

October 1, 2008

JELENA JANKOVIC TO RECLAIM SONY ERICSSON WTA TOUR NO. 1 RANKING

ST. PETERSBURG, FL (USA) – When the latest Sony Ericsson WTA Tour rankings are published on Monday, October 6, 2008, Serbian Jelena Jankovic will regain the World No.1 ranking on the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour, continuing the unprecedented see-saw battle for the top-spot in women's tennis for 2008. The 23-year old Serb, who previously held the No.1 ranking for one week (August 11, 2008), replaces American Serena Williams at the top of the rankings. Williams held the No.1 ranking after clinching the US Open title in September and has held the top spot for the past four weeks.

Jankovic has won more matches than any other player on Tour this year, compiling a 55-16 record in her first 18 tournaments of 2008. She has already secured a spot in the singles competition at the season-ending Sony Ericsson Championships – Doha 2008 and currently holds the top spot in the Race to the Championships.

Over the course of 2008, Jankovic has won the Tier I 2008 Internazionali BNL d'Italia in Rome and just last week, captured the China Open in Beijing. She also reached the finals of the 2008 Sony Ericsson Open in Miami and the 2008 US Open, her first career Grand Slam final. In addition, she has advanced to the semifinals at two of this year's Grand Slams, falling to eventual champion Maria Sharapova at the Australian Open and eventual champion Ana Ivanovic at Roland Garros. The Serbian star also reached the 2008 semifinals of the Barclays Dubai Tennis Championships in Dubai, the Pacific Life Open in Indian Wells, CA and the East West Bank Classic, presented by Herbalife, in Los Angeles.

Jankovic began defining herself as a potential Sony Ericsson WTA Tour World No.1 approximately two years ago, when she labored past a string of ten consecutive opening round losses early in the 2006 season and suffered a ranking drop to No.38 in the middle of the year. She successfully turned the season around and vaulted to No.12 by year end. Since then, the Serbian has been a consistent figure in the Top 10, securely staying inside the top elite since February 26, 2007. Her season-ending ranking has improved from No. 194 (in 2002), to No. 85 (in 2003), to No. 28 (in 2004), to No. 22 (in 2005), to No. 12 (2006) and to No. 3 (in 2007).

Since Justine Henin retired on May 14, 2008 and immediately took her name off the rankings, four players have held the No.1 ranking: Ana Ivanovic (12 weeks), Jankovic (two weeks as of October 6), Maria Sharapova (three weeks) and Serena Williams (four weeks). The following chart lists the 18 women to hold No.1 in order of longevity, from November 3, 1975 when the rankings began. (See following page for No.1 chart)

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The Sony Ericsson WTA Tour is the world's largest premier professional sport for women with more than 2,000 players representing 90 nations competing for \$70.8 million in prize money at the Tour's 59 events in 34 countries. More than 4.7 million people attended women's tennis events in 2007 with millions more watching events on television networks around the world. The Sony Ericsson WTA Tour season concludes with the Sony Ericsson Championships – Doha 2008 in Doha, Qatar, November 4-9, 2008. Further information on the Tour can be found on the Internet at www.sonyericssonwtatour.com.



**Sony Ericsson
WTA TOUR**

PRESS RELEASE

PLAYER	WEEKS AT No.1	DATE REACHED No.1
Steffi Graf (GER)	377	August 17, 1987
Martina Navratilova (USA)	332	July 10, 1978
Chris Evert (USA)	260	November 3, 1975
Martina Hingis (SUI)	209	March 31, 1997
Monica Seles (USA)	178	March 11, 1991
Justine Henin (BEL)	117	October 20, 2003
Lindsay Davenport (USA)	98	October 12, 1998
Serena Williams (USA)	61	July 8, 2002
Amélie Mauresmo (FRA)	39	September 13, 2004
Tracy Austin (USA)	21	April 7, 1980
Kim Clijsters (BEL)	19	August 11, 2003
Jennifer Capriati (USA)	17	October 15, 2001
Maria Sharapova (RUS)	17	August 22, 2005
Ana Ivanovic (SRB)	12	June 9, 2008
Arantxa Sánchez-Vicario (ESP)	12	February 6, 1995
Venus Williams (USA)	11	February 25, 2002
Evonne Goolagong (AUS)	2	April 26, 1976
Jelena Jankovic (SRB)	2**	August 11, 2008

**Includes week of October 6, 2008

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