Wawrinka beats Baghdatis, wins Dubai title
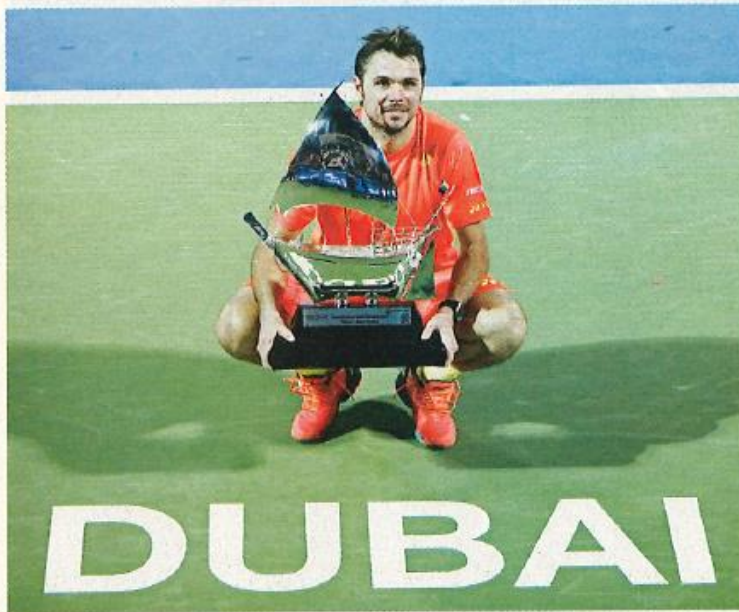

Stanislas Wawrinka from Switzerland holds the trophy after beating Marcos Baghdatis from Cyprus in the final match of the Dubai Tennis Championships on Saturday.   Prashanth Mukundan / The Gulf Today

AMIR NAQVI

DUBAI: Second seed Stanislas Wawrinka lifted his maiden Dubai Tennis Championships title after a 6-4, 7-6 (13) win over unseeded Marcos Baghdatis at the Centre Court on Saturday.

The Swiss ace, playing in Dubai for the first time in eight years, took one hour and 54 minutes to overcome the Cypriot for his second title of the season after winning the third straight Chennai Open and 13th overall.

"Happy to win the title. It was tough from the beginning and then the crazy tie-break. Enjoyed playing against Marcos (Baghdatis). It was best match of the week," said Wawrinka .

Baghdatis, ranked 57, broke the world number four in the fifth game of the opening set to take a 3-2 lead but failed to keep the upper hand after dropping the serve.