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**Q: Is "The \$100,000 Pyramid" with Michael Strahan ever coming back? – Laurie Suderman, Clovis, Calif.**

A: Yes, since the game-show revival has been a success for ABC, leading to its renewal for a fifth season that has yet to be produced. Strahan recently tested positive for COVID-19, but we suspect another big part of the delay in making new episodes is the physical set-up of the show in the age of the coronavirus pandemic. By its nature, it has a celebrity and that person's playing partner seated in close proximity to each other as the clues are given.

Wearing masks surely would be required, but that could inhibit the game play, since it involves body language that often incorporates facial expressions. Without the contestants being able to see those, ABC likely figures it makes sense just to wait until the game can be played again as it needs to be. Strahan undoubtedly has a say in that, since he's an executive producer of the show as well as its host.

**Send questions of general interest via email to [tvpipeline@gracenote.com](mailto:tvpipeline@gracenote.com). Writers must include their names, cities and states. Personal replies cannot be sent.**

## celebrity pipeline

BY JAY BOBBIN

**More 'Pyramid' play is coming... the question is when**



Michael Strahan

## player profile

BY GEORGE DICKIE

# Djokovic goes for three in a row at Melbourne



If you're looking for a favorite in the men's field at the 2021 Australian Open, look no further than Novak Djokovic.

Indeed, the 33-year-old Serb and World No. 1 has been the big man on campus at Melbourne Park since his debut there in 2005, owning a record eight singles titles (including championships in the 2019 and 2020 tournaments), a perfect 8-0 mark in finals play and an overall 75-8 won-lost record across 16 events. And his eight wins at the tennis year's first major make up almost half of his 17 titles in the Grand Slams.

His victory last year Down Under was far from his easiest. Mourning the death of his friend Kobe Bryant in a helicopter crash days earlier, Djokovic was met by stiff competition from Dominic Thiem in the final. Struggling with his energy levels and consistency early, he fell behind to the 26-year-old Austrian two sets to one. But a break point that Djokovic managed to save in the fourth set turned the tide and he went on to win that set, 6-3, before taking command and slamming the door on his opponent in the fifth, 6-4.

Afterward, Djokovic was as relieved as he was celebratory.

"Definitely my favorite court and my favorite stadium in the world," he said at the end of the gut-wrenching see-saw final, which lasted nearly four hours.

Djokovic will return to defend his title from top-ranked players including Thiem, Rafael Nadal, Daniil Medvedev, Stefanos Tsitsipas and Andrey Rublev when the 2021 Australian Open gets going Sunday Feb. 7 and airs through Feb. 21 on ESPN and ESPN2.

**BIRTH DATE:** May 22, 1987

**BIRTHPLACE:** Belgrade, Serbia

**HEIGHT/WEIGHT:** 6 feet 2 inches/176 pounds

**PLAYS:** Right-handed

**TURNED PRO:** 2003

**ATP RANK:** 1

**HONORS AND**

**ACHIEVEMENTS:** Grand Slam titles: Australian Open – 2008,

2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2019, 2020; Wimbledon – 2011, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019; U.S. Open – 2011, 2015, 2018; ATP Tour winner, 2008, 2012-15; Olympic bronze medalist, 2008

## sports quiz

BY GEORGE DICKIE

# Super entertainment

### Questions:

- 1) Who sang the national anthem at the 1989 and 2007 Super Bowls?
- 2) Who performed at halftime of the 2002 Super Bowl while the names of victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks scrolled on a screen above?
- 3) Whose stirring rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner" brought the house down at the 1991 Super Bowl?
- 4) Who was performing with Janet Jackson during the infamous "wardrobe malfunction" in the 2004 halftime show?
- 5) What volunteer organization performed during halftime of Super Bowls in 1976, 1980 and 1986?
- 6) Until 1970, marching bands performed at Super Bowl halftime. Who broke the pattern in 1970?
- 7) Who performed as the Blues Brothers at halftime of the 1997 Super Bowl?
- 8) Who left the field in a helicopter after singing at the 1996 game?

### Answers:

- 1) Billy Joel
- 2) U2
- 3) Whitney Houston
- 4) Justin Timberlake
- 5) Up With People
- 6) Carol Channing
- 7) Dan Aykroyd and John Goodman
- 8) Diana Ross