

NIELSEN PRO TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS WINNETKA, IL • JUNE 26 – JULY 2

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Site: A.C. Nielsen Tennis Center
Winnetka, Ill.

Websites: www.nielsenprotennis.com
www.procircuit.usta.com

Qualifying Draw Begins: Sunday, June 26

Main Draw Begins: Monday, June 27

Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles

Surface: Hard / Outdoors

Prize Money: \$50,000

Tournament Director:
Linda Goodman, (312) 505-7969
lgoodco@aol.com

Tournament Press Contact:
Casey Adler, (847) 446-1700
casey.j.adler@gmail.com

Vicky Junge, (847) 702-1523
vickyjunge@mac.com

USTA Communications Contacts:
Amanda Korba, (914) 697-2219, korba@usta.com
Eric Schuster, (914) 696-7260, schuster@usta.com

PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

SINGLES:	Prize Money	Ranking Points
Winner	\$7,200	80
Runner-up	\$4,240	48
Semifinalist	\$2,510	29
Quarterfinalist	\$1,460	15
Round of 16	\$860	7
Round of 32	\$520	1

DOUBLES:	Prize Money (per team)
Winner	\$3,100
Runner-up	\$1,800
Semifinalist	\$1,080
Quarterfinalist	\$640
Round of 16	\$360

USTA PRO CIRCUIT MEN'S CHALLENGER BACK IN WINNETKA

The **Nielsen Pro Tennis Championship** is returning to Winnetka for the sixth consecutive year and for the 20th time overall. It is the sixth Challenger on the 2011 USTA Pro Circuit calendar and is one of five USTA Pro Circuit men's events held in Illinois. (Champaign holds a \$50,000 Challenger in November and two \$10,000 Futures events are held later this summer.) It is the first hard court Challenger of the summer season.

Expected in this year's main draw is **Michael Russell**, the highest-ranked player in the field and the men's all-time leader in USTA Pro Circuit singles titles with 22. In February 2011, Russell qualified for the ATP World Tour event in Memphis and went on to reach the quarterfinals, and he also qualified for ATP Masters Series events in Indian Wells, Calif., and Miami. He competed at Wimbledon last week and faced Rafael Nadal in the first round. Also in the field is fellow Top 100 player **Robert Kendrick**, who finished first on the 2010 USTA Pro Circuit prize money list after advancing to the singles finals of five \$50,000 Challengers, including a victory at the Challenger in Charlottesville, Va. Like Russell, Kendrick reached the quarterfinals of the ATP World Tour event in Memphis after qualifying for the main draw.

Also expected in the main draw this week is **Tim Smyczek**, the Winnetka runner-up in 2009 and 2010 and a four-time champion on the USTA Pro Circuit. Smyczek won an eight-man USTA wild card playoff to earn a spot in the main draw of the 2010 US Open—his first Grand Slam main draw appearance—and won a similar USTA wild card playoff to earn a spot



James Blake, who won the USTA Pro Circuit \$75,000 Challenger in Sarasota, Fla., this year, peaked at No. 4 in the world in 2006 and has captured 10 ATP World Tour singles titles.

in the main draw of the 2011 French Open. He also qualified for Indian Wells earlier this year, advancing to the second round.

Receiving a main draw wild card is **James Blake**, a central figure in American tennis, who is playing in his fourth USTA Pro Circuit tournament of the year after winning the \$75,000 Challenger in Sarasota, Fla., this spring. Blake peaked at No. 4 in the world in 2006 after reaching the quarterfinals of the 2006 US Open and the final of the year-end Tennis Masters Cup. Blake also reached the quarterfinals of the 2005 US Open, upsetting Rafael Nadal en route, before losing to Andre Agassi in a five-set thriller. Blake has captured 10 ATP World Tour singles titles and holds a 21-12 career record (18-11 in singles) in Davis Cup, where he was member of the championship team in 2007.

Others expected in the main draw are: **Bobby Reynolds**, a two-time All-American at Vanderbilt who reached a career-high No. 63 on the ATP World Tour in 2008 and owns 26 USTA Pro Circuit titles (eight singles); **Alex Kuznetsov**, the 2004 French



Michael Russell, the all-time leader in USTA Pro Circuit singles titles with 22, competed in Wimbledon last week and faced Rafael Nadal in the first round.

Open boys' finalist who has reached eight USTA Pro Circuit singles finals and won two Challenger titles; and **Donald Young**, who won his sixth USTA Pro Circuit singles title in Tallahassee in early April, defeating James Blake and former Australian Open runner-up Rainer Schuettler en route. Young also defeated world No. 5 Andy Murray en route to the third round in Indian Wells. Young first broke into the Top 100 in 2007 after reaching the third round of the US Open and advancing to the singles final of seven USTA Pro Circuit tournaments.

Those expected in qualifying include: former Top 15 player **Robby Ginepri**, who has yet to play in 2011 as he recovers from an arm injury that has sidelined him since the 2010 US Open, but in his career has reached the fourth round or better at all four Grand Slam events; former University of Kentucky standout **Jesse Witten**, who posted the best Grand Slam result of his career at the 2009 US Open by qualifying and knocking off two Top 100 players before falling to Novak Djokovic in four sets in the third round; **Jesse Levine**, who played one year at the University of Florida and had his best showing at a Grand Slam event at Wimbledon in 2009, defeating two-time Grand Slam tournament champion Marat Safin and advancing to the third round; and 2009 Wimbledon boys' singles finalist **Jordan Cox**, who won his first pro title last year at a \$15,000 event in Korea and reached the semifinals or better at three USTA Pro Circuit events in the latter half of 2010.

Also expected in qualifying include the three most recent NCAA singles champions: 2011 champion **Steve Johnson**, who also helped lead the USC Trojans to their third consecutive NCAA team title; 2010 champion **Bradley Klahn**, a junior at Stanford who is a former No. 1 in the USTA Boys' 18s National Standings; and 2009 champion **Devin Britton**, the youngest man to win the NCAA singles title, as a University of Mississippi freshman, and the boys' singles finalist at the 2008 US Open.

Many current and former ATP World Tour stars have found success in Winnetka. **Sam Querrey**, the 2006 singles champion, is currently ranked No. 40 and won four ATP World Tour titles in 2010, including a title on every surface. He also represented the United States in Davis Cup and is the No. 3-ranked American behind Mardy Fish and Andy Roddick. 1999 doubles champion **James Blake** peaked at No. 4 in the world in 2006 after he reached the quarterfinals of the US Open and won five singles titles. Blake also was a member of the U.S. Davis Cup team, helping lead the United States to the Davis Cup title in 2007. **Todd Martin**, the singles runner-up in Winnetka in 1989 and 1991, went on to reach the final of the 1994 Australian Open and 1999 US Open, ranked No. 4 in the world and won eight career ATP singles titles.

WINNETKA PAST WINNERS

Singles			Doubles	
Year	Winner	Runner-Up	Year	Winner
2010	Brian Dabul (ARG)	Tim Smyczek (USA)	2010	Ryler DeHeart (USA) / Pierre-Ludovic Duclos (CAN)
2009	Alex Kuznetsov (USA)	Tim Smyczek (USA)	2009	Carsten Ball (AUS) / Travis Rettenmaier (USA)
2008	Rajeev Ram (USA)	Scoville Jenkins (USA)	2008	Todd Widom (USA) / Michael Yani (USA)
2007	Noam Okun (ISR)	Kevin Anderson (RSA)	2007	Patrick Briaud (USA) / Chris Drake (USA)
2006	Sam Querrey (USA)	Andrea Stoppini (ITA)	2006	Cecil Mamiit (PHI) / Eric Taino (USA)
2000	Takao Suzuki (JPN)	Yong-Il Yoon (KOR)	2000	Hyung-Taik Lee (KOR) / Yong-Il Yoon (KOR)
1999	Alex O'Brien (USA)	Max Mirnyi (BLR)	1999	James Blake (USA) / Thomas Blake (USA)
1998	Geoff Grant (USA)	Diego Nargiso (ITA)	1998	Grant Silcock (AUS) / Myles Wakefield (RSA)
1997	Gianluca Pozzi (ITA)	Wayne Black (ZIM)	1997	Michael Sell (USA) / Myles Wakefield (RSA)
1994	Vince Spadea (USA)	Cristiano Caratti (ITA)	1994	Brian MacPhie (USA) / David Witt (USA)
1993	Kevin Ullyett (ZIM)	Maurice Ruah (VEN)	1993	Wayne Arthurs (AUS) / Mark Petchey (GBR)
1992	Chuck Adams (USA)	Steve Bryan (USA)	1992	Andrew Kratzmann (AUS) / Roger Rasheed (AUS)
1991	Byron Black (ZIM)	Todd Martin (USA)	1991	Byron Black (ZIM) / Scott Melville (USA)
1990	Cristiano Caratti (ITA)	Chris Garner (USA)	1990	Zeeshan Ali (IND) / Menno Oosting (NED)
1989	Brian Garrow (USA)	Todd Martin (USA)	1989	Ville Jansson (SWE) / Scott Warner (USA)
1988	Jeff Tarango (USA)	Gianluca Pozzi (ITA)	1988	Recardo Acuna (CHI) / Royce Deppe (RSA)
1987	Simon Youl (AUS)	Roberto Saad (ARG)	1987	Tobias Svantesson (SWE) / John Tremli (USA)
1985	Barry Moir (RSA)	Harold Solomon (USA)	1985	Ricky Brown (USA) / Luke Jensen (USA)
1984	Marc Flur (USA)	Mike Leach (USA)	1984	Dan Goldie (USA) / Michael Kures (USA)

USTA PRO CIRCUIT

With 90-plus tournaments hosted annually throughout the country and prize money ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000, the USTA Pro Circuit is the pathway to the US Open and tour-level competition for aspiring tennis players and a frequent battleground for established professionals. The USTA launched its Pro Circuit 32 years ago to provide players with the opportunity to gain professional ranking points, and it has since grown to become the largest developmental tennis circuit in the world, offering more than \$2.5 million in prize money. Last year, more than 1,000 men and women from more than 70 countries competed in cities nationwide. **Maria Sharapova, Andy Roddick, Caroline Wozniacki, James Blake, Justine Henin, Andy Murray** and **Sam Querrey** are among today's top stars who began their careers on the USTA Pro Circuit.

The USTA Pro Circuit helped launch the careers of two young Americans—**Melanie Oudin** and **John Isner**. Oudin began 2009 ranked No. 177, but climbed the rankings by winning back-to-back \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit events. With a boost in confidence, she reached the fourth round of Wimbledon and the quarterfinals of the 2009 US Open. She peaked at world No. 31 in 2010 and has been a crucial player on the U.S. Fed Cup team. Isner joined the USTA Pro Circuit after turning pro in 2007 and jump-started the best season of his career by winning the Tallahassee Challenger in 2009. Subsequently, he reached the semifinals at two Olympus US Open Series events and upset Andy Roddick en route to the fourth round at the 2009 US Open. Last year, Isner captured his first tour title, reached three tour finals, and also won the longest match in history at Wimbledon. He finished 2010 ranked in the Top 20.



John Isner

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

The USTA Player Development program identifies and develops the next generation of American champions by surrounding the top junior players and young pros with the resources, facilities and coaching they need to reach their maximum potential. The Player Development program is based at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., and also utilizes Training Centers in Carson, Calif., and Flushing, N.Y., as well as a series of Certified Regional Training Centers located throughout the continental United States.

10 AND UNDER TENNIS

10 and Under Tennis is a nationwide USTA initiative that uses the QuickStart Tennis play format and takes a better approach to introducing kids to the game. Balls are lower in compression, so they are easier to hit; racquets are sized for small hands; and the courts are smaller and easier to cover. Full-sized courts can now be reconfigured to accommodate up to six 36-foot courts. In turn, kids learn, rally, play and compete right from the start, and the game becomes more accessible and fun for them. For more information, visit www.10andundertennis.com.

NJTL

Cities across the country participate in the USTA/National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) network, a nationwide network of community tennis organizations seeking to develop the character of young people through both tennis and education. Founded by Arthur Ashe in 1969, more than 550 registered chapters/programs exist throughout the nation with more than 220,000 participants ages 6-18, making NJTL one of the USTA's largest community-based initiatives.

US OPEN NATIONAL PLAYOFFS

The USTA launched the US Open National Playoffs last year, making the US Open "open" to anyone age 14+ and of all skill levels. 859 men and 373 women competed in 16 Sectional Qualifying Tournaments nationwide for a 2010 US Open Qualifying Tournament wild card. Blake Strode, 23, of St. Louis, and Alexandra Mueller, 22, of Abington, Pa., won the men's and women's wild cards.



Registration for the 2011 US Open National Playoffs is now open with a mixed doubles event added this year. The mixed doubles champions receive a US Open main draw mixed doubles wild card and the singles champions again earn a qualifying wild card.