



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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2009 RIDE THE ROCKIES ROUTE ANNOUNCED

DENVER, CO (February 1, 2009) – The Denver Post Ride The Rockies presented by Wells Fargo announced the route today for its 24th annual Colorado bicycle tour, scheduled June 14-19, 2009.

Two thousand cyclists will begin their 380-mile loop in Glenwood Springs, Colorado climbing 3 mountain passes and traversing the North Rim of the Black Canyon.

The complete 2009 route is:

June 13 Glenwood Springs – Registration

June 14 Glenwood Springs to Hotchkiss 80 miles McClure Pass – 8,755 feet

June 15 Hotchkiss to Gunnison 80 miles North Rim of Black Canyon

June 16 Gunnison to Salida 65 miles Monarch Pass – 11,312 feet

June 17 Salida to Leadville 60 miles Upper Arkansas River

June 18 Leadville to Aspen 55 miles Independence Pass – 12,095 feet

June 19 Aspen to Glenwood Springs 40 miles

“Ride The Rockies will make history this year with the addition of a ride over McClure Pass and a stay in the charming town of Hotchkiss. Independence Pass, an all time favorite of our cyclists, and the North Rim of the Black Canyon will make for a memorable ride,” said Tour Director, Chandler Smith. “An exciting route coupled with a few of Colorado’s finest festivals is sure to be enjoyed by cyclists and volunteers alike.”

"Ride The Rockies has become synonymous with summer in Colorado," said Nathan Christian, Wells Fargo's regional president for Colorado. "This grand tradition is more than a top cycling event, however. It's a classic that showcases the best – the best high-country scenery and the best community spirit – of our great state. We are proud to once again be part of Ride The Rockies as we work together to help keep Colorado a great place to live, work and do business."

More than 100 dedicated volunteers assist cyclists during the week of the tour. Host communities provide inexpensive community meals and entertainment.

Cyclists can register for the event online or submit a mail-in application form. Mail-in forms for the event are available in *The Denver Post* on **Sunday, February 1, Sunday, February 8, Friday, February 13, and Sunday, February 15**. Out-of-state cyclists without Internet access can obtain forms by calling (303) 954-6700. Application forms will be accepted through Friday, February 20, 2009.

Ride The Rockies is a non-competitive event, and riders are encouraged to ride at their own pace. However, training for the tour is strongly recommended. Training information is available online at www.ridetherockies.com.

Riders on past Ride The Rockies tours have varied in age from 7- to 85-years-old and have represented all 50 states and 18 foreign countries.

Proceeds from Ride The Rockies benefit Post-News Charities, a McCormick Foundation Fund. All funds raised through Post-News Charities are matched at a significant percentage, and 100 percent of all dollars raised are returned to the community. In addition, Post-News Communities awards a \$5,000 grant to a nonprofit organization in each host town.

For more information, contact Ride The Rockies at (303) 954-6700 or visit the event web site at www.ridetherockies.com.

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