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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Illinois' Mike & Beth Wozniak Win Pork Checkoff's
21st Annual Great Pork BarbeQlossal™**

Mike and Beth Wozniak of Brimfield, Ill., earned Grand Champion honors June 7 in the Pork Checkoff's 21st annual Great Pork BarbeQlossal™ contest. The Wozniak's, of Quau, were awarded cash and prizes including the grand prize of \$10,000. The Wozniak's also won BarbeQlossal in 2004.

"The Great Pork BarbeQlossal contest shows pork's versatility," said Bruce Samson, a pork producer from Three Forks, Mont. "This is another way to reinforce to consumers that pork is spirited, creative, engaging and energetic."

The grand champion must cook in all four categories – whole hog, loin, ribs and shoulder. The 2008 grand champion team placed second in the loin category, fifth place in the rib category and ninth place in the whole hog category.

"BarbeQlossal is unique. It is one of the only contests in the country that allows competitors to cook four cuts of meat," Wozniak said. "This allows us to showcase to consumers how easy it is to cook great tasting pork."

Sixty-one teams from 13 states competed in the annual pork barbecue contest held at the World Pork Expo in Des Moines, Iowa. Of those, 9 were competing in the Great Pork BarbeQlossal for the first time. Teams competed in one or more of the four categories. Monetary prizes in the Great Pork BarbeQlossal are awarded for first through tenth places in each category, as well as the top five overall scores.

Reserve Grand Champion honors and \$3,000 went to Darren Warth and Shad Kirton of Iowa's Smokey D's BBQ in Des Moines. The team placed fourth in the loin category, sixth in the rib category and tenth in the whole hog category.

Each year, the top score from a single state also is honored. Special recognition was awarded to the top team from Kansas —Neal Dunker of Dodge County Purple Porkers from Mission, Kan.

Teams that were not recognized as a top-10 winner had an opportunity to win a Horizon smoker, donated by TNT Landscaping and Horizon. Dennis DiPietre, Dad's Best, from Columbia, Mo., was awarded the smoker.

Back by popular demand was the Big Green Egg® Scramble. Six teams were selected to participate in the Big Green Egg Scramble. The teams were provided a basket of pork, which included a new pork cut, the pocket roast. They prepared their pork on a Big Green Egg grill for a chance to walk away as Big Green Egg Scramble champion. John Laflen, Team Showrite, from Mason City, Iowa, received a Big Green Egg grill as the grand prize winner. Teams not participating in the Big Green Egg Scramble has an opportunity to win a

Big Green Egg grill. Ryan Knippelmeir, Jolly Roger, from Fremont, Neb., was awarded the grill.

This annual contest highlighted barbecue techniques from across America. The Great Pork BarbeQlossal contest is sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbecue Society and follows its rules and regulations. Sponsors for the Great Pork BarbeQlossal contest included the Pork Checkoff, Cargill Meat Solutions, John Boos Company, W&G Marketing, Electronic Engineering, Miller Beer, Iowa Beverage, Pepsi America, Dibs ice cream and the Iowa Machine Shed.

The National Pork Board has responsibility for Checkoff-funded research, promotion and consumer information projects and for communicating with pork producers and the public. Through a legislative national Pork Checkoff, pork producers invest \$0.40 for each \$100 value of hogs sold. The Pork Checkoff funds national and state programs in advertising, consumer information, retail and foodservice marketing, export market promotion, production improvement, technology, swine health, pork safety and environmental management. For information on Checkoff-funded programs, pork producers can call the Pork Checkoff Service Center at (800) 456-PORK or check the Internet at www.pork.org.

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Note to media: A complete list of winners follows. Pork producers are available to interview about this story. To arrange for an interview, please contact Cindy Cunningham, assistant vice president of communications at the National Pork Board, at (515) 223-2600.

Results of 2008 Great Pork BarbeQlossal

Whole Hog

- 1st Place - \$1,000 Jason Hering, Feeding Frenzy— Perkins, Okla.
- 2nd Place - \$800 Neal Dunker, Dodge County Purple Porkers— Mission, Kan.
- 3rd Place - \$600 Fred Horstman, 4 Mile Smokin Crew—Altoona, Iowa
- 4th Place - \$500 Jeff Stehney, Slaughterhouse Five— DeSoto, Kan.
- 5th Place - \$350 Justin Duett, Jeannie's Got Wood— Sugarcreek, Mo.
- 6th Place - \$125 Jim Woodsmall, Sugargrovecars.com — Grimes, Iowa
- 7th Place - \$125 Mike Lake, Rock River Ribs— Shannon, Ill.
- 8th Place - \$125 Darren Warth & Shad Kirton, Iowa's Smokey D's BBQ—Des Moines, Iowa
- 9th Place - \$125 Mike Wozniak, Quau— Brimfield, Ill.
- 10th Place - \$125 Shirley Goerlitz, Harley's Fencing Crew— Giddings, Texas

Ribs

- 1st Place - \$1,000 Doug Padgitt, Toad Hollar BBQ— Maryville, Mo.
- 2nd Place - \$800 Jason Hering, Feeding Frenzy— Perkins, Okla.
- 3rd Place - \$600 Kyle Brown, Iowa Outlaws BBQ— Altoona, Iowa
- 4th Place - \$500 Justin Duett, Jeannie's Got Wood— Sugar Creek, Mo.
- 5th Place - \$350 Mike Wozniak, Quau— Brimfield, Ill.
- 6th Place - \$125 Darren Warth and Shad Kirton, Iowa's Smokey D's BBBQ

—Des Moines, Iowa

7th Place - \$125 Stephanie Wilson, TheSlabs.com— Kansas City, Mo.

8th Place - \$125 Mike Tucker, Scottie Johnson and Steve Ferin, Hawgeyes Nation—
Ankeny, Iowa

9th Place - \$125 Fred Horstman, 4 Mile Smokin Crew—Pleasant Hill, Iowa

10th Place - \$125 Jim Woodsmall, Sugergrovecars.com—Grimes, Iowa

Shoulder Category

1st Place - \$1,000 Russ Muehlberger, The Que Crew— Leawood, Kan.

2nd Place - \$800 Randy Hinck, Pork Pullin' Plowboys— Concordia, Mo.

3rd Place - \$600 Neal Dunker, Dodge County Purple Porkers— Mission, Kan.

4th Place - \$500 Mark Born, The Heat is On— Welch, Minn.

5th Place - \$350 Dan Mynatt, Bingo Pete's— Kansas City, Mo.

6th Place - \$125 Eddie Maurin and Ray Lampe, Sugar in the Raw— Kansas City, Mo.

7th Place - \$125 Stephanie Wilson, TheSlabs.com— Kansas City, Mo.

8th Place - \$125 Jeff Stehney, Slaughterhouse Five—DeSoto, Kan.

9th Place - \$125 Dennis Sauser, Daddy's Smokin' It—Fairfax, Iowa

10th Place - \$125 Donna McClure, P.D.T —Lenexa, Kan.

Loin Category

1st Place - \$1,000 Moe Cason, Ponderosa BBQ—Des Moines, Iowa

2nd Place - \$800 Mike Wozniak, Quau— Brimfield, Ill.

3rd Place - \$600 Donna McClure, P.D.T —Lenexa, Kan.

4th Place - \$500 Darren Warth and Shad Kirton, Iowa's Smokey D's BBQ

—Des Moines, Iowa

5th Place - \$350 Mike Tucker, Scottie Johnson and Steve Ferin, Hawgeyes Nation—
Ankeny, Iowa

6th Place - \$125 Joe Rosenberg, Farm Boy BBQ— St. Ansgar, Iowa

7th Place - \$125 Eddie Maurin and Ray Lampe, Sugar in the Raw— Kansas
City, Mo.

8th Place - \$125 Fred Cochran, Classy Cooker—Lavonia, Ga.

9th Place - \$125 David Hintz, Pork County BBQ—Newton, Iowa

10th Place - \$125 Steve Bryant, Meadow Valley BBQ—Ames, Iowa

Top 5 overall scores

5th Place - \$1,500 Eddie Maurin and Ray Lampe, Sugar in the Raw—Kansas
City, Mo.

4th Place- \$2,000 Neal Dunker, Dodge County Purple Porkers—Mission, Kan.

Reserve Champion- \$2,500 Jason Hering, Feeding Frenzy—Perkins, Okla.

Reserve Grand Champion-\$3,000 Darren Warth and Shad Kirton, Iowa's
Smokey D's BBQ—Des Moines, Iowa

Grand Champion - \$10,000 Mike and Beth Wozniak, Quau— Brimfield, Ill.