

Serena reaches Aussie semifinals - Australian Open
Monday, 22 January 2007

Serena Williams advances dynamically to the semifinals of the Australian Open, after a triumph over Shahar Peer of Israel 3-6, 6-2, 8-6 on Tuesday. Williams's win yesterday puts her at five uninterrupted match wins since she won the last of her seven Grand Slam singles titles in Melbourne Park two years ago.

"I am the ultimate competitor," Williams said. "I feel awesome.

"I'm excited to be out here. I'm just so happy to be back out here competing."

Williams dropped her first service game, which consequently resulted in her game being down the break for the rest of the first set. The game continued with Williams battling off a set point in the eighth game and two more in the ninth before Peer won it with a nice first serve.

In the second game Peer lost one point on her own serve until 30-love in the sixth game, then Williams ran off four straight points to move forward 4-2.

The ultimate set took 34 minutes with Williams saving break points in the first and third games and breaking Peer in the fourth.

Except just when you think the match is about to come to a near end Peer broke back.

Williams encountered double-break points in the ninth game saving both with aces then closing a 5-4 lead.

Peer continued to break again in the 11th game, then Williams broke back and held at love for a 7-6 lead.

Williams started back and broke serve again, winning on her first match point when Peer rounded a backhand out of bound.

Williams will next play 17 year old Nicole Pietrangeli of Czech Republic.