

ANNOUNCEMENT

NY SPORTIMES COMPLETE 2009 ROSTER

-- Harkleroad, Witten & Kendrick Return --

April 2, 2009 - New York, NY: The NY Sportimes finalized their 2009 player roster this week at the Advanta WTT Player Draft in Miami, Florida. The annual event follows the marquee draft, held previously, where the team protected Sportime's star and NYC tennis icon, John McEnroe, who will play 5 matches for the Sportimes in his 10th year as a member of the team. One of ten teams participating in today's Player Draft, and drafting in the eighth position as a result of their success in 2008, when they were one of four teams to qualify for the 2008 league finals, the Sportimes made a deal, for financial consideration, with the St. Louis Aces to swap first-round picks, which allowed the Sportimes to secure the first pick in the first round of the draft. The Sportimes used that pick to draft top American player Robert Kendrick, who played for the team twice before; first in 2001 and then in 2005 when the team was WTT Champions. In Round #2, the Sportimes protected WTT Rookie of the Year, and crowd favorite, Jesse Witten, who returns for his third consecutive season with the team. In Round #3, the team selected Ashley Harkleroad, who returns for her third season as a member of the Sportimes, having played in 2006 and 2007. Harkleroad, who has remained in the headlines as a top 100 player, as well as the first professional tennis player to pose for *Playboy* in 2008, returns to the Sportimes as a new mom of baby Charles IV, with proud dad Chuck Adams joining his family for his third year as Sportimes' coach. In Round #4 the Sportimes completed its roster by selecting American doubles specialist Christina Fusano. Bios and headshots of this 2009 "All-American" squad appear below.

McEnroe will play for the Sportimes at Sportime Stadium on July 13, and in a special legends match up, versus the Boston Lobsters and their star Martina Navratilova, on July 15. Marquee players visiting Sportime Stadium in 2009 include: Anna Kournikova (July 7 playing for the St. Louis Aces); Serena Williams (July 10 playing for the Washington Kastles); Martina Navratilova (July 15 playing for the Boston Lobsters); and the Bryan Brothers (July 17 playing for the Kansas City Explorers). The Sportimes' home opener is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7 at Sportime Stadium at 7pm on Randall's Island in New York, NY.

Player Draft Results Round #1: Robert Kendrick.



Photo Credit: Getty Images

California born and raised, and a former All-American at Pepperdine, he turned pro in 2000 and achieved a career-high ranking of #77 in the world in 2007. Member of the Sportimes' 2001, and 2005 WTT Champion team.

Round #2: Jesse Witten



Photo Credit: Getty Images

A native of Naples, FL, this former NCAA finalist playing for Kentucky turned pro in '05 and achieved a career-high singles ranking of #171 in '06. He was the WTT Male Rookie of the Year in 2007. This is his 3rd consecutive season playing WTT for the Sportimes.

Round #3: Ashley Harkleroad



Photo Credit: William Morris Agency

This Georgia born, southern belle achieved a career-high singles ranking of #39 in the world in singles in '03 and #39 in doubles in 2007. She carried the Sportimes to a WTT Conference title in 2006. She is the winner of 8 ITF singles titles and 5 ITF doubles titles. This is her 3rd year playing for the Sportimes and her 4th season in WTT.

Round #4: Christina Fusano



Photo Credit: Camerawork USA, Fred and Susan Mullane

Turned pro in 2003 and achieved a career high doubles ranking of #84 in 2008. USA born, she is the winner of 8 ITF (one with Harkleroad) and 1 WTA Tour doubles titles. This is her first year playing for the Sportimes and her 2nd season playing WTT.

For more information about the Sportimes including the team's schedule and ticket information visit www.nysportimes.com. For complete draft results visit www.WTT.com.

About Advanta WTT Pro League: The Advanta WTT Pro League, co-founded by Billie Jean King, is a professional co-ed sports league featuring three generations of tennis stars playing in a team format in 10 U.S. markets. The 34th season of the Advanta WTT Pro League runs July 2-26, concluding with the Advanta WTT Championship Weekend where teams battle for the coveted King Trophy. WTT is well known for introducing innovative elements to tennis including instant replay, co-ed format, multi-colored balls, cumulative, no-ad scoring, on-court coaching, Supertiebreakers and player names on back of their shirts. Team matches consist of five events, with one set each of men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles. The first team to reach five games wins each set. A nine-point tiebreaker is played if a set reaches four-all. One point is awarded for each game won. If necessary, Overtime and a Supertiebreaker are played to determine the winner of the match. Advanta is the title sponsor of the Advanta WTT Pro League and the official business credit card of World TeamTennis. Official Advanta WTT Pro League sponsors for the 2009 season include FirmGreen Energy, GEICO, USTA, Wilson Racquet Sports and Turfer. For more information on the Advanta WTT Pro League, visit www.WTT.com. **About the Randall's Island Sports Foundation:** The NY Sportimes is managed entirely for the benefit of RISF. RISF was founded in 1992 as a public-private partnership to work on behalf of Randall's Island Park, located in the East River between East Harlem, the South Bronx and Astoria, Queens. The Foundation, in conjunction with City leadership, works to realize the Island's unique potential by developing sports and recreational facilities, restoring its vast natural environment, reclaiming and maintaining parkland, and sponsoring community-linked programs for the children of New York City. Randall's Island has become a major sports, recreation and entertainment destination for New Yorkers. Improvements include Icahn Stadium, now featuring 100 track and field events annually; nearly 70 new, state-of-the-art playing fields; a recently renovated golf center; the new, 20-court Sportime at Randall's Island Tennis Center; and numerous newly landscaped waterfront vistas and scenic gardens. For more information, visit www.RISF.org.

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