



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

7 September 1986

The inaugural Australia-China Tennis Challenge will be held at the Beaumaris Tennis Club, Melbourne from December 5-7.

I am delighted to be able to announce the event during the visit of Premier Wan Li, who is himself a tennis player of considerable ability and is also Honourary Chairman of the All-China Tennis Association.

The inaugural Challenge is being sponsored by Ansett Airlines by arrangement with Australian Sports Marketing, under the official sanction and cooperation of the Lawn Tennis Association of Australia.

The Challenge is to be played to a Davis Cup format. Pat Cash, Australia's leading young tennis player, who has done so much to foster tennis relations between Australia and China, has accepted an invitation to captain the Australian team for the inaugural challenge.

The Ansett Australia-China Challenge promises to become an annual event. I am grateful that Ansett has already agreed to sponsor the return challenge in Beijing next year.