



PLAVA LAGUNA
CROATIA

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19.-27.07.2024.

DAILY NEWS

#ATPUMAG • #34ATPUMAG • OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ATP TOURNAMENT • NO 1 • 21.07.2024.

MAROZSÁN WINS IN A LATE-NIGHT DRAMA AT STUDENAC ARENA





Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag

Umag, Croatia

21 July — 27 July 2024 | EURO 579,320 | Clay



Main Draw Singles

1	1	RUBLEV, Andrey		A. Rublev 1	
2		Bye			
3		UGO CARABELLI, Camilo	ARG	C. Ugo Carabelli	
4	WC	MIKRUT, Luka	CRO	62 75	
5		SHEVCHENKO, Alexander	KAZ	F. Marozsan	
6		MAROZSAN, Fabian	HUN	64 46 76 ⁸	
7		MONTEIRO, Thiago	BRA		
8	7	MACHAC, Tomas	CZE		
9	4	CERUNDOLO, Francisco	ARG	F. Cerundolo 4	
10		Bye			
11	Q	COUACAUD, Enzo	FRA		
12	WC	DODIG, Matej	CRO		
13	WC	POLJICAK, Mili	CRO		
14		SONEGO, Lorenzo	ITA		
15		MULLER, Alexandre	FRA	A. Muller	
16	8	ARNALDI, Matteo	ITA	76 ⁸ 64	
17	5	DARDERI, Luciano	ITA		
18	SE	AJDUKOVIC, Duje	CRO		
19		MENSIK, Jakub	CZE		
20		POPYRIN, Alexei	AUS		
21		VAN ASSCHE, Luca	FRA		
22		FOGNINI, Fabio	ITA		
23		Bye		H. Rune 3	
24	3	RUNE, Holger	DEN		
25	6	NAVONE, Mariano	ARG		
26		COBOLLI, Flavio	ITA		
27	Q	MISOLIC, Filip	AUT		
28		LAJOVIC, Dusan	SRB		
29	Q	TRUNGELLITI, Marco	ARG		
30	Q	ANDREOZZI, Guido	ARG		
31		Bye		L. Musetti 2	
32	2	MUSETTI, Lorenzo	ITA		

Round of 32		Round of 16		Quarterfinals		Semifinals		Final		Winner	
€ 6,215	0 pt	€ 10,165	25 pt	€ 17,510	50 pt	€ 30,220	100 pt	€ 51,400	165 pt	€ 88,125	250 pt

Last direct acceptance

Alexandre Muller, 102

ATP Supervisor

Gerry Armstrong

Released

Released
07/21/2024 23:03:41

Seeded Players

	Player	Rank
1	Rublev, Andrey	8
2	Musetti, Lorenzo	16
3	Rune, Holger	17
4	Cerundolo, Francisco	33
5	Darderi, Luciano	35
6	Navone, Mariano	36
7	Machac, Tomas	38
8	Arnaldi, Matteo	39

Alternates/Lucky Losers

Withdrawals

Retirements/W.O.



Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag
Umag, Croatia

21 July — 27 July 2024 | EURO 579,320 | Clay



ORDER OF PLAY - MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024

GORAN IVANISEVIC STADION

STUDENAC ARENA

COURT 1

	Starts At 4:30 PM	Starts At 4:30 PM	Starts At 4:30 PM
1.	Jakub MENSIK (CZE) vs Alexei POPYRIN (AUS)	Thiago MONTEIRO (BRA) vs [7] Tomas MACHAC (CZE)	Luis David MARTINEZ (VEN) Cristian RODRIGUEZ (COL) vs Fernando ROMBOLI (BRA) Marcelo ZORMANN (BRA)
	Not Before 6:00 PM	Not Before 6:00 PM	Not Before 6:00 PM
2.	[6] Mariano NAVONE (ARG) vs Flavio COBOLLI (ITA)	[Q] Filip MISOLIC (AUT) vs Dusan LAJOVIC (SRB)	[Q] Marco TRUNGELLITI (ARG) vs [Q] Guido ANDREOZZI (ARG)
	Not Before 9:00 PM	Not Before 8:00 PM	Followed By
3.	[WC] Mili POLJICAK (CRO) vs Lorenzo SONEGO (ITA)	[Q] Enzo COUACAUD (FRA) vs [WC] Matej DODIG (CRO)	[WC] Blaz ROLA (SLO) Nino SERDARUSIC (CRO) vs Sander ARENDS (NED) Denys MOLCHANOV (UKR)

Tournament Director:

Tomislav Poljak

Released:

07/21/2024 11:03:43 PM

ANY MATCH ON ANY COURT MAY BE MOVED
MATCHES WILL BE OFFICIALLY CALLED FROM THE PLAYERS' LOUNGE & LOCKER-ROOM

Singles Lucky-Loser Sign-in Deadline: 4:00 PM
Doubles Alternate Sign-in Deadline: 4:00 PM

ATP Supervisor(s):

Gerry Armstrong

Referee(s):

Mila Mandl

Tour Manager:

Diego Pedraza Novak

Qualifying Singles

1	1	KOVALIK, Jozef	SVK	F. Misolic	
2		MISOLIC, Filip	AUT	64 67 ⁶ 63	F. Misolic
3		JORDA SANCHIS, David	ESP	D. Jorda Sanchis	63 64
4	7	HARDT, Nick	DOM	76 ³ 57 76 ⁵	
5	Alt	SERDARUSIC, Nino	CRO	G. Andreozzi	
6	Alt	ANDREOZZI, Guido	ARG	64 64	G. Andreozzi
7	WC	ZMAK, Deni	CRO	C. Tseng 4	64 75
8	4	TSENG, Chun-Hsin	TPE	62 64	
9	2	TRUNGELLITI, Marco	ARG	M. Trunggelliti 2	
10	WC	PECOTIC, Matija	CRO	63 63	M. Trunggelliti
11	8	PIROS, Zsombor	HUN	H. Rocha 6	63 62
12	6	ROCHA, Henrique	POR	61 76 ⁴	
13	3	ROCA BATALLA, Oriol	ESP	R. Olivo	
14		OLIVO, Renzo	ARG	63 57 61	E. Couacaud
15		COUACAUD, Enzo	FRA	E. Couacaud	60 61
16	5	FARIA, Jaime	POR	60 46 62	

Qualifying Round 1	Qualifying Round 2	Qualifier
€ 1,6950 pt	€ 3,1057 pt	€ 013 pt

Last direct acceptance	Seeded Players	Alternates/Lucky Losers	Withdrawals	Retirements/W.O.																		
Olivo, Renzo 329	<table><tr><th>Player</th><th>Rank</th></tr><tr><td>1 Kovalik, Jozef</td><td>102</td></tr><tr><td>2 Trunggelliti, Marco</td><td>151</td></tr><tr><td>3 Roca Batalla, Oriol</td><td>154</td></tr><tr><td>4 Tseng, Chun-Hsin</td><td>155</td></tr><tr><td>5 Faria, Jaime</td><td>170</td></tr><tr><td>6 Rocha, Henrique</td><td>182</td></tr><tr><td>7 Hardt, Nick</td><td>191</td></tr><tr><td>8 Piros, Zsombor</td><td>196</td></tr></table>	Player	Rank	1 Kovalik, Jozef	102	2 Trunggelliti, Marco	151	3 Roca Batalla, Oriol	154	4 Tseng, Chun-Hsin	155	5 Faria, Jaime	170	6 Rocha, Henrique	182	7 Hardt, Nick	191	8 Piros, Zsombor	196	N. Serdarusic (Alt) G. Andreozzi (Alt)		
Player	Rank																					
1 Kovalik, Jozef	102																					
2 Trunggelliti, Marco	151																					
3 Roca Batalla, Oriol	154																					
4 Tseng, Chun-Hsin	155																					
5 Faria, Jaime	170																					
6 Rocha, Henrique	182																					
7 Hardt, Nick	191																					
8 Piros, Zsombor	196																					
ATP Supervisor																						
Gerry Armstrong																						
Released																						
07/21/2024 20:14:02																						

PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN **UMAG**



SATURDAY

20.7. PETAR GRAŠO

MONDAY

22.7. MAMBO KINGS

WEDNESDAY

24.7. GIANLUCA VACCHI

FRIDAY

26.7. DALMATINO

SUNDAY

21.7. NIGHT EXPRESS

TUESDAY

23.7. PRLJAVO KAZALIŠTE

THURSDAY

25.7. DJS FROM MARS

SATURDAY

27.7. INNA VIDA LOCA

RESIDENT DJ ANTONIO PREN







FREE ENTRY

PLAVA LAGUNA





























4

TENNIS LEGEND GORAN IVANIŠEVIĆ AWARDS THE CUP TO THE WINNERS OF THE 7TH ANNUAL HEPI TOURNAMENT



The 7th Annual HEPI Tournament was held at the Umag Tennis Academy courts sponsored by the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag, and this year's champions are Damir Nežnanović and Vanja Vitezić. In the final match of this tournament, organised for the buyers of the tournament's sponsor HEP Opskrba and HEP Energija from Slovenia, Nežnanović and Vitezić won 6-0 against Vinko Štefanić and Mario Vlahović, who placed second in the tournament. The third place went to Dražen Crnković and Slavko Mađarić, who played some amazing matches.

Croatian tennis legend Goran Ivanišević traditionally awarded the cup to the winners and enjoyed the company of the participants in the tournament.

"The winners showed outstanding grit, they truly deserved to win their title at the HEPI tournament, so I would like to congratulate them! It is truly special to be a part of this event, and I am happy to see this event becoming even better year after year. Its contribution to the tennis community makes me very proud," said Goran Ivanišević.

Nada Podnar, Marketing Director at HEP Opskrba, said she was very pleased with the advancement and de-

velopment of the HEPI tournament, now in its seventh successful year.

"This is the seventh time we've been here. When we organised our first tournament, no one could believe that something like this could happen, but the HEPI tournament is now happening for the seventh time. I consider it a great success to come here with 24 players, at least half of whom have been with us from the very beginning. This year we are particularly pleased as everything is going according to plan – the weather and the organisation are on our side. Once again, Plava Laguna has showcased its abilities and set even higher standards. We are especially grateful to the staff of Hotel Coral, our hosts, and thus a part of the organisation team, one of the reasons why we believe that this tournament will achieve amazing results and that all of our players will join us next year as well."



Energija koja pokreće Hrvatsku

HEP Više od
struje



MINISTER TONČI GLAVINA AT THE PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN UMAG: “SPORTS AND SPORTING EVENTS CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN ISTRIA”



The evening match at the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag, which took place at the ATP stadium “Goran Ivanišević” between Camilo Ugo Carabelli and young Croatian hopeful Luka Mikrut, was attended by the Minister for Tourism and Sport, Mr. Tonči Glavina. As he arrived to the Umag stadium, he was met by hosts Dragan Pujas, President of the Management Board at Plava Laguna, Tomislav Puljak, tournament director, and Vili Bassanese, Mayor of the Town of Umag.

“I am glad to be able to attend this international sports manifestation which the Ministry of Tourism and Sport and the Croatian National Tourist Board have supported once again with a total of 520,000 euro (400,000 euro through a Ministry tender). From our first mandate, this Government has offered strong support to competitions like this one, and we have co-financed 130 events with a total amount of over 43 million euro. The Umag tournament is probably one of the largest events we co-finance, it has global coverage, and we are proud to host it in Istria and Croatia. The tournament has a 34-year-old tradition, and it is one of the aspects that make Istria known around the world, branding it as a year-long tourist destination, because sports and sporting events contribute significantly to its tourism development. We are happy to be here and we will continue supporting this event. I hope this year’s results are just as good as in the previous years, and that we will once again acknowledge that Istria and Croatia are wonderful hosts,” said the Minister.



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PHOTOS: PAKLENICA NATIONAL PARK (JULIEN DUVAL); ŠIBENIK
(JULIEN DUVAL); MALA KOLUMBARICA, KAMENJAK (BROTHERSIDE)

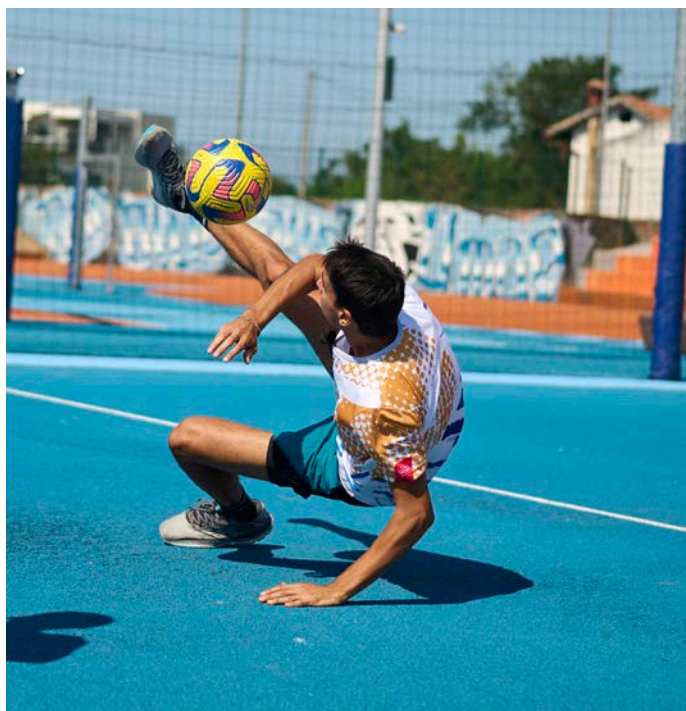
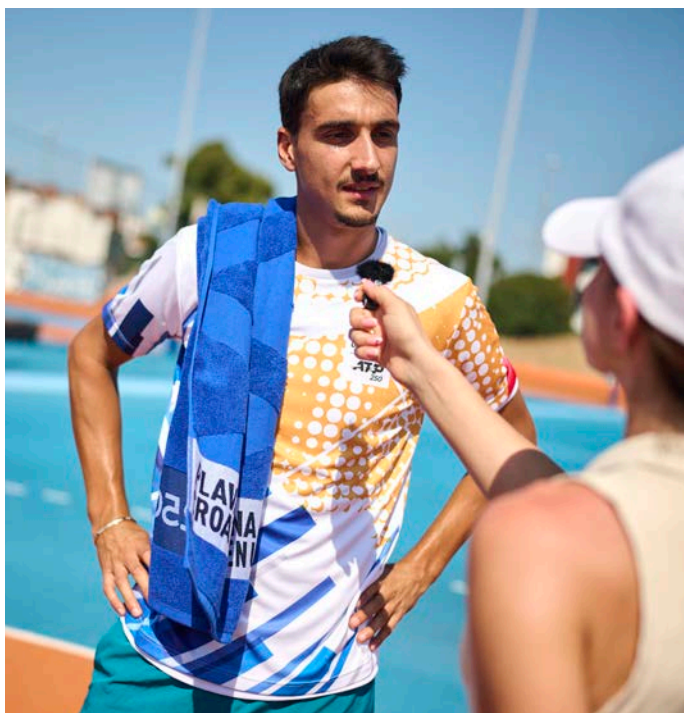


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WHEN TWO SPORTS COLLIDE: COBOLLI AND SONEGO VS THE UMAG FOOTBALL CLUB

A little less than a month ago, Croatia was gripped by football euphoria thanks to the European Football Championship. At the time, Croatia was playing its decisive match against Italy, looking for a way into the second round of the championship, and this time, these two countries faced off in somewhat different line-ups at the ATP Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag. Three players from the Umag Football Club – Jan Manić, Filip Prodan, and Antonio Bolčević

– faced Lorenzo Sonego, Flavio Cobolli, and Luciano Darderi. The three Italian representatives swapped their tennis rackets for football cleats at this year's tennis tournament. As part of the additional events at the tennis tournament, for a little while the focus was on football – the sport many call the most important secondary thing in the world. The six athletes played a 3x3 football match – tennis players vs. football players. Although footballers from the Umag FC easily defeated the Italian representatives at the ATP Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag, the match was very interesting. Sonego, Cobolli, and Darderi showcased their football skills of juggling, they took penalty shots and scored goals while dribbling. We had the chance to see how these guys would fare as professional football players, and they also shared who their favourite players and clubs were.





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OFENZIVA BREAK: LORENZO MUSETTI

Yesterday we had a chance to spend some time in the Social Arena with the 16th ranked player in the world and the second-seeded player at the Plava Laguna Croatia Open, Lorenzo Musetti. He was signing big and small tennis balls, photos, and rackets, and he also took selfies with his fans.

After handing out autographs, we took a little Ofenziva break, where the semi-finalist of this year's Wimbledon commented on his year, whether he feels ready for Umag, and why he likes to come back to this tournament. "I love coming to Umag because it's a great tournament. Some strong names are always here, and I like how close to Italy it is so I feel like I'm playing at home in most of the matches. Umag is definitely one of my favourite destinations at the Tour."

The little ones were the bravest when it came to asking questions. What they wanted to know the most was who was Musetti's favourite sparring partner and what he ate before the match. An Italian boy asked his idol what advice he would give someone who was just starting out in tennis, and he won an official ATP Umag cap for his creative question.





LUKA MIKRUT DOESN'T SECURE A WIN IN HIS FIRST MATCH

The first match played by Luka Mikrut at a large tournament didn't end in a victory for the Croatian player, but he wasn't that far from it. In the first round of the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag, he was defeated 6:2, 7:5 by the Argentinian Camilo Ugo Carabelli, and the 20-year-old Croatian had a chance to take the match into the deciding set. In the second part of the match, he had a 4:2 lead, and when the result was 5:4 he had two set points back-to-back, as well as a new chance for a comeback at 5:6, but he failed to take advantage of any of these three break points.

"I had some chances, but I didn't take them. I regret both of the situations: Had I kept the serve at 4:2, I would be serving with new balls later on, and I missed the second set point by so little," said Mikrut, adding: "I hoped I would have a good opening, I definitely wanted to keep my first serve, but the opposite happened and I was losing 0:4. As the match progressed, I got a bit better, but it wasn't easy with 37 % of first serve. I am a player who relies heavily on my serve, and I lost it. Well, at least it shows how good I was in the actual gameplay," said Mikrut, who's current 353rd place is the best ranking so far.

Last year's semi-finalist Matteo Arnaldi unexpectedly lost at the start of the tournament. A month after achieving the best result of his career (34th place) he fell short of the expectations after losing to Alexandre Muller (6:7 (8), 4:6), and at the same time he ruined his perfect score at big tournaments against French players: this was his first loss after nine victories.

This was a completely even match, and Muller even failed to take advantage of his 5:3 lead, but he did end up winning the tie-break after saving two set points. The French player lost his break advantage twice in the second part of the game, and the real drama ensued in the tenth game, where as many as 26 points were played. The Italian had five chances to tie to 5:5, but Muller managed to take advantage of the sixth match point. This was Muller's debut in Umag, and certainly one of the biggest wins of his season, although his biggest success this year is his triumph against Andrey Rublev two months ago in Rome.

However, match of the day award goes to the duel between Hungary's Fabian Marozsan and Kazakhstan's Alexander Shevchenko. The match was resolved in the tie-break of the third set, where Marozsan won 10:8, having saved a match point at 5:6. Before this, the Hungarian player was leading 5:2 in the third set when he missed the match point at 5:3, but in the end, he took advantage of the fourth.

The tournament continues on Monday, when first round matches will be played by two more Croatian players with invitations. Mili Poljičak (not before 9 p.m.) faces Italian Sonogo at the Goran Ivanišević Stadium, while Matej Dodig plays against the French qualifier Enzo Couacaud at the Studenac Arena (not before 8 p.m.).



YOUNG PLAYER MILI POLJIČAK MAKES THE DAY FOR MANY KIDS AT THE KIDS WEEK BY PODRAVKA

The young player Mili Poljičak had fun with around 30 kids from Umag and other Istrian towns at this year's first Kids Week by Podravka, which traditionally takes place during the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag.

The talented young players had the chance to show off their skills with a racket and face off against Poljičak. The boys and girls were a delight for everyone there, on and off the court.

After all the fun, the most talented among them received prizes from Babolat – keychains, picture books, grips, shorts and T-shirts. The cherry on top for all the participants was Lino, Podravka's teddy bear who passed out delicious snacks.



TASTE OF SUMMER IN CROATIA



UMAG MUSIC NIGHTS: NIGHT EXPRESS GETS THE CROWD DANCING



Sunday night entertainment was entrusted to Istrian cover band Night Express.

Known for their distinctive stage performances, the guys from NEX didn't disappoint the Umag audience, which danced the night away to their original songs, as well as covers of the best hits.

The Taste Istria Zone was visited by a Croatian music scene diva, Josipa Lisac, who was joined by good company to enjoy a concert and the exquisite Istrian wines and delicacies.

Today, the audience will be entertained by the Mambo Kings.



TASTE ISTRIA: HIDDEN CHARM OF ISTRIAN WINE



We have organised an event called Hidden Charm of Istrian Wine for all wine enthusiasts and anyone who will join those ranks, where you can test your skills as a sommelier and participate in selecting the 2024 ATP wine.

In a relaxed atmosphere and under the guidance of the experienced sommelier Lucija Matijević, the selected Istrian wineries will present their wines and share facts about themselves and their wineries.

The first evening was dedicated to young Malvasia wines, with representatives from the Laguna, Coronica, and Degrassi wineries.

The Laguna winery is known for its production aimed at preserving the environment, soil, and water, as well as for the efforts they put into decreasing the use of resources in wine production.

When it comes to Coronica wines, their particular quality is the result of the red soils characterised by white limestone, as well as the influences of the sea, thick forests, and rich fauna of Korenika.

The Degrassi winery started out with a small patch of land in north-western Istria, and today their vineyards sprawl over 25 hectares of red and white soil, on the hills between Buje and Brtonigla.

The mysterious wine A won the first evening's competition and secured a spot in the Grand Finale on Saturday. The second place went to wine C, while wine B took the third.

Despite their differences, everyone agreed that the foundation of a good wine is a good vineyard, as bad grapes cannot produce good wines.

Today's Hidden Charm of Istrian Wine is dedicated to mature Teran wines.



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UZVRAĆA!**



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TOMISLAV POLJAK, TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

THE ATMOSPHERE HAS BEEN AMAZING SINCE DAY ONE



The first day of the main tournament more or less showed us what the atmosphere at the Plava Laguna Croatia Open was going to be like. Although we have announced that this year's tournament was going to start and end a day earlier, meaning it was going to start on Sunday and end on Saturday, we were a bit worried about how this was going to turn out. How big would the audiences be, would everyone be aware of the fact that Sunday was not reserved for qualifying matches, but for the start of the main round?

It turned out great, the audience showed that they can recognise which match is going to be good, and where they will be able to watch some amazing tennis. In that sense, as far as atmosphere goes, we got to experience the match of the day, which will certainly be a contender for match of the tournament. The stands in the Studenac Arena were full, the atmosphere was great, and this is a great indicator and motivation to keep going. We all love watching and playing tennis in such an environment, it puts everyone in a good mood.

Moreover, this is further proof that we always try our best to

get players who are from Plava Laguna's key markets. Hungary is definitely one of them, and the way our Hungarian guests were cheering for their own Fabian Marozsan created a fantastic atmosphere. This synergy of everything that matters for Plava Laguna is very important to us. Once again, the best of tennis is proving to be the best aspect of this event, and it shows why Plava Laguna Croatia Open is so good for the development of this sport.

This is why we were particularly glad to be able to welcome the Minister of Tourism and Sport, Mr. Tonči Glavina, who came to cheer on Luka Mikrut. This match was what he wanted to see while visiting Umag. Of course, the support that the Ministry of Tourism and Sport grants to our tournament is immensely important, and we are very pleased and happy that the Minister visited the tournament, and we hope he decides to visit again. This is an additional motivation for us to make the days ahead even better, and it shows us that tennis will go hand in hand with everything Plava Laguna has to offer to its guests.

COLUMN BY GORAN IVANIŠEVIĆ

LUKA MAY HAVE LOST THE MATCH, BUT HE PROVED HE DESERVED HIS INVITATION



The first match in an ATP tournament is never easy, and we could see that on Sunday, when Luka Mikrut had his big tournament debut. It's a match unlike any you've ever played before, and you expect to freeze in the beginning. This is exactly what happened – Luka wasn't himself in the first few games, but all in all he left a good impression.

He may have lost the match, but he proved he deserved to be invited. As the match started, he was nervous and he started losing, and it was hard for him to recover from that in the first set. But then, so much changed. I am really happy with the way he played and how he bounced back. All of a sudden, he was in the lead in the second set (4:2), and then had two set points at 5:4. He couldn't handle the first one, and he shouldn't blame himself for it, but in the second one, there was a chance.

Too bad the match didn't last just a bit longer. Had he won the second set, and he very well could have, with the way he played, I can confidently say that he would've won the third one, as well. But we've seen stories like this in tennis many times before, and it's all a lesson learned. In my

opinion, Mikrut has improved tremendously in the last year, it's no accident he was invited to play here, but in this match, I think it's a shame he didn't play more combinations of serves and volleys. He played three, and he could easily have played at least ten more.

We lost one of our top-seeded players at the very start. Matteo Arnaldi played fantastically last year, he returned to Umag as a player who could do great things once again, but it wasn't meant to be. I'm a little surprised because his game was nowhere near what he showed us last year, and Muller is very good and he will punish you if you're having a bad day. This is precisely what happened, but who knows if Arnaldi would have recovered had he stolen that marathon game which turned out to be the last one, and it was quite a big opportunity for him.

Two Croatian players are playing on Monday in the singles tournament, Nino Serdarušić and Blaž Rola are starting on their road to defend the title in the doubles tournament, and I am particularly curious to see how Mariano Navone does. Good tennis awaits us once again.



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