



## Russia Builds on European Tennis Trophy Success



Russia has made history by winning three of the five available **European Tennis Trophy presented by Lindström** titles for a third consecutive year, retaining the prestigious Overall Tennis Performance category, and repeating strong performances to win the Junior

and Professional Tennis Trophies.

Additional awards go to Germany and the Netherlands, who once again earned recognition as Europe's best-performing nations in terms of Seniors Tennis and Wheelchair Tennis respectively. Turn to page 2 for a full report, plus an interview with Russian Tennis Federation President Shamil Tarpishev.

## Tennis Europe Announces Structural Changes

Tennis Europe has announced plans to streamline its organisational structure in 2008, a year which will also see the election of a new Board of Management and President.

In the most significant structural change, Olli Mäenpää assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer of the organisation, with effect from January 1st. 42-year old Mäenpää, originally from Finland, has been with the organisation for 10 years and currently leads the executive staff as Managing Director for External Affairs.

Additional changes will be made to the internal management structure to accommodate the gap left by Charlotte Ferrari, Managing Director of Administration, who will retire at the end of 2008 having been with the organisation since its founding in 1975. Continues on Page 4.

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## Djokovic Shines for Serbia

The Australian Open proved to be another unforgettable event for European players, who excelled to win junior, professional and wheelchair titles at the year's first Grand Slam. But it was Serbian players who really made an impact, taking home two trophies as well as singles runner-up and semi finalist placings...an impressive haul for one of Tennis Europe's youngest member nations.



## European Tennis Trophy presented by Lindström

The 2007 win is the most decisive yet for Russia, and sees the nation increase its winning margins in all three areas. Notably, Russia was also the only country to maintain or raise their positions in all of the contributory categories, a further illustration of the growth of all sectors of the sport in Tennis Europe's largest member nation.

Reacting to the news, Russian Tennis Federation President Shamil Tarpishev commented, "Last year we were thrilled to become the first nation to defend three trophies, and to repeat this defence for a second successive year is simply incredible. Russian tennis is now seeing the fruition of many years of hard work and the success of our junior and professional players in particular suggests that we can continue to go from strength to strength. We thank Tennis Europe for this recognition, and look forward to future success in the European Tennis Trophy."

Whilst Russia extended their lead over second-placed France to over 1,000 points, the most marked improvements in the all-important **Professional Tennis** category came from Sweden, who jumped seven places to enter the top ten at #7, and Israel, who climbed ten spots to reach #13, their best-ever showing in the category.

Russia's fourth consecutive junior title was one of few constants in a year that saw a number of Eastern European nations make great strides in the realm of **Junior Tennis**. Bulgaria showed the most improvement, leaping an impressive 15 places to tenth, whilst the Czech and Slovak Republics, Romania, Croatia and Belarus also ascend within the top 10.

Germany won the **Seniors Tennis** prize for the seventeenth consecutive year, though the win was notable for its much-reduced margin in comparison to previous victories. Italy rose to second place, usurping long-standing runners-up Austria for the first time. The **Wheelchair Tennis** Trophy was awarded to the Netherlands for the seventh time. The nation has yet to be beaten since the category was introduced in 2001.

Announcing the results, Tennis Europe President John James said "Russia's success in the competition in recent years can be attributed not just to the outstanding achievements of their top stars, but to the hard work and dedication of players and teams of all age levels and abilities, as well as the efforts of the national tennis federation which in recent years has invested in first class facilities and provided increased tournament playing opportunities. On behalf of Tennis Europe, I congratulate them, as well as the Federations of Germany and the Netherlands, on their repeated wins. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Lindström for their valuable support in presenting the Trophy."

In 2007, Tennis Europe introduced a revised European Tennis Trophy *presented by Lindström* points system, devised to provide a comprehensive overview of the performance-based achievements of players and teams representing Europe's national tennis federations throughout the year. Prizes will be awarded at the Annual General Meeting of Tennis Europe in Copenhagen, Denmark in March.

For full results, and a detailed explanation of how the points are calculated, please visit [www.tenniseurope.org/TennisEurope/Te\\_European\\_Tennis\\_2007.aspx](http://www.tenniseurope.org/TennisEurope/Te_European_Tennis_2007.aspx).

	OVERALL PERFORMANCE	PROFESSIONAL TENNIS	JUNIOR TENNIS	SENIORS' TENNIS	WHEELCHAIR TENNIS
1	<b>RUSSIA</b>	RUSSIA	RUSSIA	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS
2	<b>FRANCE</b>	FRANCE	CZECH REP.	ITALY	FRANCE
3	<b>GERMANY</b>	SPAIN	FRANCE	AUSTRIA	GT.BRITAIN
4	<b>ITALY</b>	ITALY	ROMANIA	GT. BRITAIN	SWEDEN
5	<b>CZECH REP.</b>	GERMANY	SLOVAK REP.	NETHERLANDS	ITALY
6	<b>SPAIN</b>	BELGIUM	CROATIA	FRANCE	BELGIUM
7	<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	SWEDEN	BELARUS	CZECH REP.	POLAND
8	<b>CROATIA</b>	CZECH REP.	ITALY	SPAIN	AUSTRIA
9	<b>AUSTRIA</b>	AUSTRIA	POLAND	HUNGARY	GERMANY
10	<b>BELGIUM</b>	CROATIA	BULGARIA	BELGIUM	ISRAEL

## Shamil Tarpishev

Russian Tennis Federation President and National Team Captain Shamil Tarpishev gave us his reaction to Russia's third European Tennis Trophy Presented by Lindström win.

**Congratulations on Russia's continued success in the European Tennis Trophy. Can you tell us how important is this recognition of Russia as the leading force in European tennis for the federation?**

Of course, it is important. Thanks to this recognition tennis is becoming a big sport in Russia. Now it is easier for the Russian Tennis Federation (RTF) to convince local businessmen and governmental bodies to invest more money in tennis. As a result of this recognition, new tennis centres have been erected over the last three years in the Saratov Region and in big Siberian cities such as Tumen, Khanty-Mansiisk and Nizhne-Vartovsk. The erection of such tennis centres helps the Federation to get more kids involved in tennis and shape them into the next Kafelnikovs, Safins, Myskinas and Kuznetsovas.

**Russia was the only country to increase its points total in all aspects of tennis (Professional, Junior, Seniors and Wheelchair). Do you think that this growth can continue at such a rate?**

It is difficult and too ambitious to be sure of such a growth in future but the RTF has been doing everything possible to do so. Apart from erecting new tennis schools, centers and academies, the RTF attempts to improve the present-day system of kids' practice methods and let kids play competitive tennis from the age of 12. In doing so, Russian coaches attach more of their attention to the kids' performance skills rather than to their tournament results.

**Russia won the Junior Tennis Trophy for a record fourth year in succession, and has dominated Tennis Europe's junior team events since 2001. Why do you think it is that Russian children seem to be able to perform so well at such a young age?**

I think they're able to play well at a young age because they begin, as a rule, to play tennis at 5 or 6 and have good coaches who help them learn the tennis fundamentals correctly from the very beginning.

## "This recognition helps us to grow"

**Is the tennis boom in Russia primarily at a performance level, or is the sport also increasingly popular with the public? Do things like television viewing figures and equipment sales also show the same positive trends?**

It is true both at the performance level as well as in terms of popularity with the public. It's hardly possible to separate one from another. Yet, we still suffer from an acute shortage of indoor courts which are quite indispensable for a country like Russia, where one can play tennis outdoors only four months a year. And yes, other aspects of the tennis industry do show the same trends. Russian manufacturers increase their equipment sales annually, as do foreign brands such as Babolat, Wilson, and Dunlop, which have long since entrenched themselves in Russia.

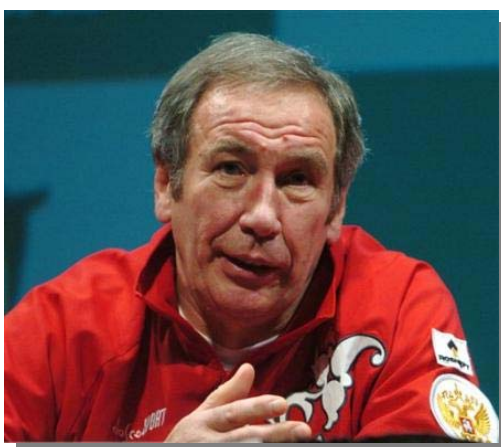
**Does the Russian Tennis Federation have any specific goals for 2008?**

Yes, it does. The year 2008 is a special year for the RTF, as the Federation will observe its centenary. Mindful of this, the RTF intends to assign its top priority to the development of

its regional tennis by erecting new tennis centers and establishing new tennis federations in regions that have hitherto never heard about tennis. To make the RTF's centenary a truly great occasion we also host the ITF's Annual General Meeting in Moscow. Russia was an ITF founding member way back in 1913 and we never forget about it.

**Do you ever tire of the responsibilities and travelling required for being the national president and captain of teams that consistently perform so well in both Davis and Fed Cup? Which role do you enjoy more (president or captain)?**

Yes, I do sometimes. It is not so easy to combine my presidential responsibilities with those of a captain. I'm always pressed for time. Yet, on the other hand, my change of responsibilities helps me somehow restore psychologically and resume my duties. Which role do I enjoy more? I cannot give you a clear answer to this question. As a president I do some creative work and I like it. As a captain I often sit on tennerhooks and get disappointed. But I enjoy both positions. They supplement each other and help me keep afloat.





## Tennis Europe Announces Structural Changes for 2008

(continued from front page) Commenting on his new position as CEO of the organisation, Mr. Mäenpää (pictured, right) said, "I'd like to thank the President and Board of Management for their support. It is an honour for me to take on the role of the organisation's first Chief Executive Officer. It is an exciting time for Tennis Europe and I look forward to continuing to tackle the challenges and opportunities we face with great enthusiasm."

Having served two terms as President of the organisation, John James will retire from his role at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting in Copenhagen, scheduled for the weekend of March 27th-30th.

Commenting on the changes, Mr. James said, "It's a source of pride for me to be able to leave Tennis Europe having helped to usher in these changes. Olli Mäenpää has played a fundamental role in the modernisation and strengthening of the organisation in recent years, particularly with respect to commercial issues. I have no doubt that the continued success of the organisation will be boosted by the streamlining of

the management structure and decision making process. The eventual retirement of Charlotte Ferrari will be a sad day for the European tennis family, though these steps ensure that the future of the organisation will be left in good hands."

Further changes to executive staff roles will be announced at the AGM, at which time the Presidential and Board elections for the period 2008-2010 will also be held.



## Tennis Europe and CIT Renew Partnership



Tennis Europe and the Centre International de Tennis (CIT) have renewed the partnership agreement under which the Centre is recognised as the Official Academy Partner of

Tennis Europe.

The renewal of the agreement will last until the end of 2008, marking the third consecutive year of cooperation between the organisations.

Owned and managed by the Catalan Tennis Federation and situated close to Barcelona airport in Spain, the Centre is home to some of Europe's finest training facilities, including 14 Greenset, 13 clay, and 4 indoor courts, as well as a 300m<sup>2</sup> gym, swimming pool, full medical centre and restaurant. In recent months, the Centre has also seen the inauguration of a new female residency, ensuring the ample provision of on-site accommodation for both girls and boys.

Special prices are available for those Tennis Europe



member nations wishing to take advantage of the CIT facilities and benefit from the vastly experienced coaching team headed by former Spanish Davis Cup Captain and Olympic silver medallist Jordi Arrese.

For further information about the CIT and its services, visit <http://centreinternacional.fctennis.org/eng/>

## European Indoor Seniors Championships

Over 600 of the world's best senior and super-senior tennis players descended on the town of Seefeld in Austria earlier this month for the 32nd European Seniors Indoor Championships, the first major European event of the ITF Senior Circuit calendar. Played on an indoor carpet surface, the event is one of the largest tournaments in the tennis world, with competitions spread across ten age categories for men and women.

The 'Super Senior' (aged 65+) players took the lime-light during the first week of the 15-day event, with some illustrious names adding to their already impressive Senior Circuit résumés. German women fared particularly well, waltzing away with four of the five available titles. **Heide Orth** (pictured) won an incredible 24<sup>th</sup> European title to take the women's 60 category, whilst **Brigitte Jung** and **Magdalena Jauch** took the women's 70 and 75 titles respectively. World #1 **Ingeborg Haas** strolled to the women's 80 title. Only **Michele Bichon** of France prevented a German sweep of the titles, defeating home hope Zsafia Garaguly to take the 65 category.



Austria went one better in the Men's 65 though, as **Peter Pokorny** added yet another title to his record-breaking tally of European Championships. The win was his 27<sup>th</sup> in total, and 19<sup>th</sup> in Seefeld. There was more joy for home players in the Men's 75 and 80 events, where **Hans Jell** and **Laci Legenstein** triumphed respectively. Legenstein has won more European Indoor Championship titles than any other player, this being his 20<sup>th</sup> overall.

Having been named Player of the Year in the Men's 70 category for the past two years, it was no surprise to see **Heinz Löffler** of Germany emerge triumphant, and the former world champion was no doubt pleased to improve on last year's final placing. Rounding off the competition, **Cees Marre** of the Netherlands won the Men's 85 with some ease.

The second week of the event saw Over 40s to Over 60s age groups take centre stage, with Italian players dominating the youngest age category. In a rematch of the 2007 final, top seed **Laura Garrone** beat Olga Shaposhnikova, while her compatriots **Mauro Elia** and Simone Vismara fought for the men's title, eventually

regained by Elia, who last won in Seefeld in 2006. Dutch players conquered the 45s age group, with unseeded **Lisa Prechtel-Koot** scoring a surprise win in the women's event and third-seeded **Wim Groeneveld** emerging from the men's draw without the loss of a set.

The 2007 champions defended their titles in the 50s category, with Germany's **Claudia Thomalla-Adam** easing to a straight set win against compatriot Gabi Leinen in the women's event, and **Alan Rasmussen** of Denmark scoring his seventh career European Indoor title in the men's event.

German players proved to be unstoppable in the Over 55's, as **Heidi Eisterlehner** and Heide Orth (returning to the court having sealed the 60s event the week previously) reached the final for the third consecutive year. Eisterlehner came out on top on this occasion, recording her thirteenth

Seefeld win. The men's event also featured an all-German title-decider as ninth seed **Sepp Baumgartner** overcame a tricky draw and fourth seed Thomas Emmrich in the final.

The Men's 60's event was arguably the toughest of the tournament and saw participation from some of the greatest performing stars of the circuit in recent years. The final would see a repeat of last year's outcome though, as Sweden's **Henrik Andren** (who had caused the shock semi final defeat of Jorge Camina Borda, the Spaniard's first loss in over a year) overcame World Champion Peter Adrigan in straight sets.

Tennis Europe News caught up with the busiest man on site, tournament director **Kurt Winkler**, whose organisational prowess is put to test each year with the task of organising a group of competitors that amount to roughly double that of a Grand Slam.

**With over 600 players, various individual events and countless matches and practice sessions to organise, how do you cope?**

I have a lot of experience with organising big events - in 1988 I organised 1700 participants for a cross country seniors world championships, and I also helped to organise the 1976 Innsbruck Olympic Games, during

## European Indoor Seniors Championships



*Tournament Director Kurt Winkler*

which the Nordic Competitions were held in Seefeld. In 1985 I was the secretary of races during the World Championships in Seefeld.

**How many people are involved in organising the event?**

We are a very small but efficient team, just myself, Bernadette Stauder, Friedhelm Jehle, Sabine Schmitt and Karin Haslwanger.

**It is the 32<sup>nd</sup> time the event has been held here, and over the years it has seen incredible growth. Why do you think Seefeld is so popular with the competitors?**

First of all because it is a beautiful winter sports resort where people can enjoy (apart from tennis) many kinds of activities – walking, cross country and alpine skiing, doing some wellness whilst relaxing, eating well. In addition, having present players from more than 30 nations, means that they can enjoy meeting other players who have become friends over the years.

**Many players come back to the event time and time again and end up having played in several categories, are players sometimes reluctant to change age groups?**

Actually, it's the contrary – because in their new age group they are the youngest.

**As well as a highlight of the sporting calendar, the event also has a social dimension. What sorts of activities are on offer to the participants?**

On the Sunday night we have the official opening with a welcome cocktail, because then we are sure to have nearly all the players present. The following Tuesday is player's night in the Casino Seefeld – they organise a Roulette tournament; Wednesday night there is a tennis ball in the nightclub of the Klosterbräu where people meet and dance, and Thursday afternoon there is a tasting of Tyrolean Specialities and wine...a very wide variety of activities to cater for all tastes.

**Are you a keen player yourself? Could you imagine taking part in the event yourself one day?**

Yes I am – I've been playing for 35 years, I am already 79 years old but I like to organise still, so I doubt I would have time to take part myself!

### 2007 SENIOR PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

AGE	WOMEN	MEN
35+	Isabelle GEMMEL (GER)	Dinko GUDELJ (CRO)
40+	Olga SHAPOSHNIKOVA (RUS)	Manfred HUNDSTORFER (AUT)
45+	Barbara KOUTNA (CZE)	Marek LUBAS (POL)
50+	Claudia THOMALLA-ADAM (GER)	Pierre GODFROID (BEL)
55+	Heide EISTERLEHNER (GER)	Marco BOTTERI (ITA)
60+	Alena KLEIN (GER)	Peter ADRIGAN (GER)
65+	Zsafia GARAGULY (AUT)	Peter POKORNY (AUT)
70+	Brigitte JUNG, Marika STOCK, Elisabeth VAN BOMMEL (GER)	Antonin DOSEDEL (CZE)
75+	Clelia MAZZOLENI (ITA)	Hans JELL (AUT)
80+	Ingeborg HAAS (GER)	Guido TREVISAN (ITA)
85+	-	Cornelius MARRE (NED)

## In the Spotlight: Edward Baumer

The European Seniors Championships are full of inspirational personalities with stories to tell. The most senior of this year's 'Super-Seniors' participants, Edward Baumer, turns 95 this year, and told us about the positive impact of taking up the sport late in life, a decision which has already yielded some 15 European and 3 World Championship Doubles titles.

**I understand that you took up the sport at the age of 65. How did that come about?**

A friend in the advertising agency business in Los Angeles to me that I should do what he did...I was an attorney, but working very hard in the ad agency business. Following his suggestion, I became a member of the Los Angeles Tennis Club, and began to play at noon two or three times a week.

I never thought back then that that some 30 years later I'd be recognised as the oldest player in some of the world's most prestigious tournaments!

**Along the way, you've recorded some illustrious wins. What is your proudest moment in the sport?**

When Fritz Klein and I won the European Indoor Championships title around ten years ago. Klein was born in Germany and was well known as a world wide champion player. It took three years to be officially acknowledged that an American team had won the European Championships!

**Had tennis always been a part of your life previously, either as a fan or on an organisational level?**

No – I was introduced to the game in my early 60s and liked it very much. My sport at college was swimming and water polo – I was All American Champion in Water Polo in 1934, during my college years.

**You are a regular participant here in Seefeld, what is it about the event that draws you here time and time again?**

I have made many friends and enjoy the camaraderie of the players I have come to know over the years.

**Your native California is a long way from Austria. Do you not tire of travelling to Europe to play numerous events each year?**

No, I really enjoy travelling. I just came back from a



### **“Playing tennis has lengthened my life”**

big trip to three continents, taking in southern Europe, West Africa and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**What is your competitive schedule? How often do you play train and play tournaments?**

I usually play in 4 USTA National Championships – Hard courts, clay, indoors and grass, plus one in Japan and three more in Europe. I train two or three times a week, but I wish I could do so a bit more often... sometimes it is less.

**Would you recommend tennis a leisure activity for senior citizens? Has your pursuit of the sport positively affected your life?**

I was told that it would lengthen my life by around ten years! I have two doctors – one in his fifties, the other in his seventies, and both say I will live to be 100, and will play tennis at that time!

**You are the President and CEO of 'World Wide Super Senior Sports'; can you explain a little about the organisation and its goals?**

We have over 100 ambassadors. They help to target and to put to use people who have great wealth and love tennis, to help us raise funds to send women over 50 and men over 60 who have the time but do not have the funds to go around the world to play in tournaments.



## Australian Open 2008



The inexorable rise of Serbian tennis continues unabated, with players from Europe's fastest rising hotbed of talent stamping their authority on the years' first Grand Slam and emerging with title wins in the men's singles and doubles, as well as a runner-up spot in the women's singles event.

Novak Djokovic further underlined his

credentials as the player most likely to usurp either Roger Federer or Rafael Nadal at the top of the game, breaking the three-year Grand Slam duopoly of the world's top two players in impressive style. Following on from his debut appearance in a Grand Slam final in New York last autumn, Djokovic dropped just one set on his way to the title, his seven wins including a comprehensive straight set semi final win over world #1 Federer.

A first-time Slam winner was guaranteed as France's Jo-Wilfried Tsonga matched the performance of his 20-year old rival with a stunning defeat of Nadal in his semi final. For Tsonga, reaching the decisive match was a milestone in itself, it being the first final he had reached of any sort at the highest level.

Tsonga made the stronger start to the final – the fourth successive men's Grand Slam final to feature two Europeans - snatching a first set in which both men were affected by nerves. Djokovic struck back in the seventh game of the second set to equalise, and the momentum stayed with the world #3 for the next hour or so. Tsonga held on to force a fourth set tie break, but some uncharacteristic errors, including just his fourth double fault since the quarter final stage were enough to hand victory to Djokovic.

Thanking the Serbian fans that travelled to see him play in Melbourne, Djokovic expressed his delight at being the first Serb to win a Grand Slam title, saying "I'm so proud to be the first Serbian to win a Grand

Slam title, I think it's a crazy house back in Serbia right now, and I want to say thankyou to my country."

A day earlier, Djokovic's compatriot Ana Ivanovic just failed in her bid to become the first representative of Serbia to win in Melbourne, falling in a close 2-set encounter to Russia's Maria Sharapova, though her performance in reaching a second Grand Slam final was enough to secure the world #2 spot.

Free of the inhibitions on her serve that had plagued her for much of 2007 due to a chronic shoulder injury, and mindful of the need to perform at her top level from the very beginning of the tournament after a harsh draw lined her up to face the dangerous and resurgent Lindsay Davenport in the second round, Sharapova was striking the ball with her characteristic power throughout the event, while many commentators noted great improvements in mobility and shot selection, factors which contributed to arguably her most convincing Slam win yet.

Sharapova's immediate challenge now is to remain injury free ahead of what could be a hugely important 2008, which holds the promise of the chance to complete the career Grand Slam at Roland Garros, plus the Olympic games, and her first ever participation in Fed Cup.

Serbia found a third finalist in the mixed doubles event, where Nenad Zimonjic teamed with Sun Tiantian of China to take the title. The win was the third Grand Slam mixed title for doubles specialist Zimonjic, and his second in Australia, having previously won with Elena Bovina in 2004.

Of the best performing European nations in Australia, Israel came second only to Serbia, largely thanks to the heroics of Jonathan Erlich and Andy Ram. The pair, long established as one of the world's top ten doubles teams, finally emerged triumphant from a Grand Slam doubles draw at their twentieth attempt. In the final, the pair upset Wimbledon champions Arnaud Clement and Michael Llodra of France, sealing the noteworthy distinction that the four available Grand Slam titles are currently accounted for by eight different men.

Ram & Erlich's compatriot Shahar Peer almost made it two doubles titles for Israel, as the 19-year old reached her first Grand Slam title, teaming with Belarussia's Viktoriya Azarenka in the women's event. The



## Australian Open 2008

pair was outlasted in the final by Ukraine's Bondarenko sisters, Alyona and Katerina, who scored the notable feat of winning their first doubles title together of any kind – at a Grand Slam. The Bondarenko's – who had never previously advanced past the second round of a Slam – wrought havoc for seeded players throughout the event, scraping past eighth seeded defending champions Peng and Sun in the second round before despatching the world's best pair, Cara Black and Liezel Huber, with some ease to reach the semi finals.

Australia's most promising talent, 15-year old Bernard Tomic, gave the home fans something to cheer by winning the boy's singles event, coming back from a set down to win his first ever Junior Slam. Jessica Moore wasn't quite able to match her compatriot Tomic's heroics, falling in straight sets in the girls final to Arantxa Rus of the Netherlands. Both junior singles titles winners have started the season strongly, having also won at the Grade 1 Nottingham International prior to arriving at Flinders Park.

In the junior doubles events, two former Tennis Europe Junior Tour #1s, Ksenia Lykina and Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia, continued to make strides in the Under 18 game by taking the girls event, while Taipei's unseeded Cheng-Peng Hsieh and Tsung-Hua Yang posted a series of upset wins to take their first Junior Slam title.

Events at the first of Grand Slam of this Olympic year pose interesting questions for some of the sport's top players as they chase further glory. Following his loss to Djokovic, Federer will now have to win at Roland Garros if he is to achieve his aim of equalling Pete Sampras' record of 14 Grand Slam titles this season. With a large proportion of his points to defend during the first half of the year, Rafael Nadal is under pressure to hold on to the #2 spot for the first time in over two years. Meanwhile, women's #1 Justine Henin has the safety of an almost unprecedented 2,500-point lead at the top of the women's rankings, but surely will be re-assessing her game given the ease with which a healthy Sharapova blew her away in their quarter final match. Given the continued resurgence of the Williams sisters and Lindsay Davenport, plus the emergence of a fresh batch of younger challengers in both the men's and women's games, 2008 is already shaping up to be a golden year for tennis.

### Australian Open 2008 - Roll of Honour

#### Men's Singles:

(3) Novak Djokovic (SRB) d. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (FRA) 46 64 63 76(2)

#### Women's Singles:

(5) Maria Sharapova (RUS) d. (4) Ana Ivanovic (SRB) 75 63

#### Men's Doubles:

(8) Erlich/Ram (ISR) d. Clement/Llodra (FRA) 75 76(1)

#### Women's Doubles:

Bondarenko/Bondarenko (UKR) d. (12) Azarenka (BLR)/Peer (ISR) 26 61 64

#### Mixed Doubles:

(5) Sun (CHN)/Zimonjic (SRB) d. Mirza/Bhupathi (IND) 76(1) 64

#### Boys' Singles:

(5) Bernard Tomic (AUS) d. (10) Tsung-Hua Yang (TPE) 46 76(5) 60

#### Girls' Singles:

(14) Arantxa Rus (NED) d. Jessica Moore (AUS) 63 64

#### Boys' Doubles:

Hsieh/Yang (TPE) d. (2) Pospisil (CAN)/Ramirez (MEX) 36 75 (10-5)

#### Girls' Doubles:

(1) Lykina/Pavlyuchenkova (RUS) d. Bogdan (ROU)/Doi (JPN) 60 64

#### Men's Wheelchair Singles:

Shingo Kuneida (JPN) d. Michael Jeremiasz (FRA) 61 64

#### Women's Wheelchair Singles:

Esther Vergeer (NED) d. Korie Homan (NED) 63 63

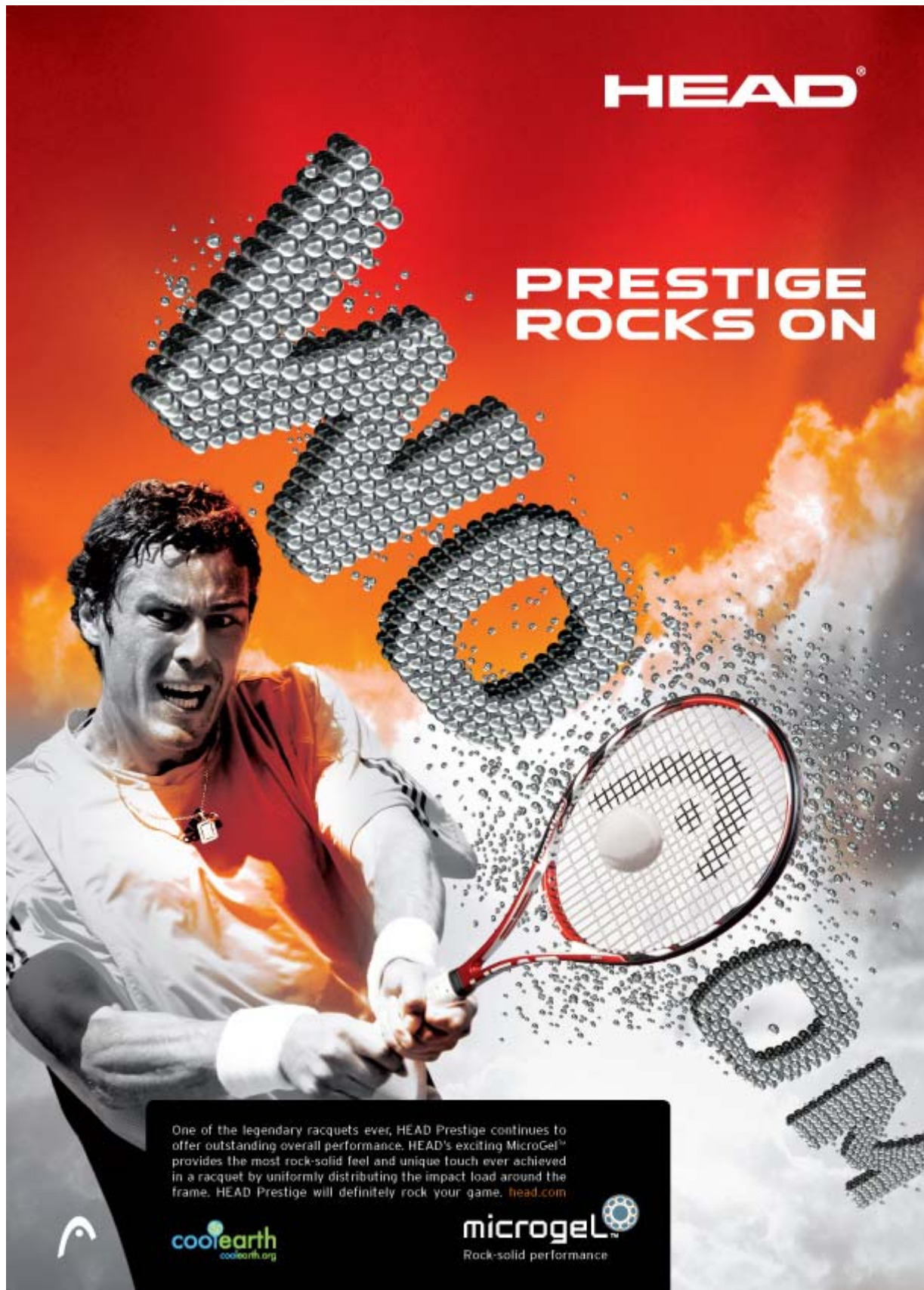
#### Men's Wheelchair Doubles:

(1) Kuneida/Saida (JPN) d. Ammerlaan/Vink (NED) 64 63

#### Women's Wheelchair Doubles:

(1) Griffioen/Vergeer (NED) d. Homan/Walraven (NED)








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## North East Training Camp in Siauliai, Lithuania

An ITF/Tennis Europe North East Regional Training Camp for players aged 14 & Under was once again held in Siauliai, Lithuania recently, under the supervision of ITF expert Nicolas Kelaidis from Greece. The camp, which ran from 10 – 16 January, attracted thirty-two players and ten coaches from the Baltic region (Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) as well as Belarus and the Ukraine. In addition to the camp, the players had the opportunity to take part in the international 14 & Under Tennis Europe tournament, which took place in Siauliai Tennis Club upon completion of the training period.

During the five days of the training Camp players were able to improve their technical and tactical skills with special attention on developing playing patterns to enhance efficiency in the net game and to connect it with baseline and transition games.

ITF expert Nicolas Kelaidis commented, "It is a lot of fun to spend time with young kids who are eager to learn. The spirit of the players as well as their coaches



was excellent. The high-level facilities and excellent organisation by the Siauliai tennis club director Ramunas Grusas and his staff contributed to fruitful and successful training camp."

The Lithuanian Tennis Union expressed their thanks to the ITF and Tennis Europe for being given the opportunity to organise this important development event in Lithuania.

## Beyond the Baseline...

The four Grand Slams, the ITF, ATP and Sony Ericsson WTA Tour are currently undertaking an independent analysis of professional tennis's integrity regulations and procedures and the nature of the current threat posed by gambling, led by sports integrity experts Jeffrey Rees and Ben Gunn.

Renowned international umpire **Sandra de Jenken Eversmann** – who has joined the French Tennis Federation as Assistant Director – has taken over responsibility for tennis operations at the French Open tournament with effect from January 1st.

The 2008 **Fed Cup by BNP Paribas** gets underway this weekend (2-3 February), with European teams involved in all World Group and World Group II matches. In the World Group, Israel host defending champions Russia, Germany travel to USA, France travel to China and Italy host Spain. World Group II sees Ukraine host Belgium, Croatia travel to Japan, Czech Republic host neighbours Slovak Republic and Austria travel to Argentina.

European teams also feature in every **Davis Cup by BNP Paribas** World Group first round match, due to

be played 8-10 February. Top seeds Russia host Serbia, Czech Republic hosts Belgium, Great Britain travel to Argentina, Israel hosts Sweden, Germany host Korea, Spain travel to Peru, France visit Romania and Austria hope to shock the visiting defending champions, USA.

**Turismo Madrid** has signed up as an international sponsor of the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas until 2010.

Three tournament wins into her comeback following an 11-month break during which she had her first child, **Lindsay Davenport** has broken the all-time prize money earnings record, eclipsing Martina Navratilova to reach her current total of \$21,897,501, the highest figure for any female athlete.

European players feature heavily on the list of ITF World Champions for 2007. **Roger Federer** (SUI) and **Justine Henin** (BEL) are the singles champions, whilst **Ricardas Berankis** (LTU) and **Urszula Radwanska** (POL) win the junior titles. **Esther Vergeer** (NED) is confirmed as the Women's Wheelchair World Champion for the eighth consecutive year, and remains unbeaten since January 2003.



## 2008 Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD Preview



The 2008 edition of Europe's premier junior team tennis competition, the Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD gets underway next week, the qualifying rounds taking place over the weekend of 8th-10th.

Russia will start as strong favourites in the girls' competition, having won the 14 & under category in six of the past eight years, and the 16 & under category in seven of the previous nine editions. Czech Republic and Croatia are the defending champions of the boys 14 and 16 & under titles respectively.

A total of 122 national teams have entered the competition, and will take part in the four zonal qualifying rounds for age group and gender, with eight final round places up for grabs. Each round takes the form of a straightforward elimination competition, with each tie consisting on two singles and a doubles match.

The final rounds of the competition will be held two week's later, with the boys finalists travelling to Czech Republic and the Leeuwarden (NED, Under 14s) and Ronchin (FRA, Under 16s) during the weekend of February 22nd-24th.

All the latest draws, results and playing schedules can be found at [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org) throughout both weekends. Team nominations are also now online.

## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Latest



A number of changes have been made to the previously published Tennis Europe Junior Tour calendars in recent weeks. They are as follows:

### 12 & under

Tel Aviv (ISR): moved to week of 14th April

Porto San Giorgio (ITA):

moved to week of 25th August.

### 14 & under

Ankara (TUR): moved to week of 14th July

### 16 & Under

Beloura (POR), moved to week of 8th September.

Porto (POR), moved to week of 15th September.

NEW: Antalya (TUR, Cat. 3, week of 14th April)

NEW: tba (ISR, Cat. 3, week of 19th May)

NEW: Aviles (ESP, Cat. 3, week of July 14th)

NEW: Cornellá de Llobregat (ESP, Cat. 2, week of 8th September)

NEW: Torelló (ESP, Cat. 2, week of 15th September)

A total of 58 national teams (29 boys and 29 girls) have now entered the second annual **12 & Under Tennis Europe Nations Challenge by HEAD**, due to take place this summer.

175 national teams have entered this year's **European Summer Cups** competitions across the three available age categories. The 14 & under boys and girls finals will be staged in Spain and San Remo (ITA) respectively during the weekend of July 4th-6th.

The 16 & Under finals will be held in Le Touquet (FRA, boys) and Leysin (SUI, girls), whilst the Under 18s travel to Verona (ITA, boys) and Granville (FRA, girls) during the weekend of 4th-6th August.

# EUROPEAN TENNIS CALENDAR

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## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings - 14 & Under

Evgeni Karlovski of Russia has leapt to the top spot of the boys 14 & Under rankings for the first time. The top seed recovered from a set down three times on his way to securing the first Category 1 title of the year in Bolton.

His compatriot Konstantin Gerlakh (right) was a quarter finalist in Bolton, having won both singles and doubles at the first event of 2008, in Sergiev Posad, rising to #2 in the process.

The rankings are published each Thursday at [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org), and can be found in both alphabetical and numerical formats, as well as in printable versions.

Rankings below as of 24th January 2008.



14 & Under Girls	Player	Country	Points Total
1	▶ Daria GAVRILOVA	RUS	575
2	▶ Nastja KOLAR	SLO	500
3	▶ Tamara CUROVIC	SRB	450
4	▶ Irina KHROMACHEVA	RUS	415
5	▶ Polina LEIKINA	RUS	400
6	▶ Yulia PUTINTSEVA	RUS	390
7	▶ Natalija KOSTIC	SRB	380
8	▶ Sophia KOVALETS	UKR	370
9	<b>NEW</b> An Sophie MESTACH	BEL	365
10	<b>NEW</b> Petra UBERALOVA	SVK	365

14 & Under Boys	Player	Country	Points Total
1	▲ Evgeni KARLOVSKI	RUS	410
2	▲ Konstantin GERLAKH	RUS	350
3	▲ Liam BROADY	GBR	310
4	▶ Jannis KAHLKE	GER	305
5	▼ Julien CAGNINA	BEL	300
6	▲ Kevin KACZYNSKI	GER	290
7	▼ Johan SKATTUM	NOR	280
8	<b>NEW</b> Maxim LUNKIN	RUS	265
9	<b>NEW</b> Martins PODZUS	LAT	260
10	▶ Moos SPORKEN	NED	250

## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rankings - 16 & Under



The five best singles results, plus the two best doubles results and the best (one) team competition result count towards a players' ranking. The top eight European players at the end of each season qualify to compete at the season-ending Tennis Europe Junior Masters.

This year's event will be held during the weekend of 3-5th October in Orbetello, Italy.

Rankings are published each Thursday at [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org). Rankings below as of 24th January 2008.

16 & Under Girls		Player	Country	Points Total
1	►	Sviatlana PIRAZHENKA	BLR	515
2	►	Ema BURGIC	BIH	480
3	►	Camila SILVA	CHI	470
4	►	Xin WEN	CHN	390
5	►	Natalia PINTUSAVA	BLR	375
6	►	Dorothea ERIC	SRB	370
7	▲	Zarina DIYAS	KAZ	325
8	▲	Johanna HYÖTY	FIN	310
9	▲	Katarzyna KALETA	POL	300
10	<b>NEW</b>	Lidziya MAROZOVA	BLR	295

16 & Under Boys		Player	Country	Points Total
1	►	Carlos BOLUDA	ESP	570
2	►	Javier MARTÍ	ESP	375
3	►	Pavel FILIN	BLR	370
4	►	Mate ZSIGA	HUN	370
5	►	Filip KRAJINOVIC	SRB	365
6	►	Damir DZUMHUR	BIH	330
7	►	Dominik SCHULZ	GER	330
8	►	Bartosz SAWICKI	POL	300
9	<b>NEW</b>	Aleksandre KONDULUKOV	RUS	300
10	►	Dovydas SAKINIS	LTU	280

## Tennis Europe Junior Tour Results

### 12 & UNDER

DATE	TOURNAMENT	CAT.	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	SCORE	DOUBLES WINNERS
Dec-31	Boulogne (FRA)		O Nagy (SVK)	J Ondo Obiang (FRA)	63 61	Clerentin/Janvier (FRA)
			K Sharifova (RUS)	I Ducu (ROU)	62 61	Zmau/Ducu (ROM)

### 14 & UNDER

Jan-07	Sergeiv Posad (RUS)	2	K Gerlakh (RUS)	D Markov (RUS)	64 63	Lunkin/ Gerlakh (RUS)
			I Khromacheva (RUS)	P Leikina (RUS)	61 62	Gasparyan/ Leikina (RUS)
Jan-14	Milovice-Mlada (CZE)	2	L Broady (GBR)	M Mares (CZE)	51 ret	Brenk/ Homola (CZE)
			P Uberalova (SVK)	P Mendesova (CZE)	76(5) 75	Kucharova/ Ubrealova (SVK)
Jan-14	Siauliai (LTU)	3	M Podzus (LAT)	F Maccari (ITA)	61 64	Maccari/ Palma (ITA)
			G Poznikhirenko (UKR)	D Lebeshava (BLR)	36 63 75	Bogoliy/ Poznikhirenko (UKR)
Jan-21	Bolton (GBR)	1	E Karlovski (RUS)	E Nguyen (CAN)	67(1) 61 76(4)	Nguyen (CAN)/ Skattum (NOR)
			P Leikina (RUS)	G Min (USA)	62 62	Gasparyan/ Leikina (RUS)
Jan-21	Mogiliov (RUS)	2	D Markov (RUS)	G Shashkanov (RUS)	64 61	Ivashka (BLR)/ Puzakov (RUS)
			I Kremen (BLR)	D Lebeshava (BLR)	64 61	Bogoliy (UKR)/ Grigoryan (RUS)
Jan-21	Narva (EST)	3	K Coppejans (BEL)	I Fomkins (LAT)	63 60	Rocha/ Silva (POR)
			K Rozenberg (RUS)	E Semenova (RUS)	61 64	Afanasyeva/ Semenova (RUS)

### 16 & UNDER

Jan-07	Milovic-Mlada (CZE)	2	A Kondulukov (RUS)	L Vrnak (CZE)	62 63	Hradsky (CZE)/ Vittek (SVK)
			D Papamichail (GRE)	V Bacikova (CZE)	63 60	Maleckova/ Hercikova (CZE)
Jan-14	Belgorod (BLR)	3	A Kostanov (RUS)	R Muzaev (RUS)	63 63	Mamedov (UKR)/ Vatylin (RUS)
			E Yashina (RUS)	A Mikheeva (RUS)	62 60	Chaukina/ Ivanova (RUS)
Jan-21	Mosrentgen (RUS)	3	V Baluda (RUS)	R Muzaev (RUS)	75 61	tba
			E Yashina (RUS)	E Yakovleva (RUS)	62 75	Monova/Kuznetsova (RUS)

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## ITF Pro Circuits (Europe) Results

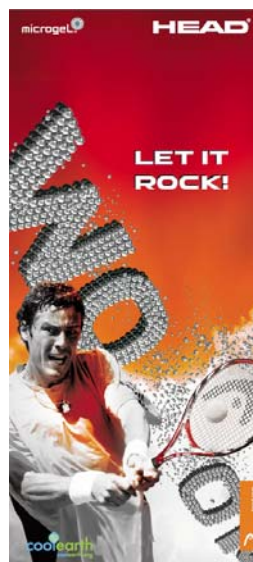
### ITF Men's Circuit

Week	Venue	Cat.	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles
Jan-07	Nussloch (GER)	\$15,000+	K Beck (SVK)	S de Chaunac (FRA)	64 64	Hemmes/Koning (NED)
Jan-07	Menorca (ESP)	\$10,000	J Genaro Martinez (ESP)	G Olaso (ESP)	63 75	Jeanpierre/Pujo (FRA)
Jan-14	Bergheim (AUT)	\$10,000	M Dell'Acqua (ITA)	B Koniusz (POL)	46 76(3) 64	Gawron/Koniusz (POL)
Jan-14	Stuttgart (GER)	\$10,000	S Seifert (GER)	S Wauters (BEL)	63 36 63	Sadecky (SUI)/Merwe (RSA)
Jan-14	Sunderland (GBR)	\$10,000	R Bloomfield (GBR)	A Mannarino (FRA)	64 63	Bloomfield/Skupski (GBR)
Jan-14	Albufeira (POR)	\$10,000	T Craciun (ROU)	V Klymenko (UKR)	36 76(5) 63	Chvojka (CAN)/Molchanov (UKR)
Jan-14	Mallorca (ESP)	\$10,000	C Poch Gradin (ESP)	L Ouahab (ALG)	36 64 64	Jeanpierre/Pujo (FRA)
Jan-21	Bergheim (AUT)	\$10,000	P Gojowczyk (GER)	L Walter (FRA)	46 76(4) 60	Stoppini/Tenconi (ITA)
Jan-21	Deauville (FRA)	\$10,000	N Desein (BEL)	C Gard (ROU)	62 46 60	Desein (BEL)/Renard (FRA)
Jan-21	Kaarst (GER)	\$10,000	J Masson (BEL)	R Bemelmans (BEL)	62 46 62	Karol (CZE)/Masson (BEL)
Jan-21	Sheffield (GBR)	\$10,000	A Mannarino (FRA)	T Nieminen (FIN)	36 76(6) 62	Krkoska (CZE)/Raja (IND)
Jan-21	Albufeira (POR)	\$10,000	V Ionita (ROU)	L Sorensen (IRL)	26 76(1) 62	Gustafsson/Holmstrom (SWE)
Jan-21	Mallorca (ESP)	\$10,000	A Chadaj (POL)	H Ruiz Cadenas	76(2) 61	Santos/Such Perez (ESP)

### ITF Women's Circuit

Week	Venue	Cat.	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Doubles
Jan-14	Stuttgart (GER)	\$10,000	R Reinhard (NED)	N Riner (SUI)	26 64 64	Davydova/Tochilovskaya (RUS)
Jan-14	Sunderland (GBR)	\$10,000	E Kulikova (RUS)	J Larsson (SWE)	62 76(6)	Larsson (SWE)/Smith (GBR)
Jan-21	Grenoble (FRA)	\$10,000	C Feuerstein (FRA)	A Heitz (FRA)	63 46 64	Davydova (RUS)/Kuzmina (LAT)
Jan-21	Kaarst (GER)	\$10,000	N Silva (POR)	R Reinhard (NED)	63 61	Ewijk/Harmsen (NED)
Jan-21	Wrexham (GBR)	\$10,000	E Kulikova (RUS)	A Floris (ITA)	64 60	Babakova (SVK)/Gerlova (CZE)

The latest draws and results from ITF Pro Circuit events are updated seven days a week at [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org).



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## European Rankings

Despite winning the Australian Open for the first time, Maria Sharapova was unable to advance in the European rankings, such was the gap between her and the four players ahead of her. A surprisingly early loss for #1 Justine Henin did her no harm, as the Belgian was not defending any points after skipping the event in 2007, and won the Sydney warm-up event.

Svetlana Kuznetsova loses her grip on the #2 spot after Ana Ivanovic's runner-up spot enabled her to leapfrog both the Russian and her compatriot Jelena Jankovic. A first Grand Slam semi final for Daniela Hantuchova secures her place at #7, while Nadia Petrova returns to the top ten as the fifth-ranked Russian.

At the head of the men's list, both Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic have closed the gap on #1 Roger Federer, though both challengers have a significant amount of points to defend on the spring US hard-court season and are unlikely to be able to improve their positions further in the next couple of months. .

Mikhail Youzhny's excellent start to the year, in which he defeated Nadal to win in Chennai before reaching the quarter finals in Melbourne sees him re-enter the list, reaching a career high of seventh.

Rankings as of January 28th, 2008.

WOMEN		PLAYER	COUNTRY	WTA TOUR RANK	POINTS TOTAL
1	►	Justine HENIN	BEL	1	6680
2	▲	Ana IVANOVIC	SRB	2	4126
3	▼	Svetlana KUZNETSOVA	RUS	3	3760
4	▼	Jelena JANKOVIC	SRB	4	3700
5	►	Maria SHARAPOVA	RUS	5	3256
6	►	Anna CHAKVETADZE	RUS	7	2720
7	►	Daniela HANTUCHOVA	SVK	8	2677
8	►	Marion BARTOLI	FRA	9	2133
9	►	Elena DEMENTIEVA	RUS	11	1985
10	<b>NEW</b>	Nadia PETROVA	RUS	12	1912

MEN		PLAYER	COUNTRY	ATP ENTRY RANK	POINTS TOTAL
1	►	Roger FEDERER	SUI	1	6630
2	►	Rafael NADAL	ESP	2	5980
3	►	Novak DJOKOVIC	SRB	3	5165
4	►	Nikolay DAVYDENKO	RUS	4	2725
5	►	David FERRER	ESP	5	2715
6	►	Richard GASQUET	FRA	7	1895
7	<b>NEW</b>	Mikhail YOUZHNY	RUS	8	1845
8	▲	Thomas BERDYCH	CZE	11	1685
9	▼	Andy MURRAY	GBR	12	1685
10	<b>NEW</b>	Marcos BAGHDATIS	CYP	13	1640

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

The **Finnish Tennis Federation** has moved. Their new contact details are as follows:  
Radiokatu 20, 00240 Helsinki, Finland

Tel. +358-9-348 121  
Fax +358-9-323 1105

The **Moldova Republic Tennis Federation** also has new contact details:  
of. 2, 127, 31 August 1989 str., Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, MD-2012.

Tel: + 373 22 235139  
Fax: + 373 22 235139  
E-mail: [tennis\\_moldova@list.ru](mailto:tennis_moldova@list.ru) or [ftm2@mail.md](mailto:ftm2@mail.md)

## EUROPEAN RACQUET STRINGERS' ASSOCIATION

The January issue of ERSA's news digest is out now. Click [here](#) to read the newsletter.

## ROGER FEDERER CALENDAR COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to Francisca Matos and Eleni Kordolaimi, who are the winners of our exclusive signed 2008 Roger Federer calendar competitions. Thanks to all of those who entered.

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## CONTACT US

**TENNIS EUROPE,**  
Zur Gempenfluh 36,  
CH-4059, Basel  
Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 335 9040  
Fax: +41 61 331 7253  
@: [contactus@tenniseurope.org](mailto:contactus@tenniseurope.org)



Tennis Europe News is edited by Jonathan Jobson [jonathanj@tenniseurope.org](mailto:jonathanj@tenniseurope.org)

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## HEADlines

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### HEAD Introduces New Performance Tennis Footwear

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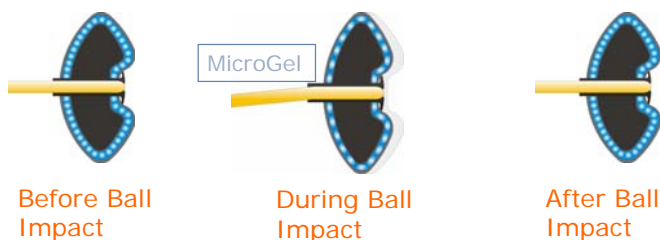
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