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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tee it up for the Troops Inaugural Golf Tournament

Friday, September 9, 2005

**Mendakota Country Club
Mendota Heights**

11 a.m. – Throughout Day
Interview opportunities with tournament participants
**Comprehensive list below*

12:45p.m. – Laying of the Wreath & Honor Guard
Followed by Shotgun Start
**Please complete set-up no later
than 12:30 p.m. due to the solemnity
of this portion of the tournament*

Tee it up for the Troops, Inc. (www.teeitupforthetroops.com) announces its inaugural fundraising golf tournament taking place September 9, 2005, at Mendakota Country Club in Mendota Heights, Minnesota.

A non-profit organization, Tee it up for the Troops, Inc. is designed to honor and assist members of the United States Armed Forces. It was established at the request of a young Minnesota soldier serving in Iraq who, when asked what family and friends could do for him, asked that something instead be done to help his fellow soldiers with spouses and children back home.

All proceeds raised from the 2005 event will be awarded as “Freedom Scholarships” to benefit the fallen and disabled members of the Armed Forces and their families.

Participants include active and veteran members of our Armed Forces and high profile personalities from the sports and entertainment fields.

In addition:

- Golf supplies have been shipped to Iraq where on September 9th troops will participate in a Long Drive Competition to be broadcast at the Mendakota Country Club.
- Special arrangements have been made to host a live videostream broadcast between the tournament location and Iraq in order for troops to see firsthand how they are being supported back home. The videostream will also make it possible for family members to communicate “face-to-face” with their loved one overseas.
- A silent auction will take place during the tournament with prizes that include golf weekends at some of the premier courses in the country.
- A number of Minnesota golf courses have pledged to contribute 10% of the green fees collected September 9th to Tee it up for the Troops, and courses across the U.S. will be collecting donations from golfers teeing it up with them that day.
- The general public has been asked to participate in a very meaningful way by donating supplies for the troops at a designated drop area near the tournament site or by making a monetary donation directly to the Freedom Scholarship fund. In light of the recent disaster on the Gulf Coast, supplies for victims of Hurricane Katrina will also be collected at the site.

Scholarship contributions are being accepted via www.teeitupforthetroops.com, and by mail at: Tee it up for the Troops, c/o First Community Bank, P.O. Box 345, Savage, MN, 55378.



Tournament Participants

J.B. & Laurie Ball - Tournament Organizers

J.B. & Laurie's son, Spc. Tyler Ball, is currently deployed in Iraq. Tee it up for the Troops was established in response to Tyler's request something be done to help his fellow soldiers and their families.

Vince Flynn – National Spokesman

A Minnesota native, Vince is a New York Times best-selling author of political thrillers, with a seventh novel due out in October 2005.

Staff Sgt. Joe Bowser - Operation Iraq Freedom

SSG Bowser is rehabilitating at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC., after suffering injuries in an attack on Camp Anaconda in April 2004.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Bain - Operation Iraq Freedom

SSG Bain is rehabilitating at WRAMC from injuries received during a mortar attack on Al-Taji, north of Baghdad.

Sgt. Shon Holler - Operation Enduring Freedom

Sgt. Holler was injured in Afghanistan in May 2004, returning there for a second deployment following rehabilitation at WRAMC. He returned to the U.S. this past spring.

John Bloom

John is the brother of NBC correspondent and Bloomington native David Bloom who died in April 2003 while on assignment in Iraq.

From the NFL: Mike Morris, Joe Sensor, Greg Coleman, Randall McDaniel, Jeff Seimen

From the NHL: Lou Nanne, Don Beaupre, Phil Housely, Tom Reid, Tim Young, David Gagne, Bill Butters, Reed Larson, Jack Carlson

Minnesota PGA Golf Professionals

Active and Veteran members of the U.S. Armed Forces

LTC (Ret) Harry Wisdom

Harry served 24 years active duty in the U.S. Army as an Army aviator and staff Plans, Operations & Training officer. He served two tours of duty in Vietnam and was wounded twice in combat. Highly decorated, Harry's awards and decorations include the Silver Star for valor, Legion of Merit for meritorious service, 3 awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross, 2 Bronze Stars, 22 awards of the Air Medal, 2 Purple Hearts, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and 3 awards of the Meritorious Service Medal.

John Hines – K102

Tim McNiff – KARE 11

Barb Moxness – Former LPGA Tour Player

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