



McEnroe, Williams, Kournikova, Navratilova & the Bryan Brothers

Top Names to Play Inaugural Season in NYC

New York, NY, February 4, 2009: Tennis legend John McEnroe will return for his 9th season of play in the Advanta World TeamTennis Pro League, as the NY Sportimes protected the rights to their long-time star player in yesterday's WTT Marquee Draft held via teleconference from League headquarters in New York City. McEnroe's team will host an impressive line-up of visiting stars, and their teams, including world #1 Serena Williams (Washington Kastles), the #1 ranked doubles team in the world, American twins Bob and Mike Bryan (Kansas City Explorers), legend Martina Navratilova (Boston Lobsters), and the much celebrated former world #8 (#1 in doubles) Anna Kournikova (St. Louis Aces). These headliners, supported by teams of current top-ranked professionals, will play this July at a new 20-court tennis facility and integrated stadium that Sportime is currently constructing on Randall's Island.

New York icon and perennial fan favorite, **John McEnroe**, is the winner of 7 Grand Slam singles titles, including 3 Wimbledon Championships and 4 US Opens, and 10 Grand Slam doubles titles. During his lengthy career on the ATP Tour, the Hall of Famer amassed 77 singles and 71 doubles titles.

McEnroe currently plays senior events and is a popular television commentator.

McEnroe will play 2 home matches for the NY Sportimes and 3 road matches at Newport Beach, Washington and Philadelphia.



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Camerawork USA, Fred & Susan Mullane

Fresh off her 10th Grand Slam singles title at the 2009 Australian Open, it was no surprise that **Serena Williams** was the top pick overall in the Advanta WTT Pro League Marquee Player Draft, where she was protected by the Washington Kastles. The world #1 ranked woman player was selected for her visit to the NY Sportimes with their 1st round pick in the visiting marquee player draft. 2009 will be Serena's 4th season in WTT action. Her dominating play earned Williams a 4th Australian Open title and her 20th Grand Slam title, including 10 singles, 8 doubles and 2 mixed doubles championships.

Known for her beauty and "celebrity", as well for her distinguished playing credentials, **Anna Kournikova** will grace the court at Sportime Stadium when she visits NYC with her St. Louis Aces team. This is Kournikova's 7th consecutive WTT season. Kournikova won 16 WTA doubles

titles, including two Grand Slam titles, during her pro career, achieving a career-high ranking of #8 in the world in singles and #1 in the world in doubles.

Considered by many to be the greatest female player of all time, **Martina Navratilova** will visit her New York City fans and display her remarkable longevity, as she continues to compete with today's players having celebrated her 53rd birthday in October. Navratilova, formerly #1 in the world in singles and doubles, is the holder of 344 career WTA Tour titles including 9 Wimbledon Singles Championships and is the only player in the Open era to win the singles, doubles and mixed doubles titles at all 4 Grand Slam events. With 167 singles titles and 177 doubles titles, Navratilova is the winningest player in tennis history and has played WTT in 4 decades.

Bob and Mike Bryan's 7th Grand Slam title in Australia last week catapulted them back to the #1 world ranking in men's doubles. Sportimes fans will also enjoy hosting the Bryan's this July as they return to WTT play for their 7th season with the Kansas City Explorers.

Commenting on the Marquee draft, Claude Okin, Managing Partner of the NY Sportimes and of Sportime clubs, said, "This is a very exciting time in the development of the Sportimes and the League". He continued, "For the Sportimes, 2009 will be the team's 1st season at our new \$15 million home at Sportime on Randall's Island. This is really what we have been waiting for, and our franchise will deliver affordable, world-class tennis action and more fun than they have ever had to the greatest tennis fans in the world here in New York City. For the League, the involvement of the USTA and the continuing participation of many of today's stars and the legends of the past, well it is just great for WTT and for tennis in general."

The WTT season runs from July 2-26, 2009. Actual match dates and roster player personnel will be determined following the WTT player draft scheduled for March 31, 2009 in Miami, Florida. The Sportimes will play 7 home matches at their brand new 2,000 plus seat stadium, at Sportime at Randall's Island, a \$15 million facility that incorporates a state-of-the-art stadium and 20 indoor/outdoor Deco-Turf hard courts and Har-Tru soft courts available for public and private use, and easily accessible from Manhattan, Queens and the Bronx. Those interested in sponsorship opportunities, advance ticket reservations, and general information may call Ann Marie Gaudio, General Manager at 917-701-3870. Individual tickets will go on sale May 1, 2009. Further information is available at www.nysportimes.com. For information regarding the site, visit www.sportimetfm.com.

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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 courts, cumulative and 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 and Wilson Racquet Sports. For more information on the Advanta WTT Pro League, visit www.WTT.com.