



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Famous Dave's Awarded Top Honors by Kansas City BBQ Society Judges and Voted People's Choice at the Largest BBQ Competition on the East Coast

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., April 25, 2012 - Famous Dave's of America, Inc. (NASDAQ:DAVE) is proud to announce it took home several top honors on April 22 at "Pork in the Park" held in Salisbury, MD. The event draws top competition teams, over 35,000 attendees, and is billed as the largest BBQ competition on the East Coast and the 2nd largest Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS) Competition in the nation. This marks the first time Famous Dave's has competed in this event.

The competition is fierce at this KCBS-sanctioned event with approximately 120 professional BBQ teams vying for the first place prizes in 2012. Famous Dave's competition team was awarded **first place prize** and a \$1000 check for "**Whole Hog**" and **first place prize** and a \$1000 check for "**Best Pork Shoulder.**" The BBQ is judged by a "blind" panel of KCBS certified judges who are BBQ experts, so the judges have no idea whose lip smackin' BBQ they are rating.

The "Pork in the Park" event was also attended by thousands of people who love BBQ and enjoy having a good time. The event attendees sampled the numerous BBQ vendor's specialties and voted for their favorites. Famous Dave's won the "**People's Choice for Ribs**" and "**Most Unique Chicken Wings.**" The award-winning, specially seasoned wings are glazed with Famous Dave's Pineapple Rage BBQ sauce which is now available at Famous Dave's restaurants.

Aric Nissen, Vice President of Marketing and Research & Development at Famous Dave's said, "This is truly an honor for Famous Dave's – we demonstrated our BBQ excellence by winning blind taste test judging by trained BBQ experts, and our BBQ also won top honors with the thousands of people who sampled our food, voting that Famous Dave's is *The People's Choice for Ribs* and serves up the *Most Unique Chicken Wings.*"

Nissen continued, "The BBQ circuit is intensely competitive, and the best-of-the-best travel nationwide to this event in the hopes of winning top honors and braggin' rights for their BBQ. For the 'Whole Hog' event, we smoked a 120 lb hog, which takes great skill because hogs can take 16-20 hours to cook depending on weight, weather and other factors. Gas /propane / electricity are not allowed – it takes a skilled pitmaster to keep an even temperature over the pit for that many hours and turn the pig at just the right time for judging. Famous Dave's is going whole hog! For the 'Pork Shoulder' event we served up chopped pork, which is what Famous Dave's serves in all our pork sandwiches and pork dishes.

Winning all of these awards is a great kick-off to the BBQ season and we are humbled to compete against the best BBQ teams in the country and win top honors.”

The Famous Dave’s BBQ Competition team is headed up by Founder “Famous Dave” Anderson, along with Charlie Torgerson, Director of Culinary; Dan Conroy, Pitmaster; Aric Nissen, Vice President of Marketing and Research & Development; and David Marks, owner/operator of Pit Masters, Famous Dave’s franchise partner in Philadelphia. The Salisbury Famous Dave’s restaurant and East Coast rib teams also provided support to the Pork in the Park event.

About Famous Dave’s

Famous Dave's of America, Inc. (NASDAQ: DAVE) develops, owns, operates and franchises barbeque restaurants. As of the fourth quarter 2011, the company owns 54 locations and franchises 133 additional units in 37 states. The menu features award-winning barbequed and grilled meats, a large selection of salads, side items and sandwiches, and unique desserts. Famous Dave's has won [over 600 awards](#) for everything from “Best Ribs” to “Best Bar-B-Que Sauce” to “Best Cookbook” to “Top Barbeque Restaurant Franchise.” Select territories are available for franchising. For more information, please visit www.famousdaves.com.

Statements in this press release that are not strictly historical, including but not limited to statements regarding the timing of our restaurant openings and the timing or success of our expansion plans, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, which may cause the company's actual results to differ materially from expected results. Although Famous Dave's of America, Inc. believes the expectations reflected in any forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that its expectation will be attained. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from Famous Dave's expectation include financial performance, restaurant industry conditions, execution of restaurant development and construction programs, franchisee performance, changes in local or national economic conditions, availability of financing, governmental approvals and other risks detailed from time to time in the company's SEC reports.

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Note to Editors: Contact Jean Golden at 612-385-2324 or jean@goldenpublicity.com for interviews, photography and other requests.