

## Hall of Fame Class of 2013 Jared Palmer

Jared Palmer's 1991 NCAA Division 1 singles title as a sophomore at Stanford University was the catalyst for what would become a successful and rewarding pro tennis career. While on the ATP Tour, Jared earned a total of 29 titles, a world doubles ranking of number 1 and a top singles ranking of 38.

Originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico, Jared started playing tennis with his father at the age of seven. By the time he was 10, it was apparent that Jared would benefit from a more expansive level of competition; the family relocated to Florida and Jared trained at the Hopman Tennis Academy.

Recruited by Dick Gould, Director of Tennis, Stanford University, Jared welcomed the opportunity to attend Stanford. "I loved Stanford; some of my best memories – and friends – are from my days in college," says Jared. "Tennis is such an individual sport so it was a great experience to be on a team and representing your school."

"Along with being brought up well academically, Jared was an amazing athlete; he was one of the most fundamentally sound players coming into Stanford," says Gould. "He was also a great sportsman and had a lot of respect for the team and his teammates. He was just a great guy to be around."



After two years in Palo Alto, Jared made the difficult decision to turn pro and leave Stanford. He explains, "I really enjoyed being at school but if I was going to give a pro career a shot, this was the best time to do it. The competition is so fierce on the pro tour and I thought that waiting another two years may be too late." While on the pro tour, Jared began working with tennis coach Jeff Arons and made Northern California his permanent home.

Among Jared's greatest pro accomplishments are winning the doubles title at the 1995 Australian Open, the Australian Open Mixed Doubles in 2000, Wimbledon in 2001, US Open Mixed Doubles in 2001 and the ATP Masters Series event at Indian Wells in 2000. He also reached the doubles finals at Wimbledon in 1999 and the US Open in 2001. His singles title was earned at Pinehurst in 1994. Jared also represented the United States six different times in Davis Cup and at the Sydney Olympics, where he partnered with Alex O'Brien.

"I loved playing pro," says Jared. "Things really go up and down when you're on the pro tour, but I really enjoyed it."

About halfway through his career, Jared faced knee injuries that had the potential to sideline him for good. However, he wasn't ready to quit and decided to use the challenge of rehabilitating to his benefit. He explains, "I was out for most of two years and it was really tough coming back; I had to play small satellite tournaments in places like Nicaragua and El Salvador, which was much different than I was used to. However I am proud of the hard work that I put in to get back – and I think the experience made me a better player."

In 2005 Jared made the decision to retire from pro tennis. Shortly thereafter, he returned to Stanford to finish his degree in History. "Going back really made me appreciate the scholarship that I had the first time around," Jared jokes.

Jared and his wife currently live in Norwalk, Connecticut, where he runs a high performance junior tennis program.

He has fond memories of his time in NorCal. "Being part of the Stanford family has been an incredible experience. And it was great being based in Northern California for all those years when I was on the tour; it was a place that I always wanted to get back to when I was traveling."