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NEWS RELEASE

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Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure Premieres at Discovery Place

**National Geographic Giant Screen IMAX Film Submerges Audiences in the Ancient Sea
Beginning on Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 Worldwide**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A movie of monstrous proportions rises from the depths of the ancient sea at Discovery Place as the Museum presents National Geographic’s new giant-screen film, *Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure* at The Charlotte Observer IMAX® Dome Theatre on **Friday, Oct. 5, 2007**.

Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure follows a Dolichorhynchops, also known informally as a “Dolly,” as she traverses ancient waters populated with saber-toothed fish, prehistoric sharks and giant squid. On her journey, Dolly encounters other extraordinary sea creatures including lizard-like reptiles called Platecarpus that swallowed their prey whole like snakes; Styxosaurus with necks nearly 20-feet long and paddle-like fins as large as an adult human; and at the top of the food chain, the monstrous Tylosaurus, a predator with no enemies.

“*Sea Monsters* provided us with a great opportunity to collaborate with National Geographic, a renowned leader in science education,” said Dean Briere, vice president of Strategic Enterprises at the Museum. “And with the return of one of our most-beloved exhibits, *The Dinosaurs*, the film offers a perfect complement during a family visit at Discovery Place.”

Narrated by Tony Award-winning actor, Liev Schreiber, and with an original score by longtime musical collaborators, Richard Evans, David Rhodes and Peter Gabriel, *Sea Monsters* takes audiences on a remarkable journey into the relatively unexplored world of the “other dinosaurs” - those reptiles that lived beneath the water. Funded in part through a grant from the National Science Foundation, the film delivers to the giant screen a vision of history’s grandest ocean creatures.

“This is the first giant-screen film about what lived in the water during the dinosaur age,” said producer Lisa Truitt, president of National Geographic Giant Screen Films and Special Projects. “It is perfect subject matter for such an immersive format, one that allows these giants to literally swim off the screen and directly into the audience.”

Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure is a remarkable visual journey that educates audiences on the “How do we know that?” side of paleontology. Do scientists need full skeletons to learn about these creatures? Not always, as viewers learn from shark teeth found throughout the central United

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States – proof that these modern-day hunters were thriving during the age of dinosaurs when Kansas was at the bottom of the sea. How do scientists know what these creatures ate, and what pursued them? The shapes of jaws and teeth provide dietary clues, and occasionally paleontologists are lucky enough to discover bones of one species inside the remains of another. In fact, one fossilized Xiphactinus, a 17-foot-long predatory fish, was found with an entire 6-foot fish inside — swallowed whole.

From fossil digs to larger-than-life visions of predatory chases in shallow seas, the film immerses audiences in a rarely explored environment during the dinosaur age. Merging ultra-high-resolution with National Geographic's trademark authenticity, compelling imagery and powerful storytelling, the film is a perfect combination of subject and medium: ancient leviathans of the deep brought to life in the world's biggest film format.

***Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure* runs from Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 through Thursday, April 17, 2008.** Tickets to *Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure* are \$8 for ages 14-59, \$7 for ages 2-13 and 60+, and are free for children younger than 2. When purchased with a ticket to *BODY WORLDS*, *Sea Monsters* tickets are \$5. Group and member discounts also are available. Visit discoveryplace.org or call 800-935-0553 for showtimes. Concessions, including popcorn, beverages and candy are available during movie showings.

www.nationalgeographic.com/seamonsters.

About National Geographic Giant Screen Films

National Geographic Giant Screen Films is part of National Geographic Ventures (NGV), a wholly owned subsidiary of the National Geographic Society, one of the world's largest nonprofit scientific and educational organizations. Founded in 1888 to "increase and diffuse geographic knowledge," the Society works to inspire people to care about the planet. Building on its global reputation for remarkable visuals and compelling stories, National Geographic Giant Screen Films produces original 2-D and 3-D productions for the world's largest screens. National Geographic Giant Screen Films also retains distribution rights to one of the largest film libraries in the giant-screen industry.

About Discovery Place

Discovery Place is located in uptown Charlotte at 301 N. Tryon Street. Convenient parking is available in the science center's parking garage – the Carol Grotnes Belk Complex – at the corner of Sixth and Church streets. For more information about Discovery Place, guests should call (704) 372- 6261 or visit discoveryplace.org.

One of the top hands-on science museums in the nation, Discovery Place provides ever-changing, entertaining facilities that foster experiences in areas that range from life science to space exploration. More than a half-million people from all over the United States visit Discovery Place, its IMAX® Dome Theatre and Charlotte Nature Museum each year. Discovery Place is supported, in part, with a Basic Operating Grant from the Arts & Science Council.

About IMAX Corporation

IMAX Corporation is one of the world's leading entertainment technology companies, specializing in digital and film-based motion picture technologies. The worldwide IMAX network is among the most important and successful theatrical distribution platforms for major event Hollywood films around the globe, with IMAX theatres delivering the world's best cinematic presentations using proprietary IMAX, IMAX 3D, and IMAX DMR technology. IMAX DMR is the Company's groundbreaking digital remastering technology that allows it to transform digitally virtually any conventional motion picture into the unparalleled image and sound quality of The IMAX Experience. IMAX's renowned projectors display crystal-clear images on the world's biggest screens, and the IMAX brand is recognized throughout the world for extraordinary and immersive entertainment experiences for consumers. As of September 30, 2006, there were 280 IMAX theatres operating in 40 countries.

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