

Monday, October 22, 2007

CHAN AND CHUANG QUALIFY FOR SONY ERICSSON CHAMPIONSHIPS IN MADRID

Historical breakthrough for doubles team, becoming first Chinese Taipei players in Tour history to qualify for season-ending \$3-million event

ST. PETERSBURG, FL, USA – Chan Yung-Jan and Chuang Chia-Jung will cap off a successful 2007 season by qualifying in doubles at the Sony Ericsson Championships, set to take place in Madrid's Recinto Ferial Casa De Campo, November 6-11, 2007. This will be their first-ever appearance at the prestigious season-ending event.

The Chinese Taipei team are the first from their country to qualify for the Championships in singles or doubles. Both players are currently at their career-high doubles rankings with Chuang the world No.7 and Chan the world No.8. "We are very proud to have qualified for the Sony Ericsson Championships and it's an even more special achievement being the first team from our country to do so," said Chan. "We've had a really great year getting to the finals in Australia and New York and to be one of the four best teams in Madrid is a dream come true really. I am really looking forward to playing there and to doing our best."

Chan and Chuang are the second team to qualify for the Championships, following Cara Black and Liezel Huber, who qualified on August 15. Chan and Chuang have won three Tour doubles titles this year, including the Sony Ericsson International in Bangalore, India, the DFS Classic in Birmingham, England, and the Ordina Open in 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands. The tandem also hold runner-up trophies this year at the Australian Open, where they lost to Black and Huber, and the US Open, where they lost to Nathalie Dechy and Dinara Safina.

Doubles standouts Lisa Raymond and Samantha Stosur are presently in second place with 3,628 points while Chan and Chuang hold the third spot with 3,146 points. However, Raymond and Stosur are unable to compete in this year's Championships due to a viral illness from which Stosur is recuperating. "I am very disappointed that I haven't been able to play most of the last half of this season, especially the Sony Ericsson Championships in Madrid," Stosur said. "I hope to make a full recovery in about six weeks. I can't wait to start training again and get back out on the court for the Australian summer."

"This is an incredible accomplishment for Chan Yung-Jan and Chuang Chia-Jung," said Larry Scott, CEO of the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour. "Having the first team to ever qualify from Chinese Taipei truly depicts the global range of women's tennis. Our fans across the world enjoy the excitement of doubles and having this team join Cara Black and Liezel Huber will showcase the best in professional women's doubles."

"With less than three weeks to go until the Sony Ericsson Championships, the race to qualify is continuing to heat up. It's great to see Chan and Chuang become the second team to qualify after such a successful year," said Dee Dutta, CVP and Global Head of Marketing at Sony Ericsson. "The Sony Ericsson Championships is all about being the very best; it's a week not to be missed and should be placed firmly on everyone's calendar."

The Sony Ericsson Championships is the richest annual women's sporting event in the world. The tournament is the season-ending punctuation to an 11-month global Tour which gathers the Top 8 singles players and Top 4 doubles teams of the season to battle it out for a share of the \$3-million prize purse. Since its inception in 1972, this event has been held in notable venues such as Madison Square Garden, New York, the Olympiahalle in Munich, Germany, as well as The Forum and Staples Center in Los Angeles. Former singles champions read like a who's who of women's tennis: Tracy Austin, Kim Clijsters, Chris Evert, Evonne Goolagong, Steffi Graf, Martina Hingis, Martina Navratilova, Gabriela Sabatini and Serena Williams. The 2006 title holders are Justine Henin (singles) and Raymond and Stosur (doubles).

The Sony Ericsson WTA Tour is the world's largest premier professional sport for women with more than 1,400 players representing 75 nations competing for \$62 million in prize money at the Tour's 61 events in 34 countries. More than 4.5 million people attended women's tennis events in 2006 with millions more watching events on television networks around the world. The Sony Ericsson WTA Tour season concludes with the Sony Ericsson Championships at Madrid Arena in Madrid, Spain, November 6-11, 2007. Further information on the Tour can be found on the Internet at www.sonyericssonwtatour.com.



**Sony Ericsson
WTA TOUR**

PRESS RELEASE

SONY ERICSSON CHAMPIONSHIPS RACE POINTS STANDINGS LEADERS
(as of October 22, 2007)

SINGLES			DOUBLES		
PLAYER	POINTS	RACE STANDING (as of 10/22)	TEAM	POINTS	RACE STANDING (as of 10/22)
Justine Henin**	5,405	1	Cara Black & Liezel Huber**	6,375	1
Jelena Jankovic**	4,097	2	Lisa Raymond & Samantha Stosur ^	3,628	2
Svetlana Kuznetsova**	3,691	3	Chan Yung-Jan & Chuang Chia-Jung **	3,146	3
Ana Ivanovic**	3,163	4	Katarina Srebotnik & Ai Sugiyama	2,622	4
Serena Williams**	2,767	5	Kveta Peschke & Rennae Stubbs	2,537	5
Anna Chakvetadze	2,628	6	Alicia Molik & Mara Santangelo	2,196	6
Venus Williams	2,470	7	Yan Zi & Zheng Jie	1,527	7
Maria Sharapova	2,431	8	Agnes Szavay & Vladimira Uhlirova	1,240	8
Daniela Hantuchova	2,156	9			
Marion Bartoli	2,099	10			
Elena Dementieva	2,023	11			
Tatiana Golovin	1,918	12			
Dinara Safina	1,903	13			
Nadia Petrova	1,864	14			
Nicole Pietrangeli	1,816	15			

** denotes player/team has already qualified

^ denotes team unable to play

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