



↑ International Tennis Federation - The World Governing Body of Tennis
JUMP to more I


Home
News
Rankings
Players
Tournaments
Team Co

Latest News

Search Articles

Audio Listing

Photo Galleries

News Feed ? | 



30 Jun 2008 - Helen McFetridge

Oudin wins again in Roehampton; first Grade 1 for Rufin

Guillaume Rufin (FRA) and Melanie Oudin (USA) boosted their confidence ahead of Wimbledon t claiming the Grade 1 Roehampton titles on Friday.

For Oudin the win marked her third victory in four tournaments this year, with all her wins coming level. The American has now won seven tournaments within the last year, six of them Grade 1s, 2 world number one and Roland Garros champion Simona Halep not competing at Wimbledon, Oudin the firm favourite.

A feature of Oudin's play this year has been how easily she has won most of her matches; before Roehampton she had lost just four sets in her 16 matches in 2008. True to form, she eased past 11 opponents last week without dropping more than four games in any match. In the semis she faced a challenge from 14th seed Lesley Kerkhove (NED), who took the first set 61 before Oudin hit back the next two relatively easily, 62 61. Oudin's final opponent was unseeded Laura Robson, one of the hopes of British tennis. The 14-year-old had beaten 11th seed Mallory Burdette (USA) for the loss game in the second round, and knocked out sixth seed Johanna Konta in the following round. In t Robson defeated another up and coming young player, 15-year-old French girl Kristina Mladenov. Oudin's hopes of a home victory were raised briefly when Robson took the first set of the final 75, but Oudin regained control of the match and took the next two sets 62 62.


Guillaume Rufin headed into Roehampton with a grass court title already under his belt this year, the Grade 2 Gerry Weber Open the previous week. The Frenchman has been gradually making his way up the rankings, but the grass court season seems to be representing a real breakthrough for him.

Rufin benefited from an early exodus of the seeds from his quarter of the draw. With top seed Tsung Hsien Yang (TPE), fifth seed Ryan Harrison (USA), ninth seed Peerakit Siributwong (THA) and 14th seed Alexandre Folie (BEL) all losing in the first round, Rufin had a straightforward path through to the quarter-finals. There he faced his first seeded opponent, 13th seed Bradley Klahn of the USA. Klahn had defeated Rufin in a nailbiting third-set tie-break in the semis of the Grade 1 Nottingham tournament in Australia in January. In the quarter-finals the unseeded player took his revenge this time around with a 63 64 win.

His final opponent was another British player, qualifier Daniel Smethurst. Like Rufin, Smethurst took advantage of the early departure of several top seeds and made his way to the final beating no-one higher than 15th seed Christopher Rungkat (INA). Like his compatriot Laura Robson in the girls' final, Smethurst got off to a quick start and had his chances in the first set before losing it 75. The second set was all Rufin as he pulled away to record a 75 62 victory and claim his first Grade 1 title.

Indonesia dominated the doubles events, with Beatrice Gumulya and Jessy Rompies winning the girls' event and Christopher Rungkat teaming up with Finland's Henri Kontinen to win the boys' event.

^ Back to Top

What is RSS? 

information beyond this page, you agree to abide by the [itftennis.com Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms and Conditions](#).