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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Of a Higher Caliber – Northfield Celebrates the Defeat of Jesse James Days

NORTHFIELD, MN, SEPTEMBER 2010 – *It was a warm September day; the year was 1876 when the infamous James-Younger Gang sauntered into town with the intent of robbing the First National Bank of Northfield. What happened after that marked Old West history forever!*

The Defeat of Jesse James Days will take place September 8-12 in Northfield, MN recalling the fateful day when a yell rang out onto the street, "Get your guns boys, they're robbing the bank!" Northfield citizens bravely stood their ground against the notorious gangsters in defense of their small town.

The Defeat of Jesse James Days is the largest of all volunteer-run celebrations in the state of Minnesota. Approximately 150,000 visitors come to the historic river town each year to take part in the festivities. From a top-notch raid re-enactment, voted several times "Best Western Re-enactment in the County" by True West Magazine, to a hang-on-for-all-you're-worth PRCA rodeo to slaphappy western theater performances by local playwrights, the activities are many and sure to be crowd pleasers!

The James Gang re-enactment boys have traveled throughout the United States as well as overseas providing the historic account. "Our concern is accuracy," said gang leader and horseman, Chip Demann. "Down to even the number of shots fired."

Recently, more acting parts were added to the street scene. The content is pulled from court depositions and newspaper reports of eyewitnesses back in the day. "You're getting more of a first person account," shared Executive Director Hayes Scriven of the Northfield Historical Society. "It makes the story come more alive," he added.

Event buttons are available for \$4 at retail establishments in town for special events. General admission is free. For more information and a full list of activities about the Defeat of Jesse James Days including fun runs and bike tours, carnival, a vintage baseball game, arts and crafts, parades...go to www.djjd.org. Check out www.visitingnorthfield.com for feature events happening all year around with travel packages to this happening historic town!

The Northfield Convention and Visitors Bureau is a department of the Northfield Area Chamber of Commerce. Contact (800) 645-5604. Find us on Facebook at "Northfield, Minnesota" and Twitter at "NorthfieldCVB."