



TOP SEEDS SURVIVE ON WEDNESDAY

Singles second-round, Doubles quarterfinals set for Thursday at Palmetto Pro Open

SUMTER, SC May 22, 2013 – The five previous Palmetto Pro Opens – a USTA \$10,000 Women’s Pro Circuit event in Sumter, SC – have been won by two No. 1 seeds, an unseeded player and two qualifiers. In fact, of the 40 seeded players in the past five Palmetto Pro Opens, only 25 made the quarterfinals.

Second-seeded **Sanaz Marand** (USA) became part of that statistic on Tuesday as she was upset by **Hiroko Kuwata** (JPN) in the tournament’s Feature Match. While two seeds did survive on Tuesday to advance to the second round of the Singles Main Draw, the remaining five seeds got into action on Wednesday with much better outcomes.

Top-seeded **Sally Peers** (AUS) defeated lucky loser **Emerald Able** (USA) 6-1, 7-5; in a rematch of a 2010 quarterfinal at the PPO, No. 3 seed **Alexandra Mueller** (USA) survived 2010 runner-up and 2011 champion **Alexis King** (USA) 6-7, 7-5, 6-3; fifth-seeded and two-time PPO semi-finalist **Piia Suomalainen** (FIN) took on qualifier **Denise Muresan** (USA) and battled to a 6-2, 7-6(4) victory.

No. 6 seed and 2011 PPO runner-up **Brooke Austin** (USA) defeated **Isabella Robbiani** (PAR) 6-0, 6-3. And eighth-seeded **Elisabeth Fournier** (CAN) battled qualifier **Jacqueline Wu** (USA) to a 6-1, 6-4 victory.

In other Singles Main Draw action: in a battle of qualifiers **Maddison Inglis** (AUS) defeated **Yukako Noi** (JPN) 6-4, 6-3; qualifier **Alexandra Starkova** (ESP) got past wild-card **Marie Norris** (USA) 3-6, 6-4, 6-3; qualifier **Alexandra Morozova** (USA) defeated **Martina Frantova** (SVK) 6-4, 6-3; qualifier **Magdalena Ekert** (POL) took down **Jessica Lawrence** (USA) 6-3, 6-3; and qualifier **Michelle Sammons** (RSA) took care of wild-card **Zina Graves** (USA) 6-0, 6-1.

All but two Doubles Main Draw matches were played on Tuesday. Filling out the quarterfinals of the Doubles Main Draw are top-seeded team **Jamie Loeb** (USA) and Marand, who beat Robbiani and **Jainy Scheepens** (NED) 6-3, 6-3 in Wednesday’s Feature Match, and **Csilla Borsanyi** (HUN) and **Katerina Stewart** (USA), who defeated the No. 3 seed team of Fournier and Kuwata 6-2, 4-6, 10-7.

The Singles Main Draw will start the day on Thursday at 10 a.m. with the Doubles Main Draw quarterfinals closing out Thursday’s action.

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