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US OPEN SPECIAL EDITION

Amazing Emma is US Open Champion

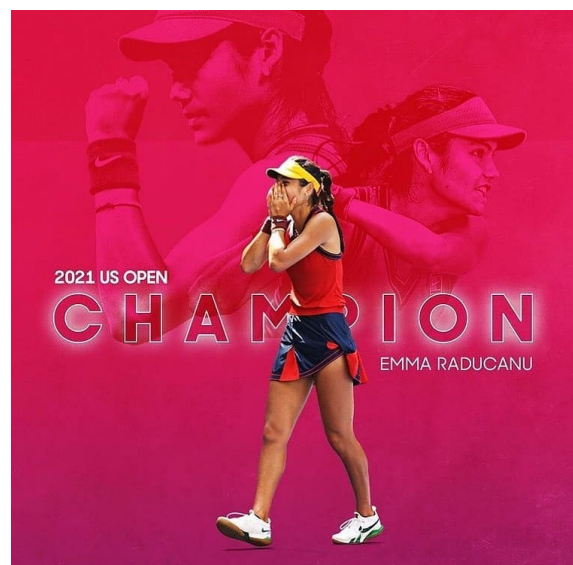
Kent's own Emma Raducanu is the 2021 US Open Ladies Singles Champion. Coming through qualifying and breaking records along the way, Emma has thrilled tennis supporters around the world with her intelligent tennis. superb

hitting and infectious smile.

Emma beat Canada's Leylah Fernandez in the final 6-4, 6-3, where despite Fernandez excellent battling and potent forehand, Emma's brave attacking and nerveless tactics won through. Emma became the first player, man or woman, to come through qualifying to win a Grand Slam final, winning all 10 matches without dropping a set. As well as Fernandez, the players Emma defeated included Shelby Rogers (conqueror of World No.1 Ashleigh Barty), Olympic Champion Belinda Bencic and French Open semi-finalist Maria Sakkari.

Plaudits for Emma's on court heroics came from many tennis greats including Virginia Wade ("Emma ticks all the right boxes and she should be set up there with the top girls for a long time"), Martina Navratilova ("she's the whole package"), Tim Henman ("great confidence and resilience"), and Billie Jean King ("she's the real deal"). She also received a congratulatory message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Emma's world ranking will rise up now from 150 to the top 25, making her the new British No.1 at the same time. We are all very much looking forward to seeing Emma's career over the years to come, and hope her exploits in New York will inspire many others within Kent, and beyond, to take up and enjoy tennis.

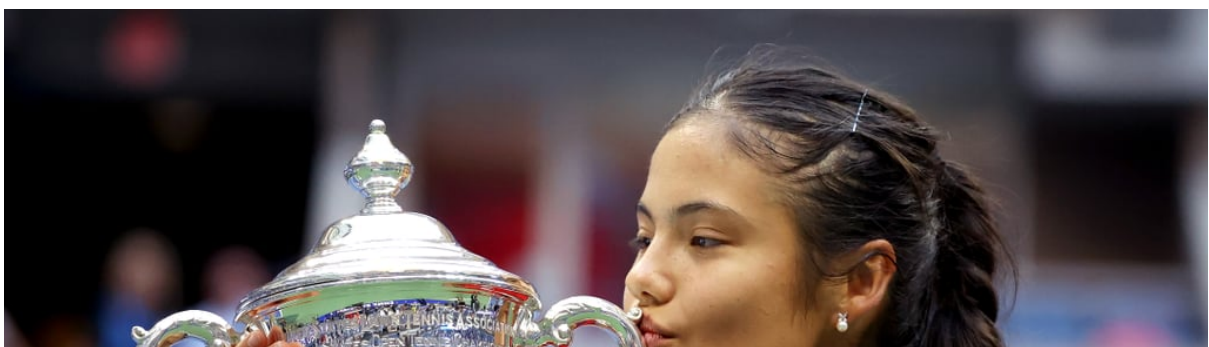


Here are just some of the records Emma broke at the US Open:

- First qualifier to win a Grand Slam singles tournament

- First British Ladies singles Champion since Kent's Virginia Wade won Wimbledon in 1977
- Fourth British woman to win a Grand Slam Singles title in Open Era (after Virginia Wade, Ann Jones and Sue Barker)
- Second Kent woman to win a Grand Slam Ladies Singles title (Virginia Wade is the other one)
- First woman to reach 4th round of her first two Grand Slams since Jennifer Capriati in 1990
- Youngest Grand Slam Singles Champion since Maria Sharapova in 2004
- Youngest Grand Slam Singles Champion on their debut at an event (in Open Era)
- Youngest British Grand Slam Champion since Christine Truman in 1959

WELL DONE EMMA!





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