

■ **Sep 26, 1981: *Serena Jameka Williams*** born in Saginaw, Michigan, to Richard and Oracene Williams

■ **1983:** Family move to Compton, California. Determined his daughters will succeed, **Richard Williams** (right) teaches Serena and sister **Venus** to play tennis



■ **1991:** Sisters move to Florida to join tennis academy of acclaimed coach **Rick Macci**



Serena in action in 1992

■ **1991-94:** Despite limited experience on junior tour, Serena is ranked No.1 among under-10 players in Florida

■ **1995:** WTA debut in Quebec. Loses in qualifying round, winning just two games

■ **1997:** Beats both **Mary Pierce** and **Monica Seles** in Chicago en route to first semi-final. Finishes season in Top 100



■ **1998:** Grand Slam debut at **Australian Open**. Faces Venus in 2nd round in first of 31 head-to-head matches – Serena leads 19-12



■ **1999:** Wins first Grand Slam title at **U.S. Open**, beating **Martina Hingis**. Victory makes her first black woman to win major since **Althea Gibson** in 1958

■ **2000:** Sisters team up to win Wimbledon doubles title and gold medal at **Sydney Olympics** – feat repeated in 2008 and 2012

■ **2001:** Suffers defeat to Venus in U.S. Open final – first of nine major finals between them

S Serena Williams: Queen of the Court



■ **2008:** Returns to World No.1. Claims third U.S. Open crown

■ **2009:** Blasts line judge who calls foot fault in U.S. Open semi-final. Serena loses match and is fined record \$82,500



■ **2002-03:** Powers to victory at **Roland Garros, Wimbledon and U.S. Open** before securing **Australian Open** to land "**Serena Slam**", beating Venus in all four finals

■ **2003:** Oldest sister, **Yetunde Price**, is murdered in Compton

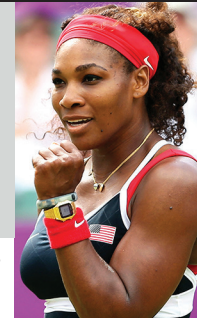
■ **2004-06:** Struggles with injuries and poor conditioning – dips to No.140 in world rankings

■ **2007:** Unseeded at Australian Open, Serena astounds tennis world by expertly dismantling **Maria Sharapova** 6-1, 6-2 in final



■ **2010-12:** Fourth Wimbledon title. Suffers season-ending tendon injury, and later needs emergency treatment for blood clot. **Patrick Mouratoglou** appointed as coach to revive career

■ **2012:** Wins gold medal in singles at **London Olympics** to become first tennis player to clinch Career Golden Slam in both singles and doubles



■ **2013:** Adds titles at Roland Garros and U.S. Open

■ **2014:** Equals **Chris Evert** (below right) in taking sixth U.S. Open title without dropping a set



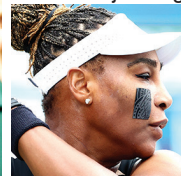
■ **2015:** Sixth Wimbledon trophy secures second "**Serena Slam**". At 33 years, 289 days, she is oldest woman to win major title

■ **2017:** Captures 23rd major title, at eight weeks pregnant, to overhaul **Steffi Graf's** (left) record of most Grand Slam titles in Open Era



*Sep 2017: Gives birth to daughter **Olympia**, before marrying Reddit co-founder **Alexis Ohanian***

■ **2018-19:** Reaches four further finals but falls short of equalling **Margaret Court's** all-time record of 24 major singles titles



■ **2020:** Auckland title is her first since return from maternity leave

■ **2021:** Plays 1,000th WTA match

■ **Aug 2022:** Signals upcoming retirement in **Vogue Magazine**, saying she will be "evolving away" from tennis – U.S. Open likely to be her final tournament