

Serena Into Second week of Wimbledon  
Friday, 27 June 2008  
By Craig Gabriel

WIMBLEDON: Serena Williams has moved into the last 16 of Wimbledon. The fourth round of the Championship is when the business end of the event starts. This is the seventh time from the nine occasions that Serena has played Wimbledon that she has made it to the second week.

In a match between two former Wimbledon champions and on the Centre Court, Serena got through a close first and then went on to beat Amelie Mauresmo in straight sets 7-6, 6-1. This was the 12th time they had met and it marked the tenth time that Serena had won. It is also the third time she has beaten the French player at Wimbledon.

"I have a lot of respect for Mauresmo," said Serena. "I guess she just had her appendix removed not too long ago. I think she's playing unbelievable tennis. To win Wimbledon at any point in one's career is the highlight of one's career."

"I love playing her. We always have a good match. She has a very different game, a very different style. I think we bring our best tennis with each other."

Serena will now come up against fellow American Bethanie Mattek who has been known to wear some rather cutting edge outfits on the court. That sort of fashion strikes a chord with Serena, who as we all know gets a real kick out of fashion with her own label Aneres.

"I mean, granted they were unusual, but I really appreciated her courage, you know," said Serena. "Her personality is so good, and the courage you have to wear something like that in fashion goes a long way to me."

They have played each other just once before and Serena won, that was in Cincinnati two years ago.

"Venus has played her before as well. I think it was a while ago, but I remember she gave me a good match. I thought, you know, it's good to see some more American players playing well. So it's good that I've played her before," said Serena.

Playing a Grand Slam event is like a long distance runner. You have to hold back till the right time rather than sprinting from the start. That is what it means when people say you have to peak at the right time for a Slam because it's played over two weeks.

"Yeah, you know, you just start playing every match better and you start focusing in, don't get excited about a little win, just stay focused for the whole two weeks," said Serena. "That's pretty much how I've been able to do it."

"I feel like I am (there), but I'm just taking it one match at a time."