



PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN **UMAG**

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Daily News

SLUŽBENO GLASILO ATP TURNIRA • BROJ 7 • 22. 07. 2018.

RASPORED MEČEVA / Order of play

STADION GORAN IVANIŠEVIĆ

20:00

FINALE

Marco Cecchinato (ITA) vs Guido Pella (ARG)

GOURMET PROGRAM

19:15

VINSKE DEGUSTACIJE - Skrivene čari istarskih vina
Proglašenje ATP vina 2018.

PARTY PROGRAM

23:30

Griff & Zucchero Celebration Band - Dance Arena

Ulaznice su dostupne na službenoj web stranici turnira: www.croatiaopen.hr. **SLOBODAN ULAZ NA PARTY PROGRAM U DANCE ARENI.**



Organizator zadržava pravo promjene programa i satnice. Novosti iz programa pratite putem službene web stranice turnira www.croatiaopen.hr.

PLAVA LAGUNA



GLAVNI TURNIR

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 5 | 1. RAMOS-VINOLAS, ALBERT | ESP | > | A. RAMOS-VINOLAS [5] | D. LAJOVIĆ 6:1, 1:6, 6:0 | > | G. PELLA 7:6(3), 7:5 | > | G. PELLA 6:3, 1:6, 6:2 |
| | 2. BYE | | | | | | | | |
| | 3. LAJOVIĆ, DUSAN | SRB | > | D. LAJOVIĆ 7:5, 6:2 | | | | | |
| | 4. BASILASHVILI, NIKOLOZ | GEO | > | G. PELLA 1:6, 6:3, 6:3 | G. PELLA 5:7, 6:4, 6:4 | | | | |
| | 5. PELLA, GUIDO | ARG | > | A. BEDENE 6:7(5), 6:4, 6:4 | | | | | |
| | 6. DANIEL, TARO | JPN | > | A. RUBLEV [4] | A. RUBLEV [4] 6:4, 6:7(4), 6:3 | | | | |
| | 7. BEDENE, ALJAŽ | SLO | > | F. AUGER-ALIASIME 6:4, 6:3 | | | | | |
| 7 | 8. SOUSA, JOAO | POR | > | M. KLIŽAN 6:2, 6:0 | R. HAASE [6] 3:6, 6:4, 6:3 | | | | |
| | 9. RUBLEV, ANDREY | RUS | > | A. RUBLEV [4] | | | | | |
| | 10. BYE | | | | | | | | |
| WC | 11. AUGER-ALIASIME, FELIX | CAN | > | F. AUGER-ALIASIME 6:4, 6:3 | | | | | |
| LL | 12. VATUTIN, ALEXEY | RUS | > | M. KLIŽAN 6:2, 6:0 | R. HAASE [6] 3:6, 6:4, 6:3 | | | | |
| Q | 13. KLIŽAN, MARTIN | SVK | > | M. MARTERER [9] 4:6, 7:5, 6:3 | L. DJERE 7:6(4), 6:3 | | | | |
| | 14. JARRY, NICOLAS | CHI | > | L. DJERE 6:4, 1:6, 6:3 | | | | | |
| Q | 15. DUTRA SILVA, ROGERIO | BRA | > | J. VESELY 6:3, 3:6, 6:2 | M. CECCHINATO [3] 2:6, 7:5, 7:5 | | | | |
| 6 | 16. HAASE, ROBIN | NED | > | M. CECCHINATO [3] | | | | | |
| | 17. MARTERER, MAXIMILIAN | GER | > | M. FUCSOVICS 6:1, 6:3 | M. TRUNGELLITI 5:7, 6:4, 6:2 | | | | |
| WC | 18. SERDARUŠIĆ, NINO | CRO | > | M. TRUNGELLITI 6:3, 6:4 | E. DONSKOY 6:3, 6:4 | | | | |
| | 19. DJERE, LASLO | SRB | > | E. DONSKOY 6:3, 6:4 | D. DZUMHUR [2] | | | | |
| | 20. CUEVAS, PABLO | URU | > | D. DZUMHUR [2] | | | | | |
| | 21. TRAVAGLIA, STEFANO | ITA | > | | | | | | |
| | 22. VESELY, JIRI | CZE | > | | | | | | |
| | 23. BYE | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 24. CECCHINATO, MARCO | ITA | > | | | | | | |
| | 25. PAIRE, BENOIT | FRA | > | | | | | | |
| | 26. FUCSOVICS, MARTON | HUN | > | | | | | | |
| Q | 27. TRUNGELLITI, MARCO | ARG | > | | | | | | |
| | 28. ŠKUGOR, FRANKO | CRO | > | | | | | | |
| | 29. LORENZI, PAOLO | ITA | > | | | | | | |
| | 30. DONSKOY, EVGENY | RUS | > | | | | | | |
| | 31. BYE | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 32. DŽUMHUR, DAMIR | BIH | > | | | | | | |

PAROVI

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|-----|---|--|---|---|------------------------------------|---|---------|
| | INGLOT, DOMINIC | GBR | > | D. INGLOT F. ŠKUGOR 7:6(7), 6:4 | D. INGLOT F. ŠKUGOR 4:6, 6:2, 10:5 | > | R. JEBAVY J. VESELY 6:4, 6:4 | > | WINNERS |
| 1 | 1. ŠKUGOR, FRANKO | CRO | > | | | | | | |
| | ARENDS, SANDER | NED | > | M. MARTERER H. PODLIPNIK-CASTILLO 6:3, 6:4 | | | | | |
| | 2. WEISSBORN, TRISTAN-SAMUEL | AUT | > | | | | | | |
| | MARTERER, MAXIMILIAN | GER | > | D. MOLCHANOV I. ZELENAY 7:6(5), 6:4 | R. JEBAVY J. VESELY 6:3, 7:5 | | | | |
| | 3. PODLIPNIK-CASTILLO, HANS | CHI | > | | | | | | |
| | CECCHINATO, MARCO | ITA | > | R. JEBAVY J. VESELY 6:4, 5:7, 10:8 | | | | | |
| | 4. RAMOS-VINOLAS, ALBERT | ESP | > | | | | | | |
| 4 | 5. NYS, HUGO | FRA | > | P. LORENZI G. PELLA 6:3, 6:1 | S. GONZALEZ J. SOUSA 6:2, 5:7, 10:7 | | | | |
| | 6. ZELENAY, IGOR | SVK | > | | | | | | |
| | JEBAVY, ROMAN | CZE | > | S. GONZALEZ J. SOUSA 6:4, 7:5 | | | | | |
| | 7. VESELY, JIRI | CZE | > | | | | | | |
| | SABANOV, IVAN | CRO | > | R. ARNEODO B. PAIRE 6:2, 7:6(4) | | | | | |
| WC | 8. SABANOV, MATEJ | CRO | > | | | | | | |
| | LORENZI, PAOLO | ITA | > | R. HAASE M. MIDDELKOOP 6:4, 6:4 | | | | | |
| | 9. PELLA, GUIDO | ARG | > | | | | | | |
| WC | 10. DRAGANJA, MARIN | CRO | > | | | | | | |
| | DRAGANJA, MARIN | CRO | > | | | | | | |
| | GONZALEZ, SANTIAGO | MEX | > | | | | | | |
| | 11. SOUSA, JOAO | POR | > | | | | | | |
| | ŠANČIĆ, ANTONIO | CRO | > | | | | | | |
| 3 | 12. VASILEVSKI, ANDREI | BLR | > | | | | | | |
| | ARNEODO, ROMAIN | MON | > | | | | | | |
| | 13. PAIRE, BENOIT | FRA | > | | | | | | |
| | BEHAR, ARIEL | URU | > | | | | | | |
| | 14. LOPEZ PEREZ, ENRIQUE | ESP | > | | | | | | |
| | LAJOVIĆ, DUŠAN | SRB | > | | | | | | |
| | 15. RUBLEV, ANDREY | RUS | > | | | | | | |
| | HAASE, ROBIN | NED | > | | | | | | |
| 2 | 16. MIDDELKOOP, MATWE | NED | > | | | | | | |



**Lawrence
Frankopan**

Pogled direktora

VEČERAS ĆE BITI SVE OTVORENO, ŠANSE SU 50-50

Marco Cecchinato i Guido Pella odlučivat će o pobjedniku 29. izdanja Plava Laguna Croatia Opena. I rekao bih da je to meč vrijedan finala s obzirom na to što su obojica pokazali kroz proteklih nekoliko dana na terenu.

Cecchinato jasno, kao što smo ponavljali kroz tjedan, sa sobom donosi status polufinaliste Roland Garrosa, a to je nešto što kod ostalih tenisača izaziva respekt. No, s druge strane, Guido još nikada nije osvojio ATP turnir, sada je treći put u finalu i nakon propuštene dvije prilike sigurno će maksimalno gristi kako bi napokon došao na listu pobjednika.

Zato će večerašnji dvoboj nesumnjivo biti zanimljiv, borben i treba očekivati da bi to mogla biti iscrpljujuća gladijatorska bitka. Guido je uostalom već pokazao da ima to u sebi u meču protiv Aljaža Bedenea te da je spreman i sposoban izvući se iz već gotovo izgubljenih situacija. Cecchinato je po svojim referencama u statusu favorita, ali bio bih vrlo oprezan u prognozama. Dapače, ostavio bih šanse na 50-50, sve je otvoreno.

Vrijedi svakako istaknuti još koju riječ o našim poraženim polufinalistima jer njihova igra ovoga tjedna također zaslužuje pljesak. Marco Trungelliti neočekivano se pojavio u završnici, ali čestitke na sjajnom

nizu koji je počeo još iz kvalifikacija i odveo ga sve do najboljeg rezultata u karijeri. Vjerujem da će mu zbog toga Umag najviše ostati u sjećanju, ali nadam se da to nije sve što će pamtili i ponijeti sa sobom s našeg turnira.

Ostaje nam još i Robin Haase za kojeg moram još jednom istaknuti kako je imao jako dobar tjedan. Uostalom, stigao je do polufinala u pojedinačnoj konkurenciji i izgubio, ali će svedjedno Umag napustiti kao pobjednik budući da je osvojio parove. Dapače, sve je bolji u igri parova, njemu i Matweu Middelkoopu Umag je treći zajednički naslov na ATP Touru, a Robin će nakon ovoga tjedna s nama upisati i najbolji renking u parovima u karijeri, 33. poziciju na ATP listi.

Razgovarao sam dosta s Robinom kroz ovaj tjedan, puno je nahvalio naš turnir u svim elementima, a kao jedan od iskusnijih igrača na Touru, koji je prošao puno gradova i turnira, treba njegovu riječ uzeti kao dobro i vrijedno mjerilo. Bilo bi mi zadovoljstvo opet ga gledati u Umagu i dogodine.

**Goran
Ivanišević**



Pogled legende

PELLINA ŠANSA U FINALU JE U LIJEVOJ RUCI

Od mojih kandidata za titulu pobjednika ove godine ispao je prvo Dušan Lajović, pa onda Robin Haase, ali ostao je barem jedan „moj“ za kojeg sam prognozirao da bi mogao otići do kraja, a to je Marco Cecchinato.

Talijan je danas protiv Guida Pelle u finalu favorit, ali ne preveliki, samo u jednoj maloj mjeri jer ipak je to finale, a tu ni inače nikome ne dajem previše prednosti. Rekao bih 50-50. Ni jedan od njih se nije naigrao puno finala, Pella dva, Cecchinato jedno, pa će tu biti dosta nervoze. Cecchinato je doduše osvojio Budimpeštu kao „sretni gubitnik“, igrao naravno i polufinale Roland Garrosa, no neće biti tako glatko kao sinoć.

Cecchinato je svoj posao brzo riješio makar je početak bio malo čudan. Trungelliti je u prvih 18 minuta imao 2:0 i nekoliko break-lopti za dvostruki break, a onda je u sljedećih pet minuta izgubio tri-četiri gema i brzo se poslije toga potpuno raspao. Puno je griješio, makar nisam ni očekivao da će Argentinac moći puno naškoditi Cecchinatu jer ipak je Talijan trenutačno bolji igrač, čvršći, konkretniji... Već ga je i dobio u Roland Garrosu. Trebalo se puno toga posložiti Trungellitiju da on dobije taj meč, a očito se nije. Guido Pella i Robin Haase odigrali neobičan meč, dosta su glatki

setovi bili, ali Pella je pokazao da je u dobroj formi i nastavlja svoj pohod ovdje. Haase je bio vrlo slab na servisu, a to su ti neki redoviti feleri koje on ima i koji se uvijek pojave i ispriječe mu se na putu do nekog većeg rezultata. Sad su se pojavili na servisu, a nekad mu zaštekta forhend, nekad bekhend. Iako sve može odigrati sjajno i kad mu sve ide od ruke onda je gadan protivnik, ali na žalost ne ide mu često pa je zato tu gdje je, makar po talentu vrijedi više.

Pella je ovog puta to kaznio i došao u svoje prvo finale. Nakon Wimbledonu gdje je pobijedio Marina Čilića, samopouzdanje mu je jako naraslo, mislim da ni on sam nije svjestan tada što je učinio.

Rekoh da je Cecchinato mali favorit u finalu, a gdje vidim kako Pella može ugroziti Talijana? Vidim u lijevoj ruci. Lijevi servis na Cecchinatov bekhend, lijevi forhend na Cecchinatov bekhend. K tome i Guido ima solidan bekhend, tako da ima oružja gdje može napraviti nered. Kako god, bit će to dobar tenis u finalu.

NIZOZEMCI U TANDEMU OSVOJILI 29. IZDANJE PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPENA

HAASE SE UTJEŠIO TRIJUMFOM U PARU

Utjehu nakon poraza u polufinalu pojedinačne konkurencije Robin Haase pronašao je svega nekoliko sati kasnije trijumfom u parovima. Nizozemac je u suradnji sa svojim sunarodnjakom Matweom Middelkoopom osvojio Plava Laguna Croatia Open, što je za tandem 30-godišnjaka treća zajednička titula.

Oba prethodna pehara pobjednika također su ove godine pospremili u vitrine, jedan je iz indijskog Punea, drugi iz bugarske Sofije.

Za naslov najboljih u Umagu u finalu su pobijedili Romana Jebavog i Jirija Veselog, neopjevane ovogodišnje junake Umaga koji su na putu do subotnjeg meča eliminirali prve nositelje i polufinaliste Wimbledonu Škugora i Ingloa. Prošle godine su u Umagu dragi gosti iz Češke izletjeli već u 1. kolu, sada su skoro uzeli sve, ali Nizozemci su bili predobri i slavili sa 6:4, 6:4. - **Bio sam razočaran ishodom svog polufinala jer sam imao dobru priliku za pobjedu, ali drago**

mi je da nam to razočaranje nije naštetilo finalu u parovima - rekao je Haase, kojem je ovo ukupno peti osvojeni turnir u paru.

Middelkoop je nešto malo uspješniji, ima dva više, a ujedno je dao obećanje da će braniti umašku titulu dogodine.

- **Nikada prije nisam bio ovdje, ali čuo sam dosta lijepih priča o Umagu od igrača na Touru. I zato sam odlučio doći i moram reći da sam ugodno iznenađen. Prekrasno mjesto, sunce, plaže, odlična organizacija, a stadion je bio pun već u ponedjeljak i utorak, što je slika koju baš i ne vidite na drugim turnirima** - opisao je svoje dojmove 34-godišnjak iz Brede.



OSCAROV KUTAK

CECCHINATO FAVORIT, ALI PELLA MOŽE IZNENADITI

Jučerašnji dan otvorili su Pella i Haase, a u vrlo neizvjesnom meču u utrci za finale ipak je prošao Argentinac rezultatom 6:3; 1:6; 6:2. Haase je dobio drugu šansu u igri parova sa Middelkoopom protiv para Jebavy – Vesely i tu je puno bolje prošao i osvojio turnir. Senzacija dana bio je meč Cecchinata i Argentinca Trungellitija koji se čekao s nestrpljenjem kako bismo saznali tko ide dalje u finale. Uspjelo je to Talijanu koji je pokazao da je neupitno bolji. Utrka za pobjedničko postolje mogla bi završiti pobjedom Talijana koji je ove godine pokazao da je u odličnoj formi sudeći prema rezultatu Roland Garossa ili pak iznenađenjem ako Argentinac po prvi put osvoji trofej na ATP turniru i dobije još jedan razlog da zavoli Umag.

piše: Oscar Visintin

IVANIŠEVIĆ ODUŠEVIO POREČANE I DOBIO FOTOGRAFIJU S POČETKA KARIJERE

Goran Ivanišević posjetio je Poreč i družio se s ljubiteljima tenisa. Među brojnim obožavateljima koji su došli popričati s wimbledonskim pobjednikom i najboljim hrvatskim tenisačem, bilo je puno domaćih, ali i stranih gostiju. Domaćini Goranovog posjeta kao i glavni sponzor umaškog ATP turnira, Plava Laguna, Goranu su pripremili pravo iznenađenje – fotografije s početka njegove teniske karijere, kada je osvojio Istarsku rivijeru krajem osamdesetih. Oduševljen porečkim dočekom, Goran je pozvao sve prisutne da dođu u Umag pogledati uzbudljivo finale 29.



izdanja umaškog turnira i koncert Gorana Griffa i Zucchero Celebration banda koji nam svake godine omogućuje da se od turnira oprostimo sa stilom - plešući do ranog jutra

ILVIO VIDOVICH OBRANIO TITULU NA NOVINARSKOM TURNIRU

Ilvio Vidovich, novinar uglednog talijanskog teniskog portala Ubitennis, obranio je naslov pobjednika Memorijala Ico Kerhin. Riječ je o teniskom turniru novinara i medijskih djelatnika koji prate Plava Laguna Croatia Open, a koji je tradicionalan baš jednako kao umaški ATP turnir budući da se igra od 1990. i stigao je ove godine, dakle, do svog 29. izdanja.

Vidovich je prošle godine slavio kao debitant, a ove godine je u konkurenciji 12 sudionika kao prvi nositelj potvrdio da u tenisu nije dobar samo kao novinar već i kao igrač. Suvereno je osvojio turnir, pri čemu je finale, u kojem je pobijedio 6:1, 6:1, bila repriza od prije 12 mjeseci. Jer suparnik mu je opet bio Zlatko Horvat, urednik

u Novom listu i jedan od najboljih hrvatskih teniskih autora, koji je branio, i to jako dobro, čast hrvatskih novinara.

Pobjedniku i drugoplasiranom prigodne je trofeje uručio direktor turnira Lawrence Frankopan. - Možda bih trebao razmisliti da vam sljedeće godine dam pozivnicu za glavni turnir - našalio se Frankopan.

Finalisti su također dobili i poklon pakete Babolata - Vidovich reket, Horvat torbu za reket - koje je predao Branko Marović, predstavnik tvrtke Vat, generalnog uvoznika sportskog branda.



Najbolje tenisače među novinarima darovao je i PIK Vrbovec, odnosno njihov predstavnik Boris Jaranović, a PIK je već tradicionalno za ovu priliku priredio ukusne specijalitete s roštilja.

POLUFINALIST ROLAND GARROSA NADIGRAO IMENJAKA TRUNGELLITIIJA TE ĆE DANAS IGRATI ZA NASLOV POBJEDNIKA PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPENA

MARCO CECCHINATO PROJURIO DO FINALA

Marco Cecchinato spriječio je prvo sveargentinsko finale u povijesti umaškog ATP turnira pobjedom nad imenjacom iz Argentine Trungellitijem. Talijan je tako potvrdio status najvećeg favorita turnira i danas će od 20 sati protiv Guida Pelle tražiti svoj drugi naslov u karijeri.



Bila je to jednosmjerna ulica izuzev prva dva gema meča koja je osvojio Trungelliti, ali poslije toga je od sljedećih 13 osvojio još samo jedan, a i taj nakon što je izgubio čak 11 gemova zaredom, od 0:2 do 6:2, 5:0.

Naravno da je Cecchinato bio zadovoljan svojom izvedbom na Stadionu Goran Ivanišević.

- **Jesam, zadovoljan sam što sam otišao do finala u prvom turniru na zemljanoj podlozi nakon Roland Garrosa, ali temelji ovog uspjeha napravljeni su još tijekom priprema u predsezoni kada sam puno i naporno radio sa svojim stožerom, i na tenisu i na kondiciji. Investirao sam dosta u sebe i sada taj naporan rad dolazi na naplatu** - rekao je Cecchinato koji nedvojbeno igra svoju najbolju sezonu karijere. Mladić sa Sicilije oduše-

vio je teniski svijet ranije ove godine u Roland Garrosu gdje je dogurao sve do polufinala - prvi Talijan u polufinalu bilo kojeg Grand Slama nakon Corrada Barazzuttija iz 1978. godine - a prije toga je osvojio i svoj prvi ATP naslov u Budimpešti. Uspjelo mu je to kao „lucky loser“, što će reći da je prije samo tri mjeseca još uvijek morao igrati kvalifikacije da bi ušao na ATP turnir, a sada je već 27. igrač svijeta.

- **U odnosu na Budimpeštu potpuno sam drugi tenisač. U Budimpešti sam bio autsajder, a sada sam u Umagu u ulozi favorita. To prvo finale za mene je bilo vrlo emotivan trenutak, zbog kojeg sam bio nervozan, ali nakon toga i svega u Roland Garrosu, sada ne osjećam takav stres.** Na svom čudesnom teniskom putu u Parizu u 2. kolu pobijedio je upravo sinočnjeg suparnika u Umagu, Marca Trungellitija, da bi kasnije poredao Carrena Bustu, Goffina i Đokovića prije nego ga je zaustavio Dominic Thiem. Igrao je također i protiv svog protivnika u finalu.

- **Naravno da poznajem Guida, igrali smo prošle godine na Challengeru u Njemačkoj i razbio me 6:2, 6:2. Dakle, morat ću igrati puno bolje nego tada da bih ga pobijedio večeras.**

ARGENTINSKI TENISAČ U SVOM PRVOM DOLASKU NA PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN ODMAH OTIŠAO DO FINALA

PELLA: NAKON DAVIS CUPA U ZAGREBU, ŽELIM PEHAR POBJEDNIKA I U UMAGU

Guido Pella peti je različiti Argentinac koji će igrati finale umaškog ATP turnira. Trojica nisu uspjela učiniti završni korak - Franco Davin 1992. (poraz od Thomasa Musterera) i Mariano Puerta 2000. (Marcelo Rios) - dok će se 28-godišnjak iz Buenos Airesa večeras željeti pridružiti svojim sunarodnjacima Guillermu Canas (2004) i Guillermu Coriji (2005), koji su podizali veliki plavi pehar pobjednika Umaga.

Pella je do meča za titulu stigao pobjedom nad Robinom Haaseom, šestim nositeljom koji je s gotovo dvostruko boljim ATP renkingom (38, odnosno 72. mjesto) slovio kao favorit uoči meča, međutim na terenu je Argentinac pokazao bolji tenis.

- **Odigrao sam ukupno dobar meč. Možda sam nakon osvojenog prvog seta vidio da je Haase nervozan pa sam malo požurio u želji da ga slomim i to me koštalo jer sam izgubio i ritam i set. Ali, poslije toga sam se opet vratio na igru iz prvog seta, bio agresivan** - rekao je Pella. Za Pella će ovo biti možda treća sreća u ATP

finalima. Do sada je igrao u završnici Rio de Janeira 2016. (Cuevas) i Münchena 2017. (A. Zverev), no još uvijek čeka premijernu titulu. Možda je Umag njegovo sretno mjesto?

- **Prvi puta sam ovdje i sviđa mi se jako. Lijepo mjesto, lijepo vrijeme, ugodan ambijent, vrhunska hrana i tretiraju nas jako dobro, tako da se ne mogu požaliti.**

Uostalom, Hrvatska mu je ostala u lijepo sjećanju po jednom drugom događaju. Prije nepune dvije godine bio je član argentinske reprezentacije koja je u Zagrebu osvojila Davis Cup.

- **Da, to je bio fantastičan uspjeh za nas. Nadam se da ću danas podignuti još jedan pehar pobjednika u Hrvatskoj, no prvo se moram dobro odmoriti i pripremiti za finale.**

Robin Haase bio je prvi Nizozemac u povijesti Plava Laguna Croatia Opena koji je stigao među posljednja četiri na turniru i nadmašio dva četvrtfinala Paula Haarhuisa još iz prošlog stoljeća. No, za korak više u subotu mu je prije svega nedostajao servis. Patio je Haase na po-



četnom udarcu i to pogotovo u setovima koje je izgubio. Dok je u drugoj dionici imao samo osrednje brojke u statistici bio je ravnopravan suparniku, ali u prvoj i trećoj imao je ispod 50 posto ubačenog prvog servisa, a pogotovo mu je slaba točka bila igra nakon drugog servisa u kojem je jedva osvajao poene.



VINSKE DEGUSTACIJE

Kuša i piše: Antonija Mandić



ISTRIA GOURMET FESTIVAL ODLEŽANA MALVAZIJA VINARIJE TOMAZ ZADNJI FINALIST ZA ATP VINO GODINE



Posjetitelji jučerašnjih vinskih degustacija u utrcu za titulu ATP vina godine, kao posljednjeg finalista, odlučili su poslati odležanu malvaziju vinarije Tomaz. Na zadnjim Skrivenim čarima istarskih vina, predstavile su se još i vinarije Franković te Prelac. ATP vino godine bira se danas u Taste Istria zoni, a osim odležane malvazije

Tomaz, za nagradu se bore i svježa malvazija vinarije Veraldi, odležani teran vinarije Benvenuti, pjenušac Vina Zigante, cabernet sauvignon vinarije Degrassi i crvena kupaža vinarije Kozlović.

Najboljem vinu nagradu ATP vino 2018. Uručit će predsjednica Kolinda Grabar Kitarović.



DANAS SE IGRA ZAVRŠNICA VIP TURNIRA PAROVA

Na terenima Umag Tennis Academy u subotu je otpočelo još jedno izdanje VIP turnira parova, tradicionalnog događaja koji već više od dvadeset godina okuplja poznate osobe iz sportskog, društvenog i političkog života, kao i ugledne gospodarstvenike. Već je prošle godine organizator zbog velikog interesa bio primoran proširiti listu prijava sa 24 na

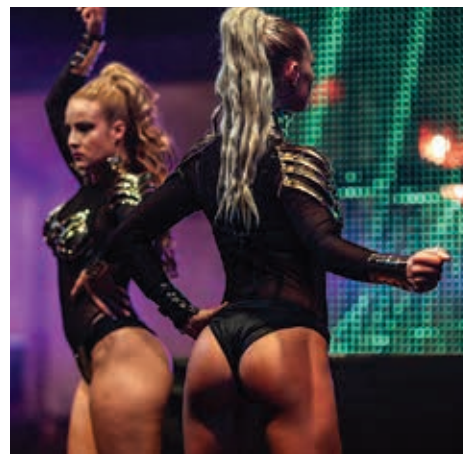
28 sudionika, koliko ih je i ove godine sudjelovalo u turniru. Nakon serije subotnjih mečeva, danas će se na Akademiji smještenoj u Katoru igrati polufinale i finale VIP turnira. Makar je u ova dva dana u prvom planu bilo prijateljsko druženje uz puno dobre zabave, pobjede su i pitanje časti tako da će i završnica turnira sigurno biti zanimljivo za gledati.



DOBRO RASPOLOŽENA PUBLIKA ZAPLESALA NA PLJUSKU UZ HITOVE MIKEA CANDYSA

Posjetitelji u Dance Areni glasno su zapljeskali kad je na pozornicu izašao veliki 'smajlić'. Švicarski DJ Mike Candys, naime, rijetko skida masku s glave, pa je i na nastup u Umagu stigao s velikom žutom kuglom na glavi i nacrtanim osmjehom. Njegovi fanovi oduševljeni su ovom zafrkancijom, pa i u publici na njegovim nastupima često bude mnoštvo 'smajlića'. Tek što je Candys počeo svirati, krenula je padati kiša, no publiku to nije omelo u provodu. Štoviše, činilo se

kao da im je osvježenje nakon dugog ljetnog dana dobro došlo, a atmosferu su dodatno začinile atraktivne plesačice. Nažalost, pljusak se pojačao, a zatim prešao i u tuču, pa je koncert morao biti otkazan, kao i nastup Rudeejaya. Danas će nakon finalnog meča u Dance Areni nastupiti Goran Griff i Zucchero Celebration band te tradicionalnom izvedbom pjesme "What a wonderful world" zatvoriti ovogodišnje izdanje turnira i zabavljati posjetitelje do dugo u noć.



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RAZGOVORI O SPORTU

ZASLUŽENO GRAD SPORTA: NA UMAŠKOM ATP-U IGRALO SE VIŠE OD 10 SPORTOVA

Na posljednjim ovogodišnjim Razgovorima o sportu, o ozljedama profesionalaca i rekreativaca govorili su Ivan Didović, magistar fizioterapije, Mišo Šabović, specijalist kardiologije, kradiovaskularnih bolesti i interne medicine, Kristijan Zulle, magistar fizioterapije te Rino Podreka, fitness i kondicijski trener. Složili su se da je nužno raditi na prevenciji ozljeda, na čemu najviše 'padaju' rekreativci. "Rekreativci često ne poštuju princip postepenosti, nego u trening krenu odmah svim snagama. Treba raditi na prevenciji ozljeda sportaša slijedeći sve korake od pravovremenog početka priprema, pa do masaža i odmora od treninga", kazao je Zulle. Šabović je kazao kako se kao nacija općenito ne krećemo dovoljno, štoviše, samo 4-5 posto Hrvata se bavi nekom aktivnošću zbog čega smo među pet najdebljih nacija u EU. Iz okvira ove priče iskače Umag kao Europski



grad sporta 2018., hvalevrijedna titula kojom se okitio ove godine zahvaljujući ulaganju u promicanje sporta u lokalnoj zajednici. Nezaobilazan dio uspjeha je i umaški ATP turnir koji, iako je prvenstveno teniski događaj; promovira i mnoge ostale sportove. Posjetitelji su se ove godine na turniru mogli okušati u beach tenisu, tenisu na vodi, street tenisu, trčanju, zumbi, golfu, vaterpolu, yogi, teretani na otvorenom, nogometu, street

workout-u... Nekoliko tisuća ljudi svih uzrasta, a prvenstveno mladih, sudjelovalo je u sportskim aktivnostima, a na Razgovorim o sportu sudjelovalo je više od 25 govornika, uglavnom stručnjaka i sportaša koji su okupljene educirali o prevenciji ozljeda, ispravnoj prehrani i psihičkoj spremnosti.



TALKING ABOUT SPORTS

CITY OF SPORT: OVER TEN DIFFERENT SPORTS FEATURED AT UMAG'S ATP TOURNAMENT

At this year's final Talking about Sports event, the speakers, including Ivan Didović and Kristijan Zulle, holders of the master's degree in physiotherapy, Mišo Šabović, specialist in cardiology, cardiovascular diseases and internal medicine, and Rino Podreka, strength and conditioning coach, discussed injuries in both professional and recreational sports. They all agreed that it was necessary to work on preventing injuries, an issue that plagued recreational athletes the most. "Recreational athletes often do not adhere to the principle of gradualism and are really gung ho about training. To prevent injuries in athletes, one should follow all the steps, from the timely



start of the preparations and massages to resting and training," said Zulle. Šabović added that, as a nation, we were not active enough. In fact, only 4-5 percent of Croatians are involved in some kind of a sporting activity, which is why, nowadays, we are among the top five most overweight nations in the EU. The complete opposite to all of this is Umag, the 2018 European City of Sport, a praiseworthy title awarded to the city due to its investments in promoting sports in the local community. Umag's ATP tournament is an integral part of that success; even though it is primarily a tennis event, it also promotes many other sports. This year, the tournament's



visitors tried their hand at beach tennis, tennis on water, street tennis, running, zumba, golf, water polo, yoga, exercising in an outdoor gym, football and street workout, among other things. Several thousand people of all ages, particularly young people, participated in the many sports activities, while these Talking about Sports events featured over 25 speakers, mostly experts and athletes who educated their audiences on injury prevention, proper nutrition and mental fitness.





I RISULTATI DEGLI ITALIANI IN CAMPO SABATO 21 LUGLIO (SINGOLARE, SEMIFINALE)

Dopo Fabio Fognini (vincitore nel 2016) e Paolo Lorenzi (bloccato a un solo passo dal trionfo dodici mesi or sono dalle imprese del lucky loser Andrey Rublev), anche Marco Cecchinato approda alla finale del '29. Plava Laguna ATP Croatia Open

Umag'. Ora, sulla sua strada, si profila la figura dell'argentino Guido Pella che, nel pomeriggio, aveva superato al terzo set l'olandese Robin Haase. Cecchinato, unica testa di serie ancora in gioco, aveva conquistato l'accesso alle semifinali superando in due

set il serbo Laslo Djere. L'argentino Trungelliti, lanciato dalle qualificazioni, in precedenza aveva invece sconfitto il russo Evgeny Donskoy e prima ancora l'ungherese Marton Fucsovics. Il giocatore palermitano, già due volte vittorioso sul sudamericano, ha concesso qualcosa solo nelle prime battute di gioco. Ossia, due game consecutivi e ha lasciato a Trungelliti persino una palla per il 3-0. Ribaltata la situazione nel terzo gioco (1-2), Cecchinato prende il largo vincendo ben undici giochi consecutivi.

Serie che gli vale ovviamente il con-

trobreak e anche un doppio break a vantaggio per chiudere il primo set sul 6-2 dopo 40' di gioco. Il secondo set è solo una formalità con Trungelliti ormai sfiduciato: Cecchinato subito sul 5-0 e, quando il suo avversario ottiene finalmente un punto (5-1) alzando le braccia al cielo, tutta l'arena gli regala una simpatica standing ovation di simpatia che nulla vuole togliere a Cecchinato, sostenuto a gran voce per tutto l'arco dei restanti 66' complessivi. Il secondo set si chiude sul 6-1 e, questa volta, l'urlo liberatorio spetta al giocatore italiano.



RISULTATI DI IERI (ITALIANI)

CAMPO CENTRALE – STADIUM GORAN IVANISEVIC

[3] Marco Cecchinato (ITA) b [Q] M. Trungelliti (ARG) 6-2 6-1

CECCHINATO: "IL PUBBLICO DI UMAGO HA TIFATO PER ME FIN DAL PRIMO PUNTO"

"Ho disputato un buon match, sono davvero soddisfatto. Lui è un ottimo giocatore, lo conoscevo bene. Anche oggi il pubblico di Umago ha tifato per me fin dal primo punto e, alla fine, ha giustamente applaudito anche lui. Io, invece, sono stato bra-

vivo a non distrarmi, perché avrebbe anche potuto rientrare in partita e la faccenda sarebbe diventata molto complicata". Per Cecchinato arriva la seconda finale in carriera, ma da vivere in maniera molto diversa: quella di Budapest da emergente lucky loser,

questa in terra croata da favorito. "Adesso, però, sono un altro giocatore. Allora, per me, era tutto nuovo e vissi le ore precedenti con grande tensione. Qui, invece, ero testa di serie e reduce da buoni risultati: ecco perché mi sento bene e credo di essere

nelle condizioni mentali giuste per affrontare Pella, un ottimo giocatore contro il quale dovrò alzare il livello. Certo – aggiunge – andare in finale al primo torneo sulla terra rossa dopo il Roland Garros costituisce un ottimo risultato, non era certo facile".

TORNEO GIORNALISTI: L'ITALIANO VIDOVICH TRIONFA ANCORA

Quale buon auspicio per l'esito del torneo principale, parla italiano anche la combattuta kermesse internazionale riservata ai giornalisti accreditati al 'Plava Laguna ATP Croatia Open Umag'. Il triestino Ilvio Vidovich (Ubitennis) ha infatti conquistato con autorità e classe per il secondo anno consecutivo il 'Memorial Ico Kerhin', liquidando in finale con un secco 6-1 6-1 il collega croato Zlatko

Horvat (Novi List e Glas Istre) sulla terra rossa del Grandstand. Le premiazioni si sono svolte nel pomeriggio a poche decine di metri dalla vivace sala stampa, mentre profumi mangerecci e allestimenti colorati caratterizzavano l'area riservata al Pik Barbecue dove la Pik Vrbovec, azienda croata specializzata in generi alimentari, ha allestito una zona accogliente dove gli addetti alla griglia hanno lavorato

per ore. I trofei sono stati consegnati dal direttore del torneo, Lawrence Frankopan; i premi sono stati offerti dalla VAT, rappresentante Babolat per la Croazia. Eccellenti anche le prestazioni del toscano Fabrizio Salvi di TieBreak Tennis (avversario che, in assoluto, ha messo più in difficoltà il rullo compressore Vidovich) e il ferrarese Michelangelo Sottili (anche lui Ubitennis) che, sul versante



opposto del tabellone (dove si è ben disimpegnato anche il ravennate Flavio Montruccoli), ha sfiorato l'accesso a una finale tutta italiana.

Anche questo è Umago!

IMPRESSUM

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**Lawrence
Frankopan**

The director's view

THE FINAL IS OPEN, CHANCES ARE FIFTY-FIFTY

Marco Cecchinato and Guido Pella will be deciding on the winner of the 29th edition of the Plava Laguna Croatia Open. I would say their match is worthy of a final considering what both of them have shown over the past few days.

As we have been saying all week long, Cecchinato has the status of a Roland Garros semifinalist, and that is something that commands respect from others. At the same time, Guido has never won in a final, even though this is his third one. After missing his previous two chances, he will certainly do his best to finally join the champion's club.

That is why tonight's duel will be interesting and energetic – we can expect to see a grueling gladiator battle. In fact, Guido showed that he had it in himself when he beat Aljaž Bedene. He is ready and, more importantly, capable of making a comeback from nearly certain defeat. Based on his previous accomplishments, Cecchinato is clearly the favorite, but I would still refrain from making any concrete predictions. In fact, I would say they both have a fifty-fifty chance of winning.

I should also say a few more words about our defeated semifinalists since they also deserve applause for their accomplishments this week. Marco Tringelliti showed up this far in the tournament unexpectedly but we

should compliment him on a series of wins that began in the qualifiers and took him to his career-best run in an ATP tournament. I believe that is what he will remember Umag for the most, but it hopefully won't be the only thing he will take away from here.

Finally, there is Robin Haase, who has had an exceptional run here. He reached the semifinals in the singles competition and lost but will, nonetheless, leave Umag as a champion as he won the doubles competition. In fact, his and Matwe Middelkoop's game in the doubles competition has been improving lately. Umag is their third ATP title, and after this week, Robin will also have the best doubles ranking ever – no. 33 on the ATP Rankings.

Over the course of the week, I have spoken to Robin a lot, and he has complimented our tournament in all its segments. He is one of the more experienced players on the Tour and has seen many cities and tournaments, so his words definitely carry weight. It would be my pleasure to see him in Umag next year as well.

**Goran
Ivanišević**



The legend's view

PELLA'S CHANCE IN THE FINAL IS HIS LEFT HAND

Of all my candidates to win this year's tournament, Dušan Lajović was the first to go out, followed by Robin Haase. Fortunately, I still have one of my favorites in the final, Marco Cecchinato.

The Italian is favored to win today's final against Guido Pella but not too much. When it comes to finals, I hardly ever favor anyone. I would say both players have a fifty-fifty chance to win. Neither of them has seen many finals: Pella has played in two of them and Cecchinato only one, so they will both be very nervous. Cecchinato did claim the title in Budapest as the lucky loser and played in the semifinals at Roland Garros; however, things certainly will not go as smoothly for him as they did last night.

Cecchinato was very clinical in finishing the match even though the start was a bit odd. Eighteen minutes into the match and Tringelliti had 2:0 and several break points for a double-break lead but then lost three or four games in the next five minutes and fell apart completely. He made loads of mistakes; then again, I did not expect the Argentinian to do any serious damage to Cecchinato seeing as the Italian is currently much better, he is strong and more concrete...

Guido Pella and Robin Haase played an unusual match. The sets went

smoothly and Pella showed he was in great form and would not stop in his quest for the title. Haase struggled with his serve, but those are his usual shortcomings – they seem to frequently appear when he is on the verge of some great achievement. This time he had problems with his serve, other times it's his forehand, or even backhand. When things are going his way, then he can be a tough opponent. Unfortunately, that rarely happens so that is why he is where he is – even though he is worth much more because of his talent.

This time, Pella used the opportunity well and reached his first ever ATP final. His confidence skyrocketed after his win over Marin Čilić at Wimbledon and I don't think even he knows what he has achieved here. I said Cecchinato was a slight favorite to win this final, so let us see how Pella could threaten the Italian. It is his left hand. His left serve to Cecchinato's backhand, and his left forehand to Cecchinato's backhand. Also, Guido has a solid backhand, so he can do considerable damage in this match.

DUTCH TEAM WINS 29TH EDITION OF PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN

HAASE TAKES COMFORT IN DOUBLES TRIUMPH

Utjehu nakon poraza u polufinalu pojedinačne konkurencije Robin Haase pronašao je svega nekoliko sati kasnije trijumfom u parovima. Nizozemac je u suradnji sa svojim sunarodnjakom Matweom Middelkoopom osvojio Plava Laguna Croatia Open, što je za tandem 30-godišnjaka treća zajednička titula.

Oba prethodna pehara pobjednika također su ove godine pospremili u vitrine, jedan je iz indijskog Punea, drugi iz bugarske Sofije. Za naslov najboljih u Umagu u finalu su pobijedili Romana Jebavog i Jirija Veseloga, neopjevane ovogodišnje junake Umaga koji su na putu do subotnjeg meča eliminirali prve nositelje i polufinaliste Wimbledonu Škugora i Ingloata. Prošle godine su u Umagu dragi gosti iz Češke izletjeli već u 1. kolu, sada su skoro uzeli sve, ali Nizozemci su bili predobri i slavili sa 6:4, 6:4.

- Bio sam razočaran ishodom svog polufinala jer sam imao dobru priliku za pobjedu, ali drago mi je da nam to razočaranje nije naštetilo finalu u parovima - rekao je Haase, kojem je ovo ukupno peti osvojeni turnir u paru.



Middelkoop je nešto malo uspješniji, ima dva više, a ujedno je dao obećanje da će braniti umašku titulu dogodine.

- Nikada prije nisam bio ovdje, ali čuo sam dosta lijepih priča o Umagu od igrača na Touru. I zato sam odlučio doći i moram reći da sam ugodno iznenađen. Prekrasno mjesto, sunce, plaže, odlična organizacija, a stadion je bio pun već u ponedjeljak i utorak, što je slika koju baš i ne vidite na drugim turnirima - opisao je svoje dojmove 34-godišnjak iz Brede.

OSCAR'S CORNER

CECCHINATO IS THE FAVORITE BUT PELLA CAN SPRING A SURPRISE

Yesterday kicked off with a duel between Pella and Haase. It was a close match but the Argentinian ultimately won 6:3; 1:6; 6:2 and advanced to the final. Haase got a second chance in the doubles final with his partner Middelkoop – he fared much better there, defeating the other pair Jebavý – Veselý and claiming the doubles title. The sensation of the day was caused by the match between Italy's Cecchinato and Argentina's Tringelliti. We could hardly wait for it to finish to learn the name of the other finalist. In the end, it was the Italian who showed everyone he was clearly the better player. The race to the title will end with either the Italian's win, and judging by his performance at Roland Garros, he is in excellent form, or a surprise win by the Argentinian, for whom this would be his first ever ATP title and another reason to love Umag.

writes: Oscar Visintin

IVANIŠEVIĆ WOWS POREČ, GETS A PHOTO TAKEN AT THE START OF HIS CAREER

Goran Ivanišević visited Poreč and spent some time with the tennis fans there. There were many Croatian as well as foreign guests among the fans who were there to chat to the Wimbledon champion and Croatia's top tennis player. The host of Goran's visit as well as the main sponsor of the ATP tournament in Umag, Plava Laguna, prepared a surprise for Goran – photos from

the early days of his career, back in the 1980s, when he had won the Istrian Riviera. Delighted with Poreč's gift, Goran invited everyone there to come to Umag and watch the exciting finale of the 29th edition of the tournament in Umag and enjoy a concert by Goran Griff and the Zucchero Celebration Band. Each year, Griff and the band



allow us to say goodbye to the tournament in style – by dancing until the early morning hours.



Ilvio Vidovich, a reporter for the Italian tennis web portal Ubitennis, defended his title of Ico Kerhin Memorial champion. It is a tennis tournament for the press and other media professionals covering the Plava Laguna Croatia Open. The event is a traditional one, going back to 1990 just like the tournament in Umag, and this year,

ILVIO VIDOVICH DEFENDS TITLE AT PRESSTOURNAMENT

we witnessed its 29th edition. Last year, Vidovich claimed the title after his debut in the event, and this year, competing as the top seed and one of 12 players in total, he confirmed he wasn't just a good tennis reporter but a good tennis player as well. He dominated the tournament and won the final match 6:1, 6:1, just as he had done the year before. Once again, his opponent in the final was Zlatko Horvat, editor for Novi list and one of Croatia's top tennis journalists. Horvat defended the honor of the Croatian journalists quite well. Both the winner and the runner-up were presen-

ted with their trophies by tournament director Lawrence Frankopan.

- Maybe I should consider giving you the invitations for next year's tournament - joked Frankopan. The finalists also received Babolata gift sets – Vidovich got a tennis racket, and Horvat a tennis racket bag – presented to them by Branko Marović, representative of Vat, the sports brand's general importer.

Finally, PIK Vrbovec, that is to say, their representative Boris Jaranović, also rewarded the best tennis players among the journalists. By tradition, PIK also provided the delicious barbecue dishes for the occasion.



ROLAND GARROS SEMIFINALIST DEFEATS
 NAMESAKE TRUNGELITTI IN THE SEMIFINAL
 OF PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN

MARCO CECCHINATO PUSHES THROUGH TO THE FINAL

performance at the Goran Ivanišević Stadium.

- **Yes, I am pleased I have reached the final in my first tournament on clay after Roland Garros. But the foundations for this success were built during my preparations in the off-season, when I worked hard with my coaching staff on my tennis and my fitness. I invested a great deal in myself and that hard work is now slowly paying off** - said Cecchinato, who is undoubtedly having his best ever season. The young man from Sicily impressed the tennis world earlier this year at Roland Garros, where he advanced all the way to the semifinals – as the first Italian to do so at any Grand Slam since Corrado Barazzutti back in 1978. Before that, he won his first ever ATP title in Budapest, as the lucky loser, which means that just three months ago he had to play qualifiers to get into a tourna-

ment, and now he is already no. 27 in the world.

- **Compared to Budapest, I am a completely different player. There, I was an outsider, and here in Umag, I am favored to win it. That first final was very emotional for me and I was extremely nervous. But now, after winning that title and everything that's happened at Roland Garros, I don't feel that much stress anymore.**

Back in Paris, during his miraculous run to the semifinals, in the second round he beat none other than his last night's opponent, Marco Tringelliti. Later on, he battled past Carreno Busta, Goffin and Đoković, before being stopped by Dominic Thiem. He has also played against his next opponent in one of the finals.

- **Of course, I know Guido. Last year, we played a Challenger in Germany and he thrashed me 6:2, 6:2. So, I'll have up my game tonight to defeat him.**

Marco Cecchinato has stood in the way of the first all-Argentinian final in the history of the ATP tournament in Umag by beating his namesake from Argentina, Marco Tringelliti. The Italian has thus confirmed his status as the biggest favorite to win this tournament. His match against Guido Pella and quest for his career-second title will begin today, at 8PM.

His match against Tringelliti was a one-way street, except for the first two games which went Tringelliti's way. After that, of the next 13 games, the Argentinian won just one other – after losing the previous twelve in a row. Cecchinato went from 0:2 to 6:2 in the first set, and then to 5:0 in the second set.

Naturally, the Italian was quite pleased with his

reached the final in my first tournament on clay after Roland Garros. But the foundations for this success were built during my preparations in the off-season, when I worked hard with my coaching staff on my tennis and my fitness. I invested a great deal in myself and that hard work is now slowly paying off - said Cecchinato, who is undoubtedly having his best ever season. The young man from Sicily impressed the tennis world earlier this year at Roland Garros, where he advanced all the way to the semifinals – as the first Italian to do so at any Grand Slam since Corrado Barazzutti back in 1978. Before that, he won his first ever ATP title in Budapest, as the lucky loser, which means that just three months ago he had to play qualifiers to get into a tourna-

ARGENTINIAN TENNIS PLAYER ADVANCES TO THE FINAL ON HIS
 DEBUT APPEARANCE AT PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN

PELLA: AFTER DAVIS CUP IN ZAGREB, I WANT A TROPHY IN UMAG AS WELL

Guido Pella is the fifth Argentinian to play in the final of the ATP tournament in Umag. Two of those four failed to make that final step and win – Franco Davin in 1992 (defeated by Thomas Muster) and Mariano Puerta in 2000 (lost to Marcelo Rios) – while, tonight, the 28-year-old from Buenos Aires will want to join his compatriots Guillermo Canas (2004) and Guillermo Coria (2005) in winning that big, blue trophy as the champion of Umag.

Pella reached the final after defeating Robin Haase, the sixth-seeded player who is ranked nearly halfway down from Pella's ranking (38th and 72nd, respectively) and has been the favorite to win the match. However, the Argentinian exhibited a much better tennis on the court yesterday.

- **Overall, I played a solid match. After winning the first set, I saw Haase was a bit nervous, so I hurried things up somewhat in an attempt to break him quickly and that cost me, as I then lost both my rhythm and the second set. After that, I got back to the level I was at in the first set and played aggressively** - explained Pella. This might be a case of third time lucky for Pella, as far as ATP tournaments go. So far he has played in the finals of Rio de Janeiro in 2016 (lost to Cue-

vas) and Munich in 2017 (defeated by Alexander Zverev), but is still waiting for his career-first title. Perhaps Umag will be his lucky city?

- **This is my first time here and I like it very much. This is a beautiful place, with great weather, excellent atmosphere and top-quality food. They've been treating us well so I can't really complain.**

Besides, he has more fond memories of Croatia because of another event. Nearly two years ago, he was on the Argentinian Davis Cup team that won the title in Zagreb.

- **Yes, that was a fantastic success for us. Hopefully, I will be lifting another trophy today in Croatia. Before I do that, I need to rest and prepare for the final match.** Robin Haase was the first Dutchman in the history of the Plava Laguna Croatia Open to be among the last four players in the tournament. He also exceeded the two quarterfinals reached

by Paul Haarhuis in the last century. Still, on Saturday, he primarily lacked his serve to make the final step. He struggled with his first serve throughout, particularly in all the sets that he had lost. While his second-set statistics show mediocre figures, he was equal to his opponent; however, in his first and third sets, he had less than 50 percent of successful first serves. He was especially weak after the second serve, when he barely won any points.





WINE TASTINGS

Tasted and written by: Antonija Mandić



ISTRIA GOURMET FESTIVAL

TOMAZ AGED MALVASIA IS THE LAST FINALIST IN THE ATP WINE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION



The visitors of yesterday's wine tasting event decided to include the aged malvasia by Tomaz in the race for the 2018 ATP Wine of the Year title. The final Hidden Charms of the Istrian Wines event featured wines produced by Franković, Prelac and Tomaz. The ATP Wine of the Year will be announced today at the Taste

Istria Zone. Apart from the mentioned aged malvasia, the finalists include Veraldi's fresh malvasia, Benvenuti's aged teran, a sparkling wine by Vina Zigante, a cabernet sauvignon by Degrassi and Kozlović's red coupage. The award for the ATP Wine of the Year will be presented by the head of state Kolinda Grabar Kitarović.



THE FINAL OF THE VIP DOUBLES TOURNAMENT TO BE PLAYED TODAY

Yet another edition of the VIP Doubles Tournament began on Saturday, on the courts of the Umag Tennis Academy. For over twenty years, this event has been gathering famous persons from the country's sports, political and social circles, as well as prominent businesspersons. Last year, because of the considerable interest in the event, the organizers were forced to expand the number of participants from 24 to 28, which is

also how many players are competing in this year's tournament. After a series of matches on Saturday, today, the Academy in Katoro will host the tournament's semifinal and final matches. Even though the two-day event is focused on friendly get-togethers and great entertainment, winning in the tournament is also a matter of pride for many, which means the final will be interesting to watch.



ENGLISH

HAPPY FANS DANCE TO MIKE CANDYS' HITS IN THE RAIN

There was a roar of applause at the Dance Arena when the big "smiley" came out onto the stage. The Swiss DJ Mike Candys is known for wearing a mask, so he stepped on stage in Umag wearing a huge yellow smiley face ball. His fans love it and many of them wear similar masks during his performances. Rain started almost at the same time as the concert but the fans didn't mind at all. In fact, it seemed as if they welcomed a bit of refreshment from the rain after a long, hot summer day, and the atmosphere was additionally

lifted by the attractive dancers on the stage. Unfortunately, the rain quickly turned into a downpour and even hail, so the concert had to be cancelled, along with Rudeejay's performance. Today, after the final match, the Dance Arena will be taken over by Goran Griff and the Zucchero Celebration Band. They will close this year's tournament by giving their traditional rendition of the famous What a wonderful world, after which they will continue entertaining the crowd until late in the night.



ENGLISH





PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN UMAG

13.-22.7.2018.



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