



**Michelle Russ received a world tennis ranking after competing in tournaments in Mexico and Thailand.** Picture: Andrew Russell

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## World tennis ranking for Bull Creek star

BULL Creek teenager Michelle Russ achieved one of her goals when she recently made her debut in the women's world tennis ranking at 1327.

The 18-year-old returned last month from playing tournaments in Mexico and Thailand where she received her world ranking.

Russ is a member of the Bull Creek Tennis Club and in October was awarded a youth sports scholarship from the City of Melville to help her tennis career.

She said her recent travelling and playing tough competitors had improved her skills and made her more focused to one day win a grand slam.

"I have been a ball kid at the Hopman Cup for the past six years and it is really inspiring to see the great players on the court," she said.

"I hope to one day win a major tournament in front of my home crowd."

Russ said her favourite women players were Martina Hingis, Jelena Dokic and Kim Clijsters and her strongest shot on the court was her volley.

She began playing as a six-year-old, progressed from playing social tennis to tournaments and was ranked number one in the State when she was 14.

When Russ is not playing tennis, she enjoys shopping, playing soccer and going to the beach.