KOSER JEWELERS TENNIS CHALLENGE
LANDISVILLE, PA • AUGUST 6-13

USTA PRO CIRCUIT WOMEN’S TENNIS RETURNS TO LANDISVILLE

The Koser Jewelers Tennis Challenge will be held in August for the fifth consecutive year. The city hosted a USTA Pro Circuit women’s event in May from 2008 to 2013, as well. It is the only USTA Pro Circuit women’s event taking place in Pennsylvania; a $15,000 men’s Futures was held last month in Pittsburgh.

Notable players competing in Landisville include:

Taylor Townsend, 21, Atlanta
- Made her fourth consecutive appearance in the main draw of the French Open this year and won her first-round match. Earned a French Open wild card in 2016 after winning the USTA Pro Circuit Roland Garros Wild Card Challenge. Also won the 2014 Roland Garros Wild Card Challenge and advanced to the third round of that year’s French Open for her career-best Grand Slam result.
- Qualified for the 2016 US Open and faced Caroline Wozniacki in the first round. Also advanced to the women’s doubles quarterfinals in New York.
- In 2017, qualified for the WTA event in Miami and advanced to the third round.
- Holds three USTA Pro Circuit singles titles and 12 USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles, including eight doubles titles in 2016—the most of any player since 1987.
- Was the 2012 ITF World Junior Champion, becoming the first U.S. girl to hold the year-end No. 1 junior ranking since Gretchen Rush in 1982. Ascended to No. 1 by winning the Australian Open junior singles and doubles titles, as well as the junior doubles titles at the US Open and Wimbledon in 2012.

Laura Robson, 23, Great Britain (Defending Singles and Doubles Champion)
- Peaked at No. 27 in the world in 2013 before suffering from a series of wrist injuries.
- In 2013, had her first Top 50 season, advancing to the fourth round of Wimbledon and the third round of the US Open and Australian Open.
- Reached her first WTA final in 2012 in Guangzhou and earned the silver medal in mixed doubles at the 2012 Olympics in London with Andy Murray.
- Last year, in her comeback, won the singles and doubles titles in Landisville and then qualified for the main draw of the 2016 US Open.
- This year, competed in Wimbledon and won an ITF Pro Circuit singles title in Japan.

PRIZE MONEY / POINTS
SINGLES:
Winner $3,600 27
Runner-Up $2,120 15
Semifinalist $1,255 8
Quarterfinalist $730 3
Round 16 $430 1
Round 32 $260

DOUBLES:
Winner $1,550
Runner-Up $900
Semifinalist $540
Quarterfinalist $320
Round 16 $180

COMMUNITY EVENTS
Tuesday, Aug. 8 – Ladies’ Day, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 9 – Wear White for Water Street, following 5:30 p.m. match
Friday, Aug. 11 – Kids’ Day, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

*Player field subject to change
TOURNAMENT NOTES

Jessica Pegula, 23, Charleston, S.C.
• Is playing in her first tournament since January.
• Qualified for the 2016 US Open main draw.
• Advanced to her first career WTA semifinal last summer in Washington, D.C.
• Played in just one tournament in 2014 after having knee surgery. Returned to competition in 2015 and, in her comeback, qualified for the 2015 US Open and won her first-round match in her first-ever Grand Slam main draw.
• Has ranked in the Top 100 in doubles.
• Father, Terry, is the owner of the NHL's Buffalo Sabres and the NFL's Buffalo Bills.

Jennifer Elie, 30, New York City
• Has been a consistent player on the USTA Pro Circuit and in ITF Circuit events, winning two ITF Circuit singles titles in 2012 and five USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Circuit doubles titles.
• Has a career win over Sloane Stephens, at the $50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Lexington, Ky., in 2011, and has ranked in the Top 250 in both singles and doubles.
• This June, reached the quarterfinals of two ITF Pro Circuit events in Italy and Spain.
• Won the 2015 US Open National Playoffs to earn a wild card into the US Open Qualifying Tournament.

Anna Karolina Schmiedlova, 23, Slovakia
• Peaked at No. 26 in the world in October 2015 after reaching the third round of the US Open.
• Has competed in all four Grand Slam events, winning matches at the US Open, Australian Open and French Open.
• Holds two WTA singles titles (Katowice and Bucharest in 2015).
• Represented Slovakia in the Rio Olympics in 2016, as well as in Fed Cup.

Players competing in qualifying include:

Ronit Yurovsky, 23, New Kensington, Pa.
• Graduated in 2016 from the University of Michigan, where she was a 2016 All-American and received four All-Big Ten honors.
• Graduated No. 3 all-time in singles wins at Michigan, with 117.
• Earned four NCAA Singles Championship berths.

(2010 Singles and Doubles Champion)
• Holds 18 career USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles and seven singles titles.
• Two-time winner of the US Open National Playoffs, earning wild cards into the US Open Qualifying Tournament in 2010 and 2012.
• Ranked as high as No. 160 in the world in doubles in 2011.

Julia Elbaba, 23, Oyster Bay, N.Y. (2016 Singles Finalist)
• Graduated from the University of Virginia in 2016, setting the UVA record for singles wins with 133 in her career. Earned All-America honors in singles for four consecutive years.
• Was ranked No. 1 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association’s singles rankings during her collegiate career.
• Holds one USTA Pro Circuit title, in doubles at the $10,000 event in New Orleans in 2012.

Emina Bektas, 24, Indianapolis
• Won the 2016 US Open National Playoffs – Mixed Doubles Championship to earn a wild card into the main draw of the mixed doubles at the 2016 US Open.
• Played for the University of Michigan, graduating in 2015 as the Wolverines’ all-time leader in singles wins, with 129, and combined wins, with 258.
• Also played in the NCAA singles tournament all four years of her collegiate career—the first Wolverine in school history to do so.
• Holds one USTA Pro Circuit singles title ($10,000 Evansville, Ind., in 2013) and one ITF Pro Circuit singles title ($10,000 Mexico City in 2016).
• Holds 13 USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles, including seven won already this year.
• Ranked in the Top 150 in doubles.

Robin Anderson, 24, Matawan, N.J.
(2011 Singles Champion and 2015 Singles Finalist)
• Graduated from UCLA in 2015 after earning All-America honors in both singles and doubles for four consecutive years, becoming the seventh player in school history to accomplish the feat.
• Named the ITA National Collegiate Player of the Year for 2014-15.
• Was part of UCLA’s NCAA-title winning team in 2014. Also reached the NCAA doubles final in 2013.
• At the 2015 US Open, won the American Collegiate Invitational, a tournament for the top U.S. college players.
• Has won one USTA Pro Circuit singles title ($10,000 Landisville, Pa., in 2011) and two doubles titles ($25,000 Redding, Calif., in 2013 and $25,000 Daytona Beach, Fla., in 2017).
• In February 2016, reached the final of the $100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich.; advanced to two additional USTA Pro Circuit semifinals in 2016.
• As a junior player, reached the girls’ singles quarterfinals at the 2010 US Open.

Caitlin Whoriskey, 29, East Sandwich, Mass.
• Competed in the doubles draw at Wimbledon this year. Is ranked in the Top 125 in women’s doubles.
• Won the 2014 US Open National Playoffs women’s singles title to earn a wild card into US Open qualifying, where she won her first-round match.
• A former University of Tennessee standout, she was named the 2010 College Senior Player of the Year after leading the Volunteers to the NCAA doubles final in 2013.
• Was part of UCLA’s NCAA-title winning team in 2014. Also reached the NCAA doubles final in 2013.
• Hold one USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Circuit doubles titles, which includes a win at the $100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., earlier this year.
• Captured her first career USTA Pro Circuit singles title in 2014 at the $10,000 event in Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Sophie Chang, 20, Havre de Grace, Md.
• Won the 2016 US Open National Playoffs – Women’s Singles Championship to earn a wild card into the US Open Qualifying Tournament in her US Open debut.
• Holds five USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles, including the $25,000

*Player field subject to change
event held at the USTA National Campus in Orlando this year, and advanced to the doubles semifinals or better at seven additional USTA Pro Circuit events this year.

- Committed to play at the University of Virginia before turning pro.
- Her great-grandfather, Joseph Carpenter, won the mixed doubles title at the 1910 U.S. National Championships.

Allie Kiick, 22, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

- Has played in just a few tournaments since July 2015. Missed time after having four knee surgeries and after being diagnosed with a rare form of skin cancer.
- Won her first $50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in 2015 in Charlottesville, Va. Also holds three additional USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit singles titles, as well as an ITF doubles titles she won in Canada in 2013.
- Peaked at No. 136 in the world in 2014.
- Advanced to her first USTA Pro Circuit semifinal in her comeback this July at the $15,000 event in Evansville, Ind.
- As a junior player, was a singles finalist at the 2013 USTA Girls’ 18s National Championships. Also, won the Girls’ 18s doubles title with Sachia Vickery, allowing her to make her Grand Slam main-draw debut in the 2013 US Open women’s doubles event.
- Is the daughter of Jim Kiick, a running back on the undefeated 1972 Miami Dolphins. Mother, Mary Johnson, is a former professional softball player.

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