



# News Release

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Release: March 7, 2006 REVISED

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## **Youth Registration Open for Pitch, Hit and Run Contest**

The registration deadline is approaching for the local competition of the Pepsi Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit and Run Contest. Sponsored by Columbia Parks and Recreation, the skills competition will be held at 9 a.m. on May 6 at the Oakland Park Ballfield.

Males and females between the ages of 7 and 14 are invited to participate. There is no fee to enter.

Pitch, Hit and Run is the official skills competition of Major League Baseball®. This grassroots program is designed to provide youngsters with an opportunity to compete, free of charge, in a competition that recognizes individual excellence in core baseball skills. In the pitch component of the competition, participants must throw strikes at a designated target. In the hit component, participants are tested for distance and accuracy by hitting a ball off a tee, and in the run portion, participants are timed starting from second base, touching third base and then home.

Competitors are divided into four age divisions: 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, 13/14, and have the chance to advance through four levels of competition, including Team Championships at Major League ballparks and the National Finals at the 2006 MLB™ All-Star Game®.

The registration deadline for the local Pitch, Hit and Run is April 28. Registration forms are available at the Columbia Parks and Recreation office at 1 South 7<sup>th</sup>, the Armory Sports Center at 701 East Ash and the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) at 1701 West Ash. All registrations need to be turned in to the Columbia Parks and Recreation office at 1 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

A birth certificate or baptismal record is required for registration. For more information, call 874-6378.