Boilermakers,

Our season starts in less than a week. The players are back on campus and practicing hard to get ready for our opening day against Eastern Illinois and IUPUI. In this newsletter you will find a few updates about the happenings around the team and be able to take a quick look at our new Boilermakers. I would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to participate in our two tennis clinics this week. On Sunday January 18th our team will host an Adult Tennis Clinic at 4 pm and on MLK Monday at 3 pm - Kids Clinic. These will be two great events that you don’t want to miss.

Boiler Up!

Pawel Gajdzik

Congratulations to sophomore Ricardo Medinilla for beginning the spring semester ranked 84 in the nation in Singles.

2014 Finalist ITA National Rookie Player of the Year
2014 ITA Ohio Valley Region Rookie Player of the Year
2014 All-Big Ten second team
2014 ITA All-Academic Team

Get to know Coach Mike

Assistant Coach Michal Kokta
From Prague, Czech Republic
Previously coach and a player at Baylor University (2005-2014)
Full Bio

Highest ATP world singles ranking 356
Highest ITF world singles ranking 8, doubles 3
Highest ITA College singles ranking 11
Five Questions with Gergely

What is your most memorable tennis memory/experience?
There are two moments. The first is when I won my first ITF Future tournament. That was the happiest few minutes of my life, the other was when I first represented my country in Davis Cup.

What do you plan to study at Purdue?
I plan to study Economics. I am really looking forward to it.

Why did you pick Purdue?
I chose Purdue because here I can study at a high level and also develop my tennis. I also heard really good things from former Purdue players.

What other universities made you offers (or showed interest in you)?
I had over 50 offers but to mention some: Oklahoma, Baylor, Wisconsin, Pepperdine, Wake Forest, Cornell.

What is your New Year’s resolution?
My New Year’s resolution is that if I do something I will do that with 100%.

Five questions with Benjamin

What is your most memorable tennis memory/experience?
There are so many great ones. Regarding to winning or satisfaction, it would be when I won the last tournament of the European tour in Paris under 16. Regarding to a memory, I will chose one time when I played for the first and only time with my father when I was 10 before practice.

What do you plan to study at Purdue?
Management

Why did you pick Purdue?
My friend Aaron Dujovne, who recently graduated from Purdue always spoke highly about the school and the program. I started to talk with coach Pawel. Time went by and I got to know more and more about the University and the tennis program. Now I know I couldn’t have made a better choice.

What other universities made you offers (or showed interest in you)?
University of Kentucky, South Florida and Arkansas.

What is your New Year’s resolution?
I don’t believe or do resolutions, I prefer to have goals. My goals for this year will be to have good grades in school, practice very hard with the team and get as comfortable as I possibly can with my teammates and everything regarding to school - so when the time comes to compete and represent Purdue, I will be at my best.
Five questions with Dominik

What is your most memorable tennis memory/experience?
I can point to three moments:
• A month long stay at ASC Sánchez-Casal Tennis Academy in Barcelona (Spain, Europe). Top quality academy with great reputation where players such as Andy Murray or Svetlana Kuznetsova started their careers. I was there alone when I was 12. Wonderful experience.
• Runner up in doubles in ITF Future in Austria in 2014. It was my first ever Future! I was really excited and motivated to work even harder.
• A-grade tournament victory over David Pavlík, Czech indoor Champion.

What do you plan to study at Purdue?
I would like to study Management.

Why did you pick Purdue?
I consider Purdue as a place with optimal balance between academics and tennis level, one of the highest available in my opinion. And, definitely, due to approach of Pawel and Michal. They were open, fair, concrete and showed the best drive of all coaches I communicated with.

What other universities made you offers (or showed interest in you)?
I talked to many universities in detail such as Baylor, Wake Forest, George Washington, San Diego, Buffalo, UPenn, Cornell, University of Minnesota, Georgia State, TCU, Tulsa, University of Michigan, Columbia University and University of Illinois.

What is your New Year’s resolution?
Graduate from high school. Start my tennis career at Purdue and contribute successfully to the team.
Excellence in the classroom

Fall 2014 was another successful semester in the classroom for the Boilermakers. After earning a solid 3.21 semester GPA, our cumulative team GPA is currently 3.24.

First ITA team ranking of the season

As expected after graduating majority of our starting line up from last year we dropped a few spots and opened up at 48 in the nation. Even with this change this is the highest initial ranking of the season since January 13, 2003 for the Boilermakers.

Oracle Challenge teams announced

#1 USC
#2 Oklahoma
#6 Baylor
#15 California
#16 Columbia
#40 Tulsa
#48 Purdue
BYU