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**VT Pulse, August 16, 2017: Solar Eclipse, TicketsWest and Amazon News**


1 message

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**Greetings Samantha,**

During IAVM in Nashville, Feld Entertainment's Cory Powell was telling me his plans to camp in the Northwest for the total eclipse of the sun Monday. But for the people in live entertainment living in the path of the eclipse, it's been a topic of discussion and source of planning for years. Read all about it and let us know where you were. We'll be home in

California, without a good view.



*Casper (Wyo.) Events Center is preparing to host guests for the Aug. 21 solar eclipse.*

### Venues Ticket Solar Eclipse

**By Noelle Riley**

The solar eclipse will be seen coast to coast on Aug. 21, but only certain states along its path will see a total eclipse. Venues, like Casper (Wyo.) Events Center in the eclipse zone, are making an event if it.

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### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Amazon is not trying to lure venues and teams away from Ticketmaster. What they plan to do is partner with ticketing companies.”

— *A source close to the Amazon ticketing talks.*

### PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Knights of Valour jousting for the cheering throng, at Action Sports Arena, OC Fair, Costa Mesa, Calif.





### Amazon Entering Ticket Market

By Brad Weissberg

The long-awaited entry of e-commerce giant Amazon into the ticket industry is moving closer to fruition. Widely reported last week was a plan for ultimate dominance by Amazon; *Venues Today* has learned Amazon isn't planning on taking over and only wants a place in the sandbox.

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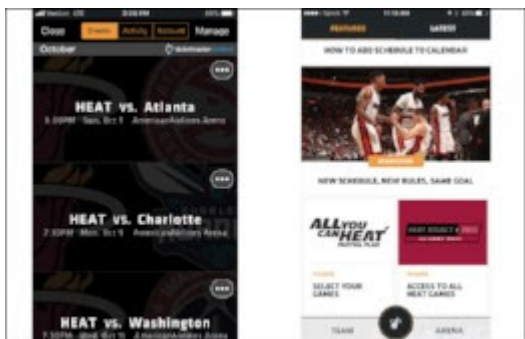
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### Mobile-only Tickets for Miami Heat

By Tim Newcomb

Miami Heat and their venue AmericanAirlines Arena, will be the first NBA facility to go mobile ticket-only. The new system will be in place Oct. 1, for the



### Paciolan To Buy TicketsWest and WestCoast Ent.

By Linda Deckard

Paciolan has acquired TicketsWest and WestCoast Entertainment, further expanding its reach into performing arts and non-university venues. TicketsWest has over 200 active clients.



first preseason game.

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## OC Fair Was Farm Fresh Fun

By Brad Weissberg

This year's OC Fair, themed Farm Fresh Fun, was a hit with the 1,334,753 guests who walked through the gates and an education for many urban-based guests. Highlights included 45,000 people visiting Heroes Hall, Unicorn pork legs, and a new 36-cabin air-conditioned Giant Wheel.

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## SunTrust Park Embraced By Fans

By Noelle Riley

It's been several months since the Atlanta Braves opened its new \$672-million ballpark and entertainment district and fans have warmly embraced the new

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## Durham's Successful Interim CEO Talks Turnaround

By Pam Sherborne

Dan Berman, volunteer interim CEO of Carolina Theatre, Durham, N.C., talked with *Venues Today* about his experience leading the venue out of near bankruptcy, 18 months after a financial crisis threatened to force closure of the nonprofit that operates the venue and two weeks before he steps away.

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## Verizon Center Now Capital One Arena

By Tim Newcomb

Washington, D.C.'s Verizon Center has a new naming rights sponsor and a new name, Capital One Arena. The deal has been reportedly valued at \$100 million and will run for 10 years.

venue. The entire site, including the ballpark and the mixed-used development, sits on 57-acres of land near the Chattahoochee River, which inspired a fountain design inside the ballpark with trees.

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### Reggae Reigns

Reggae band Rebelution stopped at OC Fair's Pacific Amphitheatre, Aug. 11-12, and grossed nearly \$550,000 with over 14,000 fans in attendance. The band will appear next at the American Music Festival in Virginia Beach, Va., Sept. 2.

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### XLIVE, Stadia & Arenas Asia, Coming

XLIVE eSports Summit, New York City, Aug. 22-24; Stadia & Arena Asia Pacific 2017, Makuhari Messe, Chiba City, Japan, Sept. 14-16; ASIS 2017, Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center, Dallas, Sept. 25-28.

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### Jo Walker-Meador, CMA Great, Remembered

Jo Walker-Meador, one of the founders and longtime chief executive of the Country Music Association, passed away in Nashville at 93. Walker-Meador was beloved in the Nashville community and is credited with being one of the architects of what we now call country music.

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## SHORT TAKES

## SMG Launches Convention and Visitors Bureau Classes

SMG launched its first-ever training class designed for convention and visitors bureaus/DMOs. The initial class was attended by members of Irving (Texas) Convention and Visitors Bureau. The class is part of SMG's K'nekt training classes.

## BSE Expands Corporate Footprint With New HQ

Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment (BSE) is expanding its corporate footprint with new office locations in Brooklyn, N.Y. and Manhattan. Beginning in June 2018, BSE's corporate office will relocate to Industry City in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, one floor below HSS Training Center, where the Brooklyn Nets practice. Located just one subway stop from Barclays Center, the office will accommodate up to 350 employees and occupy 70,000 square feet on the seventh floor of the historic waterfront warehouse.

## Jurassic Quest On Display In Columbus

The public is invited to explore the dinosaurs of Jurassic Quest at Greater Columbus (Ohio) Convention Center, Aug. 25-27. Organizers say it's the largest exhibition of moving, life-size, museum-quality replica dinosaurs in a show in North America.

## Woodforest Bank Club Open at Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavillion

On Aug. 8, leaders from The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands, Texas, officially opened the new Woodforest Bank Club, a nearly 15,000-sq.-ft. facility reserved for the pavilion's season-ticket and box-seat holders during the concert and performing arts season. The new building, which is now open for the remaining season, boasts two floors of expansive seating, three new bars, a catering kitchen and expanded restrooms. The relaxed outdoor patio upstairs offers a 260-degree view of the north plaza.

## Helsinki Expo Breaks Record

Helsinki (Finland) Expo and Convention Centre broke their own record for the number of participants in the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) Annual Congress for allergologists and the World Glaucoma Congress. This week, the center is hosting Worldcon, an event for sci-fi and fantasy enthusiasts. Together, the events are estimated to bring 20,000 people and €40.5 million (\$47.72 million) to the Helsinki metropolitan area.

## Barclaycard Arena now Arena Birmingham

Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, U.K. has severed ties with the financial institution and will operate as Arena Birmingham until a new sponsor is found. What was Barclaycard Arena launched in 2014 following a £26 million (\$33.5 million) redevelopment.

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