legendary Williams, who also will be aiming for tennis's first calendar Grand Slam at the US Open since Graf did it in 1988, we give you 22 fun Serena Williams facts.

1. Her middle name is Jameka.
2. She has played in 60 Grand Slam tournaments in her career and has won 21 of them.
3. Her favorite city in the world is Rome.
4. Her favorite sport to watch other than tennis is gymnastics.
5. Williams and Chris Evert have each won six U.S. Open singles titles -- the most in the Open era.
6. Other than dogs, her favorite animals are tigers.
7. She cranks David Bowie's "Fame" to power through a tough workout.
8. Her go-to gadget in the kitchen is the toaster oven.
9. She has been ranked No. 1 for 253 weeks in her career. Only three players -- Graf (377), Martina Navratilova (332) and Evert (260) -- have enjoyed the top spot longer.*
10. She is No. 47 on this year's Forbes list of highest-paid athletes. She raked in a reported \$24.6 million between June 2014 and June 2015.
11. She has competed at three Olympics and won four gold medals.
12. Her favorite water sport is tubing.
13. She has lost just nine matches in her 15 U.S. Open appearances. The only person to beat her twice is sister Venus Williams (2001 and 2005).
14. She won her first major title in 1999 at the U.S. Open, beating Martina Hingis in the final.
15. At 15 years between her first (1999) and most recent (2014) titles, Williams holds the record for most years between U.S. Open singles championships.
16. When she won her first U.S. Open, "The Sixth Sense" was finishing its fifth week at No. 1 in the box office.
17. The song she is somewhat embarrassed to admit that's on her phone is "MMMBop" by Hanson.
18. The strangest thing in her gym bag is Opi Nail Polish.
19. She has won 21 straight matches at the U.S. Open. Her last loss was to Samantha Stosur in the 2011 final.

20. Her favorite food after a workout is a Gatorade bar to replenish protein and carbs.

21. She has won 28 straight matches and four straight titles at Grand Slam events.

22. Her winning percentage at the U.S. Open is .898, the highest among singles players in the Open era.

*-- Includes rankings through Aug. 10, 2015.

Serena Williams Fast Facts

CNN Library

October 24, 2016

Here's a look at the life of professional tennis player Serena Williams.

Personal:

Birth date: September 26, 1981

Birth place: Saginaw, Michigan

Birth name: Serena Jameka Williams

Father: Richard Williams, tennis coach

Mother: Oracene Price

Other Facts:

Has won 71 career singles titles, 23 doubles titles and two mixed doubles titles. This includes 38 Grand Slam titles - 22 singles titles, 14 doubles titles and two mixed doubles titles.

Four-time Olympic gold medalist.

Has won more than \$81 million in career prize money, more than any other female athlete.

Is fifteen months younger than sister and tennis pro Venus Williams.

Is a Jehovah's Witness.

Timeline:

September 1995 - Turns professional, losing her debut tennis match at the Bell Challenge in Quebec.

January 1998 - Enters the Australian Open, her first Grand Slam tournament. She loses to her sister, Venus, in the second round, 6-7, 1-6.

1999 - Enrolls at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale in Florida for fashion design.

September 12, 1999 - Wins the US Open, becoming the first Williams sister to win a Grand Slam.

July 8, 2002 - Ranked Women's Tennis Association (WTA) world number 1 for the first time in her career, at age 20.

2002-2003 - Completes the "Serena Slam," by winning all four Grand Slam titles - the French Open, Wimbledon, US Open and the Australian Open.

August 1, 2003 - Has surgery to repair a partially torn tendon in her left knee.

September 14, 2003 - Williams' older half-sister, Yetunde Price, is murdered in Compton, California.

2004 - Launches "Aneres" clothing line (Serena spelled backwards).

2008 - Establishes the Serena Williams Foundation, to assist American youth touched by violent crime and also underprivileged children around the world.

September 12, 2009 - Williams goes on a profanity-laced outburst against a line judge who calls her for a foot fault in the US Open semifinals against Kim Clijsters. Clijsters is awarded a penalty point to win the match. The Grand Slam committee later fines Williams a record \$82,500 and places her on probation for the next two years.

July 7, 2010 - Receives stitches in both her feet after stepping on broken glass while leaving a restaurant in Munich. Later, she has to have surgeries in July and October to repair a lacerated tendon on her right foot.

February 2011 - Undergoes emergency treatment for a hematoma related to a pulmonary embolism, a blood clot in her lungs.

September 2011 - Appointed a UNICEF international goodwill ambassador.

February 18, 2013 - At age 31, becomes the oldest female tennis player to be ranked number 1 since computer rankings began in 1975. This is the sixth time in her career to be ranked number one.

September 7, 2014 - Williams wins her third consecutive US Open title.

July 9, 2016 - Wins the Wimbledon title for the 7th time. With her 22nd victory in a major tournament, Williams ties Steffi Graf for most singles titles in the Open era.

September 12, 2016 - After 186 consecutive weeks ranked Women's Tennis Association (WTA) No. 1 in the world, falls to No. 2 behind Angelique Kerber. Williams ties Steffi Graf's record for longest consecutive weeks ranked No. 1.

Andy Roddick's Titles Through 2009 (27 total)

Andy Roddick retired at the end of 2012.

The **Major Tournaments (or Grand Slams)** are the Australian Open, the French Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open. They are the most prestigious of all of the tournaments. Andy Roddick won 1 Major Tournament in his career, but lost in 4 finals to Roger Federer.

2009 (1)

- Memphis (Indoor/Hard)

2008 (3)

- Beijing (Outdoor/Hard)
- Dubai (Outdoor/Hard)
- San Jose (Indoor/Hard)

2007 (2)

- Washington (Outdoor/Hard)
- London / Queen's Club (Outdoor/Grass)

2006 (1)

- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Cincinnati (Outdoor/Hard)

2005 (5)

- Lyon (Indoor/Carpet)
- Washington (Outdoor/Hard)
- London / Queen's Club (Outdoor/Grass)
- Houston (Outdoor/Clay)
- San Jose (Indoor/Hard)

2004 (4)

- Indianapolis (Outdoor/Hard)
- London / Queen's Club (Outdoor/Grass)
- ATP Masters Series Miami (Outdoor/Hard)
- San Jose (Indoor/Hard)

2003 (6)

- **US Open (Outdoor/Hard)**
- ATP Masters Series Cincinnati (Outdoor/Hard)
- ATP Masters Series Canada (Outdoor/Hard)
- Indianapolis (Outdoor/Hard)
- London / Queen's Club (Outdoor/Grass)
- St. Poelten (Outdoor/Clay)

2002 (2)

- Houston (Outdoor/Clay)
- Memphis (Indoor/Hard)

2001 (3)

- Washington (Outdoor/Hard)
- Houston (Outdoor/Clay)
- Atlanta (Outdoor/Clay)

Andy Roddick's The Art of the Press Conference



Andy Roddick - The Art Of The Press Conferences (ESPN)

Uploaded on Feb 22, 2008
really nice compilation of the best of Andy Roddick's press conferences

417,277 views

1,101 likes, 16 comments

Up next

- Andy Roddick Funny Moments :D
nia pljn
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Kishore Sharma
769,986 views
- (HQ) Andy Roddick on Jonathan Ross 2010.06.04
prozachbear
88,938 views
- Andy Roddick Tells Reporter to
Dette, Malle Out

11:16 AM 11/17/2016

Roger Federer's Titles Through 2009 (61 total)

Roger Federer is still playing tennis.

The **Major Tournaments (or Grand Slams)** are the Australian Open, the French Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open. They are the most prestigious of all of the tournaments. Roger Federer won his men's tennis record-breaking 15th Major Tournament at the 2009 Wimbledon.

2009 (4)

- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Cincinnati (Outdoor/Hard)
- **Wimbledon (Outdoor/Grass)**
- **Roland Garros (Outdoor/Clay)**
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Madrid (Outdoor/Clay)

2008 (4)

- Basel (Indoor/Hard)
- **US Open (Outdoor/Hard)**
- Halle (Outdoor/Grass)
- Estoril (Outdoor/Clay)

2007 (8)

- Tennis Masters Cup (Indoor/Hard)
- Basel (Indoor/Hard)
- **US Open (Outdoor/Hard)**
- ATP Masters Series Cincinnati (Outdoor/Hard)
- **Wimbledon (Outdoor/Grass)**
- ATP Masters Series Hamburg (Outdoor/Clay)
- Dubai (Outdoor/Hard)
- **Australian Open (Outdoor/Hard)**

2006 (12)

- Tennis Masters Cup (Indoor/Hard)
- Basel (Indoor/Carpet)
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Madrid (Indoor/Hard)
- Tokyo (Outdoor/Hard)

- **US Open (Outdoor/Hard)**
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Canada (Outdoor/Hard)
- **Wimbledon (Outdoor/Grass)**
- Halle (Outdoor/Grass)
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Miami (Outdoor/Hard)
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Indian Wells (Outdoor/Hard)
- **Australian Open (Outdoor/Hard)**
- Doha (Outdoor/Hard)

2005 (11)

- Bangkok (Indoor/Hard)
- **US Open (Outdoor/Hard)**
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Cincinnati (Outdoor/Hard)
- **Wimbledon (Outdoor/Grass)**
- Halle (Outdoor/Grass)
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Hamburg (Outdoor/Clay)
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Miami (Outdoor/Hard)
- ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Indian Wells (Outdoor/Hard)
- Dubai (Outdoor/Hard)
- Rotterdam (Indoor/Hard)
- Doha (Outdoor/Hard)

2004 (11)

- Tennis Masters Cup (Outdoor/Hard)
- Bangkok (Indoor/Hard)
- **US Open (Outdoor/Hard)**

- ATP Masters Series
Canada (Outdoor/Hard)
- Gstaad (Outdoor/Clay)
- **Wimbledon (Outdoor/Grass)**
- Halle (Outdoor/Grass)
- ATP Masters Series
Hamburg (Outdoor/Clay)
- ATP Masters Series Indian
Wells (Outdoor/Hard)
- Dubai (Outdoor/Hard)
- **Australian Open (Outdoor/Hard)**

2003 (7)

- Tennis Masters Cup (Outdoor/Hard)
- Vienna (Indoor/Hard)

- **Wimbledon (Outdoor/Grass)**
- Halle (Outdoor/Grass)
- Munich (Outdoor/Clay)
- Dubai (Outdoor/Hard)
- Marseille (Indoor/Hard)

2002 (3)

- Vienna (Indoor/Hard)
- ATP Masters Series
Hamburg (Outdoor/Clay)
- Sydney (Outdoor/Hard)

2001 (1)

- Milan (Indoor/Carpet)

Roger Federer Interviews for the Job of Wimbledon Champion (2015)



Match Statistics

Match statistics for Swiss second seed Roger Federer's 5-7 7-6(6) 7-6(5) 3-6 16-14 defeat of American sixth seed Andy Roddick in the men's singles final at Wimbledon in 2009.

Match time: Four hours and 16 minutes

	Roddick	Federer
1st Serve %	168 of 239 = 70%	127 of 197 = 64%
Aces	27	50
Double Faults	4	4
Unforced Errors	33	38
Winning % on 1st Serve	140 of 168 = 83%	113 of 127 = 89%
Winning % on 2nd Serve	31 of 71 = 44%	42 of 70 = 60%
Winners	74	107
Receiving Points Won	42 of 197 = 21%	68 of 239 = 28%
Break Point Conversions	2 of 5 = 40%	1 of 7 = 14%
Net Approaches	42 of 69 = 61%	38 of 59 = 64%
Total Points Won	213	223
Fastest Serve Speed	143 MPH	135 MPH
Average 1st Serve Speed	127 MPH	118 MPH
Average 2nd Serve Speed	105 MPH	98 MPH

A long time coming: Federer wins No. 15
by Bud Collins *Boston Globe*
July 6, 2009

LONDON - The yellow tennis ball hung above Andy Roddick's left shoulder like a mini moon. He eyed it with animosity, his weapon poised to shoot the moon as 15,000 witnesses surrounding the grass patch called Centre Court couldn't believe that with one simple smack the rejuvenated American would post a two-set lead over five-time champion Roger Federer.

It was oh-so-close to happening as the Lord of the Swings, Federer, stood by helplessly while Roddick, close to the net and sideline - possessing his fourth set point in the second set tiebreaker - went after the ball with a backhand . . . and bungled it.

"The wind was gusting pretty good," Roddick recalled. "When he hit the ball I thought I wasn't gonna play it. Last minute, it looked like it was dropping."

In or out? "I couldn't get my racket around on it," he said. "I don't know if it would have dropped in or out."

It was then, after two sets, when his 6-2 lead in the breaker didn't hold up, Roddick himself seemed a candidate to drop out.

"The second set was the key to what came after," said Federer, contesting a record seventh straight Wimbledon final. "Being down two sets to love would have been a difficult situation. Winning the second increased my chances because I couldn't control the match at all."

That was because Roddick was planted there to stay, giving as good as he got, as he and Federer created one of the greatest showdowns to brighten the Big W.

They slashed and bashed each other through the longest major final: 77 games in 4 hours 16 minutes. Only once could Federer bust Roddick's serve, but that concluded their masterwork, Roger's record 15th men's grand slam victory, 5-7, 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (7-5), 3-6, 16-14. The tense, anything-you-can-do-I-can-do-better closing passage lasted 95 minutes, also a record for fifth sets in majors.

As a guy who didn't progress as he should have after winning the 2003 US Open, 26-year-old Roddick is a retooled version of America's best. A finalist to Federer here in 2004 and '05, he has outdone those times considerably within the last week, showing his finest stuff in beating ex-champ Lleyton Hewitt in five sets, then promoting British melancholia by stopping their Great Bright Hope, Scotsman Andy Murray in four.

"There's no way it doesn't cross your mind," Roddick said of the botched volley costing him the second set. "But there are two options: You lay down or you keep going. The second option sounded better to me."

Roddick came in at 2-18 against Federer. "How can you call that a rivalry?" he has said. But they were heavy-duty rivals on this breezy, cloudy, and sunny Sunday. Moreover, Roddick feels on top of the planet amid his new coach, old hand Larry Stefanki, and new bride, Brooklyn Decker, who talked him out of quitting.

With lodge brothers - former champs Rod Laver, Pete Sampras, Bjorn Borg, Manolo Santana - peering over his shoulder from the Royal Box, Federer felt extra juiced to win, thus eclipsing Sampras's record for majors that had stood since 2002.

But to keep up with the new Roddick, Federer needed the prime serving matinee of his career: 50 aces, one short of the house record held by the Leaning Tower of Zagreb, 6-foot-10-inch Ivo Karlovic. Federer had 22 service winners as well. Roddick experienced his best serving against Federer: 27 aces, 62 winners.

In his smooth, effortless glide, Federer, returning to world No. 1, often conceals the fact that he's a relentless digger and fighter.

Although Roddick is less fluid, he has improved his groundies and volleys beyond recognition. The malevolent serve remains. It supported and preserved Roddick during the lengthy high-pressure journey through the fifth set when he served the even games, thus putting the title at stake 10 times from 4-5. He squeezed out of several two-points-from-defeat hotspots, and even pushed Federer to two break points at 8-8 15-40. Serving and forehands sprung Federer from that trap.

Roddick slipped out of 0-30 to 40-30, 14-15, and was perched on a second deuce. Whereupon, abruptly it was over in two forehands - a winner from Federer's racket and a shanked error from Roddick.

An appreciative audience, standing in ovation, chanted both men's names, bringing tears to Roddick's eyes.

Roddick had played the match of his career, but will he be haunted by that small fuzzy yellow moon that he couldn't shoot?