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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Third World Games, Inc. and SMIF Ink. Announce Battle of the Bands: Encore Edition

Westminster, CA – March 29, 2004 – Fans have been clamoring for an encore – we have listened! *Battle of the Bands: Encore Edition* is much more than a reprint of the sold-out basic set; it's a whole new game!

The *Encore Edition* has 120 cards: 15 new cards including 10 never seen before anywhere! The box also comes with four dice and a PVC tray to hold both your *Encore* and *Backstage Pass* cards! We pass our cost savings along to our customers as well: the game comes in a larger box and retails for \$17.95.

Battle of the Bands is a traditional card game for 2 to 4 players. Each person assumes the role of a “ME” character; this card represents themselves as they front their own band as they try and make it big! Players add other band members to their group, from the powerful, “The King?” to the wacky, “Empress Hole Punch”. Each player competes in gigs against the other players at the table – Monkey wrenches and guest stars add to the mix. The player with the highest band total after the audience approval wins the gig and a certain number of “Superstar Points”. Eight Superstar Points wins the game in a four-person game.

Frank Bustamante, Chief Executive Officer of Third World Games, Inc. comments, “We are excited to print a new version of the game! New fans will be able to jump right into the excitement with this base set. Our existing fans will be able to get all-new cards that are completely compatible with *Battle of the Bands: Backstage Pass*.”

Dan Smith of SMIF Ink. comments, “The first edition of *Battle of the Bands* was not exactly what I envisioned. With the *Encore Edition*, it will finally be presented as I intended. If you've ever wanted to be a rock star, if you love music or if you are slightly twisted...*Battle of the Bands: Encore Edition* will become your card game of choice. It's fun, funny and never plays the same way twice!”

Battle of the Bands: Encore Edition will be available in hobby gaming retail stores worldwide in April 2004. Product code: 3WG0204. Ages 12 & up. Games last between 30 & 45 minutes. Retail price: \$17.95.

About Third World Games, Inc.

Third World Games, Inc., is a Southern California-based manufacturer and publisher of



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traditional and collectable card games in the hobby-game industry. Founded by Frank Bustamante and Michael Nickoloff, Third World Games releases innovative and entertaining card games that attract varied audiences. Products include *Battle of the Bands*, the *Testimony of Jacob Hollow*, *Portable Adventures* and *Firestorm*, which have received 5 Origins Awards Nominations in various categories between them. For additional information, visit <http://www.thirdworldgames.com>.

About SMIF Ink.

Dan Smith is SMIF Ink. A freelance illustrator and graphic designer in the gaming industry for over 14 years, SMIF Ink. has entered the nuts and bolts arena with this initial card game system. In its simple form, it can be easily grasped: *Battle of the Bands*. With additional options added, it becomes a more strategic entity as the *Portable Adventures* game line. With 3 Origin award nominations and 1 award under his belt, past performance will foreshadow what is to come from this talented individual.