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MEDIA RELEASE

Sandcastle & Kennywood Entertainment welcome the Bassmaster Classic

Pittsburgh, PA (July 26, 2005) – This week fishing afficianatos from around the country... maybe even the world... are taking a look at Pittsburgh. **Tonight a private kick-off dinner for the 47 elite anglers, their families, and other VIPs will take place at Sandcastle waterpark, just a few miles up the river from Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle.**

Kennywood Entertainment officials are certain many attendees will say, "I can't believe I'm in the city!" Why? Because, as Kennywood Entertainment President Peter McAneny states, "The biggest surprise for first time visitors to Sandcastle is its unusual beauty and tranquility. The setting is pristine – along a calm, wide section of the Monongahela, across from a densely wooded green hillside."

The last thing to be imagined is an abandoned steel mill, but that's where Sandcastle began. The property was part of the huge US Steel Homestead Works, *Arsenal of Democracy* during World War II.

Sandcastle's site was a railroad yard for the giant mill. Seven miles of tracks were removed to make way for the waterpark. And the low land immediately along the Monongahela, where the waterslides dump their riders into sparkling ponds, was virtually jungle. The vegetation was so dense on this area "below the tracks" that it was almost impassable.

The vision and ingenuity that went into converting all this into a world class waterpark was incredible. The idea for the park was the brainchild of Kennywood Entertainment's former President, Harry Henninger, who began with the premise that Pittsburgh needed a beach. Traveling the river by boat, the perfect spot was located. Sandcastle became the first use in the Pittsburgh area of abandoned steel mill property for recreation.

Site preparation was begun in May, 1988. The park opened 14 months later, in July, 1989. Since then additional attractions, such as Wet Willie's Waterworks and the Formula 1 Speedway, have been added. Sandcastle's biggest expansion included its extremely popular 20, 000 square foot wave pool.

For Pittsburghers, Sandcastle *is* the best of the shore, right next door! Kennywood Entertainment is proud to share this wonderful location with the 2005 Bassmaster Tournament dignitaries and their families.

- more -

- WHO:** Bassmaster officials and participants, event sponsors, state and local officials
- WHAT:** Kick-off dinner to largest fishing competition in the United States!
Dinner provided by Bradley House of Catering, a division of Kennywood Entertainment;
Exotic Birds from the National Aviary; jazz by Matt Ferrante
- WHEN:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 - 6:15 PM Gateway Party Liner docks at Sandcastle;
6:45 PM dinner; 8:45 PM departure
- WHERE:** Sandcastle Waterpark on the Monongahela, just 6 miles from downtown Pittsburgh,
Guests will relax in the Sandbar area of the park, enjoying a delicious meal and the
unexpected tranquility of this venue along the Mon, in advance of the tournament.
- WHY:** As the premier provider of family entertainment for over 100 years, Kennywood
Entertainment takes great pride in the Pittsburgh region and its rivers. This is a wonderful
opportunity to welcome many out-of-town visitors and share reasons for that pride!

Note: Every CITGO Bassmaster Classic enthusiast receives a **Buy One Get One FREE** coupon
for both Kennywood and Sandcastle, valid throughout the Tournament (July 25 – 29).

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About Kennywood Entertainment

Kennywood Entertainment, western Pennsylvania's largest provider of summer fun, owns and operates the National Historic Landmark, Kennywood, highly regarded as America's finest traditional amusement park; Idlewild & SoakZone, named by Amusement Today as the second best children's park in the world, and Sandcastle Waterpark and Riverplex (an old-fashioned picnic park) both located on former steel mill property along the Monongahela River; and America's oldest theme park, Lake Compounce, in Bristol, CT.

For more information visit www.kennywood.com, www.sandcastlewaterpark.com, www.idlewild.com or www.lakecompounce.com.