

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fourteen breweries – all from North Carolina – highlight upcoming Raleigh Wide Open

Raleigh, North Carolina -- July 25, 2006. Pop the Cap: North Carolinians for Specialty Beer, is excited to announce that the upcoming Raleigh Wide Open celebration will feature beer from fourteen North Carolina breweries and brewpubs. As far as Pop The Cap can recall, this marks the first time a beer festival features all North Carolina beers – a testament to the growth of our state's craft beer industry.

Celebrating the grand opening of Fayetteville Street, Raleigh Wide Open begins at 6 P.M. on July 29, 2006 and concludes at 9:30 with a fireworks show. In addition to the North Carolina beer garden, Raleigh Wide Open features a parade, live music, a wine tasting, food from dozens of restaurants, the Carolina Hurricanes' own Stormy and the Storm Squad and much, much more. For more information about Raleigh Wide Open, please visit www.godowntownraleigh.com.

Natalie Abernethy Miller, beer festival organizer for Raleigh Wide Open, exclaims, "As a proud North Carolinian, I'm very excited to showcase all North Carolina craft breweries. The fact that we're presenting fourteen breweries from all over the state speaks volumes of the diversity and quality of beers being brewed here in our home state. If you like beer, you'll love this event."

Participating breweries include nearly half of the state's brewpubs and breweries:

Edenton Brewing, Raleigh NC	Duck-Rabbit Craft Brewery, Farmville, NC
Carolina Beer and Beverage, Mooresville, NC	Highland Brewing Company, Asheville, NC
Red Oak Brewery, Greensboro, NC	Foothills Brewing Company, Winston-Salem, NC
The Mash House Restaurant & Brewery, Fayetteville, NC	Top of the Hill Restaurant & Brewery, Chapel Hill, NC
Carolina Brewery, Chapel Hill, NC	Liberty Steakhouse and Brewery, High Point, NC
Carolina Brewing Co., Holly Springs, NC	French Broad Brewing Co., Asheville, NC
Natty Greene's Brewing Co., Greensboro, NC	Ham's Brewhouse, Greenville, NC

For \$10, beer garden attendees receive a passport worth eight sample pours and a souvenir cup. Beer styles range from light lagers and summer seasonals to hoppy IPAs and darker stouts and lagers. Pop The Cap strongly recommends matching a beer or two with some of the great food served on-site!

The beer festival is sponsored by the Raleigh Times Bar, a new gastropub and bar, right around the corner from Fayetteville Street on East Hargett.

About Pop the Cap: North Carolinians for Specialty Beer

Pop The Cap is the grassroots beer advocacy organization that, in August of 2005, organized the passage of House Bill 392, which lifted the 6% alcohol by volume restriction on beer brewed and sold in North Carolina. Our new mission is to elevate craft beer culture in North Carolina through beer tastings, fun beer-related events, and restaurant education.

For further information about Pop the Cap, contact Sean Wilson, President of Pop the Cap at 919-225-4982 or by e-mail at sean@popthecap.org. Pop the Cap's website is www.popthecap.org/.

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