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CONTACT: Jeremy Walker, 212-595-6161

**KOCH LORBER FILMS ACQUIRES “LIPSTICK & DYNAMITE”**

NEW YORK, May 25, 2004 – Koch Lorber Films president Richard Lorber today announced that the company has acquired all U.S. and Canadian rights, excluding pay television, to Ruth Leitman’s acclaimed documentary “Lipstick & Dynamite, *Piss & Vinegar: The First Ladies of Wrestling.*” The film had its world premiere at Toronto’s Hot Docs Festival and then became a hit with audiences at this month’s TriBeCa Film Festival. The company plans to release “Lipstick & Dynamite” in theatres in the fall of 2004 or early 2005.

“Lipstick & Dynamite” shines a spotlight on the forgotten first ladies of the pro-wrestling ring. Gladys 'Killem' Gillem wrestled women, men, alligators and bears. At 18, Ida May Martinez took to the road to flash the only thing she knew - how to kick, punch, and defend herself. Narrowly escaping a date rape at 16, Penny Banner trained for survival. Still kicking butt at 80, The Fabulous Moolah and The Great Mae Young live together with midget wrestler sidekick Diamond 'Lil, and continue to take bumps in the ring. Each woman reflects on her own remarkable life with fond and bitter memories, reconciling a wild, flamboyant youth with the reality of getting older and fading away.

Said Lorber as he announced the acquisition: “Everyone at Koch Lorber is exhilarated about ‘Lipstick & Dynamite,’ a film that is as provocative as it is hugely entertaining. Ruth Leitman has made a film that celebrates the lives of extraordinary women in a male-dominated sport that will surely appeal to audiences of every persuasion.”

“After seeing this extraordinary documentary at the TriBeCa Festival, I knew it belonged in our corner of the ring,” said Michael Rosenberg, President of KOCH Entertainment Distribution. “Our entire staff is looking forward to going to the mat for this film.”

Said Leitman: “I put a lot of blood, sweat and tears into making this film because I thought these women were the ultimate survivors. Indeed, they are some of the greatest un-self-proclaimed feminists of the World War II generation. I felt that audiences needed to know about them and their contribution to women's history. Thanks to the people at Koch Lorber Films, Ida, Gladys, Penny, Ella, Moolah and Mae -all in the twilight of their years- will be able to take a much overdue bow in the spotlight once again.”

“Lipstick & Dynamite” is directed, produced and edited by Ruth Leitman. The film is produced by Debbie Nightingale, with Lydia Dean Pilcher and James Jernigan serving as executive producers. Anne Hubbell is co-producer. The deal for Koch Lorber to acquire the film was negotiated by Tim Hinsley, the company’s vice president of acquisitions and development, and Ronna Wallace of Eastgate Pictures, who represents Leitman and the producers.

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Koch Lorber Films, a new DVD label and theatrical distributor dedicated to the best in recent and classic world cinema and independent documentaries, entered the market in February of 2003. Headed by Richard Lorber, President and Michael Koch, CEO, Koch Lorber Films builds on the experience and expertise of Lorber's 20 year stint as founder of Fox Lorber (now Wellspring), one of the country's leading independent film and video distributors, and Michael Koch's leading role in the music industry as founder and CEO of KOCH Entertainment, the country's largest independent music distributor. With resources and vision uniquely tuned to the growing DVD and specialty theatrical market Koch Lorber Films is a market leader in providing high quality programs to both wide and specialized audiences.

This February, Koch Lorber Films acquired Lars von Trier and Jorgan Leth's "The Five Obstructions," which opened Friday at New York's Film Forum and will open in cities nationwide.

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