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News Release

For Immediate Release

Lasers Draft Top Pro Tennis Players for 2011 Season

The World TeamTennis Pro League presented by GEICO completed its 36th Season Professional League Players Draft earlier today. The Springfield Lasers drafted new players in the second and third rounds.

"Our Springfield Lasers did very well at this year's WTT Player Draft," said team owner John Cooper. "We're particularly excited about bringing in Australian Paul Hanley to play doubles with both Carly Gullickson and Rik de Voest, which should excel us in both mixed and men's doubles. Liliah Osterloh also brings a great tennis resume to the Lasers and we look for many good things from her this July as well."

Team roster bios are as follows:

Women

1st Round Pick (Roster Draft): Carly Gullickson – Returning for her second Lasers season, versatile young 24-year-old American. Winner of two WTA Tour doubles titles, including the US Open Mixed Doubles title in 2009. She has won 17 ITF doubles titles and two ITF singles titles. Gullickson is currently ranked No. 103 in women's doubles and No. 439 in women's singles.

2nd Round Pick (Roster Draft): Liliah Osterloh – Returning for her fourth season of WTT ('99 Delaware, '06 Kansas City, and '08 Newport Beach), first season with the Lasers, she is a veteran with two WTA Tour doubles titles, 10 ITF doubles titles and three ITF singles titles. Osterloh is currently ranked of No. 113 in women's doubles and No. 359 in women's singles. She is a 32-year-old American.

Complete bios on Gullickson and Osterloh can be found at: www.wtt.com/playerspage.aspx.

Men

3rd Round Pick (Roster Draft): Paul Hanley – Will play his first season of WTT with the Springfield Lasers. He is of the most accomplished doubles players on the Men's ATP Tour. He has 25 career ATP doubles titles and was a mixed doubles finalist at the Australian Open. Hanley has a career-high of No. 5 in men's doubles in 2006. He is currently ranked No. 33 in the world. A native of Australia, he currently lives in England.

4th Round Pick (Roster Draft): Rik De Voest (protected in the draft) - Returning for his third season with the Lasers, WTT Rookie of the Year in 2005, and is also the top player for Coach de
Jager's South African Davis Cup Team. He won ATP Dubai Doubles Title in 2009. Extremely versatile player in both singles (No. 162) and doubles (No. 123). He is a 30-year-old South African native.


A special marquee visit from rising U.S. star Melanie Oudin (pronounced Ooh-Dan) highlights the upcoming 2011 home schedule. 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.

Tickets for the Oudin match are available now only through the purchase of Lasers season tickets. Season tickets are $65 for grandstand seats and $135 for chair-back, and can be purchased online at www.springfieldlasers.com or at Cooper Tennis Complex, 417-837-5800. **Individual home match tickets go on sale May 23.**

As a defending WTT Western Conference semifinalist, the Lasers are coming off of a 11-4 season in 2010. Nine pro teams will compete for the 2011 King Trophy over the duration of the upcoming 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.

Complete results from today's draft are available at www.wtt.com/RosterDraft. For more information and updates on the Springfield Lasers, visit www.springfieldlasers.com.

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