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**GAVIN ROSSDALE NAMED SPECIAL MUSICAL ACT**

***World renowned rock star to perform live December 13<sup>th</sup> at Colonial Life Arena for tennis and music showcase featuring Andy Roddick & Serena Williams***

**Columbia, SC – December 1, 2008** - Get Ready to Rock! Musician **Gavin Rossdale** has been announced as the live musical component for **Newberry College presents Rock-n-Racquets**. Rossdale is the former lead singer of the highly successful band Bush, who produced four very successful albums which spawned nine Top 5 singles on the Billboard charts. He is currently enjoying a successful solo career with the release of his first album *Wanderlust* which includes the current hit single "Love Remains the Same". Rossdale is planning a full tour in support of the album beginning Spring of 2009.

Rossdale joins previously announced tennis superstars **Andy Roddick (former world #1 and US Open Champion)** and 2008 US Open Champion **Serena Williams (Nine Grand Slam Titles)** who will team up on-court together at the **Colonial Life Arena, Home of the University of South Carolina Gamecocks on Saturday, December 13, 2008**. America's #1 players will be joined by up and coming American star **John Isner (6'9")** and the WTA Tour's newest sensation **Caroline Wozniacki**, currently ranked #13 in the world.

"As a musician and passionate tennis fan I am excited to be a part of what should be a great event in Columbia benefiting the Andy Roddick Foundation." said Rossdale.

Benefiting The Andy Roddick Foundation whose mission is to raise funds and to distribute those funds to institutions that care for children that are neglected, abused, at risk and with catastrophic illnesses, **Rock-n-Racquets** has been designed as an annual tennis exhibition like no other. The event features the world's most exciting tennis players with a musical component woven throughout the evening's line-up. The synergy of athleticism and music capitalizes on providing fans with the ultimate sports/entertainment experience.

**Rock-n-Racquets** successfully debuted in 2002 in Miami, FL and was followed by great exhibitions in Little Rock, AR, Mobile, AL, Boise, ID, Wichita, KS and Omaha, NE. **Newberry College**, whose commitment made this event possible in Columbia, serves as the event's title sponsor. Other contributing sponsors include **Time Warner Cable, Piggly Wiggly, South Carolina Pork Board-The Other White Meat, Secure Air, Babolat, Tennis Warehouse, WIS10, The State Media Company, 107.5 The Game, b106.7, Hilton Columbia Center and USTA Southern section**.

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Showcasing the best in men's and women's professional tennis, the format for the evening consists of three components:

- **Men's and Women's Singles** - Andy Roddick will take on John Isner and Serena Williams will take on Caroline Wozniacki as the present takes on the future of tennis.
- **Mixed Doubles** – A Newberry College presents Rock-n-Racquets exclusive - Roddick and Williams will team up against Isner and Wozniacki to compete in a mixed doubles match.
- The evening will be complemented by a musical performance from Gavin Rossdale and an atmosphere of high-energy and fun unlike any tennis event. **Wayne Bryan**, father of Americas #1 doubles team Bob and Mike Bryan, serves as the event emcee and will entertain the crowd through fan interactive activities.
- **Dawn Staley**, USC women's head basketball coach, and **Justin Gimelstob**, dubbed to be one of the most entertaining players on the ATP Tour during his playing days, will also be making special guest appearances.

Doors will open at 6PM at the **Colonial Life Arena** with play scheduled to start at 7PM  
(*Format and order of play subject to change*)

Tickets are priced from ***\$17 to \$87***. Student, military, senior citizen, child and group discounts are also available. Don't miss your chance to see Andy and Serena. Tickets are available at the Colonial Life Arena Box Office, online at [www.coloniallifearena.com](http://www.coloniallifearena.com), charge by phone at (866) 4SC-TIXX (472.8499) or at select Play It Again Sports locations. *All tickets subject to applicable service charges. Dates and times subject to change without notice.*

For additional information, please visit [www.rocknracquets.com](http://www.rocknracquets.com).

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#### **About BEST**

BEST is a unified full-service sports and entertainment company. Current clients include musicians Janet Jackson and Chamillionaire, Heisman Trophy winner Reggie Bush, NFL Pro Bowlers DeAngelo Hall and Will Smith, 2008 first round NFL draft picks, Glenn Dorsey and Chris Johnson, NBA All-Star Rasheed Wallace, 2008 NBA first round pick Donté Greene, Australian, French and US Open Champion Justine Henin, US Open Champion Andy Roddick, No. 1 doubles team Bob and Mike Bryan, MMA star Houston Alexander, Indiana basketball coach Tom Crean, Minnesota basketball coach Tubby Smith, Louisville football coach Steve Kragthorpe and Ole Miss basketball coach Andy Kennedy. 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, Hoop It Up, Let It Fly, Kick It, the Boston Marathon, the Superstars Competition, the AVP Beach Volleyball tour, Ice Wars, the World Cup of Softball, The Hartford Hall of Fame Showcase, the Men's and Women's Fifth Third Bank Tennis Championships and the Men's Ford Tennis Championship.  
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