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**TOP-RANKED AMERICAN ANDY RODDICK SLATED FOR LEGG MASON TENNIS CLASSIC**  
*ATP World Tour 500 and Olympus US Open Series Tournament Returns July 31-August 8, 2010*

WASHINGTON, DC (12 April 2010) – Top-ranked American **Andy Roddick**, seeking to add a fourth title to his already impressive record here in the Nation’s Capital, will play in the **Legg Mason Tennis Classic presented by GEICO** for the ninth time in his professional career. The Legg Mason Tennis Classic, an **ATP World Tour 500** tournament, returns to the William H.G. FitzGerald Tennis Center in Rock Creek Park (16<sup>th</sup> & Kennedy Streets, NW), **July 31 through August 8, 2010**.

“We are excited that Andy will once again highlight our tournament player field,” said Jeff Newman, Tournament Director. “Andy is one of the most sought after players by tournaments around the world and we are privileged that he continues to choose the Legg Mason Tennis Classic year after year.”

Roddick, who earned his 500<sup>th</sup> career match victory during last year’s tournament, holds an impressive 29-5 match record at the Legg Mason, which he first won as a teenager in 2001, then again in 2005 and 2007. He has earned at least one ATP World Tour singles title in each of the last nine seasons – a streak he has continued into 2010 after winning at Brisbane in January and again in Miami this month. During the first two ATP World Tour 1000’s tournaments – considered to be the most prestigious outside of the Grand Slams – Roddick was a finalist at Indian Wells and then captured the title at Miami, beating Rafael Nadal in the semifinals and Tomas Berdych in the finals. He boasts a career total of 29 singles titles, and has finished in the ATP World Tour Top 10 for eight straight years.

The Legg Mason Tennis Classic debuted last year as one of the ATP World Tour 500 events. The tournament more than doubled the prize money offered in 2008 - \$1.4 million - and nearly tripled the number of points offered for players. The designation recognizes the event as one of the top 20 tournaments on the ATP World Tour and was viewed by over 50 million people worldwide in 2009.

An integral part of the sports and entertainment fabric of Washington, DC for over 40 years, the Legg Mason Tennis Classic, a BEST production, is coming off arguably its best year to date in 2009. Featuring a star-studded field, last summer’s final pitted top seed Roddick against the second seed and defending champion, Juan Martin Del Potro in a thrilling three-set match before a packed stadium. The young Argentine became the first player since Andre Agassi in 1998-99 to successfully defend his Legg Mason title, then went on to win the US Open, capping a truly remarkable year.

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Ticket packages and Single Session Tickets for the Legg Mason Tennis Classic go on public sale Saturday, May 1. For more information on the Legg Mason Tennis Classic presented by GEICO, please visit the tournament Website at [www.leggmasontennisclassic.com](http://www.leggmasontennisclassic.com), follow the Legg Mason Tennis Classic on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/leggmasontennisclassic](http://www.facebook.com/leggmasontennisclassic), or call 202.721.9500.

This marks the 17<sup>th</sup> straight year that Legg Mason, the Baltimore-based global investment management firm, has served as title sponsor. They have hosted the tournament since 1994, when hall of famer Stefan Edberg claimed the coveted title, won in 2009 by Del Potro. The firm is only the sixth title sponsor in tournament history and North America's longest-term sponsor on the ATP World Tour.

The Legg Mason Tennis Classic also continues to be part of the Olympus US Open Series, which links 10 summer tournaments in North America to the US Open, the largest annually attended sporting event in the world. Now in its seventh year, the Olympus US Open Series has created a cohesive, six week summer tennis season for men's and women's professional tournaments in North America that has nearly doubled television viewership, increased attendance and provided players the opportunity to compete for the largest payouts in tennis history via the Olympus US Open Series Bonus Challenge.

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#### **About The WTEF**

The Washington Tennis & Education Foundation (WTEF) was founded in 1955 as an organization designed to help disadvantaged youth through tennis. Since then, it has evolved into an organization that provides academic help to at-risk children, by helping them to apply the lessons learned on the tennis court in the classroom and beyond. Today, WTEF is a leader in the best practice of providing academic enrichment, supplemented by tennis and life skills instruction, as a means for developing the skills necessary to achieve academic and personal success. WTEF seeks to improve the life prospects of DC area youth, particularly those from low-income communities, through tennis, educational, and community-building activities that teach discipline, build confidence, and improve academic performance. [www.wtef.org](http://www.wtef.org)

#### **About Legg Mason**

Legg Mason is a global asset management firm, with \$679 billion in assets under management at February 28, 2010. The Company provides active asset management in many major investment centers throughout the world. Legg Mason is headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, and its common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (symbol: LM). [www.leggmason.com](http://www.leggmason.com)

#### **About BEST**

BEST is a unified full-service sports and entertainment company. Current clients include legendary ATP doubles team Bob and Mike Bryan, rising star Melanie Oudin, WTA #2 Caroline Wozniacki and WTA #9 Victoria Azarenka; Super Bowl MVP Santonio Holmes, Reggie Bush, DeAngelo Hall, Darren Sharper, 2009 AP Offensive Player of the Year Chris Johnson and 2009 AP Offensive Rookie of the Year Percy Harvin; NBA All-Star Shawn Marion, 2009 NBA Lottery pick Ricky Rubio and 2009 NBA Sixth-Man of the Year Jason Terry; top MMA heavyweight Fedor Emelianenko; basketball legend Magic Johnson; boxing legend Floyd Mayweather, Jr.; entertainment personalities John Saunders, Jenn Brown and Matt Vasgersian. Media & Event properties include the US Open Tennis Championship, the French Open Tennis Championship, the Legg Mason Tennis Classic, numerous US-based ATP tournaments, Rock 'n Racquets, the Boston Marathon, the Superstars Competition, Ice Wars, The Hall of Fame Showcase, the Men's and Women's Fifth Third Bank Tennis Championships and experiential grassroots properties Hoop It Up, Kick It and Let It Fly. [www.experienceBEST.com](http://www.experienceBEST.com)

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