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Media Alert

MLB UMPIRES MAKE A CARING CALL FOR CHICAGO KIDS

What: *Major League Baseball* (MLB) umpires capture the spirit of the Build-A-Bear Workshop® in-store experience and bring it to University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital. As they go from room to room, umpires offer kids the choice of a pre-stuffed bear, puppy, or kitten, as well as a choice in outfits for their new furry friend. Outfits include Chicago White Sox™ uniforms, Chicago Cubs™ uniforms, cheerleader outfits, surgical scrubs, pirate costumes, and more.

BLUE for Kids, a non-profit organization founded by *MLB* umpires, organizes children's hospital visits and unique baseball experiences for children awaiting adoption. The hospital program is a fun and interactive event designed to reduce the stress that a family experiences when a child is hospitalized.

The event is the second of twelve scheduled children's hospital events in 2008 by *MLB* umpiring crews around the league.

Who: Umpire Ted Barrett
Umpire Lance Barksdale

When: Wednesday, May 7, at 10:15 a.m.

Where: University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital
5835 S. Cottage Grove
Chicago, IL 60637

Editor's Notes:

- Media should meet in the children's hospital lobby at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, May 7, 2008.
- For pre/post-event interviews with umpires – Contact: Samuel Dearth, BLUE for Kids Executive Director at 518-768-2790 (o) / 703-314-3833 (c) / samuel@BLUEforKids.com.
- Hospital notification appreciated – Contact: Sharon Pannozzo, University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital at 773-795-5227 (o) / 773-551-5985 (c) / sharon.pannozzo@uchospitals.edu.
- Program information online at: <http://www.blueforkids.com/reach.htm>

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