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Hot Dogs Council Forecasts Home Run Season for Perennial Baseball Favorite Hot Dogs To Be Consumed in Ballparks Would Round Bases 41,667 Times

Washington, D.C., March 29, 2007 – While the team most likely to win the 2007 World Series may be up for debate, there’s no question which ballpark food remains an American favorite – the hot dog.

According to the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council, baseball fans at Major League Ballparks across the country will consume nearly 30 million hot dogs this season – an impressive feat and enough to round the bases 41,776 times.

Amazingly, those 30 million wieners are just part of the 20 billion hot dogs that Americans consume each year.

And when it comes to individual stadiums, Shea Stadium, home of the New York Mets, wins the “Wiener” Series for biggest projected hot dog consumption in 2007. According to the Council’s annual stadium survey, Mets fans will consume more than 1.5 million hot dogs. Boston’s Fenway Park is the runner up, with fans projected to consume 1.4 million hot dogs. Third place goes to the Colorado Rockies’ Coors Field with 1.25 million hot dogs expected to be consumed.

“Baseball and hot dogs clearly are a ‘dog in glove’ combination” said Janet Riley, president of the Council. “Despite tough competition from a variety of delicious ballpark foods, hot dogs remain the number one choice of the fans. Only in Milwaukee does sausage consumption outpace hot dogs – and that’s ok with us.”

To entice baseball fans, stadiums around the country will offer a range of options for fans to choose from. Minute Maid Park, home to the Houston Astros, serves up the Texas Dog – topped with chili, cheese and jalapenos. Turner Field, home of the Atlanta Braves, dresses their Georgia Dog with coleslaw, chili and onion relish. Other stadiums serve up locally-produced products – such as Amerquest Field in Arlington, home of the Texas Rangers, who offer locally-produced crackblack pepper sausages and hotlinks – or locally-preferred products – such as at the Washington Nationals’ RFK Stadium where half smokes are a favored menu item.

“While teams and their lineups may change, baseball’s great constant clearly is its favorite ballpark food – the hot dog,” Riley said.

For additional information and to see if your favorite team made the top ten list, visit the Council online at <http://www.hot-dog.org>.

Established in 1994, the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council conducts scientific research to benefit hot dog and sausage manufacturers. The Council also serves as an information resource to consumers and media on issues related to quality, safety, nutrition and preparation of hot dogs and sausages. July 2007 marks the 50th anniversary of the Council's annual National Hot Dog Month. As part of the celebration, the Council also sponsors National Hot Dog Day, celebrated on July 18, 2007