

RIDE OF PASSAGE

THE ADVENTURES OF MATT PARKER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*Adventurer Riding Through Downtown Cincinnati
On a Horse Named Cincinnati
While Continuing Across the American Discovery Trail*

CINCINNATI, Ohio, August 24, 2005 -- Matt Parker, the 25-year old American adventurer, continues his ride of passage to make history pioneering a horse trail across the United States. Parker, native to Ann Arbor, Michigan has set his goal to become the first person to traverse the 5,000+ miles of the American Discovery Trail (ADT) on horseback.

Approaching a major milestone in his trip, Parker will continue mapping his path of the ADT which takes him directly through the center of downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. He and his horse "Cincinnati" will arrive in the area Friday, August 26, 2005. Working at a pace that has exceeded Parker's own expectations, logging an average of 20-25 miles a day.

A significant portion of the trail runs through Ohio. Cincinnati being one of the largest metropolitan areas throughout the entire 6800+ miles of the ADT trail and the largest city Parker will attempt riding through on horseback.

Family roots bring Parker back to an area where his father and grandfather have deep ties to the community. James B. Parker, Matt's grandfather, was Kroger's first vice-president of labor relations, negotiating against Jimmy Hoffa and other major labor leaders in the early 60's. Recognized as a leader in labor negotiations James Parker later worked with President Nixon on his wage and price control board until retiring in the Cincinnati area in 1974. Matt's father, Bill Parker, born and raised in Cincinnati still has strong connection to the area and many fond memories of growing up in Terrace Park.

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These family ties and the enormous amount of support from his father and grandfather, prior to his passing, was the reason Parker named his horse "Cincinnati". On Matt's journey he will be passing his within yards of their hometown Terrace Park.

The ADT is a new breed of national trail, traversing through cities, small towns, forests, mountains, and deserts in its coast-to-coast journey, starting in Point Reyes in California and ending in, Delaware. The ADT provides trail users the opportunity to journey the heart of all that is uniquely American — its culture, heritage, landscape and spirit.

"Passing through Cincinnati is a huge accomplishment and provides momentum to reach my final destination in Cape Henlopen, Delaware," Parker states.

Matt invites all horse clubs and individuals to ride along with him and Cincinnati on the trail. Please visit www.rideofpassage.com to view where Matt is currently traveling and to view photos and personal movies from Matt's amazing journey. If you would like to lend support to Matt and Cincinnati with water, food, hay or lodging along his journey please call Nicole McGrath at 559.709.2601 or email nicolemcgrath@gmail.com.

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