

GB (2450)

Once again, the Lawn Tennis World comes to Wimbledon. And as summer brings the swallows - so the famous courts are uncovered to their human counterparts, to settle, and ~~eventually~~ ^{eventually} carry away the coveted titles. Meanwhile, every match-result and every trend of fashion is captured by the fans.

Real-life partners, Vic Seixas and his wife - and Champion Lew Hoad and Jennifer, remind us that love figures prominently in the tennis, too. On the Centre Court - pride of place goes, by tradition, to Lew Hoad - opening the defence of his title against Pierre Darmon, the French number one. IN PLAY (NEARER THE ~~SEES~~ CAMERA).

The Frenchman ~~opened with three service ~~aces~~ winners~~ to win the first game.

But the champion's all-round skill captured the first set: six-two...

Darmon fought back gamely and reached four-all before losing the second Match Point.

And victory for the champion six-two, six-four, six-three.

And just as the fans were speculating whether Lew Hoad would be the first post-war champion to retain his title - the rain (always an unwelcome visitor) provided the biggest first-day shock in living memory.