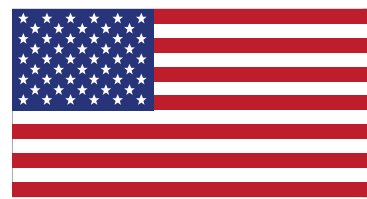


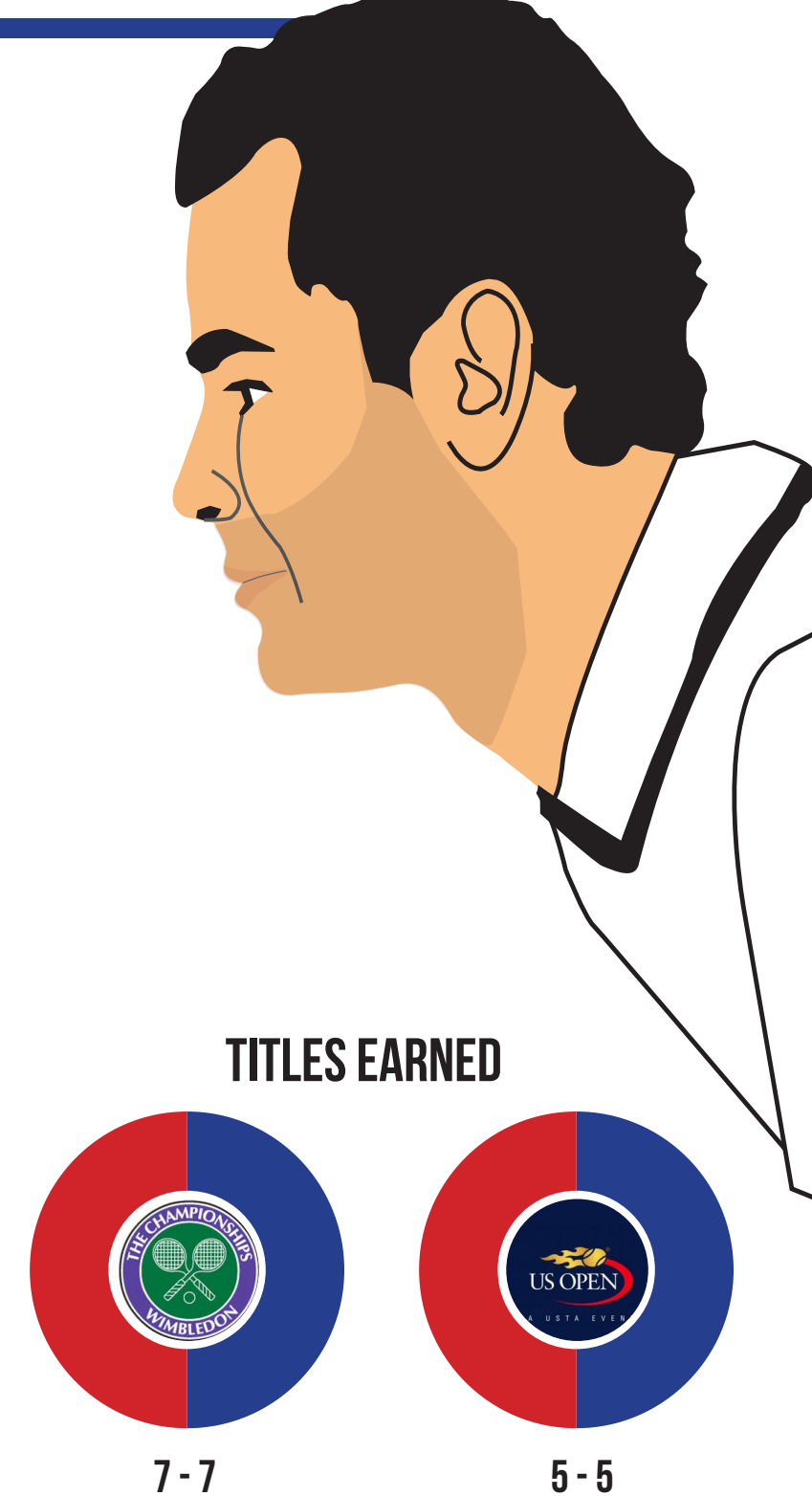
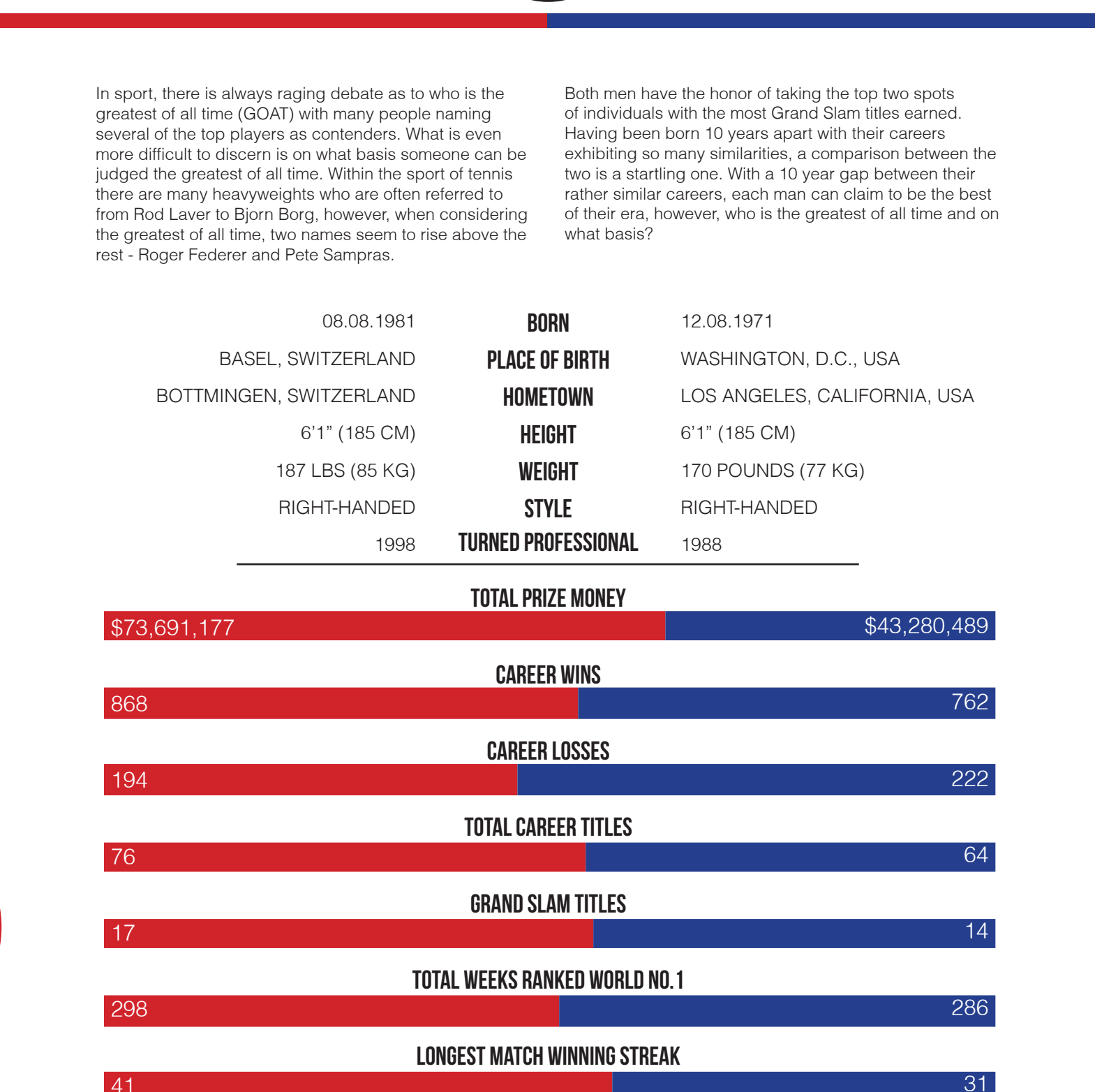
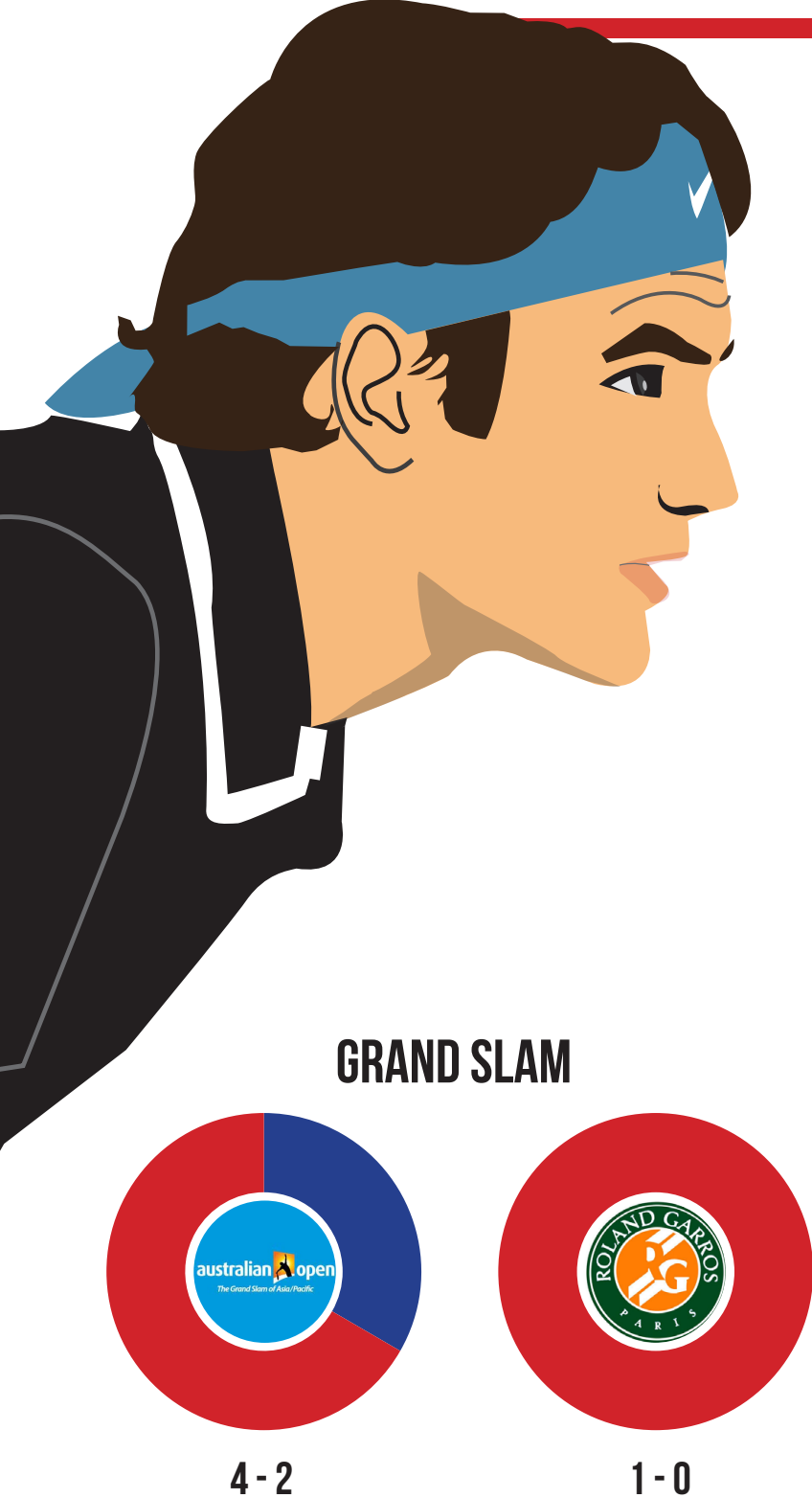


ROGER FEDERER

VS.



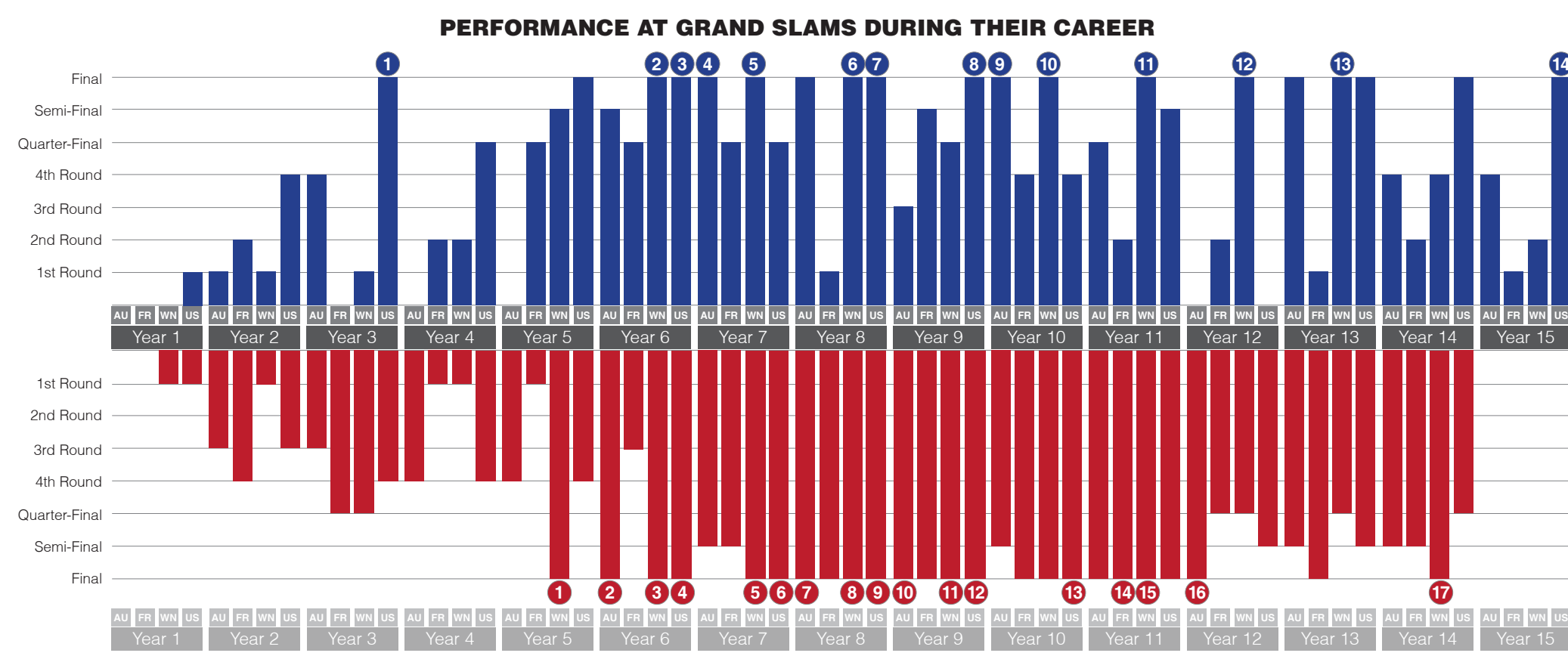
PETE SAMPRAS



QUICKEST RISE TO THE TOP

As shown, Federer leads Sampras in the number of Grand Slam titles earned which are considered the top achievements within the sport. Federer currently leads with 17 to Sampras' 14 titles equaling him at the 2009 French Open, a tournament neither man had previously won.

In addition to number of titles, it is also worth observing how long it took each player to earn their titles. Sampras took 12 years to earn his 14 titles as his wins were mostly spread out. Meanwhile, Federer has acquired his 17 titles in just 9 years, 3 whole years ahead of Sampras. Staggeringly, Federer had won 16 of those in 7 years which averages to more than two per year.



FINAL ENCOUNTERS

As can be seen to the right, on a tournament-by-tournament basis, it can be seen that Federer reached more finals and more consistently than Sampras. Both men won all but a few of the finals they participated in, but on the whole, Federer reached the later stages of tournaments on more occasions than Sampras did.

ONLY MATCH MEETING

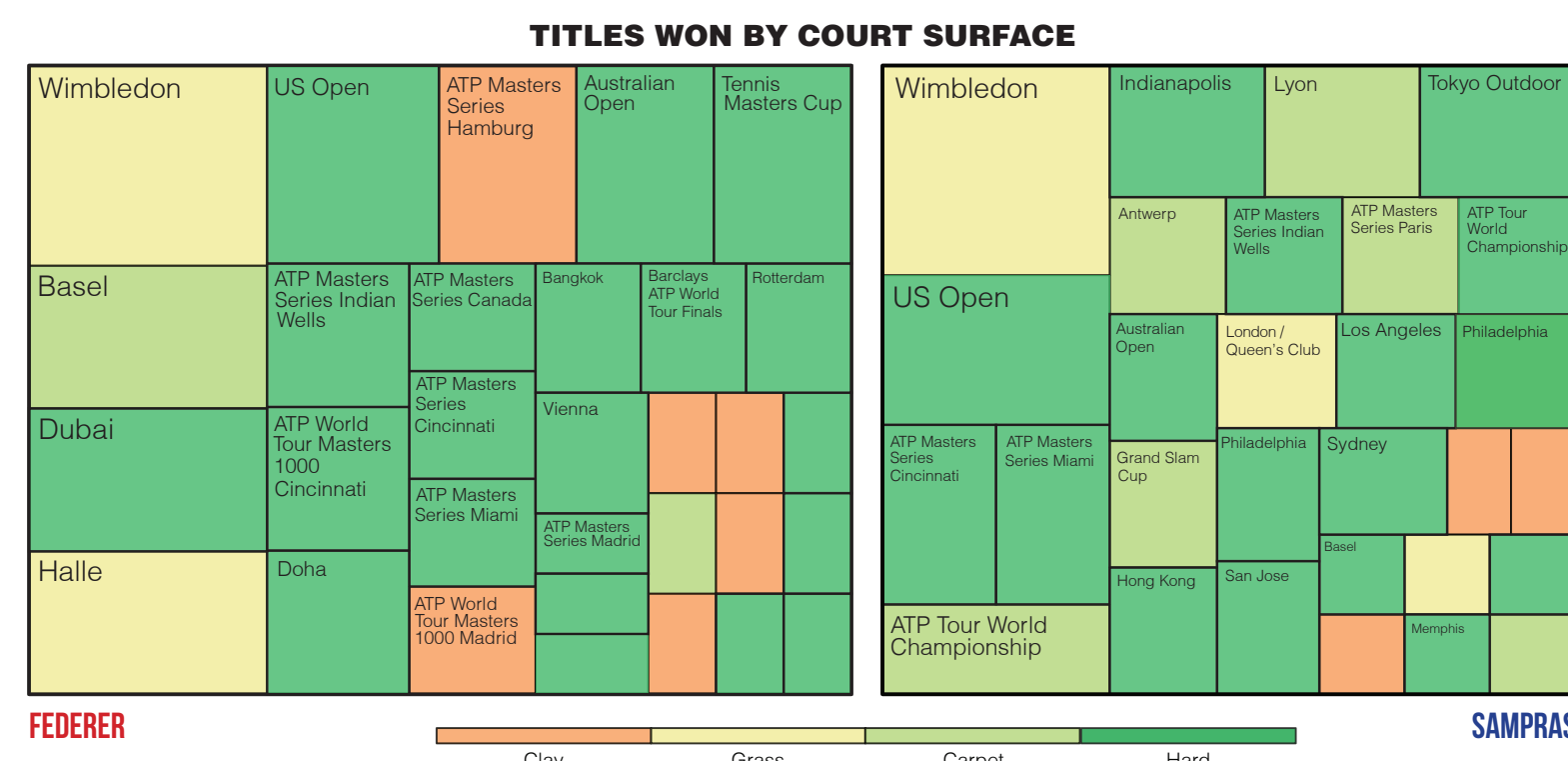
2001 Wimbledon, England
Grass, Round 16
Federer 7(7) 5 6 6(0) 7
Sampras 6(5) 7 4 7(2) 5

KING OF THE SURFACE

When comparing the performance of the two players on the various tennis surfaces, there are also noticeable differences. Both have had success in winning titles on hard courts (at events like the Australian Open) and on grass courts (e.g. at Wimbledon) unlike the vast differences in carpet and clay court performances.

Carpet is not widely used in tennis often being reserved for smaller tournaments such as the ATP Tour Championships, amongst others, which Sampras has been seen to have greater success on than Federer.

Meanwhile, clay is a prominently featured court surface as it is used at the French Open. Often considered by those within the game as the most difficult surface to master, Federer has clearly had greater success on the clay court than Sampras who has won fewer tournaments on clay and can not claim to ever winning a French Open like many of the greats.



WHO IS THE GREATEST OF ALL TIME?

It is difficult to compare the two given both came from different eras as they only faced each other once in different peaks of their career and faced substantially different competitive environments from each other. However, on nearly every performance criteria, Federer has surpassed Sampras.

Ultimately, Federer holds more titles, reached his success in a far shorter timeframe and has consistently reached more finals than Sampras. He can also lay claim to achievements Sampras cannot such as winning the French Open. Clay is considered the ultimate test of a player's ability, something Sampras was not able to turn into Grand Slam glory.

There's no denying that Sampras was an exceptional player and is one of the games' greatest, however, Federer is more deserving of the title of the greatest of all time based on his performance against that of Sampras.

REFERENCES

ATP Profile Pete Sampras: <http://www.atpworldtour.com/Tennis/Players/Sa/P/Pete-Sampras.aspx>
ATP Profile Roger Federer: <http://www.atpworldtour.com/Tennis/Top-Players/Roger-Federer.aspx>
Sampras & Federer Title Race: <http://thesis.armina.info/node/133>

Peter Sampras vs Roger Federer: http://www.tennis28.com/studies/Federer_Sampras.html
Tennis Records & Statistics: <http://www.tennis-x.com/stats/tennisrecords.php>
Federer Breaks Sampras Record: <http://www.nytimes.com/>
Federer & Sampras: 10 Years of Separation: <http://straightsets.blogs.nytimes.com/>

DAI 523 - Information Design 1
Pino Trogu
Assignment 03: Proportions
Luke Marsden
October 2012