



FOR IMMEDIATE USE

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For more information,

please contact Media/Public Relations:

Jessica Hamlin 614.871.9600 ext 1304

Mobile (440) 503-5377

33 Chefs, 7 States, 1 Hot Saturday!

Central Ohio Chili Festival at Beulah Park

Grove City, Ohio (April 2, 2006) –Thirty-three cooks representing seven states made for a hot Saturday at Beulah Park Thoroughbred Racetrack! The Central Ohio Chili Festival kicked off Saturday April 1st, with new cooks and their hot prospects, plus two world champions defending their titles. The Texas-style chili cook-off **benefited the Epilepsy Foundation of Central Ohio.**

Cooks competed for three coveted wins in the chili world: Red Chili, Green Chili and Salsa. The winners from Beulah Park's regional competition progress to the World Championship in Omaha, Nebraska to compete for **\$30,000**. Last year, **Columbus' own Tom Hoover won the International Chili Society's World Championship** for his 'Happy Trails' salsa. This year, his wife, Heidi Hoover, placed third with her salsa. Dave Mallory of Scottown, Ohio won the salsa competition and placed fifth in Red Chili.

Jim Neves of Ludlow Fall's, Ohio took second place for his green chili, while Verna Enerson of Ortonville, Michigan took first. Jim Sholar of Canton Township, Michigan took first place in Red Chili and a \$500 prize for his effort. Jim will participate in the World Chili Cook-Off in October.

The professional palates were local celebrities and entrepreneurs. Judges included Grove City Mayor Cheryl Grossman, Grove City Councilman Larry Corbin, Epilepsy Foundation Executive Director Nancy Brantner, Epilepsy Foundation Board President Phil Baum, Franklin County Clerk of Courts John O'Grady, CEO of CaJohn's Fiery Foods, John Hard and many others.

Contact Numbers: Nancy Brantner – Central Ohio Epilepsy Foundation (614) 261-1100, John Hard – CaJohn's Fiery Foods (614)-418-0808, Heidi Hoover, Columbus (614) 294-4026, Dave Mallory- Scottown, Ohio (304) 696-2353, Jim Neves- Ludlow Fall's, Ohio (937) 698-0879

ABOUT BEULAH PARK: Founded in 1923, Beulah Park holds the distinction as being Ohio's first Thoroughbred racetrack. Live Thoroughbred racing is held from September to May each year, with summer events including concerts, fairs and fireworks. Simulcast wagering from the nation's top race tracks is available 363 days a year. The picturesque setting and entertainment venues at the park make it an ideal location for group events such as weddings and corporate meetings. Located just seven miles southwest of Columbus, OH, in Grove City, Beulah Park has a rich history for the horse racing enthusiast. More information is available at beulahpark.com.