

For Immediate Release:

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## ALABAMA CHEF WINS GOLD MEDALS IN CULINARY OLYMPICS

**ATMORE, Ala., October 30, 2008**—Stafford DeCambra, corporate executive chef at the Poarch Band of Creek Indians' new Wind Creek Casino and Hotel is bringing home the gold for Alabama.

DeCambra won two gold and two bronze medals as part of Culinary Team Alabama, one of the American teams who competed in the prestigious Culinary Olympics in Erfurt, Germany. DeCambra's work also won a silver medal which he gave to a team member who had mentored him early in his career as a chef. The *Internationale Kochkunst Ausstellung* (IKA) International Culinary Art Competition, or "culinary Olympics" brings together the top chefs from around the world to compete for four days in a variety of different categories.

Known throughout the culinary world as "Chef Stafford", DeCambra was awarded the top prize in the showpiece category for his remarkable chocolate sculpture, "Hawaiian Dancers", a culinary nod to his Hawaiian roots. His whimsical work of a Mardi Gras Jester also won a gold medal. His two bronze medals were awarded for twin oriental dragons. His medal of a rodeo cowboy won a silver medal.

"It is such an honor to have won gold for Team Alabama," said Chef Stafford. "It is a privilege to have been asked to compete against my peers – both American and international, and I am so proud to be part of an Alabama culinary team that successfully represented our country."

Chef Stafford was one of a select group of American chefs whose work was approved for this prestigious international competition by the American Culinary Federation. He was recently named corporate executive chef for PCI Gaming Authority, which oversees the operation of 3 Indian gaming casinos in Alabama, including the Wind Creek Casino and Hotel, a deluxe resort scheduled to open in January of 2009.

"We chose Chef Stafford to design and run our food and beverage operations because we believe he is one of the finest chefs in the world," said PCI Gaming's President and CEO James Dorris. "We are extremely proud of this world-wide recognition of his talents, and are thrilled that he is coming back to Atmore a real hometown hero."

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.

Chef Stafford had competed in previously in international competitions including the HotelOlympia in London, England where he won two bronze medals in 2003. A graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Poughkeepsie, NY, Chef Stafford is a native of Oahu, Hawaii and a professional chef with more than a 30 years experience.

**EDITORS NOTE: Chef Stafford will be available to the media for interviews. Please call the media contacts listed at the top of this advisory to schedule.**