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## Brickell First Serve Pro-Am Concludes Today

By Dan Weil

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

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First Serve Kids with Bryan Brothers and Mark Knowles.

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Some of the world's top doubles players are preparing for this week's Sony Ericsson Open by competing in another notable Miami tournament.

The event that is probably the world's second biggest pro-am tournament, with a purse of \$120,000, concludes today on the courts of Brickell Tennis Club in Miami.

The event is called The First Serve Pro-Am, in honor of the First Serve charity, founded by Butch Buchholz and his son Trey to teach tennis and life skills to non-wealthy children around the country.

Participants include twins Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan, Mark Knowles, Daniel Nestor, Jonathan Erlich and Andy Ram. Twelve amateurs, who paid \$5,000 a pop for the privilege, will participate along with 12 pros.

The Brickell Club, designed and operated by ESPN broadcaster and former U.S. Open finalist Cliff Drysdale, is one of the most beautiful urban tennis facilities in the world.

Brickell's owner Chris Jeffries, a New York real estate developer, will supply the \$120,000 pot. The event stands second only to Ted Forstmann's Huggy Bear event on Long Island (staged annually in August before the U.S. Open), as far as "Touchdown" Tom Brownhill, Brickell's director of tennis, knows.

Forstmann's venture capital firm, Forstmann Little, owns IMG, which in turn owns Tennis Week.

"This is not your normal pro-am," Brownhill tells Tennis Week. "With all that money on the line, the amateurs get to feel the serious, full pace of the pros."

All the amateurs are rated at least 4.5, he says.

Cliffy himself attends the event, and one of the sport's all-time greats, Tony Trabert, has been known to stop by. Trabert won three majors in 1955, led the United States to Davis Cup championships as both a player and a captain, and is now president of the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

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- None Of The Above

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