



Federer fires past Gasquet



Roger Federer

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Melbourne

Number two seed Roger

Federer continued his serene progress at the Australian Open with a 6-2 7-5 6-4 win over Richard Gasquet in the third round.

Federer is yet to drop a set as he continues his title defence at Melbourne Park and the 36-year-old never looked unduly troubled against the Frenchman, winning in 1hr 15mins.

There were some flashy exchanges between two of the most stylish one-handed backhanders in the game, but Federer was no match for the 29th seed as he took full control on Rod Laver Arena.

Federer had a minor wobble at 4-2 in the third set when Gasquet carved out his first break point of the entire match, and then took the Federer serve.

But Federer sensed a chance at 5-4 and broke Gasquet again to seal the win, with two magnificent backhands ending the match.

“The match was close, tough games, the end

could have gone to a tiebreaker then you never know,” Federer said on court.

“I was able to be a bit more on the offensive than he was, maybe I was protecting my second serve a bit better than him.”

“My expectations are a little different because I had a great season last year,” he added.

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He will next face his first career meeting with Hungarian Marton Fucsovics for a place in the quarter-finals.

“He came to train with me in Switzerland last year,” said Federer. “He was great, super nice guy, hard-working, he’s a great baseliner, really strong, so I’m happy I know him a little bit.”

The Swiss goes on to face Marton Fucsovics in the fourth round, the world no. 80. (Eurosport)

