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***F-22 Raptor Demonstration Team ★ Sean D. Tucker  
Headline 2008 Vectren Dayton Air Show***

*Dayton, Ohio* – The skies over Dayton will be filled with stars when the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Vectren Dayton Air Show presented by Kroger gets underway on July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at Dayton International Airport. Air show officials announced today the initial lineup for the show with further exciting performers to be added in the weeks ahead.

Headlining the military feature attractions will be the amazing U.S. Air Force F-22 Raptor Flight Demonstration, a first for Dayton. The Raptor is the world's most advanced fighter aircraft and one of the most sought-after demonstrations on the air show circuit. Its incredible maneuverability, aided by its computerized controls and powerful, thrust-vectoring jet engines, make the Raptor an astonishing new air show aircraft. The F-22 will travel to Dayton from the 1<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing, Langley AFB, VA, and will be flown by Major Paul "Max" Moga.

The F-22 Raptor appearance in Dayton will truly be a "Homecoming" for this sensational aircraft. The F-22 has its roots in two major research organizations at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton; the present National Air and Space Intelligence Center and Air Force Research Laboratory. F-22 acquisition continues under the Aeronautical Systems Center (ASC) also based at Wright-Patterson, a unit of Air Force Material Command. ASC's 478<sup>th</sup> Aeronautical Systems Wing remains responsible for design, production, deployment, modernization and sustainment of the aircraft.

"We are absolutely ecstatic that Dayton has been selected as an F-22 Raptor Demonstration Team show site," stated Michael Emoff, Chairman of the USATS Board of Trustees, producers of the event. "The Raptor is the top aircraft in the air show circuit and our spectators are in for a real treat; wait until you see what this incredible aircraft does in the air. Everyone will want to be here to see this demonstration."

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In Dayton today to discuss his role as the headlining civilian performer is *Sean D. Tucker*, a National Aviation Hall of Fame 2008 Inductee. Known as the world's premier

air show performer, Sean and *Team Oracle Extreme* will be flying his custom-built 400 horsepower Challenger II biplane. Sean's performance is so dynamic it's often described as unbelievable by spectators. Twice during the performance, Sean will fly the aircraft backwards -straight down - tail-first at more than 100 mph. Over half of Tucker's maneuvers are original and have never been duplicated by any other aerobatic pilot. His extraordinary skill as a pilot has resulted in him being named a 2007 "Living Legends of Flight" placing him into an elite group of aviators such as General Jimmy Doolittle, General "Chuck" Yeager and Bob Hoover. Sean will be enshrined into the National Aviation Hall of Fame on Saturday evening, July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Joining Sean for a first appearance in Dayton will be his newly formed *Collaborators Formation Aerobatic Team*. Introduced to the air show circuit in 2007, *The Collaborators* are a four-ship team that combines the grace and beauty of tight formation flying with hard-charging aerobatics. In a new role, Sean flies Lead, while Eric Tucker (Sean's son) is the Left-Wingman; Ben Freelove flies as the Right-Wingman; and Bill Stein, a former Red Baron Squadron pilot, flies Slot. Stein, an accomplished formation aerobatic pilot, serves as the team's formation instructor and will also perform a solo routine.

Joining these new Dayton attractions are three top shelf air show performers: the *Misty Blues All-Woman Skydiving Team*, the *AeroShell Aerobatic Team* and *NeXplore Shockwave*. The Misty Blues are the world's only all-woman team with 35 world records and 40,000 jumps. Flying North American AT-6G Texan warbird aircraft with no less than 600 horsepower and a big smoke system (times four), the AeroShell Aerobatic team will thrill crowds with their spectacular maneuvers including the breathtaking "Switch Blade." Finally, one of the most popular air show ground acts, the NeXplore Shockwave, is a highly modified Peterbuilt semi tractor with three afterburning jet engines that will explode to over 300 miles per hour down the runway.

The Vectren Dayton Air Show presented by Kroger previously announced that ticket prices will remain the same in 2008. The value-priced Family 4 Pack providing a 40% savings will again be offered. The Pack along with General Admission tickets and the popular Pavilion and Blue Sky premium seating are now all available on the show's website at [www.daytonairshow.com](http://www.daytonairshow.com). Also on sale now are chalet and Chairman's Club premium seating packages. Beginning June 9<sup>th</sup>, discount tickets will be conveniently available exclusively at Kroger stores in the Dayton-Cincinnati region.

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*Founded in 1975, the Vectren Dayton Air Show presented by Kroger is one of the country's premier air shows. The event showcases military jet demonstrations, world-class aerobatic champions and entertainment for the whole family celebrating Dayton's rich aviation heritage as home of the Wright Brothers and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.*

***America's Greatest Air Show...Dayton's Premier Summer Event***