



**June 12, 2005**

**A. RODDICK**/I. Karlovic

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An interview with:

## **ANDY RODDICK**

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

**Q. Andy, congratulations.**

ANDY RODDICK: Thanks.

**Q. How does it feel to win it three times in a row?**

ANDY RODDICK: It feels good. I never would have predicted it three years ago, that's for sure, you know. But I'm happy, and I'm even happier that I got some good preparation going into *Wimbledon*.

**Q. Is it as devastating a serve as it looks from outside?**

ANDY RODDICK: Yes, and more so. I mean, there were a couple times I guessed the right way and was fully extended, like diving to that side, and still missed it by about two feet.

I don't know if -- it's not so much the pace or the spin, it's just, you know, he hit a couple aces out wide on the ad side that were a quarter of the way up the service box and going this way. And when you make contact with them, it's above your head, you know. So it's not like something that I've seen before.

**Q. Yeah. Or want to see again?**

ANDY RODDICK: Yeah or, you know...

**Q. Is your game where you wanted it to be this week?**

ANDY RODDICK: Yeah, you know, it could be worse, you know. I feel pretty comfortable on the grass, and I'm looking forward to *Wimbledon*.

**Q. Does the fact that you've come through against many different kinds of players this week give you that much more confidence - big servers, slices, all sorts of games you've had to face?**

ANDY RODDICK: Yeah, no, that's good. I think that, you know, that can only help, the fact that I've played a couple serve-and-volleyers, I've played a couple guys who are a little craftier, some guys who are a little bit in between.

So, you know, I think it's good that I've seen a lot of different looks this week.

**Q. You say you couldn't imagine winning it three years in a row when you first came in here a few years back. How much, therefore, do you think your game has developed on grass and how much has it improved?**

ANDY RODDICK: It's improved a lot. When I won the first time here, before that, I hadn't really had any really great results on grass and I hadn't played well on it before. And, you know, here, two years, three years later, you know, it's probably up there with my favorite surfaces. So, you know, it's been a complete 180.

**Q. Why is that? What's the main reason? Is it just getting used to it?**

ANDY RODDICK: I think it's just getting used to it and I think, you know, confidence. You know, if you're confident, you feel like you can play on anything. Obviously, I've had good results here the last couple years and it's become a lot more of a comfortable surface for me.

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# **RICOH**

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**Q. It's going to be a bit of a tight calculation for the No. 2 seeding, I think, at Wimbledon. Do you think what you've done on grass warrants you getting that, the second seed?**

ANDY RODDICK: Well, it's tough. I mean, like you said, I think it's going to be a bit of a toss-up. I mean, you know, **Lleyton's** won **Wimbledon** before so, obviously, that's what he has going for him. Obviously, you know, I have winning here and doing well the last couple years on grass. So, you know, either way, I don't think either one of us can be too upset.

But if it is a toss-up, he has the No. 2 ranking so, you know, maybe he has a little bit of an edge there.

**Q. Is it an edge? I mean, potentially, obviously, avoiding Roger in a semi is major, depending how the draw comes out. Or do you think, "I have to beat Roger anyway"?**

ANDY RODDICK: I don't know if I think that far ahead in a tournament. I don't know if I'm good enough to think that far ahead to, you know, "Okay, I'm going to play him in the semi." There's a lot of matches before that happens.

Common knowledge is you're going to have to beat the best players somewhere along the way. So, you know, I think within the way we think, you know, a couple of the top guys, is we've won a **Slam** before and we've gotten further -- we've gotten far in a **Slam** so we're looking at trying to win them. And, you know, if that's going to be done, then you're going to have to beat the in-form players and the top players somewhere along the line.

**Q. Would you say your grass court game is in a sense on a par confident-wise, playing-wise, as it was last year?**

ANDY RODDICK: Yeah, for sure. I feel really good at the moment.

**Q. Talking about if you've done well at a tournament, you go back the following year, there's a sense of satisfaction, of confidence and all that bit. With Wimbledon, isn't it more of a lottery than anything else?**

ANDY RODDICK: How so?

**Q. Well, the way the grass plays, the weather conditions, more so than a US Open or a French Open or an Australian Open.**

ANDY RODDICK: I don't think so. I think -- I mean, I think **French Open** and **Wimbledon** are the two where you're going to get the most varying results because you have specialists, guys who, you know, wait all year for that surface.

You know, but I don't see it being any more farfetched than anything. I mean, I think if you're playing good tennis going in, then obviously you help your chances. You know, I don't think it's just a flip of the coin; I think there's a lot of -- you know, I'd like to rate my chances a little better than a lot of people in the draw just based on how I'm playing right now and the preparation going in. I don't think it's so much of a, you know, coin flip or lottery type thing.

**Q. Have you decided just to train privately this week?**

ANDY RODDICK: I'm not sure. We haven't talked about it yet.

**Q. You're not sure yet?**

ANDY RODDICK: No.

**Q. Can you tell us about your memories of Wimbledon. Did you watch a lot of Wimbledon on TV when you were younger? Which were the first matches and players you remember watching?**

ANDY RODDICK: Yep, I think the first finals I remember are the **Becker** and **Edberg** ones. We used to make kind of a tradition out of it in our family. They'd call it "Breakfast at **Wimbledon**." You'd wake up, mom would cook breakfast, and you'd kind of watch the matches.

My favorite one when I was younger was when **Andre** won in '92. We watched the whole thing and kind of have followed it ever since.

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