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CONTACT: Marlowe McClasky Futrell
(412) 831-6315

KENNYWOOD, KNOEBELS & WALT DISNEY WORLD NAMED TOP AMUSEMENT PARKS

Mt. Prospect, IL – **The National Amusement Park Historical Association (NAPHA)** released the results of its 22nd Annual *NAPHA Amusement Parks and Attractions* survey. The oldest of its type, it is highly regarded within the amusement park industry.

Kennywood (West Mifflin, PA) and **Knoebels Amusement Resort** (Elysburg, PA), both perennial favorites, tied as the top traditional park in the world, while **Walt Disney World** (Lake Buena Vista, FL) was named as the number one theme park.

Knoebels' **Phoenix** roller coaster, and the **Voyage** at Holiday World (Santa Claus, IN) tied for the top wooden roller coasters while **Millennium Force** at Cedar Point (Sandusky, OH), was once again the favorite steel coaster. Cedar Point also won a second category with its **Maverick** roller coaster being named 2007's best new attraction.

FAVORITE TRADITIONAL PARKS

- **Kennywood** regained its number one ranking, a position it has held since 1992, until last year when it dropped to the second spot.
- **Blackpool** and **Cedar Point** have been in the top five for more than fifteen years, while **Indiana Beach** is a relative newcomer, only appearing on the list since 2006.

FAVORITE TRADITIONAL PARKS	
1	Kennywood (West Mifflin, PA)
2	Knoebels Amusement Resort (Elysburg, PA)
3	Indiana Beach (Monticello, IN)
4	Blackpool Pleasure Beach (Blackpool, UK)
5	Cedar Point (Sandusky, OH)

FAVORITE THEME PARKS

- **Walt Disney World** has been members' favorite theme park since 2003.
- **Universal Studios/Islands of Adventure** is back in the top three after being off the list for two years.

FAVORITE THEME PARKS	
1	Walt Disney World (Lake Buena Vista, FL)
2	Disneyland (Anaheim, CA)
3	Universal Studios/Islands of Adventure (Orlando, FL)
4-tie	Hersheypark (Hershey, PA)
4-tie	Holiday World (Santa Claus, IN)
4-tie	Kings Island (Kings Island, OH)

BEST PARK FOR FAMILIES

- **Knoebels Amusement Resort** and **Walt Disney World** tied for the top spot. Both parks have been in the top five since the question originated in 1999, with **Knoebels** named as the *Favorite Park For Families* eight out of the last nine years.

BEST PARK FOR FAMILIES	
1-tie	Knoebels Amusement Resort (Elysburg, PA)
1-tie	Walt Disney World (Lake Buena Vista, FL)
3	Holiday World (Santa Claus, IN)
4	Idlewild and Soak Zone (Ligonier, PA)
5	Kennywood (West Mifflin, PA)

MOST BEAUTIFUL PARK

- For the eighteenth consecutive year, **Busch Gardens Europe** has been named *Most Beautiful Park*.
- **Walt Disney World** has held the second place for the last three years, with **De Efteling** in the top five since 2001.

MOST BEAUTIFUL PARK	
1	Busch Gardens Europe (Williamsburg, VA)
2	Walt Disney World (Lake Buena Vista, FL)
3	De Efteling (Kaatsheuvel, Netherlands)

FAVORITE WOOD COASTER

- Tied for number one with Knoebels' **Phoenix**, the **Voyage** (Holiday World) jumped to the top in only its second year. Last year it was members' second favorite wood roller coaster.

FAVORITE WOOD COASTER	
1-tie	Phoenix, Knoebels Amusement Resort (Elysburg, PA)
1-tie	Voyage, Holiday World (Santa Claus, IN)
3	Thunderhead, Dollywood (Pigeon Forge, TN)

4-tie	Beast, Kings Island (Kings Island, OH)
4-tie	Lightning Racer, Hersheypark (Hershey, PA)

FAVORITE STEEL COASTER

- Since **Millennium Force** first appeared in the standings in 2000, Cedar Point's **Magnum XL200** and **Millennium Force** have been in either the number one or number position... until this year. **Superman** has now edged into the second spot, pushing Magnum XL200 to number three.
- **Superman** has been in the top four every year since it debuted in 2000.

FAVORITE STEEL COASTER	
1	Millennium Force, Cedar Point (Sandusky, OH)
2	Superman, Six Flags New England (Agawam, MA)
3	Magnum XL200, Cedar Point (Sandusky, OH)
4	Phantom's Revenge, Kennywood (West Mifflin, PA)

BEST NEW ATTRACTION

- For the first time, NAPHA members decided that three rides merited to be on the best new attraction list. Most years, there is only one, and in 2002 no rides at all were named.
- Last year **Voyage** (Holiday World), which tied as the favorite wood coaster this year, was the best new attraction.

BEST NEW ATTRACTION	
1	Maverick, Cedar Point (Sandusky, OH)
2	Mystery Mine, Dollywood (Pigeon Forge, TN)
3	Renegade, Valleyfair!, (Shakopee, MN)

The **National Amusement Park Historical Association**, founded in 1978, is an international, educational and enthusiast's organization dedicated to preserving and documenting the heritage of the amusement park industry, past, present and future.

For more information about the survey, please contact Marlowe McClasky Futrell, Survey Coordinator, at (412) 831-6315. For more information about NAPHA, please call Steve Schwahn, Marketing/Media Relations Coordinator at (630) 378-4710 or www.napha.org.

This study was conducted for NAPHA by **MMc Marketing Research**, which can be reached at (412) 813-6315, or via email at marlowemmc@comcast.net.