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**BILLIE JEAN KING AND PHILADELPHIA FREEDOMS SELECT
MARK PHILIPPOUSSIS AND JAMES BLAKE IN WTT MARQUEE DRAFT**

February 14, 2012 (PHILADELPHIA, Pa.) – Billie Jean King and the Philadelphia Freedoms selected **Mark Philippoussis** and **James Blake**, for their first and second draft picks, respectively in the 2012 World TeamTennis (WTT) Marquee Player Draft this afternoon. Each will play one home match during the Freedoms' regular season this July in the WTT Pro League presented by GEICO.

Two-time Davis Cup champion Mark Philippoussis will join the Philadelphia Freedoms for the second time. The popular Australian Philippoussis originally played for the Freedoms in 2002 and played for the St. Louis Aces last season. He accumulated 11 singles titles during his outstanding pro career, reaching a career-high ranking of No. 8 in 1999.

"I'm thrilled to be back in World TeamTennis and a part of this League. I love the format and the vibe and I'm excited to play for Billie Jean's team in Philly," said Philippoussis today.

Former No. 4 James Blake, one of the most popular American players of the modern era, will join Philippoussis on the Freedoms for the first time. A winner of 10 ATP singles titles with a career-high singles ranking of No. 4, Blake will be making his Freedoms debut in his 7th WTT season. Blake's 2007 memoir *Breaking Back: How I Lost Everything and Won Back My Life* debuted on the New York Times Best Seller list, chronicling his courageous comeback from a fractured neck and the illness Zoster – an illness that affected his hearing, vision and caused temporary paralysis on one side of his face – in 2004.

Team rosters will be completed with the 2012 WTT Roster Player Draft on Tuesday, March 13. With WTT's gender-balanced team concept, each team is comprised of two men, two women and a coach. Team matches consist of five "events," with one set each of men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles.

Freedoms 2012 season tickets are available now. Season ticketholders enjoy the benefits of tickets to each of the seven Philadelphia Freedoms home games, reserved parking, a separate, private entrance into the Pavilion at Villanova University, and more. Further information about season tickets is available online at www.philadelphiafreedoms.com or by phone at (215) 667-8132.

About Philadelphia Freedoms

World TeamTennis (WTT) was co-founded by tennis legend Billie Jean King who is also owner of the Philadelphia Freedoms. The Freedoms play seven nights of matches each year during the month of July at The Pavilion at Villanova University. The Freedoms roster will be completed through the WTT Roster Draft on March 13. Their schedule is expected to be finalized in early March and will include enticing matches with the some of the world's most elite players, themed nights with free giveaways, and guaranteed family-friendly entertainment. Season ticket packages are now available by calling [\(215\) 667-8132](tel:2156678132). Individual tickets go on sale March 14, 2012.

The 2012 Philadelphia Freedoms are presented by Beneficial Bank and hosted by Cancer Treatment Centers of America. Generous support is also provided by official sponsors 23K, DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia – Valley Forge, Drexel Sport Management, Fast Signs of Delaware, Fidelity Investments, Grimm & Grove Communications, Majestic Wine & Spirits, Play Gr8.com, Secrets Limousine Service, Sweet Street and USTA Middle States. The official caterer of the Philadelphia Freedoms is Brûlée Catering.

Visit www.philadelphiafreedoms.com and www.facebook.com/PhiladelphiaFreedoms for more information.

About Beneficial Bank

Founded in 1853, Beneficial Bank is the oldest and largest bank headquartered in Philadelphia. It is a community-based, full-service financial services company that has served individuals and businesses in the Delaware Valley for 158 years. With 60 offices in the greater Philadelphia and South Jersey regions and \$4.7 billion in assets, Beneficial offers a full array of financial products that includes commercial, consumer and real estate lending, insurance and wealth management. Visit www.thebeneficial.com for more information.

About WTT Pro League presented by GEICO:

The World Team Tennis (WTT) Pro League presented by GEICO showcases the best in professional team tennis with the innovative coed team format co-founded by Billie Jean King in the 1970s. The WTT Pro League has featured virtually every major champion of the Open era over the League's past 36 seasons.

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) is a minority owner and promotional partner of World TeamTennis. WTT and the USTA are teaming up on number of initiatives, including development of the youth market through junior team tennis programs.

For more information on the WTT Pro League, visit www.WTT.com.

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