FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Student Teams Compete in the ACF Student Team National Championship at the 2008 ACF National Convention


The ACF Student Team Championship is designed to raise the standards of culinary excellence and professionalism among students, promote camaraderie and educational opportunities, and act as a staging area for research and development of culinary concepts.

This year, student teams from Colorado, Missouri, Tennessee and Vermont will go head-to-head for the national title. Each of the four teams competing for the national title first competed at state and regional levels. At the regional level, four teams from each of the four ACF regions compete in a cook-off for the title of ACF Student Team Regional Champions. Now, one winning student team from each region will compete for the national title during the annual trade show, held at MGM’s Grand Garden Arena, July 15-16. There, teams will participate in a cook-off where they will be judged by a panel of distinguished judges who will decide the winner.

**ACF Student Team National Championship candidates:**
**ACF Central Region Student Team Regional Champions**—ACF Professional Chefs Association of Houston, Houston: Jeff Albers; Eva Raquel del Pilar Castanon; Michael Castillo; Gabriel Gomez; Robert Morales; Alex Darvishi, CEC, AAC, coach

**ACF Northeast Region Student Team Regional Champions**—ACF Chefs and Cooks of the Catskill Mountains; State University of New York at Delhi, Delhi, N.Y.; Tami Eicholz; Jillian Naveh; Tammy Peters; Brianne Slocum; Sarah Thurgood; Thomas Recinella, CEC, AAC, coach

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ACF Southeast Region Student Team Regional Champions—ACF Greater Atlanta Chapter Inc., Atlanta: Dominique Fallings; Daniel Gorman; Aaron Haga; Jinyoung Lee; JohnMichael Lynch; Andrew Miller III, CEC, coach

ACF Western Student Team Regional Champions—ACF Orange Empire Chefs and Professional Cooks Association; Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, Calif.: Brodie Curtis; Caitlin Knoop; Conrad Malaya; Brent Omeste; Chad Urata; William Barber, coach

At the 2008 ACF National Convention, 2,000 chefs, cooks and foodservice professionals will attend this four-day event. There will be more than 100 educational seminars, culinary demos, networking and social functions, culinary competitions, meal events and more. For information, or to attend, visit www.acfchefs.org or call (800) 624-9458.

Sponsors of the 2008 ACF National Convention are: American Lamb Board; Barber Foods; Buckhead Beef Company; Butterball Farms, Inc.; Canada Cutlery Inc.; Cargill Salt; The Cheesecake Factory Bakery, Inc.; Cleveland Range, LLC; Contessa Premium Foods; Custom Culinary, Inc.; Dow AgroSciences; Ecolab; Federation of Quebec Maple Syrup Producers; Fortessa, Inc.; General Mills; GFF, Inc./Girard’s Dressings; Guittard Chocolate Co.; The International Culinary Schools at The Art Institutes; Johnson & Wales University; Lantmannen Unibake USA; Lavazza, Italy’s Favourite Coffee; Le Cordon Bleu Schools North America; Mann’s Fresh Vegetables; McCain Foods USA; Meat & Livestock Australia; Mind’s Eye Resource Management, LLC; Nestlé Professional; NEWCHEF Fashions; Nueske’s Applewood Smoked Meats; Pearson Prentice Hall; Perfect Purée of Napa Valley; RC Fine Foods; RH Forschner by Victorinox Swiss Army, Inc.; R.L. Schreiber, Inc.; Rubbermaid Commercial Products; Saputo; Snake River Farms; Splenda®; Tyson Food Service; Unilever Foodsolutions; U.S. Foodservice; Ventura Foods, LLC; and Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board.

The American Culinary Federation, Inc., established in 1929, is the premier professional organization for culinarians in North America. With more than 21,500 members spanning 230 chapters nationwide, ACF is the culinary leader in offering educational resources, training, apprenticeship and accreditation. In addition, ACF operates the most comprehensive certification program for chefs in the United States. ACF is home to ACF Culinary Team USA, the official representative for the United States in major international culinary competitions. For more information, visit www.acfchefs.org.

MEDIA IS INVITED TO ATTEND. CALL PATRICIA CARROLL AT (800) 624-9458 EXTENSION 147 TO REGISTER FOR PRESS CREDENTIALS.

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