

**The Pantagraph
News Brief**

Extreme living includes ride on Six Flags' The Boss

EUREKA, Mo. -- Guests at Six Flags St. Louis can now meet The Boss, a wooden roller coaster that has already been placed on many American Coaster Enthusiasts' list as the No. 1 wooden coaster in existence.

Upon its official opening to the public, guests proclaimed The Boss, the first of 15 wooden coasters to open in 2000, to be "incredible, awesome, wow, extreme, intense, and powerful." One need only to catch a glimpse of The Boss to be intimidated: an actual encounter with The Boss evokes reactions ranging from speechless to ear piercing screams.

The Boss takes guests through 5,051 feet of track at speeds of more than 66 mph, in just under 3 minutes. Right from the start, visitors plunge 150 feet down one of only two double-down double drops in the country before heading through the wood structure only to shoot out of the other side headed up the ride's second hill, which ends in a 112 foot drop. Twisting and turning, The Boss rockets up a fourth hill while banking sharply to the left and dropping another 103 feet. From this point on, The Boss sends riders through a series of "air-time" rabbit hops before sending them into a head spinning 570 degree helix.

The steep drops and banked turns in the configuration make this a one-of-a-kind ride experience. The Boss crosses itself six times throughout the ride and delivers numerous 52-degree high-banked turns that contribute to The Boss' action.

The Boss and other Six Flag attractions are located at I-44 and Allenton road, Eureka, Mo.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sun through Fri and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sat through Aug. 13. Cost is \$35.99 for adults, \$17.99 for children under 48 inches, and children 3 and under free.

For information on hours of operation after Aug. 13, group rates, and other promotions, call (636) 938-5300 or visit them on the web at www.sixflags.com/stlouis.