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To whom it may concern:

In the 1970s, when I was a Peace Corps Tennis Coach in the Kingdom of Lesotho (Africa), I was lucky to meet the Hobson family. Mike and Wendy Hobson were dear friends and their three talented tennis playing sons were my students. In 1990, I was delighted to arrange a scholarship for Ashley to attend Van Der Meer University. Like all coaches, I take great pride in the success of my former students. Ashley has proven to be one of my most successful students as today; he is one of the best coaches in the USA. Over the years we have kept in touch as Ashley, his family and I shared some special times during my fifteen year career in Africa. I know firsthand that Ashley is like his parents. Before tennis success, Ashley’s first concern is the well-being of the person. This indeed is a reflection of his parents who went out of their way to make sure of the well-being of a homesick Peace Corps Tennis Coach (me)! My wife and I feel fortunate that our son has twice had the opportunity to visit America and train with Ashley. I am thankful for my friend Ashley, as he (and his wife) made a life-changing impression on my son during the times he lived in their home. I know Ashley Hobson can create champion tennis players, but more importantly you should understand that Ashley has a unique way about him that develops champion people.

Dan O’Connell

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