

P 3,7



DAVIS CUP

by **BNP PARIBAS**

South Africa vs Poland 2003



Friday, 4th to Sunday, 6th April
Polokwane Tennis Stadium
Limpopo Province





SOUTH AFRICA



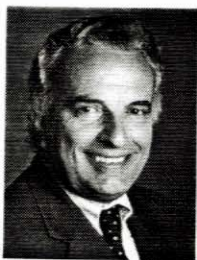
POLAND



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ITF President's Message



Zonal tie

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to this 2003 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas Zonal Group tie.

Time and time again Davis Cup competition proves to be an emotional rollercoaster ride and 2002 was no exception. After an heroic victory in Paris, the Russians were crowned Davis Cup champions for the first time in their history. When Mikhail Youzhny finally secured the crucial match to give his country the Davis Cup title, history was being made.

Somehow being part of a national team conjures up different emotions than playing tennis events as an individual. Victory is sweeter when your team members are there to throw you aloft with joy while the spectators' cheering dominates the stadium. Twenty-year-old Mikhail Youzhny will probably remember the Palais Omnisports de Paris-Bercy for the rest of his life. Equally, Youzhny's opponent, Paul-Henri Mathieu will recall the sorrow of his close loss for a long time. But defeat often paves the way to great success. I am sure that the Frenchman's moment of glory will come.

While the Davis Cup spotlight tends to focus on the progress of the top 16 nations in the World Group, there are fourteen other groups in the zonal competition. The Euro/African Zone, American Zone and Asia/Oceania Zones are all divided into four sub groups with 126 nations entered in 2003. Davis Cup demands many attributes from its competitors not least passion, commitment, motivation and guts. This applies equally to Australia's Lleyton Hewitt playing in the World Group as it does to China's Yu Zhang competing in Asia/Oceania Zone Group II.

The international men's team competition has come a long way since the first tie was held between the United States and the British Isles at Boston's Longwood Cricket Club in 1900. This year, 142 nations have entered Dwight Davis' competition, bearing testimony to its incredible success. The athletes who are preparing to play for their country this weekend are treading in hallowed footsteps. Davis Cuppers include some of the sport's greatest names from Bill Tilden, Fred Perry, the Four Musketeers, Roy Emerson and Rod Laver through to Stefan Edberg, Mats Wilander, John McEnroe, Boris Becker and more recently, Andre Agassi, Pete Sampras and Lleyton Hewitt to name a few.

With such a rare heritage, the ITF is extremely proud to be the modern day guardian of the Davis Cup and we are joined in this effort not only by the players, but also by our National Associations and international sponsors.

Moving onto our sponsors, I would particularly like to thank our title sponsor and Official Bank of Davis Cup - BNP Paribas. My thanks also go to our international sponsors Adecco (Recruitment), Kia Motors (Automobile) in Europe/Africa, Hugo Boss (Men's Fashion) and Ajilon (IT Recruitment and Managed Services), as well as official partners Wilson Sporting Goods and COLT Telecom.

May I wish you all an extremely enjoyable Davis Cup experience.



Francesco Ricci Bitti
ITF President

DAVIS CUP SPONSOR

BNP Paribas



A major commitment for BNP Paribas

Faithful to tennis for over 30 years, BNP Paribas has been the principal partner of the Davis Cup since 2002. This decision is fully justified by the immense pleasure we have had during this period, in being a major sponsor of a sport that has the ability to promote the public image of our company. The BNP Paribas Group is a front-ranking international bank, boasting particularly strong positions in Corporate and Investment Banking, Private Banking, Asset Management, and Retail Banking, employing 80,000 people of all nationalities in more than 80 different countries. The Group, therefore, is delighted to be supporting one of the world's three most popular sports, one of the few to be played according to the same rules by tens of millions of enthusiasts on all five continents, and one that boasts a long-standing tradition with which we are proud to associate our name.

In 1900, the American Dwight Davis organized and won the first Davis Cup tennis tournament in Boston. Since then, this competition which embodies both the values of fair play and the spirit of competition attracts every year the world's foremost national teams of tennis players. In 1928, the Roland Garros stadium was built in Paris to host the finals of the Davis Cup, USA vs. France, with the French taking the trophy that year.

In 1973, BNP, a leading French bank, became the main sponsor of the French Open at Roland Garros. This profitable relationship has now become one of the most well-established partnerships in the history of tennis. In 2000, when BNP merged with Paribas, the French Open at

Roland Garros presented the perfect opportunity to unveil to a world audience the new visual identity of the merged institution, BNP Paribas.

In 2002, anxious to adapt its sponsoring activities to its new global stature, BNP Paribas, France's largest banking institution, became the Title Sponsor of the Davis Cup, which currently attracts 142 participating countries, while remaining the official sponsor of the French Open at Roland Garros, thereby confirming its role as the partner of the world of tennis as a whole. BNP Paribas believes that its long-term relationship with the sport of tennis is synonymous with the relationship it builds with its customers, one based on steadfast commitment and trust.

On behalf of the employees of the BNP Paribas Group, I am delighted to pay tribute to the immense dedication of the International Tennis Federation and its President, Francesco Ricci Bitti, to that of the national federations and of all the organizers who contribute so much to the universal success of the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas. And, naturally, I would like to express my encouragement to all the champions who will be thrilling spectators all over the globe with their exploits on the tennis court.

I would also like to express my hope that you will all enjoy, once again, three exciting days that will leave you, as in previous years, with a wealth of unforgettable memories.



Michel Pebereau

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, BNP Paribas



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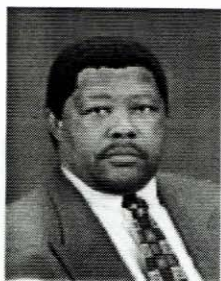
SORENTO



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MESSAGE FROM THE

Minister of Sport and Recreation - Ngconde Balfour



It is a tremendous pleasure and honour for our country to host Poland in the ITF 2003 Davis Cup Euro/Africa Group II Zone clash at the Polokwane Tennis Stadium in Limpopo.

On behalf of the South African government and all our people, I want to extend warm African greetings to our visitors. You are in one of the most beautiful regions of our country and we are proud to host you in this international tennis event. Currently, we do not have very strong sporting ties with Poland. Your presence here could be the start of establishing such a mutually-beneficial relationship and it is my hope that through tennis, we can forge new friendships and opportunities.

This Davis Cup tie is as important for us as it is for you. We have a young but talented team led by veterans of tennis, Kevin Curren and Cavan Bergman. As much as we intend to be great hosts, we will not extend this hospitality to the tennis courts. Our young players are keen to pit their skills against you and I am confident that they will live up to expectations. I am immensely pleased with the rejuvenated focus of the local game and I want to urge our players to play with the determination and skills that have earned them a place in our team.

A special word of thanks to the South African Tennis Association, our officials and the organizing committee for their efforts in staging this event. I must also congratulate the MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Ms Machuene Semanya and the Polokwane Executive Mayor, Mr Thabo Makunyane, for the tremendous support given to tennis. Our rewards will be victory on the courts of play.

Best wishes to both teams and may our guests make the most of their stay in our country.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Balfour'.

BMN Balfour, MP
Minister

MESSAGE FROM THE

Limpopo Sport, Arts and Culture MEC

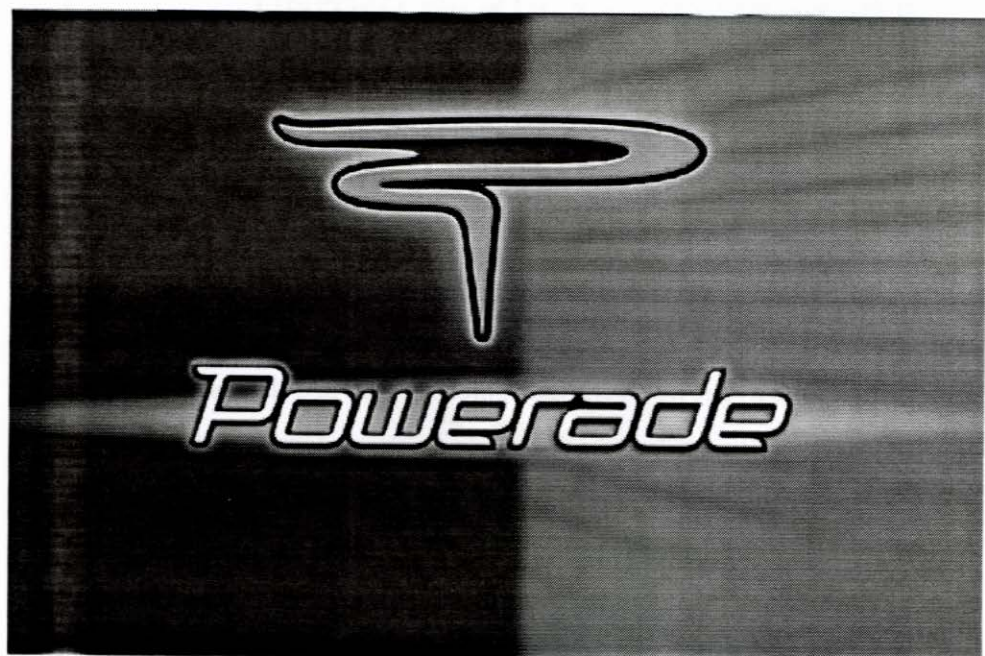


Limpopo Province is proud to host one of the fastest growing sporting codes in South Africa. Tennis is commendably bridging the gap that existed in our country created by the previous political set-up. The fact that our peaceful Province has been afforded this mammoth challenge of hosting an event of this magnitude, and being able to witness the display of tennis skills, signifies the importance of the province in the sporting arena.

The history of the Davis Cup embodies the good work of sportsmen and women whose competitive spirit deserves praise and remembrance. The Davis Cup competition is known to produce moments of brilliance and wonder. We have no doubt that the presence of national and international players will have a positive and lasting impact on the young tennis players in the province and the country as a whole. Limpopo will show its wonderful hospitality to all.

Ms Machuene Semenya

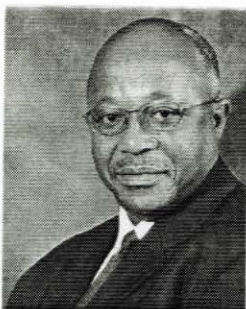
MEC



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MESSAGE FROM THE

Polokwane Executive Mayor



Welcome to Polokwane

On behalf of the Council and all residents, I welcome you to Polokwane.

We wish to thank you for giving us this chance to host this prestigious event in the Tennis Calendar. We see this as an opportunity for us to share, not only our modern facilities and our beautiful climate, but also our human capital, the local talent that we are doing so much to develop. Our young people will be inspired and motivated by your visit.

While you are still in our lovely city, we urge you to take time to visit our museums, our Game Reserve, our Bird Sanctuary and our cultural villages. Most of all, please sample the local cuisine - it's marvellous.

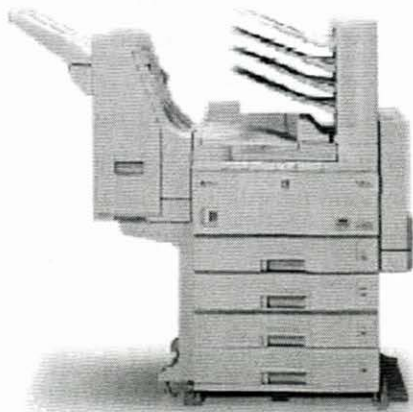
T.L. Makunyane
Executive Mayor

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MESSAGE FROM THE

SATA Interim Committee Chairman



The decision to stage the Davis Cup tie between South Africa and Poland in Polokwane was indeed an easy one. SATA has embarked on a policy in terms of which tennis be made accessible to all people in our country and especially in the traditional rural areas. I am confident that the introduction of tennis at this level will positively influence the development of tennis and enthusiasm for the game

throughout the Limpopo Province and I know that the support our team will be enjoying from all our spectators during the tie will demonstrate the pride we have in our national team and players.

It is not often that we are so privileged to host a national team from another country and I sincerely hope that the team from Poland will have the opportunity of experiencing the friendliness and warm hospitality of the Limpopo people and that they will leave South Africa with fond memories of their visit.

It is also very true that the staging of an event like this requires a lot of dedicated work behind the scenes and I am deeply indebted to David Vincent, Iain Smith, Yusuf Bhyat, Jakkie du Toit and John Fabricius and all their assistants for all the time and effort they put in to make this event a success. I would also like to extend my appreciation to the Municipality of Polokwane and the Limpopo Provincial Government as well as all the sponsors without whose assistance this tie would never have been possible.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Polokwane!

Johann Koorts

Chairman: SATA Interim Committee

Editorial 2003

The 2002 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas ended with a dramatic flourish with the Final unfolding into one of the most spine-tingling ever. Russia became the 11th country to capture Dwight Davis' historic cup after defeating the defending champions France at the eleventh hour in Paris.

Writing in *The International Herald Tribune* afterwards, Christopher Clarey summed it up well: "Davis Cup, the most consistently dramatic event in tennis, did nothing to break the routine on Sunday, as this year's final between France and Russia came down to the fifth set of the fifth and last match between a pair of 20-year-olds with no experience at this pressure-filled level."

With Paul-Henri Mathieu leading Mikhail Youzhny by two sets to one and 4-2 up, France seemed destined to win a tenth title. Fortune was shining on the Russians however and it was Russian team captain Shamil Tarpishev who stepped up to accept the trophy a few hours later.

It had been a highly charged year in Davis Cup. In September, the French team defeated USA on their historic home courts of Roland Garros to advance to the Davis Cup Final for a second consecutive year. As the 15,000 spectators cheered the jubilant French team on court, French Davis Cup captain Guy Forget raced over to where France's previous captain Yannick Noah was sitting and the two men clasped each other's hands in celebration.

Spirits were high in Moscow too when a Russian team led by Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Marat Safin defeated Argentina to reach only their country's third Davis Cup Final ever. Marat Safin clinched the vital point after defeating David Nalbandian in four sets prompting mass celebrations in the Luzhniki Stadium.

In April, the plucky Argentines had themselves been celebrating after reaching the last four of the Davis Cup with a last minute win over Croatia. Clad in the blue and white colours of Argentina, the South Americans were understandably overjoyed after reaching the Davis Cup semifinals for the

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first time since 1990. Like the Americans, the Argentines were smarting from the disappointment of their semifinal loss but sometimes more can be learned from failure than success.

Week in, week out, tennis players ply their wares at various tournaments on different continents across the globe. Each event will be on different surfaces, in different cities for different prize money. The one certainty is that each player will be competing for his or herself. The exception to this is of course Davis Cup duty. Getting the call up for your country means being part of a team, hearing the umpire say, 'Advantage the United States' instead of 'Advantage Roddick'. It's a completely different ball game where emotions and tensions rise sky high.

Morocco's Karim Alami once put it well: "When you play Davis Cup it's a special feeling coming from your heart. You play for your country, you play for your flag, you play for your team and that's what counts. It's huge."

In last year's first round tie, Morocco and Spain were locked at 2-all when Alami had to retire allowing the Spanish to clinch the tie. The usually composed Moroccan was in tears at the thought of letting his teammates down.

While the elite World Group houses the top 16 Davis Cup nations, there are also 14 other groups split across the three zonal regions Euro/African, American and Asia/Oceania. No surprise then that, in all, 142 countries have entered the Davis Cup in 2003.

Dwight Davis' competition remains a firm favourite with the players too. In 2002, 18 out of the top 20 players carried their country's colours in Davis Cup including three of the Grand Slam champions: World No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt (Wimbledon), Thomas Johansson (Australian Open) and Pete Sampras (US Open). Other names of note included Marat Safin, Juan Carlos Ferrero and Sebastien Grosjean together with Andy Roddick, Tim Henman and Roger Federer.

Editorial 2003

The largest annual international team competition in sport continues to be followed by many thousands of fans around the world on www.daviscup.com. With live radio and live scoring available, tennis fans can find out latest scores and news as the action takes place on court. The 2002 Davis Cup Final saw a marked increase in traffic with page views up nearly 50% compared with figures for the 2001 Final, from nearly 21 million for the weekend to over 32.5 million. The official Davis Cup site was relaunched on 1 January 2003 with a new design and a range of added features.

Tennis fans also followed Davis Cup action on TV with both coverage and ratings remaining positive throughout the year. Worldwide television coverage of the 2002 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas Final between France and Russia resulted in impressive viewing figures proving yet again what a truly international event the Davis Cup is.

The national terrestrial broadcaster France 2/3 transmitted the event in France with over 20 hours of live coverage of the matches in Bercy. The average rating over the 20 hours was 4.6 million viewers and a market share of 28.8%. During a period of 1 hour and 49 minutes on Sunday evening, France 2's ratings averaged an impressive 8.16 million viewers and a staggering 39% of market share, beating those achieved for both Men's and Women's Roland Garros Finals, F1 Grand Prix Monaco, Rugby Six Nations France v Ireland and the Champion's League Final. Indeed, the Davis Cup Final was the second highest rated sports programme in France in 2002 after the Soccer World Cup Final.

Many of the ITF's long term agreements were renewed, including those with France Television in France, TVE in Spain, BBC in Great Britain and UBC in Thailand, and new broadcast partnerships were forged with broadcasters such as Solar Entertainment in the Philippines, which began its broadcast of Davis Cup with the 2002 Davis Cup Final.



DAVIS CUP

TEAM: South Africa

WESLEY MOODIE

Date of Birth: 14-02-1979
Place of Birth: Scottburgh, RSA
Residence: Pinetown, RSA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 156
ATP Doubles ranking: 181

RIK DE VOEST

Date of Birth: 05-06-1980
Place of Birth: Milan, Italy
Residence: Pretoria, RSA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 170
ATP Doubles ranking: 138

LOUIS VOSLOO

Date of Birth: 29-01-1978
Place of Birth: Polokwane, RSA
Residence: Johannesburg, RSA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 223
ATP Doubles ranking: 275

RAVEN KLAASEN

Date of Birth: 16-10-1982
Place of Birth: King Williamstown,
RSA
Residence: Kuilsriver, RSA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 365
ATP Doubles ranking: 389

Captain: KEVIN CURREN
Trainer: DAMIEN ROBERTS

DAVID ADAMS

Date of Birth: 05-01-1970
Place of Birth: Durban, RSA
Residence: Cape Town, RSA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Doubles ranking: 31

ROBBIE KOENIG

Date of Birth: 05-07-1971
Place of Birth: Durban, RSA
Residence: Durban, RSA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Doubles ranking: 32

PETER-JON NOMDO

Date of Birth: 06-06-1982
Place of Birth: Cape Town, RSA
Residence: Johannesburg, RSA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 1278
ATP Doubles ranking: 1184

BRADWIN WILLIAMS

Date of Birth: 12-10-1987
Place of Birth: Johannesburg, RSA
Residence: Johannesburg, RSA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking:
ATP Doubles ranking:

Vice Captain: CAVAN BERGMAN

DAVIS CUP

TEAM: Poland

LUKASZ KUBOT

Date of Birth: 16-06-1982
Place of Birth: Boleslawiec,
Poland
Residence: Lubin, Poland
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 345
ATP Doubles ranking: 421

MARCIN MATKOWSKI

Date of Birth: 15-01-1981
Place of Birth: Barlenek, Poland
Residence: Szczecin, Poland and
Los Angeles, USA
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 797
ATP Doubles ranking: 193

MARIUSZ FYRSTENBERG

Date of Birth: 08-07-1980
Place of Birth: Warsaw, Poland
Residence: Warsaw, Poland
Plays: Lefthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 430
ATP Doubles ranking: 153

DAWID OLEJNICZAK

Date of Birth: 01-03-1983
Place of Birth: Lodz, Poland
Residence: Warsaw, Poland
Plays: Righthanded
ATP Singles entry ranking: 1042
ATP Doubles ranking:

Captain: PAWEL GELDER



Acknowledgements

Sport and Recreation South Africa

NOCSA

Limpopo Sport, Arts and Culture

Polokwane Municipality

Polish Embassy

Limpopo Province Tennis Association

Polokwane Tennis Club

Eskulaap Park

Telkom

Sponsors

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Adecco

Kia Motors

Ajilon

Hugo Boss

Domestic

SAB

Coca Cola

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Tournament Management

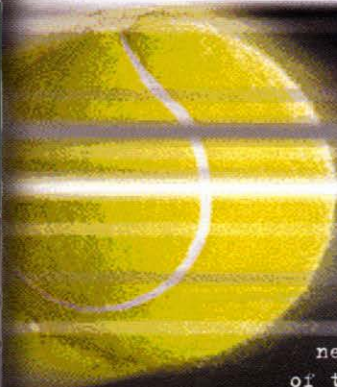
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Assistant Tournament Director - *Yusuf Bhyat*

Technical Manager - *Iain Smith*

ITF Referee/ Representative - *Gerry Armstrong (GBR)*

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In 1900, the American Dwight Davis organized and won the first Davis Cup tennis tournament in Boston. Since then, this annual competition played around the globe has become one of the most important tournaments in the world, embodying both the values of fair play and the spirit of competition. In 1928, the Roland Garros stadium was built in Paris to host the finals of the Davis Cup, USA vs. France, with the French taking the trophy. Shortly after, this stadium became the venue for another famous tennis tournament, the French Open.

In 1973, BNP, a leading French bank, became the sponsor of the French Open at Roland Garros. This relationship is now one of the oldest and most committed partnerships between a sport and its sponsor. In 2000, when BNP merged with Paribas, the French Open at Roland Garros presented the perfect opportunity to unveil to a world audience the merged institution and the new visual identity of BNP Paribas.

In 2002, BNP Paribas became the title sponsor of the Davis Cup, now named the "Davis Cup by BNP Paribas". BNP Paribas is a truly worldwide institution, active in over 85 countries and employing 85,000 people of all nationalities. Every year, the Davis Cup brings together the greatest national tennis teams from over 142 participating countries. As the title sponsor of the Davis Cup, BNP Paribas affirms its presence and commitment to business activities across the globe.

The saga continues with Roland Garros and the BNP Paribas Masters. This year, BNP Paribas and the French Tennis Federation (FTF) signed a new partnership agreement, strengthening the bank's position as the number one partner of the FTF. As a part of this agreement, the Paris Bercy "Tennis Masters Series" tournament will be renamed the "BNP Paribas Masters" this coming November. The FTF aims to make this the most important indoor tennis competition in the world.

BNP Paribas believes that its long-term relationship with the sport of tennis is synonymous with the relationships it builds with its clients, one based on steadfast commitment and trust.

www.tennis.bnpparibas.com

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