



**CALENDAR RELEASE**

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**Cincinnati Zoo's Bald Eagle Takes Flight at Great American Ball Park**  
*First Flight Takes Place on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>*

**WHO:** "Sam," the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's eight-year-old bald eagle is preparing for his five special flights during the 2008 season at Great American Ball Park. Sam will fly more than 300 feet from the new Riverboat Deck in center field to his trainer's glove in the infield. He will perform his first flight during the singing of the National Anthem on the May 30<sup>th</sup> game against the Atlanta Braves.

Since Sam made his Major League debut in 2003, he has flown in 18 games and is in his 6th season for the Reds. Sam is one of the only bald eagles in the country trained to fly in stadiums.

*The first 25,000 fans in attendance will receive a limited-edition "Sam," the bald eagle trading card. Sam is also scheduled to fly June 13, July 3, July 25, and August 15, at Great American Ball Park.*

**WHAT:** At just several months old, Sam was found along side a road in Michigan with a wing injury due to collision with a power line in 2000. Michigan State University veterinarians patched the broken wing, but the injury limited Sam's ability to fly well enough to survive in the wild.

The bald eagle is on the road to recovery thanks to protection of the eagle and its habitat, the banning of harmful pesticides such as DDT, and the reintroduction of captive-bred eagles, including 16 from the Cincinnati Zoo, back into the wild.

**WHEN:** **Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> - (During National Anthem)**  
**Game – 7:10 p.m.**

**WHERE:** **Great American Ball Park**

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