

## San José Grand Prix confirms city's stature as sports host

**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Jody Meacham, 408 / 288-2934, [jody@sjsa.org](mailto:jody@sjsa.org)

**SAN JOSE (Nov. 24, 2004)** – The addition of the San José Grand Prix to the Champ Car World Series annual racing schedule – announced Friday by Mayor Ron Gonzales – ratifies the city's position as a prime venue for high-visibility sports events, Dean Munro, executive director of the San Jose Sports Authority, said today.

"The mayor's announcement is the culmination of two years' planning and work, and it means another event with national stature and media attention will be staged each year in downtown San Jose," Munro said. "The San José Grand Prix and the Dew Action Sports Tour announced last month each will bring large crowds to multi-day sports festivals in the heart of our city beginning next year."

Already the host of the annual State Farm Pac-10 Women's Basketball Tournament, conference officials recently announced they were extending the tournament's run at HP Pavilion for three more years through the 2008 season. Earlier this year the NCAA announced that its 2007 Men's Division I Basketball Tournament would play one its four regionals in San Jose.

"The San José Grand Prix will bring world class racing excitement to our streets, and it will bring San Jose to the attention of millions of people across the nation and around the world," Mayor Gonzales said.

The 2005 San José Grand Prix – an open-wheeled auto race on a downtown street course centered on HP Pavilion – is scheduled for July 31, with qualifying and supporting races July 29 and 30. With its accompanying concerts, charity events and promotional activities, the Grand Prix will be a one-week festival. The San Jose City Council will consider a proposal at its Dec. 7 meeting in which it and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency would invest \$650,000 toward street and other infrastructure improvements to make the race possible.

The San José Grand Prix will be produced by Canary Fund Enterprises, an affiliate of the Canary Fund, founded by former Cisco executive Don Listwin. The fund is working to create an early biomarker for cancer detection and is the official social cause of the Champ Car World Series.

"The Bay Area market, and San Jose in particular, offer Champ Car all the elements that make for a long-term, successful event," said Joe Chernelich, executive vice president for development, government affairs and planning of the racing organization. "We look forward to working with the Canary Fund and the city officials in showcasing San Jose for the world to see."

Tickets for the San José Grand Prix are on sale now and can be purchased through Ticket Master online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or by phone at (408) 998-TIXS, (510) 625-TIXS or (415) 421-TIXS. For additional information go to [www.sanjosegrandprix.com](http://www.sanjosegrandprix.com).

The San José Grand Prix is among more than 130 sports events brought to the city by the San Jose Sports Authority. Visit our website at [www.sjsa.org](http://www.sjsa.org).

### Major annual San Jose sports events

<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>2005 dates</b>
State Farm Pac-10 Women's Basketball Tournament	HP Pavilion	March 4-7
San José Grand Prix	Downtown streets	July 29-31
Dew Action Sports Tour	HP Pavilion	Sept. 7-11

Silicon Valley Football  
Classic

Spartan Stadium

late December