



News Release

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DJOKOVIC & US OPEN DOUBLES FINALISTS EARN BERTHS AT BARCLAYS ATP WORLD TOUR FINALS

**Season finale defending champion to join Federer, Nadal, Murray in London
Bhupathi-Knowles, Dlouhy-Paes qualify for second straight year**

London, United Kingdom – Novak Djokovic will return to defend his title at the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals from 22-29 November at The O2 in London. The 22-year-old became the fourth player to qualify for the prestigious season finale following his US Open quarter-final victory on Wednesday. Djokovic's qualification means the 'Fab Four' at the top of the ATP World Tour have now all qualified. The Serbian joins Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Andy Murray among those players already qualified for the elite eight-man event in the English capital.

Following his four-set win over World No. 10 Fernando Verdasco at Flushing Meadows, Djokovic currently has the most match wins (58) to his name this season. He has already claimed ATP World Tour titles at the Barclays Dubai Tennis Championships and at his inaugural hometown tournament in Belgrade, the Serbia Open 2009. The Serb has also reached five other finals, including four at ATP World Tour Masters 1000 tournaments.

Djokovic will be making his third straight appearance at the season ending climax. Last year in Shanghai, he captured the title by defeating Russian Nikolay Davydenko in the final.

"It's only eight players and I think all the tennis world and tennis attention is directed to this event," said Djokovic. "The role of defending champion has quite a lot of expectation. Yet again it's a big challenge and hopefully I can repeat the success from last year."

The two teams that will face off Friday for the US Open doubles title – Mahesh Bhupathi and Mark Knowles, Lukas Dlouhy and Leander Paes – have also clinched two of the eight doubles team berths. This will mark the second straight appearance for both pairings at the season finale.

Bhupathi and Knowles, currently No. 3 in the 2009 ATP Doubles Team Rankings, will be appearing in their second Grand Slam final after opening the year with a runner-up finish at the Australian Open. They won their team's first ATP World Tour Masters 1000 in August at the Rogers Cup in Montreal and were also finalists earlier this season at the clay-court tournament in Barcelona.

Dlouhy and Paes reached the US Open final after knocking out defending champions Bob and Mike Bryan on Wednesday in a rematch between 2008 finalists. The Czech-Indian pairing, who made its debut in 2008 at Roland Garros, won the clay-court Grand Slam tournament this year and also reached the semi-finals at the Australian Open.

The Bryans along with defending circuit finale champions Daniel Nestor and Nenad Zimonjic have already qualified for the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals.



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The Barclays ATP World Tour Finals, the world's biggest-ever indoor tennis event, will feature the world's top eight singles players and eight doubles teams competing to be officially crowned 2009 ATP World Tour Champions. Each of the top eight players and doubles teams will be drawn to play a minimum of three round-robin matches to determine which four players and teams advance to the knockout semi-finals.

With a capacity of 250,000, less than 20,000 tickets remain on sale to tennis fans across the group sessions at The O2, which will host the eight-day singles and doubles tournament. Tickets are available online through www.BarclaysATPWorldTourFinals.com or by calling 0844 847 2495 within the UK. Overseas customers should call +44 161 372 0025.

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About the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals. The Barclays ATP World Tour Finals is the year-end climax to the men's professional tennis season, featuring only the world's best eight qualified singles players and doubles teams. This spectacular season-ending tournament determines the official year-end South African Airways 2009 ATP Rankings and will also crown the official 2009 ATP World Tour Champion. Played using a round-robin format, the top eight ATP World Tour stars all play three matches as they battle for a berth in the knockout semi-finals, ensuring every match showcases tennis akin to the quality of at least a Grand Slam quarter-final. The prestigious tournament has been contested in major cities around the world with a rich history dating back to the birth of The Masters in 1970 in Tokyo. Since 2000 the event has taken place in cities such as Lisbon, Sydney, and most recently Shanghai. This year sees the tournament reborn as the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals to be held in the heart of London at The O₂ arena from 2009 to 2013.



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