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LOL Report

How the Faker-Ambition Supremacy Will End

It's no doubt that Faker and Ambition have become household names for those that follow the ever-expanding professional League of Legends scene. Faker has dominated the eSport since he burst onto the worldwide stage in 2013 while Ambition has made his mark, meeting Faker in the World Championship Final the past two years. After completing his rise to the top by upsetting (Or was it really an upset? That's a different story) Faker in the most recent final, Ambition joined Faker atop the League of Legends world. With 4 of the last 5 World Championship Titles, the two counterparts have started what could be a long rivalry, even a supremacy, in the eSport.

The late Lakers-Spurs, Federer-Nadal, or even most recently, Warriors-Cavaliers, are dynamic duos that can be compared to Faker-Ambition in their utter domination of their respective sports at the time. However, all were overcome at one point or another (Note: 2018 NBA Playoffs are in progress but with Warriors and Cavaliers as the 2-seed and 4-seed in their respective conferences, we assume they can be beaten) by improving players or teams or injuries/retirements. So, what will be the stone that knocks out the Goliath on the League of Legends world stage?

Looking back to the 2017 Final between Faker and Ambition, Ambition bested Faker with 14 assists to Faker's 8. So what? Sure, the large difference in the number of assists would be a determining factor in Ambition's victory since the pair were equal in the number of kills in the final match. But could the assists have had a greater impact on Ambition's victor than first glance?

Well, they do. In fact, assists have more of an influence on the outcome of a match than kills. As shown in the table below, an extra assist increases the odds of winning the match by a higher percentage than an extra kill.

	Odds of Winning
+1 Kill	56%
+1 Death	-56%
+1 Assist	67%
+1 Minute	-8%

The question then is: Is Ambition more of a team player than Faker? Yes and no. Faker did not get to the rank he's at without the efforts of his team along with his own personal abilities to dominate the game of League of Legends. However, if we were to only look at the 2017 World Championship Final, then we would have a simple conclusion.

Which leads to the answer of the original question posed. How will the Faker-Ambition supremacy end? Teamwork. This may sound preposterous saying that teamwork will win individual world championship titles. But that could be the change in the eSport of League of Legends that takes down the supremacy of Faker-Ambition.

To the up-and-coming amateur and professional League of Legends players, focus more on helping the team succeed not only in early tournament rounds but in the knockout rounds as well. Assisting in team kills will be more beneficial to your team than your exceptional abilities to assassinate the other team individually. Who knows, this focus on boosting your team may lead to individual honors in the future.

The Lakers-Spurs rule of the NBA was dominated by individual stand-outs like Kobe Bryant and Tim Duncan. Today, we see the shift in focus exemplified in the Warriors and their

dominance of the NBA where all players contribute. And we see why they have won 2 out of 3 Finals over their rival Cavaliers.

In 5-10 years, will we see this same shift in the League of Legends world stage? By then, Faker and Ambition will have shifted as well—from household names to bolded names in the League of Legends records book on the page, "Era of the Individual."