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GAMER OUTSMARTS ASTRONAUT AND MONKEE IN CELEBRITY CONTEST Richard Garriott and Michael Nesmith Bested by Game Designer in iPhone game QRANK

Austin, TX, March 18, 2010 – Ricochet Labs announced today the winner of its QRANK celebrity showdown. Game designer Harvey Smith squeaked past Richard Garriott, Austin Mayor Lee Leffingwell, and Michael Nesmith of the Monkees to win the iPhone contest.

Smith and nine other celebrity contestants went head-to-head in QRANK, a social quiz game for the iPhone. Playing daily short games, the contestants matched wits as they answered questions about music, politics, science, and other topics, many of them ripped straight from the day's headlines.

"I loved the questions, the countdown timers, and the personally tailored leader boards," said game luminary and astronaut Richard Garriott, one of the celebrity contestants. "I had a great time each day playing and watching for when others submitted their scores. It's a great sign that I still play after the competition is over!"

Ricochet Labs' CEO Rodney Gibbs announced the winner during QRANK's party during SXSW Interactive. Sharing the stage with two 8-foot-tall Tesla coils provided by Arc Attack, Gibbs named the top three scorers in the contest. In a cruel twist, Garriott could not make it into the party because the fire marshall would not allow anyone else inside the packed house.

Smith, Garriott, and Nesmith were joined by several other celebrity contestants, including **Rick Moody**, author of [The Ice Storm](#); **Evan Smith**, former panelist for "Wait, Wait... Don't Tell Me!" and editor-in-chief of The Texas Tribune; **Austin Mayor Lee Leffingwell**; [LA Times](#) travel writer **Jen Leo**; and **Tim League**, founder of the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema and Fantastic Fest.

Contest winner Harvey Smith wins \$500 for his designated charity, [Smile Train](#), which provides free cleft surgery for millions of poor children in developing countries.

QRANK will be released later this month for iPhone and iPod touch and soon thereafter for Facebook. For more information on QRANK or to schedule an interview call (512) 825-8021 or email info@ricochetlabs.com.

ABOUT QRANK

QRANK (pronounced "crank") is a daily quiz game played with friends. Pulling fresh questions from the Internet, QRANK never runs out of new content as it lets friends compete in fun, short, sassy trivia contests. QRANK will soon be available for free from Apple's App Store, and shortly thereafter will be available on Facebook.

ABOUT RICOCHET LABS

Founded in 2009 by veterans of the video game and online media industries, Ricochet Labs develops location-based social games and applications. It is based in Austin, Texas.

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