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ATP PR & Marketing: Richard Evans (revans@atpworldtour.com),James Masur (jmasur@atpworldtour.com) |Press Room:61 2 9024 7743

THURSDAY PREVIEW – EIGHT DIFFERENT COUNTRIES REPRESENTED IN QUARTER-FINALS

- For the first time in 10 years, the quarter-finals of the Apia International Sydney are comprised of players from eight different countries. Among the quarter-finalists are two seeds, last year's finalists and the two youngest players in the Top 100 Emirates ATP Rankings.

- In the opening match of the day on Ken Rosewall Arena, a doubles quarter-final features unseeded **Mahesh Bhupathi** of India and **Daniel Nestor** of Canada against No. 4 seeds **Max Mirnyi** of Belarus and **Horia Tecau** of Romania. Both teams are teaming up together for the first time this season. Bhupathi won the title here in 2005 and Nestor is a three-time champion (1999, '01, '10)

- In the first singles match on, American qualifier **Ryan Harrison** takes on last year's runner-up **Julien Benneteau** of France for the first time. Harrison posted the highest-ranked win of his career on Wednesday over top seed/No. 13-ranked John Isner. The 20-year-old Louisiana native is the second-youngest player in the Top 100 at No. 68 this week. Last season Harrison finished a year-end best No. 70 with three ATP World Tour semi-finals. Benneteau is one of four players left trying to win a first career ATP World Tour title (0-7 in finals). The 31-year-old finished a personal-best No. 35 last season.

- In the evening session, No. 2 Aussie **Bernard Tomic** meets defending champion **Jarkko Nieminen** of Finland for the first time. Both players have yet to drop a set in their first two wins. The 20-year-old Tomic, who is the youngest player in the Top 100, is appearing in his first quarter-final in Sydney and second ATP World Tour quarter-final or better on home soil. He was a semi-finalist in Brisbane last year. Tomic finished last season No. 52 after reaching a career-high No. 27 on June 11. He is No. 64 this week. The 31-year-old Nieminen, who was a qualifier a year ago, has a 12-4 career record in Sydney. He defeated Benneteau in last year's final and was runner-up in 2009 (l. to Nalbandian). Nieminen is the oldest player remaining in the quarter-finals.

- In the final match, No. 8 seed **Marcel Granollers** of Spain brings a 2-1 record against No. 3 seed **Andreas Seppi** of Italy. Granollers won the last meeting on clay in Stuttgart in July 2011. In their only hard court meeting, the Spaniard came back from a two-set deficit in the first round at the US Open in 2010. Granollers is appearing in his first quarter-final in Sydney. Last season the 26-year-old Spaniard finished in the Top 50 for the third year in a row at No. 34. He also teamed with countryman Marc Lopez to capture the doubles crown at the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals in London. Seppi is coming off his best season in which he won two ATP World Tour titles and finished a year-end high No. 23. He is trying to reach his second semi-final in Sydney. In his debut in 2006, he reached the semis, defeating No. 4 Lleyton Hewitt along the way in the quarter-finals (l. to Andreev).

- On Grandstand, last year's semi-finalist **Denis Istomin** of Uzbekistan and top South African **Kevin Anderson** square off for the first time. Last season Istomin finished in the Top 50 for the second time in three years at No. 43, with a runner-up in San Jose (l. to Raonic). Anderson won his second career ATP World Tour title in Delray Beach (d. Matosevic) and finished in the Top 40 for the second year in a row at No. 37. He is making his main draw debut this week in Sydney. In 2009, lost in 2R of qualifying.

- **YOUNGEST IN TOP 100 –** The two youngest players in the Top 100 Emirates ATP Rankings are in the quarter-finals on Thursday. Here is a look at the Top 5 youngest players in the Top 100:

Rank	Age
No. 64 Bernard Tomic (AUS)	**20 years, 2 months**
No. 68 Ryan Harrison (USA)	**20 years, 8 days**
No. 41 Grigor Dimitrov (BUL)	21 years, 7 months
No. 78 Andrey Kuznetsov (RUS)	21 years, 10 months
No. 15 Milos Raonic (CAN)	22 years, 14 days

THURSDAY QUARTER-FINALS FedEx ATP Head 2 Head – In Order of Play by Court

Ken Rosewall Arena

(Q) Ryan Harrison (USA) vs Julien Benneteau (FRA) First Meeting

Harrison FastFacts:
2012 Highlights:
SF(3): San Jose (l Raonic); Eastbourne (l Seppi); Newport (l Isner); **QF**: Houston (l Russell)
YTD W-L: 23-24 (2-1 this year)
YTD Titles: 0/Career Titles: 0
Date of Birth: May 7, 1992
Emirates 2013 ATP Ranking: 70 (year-end), 68 (this week)

- **Harrison**, 20, is appearing in the quarter-finals in his Sydney debut after qualifying into the main draw with three wins. In 1R, defeated Roberto Bautista Agut, who retired at 2-1 due to lower abdominal pain, and followed with a 64 64 victory over top seed/World No. 13 John Isner (highest-ranked win of career)
- Last week made his season debut in Brisbane (as a qualifier) and lost in 1R to Tommy Robredo 64 76
- The last American to reach the semis here was Mardy Fish in 2010 (l. to Baghdatis). Last year two qualifiers reached the semis with Jarkko Nieminen winning the title and Denis Istomin losing in SF
- The young American improved his year-end ranking for a fifth straight season to finish at No. 70
- Came in No. 68 and will move to around No. 58 and if he reaches SF, to around No. 54
- Won a personal-best 23 matches and achieved a career-high No. 43 on July 16 after third SF of year in Newport (l. to Isner). Also, SF in San Jose (l. to Raonic) in February and Eastbourne (l. to Seppi) in June. On clay, reached QF in Houston (l. to Russell)
- Made Davis Cup live debut in QF tie vs. France and lost to No.6 Tsonga in four sets in opening rubber (and to Simon in dead rubber). First American teen to play live rubber since Roddick in '01
- In Grand Slam play, reached 2R at Wimbledon (d. Lu, l. to No.1 Djokovic) and US Open (d. Becker, l. to No.8 del Potro in four sets). AII four Slam losses came to Top 15 opponents
- Compiled records of 11-13 on hard, 7-4 on grass and 5-7 on clay. Went 0-6 vs. Top 10 opponents, highest ranked win came vs. No. 25 Troicki in Indian Wells. Earned a career-high $480,018

Benneteau FastFacts:
2012 Highlights:
F(2): **Sydney** (l Nieminen); Kuala Lumpur (l Monaco); **SF**: San Jose (l Istomin)
YTD W-L: 27-23 (2-1 this year)
YTD Titles: 0
Career Titles: 0
Date of Birth: December 20, 1981
Emirates ATP Ranking: 35 (year-end, this week)

- **Benneteau**, 31, is playing in Sydney for the fifth straight year (9-5 record) and this week defeated Spaniard Pablo Andujar 63 57 62 and No. 6 Radek Stepanek, who retired at 40-15 in the first game due a back injury. Last year reached the final with four straight-set Top 50 wins before losing to Nieminen in the final. In 2010, advanced to semi-finals (l. to Gasquet)
- Trying to extend streak to seven years of having a Frenchman reach semi-finals in Sydney
- Last week opened season in Brisbane and lost in 1R to Nieminen 63 26 61
- Last season the Frenchman finished a year-end high No. 35, highlighted by ATP World Tour finals in Sydney (l. to Nieminen) and Kuala Lumpur (d. No.5 Ferrer in SF, l. to Monaco)
- Has played in 204 career tournaments going into Sydney without an ATP World Tour title (0-7 in finals)
- Also made SF in San Jose (l. to lstomin) and reached 3R in each Grand Slam with 3 losses coming to Top 10 opponents- No.8 Tipsarevic at Roland Garros, No.3 Federer in five sets at Wimbledon and No.2 Djokovic at US Open
- Suffered right wrist and elbow injuries in Monte-Carlo and missed a month
- Posted Top 20 wins overNo.19 F. Lopez in Sydney and No.14 Simon at Australian Open
- Went 1-8 vs. Top 10 foes and compiled records of 19-16 on hard, 4-3 on clay and 4-4 on grass
- In doubles, won bronze medal at London Olympics (w/Gasquet)

Bernard Tomic (AUS) vs Jarkko Nieminen (FIN) First Meeting

Tomic FastFacts:
2012 Highlights:
SF: Brisbane (l Murray); **QF(3)**: Delray Beach (l Isner); Munich (l Lopez); Bangkok (l Gasquet)
YTD W-L: 26-27 (2-0 this year)
YTD Titles: 0/Career Titles: 0
Date of Birth: October 21, 1992
Emirates ATP Ranking: 52 (year-end), 64 (this week)

- **Tomic**, 20, is playing in the main draw for the second time. On Tuesday, he defeated top countryman Marinko Matosevic 63 64, converting four of six break pts. and followed on Wednesday with a 76(4) 62 win over No. 5 seed Florian Mayer (hitting 14 aces). Two years ago in his debut, qualified (ranked No. 209) and lost to Alexandr Dolgopolov in three sets in 1R
- Came in ranked No. 64 and will move to around No. 58 and to around No. 54 if he reaches semi-finals
- In 2012, the No.2 Australian (behind No.49 Matosevic) was youngest player in Top 100 for second year in a row, highlighted by SF in opening week of season in Brisbane (l. to Murray) and three QF results
- In Grand Slam play, advanced to 4R on home soil at Australian Open (d. Verdasco, Querrey, Dolgopolov, l. to Federer). Lost in 2R at Roland Garros (d. Haider-Maurer, l. to Giraldo) and US Open (d. Berlocq, l. to Roddick)
- Played in two Davis Cup ties and went 3-1 in singles (1-1 vs Germany in World Group play-off tie in Hamburg, d. Stebe, l. to F. Mayer)
- Compiled records of 17-13 on hard, 8-10 on clay and 1-4 on grass. Went 0-6 vs. Top 10 opponents and highest-ranked win came over No.13 Dolgopolov at Australian Open

TOMIC DOWN UNDER – Tomic has a 17-10 career record in ATP World Tour level events in Australia, including 8-2 last season (only losses to Murray and Federer):

Tournament	Career Record	Best Result
Brisbane	3-4	SF - 2012 (l. to Murray)
Sydney	2-1	QF - 2013 (vs. Nieminen)
Australian Open	7-4	4th Rd. - 2012 (l. to Federer)
Davis Cup	5-1	-----

Nieminen FastFacts:
2012 Highlights:
W: Sydney (d Benneteau); **SF**: Bangkok (l Gasquet); **QF(3)**: Montpellier (l Monfils); Rotterdam (l Federer); Belgrade (l Paire)
YTD W-L: 26-27 (3-1 this year)
YTD Titles: 1
Career Titles: 2
Date of Birth: July 23, 1981
Emirates ATP Ranking: 41 (year-end), 44 (this week)

- **Nieminen**, 31, the reigning champion (d. Benneteau) who qualified last year into the main draw, comes into the quarters with a 12-4 career record. On Tuesday, he defeated German qualifier Bjorn Phau 60 61 in 42 minutes (only lost six pts. on serve) and followed with a 63 61 win over lucky loser Ivo Klec. In 2009, reached the final (d. No. 3 Djokovic, l. to Nalbandian)
- Opened season last week in Brisbane and reached 2R (d. Benneteau, ret. vs Dolgopolov w/migraine)
- Last season the top Finnish player ranked in Top 50 for eighth time in past 11 years, highlighted by his second career ATP World Tour title in Sydney. Lone qualifier to win title during season
- Also reached SF in Bangkok (l. to Gasquet) and QF in Montpellier and Rotterdam, all indoors, and on clay in Belgrade (l. to Paire)
- Has ranked in Top 100 for 12 straight years and has won at least 20 matches in 10 of the past 11 seasons, reaching at least one final seven years in a row
- In Grand Slam play, reached 2R at Roland Garros (l. to Murray), Wimbledon (l. to Baker) and US Open (l. to Isner). Also 2R at London Olympics (l. to eventual champion Murray)
- In final week, runner-up at Helsinki Challenger (l. to Lacko)
- Compiled records of 19-16 on hard, 5-7 on clay and 2-4 on grass. Went 0-6 vs. Top 10 opponents and his highest- ranked win came over No.15 Raonic in Bangkok

(8) Marcel Granollers (ESP) vs (3) Andreas Seppi (ITA) — Granollers Leads 2-1

10 Bastad (Sweden)	Clay	R32	Andreas Seppi	6-4	6-2			
10 US Open (U.S.A.)	Hard	R128	Marcel Granollers	2-6	5-7	6-3	6-2	6-3
11 Stuttgart (Germany)	Clay	R32	Marcel Granollers	6-3	3-6	6-1		

Granollers FastFacts:
2012 Highlights:
F: Umag (l Cilic); **QF(3)**: ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Toronto (l Tipsarevic); Winston-Salem (l Tsonga); Valencia (l Dolgopolov)
YTD W-L: 23-23 (2-0 this year)
YTD Titles: 0
Career Titles: 3
Date of Birth: April 12, 1986
Emirates ATP Ranking: 34 (year-end, this week)

- **Granollers**, 26, is making his second straight appearance in Sydney and last year lost to Ebden in three sets in the first round. This week defeated Ebden 57 75 61 in 1R and followed with 62 76(4) victory over Fabio Fognini. This is the Spaniard's season debut on the ATP World Tour
- The Barcelona native finished in Top 50 for third year in a row, highlighted by runner-up finish in Umag (l. to Cilic) in July. Also QF at ATP Masters 1000 Toronto (l. to No. 9 Tipsarevic), Winston-Salem (l. to No.6 Tsonga) and Valencia (l. to Dolgopolov). Broke Top 20 on July 23 at No.19
- In Grand Slam play, reached a personal-best 4R at Roland Garros (l. to Ferrer)
- Compiled records of 11-12 on hard, 11-8 on clay and 1-3 on grass. Went 0-6 vs. Top 10 opponents and his highest-ranked win came over No.16 Verdasco in Umag SF
- Played on Davis Cup team and went 1-3 (w/M. Lopez) as Spain lost 3-2 to Czech Republic in final
- In doubles, teamed with countryman M. Lopez to compile a 40-17 record and 3-4 in finals, winning titles at ATP Masters 1000 Rome, Gstaad and year-ending Barclays ATP World Tour Finals in London in debut (d. Bhupathi-Bopanna). Also finalist in Acapulco, Barcelona, Umag and Toronto. Best Grand Slam SF at US Open

Seppi FastFacts:
2012 Highlights:
W(2): Belgrade (d Paire); Moscow (d Bellucci); **F(2)**: Eastbourne (l Roddick); Metz (l Tsonga); **QF(4)**: Doha (l Federer); Rotterdam (l Berdych); Bucharest (l Fognini); ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Rome (l Federer)
YTD W-L: 38-27 (1-0 this year)
YTD Titles: 2/Career Titles: 3
Date of Birth: February 21, 1984
Emirates ATP Ranking: 23 (year-end, this week)

- **Seppi**, 28, the top Italian, comes in with a 7-7 career record in Sydney and he opened with a 62 36 63 win over Aussie wild card John Millman. His best result was in 2006 debut (d. No. 4 Hewitt, l. to Andreev). Has not won back-to-back matches since then, losing in 2R in 2008, '10-11
- Last season finished in Top 25 for first time in his career, winning ATP World Tour titles in Belgrade (d. Paire) in May and Moscow (d.Bellucci) in October and reaching finals in Eastbourne in June (l. to Roddick) and Metz in September (l. to Tsonga). Also QF in four other tournaments, including hometown in Rome (l. to Federer)
- In Grand Slam play, broke through to reach 4R for first time at Roland Garros where he lost to No.1 Djokovic in five sets (after holding two-set lead)
- Had most match wins (38) in his career, surpassing previous best (30) in 2008
- Compiled records of 16-5 on clay, 18-18 on hard and 4-4 on grass. Went 1-11 vs. Top 10 opponents with lone win over No.10 Isner in Rome
- Has won at least 20 matches in each of the past seven seasons while finishing in the Top 75 for eight years in a row

Grandstand

Denis Istomin (UZB) vs Kevin Anderson (RSA) **First Meeting**

Istomin FastFacts:
2012 Highlights:
F: San Jose (l Raonic); **SF**: **Sydney** (l Nieminen); **QF(2)**: Brisbane (l Tomic); Eastbourne (l Harrison)
YTD W-L: 30-32 (4-1 this year)
YTD Titles: 0/Career Titles: 0
Date of Birth: September 7, 1986
Emirates ATP Ranking: 43 (year-end), 46 (this week)

- **Istomin**, 26, is trying to reach the semi-finals for the second year in a row after posting wins over Aussie wild card James Duckworth 67 64 76 and No. 4 seed Fernando Verdasco 63 63. Last year qualified and reached the semis (l. to eventual champ Nieminen)
- Last week in Brisbane opened the season with a quarter-final (d. Klizan, Hewitt, l. to eventual winner Murray 64 76)
- Last year was QF or better four times on ATP World Tour; best result runner-up in San Jose (l. Raonic)
- The top player from Uzbekistan finished in the Top 50 for second time in three years, reaching his second career ATP World Tour final in San Jose (l. to Raonic)
- Also SF in Sydney (l. to Nieminen) and QF in Brisbane (l. to Tomic) and Eastbourne (l. to Harrison)
- His best Grand Slam result was 4R at Wimbledon where he lost to Youzhny 7-5 in fifth set
- Compiled records of 17-17 on hard, 8-5 on grass and 5-10 on clay.
- Has a career mark of 1-14 vs.Top 10 opponents (1-5 in 2012) and posted his first win over No. 5 Ferrer in Indian Wells.
- Overcame a serious car accident as a teenager to become the most successful player in Uzbekistan tennis history. Has finished in Top 100 in three straight seasons and has 137-83 career Challenger record with nine titles
- Earned a career-high $660,205

Anderson FastFacts:
2012 Highlights:
W: Delray Beach (d Matosevic); **QF(5)**: San Jose (l Raonic); Houston (l Monaco); London / Queen's Club (l Dimitrov); Washington (l Querrey); Basel (l Del Potro)
YTD W-L: 30-26 (2-0 this year)
YTD Titles: 1
Career Titles: 2
Date of Birth: May 18, 1986
Emirates ATP Ranking: 37 (year-end), 36 (this week)

- **Anderson**, 26, the top South African on the ATP World Tour, is into the quarter-finals after wins over Aljaz Bedene 63 36 63 and Feliciano Lopez 63 64. In his previous appearance here, lost in the 2R of qualifying in 2009
- Trying to become the first South African to reach the semi-finals here since former Top 10 Wayne Ferreira in 2004 (l. to Moya)
- Finished in Top 40 for second straight year, highlighted by second career ATP World Tour title in Delray Beach in March (d. Roddick in QF, Isner in SF, Matosevic in F)
- Also reached QF in San Jose, Houston, London/Queen's Club, Washington and Basel
- Best Grand Slam result was 3R at Australian Open and Roland Garros (l. to Berdych in both)
- Compiled records of 20-18 on hard, 7-6 on clay and 3-2 on grass. Went 0-8 vs. Top 10 opponents and highest ranked win came over No. 11 Isner in Delray Beach