



Western & Southern  
Financial Group  
WOMEN'S OPEN

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## Serena Williams Returning for '07 W&SFG Women's Open

CINCINNATI April 3, 2007 Eight-time Grand Slam and recent Australian Open and Miami champion Serena Williams is expected to appear for a second consecutive year at the only Sony Ericsson WTA Tour event in the Midwest: Cincinnati's Western & Southern Financial Group Women's Open.

I had a great experience in Cincinnati last summer, and I'm really looking forward to returning in hopes of winning the title, Williams said. The facility there is great and the fans are very enthusiastic, so I'm looking forward to coming back.

Williams reached the W&SFG Women's Open semifinals in 2006 in her first tournament appearance after a six-month absence from the WTA Tour. Her first-round match against former French Open champ Ana Myskina drew nearly 6,000 fans, the largest crowd ever to see a women's professional tennis match in Cincinnati history.

Serena returning is a real endorsement for women's professional tennis in Cincinnati, and we're sure our fans will be very excited to see her, said tournament director Bruce Flory. She played unbelievable tennis in winning the Australian Open in January and Miami last month, we are excited that she's included Cincinnati in her schedule this summer.

The main draw of the 2007 Western & Southern Financial Group Women's Open will be held July 16-22 at the Lindner Family Tennis Center in Mason, Ohio. The rest of the field will be announced in a few months, Flory said.

The qualifying event for the tournament will be held on July 14 & 15 (with some qualifying matches the morning of Monday, July 16). The ceremony to place the players into the main draw will be open to anyone with a ticket to the qualifying matches on July 14. It will be held at noon in the Foodcourt, and tickets to the qualifying are as low as \$5, free for kids 14-and-under.

For tickets or information visit [www.cincytennis.com](http://www.cincytennis.com), or call 513-651-0303. Tickets also are available via TicketMaster at 513-562-4949 or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

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July 15-23, 2006

Tournament played at the Lindner Family Tennis Center, Mason, Ohio, and operated by Tennis for Charity, Inc.  
Played for the benefit of the Charles M. Barrett Cancer Center.