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FORMER PORTLAND SHELTER CAT *ELLIS* NAMED AMERICA'S VIEWER'S CHOICE WINNER OF MEOW MIX HOUSE

*Feline from Cat Adoption Team voted America's favorite
in first TV reality show for cats and receives VP position with company*

Sherwood, OR – August 19, 2006. A cat from the **Cat Adoption Team (CAT)**, Oregon's largest no-kill cat shelter and hospital, has made history by becoming the first feline from Portland to ever compete on a TV reality show and WIN!

The votes are in - over 250,000 of them - and it was no contest: America's favorite Meow Mix House cat is **Ellis**, a two-year-old shelter cat from Cat Adoption Team in Sherwood, Oregon. CAT was one of only ten animal shelters or rescue groups nationwide who submitted a furry feline to compete in the inaugural edition of the **Meow Mix House**, the first reality show that starred 10 shelter cats living together in a house on New York City's Madison Avenue. The show aired weekly on Animal Planet in a series of 10 three-minute episodes, culminating in the August 18 season finale.

Ellis (and a representative from Cat Adoption Team) are available for an interview. Call Ellis' agent Rachel Wallace at 503-701-4087 to schedule an appointment.

The cat-testants competed in a series of challenges, with one cat being evicted from the house every episode until only the Top Cat remained. A second winner was crowned based on the results of fan voting. In the tightest decision in the history of feline reality television, Cisco, an orange and white tabby from Miami, was declared the winner of the **Meow Mix House** competition. Meanwhile **Ellis**, the feline from the great Pacific Northwest, is the winner of the Viewers' Choice Award.

More than 250,000 votes were cast on the MeowMixHouse.com website between June 13th and August 6th. When the final votes were tallied, **Ellis** emerged as the pick of the litter. As the Viewers' Choice winner, he will assume the title of Vice President of Catsumer Affairs. In this position with Meow Mix, **Ellis** will offer his insightful advice and commentary on the deepest desires of the feline community.

While Cisco and **Ellis** receive the fancy titles, all of the participants in the **Meow Mix House** are winners. All 10 cats came to New York from animal shelters and rescue groups from around the US. When they left the **Meow Mix House**, they all were adopted into permanent, loving homes, and received a one-year supply of Meow Mix.

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AMERICA'S VIEWER'S CHOICE WINNER
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Fans of **Ellis** and the *Meow Mix House* can relive their favorite episodes in their entirety, or check out any they may have missed, by going to www.MeowMixHouse.com and clicking on the "episodes" link.

About CAT: The Cat Adoption Team (CAT) is the Pacific Northwest's largest and fastest growing non-profit, no-kill cat shelter with its own on-site full service veterinary hospital. CAT rehabilitates and finds loving homes for the community's abandoned, neglected and injured cats and kittens. CAT not only partners with the community but with local county shelters, other rescue groups and veterinary offices to rescue cats that might otherwise be euthanized due to medical problems, age or space constraints. CAT, a 501(c)(3) publicly-supported charity, will save close to 3,000 lives this year and relies heavily on the support of the public and generous volunteers. CAT's 10,000 square foot facility includes a friendly, colorful shelter with roomy cages, free-roam rooms, a full service veterinary hospital, a little cat boutique and a broad selection of 250 cats and kittens who are looking for their forever family.

CAT is located at 14175 SW Galbreath Drive in Sherwood, just off Tualatin-Sherwood Highway Road. **For directions and more information, call (503) 925-8903 or visit CAT's Website at www.catadoptionteam.org .**

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