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NEWS RELEASE

Tee it Up! **Third Annual Golf Tournament to Benefit Troops**

Friday, September 7, 2007
Mendakota Country Club, Mendota Heights

11:15 a.m.

Arrival of *Tribute to the Troops* and *Patriot Guard Riders
***Interview opportunities with tournament participants throughout the day**
(Comprehensive list below)

11:40 a.m.

*** Lt. Colonel Joseph Yoswa – Live Videostream Address**
Deputy Public Affairs Officer for General David Patraeus

12:00 Noon

****Opening Ceremony remarks by Governor Tim Pawlenty****
***Military Flyover**
*** Wreath Laying Ceremony by Minnesota Gold Star Mothers**
***Honor Guard**
***Cannon Start**

Burnsville, Minnesota – Tee it up for the Troops, Inc. announces its third annual fundraising golf tournament taking place September 7, 2007, at Mendakota Country Club in Mendota Heights, Minnesota.

Governor Tim Pawlenty has declared September 7th “Tee it Up for the Troops Day,” and courses around Minnesota and the country will be participating in a National Day of Golf in Support of the Troops.

A non-profit organization, Tee it up for the Troops is designed to honor and assist members of the United States Armed Forces. It was established at the request

of a young Minnesota soldier in Iraq who, when asked what family and friends could do for him, asked that something instead be done for the service members and families of the fallen and disabled back home.

Participants in the local tournament and around the country include past and present members of our Armed Forces, celebrities from the sports and entertainment fields, business leaders, and professional golfers who support our troops.

In addition:

- The public is invited to attend opening ceremonies and to participate in the Silent Auction. Supercuts hair salon employees will be on hand to provide haircuts, donating all proceeds to Tee it Up for the Troops.
- Golf supplies donated by Bridgestone Golf are on their way to troops in Iraq where they will participate in a Long Drive Competition in conjunction with Tee it Up for the Troops. Bridgestone also generously donates balls and clubs to troops who have returned from overseas.
- Rollx Vans of Savage has donated a new vehicle to Tee it Up for the Troops to be given away on a hole-in-one on a designated Par 3 at Mendakota the day of the event. In a generous program in support of the troops, Rollx dedicates 23 of its modified vans to be used at no cost by injured military members for a period of a year or until their Veterans Administration benefits become available. (www.rollxvans.com)
- Morrie's Cadillac Saab will also give away a new Escalade and a new CTS if a hole-in-one is made on designated Par 3's.
- Over 100 golf courses across the nation are holding events in conjunction with Tee it Up for the Troops, and the Club Managers Association of America and the Minnesota Section of the PGA also support this worthy cause.

Over \$250,000 has been raised in the past two years, with the 2005 proceeds distributed as educational scholarships to disabled active and veteran members of the US Armed Forces and immediate family members. In 2006, funds raised were applied to programs supported by the Wounded Warrior Project; and proceeds from this year's tournament have been designated to go to the Fisher House program at the Minneapolis V.A. Hospital, America Supports You, and the Wounded Warrior Project.

For more information on the Tee it up for the Troops golf fundraising effort, please log onto www.teeitupforthetroops.com.

Tournament Participants

Sgt. Neil Duncan

Sgt. Neil Duncan of Savage, Minnesota, was serving with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Afghanistan in December 2005 when a roadside bomb ripped through his humvee. Sgt. Duncan sustained multiple severe injuries, including the loss of both his legs.

Lance Cpl. Tim Lang

Marine Lance Cpl. Tim Lang of Jackson, Michigan, was manning the turret of a humvee in Fallujah in October 2006 when an explosion from an IED threw him several feet and severely mangled his right leg. Over two dozen surgeries were performed in an attempt to save the limb, but doctors eventually found it necessary to amputate.

Sgt. John Kreisel

Sgt. John Kreisel was serving in Fallujah in December 2006 when the humvee he was riding in rolled over a bomb. The Minnesota National Guardsman lost both of his legs in the blast.

Sgt. 1st Class David Cook

SFC David Cook of Westchester, Illinois, lost his right leg below the knee while serving with the Army in Afghanistan.

Sgt. Charles Eggleston

Army Sgt. Charles Eggleston was serving with a reservist unit while on his second tour of duty in Iraq in 2005 when he was severely injured when IEDs were detonated next to his vehicle. He was thrown into another vehicle and suffered extensive injuries to his back, leg and head

J.B. & Laurie Ball / Tyler Ball - Tournament Organizers

J.B. & Laurie's son, Spc. Tyler Ball, was the inspiration for "Tee it Up for the Troops." While deployed in Iraq, Tyler requested something be done to help his fellow soldiers and their families back home.

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.

Vince Flynn – National Spokesman

A Minnesota native, Vince is a New York Times best-selling author of political thrillers, with an eighth novel due out this fall. (www.vinceflynn.com)

Rockie Lynne

Minnesotan Rockie Lynne is a national recording artist and one of the founders of *Tribute to the Troops*, a group of dedicated volunteers who organize an annual motorcycle ride and benefit concert to raise funds and awareness for America's fallen soldiers and their loved ones left behind.

(www.rockielynne.com)

John Bloom

John is an active participant with Tee it Up for the Troops and is the brother of NBC correspondent and Bloomington native David Bloom who died in April 2003 while on assignment in Iraq.

NASA Astronaut (Retired): Duane "Digger" Casey

From the NFL: Pete Bercich, Joey Browner, Greg Coleman, Dean Dalton, Randall McDaniel, Mike Morris, John Randle, Joe Senser, Jeff Siemon, Stu Voigt

From the NHL: Jack Carlson

From Major League Baseball: John Castino, Eric Curry, Paul Molitor, Tony Oliva, Bob Stein, Dick Stigman

USA Women's Hockey Team: Natalie Darwitz

Minnesota Gophers: Mark Bahr

Minnesota Kicks: Alan Merrick

International Soccer Player - Alex Bunbury

LPGA Pro Golfer: Barb Moxness

Heavyweight Boxer: Scott LeDoux

John Hines: KTLK

Mike Mussman: K102

Tim McNiff: KARE 11

Jim Rich: FOX 9 Sports

Rod Simons: KSTP-TV

Joe Schmit: Former KSTP-TV News Anchor

Sean Jensen: Pioneer Press MN Vikings Reporter

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