

## SERENA WILLIAMS CAPTURES SONY ERICSSON WTA TOUR NO.1 RANKING

### 26-year old American wins US Open singles title and emerges as World No.1

FLUSHING MEADOWS, NY (USA) – At the conclusion of the 2008 US Open, when the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour rankings are released on Monday, September 8, **Serena Williams** will emerge as the new World No.1, replacing Ana Ivanovic. It will mark the second time in Williams' career that she will be the World No.1 after holding the top ranking for 57 weeks from July 8, 2002 to August 10, 2003.

“Serena is one of the all time great champions in the history of our sport, and regaining the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour No. 1 ranking is another milestone in a career full of great moments,” said Larry Scott, CEO of the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour.

Entering the U.S. Open, five players had a chance to overtake Ana Ivanovic atop the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour rankings – Elena Dementieva, Jelena Jankovic, Svetlana Kuznetsova, Dinara Safina and Serena Williams. By capturing her ninth career Grand Slam title and third US Open singles title, Serena Williams replaces Ivanovic atop the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour rankings.

In addition to her success this week in Flushing Meadows, N.Y., the 26-year old American has also captured singles titles at the 2008 Canara Bank Bangalore Open, 2008 Sony Ericsson Open in Miami and the 2008 Family Circle Cup in Charleston, S.C. She was runner-up at Wimbledon and semifinalist at the Bank of West Classic at Stanford and reached the quarterfinals at the Australian Open, the Qatar Telecom German Open in Berlin, Internazionali BNL d'Italia in Rome and the Beijing Olympics. Overall this year, Serena has recorded a 43-6 match record, winning 21 of her first 22 matches highlighted by a 17-match win streak.

As a result of her consistent on-court success this season, Serena has also secured a place in the singles competition for the season-ending Sony Ericsson Championships-Doha 2008, set to take place at the Khalifa International Tennis Complex in Doha, Qatar, from November 4-9, 2008.

The 2008 season has seen the No.1 ranking change hands six times between four players. Since Justine Henin retired and immediately took her name off the rankings, three players have held the No.1 ranking: Ana Ivanovic (12 weeks), Jankovic (one week) and Maria Sharapova (three weeks). Williams will become the first American to hold the No.1 ranking since 2006 (Lindsay Davenport, 14 weeks – October 24, 1995 – January 26, 2006).

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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 60 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](http://www.sonyericssonwtatour.com).



Sony Ericsson  
WTA TOUR

## PRESS RELEASE

PLAYER	DATE REACHED No.1	WEEKS*
Steffi Graf (GER)	August 17, 1987	337
Martina Navratilova (TCH/USA)	July 10, 1978	332
Chris Evert (USA)	November 3, 1975	260
Martina Hingis (SUI)	March 31, 1997	209
Monica Seles (YUG/USA)	March 11, 1991	178
Justine Henin (BEL)	October 20, 2003	117
Lindsay Davenport (USA)	October 12, 1998	98
<b>Serena Williams (USA)</b>	<b>July 8, 2002</b>	<b>58**</b>
Amélie Mauresmo (FRA)	September 13, 2004	39
Tracy Austin (USA)	April 7, 1980	21
Kim Clijsters (BEL)	August 11, 2003	19
Jennifer Capriati (USA)	October 15, 2001	17
Maria Sharapova (RUS)	August 22, 2005	17
Arantxa Sánchez-Vicario (ESP)	February 6, 1995	12
Ana Ivanovic (SRB)	June 9, 2008	12
Venus Williams (USA)	February 25, 2002	11
Evonne Goolagong Cawley (AUS)	April 26, 1976	2
Jelena Jankovic (SRB)	August 11, 2008	1

\* Total weeks at No.1; can be non-consecutive | \*\* Denotes week of September 8, 2008

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