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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / JULY 7, 2016

Women's Tennis / Contact: Nick Brown, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

(Action Picture of Oest Attached, Credit: AAT Pro Tour)

WKU TENNIS ADDS CINDY OEST FOR 2016-17

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. – WKU women's tennis head coach Jonatan Berhane announced the addition of Cindy Oest to the 2016-17 roster Wednesday afternoon. Oest is set to join a current three-member Lady Topper recruiting class already consisting of Lisa Friess (Austria) and Natalie De Ugarte (Bolivia). Oest comes to Bowling Green as a top-two player in her native Paraguay where she also held a 237 ITF ranking and recorded several victories over the world's Top 100 players.

"Cindy is a very strong player from the baseline but she also likes to come into the net if she needs to and she has done very well in doubles," said Berhane. "Cindy, Natalia and Lisa are all very strong players and their mastery of a variety of tennis shots will help them compete against different kinds of opponents."

Oest comes to The Hill having competed against some of the very best athletes in the world. She recently lost a tough, three-set match to Canadian Bianca Vanessa Andreescu who is currently the No. 3 player in the world in the 18U age category.

"Cindy is expected to pursue a degree in business and I'm very proud of how all three incoming studentathletes have performed not only on the court but also in the classroom," Berhane continued. "While we are still looking at adding one more athlete for the spring season, I would have to say that on paper this is the strongest class since I've been at WKU. I am very excited for the upcoming year."

WKU lost two players due to graduation but have five returnees from a 2015-16 Lady Topper team that finished this past season with a 9-6 overall record. Its nine victories mark the program's most since the 2013 campaign.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / JULY 25, 2016

WKU Tennis / Contact: Nick Brown, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

2016 WKU TENNIS RECRUITING CLASS NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. – The WKU tennis incoming recruiting class of Natalia De Ugarte (Bolivia) and Lisa Friess (Austria) was recently included in Tennis Recruiting Network's Top 25 Mid-Major Women's Recruiting Class poll for 2016.

The Lady Topper duo of De Ugarte and Friess came in at No. 25 as WKU is one of seven Conference USA schools to be included in the rankings. The Lady Toppers are joined by Old Dominion (11), FIU (12), LA Tech (14), Florida Atlantic (19), Rice (23) and North Texas (24).

For the complete poll click **HERE**.

De Ugarte comes to Bowling Green from Bolivia where she held a ITF junior ranking of 225 in 2015 while Friess held a No.2 ranking in her age group in Austria and holds a top 15 overall ranking in her home country.

This marks the first time a Lady Topper recruiting class has earned national recognition under WKU head coach Jonatan Berhane.

"On paper, 2016 marks the strongest recruiting class I've been able to put together since coming to WKU." Berhane said. "We have five impact returners from last year, including senior Adreanna Christopoulou and junior Elpida Malamou, to go along with our current three talented newcomers. We have a very solid current roster and are still looking to add an additional student-athlete." The class was recently bolstered by the signing of Cindy Oest in early July but the talented Paraguay product was not included in the rankings as the list is based on commitments reported on or before May 23, 2016.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Wednesday, August 31, 2016

Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

PDF of the schedule is attached

Invitational.

WKU TENNIS ANNOUNCES FALL SCHEDULE

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis head coach Jonatan Berhane announced his squad's fall slate this Wednesday as the Lady Toppers will play in three tournaments all in the month of October. On Saturday, Oct. 1, the Tops travel to Evansville, Indiana, to partake in the Evansville Metro Collegiate

The following weekend the Red and White will square off again in the state of Indiana, except this time in West Lafayette as Purdue hosts its Women's Tennis Fall Invite from Oct. 7-9.

Fall play will conclude for the Lady Toppers at the Ohio Valley Regionals in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, from Oct. 20-24.

Three newcomers will be gearing up for their first collegiate matches this year, including Cindy Oest, Natalia De Ugarte and Lisa Friess. Coach Berhane expects them to live up to the hype that they garnered this offseason with the Tops being included in the Tennis Recruiting Network's Top-25 Mid-Major Women's Recruiting Class poll.

WKU TENNIS 2016 FALL SCHEDULE

DATE	MATCH	LOCATION
October 1-2	Evansville Metro Collegiate Invitational	Evansville, IN
October 7-9	Purdue Women's Fall Invite	West Lafayette, IN
October 20-24	Ohio Valley Regionals	Murfreesboro, TN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / September 30, 2016

Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

Jonatan Berhane Video - https://youtu.be/6JdMC079n54 Season Preview Quotes - Attached

Quick Facts PDF - Attached

WKU TENNIS STARTS FALL PLAY AT EVANSVILLE INVITE

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Following head coach Jonatan Berhane's best season to date, the WKU tennis team will travel to Evansville, Ind., this weekend to kick off the year in the inaugural Evansville Metro Collegiate Invitational at Wesselman Park.

WKU enters the year after finishing the 2015-16 season with a record of 9-6 and a first-round exit in the C-USA Women's Tennis Championship. They will clash against Austin Peay, Belmont, Bellermine, Cincinnati, North Alabama and co-hosts Evansville and Southern Indiana on Saturday, Oct. 1 and Sunday, Oct. 2.

Returning for the Lady Toppers are two veterans in seniors Andreanna Christopoulou and Elpida Malamou.

Christopoulou earned second team all-conference honors last spring while Malamou led C-USA in winning percentage going 14-1 (.933) in singles. The duo combined to go an impressive 24-5 in singles on The Hill last season.

Berhane expects both of them to continue being leaders on and off the court.

"I felt like both Elpida (Malamou) and Andreanna (Christopoulou) took that role last year," Berhane said. "It starts in practice - showing up on time, always being willing to listen, having a good attitude and doing what you're told. That is something that the freshmen need to see. That there is a structure, a way and a culture that we are trying to create here at Western Kentucky. I think that is something the newcomers will see from those two."

Other returners are junior Violetta Shatalova and redshirt sophomore Cassie Pennington. Shatalova earned eight victories in singles and six in doubles last season while Pennington lettered coming off an injury and redshirting the year prior.

Three new faces joined the Red and White this offseason as promising freshmen Natalia De Ugarte, Lisa Friess and Cindy Oest are ready to play at the college level. All three were ranked in the Top 750 players in the world for their age on ITA and have already garnered recognition nationally for being one of the <u>best Mid-Major</u> recruiting classes in the country.

The tournament format will feature eight teams in flight competition starting at 9:30 a.m. (CT) both days. Day 1 will be two rounds of doubles and singles and Day 2 will be the final round of each as both days are shotgun starts.

WKU Tennis Quotes – Jonatan Berhane September 27, 2016

Season Preview

On expectations for the first match of the fall...

"This weekend, with it being our first fall tournament, is about seeing our girls go out there and competing. We've been focusing a lot on conditioning. The girls are staying very motivated and I'm trying to explain to them that they need to make a lot of shots. That is what's going to get them consistent on the tennis courts. That's what I want to see in our first match in Evansville. Make a lot of balls, stay out there and be very competitive. That's something I'm really emphasizing this year."

On what the three newcomers will bring to the table...

"Well, we brought in three girls and we were recognized nationally because of it. I think we are going to really add a lot of depth this year. Maybe last year we weren't as strong in the lineup at the four, five and six positions. But these newcomers have a lot of international experience. They played at a high level - one was ranked in the 230's in the world and another one at No. 250. So I think we are adding a lot of depth this year and we will be very solid this season one through six."

On the two senior's leadership capabilities...

"I felt like both Elpida (Malamou) and Andreanna (Christopoulou) took that role last year. It starts in practice - showing up on time, always being willing to listen, having a good attitude and doing what you're told. That is something that the freshmen need to see. That there is a structure, a way and a culture that we are trying to create here at Western Kentucky. I think that is something the newcomers will see from those two."

LADY TOPPER

2016-17 TENNIS QUICK FACTS

Tennis Contact: Lance Dozier • lance.dozier962@topper.wku.edu • Office: 270-745-4298 • Cell: 507-993-1898

TEAM INFORMATION

GENERAL

	GENERAL		I EAM INFOR		
	Bowling Green, Ky. 42101	2016 Record			
	1906	2016 Home Record			
Enrollment	20,178	2016 Road Record			
	Lady Toppers	2016 Neutral			
	Red and White	2016 Conference USA Reco			
	WKU Tennis Complex	2016 Conference USA Tourn			
	2014	Letterwinners Returning/Lost	İ		4/4
	NCAA Division I	Newcomers			3
President	Dr. Gary Ransdell (WKU, 1973)		PLAYERS RET	FURNING	
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics	Todd Stewart (Miami (Ohio), 1988)	Name	Lineup S		Record
Faculty Athletic Representative	Dr. Craig Martin	Andreanna Christopoulou	#1 Single	es	11-3 singles, 10-2 doubles
	Craig Biggs (Facilities and Administration)	Elpida Malamou	#3 Single	es	14-1 singles, 9-4 doubles
	Kyle Chapman (Development)	Violetta Shatalova	#5 Single		8-5 singles, 6-6 doubles
	Jim Clark (Development)	Cassie Pennington	#6 Single		1-7 singles, 1-4 doubles
	Randy McGill (Business Affairs/CFO)	ű	J		3 ,
	John McCammon (Student Affairs)		PLAYERS	LOST	
	Matt Morrison (Marketing/Tickets)	Name	Lineup S	pot	Record
	Kyle Neaves (Communications)	Gabby Crofford	#3 Doubl		0-2 singles, 5-4 doubles
	, (Tereza Hejlova	#2 Single	es	8-6 singles, 9-4 doubles
PRO	GRAM HISTORY	Cynthia Melita	#1 Doubl		10-1 singles, 9-0 doubles
		Hallie Pennington			0-1 singles, 0-1 doubles
	4 (2-KWIC, 2-OVC)				5 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	1974		NEWCOM	IERS	
	7	Name	Top Rank		Hometown
	5-0	Natalia De Ugarte	#255 ITA	•	Sante Cruz, Boliva
record at title formie complex		Lisa Friess	#711 ITA		Graz, Austria
COA	ACHING STAFF	Cindy Oest	#237 ITA		Villarrica, Paraguay
	Jonatan Berhane (Lewis-Clark, 2009)	J	,,_0,	•	· ····a·····a··, · · ····a··gaar,
			FALL SCHE	DULF	
		Date		Match	Location
5d1001 110001d (10d10)		Evansville Metro Collegiate I		Oct. 1-2	Evansville, Ind.
MED	IA RELATIONS	Purdue Women's Fall Invite		Oct. 7-9	West Lafayette, Ind.
	Kyle Neaves	Ohio Valley Regionals		Oct. 20-24	
	Lance Dozier	One valley regionale		001. 20 21	Warn occoors, Torin.
	270-745-4298	@WKII	Tennis		
	lance.dozier962@topper.wku.edu		1 1 1		
	E.A. Diddle Arena, Room 1454	@WKU	Sports		
	1605 Avenue of Champions				
	Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101-6412	AMIZILIS	no subs		
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / October 3, 2016

Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

Final Results PDF – Attached

FRIESS LEADS LADY TOPPERS AT EVANSVILLE INVITE

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Freshman Lisa Friess had a strong debut as the newcomer highlighted WKU's 20 wins, the most of any school over the weekend, in the first annual Evansville Metro Collegiate Invitational at Wesselman Park.

The Graz, Austria, native went 3-0 in singles on Saturday and Sunday to convincingly win her draw. Additionally, Friess teamed up with Violetta Shatalova in doubles action and the pair went 2-1 reaching the finals in their flight.

Indiviudally, Shatalova took two of three matches in the No. 3 Singles Flight. The junior won the first two matches in tiebreakers.

Of the seven players Lady Toppers who competed, five advanced to the final round of their draws. Out of the five, four tallied a 2-1 record - Andreanna Christopoulou, Shatalova, Cindy Oest and Natalia De Ugarte.

Senior Elpida Malamou beat Evansville's Chieko Yamada 6-1, 6-1 to win third place in her draw. Redshirt sophomore Cassie Pennington opened the weekend with a victory before dropping her next two matches.

WKU faced five Division I schools at the event: Austin Peay, Belmont, Cincinnati, Evansville and UT-Martin and three Division II schools in Bellarmine, North Alabama and Southern Indiana.

The Lady Toppers look to continue their momentum into this weekend's play where they will take part in the Purdue Women's Fall Invite in West Lafayette, Indiana, from Friday – Sunday.

Final Results:

WKU Singles (14-7)

WKU Doubles (6-3)

WKU Total (20-10)

#1 Singles Flight

Elpida Malamou (WKU) def. Olivera Ngomabeu (North Alabama) 6-2, 6-3

Lidia Yanes Garcia (APSU) def. Elpida Malamou (WKU) 6-2, 6-1

Elpida Malamou (WKU) def. Chieko Yamada (Evansville) 6-1, 6-1

#2 Singles Flight

Andreanna Christopoulou (WKU) def. Claudia Yanes Garcia (APSU) 6-4, 6-2

Andreanna Christopoulou (WKU) def. Kelsey Shipman (USI) 6-1, 6-1

Diana Tkachenko (Evansville) def. Anderanna Christopoulou (WKU) 6-4, 6-3

#3 Singles Flight

Violetta Shatalova (WKU) def. Burcu Tari (UT-Martin) 6-2, 0-6, 10-8

Violetta Shatalova (WKU) def. Helena Kupping (APSU) 0-6, 6-2, 10-6

Caroline Morton (Cincinnati) def. Violetta Shatalova (WKU) 6-1, 7-5

#4 Singles Flight

Cindy Oest (WKU) def. Antonello Bramato (Cincinnati) 6-2, 7-5

Cindy Oest (WKU) def. Donna Haycock (North Alabama) 6-0, 6-4

Jemima Potter (UT-Martin) def. Cindy Oest (WKU) 6-4, 6-2

#5 Singles Flight

Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) def. Katya Bure (Cincinnati) 6-7 (3), 7-6 (5), 10-3

Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) def. Andrea Plantada (UT-Martin) 6-0, 6-1 Anna Philip (Cincinnati) def. Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) 6-3, 3-6, 13-11 #6A Singles Flight

Lisa Friess (WKU) def. Maddy Gilley (Belmont) 6-1, 6-0

Lisa Friess (WKU) def. Hitomi Naito (UT-Martin) 4-6, 6-0, 10-8

Lisa Friess (WKU) def. Elina Guet (UT-Martin) 6-3, 6-3

#6B Singles Flight

Cassie Pennington (WKU) def. Sara Beth Crowe (Belmont) 6-3, 6-4 Sydney Thompson (Bellarmine) def. Cassie Pennington (WKU) 4-6, 7-5, 10-2 Jenny Mizikar (USI) def. Cassie Pennington (WKU) 8-5 #1 Doubles Flight

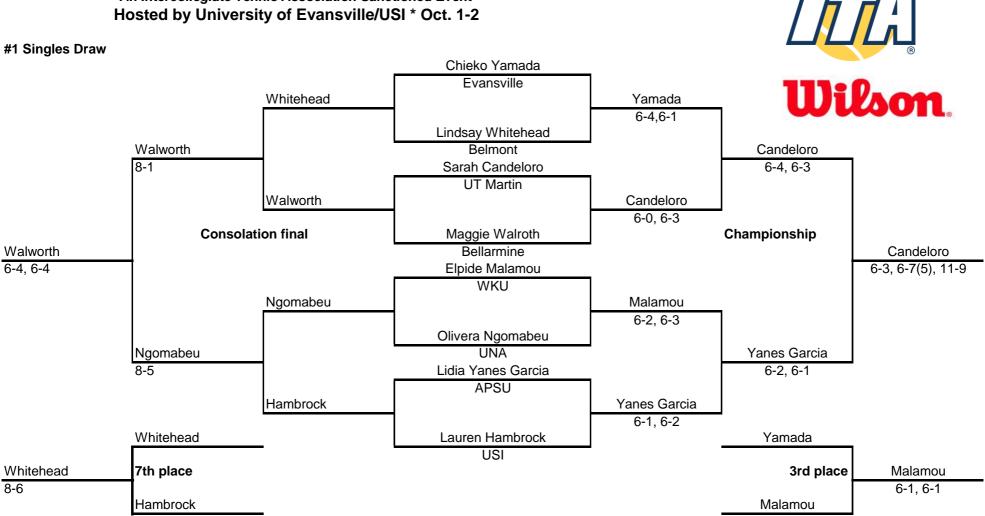
Candeloror/Potter (UT-Martin) def. Christopoulou/Oest (WKU) 6-3 Christopoulou/Oest (WKU) def. Wu/Brannon (USI) 6-0 Christopoulou/Oest (WKU) def. Walworth/Johnson (Bellarmine) 7-5 #2 Doubles Flight

Tari/Naito (UT-Martin) def. Malamou/De Ugarte (WKU) 6-4 Malamou/De Ugarte (WKU) def. Shipman/Hambrock (USI) 6-0 Malamou/De Ugarte (WKU) def. Yamada/Soldatou (Evansville) 6-1 #3 Doubles Flight

Shatalova/Friess (WKU) def. Linke/DeGeorge (North Alabama) 7-5 Shatalova/Friess (WKU) def. Brguljan/Pentsova (Evansville) 7-5 Morton/Philip (Cincinnati) def. Shatalova/Friess (WKU) 7-5

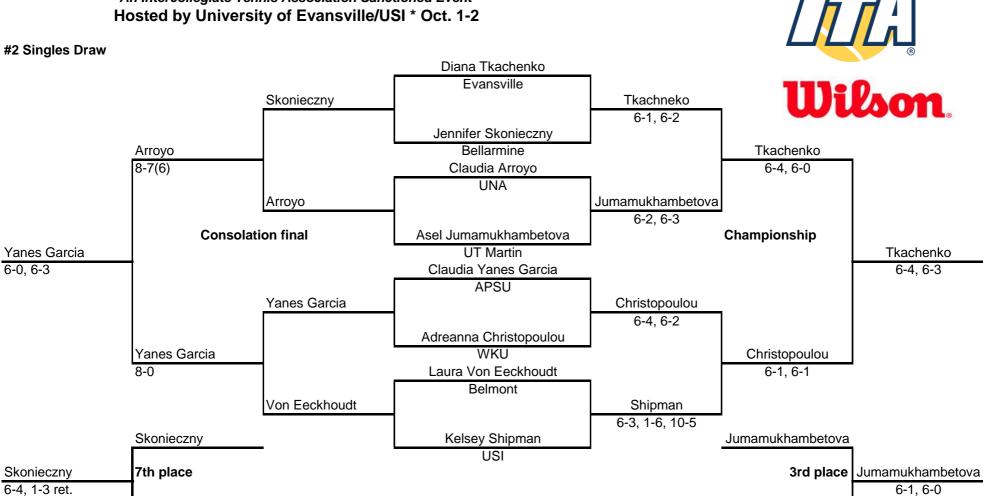
An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2





An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2

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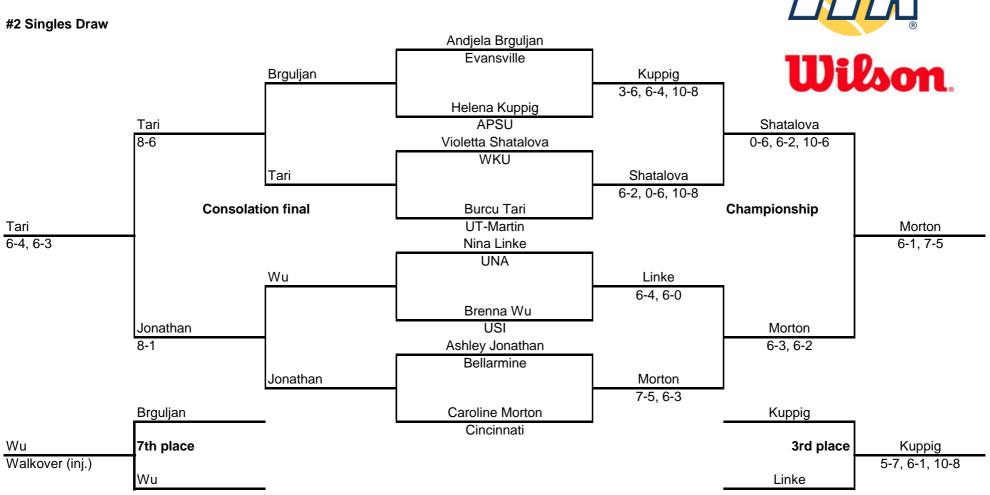


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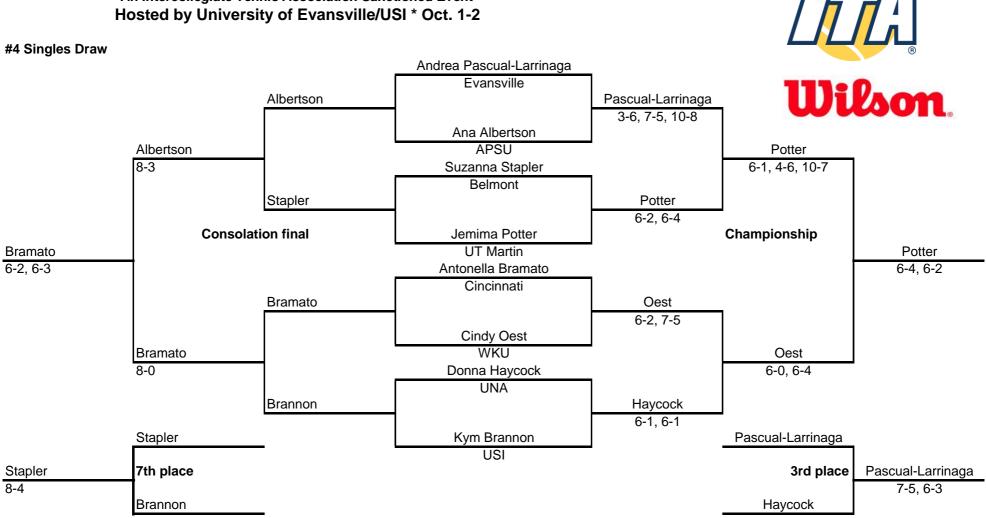


#2 Singles Draw



An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2

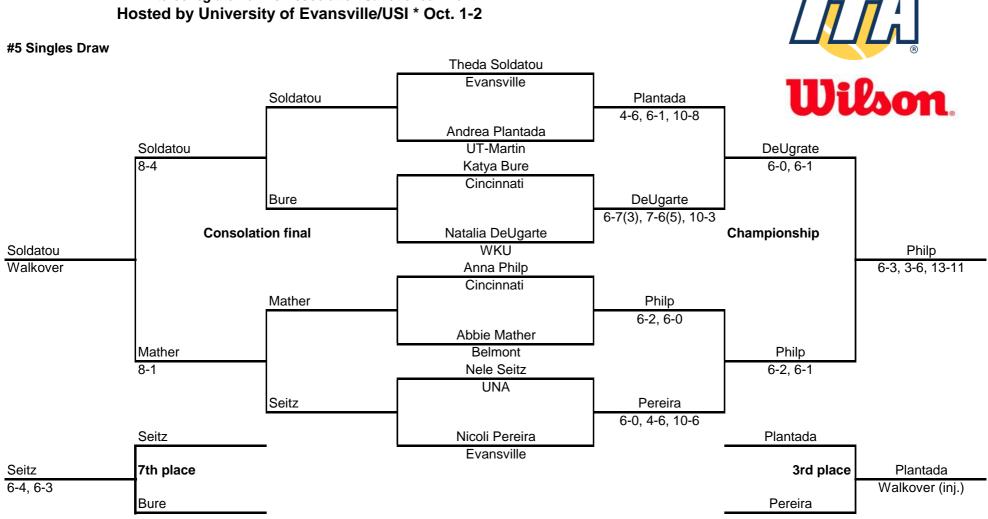




An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2



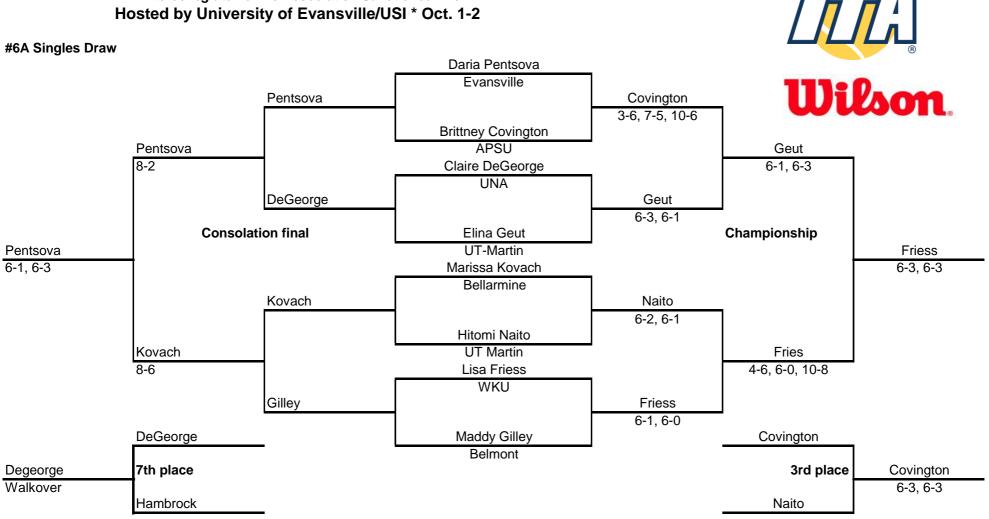
#5 Singles Draw



An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2



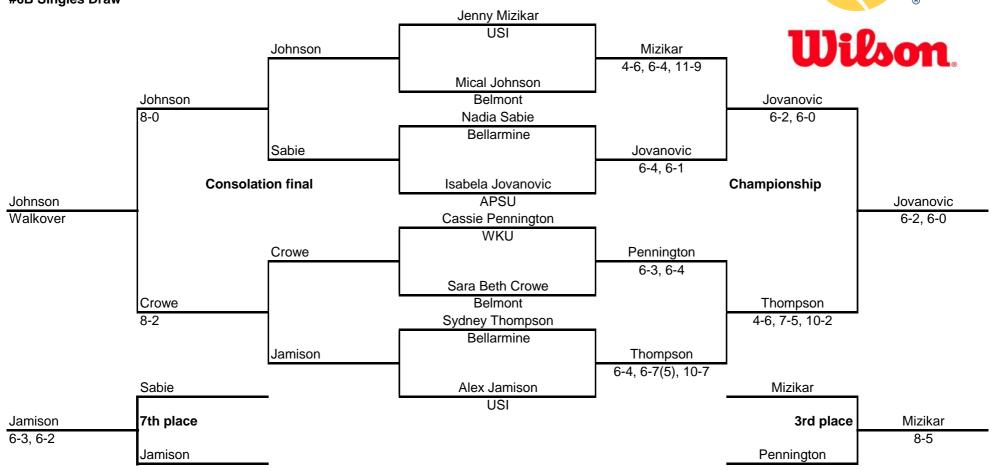
#6A Singles Draw



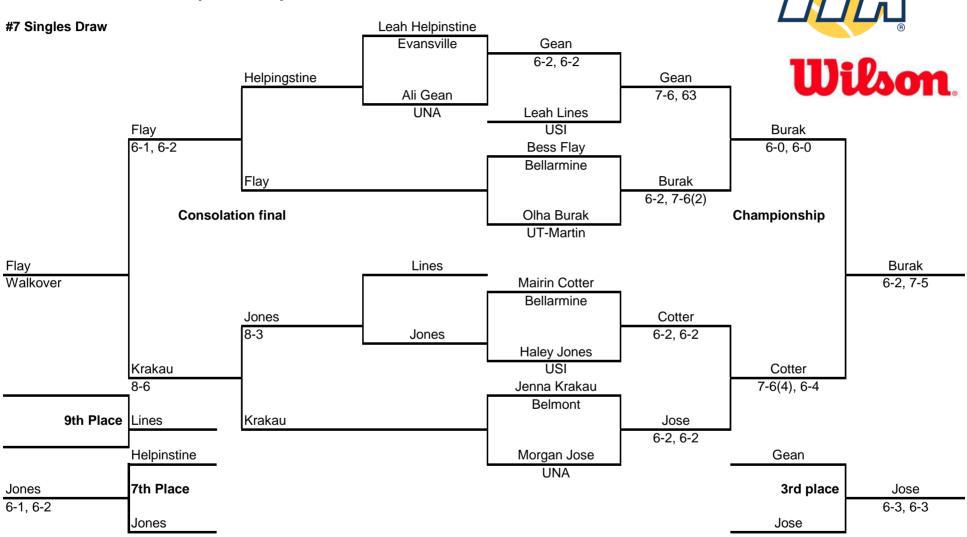
An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2



#6B Singles Draw

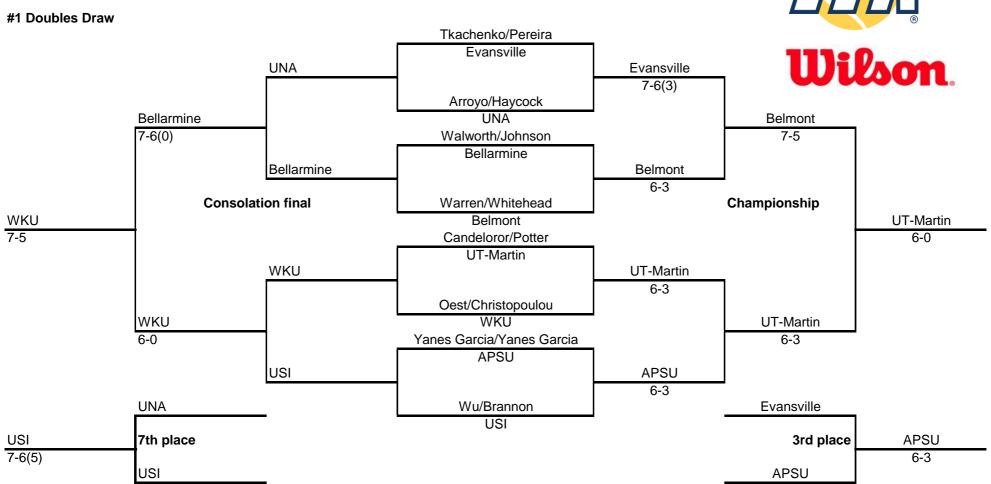


An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2



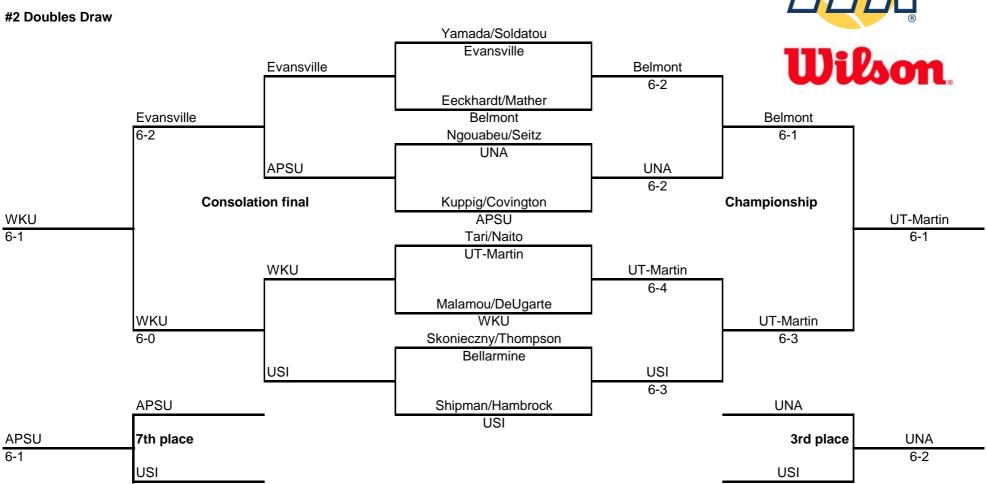
An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2





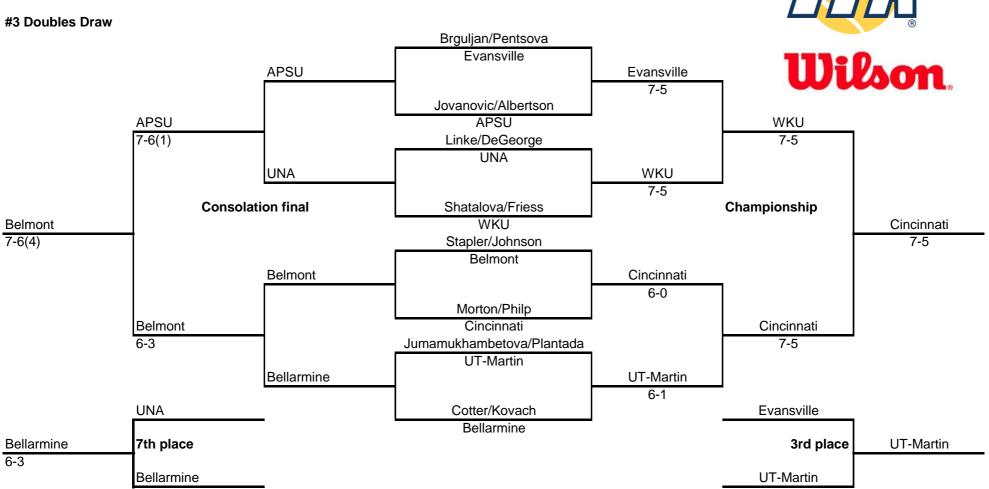
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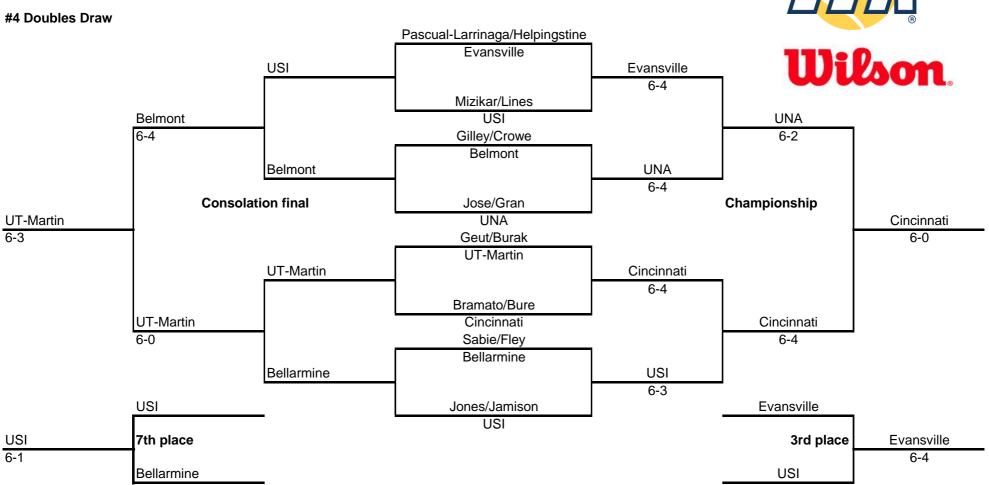
An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2





An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Hosted by University of Evansville/USI * Oct. 1-2





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Thursday, October 6, 2016 Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

Andreanna Christopoulou and Cindy Oest Video - https://youtu.be/M0exJa7q3X0 Violetta Shatalova and Natalia De Ugarte Video - https://youtu.be/ln1DgNhrd5

LADY TOPPERS HEAD TO PURDUE WOMEN'S FALL INVITE

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU will gear up for its second outing on the road this fall, as the tennis squad travels to West Lafayette, Indiana, to take on the host Purdue along with 10 other teams in the Purdue Women's Fall Invite at Schwartz Tennis Center on Friday through Sunday.

Entering the weekend, the Lady Toppers have some momentum coming off a tournament-best 20-win performance in Evansville, Indiana, at the Evansville Metro Collegiate Invitational. Led by freshman Lisa Friess, who earned five victories in singles and doubles combined, the Red and White outplayed the other seven teams competing by having five players in the championship round of their flights. Junior Violetta Shatalova posted a 4-2 record combined in the fall-opener last weekend. Shatalova was happy with her performance at the inaugural tournament.

"I would give myself a B grade because it was not excellent, but it was good and I still have some stuff to work on. We still have a few more months before the spring season. We understand our mistakes, our weaknesses, and we already know how we should work; it comes down to us executing in matches." Purdue will be playing for the first time this season as they are led by tenth-year head coach Laura Glitz who boasts a 117-90 dual record with the Boilermakers.

Other teams competing in the invite are Power Five programs: Illinois, Louisville and Michigan State; Group of Five's Bowling Green State, Eastern Michigan, Miami (OH) and Northern Illinois; with Eastern Kentucky, Lipscomb and Xavier rounding out the field.

Tournament format will feature 12 teams in flight competition starting at 8 a.m. CT with doubles followed by singles action at 11 a.m. CT each of the three days at the tournament.

LADY TOPPERS RACK UP 14 WINS AT PURDUE INVITE

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — WKU Tennis showcased a strong performance this weekend going 14-6 overall at the Purdue Women's Fall Invite.

Other teams competing in the invite were Power Five programs: Illinois, Louisville, Maryland and Michigan State; Group of Five's Ball State, Bowling Green State, Eastern Michigan, Miami (OH) and Northern Illinois; with Eastern Kentucky, Lipscomb and Xavier rounding out the field.

Picking up from last weekend, the Lady Toppers again had four players go 2-1 in singles play.

Freshmen Natalia De Ugarte and Lisa Friess reached the championship game in their flights before falling in the final set. Friess is now an impressive 10-2 this fall to start her collegiate career on The Hill.

Cindy Oest won the consolation match in her draw by beating Illinois' Daniela Pedraza Novak 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

Andreanna Christopoulou singles run began against Rafaella Baquerizo from Purdue as she took down the Boilermaker 4-6, 6-4, 6-1, before losing a closely contested match versus Maryland's Alexandra Stanova 6-4, 7-5. The 2016 all-conference selection rebounded nicely with knocking off Miami (OH)'s Hannah Shyten to garner third place in the No. 1 flight.

The Red and White excelled in doubles winning their first two matches. In the semifinals, WKU's two duos faced Illinois's pairs and the Illini won both matches in separate brackets, but the Lady Topper's recovered by earning third place titles over duos from Xavier and Miami (OH).

Up next for WKU will be the Ohio Valley Regionals on Thursday, Oct. 20 through Monday, Oct. 24 in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Final Results:

WKU Singles (8-4)

WKU Doubles (6-2)

WKU Total (14-6)

Purdue Singles Draw

Andreanna Christopoulou (WKU) def. Rafaella Baquerizo (Purdue) 4-6, 6-4, 6-1

Alexandra Stanova (Maryland) def. Andreanna Christopoulou (WKU) 6-4, 7-5

Andreanna Christopoulou (WKU) def. Hannah Shteyn (Miami OH) 6-0, 6-4

Boiler Up Singles Draw

Hannah Shteyn (Miami OH) vs. Elpida Malamou (WKU) 3-3, retired

Purdue Pete Singles Draw

Marta Ruedas (Purdue) def. Cindy Oest (WKU) 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (4)

Cindy Oest (WKU) def. Andreea Badileanu (Miami OH) 6-4, 7-5

Cindy Oest (WKU) def. Daniela Pedraza Novak (Illinois) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2

Schwartz Singles Draw

Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) def. Audrey Berger (Ball State) 6-1, 6-4

Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) def. Emily Struble (Miami OH) 3-6, 7-6 (3), 6-2

Vanina Lordanova (Xavier) def. Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) 6-3, 7-5

Gold Singles Draw

Lisa Friess (WKU) def. Maddy Gilley (Miami OH) 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-4

Lisa Friess (WKU) def. Margaux Lacroix (EKU) 6-1, 7-6 (1)

Pauline Chawafambira (NIU) def. Lisa Friess (WKU) 6-3, 6-3

Gold Doubles Flight

Christopoulou/Friess (WKU) def. Berger/Sbireca (Ball State) 6-4

Christopoulou/Friess (WKU) def. Hovsepyan/Stanova (Maryland) 6-4

Baillon/Switkes (Illinois) def. Christopoulou/Friess (WKU) 6-3

Christopoulou/Friess (WKU) def. Badileanu/Shapolova (Miami OH) 6-1

Black Doubles Flight

De Ugarte/Oest (WKU) def. Shteyn/Rodriguez (Miami OH) 6-0

De Ugarte/Oest (WKU) def. Stokes/Huber (Louisville) 6-3

Casati/Pedraza (Illinois) def. De Ugarte/Oest (WKU) 6-1

De Ugarte/Oest (WKU) def. Ghidotti/Reichenbach (Xavier) 6-4

An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Oct 7-9

Gold Doubles Draw



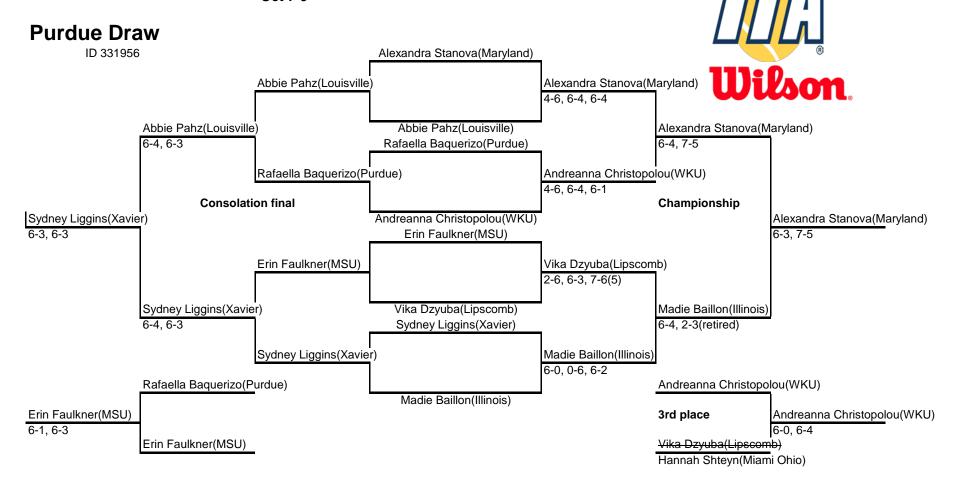
An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Oct 7-9



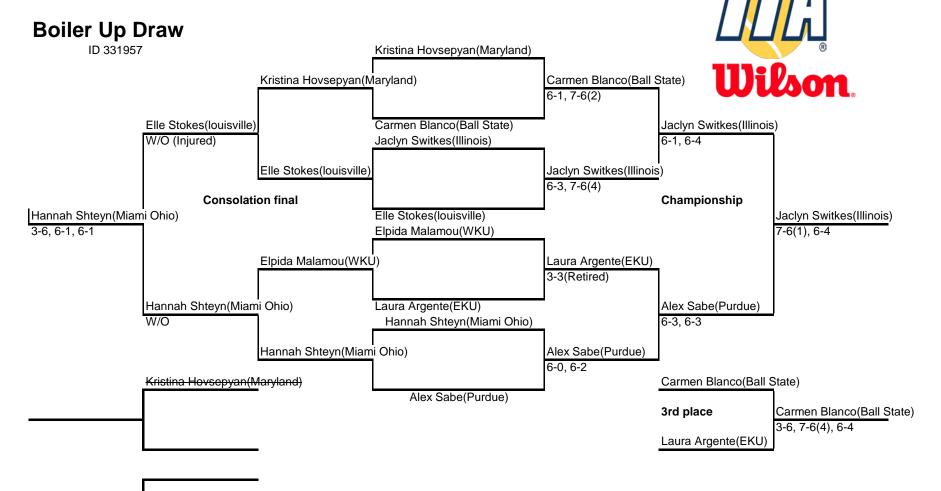
Black Doubles Draw



An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event
Oct 7-9

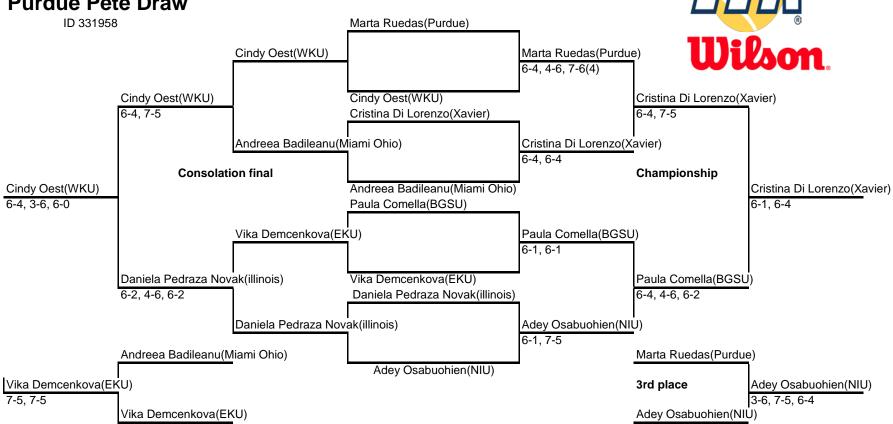


An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event
Oct 7-9



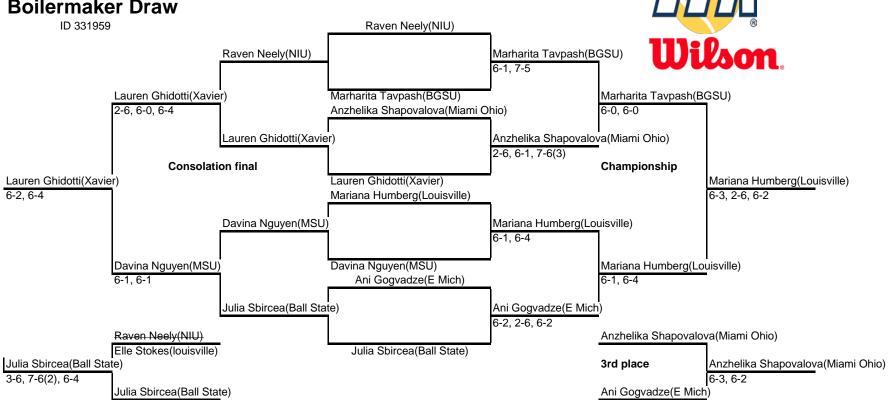
An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Oct 7-9

Purdue Pete Draw

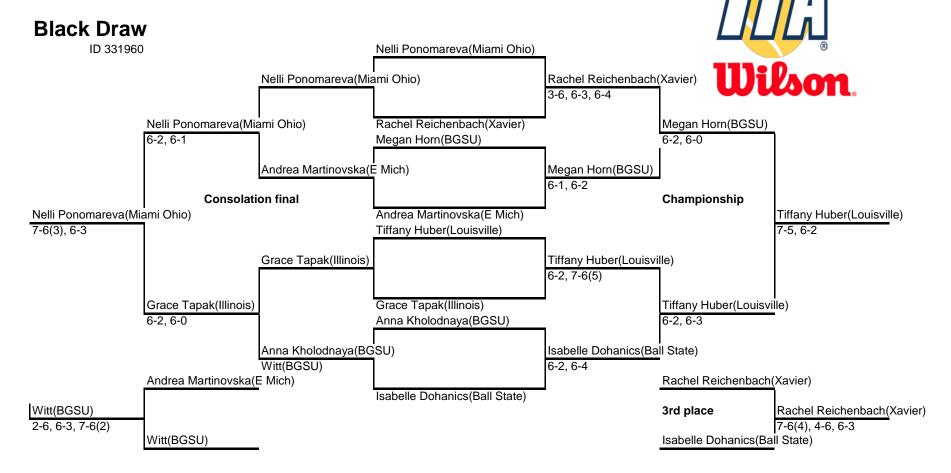


An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event Oct 7-9

Boilermaker Draw

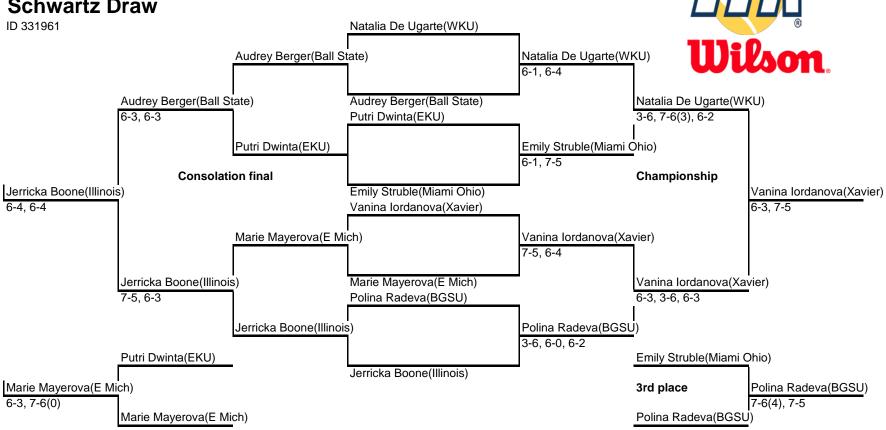


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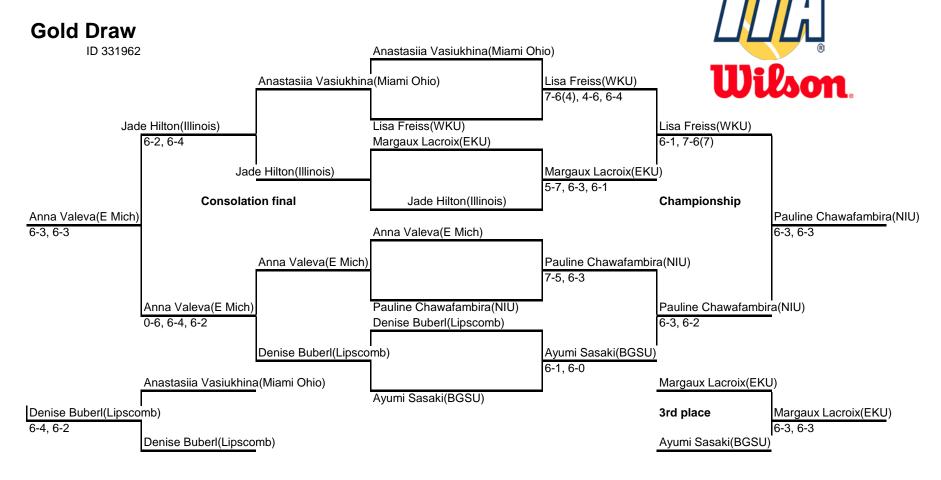


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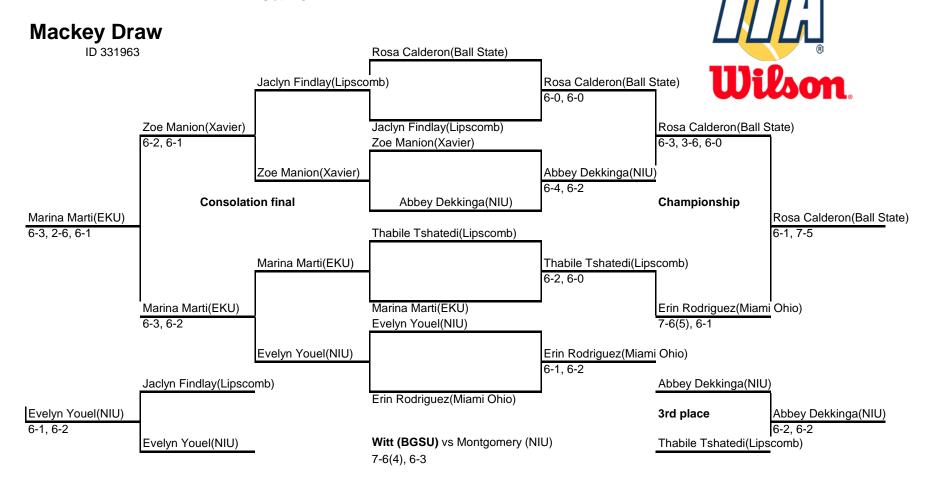
Schwartz Draw



An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event
Oct 7-9



An Intercollegiate Tennis Association Sanctioned Event
Oct 7-9



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Wednesday, October 19, 2016
Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

Coach Jonatan Berhane interview - https://goto.ps/2do0WxL
Live scoring link - http://goto.ps/2do0WxL

WKU TENNIS HEADED FOR OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU will partake in its final fall outing, as the Lady Toppers travel to Murfreesboro, Tennessee, to take on host Middle Tennessee and other representatives from the ITA Ohio Valley Regional at the Adams Tennis Complex Thursday through Monday. WKU will face its best competition to date as numerous clubs they will be competing against finished ranked in the ITA Top 75 last spring, including No. 5 Vanderbilt and No. 24 Kentucky. Coming off a weekend of rest, the Lady Toppers are playing to extend their fall season. Winners of both the singles and doubles draws will represent the Ohio Valley Region in the National Indoor Intercollegiate Championships at the UTSA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing, New York, from Nov. 3-6. Championship draws of the event will be aired on ESPN3 and WatchESPN. Coach Jonatan Berhane has been impressed with what he has seen from his players thus far. The Red and White have produced great performances in posting a tournament-best 20-wins at the Evansville Metro Collegiate Invitational while also going 14-6 in the Purdue Women's Fall Invite. Two players reached the finals in their flights from West Lafayette, Indiana.

In the final tournament before the spring season, Berhane wants the student-athletes to finish strong. "Basically, what I've told the girls is to be competitive every single match. Go out there and compete, really play their game and not hold back anything."

Teams from Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana and Ohio will compete in the weekend's Ohio Valley Regional tournament action with the draws being announced Wednesday night.

For live scoring and the draws, head to <u>Tournament Central</u> for more information.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Monday, October 24, 2016

Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

Final Results link – Ohio Valley Regional

LADY TOPPERS WRAP UP FALL SEASON AT ITA REGIONAL

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — In their toughest tournament of the fall season, the Lady Toppers shined in doubles action at the ITA Ohio Valley Regional hosted by Middle Tennessee from the Adams Tennis Complex.

The freshmen duo of Natalia De Ugarte and Cindy Oest upset Xavier's twosome in doubles and followed by knocking off Southeast Missouri State's pair by the same score of 8-3.

This marked the second time during fall play that De Ugarte and Oest beat Xavier's tandem of Lauren Ghidotti and Rachael Reichenbach as the Lady Topper duo earned a victory over the Musketeers pair in the Purdue Invite back on Oct. 8.

After earning a spot in the regional's main draw, the freshman pair beat an Evansville duo convincingly, 8-3, but faltered against Vanderbilt's Astra Sharma and Emma Kurtz.

De Ugarte and Oest tallied a 4-1 doubles record in regional action to improve their fall record when working together to an impressive 7-2.

In singles action, Violetta Shatalova continued her fall success by earning two wins over NKU's Danielle Donahue and EKU's Marina Marti before losing to eventual champion Josefina Zehnder of Middle Tennessee in the Flight B Draw.

WKU Tennis saw two players earn spots in the singles main draw. Despite claiming the opening set 6-4, Andreanna Christopoulou dropped a second-set tiebreaker and the third set against Ball State's Toni Ormond. Elpida Malamou also had a go in the main draw, falling to Kentucky's Mami Adachi in straight sets.

With the fall season coming to a close, WKU will head into the offseason with some momentum after racking up 44 combined wins in the three tournaments it competed in – the most wins in the fall under Coach Jonatan Berhane.

Final Results:

WKU Singles (5-15)

WKU Doubles (5-2)

WKU Total (10-17)

Main Singles Draw

Toni Ormond (Ball State) def. Andreanna Christopoulou (WKU) 4-6, 7-6 (6), 6-2

Mami Adachi (Kentucky) def. Elpida Malamou (WKU) 7-5, 6-4

Qualifying Singles Draw

Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) def. Margaux Lacroix (EKU) 6-0, 6-1

Hannah Sohn (Memphis) def. Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) 4-6, 6-1, 6-0

Caroline Morton (Cincinnati) def. Lisa Friess (WKU) 6-3, 6-2

Amina Hadzic (Murray State) def. Cindy Oest (WKU) 6-4, 2-6, 6-4

B Flight Singles Draw

Phyllicia Hemphill (Tennessee State) def. Cassie Pennington (WKU) 6-2, 6-3

Violetta Shatalova (WKU) def. Danielle Donahue (NKU) 6-4, 6-2

Violetta Shatalova (WKU) def. Marina Marti (EKU) 6-4, 6-0

Josefina Zehnder (MT) def. Violetta Shatalova (WKU) 6-1, 6-2

Friday Consolation Singles Draw

Vanesa Madrigal (Wright State) def. Lisa Friess (WKU) 3-6, 6-3, 1-0(6)

Elaine Cloern (Wright State) def. Cindy Oest (WKU) 7-5, 6-2

Saturday Consolation Singles Draw

Natalia De Ugarte (WKU) def. Suzanna Stapler (Belmont) 6-1, 6-2

Caroline Morton (Cincinnati) def. Elpida Malamou (WKU) 2-6, 6-3, 1-0 (3)

Zina Graves (Tennessee State) def. Lisa Friess (WKU) 6-1, 6-1

Kseniya Zonova (SE Missouri St) def. Violetta Shatalova (WKU) 4-6, 7-5, 1-0 (2)

Yi Chi Ma (ETSU) def. Cassie Pennington (WKU) 6-3, 6-1

Andreanna Christopoulou (WKU) def. Jaclyn Findlay (Lipscomb) 6-0, 6-1

Flight B Consolation Draw

Ana Albertson (APSU) def. Cassie Pennington (WKU) 6-3, 6-4

Main Doubles Draw

Oest/DeUgarte (WKU) def. Tkachenko/Yamada (Evansville) 8-3

Liggins/DiLorenzo (Xavier) def. Friess/Christopoulou (WKU) 8-4

Sharma/Kurtz (Vanderbilt) def. Oest/DeUgarte (WKU) 8-2

Qualifying Doubles Draw

Oest/De Ugarte (WKU) def. Ghidotti/Reichenbach (Xavier) 8-3

Oest/De Ugarte (WKU) def. Doroshenko/Krupa (SE Missouri St) 8-3

Saturday Consolation Doubles Draw

Oest/De Ugarte (WKU) def. Pereira/Sediri (MT) 8-4

Christopoulou/Friess (WKU) def. Magazzini/Zirilli (MT) 8-6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Wednesday, November 2, 2016
Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

Natalia De Ugarte action shot attached

DE UGARTE WINS C-USA TENNIS PLAYER OF THE MONTH

IRVING, Texas — For the first time in the Conference USA era, WKU's head coach Jonatan Berhane produced a C-USA Tennis Player of the Month in freshman Natalia De Ugarte, the league office announced Wednesday.

De Ugarte, a newcomer from Sante Cruz, Bolivia, tallied a 14-5 overall record in the three tournaments she competed in this fall, all taking place in October.

Working to a 2-1 reading each of the three singles tournaments that she played in this season, De Ugarte advanced to the finals of her draws at both the Evansville and Purdue Invite.

In the second round of action at the Purdue Invite, De Ugarte faced elimination after dropping set one to Emily Struble of Miami (Ohio). The freshman went on to force a second-set tiebreaker, which she won 7-3 and then claimed set three 6-2, which propelled her into the championship match of the Schwartz Flight.

In doubles, facing her best competition in the ITA Ohio Valley Regional, De Ugarte swept the field with her partner Cindy Oest, going 3-0 on the weekend. Additionally, De Ugarte and Oest knocked off a Power Five-program duo in Stokes and Huber of Louisville at the Purdue Invite convincingly, 6-3. With fall play concluded, WKU Tennis will head into the offseason carrying some momentum after racking up 60 combined wins in the three tournaments it competed in – the most wins in the fall under Berhane.

De Ugarte's Fall Results

<u>Singles</u> (6-3)

Katya Bure (Cincinnati) W, 6-7 (3), 7-6 (5), 10-3 Evansville Invite Andrea Plantada (UT-Martin) W, 6-0, 6-1 Evansville Invite Anna Philip (Cincinnati) L, 3-6, 6-3, 11-13 Evansville Invite Audrey Berger (Ball State) W, 6-1, 6-4 Purdue Invite Emily Struble (Miami OH) W, 3-6, 7-6 (3), 6-2 Purdue Invite Vanina Lordanova (Xavier) L, 3-6, 5-7 Purdue Invite Margaux Lacroix (EKU) W, 6-0, 6-1 ITA Regionals Hannah Sohn (Memphis) L, 6-4, 1-6, 0-6 ITA Regionals Suzanna Stapler (Belmont) W, 6-1, 6-2 ITA Regionals Doubles (8-2)

Tari/Naito (UT-Martin) L, 4-6 Evansville Invite Shipman/Hambrock (USI) W, 6-0 Evansville Invite Yamada/Soldatou (Evansville) W, 6-1 Evansville Invite Shteyn/Rodriguez (Miami OH) W, 6-0 Purdue Invite Stokes/Huber (Louisville) W, 6-3 Purdue Invite Casati/Pedraza (Illinois) L, 1-6 Purdue Invite Ghidotti/Reichenbach (Xavier) W, 6-4 Purdue Invite Doroshenko/Krupa (SOMO) W, 8-3 ITA Regionals Ghidotti/Reichenbach (Xavier) W, 8-3 ITA Regionals Pereira/Sediri (MT) W, 8-4 ITA Regionals



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Friday, December 9, 2016
Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

Headshot and action photo attached

MALINEN ADDED TO INCOMING WKU TENNIS CLASS

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis head coach Jonatan Berhane announced Friday afternoon that Finland product Monica Malinen has signed an NLI with the Lady Toppers. She will enroll in January and will be set to compete for the 2017 spring season.

The Oulu, Finland, native posted a notable prep career, garnering a personal best ranking of 721 in the ITF Junior Rankings.

Malinen, partnering with Milka-Emilia Pasanen, won the 2015 TATS Open on the doubles side, stringing together four wins. In addition, the incoming freshman took home the singles title, defeating five opponents in the 32-person field, including No. 316 Anastasia Sukhotina of Russia in the championship match.

"Monica is a player that is under the radar because she has not played a lot of international tournaments, but when she has, she's done very well," said Berhane. "She is solid from the baseline, moves well on the court and very good at the net. She is the right addition for our team and will add depth to our team."

Malinen also was on the Finland Fed Cup National Team, competing at the No. 6 spot in the 2016 event. She added two more ITF tournament crowns in 2015 – MTV Total and Junior Cup. Before submitting her NLI to WKU, Malinen was recruited by SEC tennis powerhouse South Carolina and Central Florida out of the AAC.





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Monday, December 12, 2016 Tennis / Contact: Lance Dozier, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

PDF attached

WKU TENNIS ANNOUNCES 2017 SPRING SCHEDULE

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis head coach Jonatan Berhane announced Monday afternoon the upcoming spring slate for the Lady Toppers. The young group, featuring four freshmen, will play 16 regular season matches, including three home tilts at the WKU Tennis Complex.

The schedule features two Power Five programs in Louisville and Indiana, in addition to two teams (Ball State and East Tennessee State) that made the 2016 NCAA Tournament. WKU kicks off the year on Jan. 27 versus Detroit Mercy for a neutral site contest in Louisville, Kentucky, before facing the Cardinals the following day.

The squad will spend the month of February on the road, traveling to Middle Tennessee, Indiana, Belmont and Lipscomb. Additionally, WKU Tennis will take on Arkansas State in Lexington, Kentucky, on Feb. 17.

March will headline the most matches of any month with eight contests. The Lady Toppers open the month hosting Austin Peay in their first home contest of 2017, followed by an away match in Muncie, Indiana, versus 2016 Mid-American Conference champion Ball State. Hitting the road again, WKU Tennis will go on a West Coast swing to the Golden State. The Lady Toppers will clash against three West Coast Conference opponents in Santa Clara, San Francisco and Pacific.

WKU completes the regular season with matchups against Butler, Evansville, Chattanooga and East Tennessee State. Matches against both Evansville and East Tennessee State will wrap up WKU's home slate.

With three 2017 tilts at the WKU Tennis Complex, the team will host the most regular season matches at the site in program history.

Postseason play begins on April 20 with the Conference USA Championship in Denton, Texas, hosted by North Texas.

WKU TENNIS 2017 SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME (CT)
Jan. 27	Detroit Mercy	Louisville, Kentucky	2 PM
Jan. 28	Louisville	Louisville, Kentucky	11 AM
Feb. 4	Middle Tennessee	Murfreesboro, Tennessee	10 AM
Feb. 5	Indiana	Bloomington, Indiana	2 PM
Feb. 11	Belmont	Nashville, Tennessee	6 PM
Feb. 12	Lipscomb	Nashville, Tennessee	7 PM
Feb. 17	Arkansas State	Lexington, Kentucky	Noon
March 3	Austin Peay	Bowling Green, Kentucky	2 PM
March 5	Ball State	Muncie, Indiana	11 AM
March 11	Santa Clara	Santa Clara, California	11 AM
March 12	San Francisco	San Francisco, California	3 PM
March 14	Pacific	Stockton, California	1 AM
March 18	Butler	Nashville, Tennessee	11 AM
March 24	Evansville	Bowling Green, Kentucky	Noon
March 31	Chattanooga	Chattanooga, Tennessee	3 PM
April 12	East Tennessee State	Bowling Green, Kentucky	ТВА
April 20-23	C-USA Championship	Denton, Texas	ТВА