



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 1, 2012

CONTACT: Reenie Kuhlman – 412.478.7947
reeniekuhlman@yahoo.com
-OR- Brittany Whiteford – 240.662.6089
Brittany_Whiteford@discovery.com

**FIRE IN THE HOLE! - LORDS OF THE GOURD RETURN TO BATTLE IN SCIENCE
CHANNEL'S ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SPECIAL PUNKIN CHUNKIN**

*--PUNKIN CHUNKIN 2012 to Be Hosted by MYTHBUSTERS Kari Byron, Grant Imahara and
Tory Belleci Thanksgiving Night, November 22, at 8:00PM (ET/PT) –*

TWITTER: @ScienceChannel #PunkinChunkin

(Silver Spring, Md.) – Pumpkins become projectiles once again with the return of television’s epic autumn battle, **PUNKIN CHUNKIN**. Celebrating its fifth year on Science Channel, this fall favorite has become a Thanksgiving tradition, served up alongside turkey, mashed potatoes, and (of course) pumpkin pie. In this explosive two-hour special, the vikings behind the vegetable velocity engage in an engineering battle unlike any other for a chance at the ultimate gourd glory. **PUNKIN CHUNKIN** loads up to launch on Thanksgiving night, **Thursday, November 22 at 8:00 PM (ET/PT)** only on Science Channel.

PUNKIN CHUNKIN is the annual extravaganza where more than 100 teams – along with their legions of loyal fans – descend upon a Delaware cornfield to see whose homemade contraptions can propel a pumpkin the farthest. MYTHBUSTERS’ Kari Byron, Grant Imahara, and Tory Belleci join as hosts of **PUNKIN CHUNKIN**, going behind the firing line to get up-close with the wacky weekend warriors as they compete for the title of: ‘Lord Of The Gourd’. Will the air cannons remain the Punkin Chunkin powerhouse? Or will their fellow competitors in the torsion, trebuchet, catapult, or centrifugal divisions attempt to dethrone their long-standing reign as farthest pumpkin propellers?

“**PUNKIN CHUNKIN** has become a pop culture phenomenon; inspiring everything from commercials, to sitcoms, to county fairs. Since its launch in 2008, post-turkey viewings of The Chunk have become a part of family Thanksgiving traditions across the U.S.” said Debbie Myers, General Manager and

Executive Vice President for Science Channel. “The special has become a signature event for Science Channel by highlighting the everyday engineers and backyard scientists among us.”

The World Championship Punkin Chunkin Association (WCPCA) hosts the **PUNKIN CHUNKIN** event annually in Sussex County Delaware to benefit a number of charitable organizations including St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital and ChildHelp. **SCIENCE** shoots the competition for air every Thanksgiving, and the competition is divided into categories defined by the type of machine used. This year continues the chase for the never-before-accomplished feat of launching a pumpkin one full mile. In 2011, the highest honor of The Chunk was bestowed upon a team of renegade chunkers from Culpepper VA, with their winning throw of 4329.37 ft. **SCIENCE** cameras have exclusively captured the anticipation of this year’s competition with teams constantly testing and tweaking their designs for a chance at the top prize. Science Channel will also be following the teams in their weekly special report, **ROAD TO PUNKIN CHUNKIN**, premiering every Thursday at 10P (ET/PT) in November leading up to the main event on Thanksgiving night.

PUNKIN CHUNKIN is produced by Sharp Entertainment. Matt Sharp is executive producer for Sharp Entertainment. For **SCIENCE**, Joshua C. Berkley is executive producer and Bernadette McDaid is vice president of production.

About The WCPCA

WCPCA is a non-profit association started in 1986 that benefits the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and Childhelp® organizations. Since 1986, Sussex County, Delaware has been home to the annual Punkin Chunkin World Championships—a three-day festival where hardcore engineers and backyard tinkerers trailer their gigantic, homebuilt contraptions with one common goal: to launch eight to ten pound pumpkins as far as mechanically possible. The competition is divided into seven categories defined by the type of machine used—motorized, centrifugal spinners, and the mighty air cannons. Bringing the sport of pumpkin hurling to ever greater distances of chunkin, the heated competitions have created a current world record of 4,483 feet, approximately 800 feet short of a mile. Could this be the year that one team hits the coveted one-mile mark and is crowned the greatest chunker ever?

About SCIENCE:

SCIENCE, a division of Discovery Communications, Inc. (Nasdaq: DISCA, DISCB, DISCK), is home for the thought provocateur, the individual who is unafraid to ask the killer questions of “how” and “why not.” The network is a playground for those with audacious intellects and features programming willing to go beyond imagination to explore the unknown. Guided by curiosity, **SCIENCE** looks for innovation in mysterious new worlds as well as in its own backyard. **SCIENCE** and the **SCIENCE HD** simulcast reach more than 68 million U.S. households. The network also features high-traffic online and social media destinations, including ScienceChannel.com, facebook.com/Science Channel and twitter.com/Science Channel.

###

For photos or screeners, log on to: <http://press.discovery.com>