

Tournaments At-a-Glance

2006 Dates

Women's.....**Jul. 15-23**

Seniors.....**Aug. 11-12**

Men's.....**Aug. 12-20**

Tickets

Get your tickets today at www.cincytennis.com or by calling the tournament at 513-651-0303. Tickets also are available via TicketMaster at www.ticketmaster.com or 513-562-4949.

Who's Playing?

Men's Event: As an ATP Masters event, all the top players are automatically entered, so the field should include such players as **Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, Andy Roddick, James Blake**, and Australian Open singles finalist **Marcos Baghdatis**, to name only a few.

Women's Event: The field will be announced in the spring. Players who played in 2005 included **Patty Schnyder, Daniela Hantuchova, Vera Zvonareva, Sania Mirza** and **Chanda Rubin**.

Men's Doubles Changing

Doubles isn't the same old game. The ATP has changed the rules of doubles in the hope fans will take to the tandem version of tennis.

Games now have no-ad scoring, meaning there's a "sudden-death point" at deuce.

If teams split sets, the match will be determined by a "super-tiebreaker" (first to 10, win by two).

"The addition of 'no-ad' and the third-set tiebreak really speeds up the game," said tournament director Bruce Flory. Personally, I think fans will really like the faster pace. We'll certainly find out as the year progresses."

Read about all the changes on page 7.



Bryan Brothers

Single-Session Tix on Sale

Single-session tickets to the 2006 Western & Southern Financial Group Masters & Women's Open are now on sale. "Tickets are processed in the order they are received so fans should order their seats as early as possible," said tournament director Bruce Flory. Tickets range in price from \$5 to \$42 and also are available via TicketMaster. Check out the details on the ticket order form attached to this newsletter.

Vilas & Jensen In Seniors



Guillermo Vilas

The 16th edition of the Seniors competition will return to a men's-only format, with Hall of Famer **Guillermo Vilas** and fan favorite **Luke Jensen** leading the list of players. Other players expected in the eight-man field include **Tom Gullikson** and **Brian Gottfried**. Four "younger" Seniors will be paired with four "older" Seniors to create four doubles teams. The entire field will be announced later in the year. The event takes place during the evening sessions on August 11 & 12.

What They've Done Since Summer

Here's what some of the top players have been up to since playing Cincinnati last summer:

Men



Federer



Nadal



Roddick



Hewitt



Ginepri



Blake



Nalbandian

- **Roger Federer:** Defended his title at the U.S. Open, and reached the final at the Masters Cup in Shanghai. Started the year by winning the Australian Open.
- **Rafael Nadal:** Won AMS Madrid to tie Federer with four AMS titles for the year - a record.
- **Andy Roddick:** Reached the semis at AMS Paris, and started '06 with a round of 16 appearance at the Australian.
- **Lleyton Hewitt:** Reached the semis at the U.S. Open, the quarters at Sydney and second round at the Australian Open. Has reached two singles finals this year.
- **Robby Ginepri:** Finished '05 very strong, reaching two AMS semifinals (Cincinnati and Madrid) and the semis at the U.S. Open.
- **James Blake:** Reached the quarters at the U.S. Open, the third round at the Australian Open and has won two titles already this year (Auckland & Las Vegas).
- **David Nalbandian:** Won the Tennis Masters Cup, beating Federer in the final. Opened '06 by getting to the semifinals at the Australian Open.

Women



Schnyder



Zvonareva



Jankovic



Hantuchova



Sugiyama



Mirza



Wozniacki

- **Patty Schnyder:** Reached the round of 16 at the U.S. Open, the final at Zurich and Linz, and ended the year at No. 7, a career high. Reached the quarterfinals at the Australian Open in January.
- **Vera Zvonareva:** A left ankle sprain marred the end of her 2005 season, but she started '06 in the final at Auckland.
- **Jelena Jankovic:** Hit a career-high ranking of No. 17 in August and ended '05 in the finals at Seoul (beating Tatiana Golovin along the way).
- **Daniela Hantuchova:** Finished '05 in the top 20 for the first time since 2003. Started '06 by reaching the semifinals at Auckland and then beating Serena Williams at the Australian Open, en route to the round of 16.
- **Ai Sugiyama:** Ended '05 by getting to the doubles final in Zurich. In '06 she's reached the doubles round of 16 at the Australian Open.
- **Sania Mirza:** Ended the year at a career-high ranking of No. 31. Reached Australian Open's second round.
- **Caroline Wozniacki:** At Memphis, she beat Kristi Brandi and Ashley Harkelroad to reach her first WTA Tour quarterfinal.

Women's Event Growing Stronger

The days are getting a little longer, meaning July, and the Western & Southern Financial Group Women's Open, will be here soon.

Our men's ATP Masters event receives its fair share of attention, so I'd like to spend a little time concentrating on our outstanding women's event.

Last year, the W&SFG Women's Open was especially strong. The players on average had a much higher ranking than in 2004, when we returned to the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour for the first time since 1988.

The Cincinnati Enquirer reported on the stronger field this way: "Overall, the first 23 players directly accepted into the field have an average ranking of 39, topping last year's average of 55, according to the rankings on the cutoff date of June 6."

Not only did the tournament have a higher average ranking among all players, it had several players who had an excellent shot at winning the title. (This wasn't the case the year before, when **Lindsay Davenport** dominated the field as you'd expect the

world's No. 1 player to do.)

In 2005, as many as five players were legitimate title contenders: **Patty Schnyder**, **Vera Zvonareva**, **Jelena Jankovic**, **Daniela Hantuchova** and **Sania Mirza**.

**From the
Chairman's Chair**
By Paul M. Flory



Four of those five reached the quarterfinals, with Schnyder winning her first U.S. title.

Recently, it was interesting to see Hantuchova upset **Serena Williams** at the Australian Open in straight sets. It was an excellent example of the quality of women's tennis today.

There is no question women's tennis is far superior to 25 years ago, and much more exciting to watch.

To date, we don't have a player list for 2006, but we expect the trend of improving player fields to continue.

Ultimately, we want our women's event to attract all the world's top players, just like our men's event.

And big crowds are one of the best ways we can ensure that happens.

Our women's event is the only WTA Tour event in the entire Midwest, and I hope everyone will take the opportunity to see what great skills these women have.

“We want our women's event to attract all the top players, just like our men's event. And big crowds are one of the best ways we can ensure that happens.”

Did You Know: Retirements in Finals

Justin Henin-Hardenne made headlines in January by becoming the first woman to retire in a Grand Slam final in the Open Era (since 1968). In its entire history (since 1899), the tournament now known as the W&SFG Masters & Women's Open has seen only four retirements in finals in either men's or women's competition. The last in singles was in 1969 when **Gail Chanfreau** retired against future Hall of Famer **Lesley Turner Bowrey**. After three hours and 20 minutes and the match tied at 10-10 in the third set, Chanfreau collapsed on the court with leg cramps. She was seen by a doctor, and then retired.

They Said It...

"He chops and hacks... He's like a highlight film — but he can still win matches at 33."

- **Brad Gilbert** writing in the Melbourne newspaper, *The Age*, on watching **Fabrice Santoro**. Santoro hits two-handed off both sides and is nicknamed "The Magician." He's played in Cincinnati every year since 1997, was a doubles finalist in 1998 and a singles quarterfinalist in 2004 and 2000.



Haas

"I've been concentrating on each ball. I think it happened that way."
— Fifteen-year-old **Caroline Wozniacki** when asked by a journalist "how it happened that she got to the Australian Open juniors final". Wozniacki accepted a wild card into the W&SFG Women's Open last year, only to draw top-seed **Patty Schnyder** in the first round.



Wozniacki

"Everybody is talking about him being maybe the greatest ever. He still has to do a couple of things, I think, in my mind, to be that."

- **Tommy Haas** on **Roger Federer**. Federer beat Haas in the round of 16 at the 2006 Australian Open.

"Fifty years ago, people in India didn't believe a woman could play a professional sport - girls like me coming out and playing on the world stage is a little shocking, but that's changing, and I'm glad."

- **Sania Mirza** of India, who reached the quarterfinals at the W&SFG Women's Open last year

"I am 29 and if by the end of the season I haven't rediscovered my top form, I will stop playing."

- **Gustavo Kuerten** on his possible retirement. Kuerten has won three French Open titles (1997, 2000 & 2001), and five ATP Masters titles (Monte Carlo, Rome and Hamburg in 1999, and Monte Carlo and Cincinnati in 2001).



Santoro

"I would like to take him out before he retires. He's gotten me four times in a row now, so I wouldn't mind returning the favor on him."

- **Robby Ginepri** on **Andre Agassi**

Mike: "We're pretty telepathic. I know what he's thinking."

Bob: "Yeah? What am I thinking now?"

Mike: "You're thinking I just gave a crappy answer (to that last question)."

Bob: "Yeah, you're right."

- **Mike & Bob Bryan** recently on CNN

"I need my emotions. When I don't show any emotions, I'm not happy."

- **Nicolas Kiefer** after being fined a total of \$6,000 at the Australian Open for various infractions including throwing his racquet.



Mirza

Reap Advantages of Series Seats

Series seats are on sale now for both the men's and women's tournaments in 2006. Why buy series seats? Here are a number of reasons:

- > You won't miss a sold-out session.
- > Series tickets offer a discount over buying individual sessions. The price of a men's terrace series package is equivalent of getting seven free sessions (Monday through Thursday day) and the price of a women's series package gives you five free sessions (Monday through Wednesday day).
- > You'll have preference for seat upgrades.
- > Men's series tickets get you into the highly popular Draw Ceremony & Dinner.
- > You'll have the same seat for each session.
- > If you can't be at every session, tickets make great gifts.
- > You'll never worry about missing your favorite player.
- > The parking pass alone makes series seats a great deal.

See the attached order form for pricing and to order your seats today!



Series seats give you the same seat for every session in the Terrace (where this photo was taken) or Loge Section.



You never know who might show up at the Draw Ceremony.

2006 Major Men's Tournaments



Australian Open (Jan.)

'06 S: R. Federer (his 7th GS)
'06 D: Bryan/Bryan (4th GS)



Indian Wells (March)

'05 S: R. Federer
'05 D: Knowles/Nester



Miami (March)

'05 S: R. Federer
'05 D: Bjorkman/Mirnyi



Monte Carlo (April)

'05 S: R. Nadal
'05 D: Paes/Zimonjic



Rome (May)

'05 S: R. Nadal
'05 D: Llodra/Santoro



Hamburg (May)

'05 S: R. Federer
'05 D: Bjorkman/Mirnyi



Roland Garros (May-Jun.)

'05 S: R. Nadal
'05 D: Bjorkman/Mirnyi



Wimbledon (Jun.-Jul.)

'05 S: R. Federer
'05 D: Huss/Moodie



Toronto (Aug.)

'05 S: R. Nadal
'05 D: Black/Ulyett



Cincinnati (Aug.)

'05 S: R. Federer
'05 D: Bjorkman/Mirnyi



U.S. Open (Aug.-Sept.)

'05 S: R. Federer
'05 D: Bryan/Bryan



Madrid (Oct.)

'05 S: R. Nadal
'05 D: Knowles/Nester



Paris (Oct.-Nov.)

'05 S: T. Berdych
'05 D: Knowles/Nester



Tennis Masters Cup / Shanghai (Nov.)

'05 S: D. Nalbandian
'05 D: Llodra/Santoro

A player's singles ranking is based on points received from all four Grand Slams (GS), all nine ATP Masters Series (MS) events and his best five results from Int'l Series events.

Rafter Elected to Int'l Hall of Fame

Patrick Rafter has been selected for enshrinement into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, R.I. Rafter won 11 singles titles in his career, including one in Cincinnati at the tournament now known as the Western & Southern Financial Group Masters.

Gabriela Sabatini, contributor **Gianni Clerici** and eight Master players, including 1901 Cincinnati doubles champion **Marion Jones Farquhar** also will enter the Hall of Fame with Rafter.

Rafter's 11 singles titles include two Grand Slams and two ATP Masters events: the U.S. Open (1997 & 1998), AMS Canada (1998) and AMS Cincinnati (1998). He also reached 10 singles finals, six at Slams or Masters events: Wimbledon (2000 & 2001), Cincinnati (1999 & 2001), Rome (1999), and Canada (2001).

It was in Cincinnati that the rivalry between

Rafter and Pete Sampras developed, starting in 1998 when the crowd began pulling for Rafter during his singles final with Sampras. Sampras won the first set 6-1, but Rafter came back, much to the delight of the crowd. During the awards ceremony, Sampras said to the crowd, "I was beginning to wonder if we were in the United States."

Rafter was ranked in the Top 10 three times from 1997-2001, earning the No. 1 ranking in 1999.

Sabatini won 27 singles titles, including the 1990 US Open. She also won 14 doubles titles, including Wimbledon in 1988.

Clerici is an acclaimed tennis editor, columnist and author, covering tennis for more than 30 years.

The newest Hall of Famers will be inducted at a ceremony in July in Newport.



Despite Pete Sampras' objections to chair umpire Lars Graff, Pat Rafter raised the champion's trophy in 1998 in Cincinnati. On match point, a Rafter serve was called out by a linesperson, but Graff overruled the call, giving Rafter the title. It was the start of a rivalry that Rafter has said created "tight, ugly matches".

Tennis Fantasy Camp: Live the Dream

Do you want to play, eat and sleep like a legend of the game? You can by signing-on for the Tennis Fantasies Camp at the Lindner Family Tennis Center, the home of the W&SFG Masters & Women's Open. It's a golden opportunity to play with the all-time greats in a world-renowned tennis venue. The camp is Thursday August 17 through Sunday August 21. Legends will include Guillermo Vilas, Mark Woodforde and Dick Stockton, among others. There will be clinics, team play with the legends, a cocktail party and a brunch, tickets to the final weekend of the W&SFG Masters, a room at the player hotel, and much more. For information call 800-874-7788 or email Steve Contardi at SteveC@tp1.com.

New Rules for Doubles Scoring

The ATP is counting on new rules and promotional initiatives to take doubles to a new level.

This year, ATP doubles matches will use a scoring format featuring two sets to 6 (tie-break at 6:6), no-ad games, and a match tie-break (first to 10 points, win by two) at one-set all.

It's hoped the new format will provide predictable length to doubles matches and enhance fan enjoyment of the game.

Players may enter doubles draws using their best ranking (singles or doubles), providing both singles and doubles players equal ability to enter doubles draws.

Additionally, promotional initiatives will be funded and implemented by the doubles players, the ATP and tournaments.

"We want to promote and market the differences in the doubles game — its speed, athleticism, touch and teamwork,"



Doubles action at the W&SFG Masters will be even more fast and furious under new ATP rules.

the ATP Board said in a statement. "We recognize we're making a bold move with the scoring format," said ATP Chairman Etienne de Villiers.

What do you think of doubles, and of the new rules? Let us know via email at Feedback@cincytennis.com.

Be On Hand for These Special Events

Kids Days!

Monday, July 17 & Monday, August 14

Tickets are half-price for kids, and the fun includes an entertaining clinic with tournament stars, autographs, and more than a dozen matches. It's your chance to see exciting matches while spending a great day with your family. Call 513-665-3826 for more info.



Kids Day is always fun for old and young alike.

High School Day!

Tuesday, July 18 & Tuesday, August 15

These special days include a spirited clinic, appearances by touring pros, and a free Skyline Chili lunch (for those who register in advance). It's a great time for you and your team. The Day Session matches include many of the world's top players on five different courts.

Ladies Day! *Tuesday, August 15*

Preview new fall fashions, from sportswear to career wear, while visiting with friends and teammates at a festive buffet brunch and fashion show. Then enjoy an afternoon of world-class tennis. The day begins at 9:15 a.m. Call 513-665-3826 for more info. This event often sells out so call today!

For more info on all these events, call 513-665-3826.

Tennis For Charity, Inc.

250 East Fifth Street
Suite 1310
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

We'd love to hear from you. Email your comments, questions or suggestions to Feedback@cincytennis.com or call 513-451-0303.

Tournaments operated by Tennis for Charity, Inc., and played for the benefit of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Tennis for City Youth and the Barrett Cancer Center.

Tournaments played at the Lindner Family Tennis Center, Mason, Ohio.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cincinnati, Ohio
Permit No. 7188

MEN'S MASTERS



WOMEN'S OPEN

