

RESULTS ON THURSDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2005

2nd round

Flavia Pennetta (Italy) beat Jie Zheng (China) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3
Alona Bondarenko (Ukraine) beat Alicia Molik (3-Australia) 6-4, 6-2
Patty Schnyder (2-Switzerland) beat Virginia Ruano Pascual (Spain) 6-2, 6-3
Maria Elena Camerin (Italy) beat Ekaterina Bychkova (Russia) 6-4, 6-3
Aiko Nakamura (Japan) beat Anna-Lena Groenefeld (5-Germany) 6-3, 1-6, 6-1

Alicia Molik discovered that her comeback after a lengthy break from the game is going to be a tough one as she was humbled 6-4, 6-2 by little-known Alona Bondarenko from Ukraine at the Wismilak International on Thursday.

The third-seeded Australian suffered a virus in April that put her out of the French Open and Wimbledon. Since she returned last month she has played four matches, with her only victory coming in Bali on Tuesday.

Bondarenko, who reached the Hyderabad final in February but has so far made little other impact, rallied well and made far fewer errors than Molik, who appeared flat and unable to impose herself.

She allowed Bondarenko to build a 5-1 lead in the first set and, although Molik was able to fight off five set points and pull back to 5-4, Bondarenko took the set and then swept to a 4-0 lead in the second.

"She definitely came out firing in the first set and I wasn't sure that she could sustain it," said Molik. "She did do that pretty well, but I was hitting to the same rhythm and letting her play to her own pace.

"It was good that I came back from 5-1 but I shouldn't be in those positions really to begin with. I let her play to her rhythm too much."

Second seed Patty Schnyder won her opening match, beating Virginia Ruano Pascual of Spain 6-2, 6-3. But it was a difficult match at times for the left-hander from Switzerland, who had to recover from 1-3 in the second set.

But she swept through three games for the loss of a single point, and then recovered from 0-40 as she served out for the match.

"It was tough. She had a pretty good run in the second set and I really had to fight back and focus on every point," said Schnyder.

Schnyder now plays Japan's Aiko Nakamura, who upset fifth seeded Anna-Lena Groenefeld of Germany 6-3, 1-6, 6-1.



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There will be an all-Italian meeting in the quarter-finals after Flavia Pennetta beat Jie Zheng of China 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 to set up a clash with Francesca Schiavone. And another Italian, Maria Elena Camerin, earned a meeting with world number two Lindsay Davenport by overcoming Ekaterina Bychkova of Russia 6-4, 6-3.

Editor's Notes :

Since its debut in 1994, the Wismilak International, part of the worldwide Sony Ericsson WTA Tour, has been held in Surabaya, Kuala Lumpur, and now Bali. Initially the event was named the "Wismilak Open", before changing it's name to the "Wismilak International" in 1996 as a reflection of the organiser's corporate expansion into the international market. The Wismilak International is still the largest tournament in the WTA's calendar in South East Asia. For more information please visit www.wismilakinternational.com

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