FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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JohnMichael Lynch Wins ACF National Student Culinarian of the Year Competition at 2008 ACF National Convention

St. Augustine, Fla., July 17, 2008—JohnMichael Lynch, of Atlanta, received the 2008 American Culinary Federation, Inc., (ACF) National Student Culinarian of the Year Award at the ACF’s 58th annual National Convention in Las Vegas, July 14-17.

Sponsored by Custom Culinary, Inc., the ACF National Student Culinarian of the Year Award recognizes an up-and-coming student who demonstrates a high level of professionalism, culinary skills and a passion for the culinary arts. Lynch competed against three others for the title.

Lynch is an apprentice and line cook at Cherokee Town & Country Club, Atlanta, under the supervision Certified Master Chef J. Kevin Walker, the club’s executive chef, and ACF’s 2007 U.S.A.’s Chef of the Year™. Lynch served as an apprentice at the 2007 chef-of-the-year competition. He has been a culinary competitor since 2003. He competed in the Georgia State Competition as a member of the ACF Atlanta Junior Hot Food Team, in which the team won a silver-medal. He is also a member of the ACF Greater Atlanta Chapter Inc. team that recently competed in the ACF Student Team National Championship at the 2008 ACF National Convention in Las Vegas, where the team placed third and earned a silver medal. He is a member of ACF Greater Atlanta Chapter Inc., and a graduate of The Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, N.Y.

Chosen for its fine cuisine and world-famous entertainment, Las Vegas was the location of the 2008 ACF National Convention. Bringing more than 2,500 chefs, cooks, foodservice professionals to the city, the convention provided attendees with numerous opportunities to advance their professional development and enhance their culinary skills through informative workshops and seminars, cutting-edge demonstrations, a trade show featuring approximately 150 exhibitors, national competitions and national-award presentations. The sold-out third annual Certified Master Chefs dinner featured ACF Culinary Team USA.

Sponsors of the 2008 ACF National Convention are: American Lamb Board; Bakewell Culinary Powders; Barber Foods; Belgiocioso Cheese Inc.; Berkshire Meat Products, LLC; Buckhead Beef.
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.

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