

All about the BUSINESS of FUN!

Amusement Today's 2005 Golden Ticket Awards

Tim Baldwin
Amusement Today

Each summer *Amusement Today* locates hundreds of well-traveled enthusiasts to form a "panel of experts" for our Golden Ticket Awards. The heart and soul of the amusement park aficionado is peppered with devotion, admiration, and love for the industry.

Together, they can form a collective voice as they share their expertise and knowledge with us at *Amusement Today*, and through us to the industry and world at large. Originated in 1998, the Golden Ticket Awards have since become the "Oscars of the Amusement Industry," and thanks to these dedicated folk who continue to share their time and effort, we can annually recognize the Best of the Best.

Parks today are focusing on customer service and guest satisfaction. They have become

aware that it is more than just a business about hardware and ticket sales. It is finding that formula of providing the customer with a great, entertaining experience that makes them want to return over and over again.

With each park capitalizing on its strengths and improving in areas where they need to grow, our survey panel has a challenging task to narrow their observations to a single park that exceeds above the rest. But when the parks make it difficult for our participants, the industry is truly headed in the right direction.

As witness to the monumental experience of our survey participants, parks from eight countries outside of the U.S. can be found on our 2005 charts. *Amusement Today* and the industry are indebted to the park enthusiast for keeping us on our toes by being our harshest critic and our biggest fan.



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SixFlags®
FIESTA TEXAS
Host Park
2005 Golden Ticket Awards
August 27, 2005

ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!

Thank you
Amusement Today!

1 Golden Ticket!
Phoenix ranked #4!



Two new categories, 3 total awards added in 2005 edition

What's new? Two new categories this year are Best New Ride for 2005, both in an amusement park and waterpark and Best Halloween Event.

It's undeniable that anticipation for new attractions builds excitement. Already speculation for 2006 is starting its whispered rumors throughout the enthusiast community. But our panel has spoken. The Best New Ride in an Amusement Park for 2005 is Hades, Mount Olympus Water & Theme Park's exhilarating new wooden coaster. Designed by The Gravity Group, Hades plunges riders in Wisconsin Dells into the netherworld in the world's longest underground tunnel on a coaster. Also rating highly is Six Flags Great Adventure's Kingda Ka in second, with Paramount's Kings Island's new Italian Job

Stunt Track taking third. Closing out the finalists is a three way tie between maXair at Cedar Point, Powderkeg at Silver Dollar City, and SheiKra at Busch Gardens Tampa.

The Best New Ride in a Waterpark for 2005 also is found in Wisconsin Dells. Noah's Ark introduced Black Anaconda, the longest uphill water coaster on planet earth. Built by ProSlide, Black Anaconda has six uphill sections using a fast-moving conveyor technology. Typhoon Lagoon's Crush 'N Gusher, a triple slide uphill water coaster from NBGS, places second for WDW. Six Flags New England places third with their uphill water coaster, also from ProSlide, called Typhoon. Hm. Do we detect a trend here? Closing out the category is a tie between Bahari, the new

massive wavepool at Splashin' Safari and Funnel of Fear at Michigan's Adventure.

Each year, it's almost a tradition at *Amusement Today* for one category to come right down to the wire. 2005 was no exception, as once again an award was decided by the last envelopes opened. When they say "every vote is important," they aren't kidding. Our new category, Best Halloween Event, was a "chilling" neck-and-neck battle to the finish between Knott's Berry Farm and Universal Studios Florida. At the final tally, the west coast took the Golden Ticket. Behind Knott's and Universal, Kennywood takes a third place grab. Knoebels and Cedar Point round out the finalists respectively.

-Tim Baldwin



AT photo / Gary Slade

While diving to the netherworld, Hades rises high on the charts as Best New Ride for 2005 in an Amusement Park.



AT photo / Tim Baldwin

Black Anaconda at Noah's Ark wins Best New Ride in a Waterpark for 2005, a category originating this year in the Golden Tickets.

New awards in 2005

Best New Ride for 2005 (Amusement Park)

Hades	Mt. Olympus Theme Park	45%
Kingda Ka	Six Flags Great Adventure	16%
Italian Job	Paramount's Kings Island	8%
maXair	Cedar Point	(tie) 6%
Powderkeg	Silver Dollar City	(tie) 6%
SheiKra	Busch Gardens Tampa	(tie) 6%

Best New Ride for 2005 (Waterpark)

Black Anaconda	Noah's Ark	21%
Crush 'N Gusher	Typhoon Lagoon	17%
Typhoon	Six Flags New England	14%
Bahari	Splashin' Safari	(tie) 9%
Funnel of Fear	Michigan's Adventure	(tie) 9%

Best Halloween Event

Knott's Berry Farm	Buena Park, Calif.	25%
Universal Studios	Orlando, Fla.	24%
Kennywood	West Mifflin, Pa.	10%
Knoebels Amusement Resort	Elysburg, Pa.	9%
Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	6%



Knott's Berry Farm "eeeeeks" out a first place win for Best Halloween Event, a new category to our Golden Ticket survey.

Photo courtesy Knott's Berry Farm

Cedar Point, Schlitterbahn, Legoland win Best Parks

Staying on top is an intimidating task, whether it be producing a TV show, maintaining a professional sports team, or keeping musical hits on the charts. Our Best of the Best park winners face a similar challenge. When you're at the top, there is frighteningly only one way to go. Dick Kinzel, CEO of Cedar Fair, talks to *Amusement Today* about Cedar Point's success.

"It's great that our collection of coasters and proper mix of rides is something the judges see each year. We're the second oldest park in the nation and Cedar Point comes with a lot of tradition. Our management team keeps that tradition and enthusiasm going." Kinzel also observes about the top rated park, "Cedar Point has its own personality. It's basically on an island surrounded by water. When you drive over the causeway and see the sailboats, the lake, and the steel skyline of coasters – it's really something. I never get tired of seeing it."

Like Cedar Point tucked away in the small city of Sandusky, Ohio, Schlitterbahn

also resides in a small town. New Braunfels is no overwhelming metropolis. Still, the waterpark continues to dominate the top spot as Best Waterpark year after year.

Terri Adams, C.O.O. of Schlitterbahn Parks, comments, "Schlitterbahn has become an annual tradition for our families. Our new customers are coming for the first time because they've heard about us and the wide variety we offer. It's the combination of the newest rides with the classic tube chutes. It's humbling and exciting to see people come back year after year."

With the waterpark industry surging each year, it becomes a tougher feat for this out-of-the-way oasis stationed along the Comal River to stay on top of our charts.

After winning the new category last year, Legoland California once again claims Best Kid's Park for the second year. This California theme park boasts an atypical mix of rides, diverging from the regular variety you'd see at most kids' parks.

Julie Estrada of Legoland's



AT photo / Tim Baldwin

Cedar Point's legendary thrills and variety of entertainment make the Lake Erie destination Best Park with our panel of experts.

public relation department tells *Amusement Today*, "Our attractions are fun and interactive and let the guests create their own experience." Estrada illustrates this fact with one of their newest attractions. "Knights Tournament uses

robotic technology that allows the guests to choose the ride intensity levels making it a unique guest experience you can't find anywhere else in North America."

While the Lego branding is unique for the guests,

Estrada further explains how guests are surprised that there are so many unusual rides and attractions. "I think it is what draws people here. We're different. Plus families can go on almost all our rides together."

—Tim Baldwin



Photos courtesy Legoland California and Schlitterbahn

Families flock year-after-year to Schlitterbahn (above), the Golden Ticket winner for Best Waterpark. At left, two girls admire the detailed craftsmanship of one of Legoland's unique sculptures. Legoland was voted Best Kid's Park for the second year in a row.





V O T E D



Best



Kid's Area



In The World Five Years In A Row!

T H A N K S !



Paramount's
KINGS ISLAND

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THE BEST OF HOLLYWOOD ENTERTAINMENT. NOW PLAYING.

2005 RANKS HIGH FOR PARAMOUNT PARKS

BEST KID'S AREA

- #1 - PARAMOUNT'S KINGS ISLAND
- #3 - PARAMOUNT'S CAROWINDS
- #4 - PARAMOUNT'S KINGS DOMINION

BEST WOOD COASTER

- #8 - PARAMOUNT'S KINGS ISLAND'S
THE BEAST

BEST GAMES AREA

- #2 - PARAMOUNT'S KINGS ISLAND

BEST NEW RIDE OF '05

- #3 - PARAMOUNT'S KINGS ISLAND'S
THE ITALIAN JOB: Stunt Track

THANK YOU FOR A
GREAT SEASON!



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THE BEST OF HOLLYWOOD ENTERTAINMENT. NOW PLAYING.

Courteous staff, landscaping and food add to guest experience

Holiday World, Knoebels, Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Schlitterbahn all repeat winners

After winning Cleanest Park and Friendliest Park, Holiday World's Will Koch jokes, "We never want this year to be the one where we don't get it." Koch points out that the importance of "clean and friendly" is conveyed in many different ways. "It starts in the employee's orientation. These awards are mentioned as we explain the park's cornerstones. We lay it out there. Our employees know it is critical for our future success. Not just for awards, but for each and every guest."

Koch continues with how their staff takes pride in the park's reputation. "Our management takes it personally. Our managers will continue to talk to employees about it throughout the season." Also on our list are the friendly folks at Dollywood placing second, followed by Knoebels and Cedar Point tying for third. Busch Gardens Williamsburg and Cedar Point also rate highly in the Cleanest category.

Knoebels tasty and family friendly food seems to satisfy guests and our survey panel, ranking them as top spot in Best Food once again.



"Clean and friendly" is taken very seriously at Holiday World and Splashin' Safari. The park takes top honors in both categories, a multiple-year win on both accounts for the family owned park in Santa Claus, Ind.
Photos courtesy Holiday World

Epcot, Busch Williamsburg, Dollywood and Silver Dollar City round out the finalists in the Food category.

The ambience of landscaping enhances a visitor's experience at any park. *Amusement Today* has divided its Best Landscaping Award between amusement parks and waterparks. Top honors in Landscaping are taken by Busch Gardens Williamsburg for their beautiful landscaping work and Schlitterbahn for their landscaping along the shady natural setting of New Braunfels' Comal River. On the park end, Efteling of The



Taste, price, and value makes Knoebels a great place to eat.

Photo courtesy Chris Gray

Netherlands and Bonfante Gardens in California take second and third respectively. For waterparks, Disney's Typhoon Lagoon and Blizzard Beach round out the top three.

-Tim Baldwin



Photo courtesy Busch Gardens

Landscaping is a key component to the ambience of Busch Gardens Williamsburg.



Photo courtesy Schlitterbahn

Tubers get a great view of the beautiful plantings at Schlitterbahn, winner of Best Landscaping in a waterpark.

It's ride time!

Best Dark Ride; Best Water Ride; Best Waterpark Ride and Best Kid's Area winners announced



Take a ride. Our panel of experts have. Many of our ride categories have the longest list of nominees voted on by our experienced travelers. For example, more favorites were listed for Best Dark Ride than any other category in 2005. The Amazing Adventures of Spiderman at Universal's Islands of Adventure still claims the top spot, with Knoebels Haunted Mansion a beloved second. Disney holds a coast-to-coast boast with two attractions tied for third – Twilight Zone Tower of Terror in Florida and Indiana Jones and the Temple of the Forbidden Eye in California. Another tie rounds out the category between Efteling's Dream Flight and Disneyland's Pirates of the Caribbean.

Water rides are also hugely popular with guests and our panel. Thirty seven different attractions were listed. Emerging victorious as Best Water Ride was Blackpool's Valhalla. This combination of water attraction and dark ride has been wildly popular since its debut in 2000. Islands of Adventure has a strong showing with the second and third place

attractions – Dudley Do Right's Ripsaw Falls and Popeye and Bluto's Bilge-rat Barges. Completing the five finalists are Walt Disney World's Splash Mountain and Dollywood's Mountain Slidewinder.

The Best Waterpark Ride category sees Schlitterbahn's Master Blaster as top pick. Splashing in at both second and third are a pair of "z"s – Zinga and Zoombabwe, both at Holiday World's Splashin' Safari. WDW's Summit Plummet at Blizzard Beach

and Typhoon Lagoon's Crush 'N Gusher round out the top five.

Paramount Parks have a strong presence in our Best Kids' Area, taking three of the top five finalists. Paramount's Kings Island once again reigns supreme in the kid category, but sister parks Paramount Carowinds and Kings Dominion place a respectable third and fourth. With such recognition, *Amusement Today* asked Jeff Siebert of PKI's public relations team why Paramount is scoring so highly. He says, "Our focus is to bring the best mix of rides for everyone in the family, including the kids. The Nickelodeon characters are really bringing in the families. These are kids' celebrities. Our families live so close and you can meet them no where else." Also in the category, second place goes to Islands of Adventure who wonderfully capitalize on whimsical theming for the kids' imaginations. Tying for the remaining finalist is Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm, both in California.

–Tim Baldwin



Photo courtesy Universal's IOA

Universal's Amazing Adventures of Spiderman once again wows experts as Best Dark Ride.



Photo courtesy Blackpool

Blackpool's Valhalla scores as Best Water Ride in an amusement park, reclaiming the title it won in 2003.



Photo courtesy PKI

Kids can enjoy one of four children's roller coasters at Paramount's Kings Island, winner of Best Kid's Area.



Photo courtesy Schlitterbahn

The Master Blaster at Schlitterbahn in New Braunfels, Texas blasts to the top as Best Waterpark Ride.



Abigail Bobrow / Sandusky Register

2004 Golden Ticket attendees l to r: Beth Robertson, IAAPA; David Blazer, Fiesta Texas; Will and Pat Koch, Holiday World; Andy Quinn, Lake Compounce; Ori Ovics, World Waterpark; Gary Henry, Schlitterbahn; Dick Kinzel, Cedar Point; Abby Erwin, NBGS International; Robert Baracz, Legoland California; Dan Feicht, Cedar Point; Rick Knoebel, Knoebel's Amusement Resort and Jeffrey Siebert, Paramount's Kings Island. Kneeling *Amusement Today's* Gary Slade and Tim Baldwin. Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio was the host park for the 2004 awards.

AMUSEMENT TODAY

salutes the winners of the
2005 Golden Ticket Awards
for being the "Best of the Best"
in our industry!

2005 WINNERS

Blackpool Pleasure Beach
Busch Gardens Williamsburg
Cedar Point Amusement Park
Disneyland
Dollywood
Epcot (Walt Disney World)
Holiday World & Splashin' Safari
Knoebels Amusement Resort
Knott's Berry Farm
Legoland California
Mt. Olympus Water & Theme Park
Noah's Ark Waterpark
Paramount's Kings Island
Schlitterbahn Waterpark
Six Flags Fiesta Texas
Universal's Islands of Adventure
Werner Stengel

V.I.P.



Thank You!

Six Flags Fiesta Texas
for your hospitality in hosting the
2005 Golden Ticket Awards
Ceremony and
Golden Ticket attendees.

New for
2006!



Set sail on The Voyage, Holiday World's third world-class wooden roller coaster and featured ride of the new Thanksgiving holiday section. This amazing new 1.2 mile-long coaster will feature three thrilling drops of over 100 feet (including the steepest wooden coaster drop in the U.S.), two 90-degree banked turns, and five underground tunnels. With a world record 24.2 seconds of weightless sensation, this coaster is sure to be the world's supreme air-time machine!



Take a Virtual Ride on our website:
www.holidayworld.com



#5 Raven - Best Wooden Coaster



#7 Legend - Best Wooden Coaster



#2 Zinga - Best Waterpark Ride



#3 Zoombabwe Best Waterpark Ride



#2 Splashin' Safari Best Waterpark



#4 Bahari - Best New Waterpark Attraction

Thank You!

We, at Holiday World & Splashin' Safari, thank you, the readers of Amusement Today, for choosing us for so many honors. We also thank our wonderful employees for a job well done!



Jct. 162 & 245 Santa Claus, IN 47579
1 (877) Go Family

Thank you, Amusement Today

It takes 6,000 cubic yards of mulch (enough to cover 35 football fields), 150,000 annuals, 80,000 tulips, 4,000 chrysanthemums and 700 "container" gardens. Not to mention more than two dozen landscape artists who spend six hours every day pruning, planting and weeding (all by hand). And did we mention the tens of thousands of beneficial bugs, like ladybugs, that are released into the park every year to help keep our gardens pristine?

As you can tell, we're quite proud of our landscaping excellence. And we're honored that you recognized our efforts.



Busch Gardens Williamsburg is proud to have three of the top 50 roller coasters in the world.

Busch
GARDENS.
WILLIAMSBURG



Park and Ride Winners

Ranked by percentage of votes cast

Best Park

Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	37%
Islands of Adventure	Orlando, Fla.	14%
Blackpool Pleasure Beach	Blackpool, England	9%
Europa Park	Rust, Germany	(tie) 7%
Knoebels Amusement Resort	Elysburg, Pa.	(tie) 7%

Best Waterpark

Schlitterbahn	New Braunfels, Texas	52%
Splashin' Safari	Santa Claus, Ind.	17%
Blizzard Beach	Orlando, Fla.	7%
Noah's Ark	Wisconsin Dells, Wis.	5%
Typhoon Lagoon	Orlando, Fla.	3%

Best Children's Park

Legoland	Carlsbad, Calif.	44%
Idlewild	Ligonier, Pa.	12%
Kiddieland	Chicago, Ill.	9%
Sesame Place	Langhorne, Pa.	8%
Dutch Wonderland	Lancaster, Pa.	6%

Friendliest Park Staff

Holiday World	Santa Claus, Ind.	47%
Dollywood	Pigeon Forge, Tenn.	17%
Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	(tie) 7%
Knoebels Amusement Resort	Elysburg, Pa.	(tie) 7%
Magic Kingdom	Orlando, Fla.	4%

Cleanest Park

Holiday World	Santa Claus, Ind.	37%
Busch Gardens Williamsburg	Williamsburg, Va.	10%
Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	9%
Magic Kingdom	Orlando, Fla.	7%
Disneyland	Anaheim, Calif.	6%

Best Shows

Six Flags Fiesta Texas	San Antonio, Texas	30%
Dollywood	Pigeon Forge, Tenn.	19%
Busch Gardens Williamsburg	Williamsburg, Va.	10%
Silver Dollar City	Branson, Mo.	6%
Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	(tie) 5%
Disney-MGM Studios	Orlando, Fla.	(tie) 5%

Best Food

Knoebels Amusement Resort	Elysburg, Pa.	26%
Epcot	Orlando, Fla.	13%
Busch Gardens Williamsburg	Williamsburg, Va.	12%
Dollywood	Pigeon Forge	11%
Silver Dollar City	Branson, Mo.	9%

Best Water Ride (Park)

Valhalla	Blackpool Pleasure Beach	24%
Dudley Do Right's Ripsaw Falls	Islands of Adventure	20%
Popeye and Bluto's Bilge-rat Barges	Islands of Adventure	9%
Splash Mountain	Magic Kingdom-WDW	7%
Mountain Slidewinder	Dollywood	6%



Best Waterpark Ride

Master Blaster	Schlitterbahn	29%
Zinga	Splashin' Safari	12%
Zoombabwe	Splashin' Safari	10%
Summit Plummet	Blizzard Beach	6%
Crush 'N Gusher	Typhoon Lagoon	5%

Best Kids' Area

Paramount's Kings Island	Kings Mills, Ohio	50%
Islands of Adventure	Orlando, Fla.	10%
Paramount's Carowinds	Charlotte, N.C.	8%
Paramount's Kings Dominion	Doswell, Va.	4%
Disneyland	Anaheim, Calif.	(tie) 3%
Knott's Berry Farm	Buena Park, Calif.	(tie) 3%

Best Landscaping (Park)

Busch Gardens Williamsburg	Williamsburg, Va.	43%
Efteling	Kaatsheuvel, The Netherlands	18%
Bonfante Gardens	Gilroy, Calif.	7%
Europa Park	Rust, Germany	4%
Busch Tampa	Tampa, Fla.	3%

Best Landscaping (Waterpark)

Schlitterbahn	New Braunfels, Texas	30%
Typhoon Lagoon	Orlando, Fla.	20%
Blizzard Beach	Orlando, Fla.	14%
Splashin' Safari	Santa Claus, Ind.	10%
Dolly's Splash Country	Pigeon Forge, Tenn.	6%

Best Outdoor Night Production

Epcot	Orlando, Fla.	27%
Six Flags Fiesta Texas	San Antonio, Texas	21%
Disneyland	Anaheim, Calif.	13%
Disney-MGM Studios	Orlando, Fla.	12%
Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	9%

Best Dark Ride

Amazing Adventures of Spiderman	Islands of Adventures	38%
Haunted Mansion	Knoebels Amusement Resort	16%
Twilight Zone Tower of Terror	Disney-MGM Studios	(tie) 5%
Indiana Jones...Forbidden Eye	Disneyland	(tie) 5%
Droom Vulcht (Dream Flight)	Efteling	(tie) 4%
Pirates of the Caribbean	Disneyland	(tie) 4%

2001 — 2002 — 2003

2004 — 2005



**THANK YOU
AMUSEMENT TODAY!**
**Best Dark Ride
5 Years In A Row!**

Three-year format awards

Best Souvenirs		
Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	19%
Knoebels Amusement Resort	Elysburg, Pa.	12%
Magic Kingdom	Orlando, Fla.	11%
Disneyland	Anaheim, Calif.	10%
Islands of Adventure	Orlando, Fla.	8%
Best Games Area		
Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	37%
Paramount's Kings Island	Kings Mills, Ohio	13%
Kennywood	West Mifflin, Pa.	9%
Six Flags Great Adventure	Jackson, N.J.	7%
Six Flags Great America	Gurnee, Ill.	5%
Best Place to Ride Go-Karts		
Mt. Olympus Water & Theme Park	Wisconsin Dells, Wis.	86%
Nascar Speed Park	Pigeon Forge, Tenn.	4%
Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	3%

Certain Golden Ticket Awards get three-year format

Each year, the Golden Ticket Awards rotate a few categories while introducing some new ones. On our three-year rotation in 2005 is Park with Best Souvenirs, Park with Best Games Area, and Best Place to Ride Go-Karts.

Cedar Point takes top honors on the first two categories. Their selection of shirts, mugs, postcards, magnets, and other collectables has found favor with our panel. In 2005 the park has given their games area a whole new look, with a particular revamped makeover at night with spotlights, theatrical motion lighting and pulsating LED lights.

Knoebels vast assortment of souvenir goodies places them in second, while Magic Kingdom's selection rounds out the top three. Other top picks were Disneyland, particularly

driven by 50th anniversary merchandise, and Islands of Adventure.

Paramount's Kings Island's Coney area placed them second in Games, and the top five is completed with Kennywood, Six Flags Great Adventure, and Six Flags Great America.

Every now and then, the Golden Tickets create a category that is an absolute rout. Never before have we had such a triumphant victor as with this year's new Best Place to Ride Go-Karts. With 86 percent of the vote trumpeting Mount Olympus Water & Theme Park, it was almost a struggle to have any other park place at all. Mt. Olympus' thematic approach to go-kart riding has evidently found favor with the public.

—Tim Baldwin



Photo courtesy Cedar Point

A wide variety of souvenirs and collectables score highly for Cedar Point fans.



Photo courtesy Cedar Point

Cedar Point takes top pick for Best Games Area, one of our three-year categories.



AT photo / Gary Slade

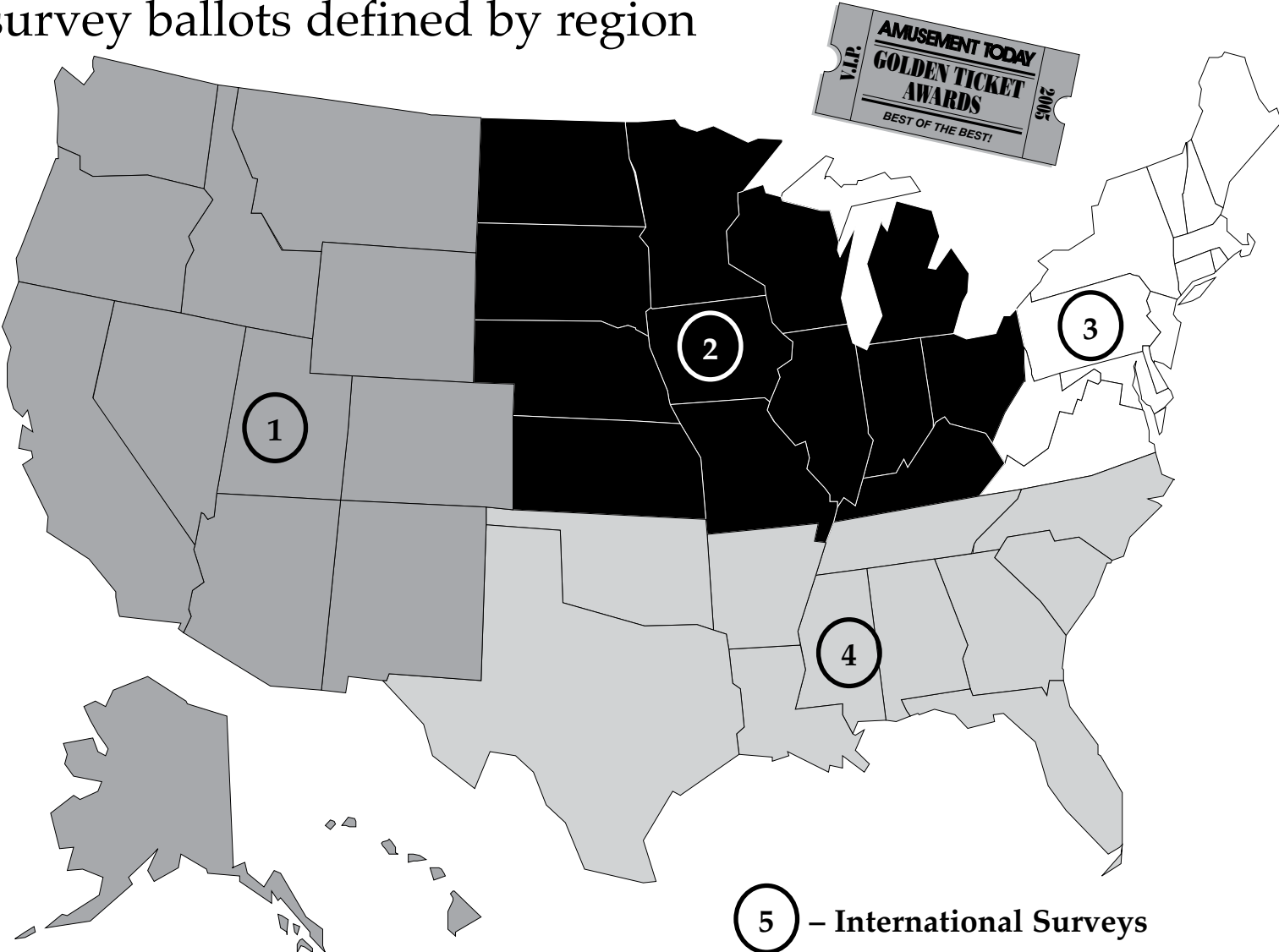
The amazing variety and thematic scope of Mt. Olympus' go-karts raced them to the top.

Golden Ticket survey ballots defined by region

From its inception in 1998, *Amusement Today* has continued to seek out the well-traveled enthusiast and park aficionado. In an effort to keep the Golden Ticket Award survey balanced and as fair as possible, the United States is divided into four geographical regions and an equal number of survey ballots were sent to each region. In addition, several international participants also took the survey.

Amusement Today is extremely indebted to the hundreds of kind people who took the time, effort, and thought into completing the survey and returning it to AT. Your expertise is not only appreciated, but also your kindness.

Any well-traveled enthusiasts who wish to be considered for the 2006 survey can contact us by email at tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com or by postal mail. *Amusement Today* is eagerly interested in expanding our international participants.



The background of the entire poster is a dramatic, dark red and orange sky at sunset or sunrise. Silhouetted against this sky are several gnarled, leafless trees and a few birds in flight. In the lower-left corner, a wooden building with a large wheel is visible. The Knott's Scary Farm logo is at the top center, featuring the word 'Knott's' in a large, white, stylized font with a black outline, and 'SCARY FARM' in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.

Knott's
SCARY FARM®

An award to die for.



Halloween Haunt
"Best Halloween Event"

Thank you Amusement Today!



Cedar Fair L.P.
FAMILY OF PARKS



SANDUSKY, OH



BUENA PARK, CA



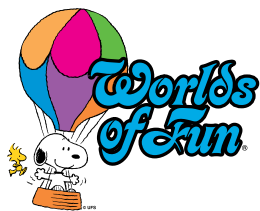
ALLENTOWN, PA



AURORA, OH



SHAKOPEE, MN



KANSAS CITY, MO



MUSKEGON, MI



SANDUSKY, OH



ORANGE COUNTY SAN DIEGO PALM SPRINGS



KANSAS CITY, MO

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1 Best Amusement Park CEDAR POINT

Top Steel Roller Coasters



1

Millennium Force®
Cedar Point



3

Magnum
Cedar Point



7

Top Thrill Dragster™
Cedar Point



11

Raptor®
Cedar Point



14

Steel Force
Dorney Park



25

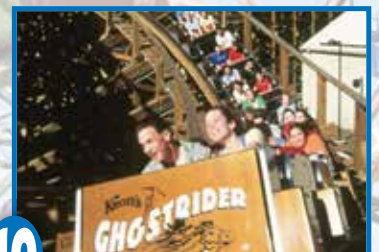
Mamba
Worlds of Fun

Top Wooden Roller Coasters



3

Shivering Timbers
Michigan's Adventure



10

GhostRider
Knott's Berry Farm

Best Halloween Event



1

Knott's Berry Farm

Best Games Area



1

Cedar Point

Best Souvenirs



1

Cedar Point

On behalf of our
2000+ staff members

We are thrilled
and honored to be voted
America's Best Waterpark
8 years
in a row!



We appreciate these prestigious awards,
along with our 10 other
Golden Tickets for America's Best
Waterpark Ride - Master Blaster®
uphill water coaster - and
for America's Most Beautiful Waterpark
and Best Landscaping in a Waterpark.

Thank You, Amusement Today!

Schlitterbahn
WATERPARK RESORT®
NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS



It's nice to get an award everyone looks up to.

Thanks *Amusement Today* for the
Best Outdoor Night Show Production award for *IllumiNations: Reflections of Earth – Epcot®*

WALT DISNEY World®

Park, individual, supplier each recipients of 2005 Publisher's Pick

Fifty years later, Disneyland continues to be a leader in the amusement industry

Walt Disney was a dreamer. More than a half century ago, this American visionary refused to be dissuaded by so-called experts who scoffed at his dream to transform a 160-acre citrus grove in Southern California into a Magic Kingdom. With almost preternatural insight, he embarked on a project that would eventually affect and shape the world in ways he probably never imagined. Utilizing the creative resources at his movie studios, he brought to life his films' characters and locations in a way that really did seem quite magical.

As Disneyland marks its Golden anniversary, fans from around the world are making the pilgrimage to Anaheim to relive memories of times spent at the Happiest Place on Earth. An 18-month-long birthday promotion, *The Happiest Celebration on Earth*, which kicked off May 5, 2005, will see all ten of the Disney theme parks introducing new shows and attractions, including the Disney Magic cruise ship relocating from Port Canaveral, Florida, to Los Angeles for a three-month stay.

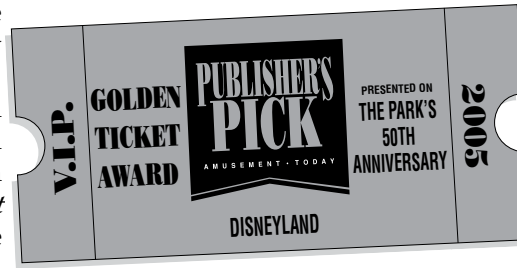
Amusement Today chose Disneyland for its 2005 Publisher's Pick for obvious reasons. Since the beginning in 1955, the Disney Imagineers have set the industry standard for theme parks. Back then, Disneyland's inventive rides and attractions were quite unlike anything the world had ever seen. Walt Disney's fresh take on the

amusement park experience inspired venues around the world to attempt to create "something like they have at Disneyland."

The Matterhorn, for example, paved the way for an entirely new breed of steel roller coaster. That ride's tubular track and soft nylon composite wheels created by Arrow Development have been emulated and expanded upon until we still enjoy a coasters arms race that seems to have no end in sight. And this all because Walt Disney visited the Swiss Alps and wanted to provide guests a bobsledding adventure.

Disneyland came into being at time when the world needed an escape. The Cold War was at hand and Walt wanted nothing more than to offer Disneyland visitors the chance to leave their cares behind and dare to dream. And just as it was 50 years ago, Disneyland manages to remain relevant and in tune with the times. Though the 21st century has proven to be a very scary place, it's good to know that once you pass through the park's front gate and begin your stroll down Main Street USA, you can let go and allow the magic to take you. And that was Walt's plan all along.

Happy 50th Birthday, Disneyland. Please accept our 2005 Publisher's Pick with the honor and grace you deserve. You are living proof that good things really can happen *When You Wish Upon a Star*...



Werner Stengel, a living legend and a master when it comes to ride engineering for the amusement industry

Werner Stengel's prolific career as a designer and engineer for the amusement industry spans more than four decades. The concepts and engaging designs for which this amazingly talented German and his team have been responsible have made the world's amusement parks both exciting and extremely safe.

Over the last 40 years, Stengel has had a hand in creating more than 490 roller coasters and 600 other moving structures at parks from Algeria to the United States. Though he often remained in the background, quietly calculating and perfecting the ideas and dreams of others, his contribution to the industry, especially in the field of steel roller coaster design, is vast and unparalleled. His firm's work is quite simply *art*.

Stengel's formal introduction to the business of amusement rides began in 1963 when he worked closely with the legendary Anton Schwarzkopf on the first modern German steel coaster, the Super Acht, which made history when it debuted in 1965 at Munich's Oktoberfest. Stengel opened his own office (Ing.-Büro Werner Stengel) that same year, and for the next four decades he worked closely with Schwarzkopf (and eventually numerous others) in developing many concepts and industry firsts. These include the first suspended coaster (Alpenflug, 1973), the first modern vertical looping coaster (Magic Mountain's Revolution, 1975), and the first

horizontal launched Shuttle Loops (1976). Stengel's portfolio includes projects for a number of other prestigious companies such as B&M, Gerstlauer, Intamin, Mack, Maurer Soehne, Premier Rides, Vekoma, Zamperla and Zierer, just to name a few.

In 2001, Werner Stengel was honored by the Munich city-museum with a one-year exhibition of his life, while Klaus Schützmannsky published a top-selling book about the legacy of this talented artisan. Stengel has received a large number of awards and recognitions including the coveted German VDV "Verband der Deutschen Vergnügungsanlagenhersteller".

Though he retired from his firm's daily operations in 2001, Stengel still works as an industry consultant, and he remains involved in research that focuses on the strains of roller coasters on the human body.

During an October 22 ceremony, Stengel will be awarded an honorary doctorate by the Faculty of Science at Sweden's Göteborg University for "his inexhaustible creativity in linking physics and design to the experience of the body in roller coasters and other rides."

So, Herr Stengel, congratulations from the staff of *Amusement Today* on your life's work. For many years to come, your phenomenal legacy will be appreciated and enjoyed by park guests and roller coaster fans around the world.



From simple go-kart beginnings, Nick Laskaris becomes a survivor, creates unique park in The Dells

Go ahead and admit it. Everyone at one time or another has taken a ride on a go-kart and, chances are, you enjoyed it and probably took many more rides. Go-karts are unique in that their ridership doesn't age. From your first ride in the pre-teen years to a ride as an adult, the sounds, look, feel and ride of those speedy little carts never change.

In 1970 Jim Laskaris moved his family from Chicago to The Dells and opened a small restaurant named Big Chief. It was at the restaurant that he put his two children went to work peeling potatoes for french fries. As time went on, Jim decided it would be best to open a go-kart track. His son Nick, at the young age of 8, was made the main mechanic of the eight go-karts. The track, located on leased land, was the first in The Dells to feature a bridge.

Five years after opening the track, Jim decided it would be best to move the go-kart business to land the family owned. It was there they built the only track that looked like a cloverleaf and had a portion of the track going up a man-made hillside. Also in 1980, they started manufacturing their own go-karts for the Big Chief park and sold karts to other parks in the country.

Along the way, Nick became very involved in the design and engineering of multi-level tracks, which, at the time, were the only ones in the world. Between Nick and Jim, they developed the elevated go-kart tracks, which have now become a standard for tracks all over the world. Ten years later, another move was in store. This time, they went back to the main strip of Wisconsin Dells Parkway. There the two created a course on a hillside with many tiers of elevated track that featured a waterfall

in which the karts passed through.

The mid-1990s saw the installation of three wooden coasters in three years – Cyclops, Pegasus and Zeus. Nick continued to paint a picture of go-karting history—this time in the form of Poseidon, a wooden track that stood 60 feet tall, featuring an underwater tunnel and a suspension bridge. It is still a world-record holder.

The work ethic and drive that Nick learned from his Dad, and the love for his family is what would keep him motivated and alive. At age 25, Nick was diagnosed with brain cancer and given three months to live. A strong willed Nick beat the disease only to see it return 10 years later. Brain surgery and two stem cell transplants later, Nick was back at it again, designing go-karts. However, Nick's will would be tested once again, this time with the tragic loss of his father following the 2003 IAAPA trade show.

The two dreamed of one day operating the only theme park in The Dells. As a tribute to his dad, Nick made the dream a reality this season thanks to the merger of two neighboring waterparks, which created Mt. Olympus Water & Theme Park. \$10 million in new rides, including the record-setting Hades wooden coaster and the Triton waterslide complex, were added to help create a park that now spans 156 acres, features 37 waterslides in outdoor and indoor environments, wave pool, eight go-kart tracks, six roller coasters, 10 kiddie rides, mini golf, a hotel and much more – all for a single day gate admission of \$32.00.

For that, Nick Laskaris, is presented with this Publisher's Pick for his strong will and in the memory of his dad Jim, who was *Amusement Today's* first paid subscriber.



Stengel Engineering approaching 500 coasters

74 percent of the Top 50 steel coasters have Stengel's stamp


Amusement Today is honored to have this opportunity to print Werner Stengel's 10 favorite coasters that he and his firm have engineered during the last 40 years. Including projects currently being engineered for the 2006 season, the German-based company have been involved in 490 roller coasters; 590 carousels, 33 Ferris Wheels, 33 bumper cars, 14 dark rides, 31 portable cinemas, nine waterslides and seven monorails. One last interesting note is that Stengel's firm has been involved in 74 percent of the 2005 Top 50 Steel Coasters as listed by AT.

Werner Stengel's 10 favorite coaster projects in no particular order identified by number: 1) Millennium Force, Cedar Point, Ohio; 2) Colossos, Heide Park, Germany; 3) Lisebergbanan, Liseberg, Sweden; 4) Dueling Dragons, Universal's Islands of Adventure, Fla.; 5) Incredible Hulk, Universal's Islands of Adventure, Fla.; 6) Expedition GeForce, Holiday Park, Germany; 7) Olympia Looping, transportable 5-loop-er, Germany; 8) Goliath, Walibi World, The Netherlands; 9) EuroStar, transportable inverted coaster, Germany and 10) Nemesis, Alton Towers, England.

Photos courtesy Cedar Point, Justin Garvanovic, Scott Rutherford, Gary Slade and Universal Studios



Elected to the IAAPA Hall of Fame in Nov. 2003, Werner Stengel is truly a living legend in coaster design and engineering. He and his engineering team are the most respected in the amusement industry. During his 40-plus years of engineering, Stengel was involved with the creation of the first suspended coaster, the first modern vertical looping coaster, and the first horizontal launched shuttle loops.



Stengel

It's Showtime!

Six Flags Fiesta Texas takes Best Show category, Epcot's Illuminations wins Best Outdoor Night Production

It's showtime! A show is a quick respite from a tiring, hot day in the park. But oftentimes, it's much more than that, it's a day's highlight. Six Flags Fiesta Texas has once again been recognized for having the Best Shows. When opened in 1992, Fiesta Texas emphasized its shows out of all its product. Throughout its change of ownership, the park has expanded all areas of its guest package, including coasters, rides, and waterpark attractions. Still, the park has not lost sight of its showstopping roots. David Blazer, manager of Fiesta Texas' Entertainment says, "Come for the Rides, Stay for the Shows is our tagline. We really believe that. We have enough diversity with our shows, that there is something for everyone to see. We think the show package is an integral part of the guest experience."

Also in the spotlight is Dollywood with a second place nab in Shows, with Busch Gardens Williamsburg taking third.

The culmination of a great day in the park is often tied to a closing show. In Best Outdoor Night Production, Disney ranks highly. Epcot's "Illuminations" takes the Golden Ticket as top pick, with "Fantasmic" on both coasts at Disneyland and Disney-MGM wrestling for third and fourth respectively. A strong second place was Fiesta Texas' long-running "Lone Star Spectacular," accented by the beautiful cliff walls on which it is projected. Cedar Point closes out the top five finalists.

—Tim Baldwin



Photos courtesy Six Flags Fiesta Texas and Epcot Walt Disney World
Six Flags Fiesta Texas has something to sing about once again as it continues to dance its way in as having the Best Shows, while Epcot, below, at Walt Disney World, claimed the Best Outdoor Night Show Production for the first time with its wonderful presentation of Illuminations.



All clear...enjoy the ride!

The Best Coasters of 2005

Sit up right, hold on tight, and enjoy your ride! Roller coasters have always been king of the midway, and it is one of the favorite categories for our panel of experts to really show their stuff.

Nothing creates excitement like the announcement for a new coaster. For us, it's the announcement of a new No. 1 coaster on the Golden Ticket charts. This year, we have the debut of a new woodie in our top spot. Thunderhead, Dollywood's rollicking 2004 creation from Great Coasters International, made a significant debut last year in the No. 6 position after just a couple of months. With over a full year of operation under its belt, enthusiasts have flocked in big numbers to experience one of the most twisted coasters ever devised.

Thunderhead, now claiming our No. 1 spot, may need to keep an eye on a 2005 installation following in its footsteps. Hades, a spectacular new creation by the Gravity Group, not only does a déjà vu No. 6 debut, but has also developed a huge buzz as a must-get-to destination coaster. Hades has also taken Best New Ride in a park for 2005, one of AT's newer categories. Not far from Hades, just around the block in fact, is Avalanche, a dynamic newer coaster from S&S at Timber Falls, also in Wisconsin Dells. Its unsurpassed airtime and out-of-control action made for an impressive first showing on our lists at No. 11.

On the steel charts, it's more familiar faces in the rankings. The top three stayed unchanged for 2005, with Millennium Force holding the top rung once again. Three new-for-2005 coasters appeared on our charts. Busch Garden's Sheikra debuted at No. 28, Great Adventure's Kingda Ka landed at No. 31, even with some operational troubles, and Silver Dollar City's Powderkeg blasted in at No. 40.

Expedition GeForce continues to star as the highest rated European coaster. Overall, nine of the steel coasters and seven of the wooden coasters are international picks on our charts.

—Tim Baldwin



Thunderhead courtesy Joel Styer; Lightning Racer courtesy John Hunt; Millennium Force courtesy Dan Feight; Expedition GeForce by Gary Slade
Dollywood's wooden coaster masterpiece Thunderhead, top, rose to the top wooden coaster spot this year. While Hersheypark's Lightning Racer, above, may have ranked No. 9 overall, it happens to be the highest ranked racing coaster. Below, Cedar Point's Millennium Force once again claimed the top steel coaster spot, while, bottom, Holiday Park's No. 6 ranked Expedition GeForce is the top ranked steel coaster in Europe.





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The List

2005 Top 50 wooden roller coasters

RANK	NAME	PARK	LOCATION	YEAR	SUPPLIER	POINTS
1	Thunderhead	Dollywood	Pigeon Forge, Tenn.	2004	GCII	838
2	BoulderDash	Lake Compounce	Bristol, Conn.	2000	CCI	690
3	Shivering Timbers	Michigan's Adventure	Muskegon, Mich.	1998	CCI	671
4	Phoenix	Knoebels Amusement Resort	Elysburg, Pa.	1985	Dinn/PTC - Shmeck	662
5	Raven	Holiday World	Santa Claus, Ind.	1995	CCI	616
6	Hades	Mt. Olympus Theme Park	Wisconsin Dells, Wis.	2005	Gravity Group	579
7	The Legend	Holiday World	Santa Claus, Ind.	2000	CCI	537
8	The Beast	Paramount's Kings Island	Kings Mills, Ohio	1979	KECO	436
9	Lightning Racer	Hersheypark	Hershey, Pa.	2000	GCII	355
10	GhostRider	Knott's Berry Farm	Buena Park, Calif.	1998	CCI	301
11	Avalanche	Timber Falls	Wisconsin Dells, Wis.	2004	S & S	263
12	Texas Giant	Six Flags Over Texas	Arlington, Texas	1990	Dinn/Summers	238
13	Megafoia	Oakwood Leisure Park	Pembrokeshire, Wales	1996	CCI	236
14	Cyclone	Astroland (Coney Island)	Brooklyn, N.Y.	1927	Keenan/Baker	220
15	Tremors	Silverwood	Athol, Idaho	1999	CCI	218
16	Ozark Wildcat	Celebration City	Branson, Mo.	2003	GCII	212
17	Rampage	Visionland	Bessemer, Ala.	1998	CCI	199
18	Cornball Express	Indiana Beach	Monticello, Ind.	2001	CCI	195
19	Colossos	Heide Park	Soltau, Germany	2001	Intamin	193
20	Comet	The Great Escape	Lake George, N.Y.	1994	Schmeck/PTC	163
21	Balder	Liseberg	Göteborg, Sweden	2003	Intamin	153
22 (tie)	Georgia Cyclone	Six Flags Over Georgia	Atlanta, Ga.	1990	Dinn/Summers	149
22 (tie)	Grand National	Blackpool Pleasure Beach	Blackpool, England	1935	Paige	149
22 (tie)	Thunderbolt	Kennywood	West Mifflin, Pa.	1968	Vettel/Miller	149
25	Twister	Knoebels Amusement Resort	Elysburg, Pa.	1999	Fetterman/Knoebels	113

AMUSEMENT TODAY

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Bonus Section Staff:
Gary Slade, Stacey Childress, Tim Baldwin, Scott Rutherford and Janice Witherow

Congratulations
WernerStengel
on your award!



From your good friend
T. Harold Hudson
(817) 251-6397

The List



2005 Top 50 wooden roller coasters

RANK	NAME	PARK	LOCATION	YEAR	SUPPLIER	POINTS
26	Viper	Six Flags Great America	Gurnee, Ill.	1995	Starkey/Six Flags	112
27	Tonnerre de Zeus	Parc Asterix	Plailly, France	1997	CCI	104
28	Jack Rabbit	Kennywood	West Mifflin, Pa.	1921	Miller/PTC	102
29	Coaster	Playland	Vancouver, British Columbia	1958	Phare	93
30	New Mexico Rattler	Cliff's Amusement Park	Albuquerque, N.M.	2002	Cliff's	87
31	Son of Beast	Paramount's Kings Island	Kings Mills, Ohio	2000	Stengel/Paramount	80
32	Wildcat	Hersheypark	Hershey, Pa.	1996	GCII	70
33 (tie)	Giant Dipper	Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk	Santa Cruz, Calif.	1924	Prior & Church/Looff	68
33 (tie)	Mean Streak	Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	1991	Dinn/Summers	68
33 (tie)	Timber Terror	Silverwood	Athol, Idaho	1996	CCI	68
36	The Boss	Six Flags St. Louis	Eureka, Mo.	2000	CCI	63
37	Grizzly	Paramount's Kings Dominion	Doswell, Va.	1982	Summers/KECO	58
38	Blue Streak	Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	1964	Hoover/PTC	53
39	Villain	Geauga Lake	Aurora, Ohio	2000	CCI	51
40	Racer	Kennywood	West Mifflin, Pa.	1927	Miller/PTC	47
41	Big Dipper	Geauga Lake	Aurora, Ohio	1925	Miller	42
42	Texas Cyclone	Six Flags AstroWorld	Houston, Texas	1976	Cobb	41
43 (tie)	Cyclone	Six Flags New England	Agawam, Mass.	1983	Cobb	37
43 (tie)	Gwazi	Busch Gardens Tampa	Tampa, Fla.	1999	GCII	37
45	Timberwolf	Worlds of Fun	Kansas City, Mo.	1989	Dinn/Summers	36
46 (tie)	Racer	Paramount's Kings Island	Kings Mills, Ohio	1972	KECO	33
46 (tie)	Thunder Coaster	Tusenfyrd	Vinterbro, Norway	2001	Vekoma	33
48	Hurricane	Boomers	Dania Beach, Fla.	2000	Coaster Works	32
49	Roar	Six Flags America	Largo, Md.	1998	GCII	31
50	Excalibur	Funtown USA	Saco, Maine	1998	CCI	27



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Program to air on The Travel Channel in 2006

Amusement Today's Golden Ticket Awards to make TV show

Amusement Today has announced that the highly popular Travel Channel will feature its annual Golden Ticket Awards in a unique one-hour documentary tentatively slated to air in the spring of 2006. This represents a three-year agreement with the Travel Channel to highlight this prestigious international poll conducted by *Amusement Today*.

If you've ever wondered what it takes to be the "best of the best" in the amusement industry, this program will answer that question – and many more – when it takes viewers to the park with likely "Golden Ticket" honors such as "Best Steel Coaster" and "Best Water Ride" to the park with quirkier designations such as "Best Outdoor Night Show" and "Best Halloween Event." In all, winners in 25 different categories will be named. This is the eighth annual year for *Amusement Today's* Golden Ticket Awards, which are considered the "Super Bowl" or "Academy Awards" of the



amusement industry.

"I am truly flattered and downright thrilled that the Golden Ticket Awards will be the focus of such a notable program on the Travel Channel," says Gary Slade, editor-in-chief and publisher of *Amusement Today*. "I am personally a fan of the Travel Channel's vacation series, and

now the amusement industry will be well represented with our 'best of the best' – an ideal collaboration."

Shooting for this yet-to-be-titled program is scheduled to begin this fall. This year's Golden Ticket Awards was hosted by Six Flags Fiesta Texas, San Antonio, on Aug. 27 at a 4 p.m. ceremony where

the winners were officially announced. Indigo Films of San Francisco, which will film and produce the program for the Travel Channel, was present at the event to shoot segments and interviews for the documentary. Indigo Films is an independent television production company with a long-standing reputation for devel-

oping and producing high-end documentary, reality and investigative programming for cable television, including four previous programs on the amusement industry.

"Six Flags Fiesta Texas is extremely honored to host the 8th annual Golden Ticket Awards," says Martin Bozer, vice president and general manager of Six Flags Fiesta Texas. "We are pleased that the *Amusement Today* staff and industry guests will be able to see all that our park has to offer in person. The Golden Ticket Awards hold such special significance to us in that we have been honored six years in a row for 'Best Live Shows.'"

Amusement Today newspaper covers international amusement and water park news and trends. In its nine-year history, *AT* has been a five-time winner of various awards from the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions.



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#6 Wooden Rollercoaster - Hades

Publishers Pick - Industry person of the year
Nick Laskaris



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The List

2005 Top 50 steel roller coasters

RANK	NAME	PARK	LOCATION	YEAR	SUPPLIER	POINTS
1	Millennium Force	Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	2000	Intamin	1032
2	Superman Ride of Steel	Six Flags New England	Agawam, Mass.	2000	Intamin	923
3	Magnum XL-200	Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	1989	Arrow	569
4	Apollo's Chariot	Busch Gardens Williamsburg	Williamsburg, Va.	1999	B & M	542
5	Nitro	Six Flags Great Adventure	Jackson, N.J.	2001	B & M	508
6	Expedition GeForce	Holiday Park	Hassloch, Germany	2001	Intamin	498
7	Top Thrill Dragster	Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	2003	Intamin	436
8	Phantom's Revenge	Kennywood	West Mifflin, Pa.	2001/1991	Morgan/Arrow	393
9	Raging Bull	Six Flags Great America	Gurnee, Ill.	1999	B & M	333
10	Montu	Busch Gardens Tampa	Tampa, Fla.	1996	B & M	329
11	Raptor	Cedar Point	Sandusky, Ohio	1994	B & M	249
12	X	Six Flags Magic Mountain	Valencia, Calif.	2002	Arrow	235
13	Superman Ride of Steel	Six Flags Darien Lake	Darien Center, N.Y.	1999	Intamin	228
14	Steel Force	Dorney Park	Allentown, Pa.	1997	Morgan	227
15	Dueling Dragons	Islands of Adventure	Orlando, Fla.	1999	B & M	219
16	Nemesis	Alton Towers	Staffordshire, England	1994	B & M	218
17	Alpengeist	Busch Gardens Williamsburg	Williamsburg, Va.	1997	B & M	185
18	Superman Ride of Steel	Six Flags America	Largo, Md.	2000	Intamin	183
19	Incredible Hulk	Islands of Adventure	Orlando, Fla.	1999	B & M	152
20	Goliath	Six Flags Magic Mountain	Valencia, Calif.	2000	Giovanola	148
21	Mind Bender	Six Flags Over Georgia	Atlanta, Ga.	1978	Schwarzkopf	133
22	Kumba	Busch Gardens Tampa	Tampa, Fla.	1993	B & M	127
23	Volcano	Paramount's Kings Dominion	Doswell, Va.	1998	Intamin	101
24	Goliath	Walibi World	Flevo, The Netherlands	2002	Intamin	91
25	Mamba	Worlds of Fun	Kansas City, Mo.	1998	Morgan	81



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The List

2005 Top 50 steel roller coasters



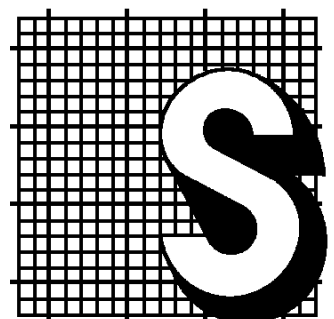
RANK	NAME	PARK	LOCATION	YEAR	SUPPLIER	POINTS
26	Kraken	SeaWorld Orlando	Orlando, Fla.	2000	B & M	80
27	Big Bad Wolf	Busch Gardens Williamsburg	Williamsburg, Va.	1984	Arrow	79
28	SheiKra	Busch Gardens Tampa	Tampa, Fla.	2005	B & M	77
29 (tie)	The Big One	Blackpool Pleasure Beach	Blackpool, England	1994	Arrow	75
29 (tie)	Top Gun	Paramount's Carowinds	Charlotte, N.C.	1999	B & M	75
31	Kingda Ka	Six Flags Great Adventure	Jackson, N.J.	2005	Intamin	72
32	Euro-Mir	Europa Park	Rust, Germany	1997	Mack	70
33	Superman Krypton Coaster	Six Flags Fiesta Texas	San Antonio, Texas	2000	B & M	69
34 (tie)	Storm Runner	Hersheypark	Hershey, Pa.	2004	Intamin	65
34 (tie)	Titan	Six Flags Over Texas	Arlington, Texas	2001	Giovanola	65
36	Air	Alton Towers	Staffordshire, England	2002	B & M	64
37	Shock Wave	Six Flags Over Texas	Arlington, Texas	1978	Schwarzkopf	55
38	Xcelerator	Knott's Berry Farm	Buena Park, Calif.	2002	Intamin	50
39	Lisebergbanan	Liseberg	Gothenberg, Sweden	1987	Schwarzkopf	47
40 (tie)	Mindbender	Galaxyland	Edmonton, Alberta, Canada	1985	Schwarzkopf	44
40 (tie)	Powderkeg	Silver Dollar City	Branson, Mo.	2005	S & S	44
42	Desperado	Buffalo Bill's Casino	Primm, Nev.	1993	Arrow	43
43	Medusa	Six Flags Great Adventure	Jackson, N.J.	1999	B & M	42
44	Dominator	Geauga Lake	Aurora, Ohio	2000	B & M	41
45 (tie)	Batman the Ride	Six Flags Great America	Gurnee, Ill.	1992	B & M	38
45 (tie)	Colossus	Thorpe Park	Chertsey, Engalnd	2002	Intamin	38
45 (tie)	Riddler's Revenge	Six Flags Magic Mountain	Valencia, Calif.	1998	B & M	38
45 (tie)	Superman Ultimate Flight	Six Flags Over Georgia	Atlanta, Ga.	2002	B & M	38
49	Wildfire	Silver Dollar City	Branson, Mo.	2001	B & M	36
50	Whizzer	Six Flags Great America	Gurnee, Ill.	1976	Schwarzkopf	35



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all of our many customers
for making this honor possible

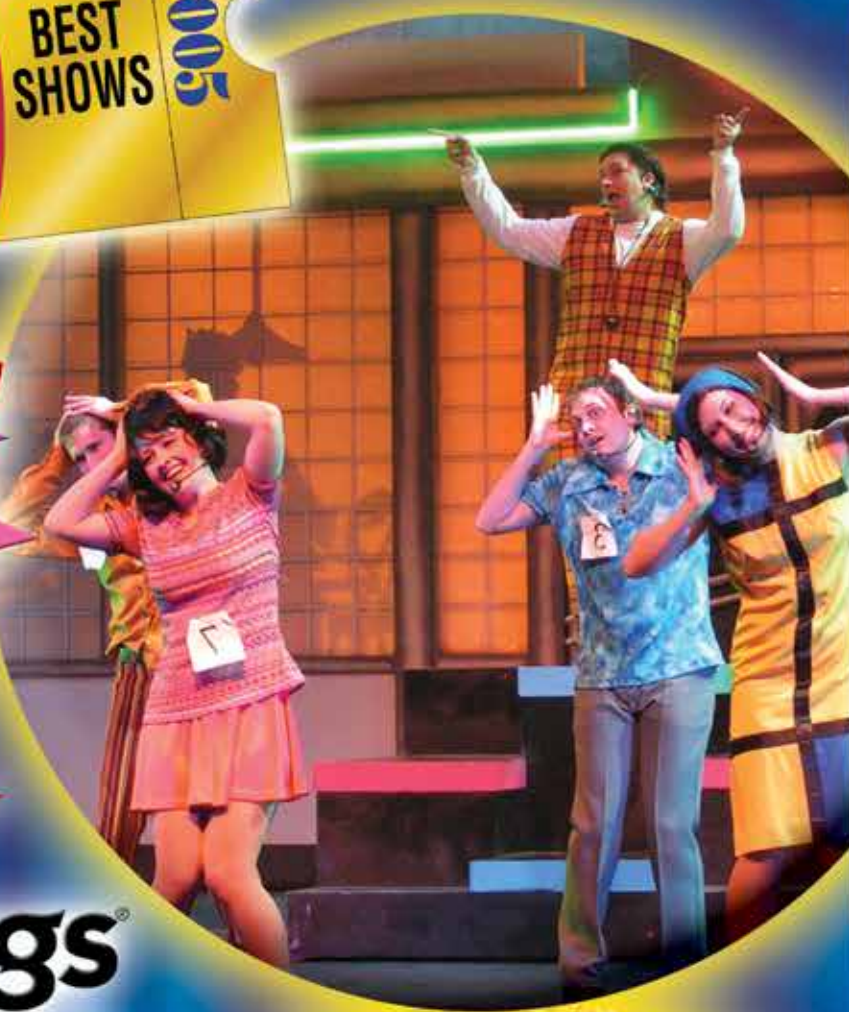
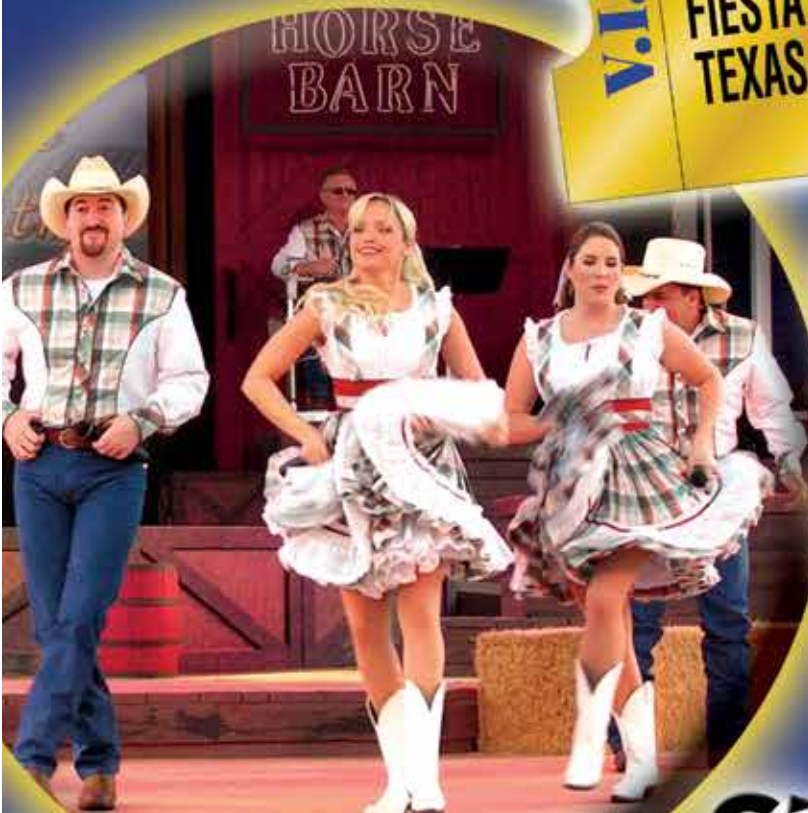
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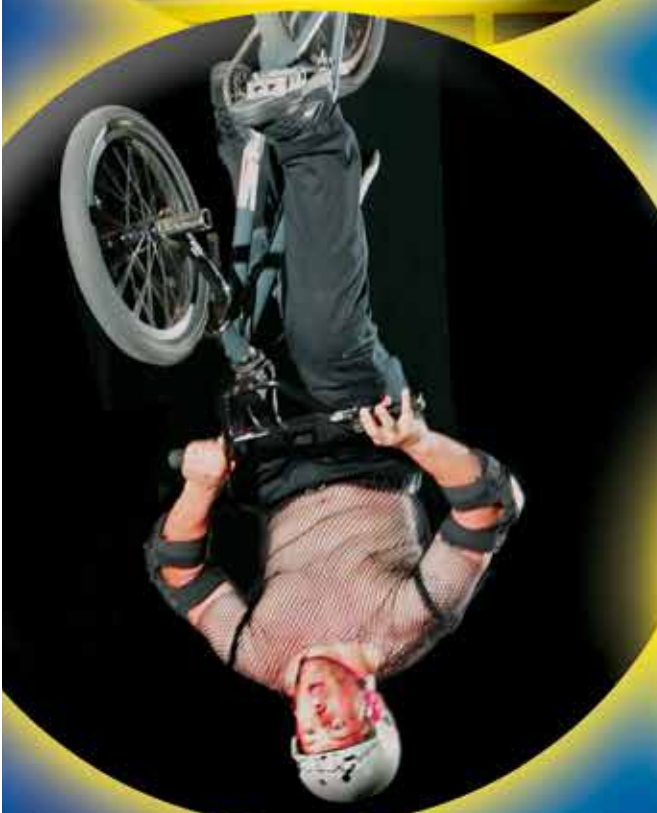


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