



Women's Open Adds Top Players To Already Strong Field

MASON – June 13, 2007 – A field that is already expected to host five of the world's top 20 has been boosted with the addition of 17 players - all ranked in the top 77 - for the upcoming Western & Southern Financial Group Women's Open.

The list includes Marion Bartoli, whose world ranking has been as high as No. 17, and 2006 Wimbledon quarterfinalist Severine Bremond. Other top 50 competitors added to the draw include 2005 Cincinnati finalist Akiko Morigami, American Meilen Tu, and 2006 Cincinnati doubles finalist Sania Mirza.

These players, along with others, join the six competitors who've already committed to the field: Serena Williams, Anna Chakvetadze, Patty Schnyder, Vera Zvonareva, Katarina Srebotnik and Maria Kirilenko. Williams, Schnyder, Zvonareva and Srebotnik, all top 20 players, were the four semifinalists in Cincinnati in 2006.

Bartoli, of France, is the world's No. 21 ranked player, and holds a 5-3 career record at Cincinnati in three appearances. In 2006, she climbed 23 spots in the rankings to record the first top 20 finish of her career. Thus far in 2007, she has reached the finals at Prague, the semifinals at Strasbourg and the Round of 16 at the French Open.

In May, Morigami defeated top-seeded Bartoli in the finals at Prague to capture her first career Sony Ericsson WTA Tour singles title, and climb to No. 49 in the rankings. In 2005 at the W&SFG Women's Open, Morigami defeated No. 2 seed Vera Zvonareva and No. 4 seed Daniela Hantuchova en route to the finals before falling to No. 1 seed Patty Schnyder.

Mirza, India's top-ranked player, has also had past success at Cincinnati. She has a 4-2 singles record here, including an appearance in the quarterfinals in each of the last two years. In 2006, Mirza teamed with Marta Domachowska to reach the doubles final before falling to the top-seeded pair of Maria Elena Camerin and Gisela Dulko in the title match.

Last year was Bremond's best season to date. She reached the Wimbledon quarterfinals and finished the year at No. 39, bettering her 2005 ranking by more than 60 spots. Tu, a two-time doubles semifinalist here, has reached the semifinals at Memphis and the Round of 16 at Amelia Island this year and is ranked No. 39.

The 23 players directly accepted into the main draw and two exemptions, their countries and their rankings as of June 8:

Player	From	Rank	Player	From	Rank
1 Williams, Serena	USA	8	14 Vesnina, Elena	RUS	65
2 Chakvetadze, Anna	RUS	9	15 Rodionova, Anastasia	RUS	66
3 Schnyder, Patty	SUI	15	16 Sequera, Milagros	VEN	69
4 Zvonareva, Vera	RUS	19	17 Granville, Laura	USA	70
5 Srebotnik, Katarina	SLO	20	18 Perry, Shenay	USA	71
6 Bartoli, Marion	FRA	21	19 Craybas, Jill	USA	73
7 Bremond, Severine	FRA	34	20 King, Vania	USA	74
8 Tu, Meilen	USA	39	21 Jidkova, Alina	RUS	74
9 Kirilenko, Maria	RUS	44	22 Pin, Camille	FRA	75
10 Morigami, Akiko	JPN	49	23 Shvedova, Yaroslava	RUS	77
11 Mirza, Sania	IND	50	E Osterloh, Lilia	USA	117
12 Bardina, Vasilisa	RUS	60	E Oлару, Iona-Raluca	ROU	122
13 Shaughnessy, Meghann	USA	61			

The tournament will bestow its three wild cards sometime before the draw on Saturday, July 14. Four spots will be determined by a qualifying tournament held on July 14 & 15. In addition, one spot in the draw will be reserved for the winner of ITF event in Torrent,



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Tournament played at the Lindner Family Tennis Center, Mason, Ohio, and operated by Tennis for Charity, Inc.
Played for the benefit of the Charles M. Barrett Cancer Center.

Spain played in April (Iona-Raluca Olaru of Romania, currently ranked No. 122) and the winner of ITF event in Monzon, Spain played in May (Lilia Osterloh, a native of Columbus, Ohio, currently ranked No. 117).

Here's how the 32-woman main draw is comprised:

Direct Acceptance	23	Announced today.
Wild Cards	3	These are three spots in the main draw filled at the tournament's discretion. These spots will be determined between now and the draw ceremony at noon on Saturday, July 14.
Qualifiers	4	Four players who win two matches in the 32-draw qualifier on July 14 & 15 are placed into the main draw.
Exemptions	2	Two spots are left open for players who win smaller events in April and May. (Iona-Raluca Olaru won the April event and Lilia Osterloh won the May event.)
Total	32	

The main draw of the 2007 Western & Southern Financial Group Women's Open will be held July 16-22 at the Lindner Family Tennis Center in Mason, Ohio.

The qualifying event for the tournament will be held on July 14 & 15 (with some qualifying matches the morning of Monday, July 16). The ceremony to place the players into the main draw will be open to anyone with a ticket to the qualifying matches on July 14. It will be held at noon in the Foodcourt, and adult tickets to the qualifying are only \$5, free for kids 14-and-under.

For tickets or information visit www.cincytennis.com, or call 513-651-0303. Tickets also are available via TicketMaster at 513-562-4949 or www.ticketmaster.com.