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U. S. Air Force Thunderbirds/Army Golden Knights To Headline Branson Air Show

BRANSON, MISSOURI (December 15, 2008)—Branson Airport officials announced today that the United States Air Force Demonstration Squadron--better known as the "Thunderbirds"-- will be performing at the first ever **Branson Air Show, May 9 & 10, 2009**. The Branson Air Show will highlight the grand opening weekend of the Branson Airport, the first privately financed and operated commercial service airport in the United States.

Also appearing at the air show will be the U.S. Army Parachute Team-the "Golden Knights". "We are thrilled that two of the country's top precision military demonstration teams will be performing at the inaugural Branson Air Show," said Jeff Bourk, Executive Director, Branson Airport.

The Thunderbirds are the premier demonstration squadron of the most elite air and space force the world has ever known. They fly Lockheed Martin F-16 Fighting Falcons, a multi-role lightweight jet fighter originally developed by General Dynamics for the United States Air Force. The famed Air Force precision flying team begins their 56th season in 2009.

The Army's "Golden Knights" have been wowing audiences at air shows, competitions for 50 years. The two demonstration teams travel all over the country performing aerial demonstrations at air shows and special events, as well as competing at national and international skydiving competitions. They are the most successful U.S. Department of Defense sports team.

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“To have the Thunderbirds, and the Golden Knights, along with many other internationally famous air show acts, will surely make the Branson Air Show one of the very best in the country,” said Bobbi Thompson, Event Director, Branson Air Show.

The first annual Branson Air Show will be an amazing two-day event featuring many of the top aviation performers in the nation including the AeroShell Aerobatic Team, Patty Wagstaff, John Mohr, and many more. A number of static historical aviation displays will also be featured including a Sea Fury, Lockheed Constellation "Connie", B-25, P-51 Mustang, and a Medal of Honor AC-47 Gunship.

Tickets for the Branson Air Show are available on line at www.bransonairshow.com.

Daily ticket prices will be:

Adults: \$16.00 in advance/\$18.00 at the gate

Military: \$10.00 in advance and at the gate with military ID

Children ages 6-12: \$5.00 in advance/\$6.00 at the gate

Children under 6 are FREE

EDITORS NOTE: The USAF Thunderbirds will select three media representatives in early March for special flights prior to the air show. If you are interested please email Deidre McCormick at dmccormick@flybranson.com and provide a brief paragraph on the media representative you are nominating.

Branson Airport is the first privately financed and operated commercial service airport in the United States is located in Branson, Missouri. The \$155 million project introduces an innovative business model that has the potential to redefine air travel in the United States by focusing on creating a more pleasant travel experience for customers. For more information on Branson Airport LLC, go to www.FlyBranson.com.

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