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THE 18TH ANNUAL RACE TO ERASE MS RAISES \$2 MILLION

Andrew Charles Fashion Show and Musical Performances from Joan Jett and the Blackhearts and Clay Walker Entertained the Crowd

A.B.S. by Allen Schwartz Unveils Wedding Gown Inspired by Catherine Middleton's Royal Wedding Gown to be auctioned on charitybuzz

Los Angeles, CA – May 2, 2011 – On Friday, April 29, Co-Chairs **Nancy Davis** and **Tommy Hilfiger** welcomed guests to the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza for the **18th Annual Race to Erase MS**. The event raised more than **\$2 million** to benefit the Nancy Davis Foundation for Multiple Sclerosis.

Celebrity guests at this year's event included host, MS survivor and advocate **Nancy Davis**, along with **Byron Allen, Jake T. Austin, Allison Bayer, Garcelle Beauvais, Drake Bell, BG5, Cheryl Burke, Tia Carrere, Mike Catherwood, Steven Cojocar, Holly Marie Combs, Rachael Leigh Cook, Cindy Crawford, Mark Curry, Zoey Deutch, Janice Dickinson, The Donnas, David Faustino, Clementine Ford, Daisy Fuentes, Teri Garr, Debbie Gibson, Daniel Gillies, Ashlan Gorse, Melissa Joan Hart, Samantha Harris, Andy Hilfiger, Nicky Hilton, Paris Hilton, LaToya Jackson, Kym Johnson, Robbie Jones, Chelsea Kane, Jason Kennedy, Regina King, Amber Lancaster, Sugar Ray Leonard, Jon Lovitz, Virginia Madsen, Bill Maher, Christopher Massey, Kyle Massey, Dr. Lisa Masterson, AJ Michalka, Rickey Minor, Dr. Andrew Ordon, David Osmond, Crystal Reed, Keith Rivers, Shaun Robinson, Melissa Rycroft, Angelica Salem, Allen Schwartz, Matt Sorum, Raven Symone, Lea Thompson, Jennifer Tilly, Anna Trebunskaya, Louis Van Amstel, Mayor Villaraigosa, Jason Wahler, Hines Ward, Sela Ward, Austin Winkler** and many more. After celebrities made their way down the red carpet, they stopped by the Windows Phone Booth to take photos and record videos to tweet. For each celebrity video tweeted Windows Phone donated \$500 to the cause.

The 18th Annual *Race to Erase MS* themed Rock and Royalty opened with an exciting celebrity fashion show featuring a sneak preview of Andrew Charles, the new fashion line by **Andy Hilfiger**. Following the fashion show Andy Hilfiger surprised the crowd by performing "Jumpin Jack Flash" with his band. The evening also included a live auction called by **Shaun Robinson** and **Mark Curry**. **Paris Hilton** helped auction off a shopping spree and lunch with her sister **Nicky Hilton** on Robertson Blvd., but items such as a private yacht trip and an African Safari were the big sellers for the evening. Tickets to the Dancing with the Stars Finale also outsold tickets to American Idol's finale. Honorees at this year's gala included MS survivor **Katie Mattingly Brass** and **William O. "Bill" Perkins** who both serve on the Board for the Nancy Davis Foundation for Multiple Sclerosis.

In a nod to the event's royal theme, A.B.S. by Allen Schwartz unveiled a one-of-a-kind exclusively designed wedding gown inspired by the Royal Wedding Gown worn by Catherine Middleton. The Nancy Davis Foundation and Allen Schwartz have partnered with luxury charity auction site charitybuzz to auction the one-of-a-kind Catherine Middleton inspired dress to raise funds for the Nancy Davis Foundation for Multiple Sclerosis. Bidding is open from Friday, April 29, through Monday, May 16, at http://www.charitybuzz.com/catalog_items/259485. The winning bidder will have the royal gown customized to fit their body, making it a truly exceptional piece.

Led by musical director **Rickey Minor** of *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Race to Erase MS* once again hosted a variety of musical performances throughout the evening. **Joan Jett and the Blackhearts** entertained the crowd with an exciting set including "I Love Rock 'N Roll," "Cherry Bomb," "Do You Wanna Touch Me," "Crimson and Clover" and "I Hate Myself for Loving You". Country music star and MS survivor **Clay Walker** closed out the evening with a performance of

songs including “Lonely Long,” “What’s It To You,” “Fall,” “Honkey Tonk” and “Cold Hearted” while guests danced in their seats.

In *Race to Erase MS* tradition, the night ended with a performance of “Lean On Me” featuring Clay Walker, David Osmond, Debbie Gibson, BG5, the Davis Family and their special guests for the evening. Guests couldn’t leave without picking up the coveted *Race to Erase MS* gift bag, enjoying Don Francisco’s coffee and delicious Sprinkles cupcakes from Gilt City Los Angeles while they waited.

The evening was sponsored by **Tommy Hilfiger, American Airlines, EMD Serono, Pfizer, Hyatt Regency Century Plaza and Associated Television International.**

The Nancy Davis Foundation for Multiple Sclerosis is dedicated to the treatment and ultimate cure for MS. Funding research is the core focus of the Foundation and significant strides have been made to find the cause and cure of this devastating disease. All funds raised through The Race to Erase MS event support “The Nancy Davis Center Without Walls” program, a selected network of the nation’s top MS research centers currently representing UC San Francisco, Brigham & Women’s Harvard Hospital, Yale, The Cleveland Clinic, Oregon Health Science University, Johns Hopkins and University of Southern California. This nationwide collaboration of physicians, scientists and clinicians are on the cutting-edge of innovative research programs and therapeutic approaches to eradicate MS. It is the hope of the Foundation that in addition to combating MS through research in a clinical environment, awareness will be created by educating the public about this mysterious disease.

For more information or photos from this event please contact Andy Gelb or Stephanie Samson of Slate PR at (310) 461-0114.

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