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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANE BALDWIN, REIGNING MISS TALL PORTLAND, PREPARES TO TAKE ON THE SOUTH

Nicknamed “Miss Jane America” by her 5th grade students, Jane Anna Baldwin measures in at a stunning 6’2.” This, plus her captivating charm and sparkling personality, explains why she was bestowed the title of Miss Tall Portland 2005, and will go on to represent the Portland Skyliners Tall Club in the Miss Tall International pageant, July 6th.

Hundreds of members of Tall Clubs International, a worldwide, not-for-profit organization for tall people, will gather in Atlanta Georgia and Charleston, South Carolina for ten days this summer. They’ll be there for club business, entertainment, charitable fund raising, shopping, sunning, sightseeing, and just plain fun as they assemble for their annual convention, deep in the heart of Dixie. In keeping with the “elevated” mood of the event, the theme of this year’s “vertically enhanced” convention is “The South Will Rise Again!”

To qualify for membership in TCI, men must be at least 6’2” and women must be 5’10” or more. Curiously, these minimums are two inches below where they started in 1938, when Kay Sumner Einfeld (another 6’2” lady, who was at the time, a dwarf illustrator for Walt Disney) first dreamt up the idea of a social club dedicated to the needs and interests of tall folks in general. To those who are not endowed with great height, it may not seem like much of a concern, other than the occasional Jolly Green Giant joke. Tall people can reach anything in the grocery store, and they can pretty much see over other people’s heads in any crowd, but consider for a moment spending your life having to explain why you always wear “cropped” pants, or run around barefoot rather than squeezed into short, tight, little shoes. Clothing manufacturers are notorious for using all of their fabric to meet the orders of the Missy market, leaving tall women’s clothing store orders promised, but unfilled. Airlines, hotels, car manufacturers, and even basketball stadiums need continual reminders that tall people need more leg and head room! Jane’s job, when she wins the title of Miss Tall International (the Skyliners are counting on it), will be to travel the country spreading the word on “tall awareness” to one and all.

In the meantime, the Portland Skyliners are building a float to buoy their queen through the streets of Portland in the Rose Festival Starlight Parade, June 4th. She’ll be about 12’ tall that night, looking a bit like a Barbie cake on wheels. The club is counting on a good turnout that night to cheer her on, as well as hoping for a few generous sponsors to help defray the cost of funding her activities. Anyone interested in helping is encouraged to contact the Portland Skyliners Tall Club information and events hotline at 503-222-7373 or visit Jane’s website directly at geocities.com/misstallpdx.

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If you’d like more information on this topic, or to schedule an interview with Jane Baldwin, please call Sharon Speer at 503-735-9432 or E-mail Sharon at atnsharon@comcast.net