

For Immediate Release

The Stampede Is On for the Kansas State Quarter!

_____, _____ — When the Kansas State Quarter is released in 2005, 139 million quarter collectors will be waiting for it.

The Kansas State Quarter will be the first design to include both the state animal and the state flower. For Kansas, this means a quarter featuring an American Bison and a brace of sunflowers.

_____ is offering Kansas State Quarters for sale to the public through *Coins of America's* Kansas State Quarter Collection. Each State Quarter Collection contains two uncirculated Kansas State Quarters in a colorful tri-fold display card.

Since 1996, Coins of America has sold unique products featuring U.S. Mint and other specialty mint coins, mostly through financial institutions. The State Quarters are clearly the stars of this show. "There's never been anything like them," says company President Andrew Schwartz. "They single-handedly brought coin collecting into the American mainstream." The State Quarters were introduced by the U.S. Mint in 1999. Every year through 2008, five quarters will be released with a special reverse celebrating one of the 50 states. Citizens of the home state submit the designs, and also vote to select the final choice.

The Kansas State Quarter is the fourth State Quarter of 2005, joining California, Minnesota and Oregon. West Virginia will complete the year. _____ is selling the Kansas State Quarter Collection for \$3.50. All 2000-2005 State Quarter Collections sell for \$3.50 as well. The 1999 Collections sell at the following rates: Connecticut is \$3.75, Georgia is \$4.00, New Jersey is \$5.00, and Delaware and Pennsylvania are \$5.50 each. There are no limits on purchases.

The success of the State Quarter Collections speaks for itself: Coins of America sells more than two million Collections annually. The popularity of the quarters extends across all age groups. Grandparents are socking them away for their grandchildren. Parents and teachers are using the coins to encourage children to learn more about American history. Kids are doing what they've always done: building personal collections by trading with their friends. Coin collecting encourages families to participate and learn together.

"We turn each quarter into a celebration of home state pride," says Schwartz. Each Collection features two State Quarters in a colorful tri-fold display card, which opens to reveal information about the state: famous natives, notable sites, and historical facts and trivia. "There are two quarters, one from each coinage mint," says Schwartz. "Serious coin collectors want both mints; it also allows us to display both sides of the coin." The Collections are exclusive to Coins of America. "Lots of people can sell you a quarter; no one else can sell you something like this," says Schwartz.

A new quarter is released every 10 weeks, and collectors quickly get in the habit of stopping by their local branch five times a year to buy the latest release. This will continue through 2008, and maybe beyond; the Mint is considering producing a series of quarters in 2009 celebrating Washington, D.C. and the United States Territories.

Home State Quarters are always the most popular. "The Mint promotes them, the governor's office promotes them, the

local media runs stories," says Coins of America Marketing Director Sean Morrison. "Everybody knows about them, and everybody wants to see what the Home State Quarter looks like. It's always a thrill to see your state on an actual piece of U.S. currency."

The writing in the Collections features a unique blend of history, geography and culture. "We try to find the stories from each state that will really grab the reader's attention," says Morrison, who wrote this year's editions. "The Collection should make every person who reads it want to become a tourist...even if they're a native!"

Many hours of research goes into each Collection. "It's my favorite job," say Morrison. "I always learn a lot when I do the research, and the hardest part is figuring out what to leave out." His favorite Kansas facts? "I was pretty impressed by the size of some of the grain elevators I saw, and the overall statistics on Kansas grain production. Kansas history relative to the Civil War is a fascinating part of America's heritage. But the story that involved the Wizard of Oz was the best; that's the kind of story that really brings these Collections to life."

Want to know the rest of the story? Look for a Kansas State Quarter Collection, coming soon to a town near you. The best place to find one will be at _____.

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Print-quality JPEG images of the Kansas State Quarter and the Kansas State Quarter Collection are available at www.mpicoin.com in the DOWNLOADS section. You may request images by e-mailing marketing@mpicoin.com.