

**To: The Daily Herald  
July 20, 2003**

**Anguilla Tennis Academy takes first step to facility**

**ANGUILLA—On Tuesday July 22 the Government of Anguilla and the Anguilla Tennis Academy will be signing a memorandum of agreement for the leasing of six acres of land at Blowing Point to build a state of the art tennis facility. The Government has agreed to lease the land to the Academy founded and led by Mitchelle Lake who has run a tennis camp here for the past seven years.**

**Lake says, “The general public is invited and encouraged to attend this significant milestone towards achieving the dream of the proposed Academy for Anguilla.”**

**The Governor Peter Johnstone and Mrs Johnstone, Deputy Governor Mark Capes and Mrs Capes as well as top Government officials are expected to attend the signing that will be held at 4.30 p.m. on the basketball court on the Blowing Point Road. Children participating in this year’s tennis camp will also be in attendance with their parents. After the signing Spraka will be playing for the entertainment of those present.**

**The facility will comprise six lighted tennis courts, a stadium court with seating for one thousand and a building with showers, bathrooms, a conference room and pro shop, designed by Myron Goldfinger. Plans are to start construction in November 2003. In the meantime the Anguilla Tennis Academy is actively seeking funds from businesses, visitors, residents and friends interested in promoting tennis on the island. A buy a brick campaign is to be launched soon and will involve buying a brick for US\$100.00 that will be inscribed with the purchaser’s name and used to pave the entrance to the facility.**

**Lake said that after completion the project will provide opportunities for young children through the sport of tennis while strengthening the sense of community, knowledge and health and at the same time promoting sport tourism. He said that there will be regular tennis lessons for children and adults, and coaches from the USA will be employed. He has already appointed a committee for the project and has included several honorary members who have contributed to the sport over the years. As well as the every day use of the courts there are plans for inter-regional and international competitions as well as local league matches and tournaments.**