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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pat Bertoletti Posts Shocking Rib Eating Contest Upset Over Three- Time Defending Champion Joey Chestnut at the 21st Annual Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook- off

Reno/Sparks, Nev. – Pat Bertoletti, the world’s No.2-ranked competitive eater, stunned a capacity crowd by narrowly beating world No. 1 Joey Chestnut in the rib-eating discipline at the 4th annual Nugget World Rib Eating Championships during the 21st annual Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-off.

Bertoletti consumed 5.8 pounds of rib meat in 12 minutes to Chestnut’s 5.7 pounds. Neither competitor came close to Chestnut’s world-record total of 9.8 pounds set during last year’s Nugget contest. Still, a stunned Chestnut looked on as his prime rival on the competitive eating circuit finally broke through and took home the first place check of \$2,500.

“This is great for our event and we look forward to renewing the Chestnut-Bertoletti rivalry next year,” said Nugget spokesman Mike Traum. “Once again we were thrilled that nearly 5,000 people watched the contest. We hope they enjoy the rest of the week here at the Rib Cook-off.”

The 21st annual Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-off is sponsored by US Bank, Morrey Distributing/Budweiser, City of Sparks, Curly’s Foods Inc., Kenwood Vineyards, Southern Comfort, Legends at Sparks Marina,

Proximo-1800 Tequila, Model Dairy, Northern Nevada Toyota Dealers, AT&T Nevada, Kansas City Barbecue Society, Northern Nevada Medical Center, Clark Pest Control, Swire Coca-Cola, KOZZ 105.7 FM, KBUL 98 FM, KTHX 100.1 FM, KZTQ/Bob 97.3 FM, Sunset Magazine and Southern Living.

The Rib Cook-off is scheduled for an extended Labor Day weekend, Wednesday, September 2 through Monday, September 7, 2009. For reservations, event history and information call (800) 648-1177 or (775) 356-3300, or visit www.nuggetribcookoff.com. Do the Nugget Tonight!

Nugget World Rib Eating Championships 2009

Contestants, Home Towns and Total Pounds

Pat Bertoletti, Chicago, IL. 5.8
Joey Chestnut, San Jose, CA., 5.7
Erik Denmark, Seattle, WA., 4.7
Hall Hunt, Jacksonville, FL., 3.9
Marco Marquez, Denver, CO., 3.8
Ron Koch, Las Vegas, 3.6
Ryan McKillop, Sacramento, CA., 3.0
Jason Erb, Vancouver, WA., 2.7
Shawn Kirby, Huntington Beach, CA., 2.0
Curtis Richardson, Sun Valley, NV, 1.6
Rodney Wear, Reno, NV., 1.4
Aaron Lamb, Folsom, CA., 1.2