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Tennis pro in Mississippi to raise money for Anguilla Tennis Academy

ANGUILLA—The Anguilla Tennis Academy (ATA) received top publicity in the USA when WLBT, the largest television station in Mississippi carried a live interview after the midday news with tennis professional David Wilson.

Wilson revealed his intentions of participating in the Napa, California Marathon on March 7 2004 in an effort to raise money for the building campaign of the ATA. Wilson said he learned about the project last year and wants to help. “Mitch really intrigued me with what he is trying to accomplish,” Wilson said. “I applaud him for all his efforts thus far, and strongly desire to be a part of the future with the ATA.”

Mitchelle Lake, President and Founder of the ATA says, “I think it is wonderful how people are coming together to help bring the tennis facility to fruition. I would encourage Anguillians to pledge towards this great endeavour.”

Wilson says he hopes to get private and corporate individuals to sponsor him on his run. He has already received several thousand dollars in pledges in Mississippi that will go directly into helping the children of Anguilla. “It is my strong hope that the people of Anguilla will get behind my efforts in helping their island,” he said, adding that he hopes Anguillians will also sponsor his run.

Towards the end of the broadcast, which reached over two million homes, Wilson also spoke of Anguilla as a beautiful island and a lovely tourist destination. He said that Mississippi is one of the largest tennis-playing states in the US per capita and he is hoping for much support in his efforts to raise US\$150,000.

The ATA will soon be starting work on the tennis facility at Blowing Point where high quality tennis instruction, tournaments and community activities will take place.