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News Release

For Immediate Release

Rising Tennis Star, Melanie Oudin, Will Visit Springfield

The World TeamTennis Pro League presented by GEICO completed its 2011 Marquee Player Draft earlier today. The Springfield Lasers, under the draft direction of General Manager Tom Adams, drafted a marquee visit from rising U.S. star, Melanie Oudin (pronounced Ooh-Dan), in conjunction with the upcoming 2011 season.

Oudin, 19, was chosen by the Philadelphia Freedoms with their first pick, the second overall selection of the draft. Widely recognized as the top young American player on the Women's Tennis Association Tour, Oudin was named WTA Newcomer of the Year in 2009. During that season, Oudin made a magical run to the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open, as well as the fourth round of Wimbledon. In doing so, she turned heads in defeating a number of WTA standouts, including Maria Sharapova, Jelena Jankovic, Elena Dementiava, and Nadia Petrova. Oudin, currently #72 in the world, has also been a U.S. Fed Cup stalwart since being named to the squad in 2009.

"With this being her first year to play WTT, we are extremely excited to bring Melanie Oudin to town and play at the Mediacom Tennis Stadium," said Tom Adams, Lasers General Manager. "We actually traded up in the draft to secure the rights to bring Melanie here to Springfield. Through the years, the Springfield Lasers have brought in virtually every big name in the game of tennis and it is our opinion that Melanie Oudin is that very special player that one day could be mentioned in the same breath as Martina Navratilova, John McEnroe, Maria Sharapova and some of the other greats that have competed here in the past."

The 2011 WTT Roster Player draft is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15. As the defending WTT Western Conference Regular Season Champions, the Lasers are coming off of a very successful 10-4 season in 2010. Pro teams in 10 U.S. markets will again compete for the 2011 King Trophy over the duration of the upcoming 36th WTT season, which is scheduled for July 4-24. All seven Lasers home matches are played in the Mediacom Tennis Stadium at Cooper Tennis Complex, 2331 E. Pythian St., 417-837-5800.

A complete bio on Oudin can be found online at www.wtatour.com (directly at: www.wtatour.com/player/melanie-oudin_2257889_13174). Complete results from today's marquee draft are available at www.wtt.com. For more information and updates on the Springfield Lasers, visit www.springfieldlasers.com.

For more information, media contact: Tom Adams, Springfield Lasers General Manager, 417-864-1339 or Bob Belote, Lasers Ownership Representative, 417-864-1327.