



Atlanta Welcomes 2003 CHEERSPORT National Cheerleading and Dance Championships

ATLANTA (Jan. 16, 2003) – The Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau (ACVB) welcomes the 2003 CHEERSPORT National Cheerleading and Dance Championship, the largest cheerleading and dance competition ever conducted, back to Atlanta Jan. 18-19, 2003, at the Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC).

An annual event in Atlanta since 1997, CHEERSPORT will bring the best cheerleading and dance teams in the United States with over 30 states represented. One of the fastest growing sports in the country, 700 teams and their fans totaling 15,000 visitors are estimated to attend the event having an estimated economic impact of approximately \$12 million.

“Atlanta offers the perfect host city for CHEERSPORT,” said Kevin Brubaker, CHEERSPORT president. “Atlanta’s ability to handle our event has been a key to our continued growth.”

According to Spurgeon Richardson, ACVB president, “Atlanta has the finest facilities with a large number of hotel rooms within walking distance. It is accessible to 80 percent of the nation within two hours via Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport and has family-friendly restaurants, transportation and attractions. Combine all of that with our great Southern hospitality found in unique sources like the Ambassador Force, and you won’t find a better host city anywhere.”

Atlanta is known as the sports capital of the world and a major supporter of both youth and women’s sports. Home to seven professional sports teams, including women’s professional soccer, the city boasts state-of-the-art sports facilities. In addition to hosting the 1996 Olympics, Atlanta has hosted two Super Bowls, two TOUR Championships, the PGA Championship and five World Series as well as the Atlanta Cup – youth soccer’s largest state tournament, the WUSA Founders Cup II and the 2002 NCAA Men’s Final Four. Atlanta will host the 2003 NBA All-Star Game, 2003 NCAA Women’s Final Four, the 2004 U.S. Figure Skating Championships and the annual Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl.

Established in 1913, the ACVB is a private, non-profit organization created exclusively to market metro Atlanta and Georgia as the premier conventions, meetings and leisure destination in the regional, national and international marketplace, and favorably impact the Atlanta economy through conventions and tourism.

For more information about CHEERSPORT, go online to www.cheersport.net. For more information about Atlanta and the ACVB, visit www.atlanta.net.

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