



a STARS NORTH™ film

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: *Alexis Greiner*  
(407) 292-6240

## **Just When You Thought All The Election Mayhem Was Over!**

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***“The Chad Effect”* hits the BIG SCREEN at the  
ENTER FESTIVAL NAME HERE!**

**ORLANDO, FL (Enter Release Date Here, 20XX)** –What once seemed like never-ending reports of missing votes, careless recounts, and dangling “chads” coming out of Florida has turned out to be mere prologue to the misfortune that actually resulted from the polling pandemonium. *The Chad Effect*, a short film by Orlando-based production company Stars North™, is a comedy that takes viewers on an over-the-top adventure through a royal kidnapping and ransom wrapped around enough election drama to last two terms in The White House.

Written and produced by Balinda DeSantis and Todd Thompson, the story revolves around King Patsá and Queen Norjean of Mulvany and the kidnapping of their daughter, Princess Elvia. *So who’s responsible?* Three rednecks disguised as nuns who decide to strike during the royal family’s vacation to the Sunshine State, which, unfortunately for everyone, coincides with the 2000 Presidential Election. Unable to speak or read English (a good portion of the film carries Mulvanese subtitles), the King and Queen are forced to rely on the help of their room service waiter, Chad, to decipher the kidnapper’s demands and negotiate a ransom based on everything he’s learned from watching American cinema.

The idea for the film was inspired by a National Public Radio story DeSantis heard on her way to work the day after the election last November. “The report was about how so many major newspapers were uncertain of the election results at press time,” she explained. “Several of them ended up running conflicting headlines, which caused confusion all around the world. No one knew if Bush was our new President, or if Gore had won the race!”

“It was the perfect scenario for a short film,” Thompson added. “It’s a fish-out-of-water story about how two totally unrelated situations can affect each other.”

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*The Chad Effect* was shot digitally using a Sony DCR VX 2000 at various locations in Central Florida. It is the third short film for Thompson and DeSantis, who are currently in development of their first feature film, *Shooting Blanks*, slated to star German heart-throb, Til Schweiger, Academy Award-nominated Jennifer Tilly and Seymour Cassel, and actors Michael Rapaport and Adam Goldberg.

### **...About Stars North™**

Stars North™ is an independent movie production company based in Orlando, Florida. The company produces commercially appealing, quality films with memorable characters, engaging plots and redeeming messages. Stars North™ is committed to developing and producing projects in Florida that employ local cast and crew for worldwide distribution. For more information, contact Stars North™ at (407) 292-6240, or visit the company's Web site: [www.starsnorth.com](http://www.starsnorth.com).