



FANLETTER OCTOBER 2003

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1. Initial comments

Dear friends

I was overwhelmed by all the feedback and the discussions on my new website. It looks like we have managed to set up a platform that suits your needs and expectations. I would like to thank you for all the advice and comments that you have placed there. As you certainly understand my agenda is very full and I am thus not able to read all your news in detail. But I thoroughly enjoy taking a glimpse of your posts in quiet moments.

We are very aware of all your suggestions for further functionalities on the website and are working on their implementation. My team and myself would like to thank you for these hints as they are of great value to improve the site. I am very pleased that we have got a platform for exchanging information from now on. Looking forward to more active communication and many thrilling moments!

Kind regards

Roger Federer

2. Quote of the time

'I have learnt to be even more patient.'
(After the rainy intermezzo at the US Open)

3. Roger Federer Fan Calendar 2004

The new Roger Federer Fan Calendar is ready just in time for Roger's home tournament, the Davidoff Swiss Indoors. The calendar is full of great pictures and useful info on the ATP Tour 2004. Of course the stats and facts on Roger are not missing either!

Fast orders will be rewarded with a special price for the calendar (CHF 24.- when ordering before October 19th). And for all orders before that date 5 signed copies are up for grabs! International orders are possible, you will receive an email in return to clarify all details.

Please place your orders via the following website: www.strijbis.com/rogerfederer.

4. Thoughts on my last two months

The time in North America was very intense – 5 weeks is a long time to be traveling. I am rarely on the road for that long a period throughout the year.

The start in Montreal was very pleasant. It was my first participation in the tournament and therefore a new experience as well as a new challenge. I enjoyed many special moments, for example the game against Max Mirnyi, my former doubles partner. Besides playing tennis I had the pleasure of meeting many interesting people such as Vince LeCavalier, the captain of the Tampa Bay Lightnings. And a game of streethockey against Bo D'Heur (last year's Stanley-Cup winner) was also on my off-court programme. I enjoyed the atmosphere and the very friendly audience in Montreal. It was a perfect setting to celebrate my birthday in.

After yet another loss against David Nalbandian at the US Open I must admit that I am not happy with my overall result, though. It will definitely be one of my goals for next year to achieve better results for this period of the season.

After my stay in the United States I was at home for 3 days to relax. Straight after that I had to get my things ready again and was on a flight to Australia. We wanted to prepare best we could which meant arriving Down Under fairly early. That also meant going from one jetlag straight to the next, but the possibility to qualify for the Davis Cup Finals was very import to me.

The time in Australia was definitely one of my highlights of this year. I thoroughly enjoyed spending one and a half weeks with the whole team. The preparations in cold and windy conditions went very well. We also had plenty of fun next to the tennis court playing card games, chess and backgammon.

Losing to Lleyton Hewitt after a two set lead was certainly one of the toughest defeats in my career so far. It was great to have the team around, that helped me get over it very fast. It is just that team spirit which makes the Davis Cup so important to me. I would like to thank the whole team for that.

After Australia I was off for a week, before leaving for Vienna. I arrived early, once again, in order to start the preparations. My performance there certainly shows that the planning was perfect. I am enormously delighted by my first title after Wimbledon since it is also the first title that I have successfully defended. Taking home the doubles title with Yves Allegro was terrific, too. To Yves it was the first final in his career and thus also his first title. We have known each other for a long time already, since I was about 13 years old. We also used to share an apartment in Biel and have had plenty of great experiences together. By showing such a great performance on the court we will certainly be an excellent option for further Davis Cup encounters. That is also one of the reasons why I have chosen Yves as my doubles partner. Apart from playing tennis I enjoyed the time in Vienna with my girlfriend Mirka. We took advantage of the beautiful town and also managed to do some shopping. Furthermore I was invited to the ORF TV Studio for their sports show.

At the moment I am very busy and one match is followed almost immediately by the next. I am happy with the shape I am in and my results at the moment certainly confirm that fact. Madrid and Paris are two very important tournaments which I am putting my main focus on at the moment.

Soon I will be playing at the Davidoff Swiss Indoors in Basel. The enormous public interest as well as the comments from all my fans have been overwhelming. I am looking forward to playing in my home town very much. I feel a lot more relaxed than in former years but will nevertheless approach the tournament with the necessary seriousness.

My motivation for the coming months is enormous and I am looking forward to the rest of the indoor season.

5. Information on the newsletter

As a registered user of www.rogerfederer.com you will receive a newsmail like this approximately every 6 weeks. I would like to use it as a media for informing you about current happenings, comments and reports on personal issues. Unfortunately it is not possible for you to reply to the sender of this newsmail directly. But if you have any comments or suggestions then please feel free to place these in the forum on the website. We have inserted a category 'newsletter' for that purpose. Thank you in advance for your help.

6. Our new webmaster

Simon Kessler is responsible for all contents on the website from now on. Simon coordinates and develops ideas, organizes the pictures and texts, keeps the categories up to date, writes and translates texts, keeps an eye on your discussions, etc. He will make sure that the spectrum of information will be adapted to your needs more and more. We have already integrated many of your ideas into the website and are still working on many open issues. Thank you for your cooperation and also your understanding that certain new functions or pages take time to set up for programming and also clarifying legal issues, copyright, etc. Simon is 27 years of age and an active sportsman himself. He works in the field of sports marketing. We are very fortunate to have Simon on our team and are convinced to be able to provide you with an excellent internet-platform with his help. Thank you Simon and good luck!