



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, November 7, 2005

AAMI CLASSIC LURES LJUBICIC

Eighth ranked **IVAN LJUBICIC** was today confirmed by **Tournament Director, Colin Stubs**, as a starter in the **2006 AAMI Classic**.

The 26 year old Croatian, who recently steered his country into the Davis Cup final against Slovakia in Bratislava (Dec. 2-4), made his first ATP Masters Series final in Madrid two weeks ago, going down to Rafael Nadal in five sets. He has won three ATP tournaments this year (Vienna, Zagreb and Metz) and was a finalist at last week's Paris Masters Series, where he lost to unseeded Czech, Tomas Berdych in five sets. He subsequently qualified for the Tennis Masters Cup in Shanghai (beginning November 13) and thus became the first Croatian since Goran Ivanisevic to do so.

Ljubicic will join **ROGER FEDERER, ANDY RODDICK, DAVID NALBANDIAN, GUILLERMO CORIA** and **TOMMY HAAS** at Kooyong, January 11-14. He was a late inclusion in the 2005 event, and was keen to return in '06. Stubs was delighted to grant him his wish: "Ivan, a very talented player, has had a wonderful year and is a most welcome addition to the elite eight-man field" he said.

Two spots are yet to be filled. Clarity with respect to Andre Agassi's situation is expected shortly.

The event, which recently announced leading Australian car, home and compulsory third party personal injury insurer, **AAMI**, as major sponsor, is shaping up as the most successful ever staged at Kooyong. Ticket sales are well in advance of this time last year and the event is experiencing an unprecedented demand for corporate hospitality.

The final will be telecast live nationally by the Seven Network at 3.00 pm on Saturday, January 14.

Tickets can be purchased through Ticketmaster on 1300 136122 or online at www.ticketmaster.com.au.

For further details please contact Marie Kelley (Media and Corporate Sales Consultant) on 9827.8422 or 0417 168019 - email njsmk@bigpond.com

For more information regarding Ivan Ljubicic go to www.atptennis.com

Event enquiries can be directed to Colin Stubs Enterprises Pty Ltd, 9822.4430 - cse@mira.net

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