



Kennywood Media Release

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Kennywood Amusement Park Announces *Ghostwood Estate* New Dark Ride for 2008!

West Mifflin, PA – Kennywood began its gift giving on Saturday, December 8, by announcing specifics of its new ride for 2008, a state-of-the-art dark ride named ***Ghostwood Estate***, to attendees at the Great Ohio Coaster Club holiday party in Columbus, Ohio. Though the coaster fans were the first to hear the official announcement, rumors of the ride were already finding a home in cyber space and beyond.

The eight room haunted house replaces the Gold Rusher, which was retired this past August. “*Ghostwood Estate* is clearly an indication of Kennywood’s commitment to dark rides,” explains Jerome Gibas, Kennywood General Manager. “It combines the newest technology available – a trackless conveyance system with cars programmed and monitored by a computer and includes over 200 interactive targets and numerous CGIs (Computer Generated Images).”

Guests will be armed with blasters, developed by LaserStar, Florida. The blasters provide guests the opportunity to compete with others in the vehicle by targeting haunted characters throughout the estate. Each vehicle is also equipped with four individual scoreboards.

Designing all haunted effects is Halloween Productions Inc. (HPI) of St. Louis, MO. Kennywood first became accounted with Larry Kirchner, HPI president, in 2001 when it purchased three walk-through Halloween mazes as a base for its now hugely successful *Phantom Fright Nights*. Jeff Checcio, Director of Maintenance Administration, says of Kirchner, “He’s extremely talented and knowledgeable – certainly one of the founding fathers of today’s Halloween industries.”

The \$2 million project is expected to be complete for Kennywood’s opening in May of 2008.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See <http://gocc.coasternewsnetwork.com> for further information about the Great Ohio Coaster Club.

Members of the *Darkride And Funhouse Enthusiasts* (a.k.a. DAFE) have voted Kennywood their favorite Dark Attraction Park for the past six years. DAFE members were invited to a wake and one last ride on the Gold Rusher, a 25 year old dark ride removed from the park at close of the 2007 season.

ETF Ride Systems, Holland, created the ride’s trackless system. Sensors are located in the floor to guide each vehicle.

The blasters are from LaserStar, Florida.

Pittsburgh based Design Alliance designed the massive four-sided haunted façade for *Ghostwood Estate*.

ABOUT KENNYWOOD

Kennywood first opened in 1898 as a “trolley park” at the end of the Monongahela Street Railway. Today it is family owned and operated by Kennywood Entertainment, western Pennsylvania’s largest provider of summer fun. Often regarded as America’s finest traditional amusement park, Kennywood is internationally known among thrill seekers and amusement park enthusiasts for its collection of classic rides, state-of-the-art thrill rides, and world-class roller coasters and a wide variety of food, games, gardens, and live entertainment. For more information please call 412.461.0500 or visit www.kennywood.com.

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