



For Immediate Release

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WORLD TEAMTENNIS ANNOUNCES 2005 WTT PRO LEAGUE SCHEDULE

Navratilova-Hingis, Graf-Kournikova, McEnroe-Becker match-ups

highlight WTT's 30th season schedule

NEW YORK (April 18, 2005) – The 30th season of World TeamTennis action kicks off with the battle of the Martinas, the first singles match between tennis legend Martina Navratilova and her namesake, former world number one, Martina Hingis. The duo, which never played each other in WTA Tour singles competition, is expected to face off July 7 in Boston. The schedule for the 2005 WTT Pro League presented by Advanta, includes 84 matches in 12 markets July 4-24. The top two teams from the Eastern and Western Conferences advance to the WTT Finals, Sept. 16-17, in Sacramento, Calif.

Navratilova, who is competing in her 17th WTT season, makes a historic return to Boston where she played for the Lobsters in 1978. For Hingis, it will be an introduction to World TeamTennis as the popular star makes her WTT debut.

With a field that includes a League-record 17 Marquee Players, the WTT season will include several high-profile showdowns. The second week of WTT action is highlighted by Steffi Graf's WTT debut for the Houston Wranglers on July 12, when she plays fan favorite Anna Kournikova of the Sacramento Capitals at Westside Tennis Club in Houston. U.S. standout Mardy Fish also plays for Houston that evening.

The men will grab their share of the spotlight with a highly anticipated clash between tennis legends John McEnroe of the New York Sportimes and Boris Becker, playing for the Hartford FoxForce. McEnroe and Becker will square off July 14 on McEnroe's home court, Sportime at Harbor Island Stadium in Mamaroneck, N.Y. Two nights later, McEnroe challenges Fish in Houston. Graf's Houston teammate Tommy Haas will also play three matches during week one. Australian tennis legend Patrick Rafter will play four matches for the Philadelphia Freedoms.

U.S. tennis stars, past and present, are well represented during the second week with world #3 Andy Roddick returning to the St. Louis Aces after being sidelined last season with an injury.

James Blake takes to the courts twice for the Boston Lobsters, while the most dynamic duo in doubles, Mike and Bob Bryan, lead the Kansas City Explorers for three matches. Jim Courier, a 2005 International Tennis Hall of Fame inductee, is set to join the New York Buzz lineup for matches on July 12 and 13.

Week number three includes three of the WTA's top stars, Lindsay Davenport, Maria Sharapova and Venus Williams. Davenport, the world's top-ranked player, will suit up for a home match for the Springfield Lasers July 19, before traveling to Houston July 20. Williams also plays the first of her three matches on friendly home courts for the Delaware Smash July 20, before traveling to Westchester, N.Y., July 21 and Sacramento July 23. Sharapova will play her only WTT match of the summer with her return to the defending WTT Champions Newport Beach Breakers July 23.

The talent-laden field won't be the only reason for excitement about the 2005 season. This summer the League introduces the WTT Coaches Challenge, the first time instant replay will be used in pro tennis competition.

WTT Pro League Background:

The World TeamTennis Pro League presented by Advanta enters its 30th season of play in 2005. Billie Jean King and Larry King created the unique gender-equity team concept in the early 70s. The format used for a WTT Pro League match features teams comprised of two men, two women and a coach. Each match consists of five sets, with one set each of men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles. The WTT regular season runs July 4-24, with 12 teams battling for the King Trophy. The two top teams from both the Western and Eastern Conferences advance to the WTT Finals, Sept. 16-17, in Sacramento, Calif.

Advanta is the presenting sponsor of the WTT Pro League and the official business credit card of World TeamTennis. Official WTT Pro League sponsors also include Gatorade, Head/Penn Racquet Sports (official ball) and Wilson Racquet Sports (official racquet). For more information on WTT, visit www.WTT.com.

About Advanta:

Advanta focuses on the small business market and related community, providing funding and support to the nation's small businesses through innovative products and services. Advanta is one of the nation's largest issuers (through Advanta Bank Corp.) of MasterCard business credit cards to small businesses. Since 1951, Advanta has pioneered many of the marketing techniques common in the financial services industry today, including remote lending and direct mail, affinity and relationship marketing.

Advanta is a long-time supporter of the tennis community and youth fitness activities. In addition to their involvement with WTT and the "Ready, Set, Racquet" program, which provides free racquets to children, Advanta sponsors the Advanta Championships, a WTA Tour event in Philadelphia. Advanta continues to be involved in numerous tennis charities including WTT Smash Hits, Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis and Education, and Philadelphia Wheelchair Tennis programs. Learn more about Advanta at www.advanta.com.

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2005 World Team Tennis (WTT) Pro League Schedule

Monday, July 4

St. Louis @ Philadelphia
Sacramento @ Springfield

Tuesday, July 5

Kansas City @ Boston
Delaware @ Hartford
NY Sportimes @ Philadelphia (MH)
Springfield @ Newport Beach

Wednesday, July 6

Kansas City @ NY Buzz
Hartford @ NY Sportimes (MH)
Boston @ Delaware (MN)
St. Louis @ Houston (TH)
Springfield @ Sacramento

Thursday, July 7

NY Sportimes @ Boston (MH/MN)
NY Buzz @ Delaware
Houston @ St. Louis (TH)
Philadelphia @ Kansas City
Sacramento @ Newport Beach (AK)

Friday, July 8

Delaware @ NY Buzz
Houston @ Springfield
St. Louis @ Kansas City
Newport Beach @ Sacramento

Saturday, July 9

NY Buzz @ Hartford
Boston @ Houston (MN/TH)
NY Sportimes @ St. Louis (MH)

Sunday, July 10

Delaware @ Boston
Springfield @ Hartford
Newport Beach @ Kansas City
Philadelphia @ Sacramento (AK)

Monday, July 11

Springfield @ Boston (JB)
NY Sportimes @ NY Buzz (MH)
Hartford @ Delaware
Houston @ St. Louis
Philadelphia @ Newport Beach (PR)

Tuesday, July 12

NY Buzz @ NY Sportimes (JC)
Sacramento @ Houston (SG/AK/MF)
Springfield @ St. Louis

Wednesday, July 13

Newport Beach @ NY Buzz (JC)
Sacramento @ Hartford (AK)
NY Sportimes @ Philadelphia (JM)
Boston @ Houston (JB/MF)
Springfield @ Kansas City (MBB)

Thursday, July 14

Philadelphia @ Boston (PR)
Hartford @ NY Sportimes (JM/BB)
Newport Beach @ Delaware
Kansas City @ St. Louis (MBB)

Friday, July 15

Delaware @ NY Buzz
Houston @ Hartford (BB)
Sacramento @ Philadelphia
Kansas City @ Springfield

Saturday, July 16

Boston @ Philadelphia
NY Buzz @ Delaware
NY Sportimes @ Houston (JM/MF)
Newport Beach @ St. Louis (AR)
Sacramento @ Kansas City (MBB)

Sunday, July 17

St. Louis @ NY Buzz
Newport Beach @ Springfield
Hartford @ Sacramento (BB)

Monday, July 18

NY Buzz @ Boston
Philadelphia @ NY Sportimes (PR)
St. Louis @ Delaware
Hartford @ Houston (BB)
Kansas City @ Sacramento (MBB)

Tuesday, July 19

Boston @ NY Sportimes (MN)
Delaware @ Philadelphia (PR)
St. Louis @ Springfield (LD)
Kansas City @ Newport Beach

Wednesday, July 20

Philadelphia @ NY Buzz
Boston @ Hartford (MN)
NY Sportimes @ Delaware (VW)
Springfield @ Houston (LD)
Newport Beach @ Sacramento

Thursday, July 21

Hartford @ Boston (MN)
Delaware @ NY Sportimes (VW)
Kansas City @ St. Louis
Houston @ Newport Beach

Friday, July 22

NY Buzz @ Kansas City

Saturday, July 23

Boston @ NY Sportimes
Hartford @ Philadelphia
NY Buzz @ Springfield
Houston @ Kansas City
St. Louis @ Newport Beach (MS)
Delaware @ Sacramento (VW)

Sunday, July 24

Philadelphia @ Hartford
Houston @ Springfield
Sacramento @ Newport Beach

FEATURED PLAYERS

AK = Anna Kournikova (Sacramento Capitals)
AR = Andy Roddick (St. Louis Aces)
BB = Boris Becker (Hartford FoxForce)
JB = James Blake (Boston Lobsters)
JC = Jim Courier (New York Buzz)
JM = John McEnroe (New York Sportimes)

LD = Lindsay Davenport (Springfield Lasers)
MBB = Mike & Bob Bryan (KC Explorers)
MF = Mardy Fish (Houston Wranglers)
MH = Martina Hingis (NY Sportimes)
MN = Martina Navratilova (Boston Lobsters)

MS = Maria Sharapova (Newport Beach Breakers)
PR = Patrick Rafter (Philadelphia Freedoms)
SG = Steffi Graf (Houston Wranglers)
TH = Tommy Haas (Houston Wranglers)
VW = Venus Williams (Delaware Smash)

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Houston Wranglers Westside Tennis Club - Houston
Kansas City Explorers Plaza Tennis Center - Kansas City, Mo.
Newport Beach Breakers Palisades Tennis Club - Newport Beach, Calif.
Sacramento Capitals Allstate Stadium at Sunrise Mall in Sunrise Marketplace - Sacramento, Calif.
St. Louis Aces Dwight Davis Tennis Center - St. Louis, Mo.
Springfield Lasers Cooper Tennis Complex - Springfield, Mo.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston Lobsters Bright Arena at Harvard Univ. - Cambridge, Mass.
Delaware Smash AstraZeneca Tennis Facility - Wilmington, Del.
Hartford FoxForce Apple Arena at Blue Fox Run Golf Course - Avon, Conn.
New York Buzz MVP Tennis Stadium, Central Park - Schenectady, N.Y.
New York Sportimes Sportime at Harbor Island Park - Mamaroneck, N.Y.
Philadelphia Freedoms Cabrini College - Radnor, Pa.



ROSTERS - 2005 WORLD TEAMTENNIS PRO LEAGUE

(Players listed in draft order)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston Lobsters

*Martina Navratilova

*James Blake

Scott Draper

Daja Bedanova

Kristen Schlukebir

Thomas Blake

Coach: Anne Smith

Delaware Smash

*Venus Williams

Liesel Huber

Wayne Odesnik

Chanelle Scheepers

Robbie Koenig

Coach: Mariaan de Swardt

Hartford FoxForce

*Boris Becker

Meghann Shaughnessy

Milagros Sequera

Don Johnson

Wesley Whitehouse

Lisa McShea

Coach: Paul Assaiante

New York Buzz

*Jim Courier

Evie Dominikovic

Bryanne Stewart

Brian Vahaly

Jaymon Crabb

Coach: Jolene Watanabe

New York Sportimes

*John McEnroe

*Martina Hingis

Robert Kendrick

Jenny Hopkins

Natalie Grandin

Mark Merklein

Coach: TBD

Philadelphia Freedoms

*Patrick Rafter

Lisa Raymond

Josh Eagle

Carly Gullickson

Elena Tatarkova

John Paul Fruttero

Coach: Craig Kardon

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Houston Wranglers

*Steffi Graf

*#Tommy Haas

*Mardy Fish

Ashley Fisher

Edina Gallovits

Ansley Cargill

Ryan Newport

Coach: John Lucas

Kansas City Explorers

*Mike Bryan

*Bob Bryan

Sesil Karatantcheva

Nana Miyagi

David Macpherson

Brian MacPhie

Coach: Paul Smith

Newport Beach Breakers

*Maria Sharapova

Ramon Delgado

Devin Bowen

Katerina Bondarenko

Anastassia Rodionova

Coach: Dick Leach

Sacramento Capitals

*Anna Kournikova

Elena Likhovtseva

Nicole Vaidisova

Mark Knowles

Player - TBD

Coach: Wayne Bryan

St. Louis Aces

*Andy Roddick

Jamea Jackson

Jennifer Russell

Jonathan Erlich

Andy Ram

Coach: Greg Patton

Springfield Lasers

*Lindsay Davenport

Tamarine Tanasugarn

Rik De Voest

Rick Leach

Kaysie Smashey

Coach: Trevor Kronemann

* Marquee Players

- acquired in a trade from St. Louis