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CONTACT: Susan Murrow
(410) 744-1032
smurrow@believeintomorrow.org



**Two of Baltimore's most famous restaurateurs
And men about town are paddling off to raise \$100,000
to support Baltimore-based Believe In Tomorrow
National Children's Foundation**

Baltimore, MD, June 23, 2009 - It's more grueling than the Iron Man – longer than the Boston marathon – and crazier than the Polar Bear Swim. It's five men and one woman, determined to kayak more than 166 miles in open water over five days, in a challenge to raise \$100,000 dollars for Baltimore-based Believe In Tomorrow National Children's Foundation (www.believeintomorrow.org).

Nacho Mama's and Mama's on the Half Shell's, Scunny McCusker and Ron Furman, owner of Max's Taphouse, are kayaking over 166 miles, beginning September 21, from Quantico, VA to the race finish on September 26, in Fells Point, MD in a bid that pits Canton, home of Mama's on the Half Shell against Max's Taphouse, a Fells Point landmark.

Joining Scunny McCusker on TEAM MAMA are Delaware Dave and Sean Leahy, vs MAX'S Ron Furman, Jason Mislán and Jessica Welsh, the only female in the challenge.

“What started out as an attempt to get in shape, developed into a fierce face off, no – a fierce paddle off with Scunny McCusker,” said Furman, who has already altered his diet and daily regime to incorporate kayaking workouts into his schedule.

“I'm always up for a challenge, especially when it involves kayaking and it's from Ron Furman,” said McCusker, who's paddled from Canton to Ocean City, MD twice to raise funding and support for Believe In Tomorrow National Children's Foundation.

Brian Morrison, Founder and CEO of the 26 year old foundation said, “We are thrilled to be on the receiving end of this challenge. Knowing Scunny and Ron, this is going to be some lead up to the actual race. This could be more entertaining than anything the WWF could pull off.”

Team strategies are already surfacing: TEAM MAMA has taken to putting blurbs in their specials menu about Ron and his team and Scunny has been receiving a cake a week from TEAM MAX'S, in a ploy to sabotage his diet.

There are four legs in the race, including the final finish. Two of the legs incorporate the home of the US Marine Corps and the US Naval Academy, in acknowledgement of Believe In Tomorrow's Military Initiative, which prioritizes military families with critically ill children.

Believe In Tomorrow provides exceptional hospital and respite housing for families with critically ill children. In addition to being the exclusive provider of hospital housing for the Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Believe In Tomorrow has five destination driven respite facilities, families can utilize free of charge to rest, relax and recover from the trauma of a child's critical illness. Two of the foundation's respite facilities, The Believe In Tomorrow House on the Bay in Ocean City, MD, and The Believe In Tomorrow House at Pinnacle Falls, outside Asheville, NC, prioritize military families with critically ill children.

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