



The News Bulletin of the
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www.itftennis.com

THIS WEEK



Jennifer Capriati (USA)
Photo: Ron Angle

Hewitt and Capriati named 2001 ITF World Champions

Australia's Lleyton Hewitt and Jennifer Capriati from the United States are the ITF World Champions for 2001. ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti made the announcement in Melbourne yesterday, where Hewitt was competing in the Final of the Davis Cup by NEC. It is the first time that either player has received the honour.

Roll of honour

Men's singles

Lleyton Hewitt (AUS)

Women's singles

Jennifer Capriati (USA)

Men's doubles

Jonas Bjorkman (SWE)
Todd Woodbridge (AUS)

Women's doubles

Lisa Raymond (USA)
Rennae Stubbs (AUS)

Men's Wheelchair Tennis

Ricky Molier (NED)

Women's Wheelchair Tennis

Esther Vergeer (NED)

Hewitt is the first Australian to become ITF Men's World Champion and the first to head the year-end rankings since rankings began in 1973. Hewitt Clinched the top spot by defeating fellow countryman Patrick Rafter at the Tennis Masters Cup in Sydney in November. He went on to win the event, bringing his total number of titles in 2001 to six. Hewitt won his first Grand Slam title at the US Open, defended titles at Sydney and Queen's and led his team to the Davis Cup by NEC Final in Melbourne, where they narrowly lost to France. His other titles in 2001 came in 's-Hertogenbosch and Tokyo.

Capriati receives the ITF World Champion award for the first time to cap an outstanding year. Capriati won her first Grand Slam titles at the Australian Open and Roland Garros and was a semifinalist at Wimbledon and the US Open. She also reached the finals at five other events, winning in Charleston. She topped the rankings in November for the first time in her career, becoming only the ninth woman ever to occupy that spot.

Swede Jonas Bjorkman and Australian Todd Woodbridge end their first year of partnership together as the ITF Men's Doubles World Champions. [continued next page/...](#)



Lleyton Hewitt (AUS)
Photo: Ron Angle



Special Edition today

Details of France's victory over Australia in the Final of the 2001 Davis Cup by NEC will be included in a Special Edition of This Week to be circulated simultaneously with Issue 48 of This Week.

Inside

- Bill Gilmour retires; two new Chair Umpires join ITF Team
- ITF Sunshine & Connolly Continental Cups preview

- Wheelchair Tennis at the Albert Hall

- ITF Coaches Education Programme in Southern and East Africa

- Development calendar

- Results w/c 26 November
- This Week Next Week

ITF World Champions

...continued from previous page

Woodbridge has claimed his fourth World Champion title, previously winning with Mark Woodforde, but for Bjorkman this is a first. Their partnership began in great style in January with a win at the Australian Open, and reached five other finals, winning titles at Monte Carlo and Hamburg.

Lisa Raymond (USA) and Rennae Stubbs (AUS) are the ITF Women's Doubles World Champions after capturing seven titles and reaching three other finals. Two of their seven titles came at Wimbledon and the US Open, and the pair also won the end of year Championships in Munich.

Esther Vergeer and Ricky Molier of the Netherlands are the 2001 ITF Wheelchair Tennis World Champions. Vergeer takes this prestigious award for the second year running after another outstanding year. She won nine singles titles and six doubles titles including the British Open Super Series in both categories and the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Masters.

Molier has received the ITF World Champion award for the third time in six years, having won nine singles and five doubles titles. His victories this year include two Super Series singles titles at the British Open and the US Open and the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Masters.

The ITF World Champions will be presented with their awards at the ITF World Champions Dinner held in Paris during Roland Garros 2002.

The Junior ITF World Champions have not yet been decided and will be announced at a later date.

ITF Officiating News

Bill Gilmour retires as Grand Slam Supervisor Two new Chair Umpires join ITF Team

Bill Gilmour has announced that he will retire as a Grand Slam Supervisor at the end of the Australian Open 2002. Gilmour will continue to referee other events, including Davis Cup and the ATP & Sanex WTA Tour event in Sydney.

Gilmour has an impressive record of achievement, both as a tennis player and official. He was Australian Junior Champion in 1953 and went on to represent his country internationally. He reached the third round in singles at the Australian Open and Wimbledon and the Quarterfinals of doubles at Wimbledon.

Gilmour passed one of the first International Officiating Schools in 1979 and was hired as one of the first MIPTC Supervisors shortly afterwards. He is one of the longest serving officials in tennis, having refereed over 60 Davis Cup Ties and worked over 70 Grand Slams as a Supervisor.

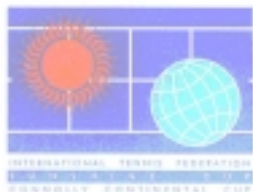
"I am going to miss the friendship of many people in tennis all over the world. When I started, officiating was very different. I would be on court four or five times a day trying to settle disputes between players and Chair Umpires. Professional Chair Umpires and the improvements we have made in training officials world-wide have improved the standard of officiating dramatically," Gilmour said.

Following Gilmour's retirement, and that of Bruno Rebeuh earlier this year, Stefan Fransson has announced that two new Chair Umpires will be joining the Team of Professional Officials in 2002.

Sandra De Jenken, aged 24, lives in Nice, France and has already umpired two Women's Singles Finals at Roland Garros. De Jenken started officiating in 1993 and received her International Official certification in 1997, after passing the Level 3 School in London. Since then, she has combined her studies in sports management with her officiating career and will now work in tennis on a full-time basis.

Enric Molina, 27, is Spanish and has been officiating since he was 14. He speaks four languages and has a degree in advertising. He graduated from the same Level 3 Officiating School as Sandra and has been working full-time as a Chair Umpire at Grand Slams, Davis/Fed Cup, ATP and Sanex WTA Tour events ever since.

Fransson said: "I am very pleased that two of the best young Chair Umpires in the world have decided to work for the ITF and Grand Slams. Of course, we will very much miss Bill Gilmour at the Grand Slams. I have been working with Bill for about 15 years and he is a good friend and team-mate at tournaments. We wish him well in the future."



Race for World Championship hots up as ITF Sunshine and Connolly Continental Cups begin

The 2001 ITF Sunshine and Connolly Continental Cups take place in Florida this week from 3 - 8 December in Florida. Not only do players have a chance to represent their country but also to secure valuable ranking points in the race to become World Junior Champion.

In the girls' Connolly Continental Cup, this year's contenders include Czech Republic, Russia, Slovak Republic and defending champion, USA.

Czech Republic is hoping to complete a unique hat trick of titles, having already scooped the U14 Cesky Telecom World Junior Tennis trophy and the U16 NEC World Youth Cup. Leading the team is Eva Birnerova, current World Junior singles No.1, who will be joined by Petra Cetkovska, World Junior doubles No.1, and Barbora Strycova, leader of the triumphant World Youth Cup team.

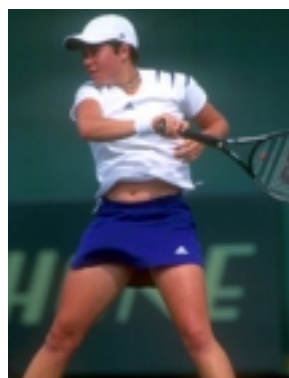
The Russian team, winners of the competition in 1995, 1998 and 1999, will include Svetlana Kuznetsova, US Junior Open singles runner-up and doubles champion, and Vera Zvonareva, winner of the 2000 Orange Bowl title.

Lenka Dlhopolcova will be heading the Slovak Republic challenge. The young Slovak has already made her mark on the professional circuit this year, qualifying for the US Open main draw, and reaching No.174 in the WTA rankings.

American eyes will be on Ashley Harkleroad, the lynchpin of the triumphant US team in 2000. She will be hoping to repeat her performance in 2000 when she went undefeated in both singles and doubles.

In the boys' Sunshine Cup, the absence of Spain and France, two of the most successful nations in recent years, opens the door for other nations to move in and make their mark.

Argentina will be looking to lift the title for the first time since 1994 and they have a real chance with Brian Dabul, ranked No.3 in the ITF Junior rankings, at the helm. Dabul has the added incentive of ranking points.



Eva Birnerova (CZE)
Photo by Susan Mullane



Brian Dabul (ARG)
Photo by Susan Mullane

Hoping not to be outdone by their female compatriots, the Czech Republic boys' team is made up of young players already competing on the professional circuit. Lukas Dlouhy, Michal Kokta and Jan Masik will be returning to represent their country at junior level.

Bruno Echagarary, ranked No.12 in the singles rankings, leads the Mexican team. Also in the team is his doubles partner, Santiago Gonzalez, with whom he is joint No.1 in the boys' doubles rankings. Should any matches go down to the deciding doubles, the Mexicans will have a handy card up their sleeves.

Americans Alex Bogomolov and Travis Rettenmaier, gold medallists in the 1999 NEC World Youth Cup, have the difficult task of defending the title won by the team led by Andy Roddick in 2000.

ITF Sunshine Cup and Connolly Continental Cup Draws - next page.

ITF Sunshine/Connolly Continental Cups Draws

ITF Sunshine Cup

Group 1 - Argentina (1), Slovak Republic, Uzbekistan, Brazil (8)

Group 2 - Mexico (4), Croatia, Chile, USA (5)

Group 3 - Sweden (3), Japan, Colombia, Germany (6)

Group 4 - Czech Republic (2), Canada, Egypt, Russia (7)

ITF Connolly Continental Cup

Group 1 - Czech Republic (1), Brazil, Sweden, Austria (8)

Group 2 - Russia (3), Uzbekistan, Mexico, Hungary (6)

Group 3 - Argentina (4), Uruguay, Canada, USA (5)

Group 4 - Slovak Republic (2), Algeria, Korea, Croatia (7)

For daily reports and results from the ITF Sunshine/Connolly Continental Cups, please visit the official ITF Juniors website www.itfjuniors.com. On site contact numbers for the ITF Office are as follows: Tel: +1 305 365 3140, or +1 305 365 3303 Fax: +1 305 365 3139



Wheelchair Tennis takes centre stage at Albert Hall

Four of the world's leading wheelchair tennis players are set to compete in special demonstrations at the Royal Albert Hall this week as part of the Honda Challenge, which returns to London from 5-9 December.

Britain's top male and female players, Jayant Mistry and Janet McMorran, will pair up against Dutch duo, world No.3 Robin Ammerlaan and Esther Vergeer, the women's world No.1 and Sydney Olympics gold medallist, for mixed doubles exhibitions in both the afternoon and evening sessions of the tournament on Saturday 8 December.

Mistry played in an exhibition match at last year's Honda Challenge and is looking forward to being a part of the event again.

"To play at the Royal Albert Hall in front of that audience with some of the all time greats of the sport was a fantastic experience and the atmosphere was electric," said world No.9 Mistry.

"It's a great honour for us to be there. I see what we do as an extension of the game and the more that we can be involved with a tennis event, the more wheelchair tennis will be accepted and the wider the audience will be," added Mistry, who recently reached the doubles final of the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Masters in the Netherlands.

The demonstrations will be in aid of the Dan Maskell Tennis Trust, which raises money to help disabled people and disadvantaged children to play and enjoy tennis. A team of volunteers will organise collections to raise money for the Trust during each of the matches.

Correction - Wheelchair Tennis

The ITF would like to correct a number of inaccuracies in last week's article on wheelchair tennis in This Week.

The correct title of the event taking place during the 2002 Australian Open is the Wheelchair Classic 8's, which will be the first ever wheelchair event to be held at a Grand Slam. Eight leading men and women will take part in the competition, which will be staged from 25-27 January. The final list of participants will be released in due course.

Heineken is not the official partner of the Wheelchair Classic 8's, but is an official partner of the ITF's wheelchair tennis programme. Their support has enabled the top players to travel to Australia for the Classic 8's, as well as the staging of clinics to promote wheelchair tennis around the country.

After the Wheelchair Classic 8's, the players will move on to Sydney for the Sydney International Open, before returning to Melbourne Park for the Australian Wheelchair Tennis Open, to be held from 6-10 February.



ITF Coaches Education Programme in Southern and East Africa

The second half of 2001 has seen a hive of activity in the area of Coaches Education in Southern and East Africa. The ITF has been working hard in trying to achieve the goals outlined in the ITF/CAT Five Year African Plan 1999 - 2003, to have 1,200 qualified African Level I coaches and 300 Level II coaches by the year 2003.

The purpose of the ITF Coaches Education programme is to train coaches involved in grass roots programmes (Level I) or in coaching advanced level players (Level II), using the ITF recommended coaching syllabus, while at the same time assisting these coaches with the Coaches Education programme in their own nations. In order to attain the goals outlined in the African Plan, the intention is to pass on Coaches Education to the African countries and coaches themselves, so that each country should have, in time, their own Coaches Education Programme and Certification.

It is against this backdrop that the ITF has organised a range of Level I and II courses in the region in the latter half of this year. Many of these courses have been organised in collaboration with Olympic Solidarity (OS). The ITF relies on the valuable assistance of the Olympic Solidarity programme, which provides financial assistance to nations hosting Coaches Courses.

In September, an ITF/OS Level II Coaches Course took place in Zimbabwe. The course experts were Karl Davies, ITF Development Officer for East & Southern Africa, and Keith Reynolds, who is chief tutor for the LTA High Level Coach Education course and has personally coached 16 national champions. Twenty-three coaches from Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia, who had previously passed the Level I course, took part in the 12-day course.

This course was followed by four Level I courses in Botswana, Malawi, Ethiopia and Tanzania from September to November. All four courses were run in collaboration with Olympic Solidarity. At the same time, Karl Davies conducted a Level I course in South Africa over three consecutive weekends. These nine-day courses are designed for coaches and school teachers involved in grass roots programmes through to junior competition. The course covers the following topics:

The role of the coach
Mini-tennis
Strategy and tactics
Technique of strokes
Ball control
Class organisation
Teaching methodology
Lesson Planning
Tournaments
Rules of tennis

The culmination of this all activity is a regional Level II Coaches Course to be held in Pretoria, South Africa between 5 - 16 December. This course is part of a new joint initiative between the ITF and Olympic Solidarity, whereby a country which hosts the course is entitled to half of the places available and the other 50% of places are allocated to coaches from the region. In the case of South Africa, coaches will be attending from as far afield as Nigeria, Kenya and Uganda.

continued on Page 6/...

19 November - 2 December: Togo (Lome): ITF/OS
Regional Level II Course for West Africa

22 November - 16 December: ITF International
Team to Florida, USA

5 - 16 December: South Africa (Pretoria):
ITF/OS Regional Level II Course for
Southern Africa

ITF Coaches Education Programme

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As a result of these numerous courses and due to the efforts of the respective National Associations, the following countries should be self-sufficient in the area of Coaches Education by the end of 2002: Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

Karl Davies commented: "The reasoning behind encouraging nations to become self-sufficient is that the costs of hosting a Level I or Level II course will be significantly reduced as the courses can be conducted by local coaches. In addition, the courses will be better received by the coaches as they can be conducted over weekends, which will provide the coaches more time to gain a better understanding of being a coach.

"It also allows full time employees to attend these courses in the hope that they will get more involved in coaching on a part-time basis, therefore encouraging more tennis players to become coaches and to help the youth achieve their goals. With Level I tutors identified and the availability of the ITF Coaches syllabi, there seems to be no limitations. Providing Coaches Courses in Africa not only benefits African coaches themselves but in turn, benefits African tennis at all levels".

Results w/c 26 November

ITF Men's Circuit

Beer Sheva, Israel, \$25,000

Singles

E Erlich (ISR) d. N Welgreen (ISR) 61 63

Doubles

H Srgo/N Welgreen (ISR) d. B Fulcher (GBR)/G Gueit (FRA) 64 64

Gran Canaria, Spain, \$15,000

Singles

I Navarro Pastor (ESP) d. C Cuadrado (ESP) 61 64

Doubles

J Kato (SUI)/J Weinzierl (GER) d. D Marrero/C Rexach Itoiz (ESP) 46 62 61

Laguna Niguel, USA, \$15,000

Singles

B Vahaly (USA) d. J Doran (IRL) 76(3) 62

Doubles

D Ayala/T Rettenmaier (USA) d. J Doran (IRL)/N Rainey (USA) 60 75

Barmera, Australia, \$15,000

Singles

J Crabb (AUS) d. L Bourgeois (AUS) 62 61

Doubles

J Crabb/J Sirianni (AUS) d. B Ellwood/D Petrovic (AUS) 62 63

Manila, Philippines, \$15,000

Singles

D Andersson (SWE) d. DH Kim (KOR) 62 61

Doubles

H Kondo (JPN)/YT Wang (TPE) d. HS Pramono/F Widhiyanto (INA) 62 64

ITF Women's Circuit

W.Columbia, TX, USA \$50,000

Finals delayed due to rain.

Mount Gambia, Australia \$25,000

Singles

C Watson (AUS) d. T Perebiynis (UKR) 63 64

Doubles

E Dominikovic/S Stosur (AUS) d. A Grahame/C Watson (AUS) 64 64

Mallorca 4, Spain \$10,000

Singles

C Maes (BEL) d. A Basaric (BIH) 26 61 75

Doubles

D Klemenschits/S Klemenschits (AUT) d. S Disderi/A Floris (ITA) 63 64

Cali, Columbia \$10,000

Not available.

ITF Junior Circuit

Eddie Herr, Florida, USA, Grade 1

Boys Singles

B Echagaray (MEX) d. L Ouahab (ALG) 61 26 61

Girls Singles

J Jankovic (YUG) d. E Birnerova (CZE) 61 61

Boys Doubles

B Echagaray/S Gonzalez (MEX) d. F Dancevic/S Timu (CAN) 61 63

Girls Doubles

N Etienne (HAI)/M Torres (MEX) d. K Czafikova (SVK)/A Hlavackova (CZE) 60 63

This Week Next Week

Events week commencing 3 December

ITF SUNSHINE/CONTINENTAL CUPS, KEY BISCAINE, FL, USA

MEN	USA F29	Scottsdale, AZ	CANCELLED	\$15,000	(1) 914 696 7000
	Philippines F2	Manila		\$15,000	(63) 2 525 6434
WOMEN	Colombia	Santiago De Cali	CANCELLED	\$50,000	(571) 213 5897
	Thailand	Nonthaburi		\$25,000	(662) 504 0383
JUNIORS	Israel	Ashkelon		\$10,000	(972) 3 645 6613
	Czech Republic	Prague		\$10,000	(420) 2 24 810 238
	Kenya	Nairobi		Grade 4	(44) 20 8392 4704
	USA	Miami, FL		Grade 3	(1) 305 644 5478
	India	New Delhi		Grade B2	(91) 11 6176140
	Vietnam	Hanoi		Grade 4	(84) 4 7330036

Events week commencing 10 December

JUNIORS	USA	Orange Bowl, Key Biscayne, FL	Grade A	(1-305) 365 8760
	China	Chengdu	Grade 5	(86-10) 6718 0176
	Uganda	Uganda	Grade 4	(44-20) 8392 4704

Events week commencing 17 December

JUNIORS	Mexico	Merida, Yucatan	Grade 1	(52-99) 442 588
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