



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR PROFESSIONAL CYCLING ANNOUNCE RETURN TO GREENVILLE FOR 2009

Greenville Hospital System Will Continue As Title Sponsor for Fourth Year of National Event

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GREENVILLE, S.C. (September 3, 2008) – Huge crowds, strong community and corporate support and first-class event management are a few of the reasons why the Greenville Hospital System USA Cycling Professional Championship will return to Greenville in 2009. USA Cycling, Inc., which sanctions the event, extended the licensing agreement for one additional year with Medalist Sports after the completion of a third dual championship weekend in Greenville on August 30 and 31. The event will keep its spot on the calendar as part of the USA Cycling Professional Tour on Labor Day weekend, making the fourth trip to Greenville in 2009.

“This is a great community and the way we work in USA Cycling is to create a long-term relationship with the community and find a home. We are coming back here next year,” said Steve Johnson, CEO of USA Cycling, Inc. “This is our third year here, and these things just keep getting better and better and better. It’s the result of the support of this city and the community.”

In 2006, USA Cycling moved the Professional Road Race Championship from Philadelphia, Pa. to Greenville, after staging the one-day Road Race championship for 21 years in the northeast. That same year the Professional Individual Time Trial Championship was added to the lineup for the first time to make the event a dual championship for the top professional American cyclists. A three-year contract, from 2006-2008, was approved with the City of Greenville and Medalist Sports, a sports marketing company that specializes in planning, promotion and management of multi-day, multi-jurisdiction sports.

“The City is very pleased to have hosted such an exciting event for the past three years. The prestigious Professional Championships for road racing puts Greenville in the national spotlight and promotes our healthy community message to a very broad audience,” added James Bourey, City Manager of Greenville.

For a third consecutive year, numbers at the Greenville Hospital System USA Cycling Professional Championships continued to impress organizers. There were huge crowds in Greenville for race-weekend events, including tens of thousands of spectators who turned out for the championship events, Greenville Rocks concert and two fundraising events. Most impressive was a record \$110,000 raised for cancer research by the Palmetto Peloton Project (P3) with a Stars and Stripes 5K Run and 1-Mile Run/Walk and the 3rd Annual Stars and Stripes Challenge bicycle ride. In the three years that the P3 organization has partnered with the Championships, it has raised \$278,000. Funds this year will be distributed to the Greenville Hospital System Oncology Research Institute, the Lance Armstrong Foundation and Activate Upstate.

“We are proud to partner with the city of Greenville for a fourth year. It is a testament to the City of Greenville, Greenville County, Greenville Hospital System and so many others in the business community to make this event possible. And the support from cycling fans in the Upstate as well as thousands who travel here from all over the country, make us very proud to continue the success into 2009,” said Chris Aronhalt, Managing Partner of Medalist Sports.

Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center, one of the largest not-for-profit healthcare providers in South Carolina, has agreed to continue its partnership with the cycling event as title sponsor. In addition, the Greenville Hospital System Oncology Research Institute will continue as a major recipient of the recreational activities organized by P3 to raise awareness and generate funds to fight cancer.

On Saturday, August 30, the 20.7-mile USA Cycling Professional Individual Time Trial Championship was contested by 32 elite athletes at the Clemson University – International Center for International Research in Greenville. The Time Trial championship was won for a third consecutive year by Salt Lake City, UT resident David Zabriskie (Garmin-Chipotle presented by H30). On Sunday, August 31, a star-studded field of 108 professional cyclists covered the 115-mile course in and around Greenville in a little over 4 ½ hours. Thirteen-year professional cyclist Tyler Hamilton (Rock Racing) of Boulder, Co. won the Stars-and-Stripes jersey for the first time in his career by a margin of two-thousandths of a second.

All updates will be made available at the official website: www.usacyclingchampionships.com.

ABOUT GREENVILLE HOSPITAL SYSTEM

Established nearly a century ago, Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center (GHS) is a not-for-profit academic health organization committed to medical excellence through research, education, clinical expertise and technological advancement. GHS is accredited by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Hospital Organizations (JCAHO). With five campuses and 1,268 licensed beds, it is one of the largest not-for-profit healthcare providers in South Carolina. GHS provides comprehensive healthcare through its flagship tertiary referral and education center (Greenville Memorial Hospital), two acute-care and one long-term care hospitals, short-stay surgical hospital, integrated children's and women's hospitals, nationally-recognized cottage-concept nursing home, outpatient facilities, wellness centers, community outreach programs and extensive medical education program that includes 11 residency/fellowship programs. GHS currently offers more than 570 clinical trials, including several first-in-nation cancer-treatment trials. To learn more, go to www.ghs.org.

ABOUT MEDALIST SPORTS

Medalist Sports is a full-service international sports marketing company. Medalist Sports specializes in the planning, promotion and management of multi-day, multi-jurisdiction sports and special events. The Medalist Sports team has experience in all facets of the successful management and promotion of world-class sporting and cycling events in the United States, England, Australia and China. Clients and event experience include the Tour DuPont, Tour de Georgia presented by AT&T, Amgen Tour of California, Tour of Missouri, USA Cycling, Inc. and the Lance Armstrong Foundation's LIVESTRONG Challenge Series. Medalist Sports' headquarters are located south of metro Atlanta at P.O. Box 415, Tyrone, GA 30290. The company website is www.medalistsports.com.

ABOUT PALMETTO PELOTON PROJECT

The Palmetto Peloton Project (P3), based in Greenville, S.C., exists to promote the advancement of cancer research and advocacy efforts locally, regionally and nationally through fundraising events. Through support from local businesses and enthusiastic cyclists, the Palmetto Peloton Project has raised over \$250,000 for cancer research and advocacy since its inception in 2005. In 2007 as part of the Greenville Hospital System USA Cycling Professional Championships, P3 will host the "Stars and Stripes Challenge", recreational cycling and running events to support local cancer research. For more information, visit www.palmettopelotonproject.org.

ABOUT USA CYCLING

Recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and the Union Cycliste Internationale, USA Cycling is the official governing body for all disciplines of competitive cycling in the United States, including road, track, mountain bike, BMX and cyclo-cross. As a membership-based organization and sanctioning body, USA Cycling consists of 64,000+ members, including 57,000 competitive cyclists, 1,500 coaches, 4,000 student-athletes, 2,200 officials, 350 professional cyclists, and 200 certified mechanics. USA Cycling also sanctions 2,500 competitive and non-competitive organized cycling events throughout the United States annually, as well as 1,800 clubs and teams. Associations of USA Cycling include the United States Cycling Federation (road, track & cyclo-cross), the National Off-Road Bicycle Association (mountain bike), the BMX Association, the National Collegiate Cycling Association and the United States Professional Racing Organization. USA Cycling is also responsible for the identification, development, support and promotion of American cyclists through various athletic initiatives and programs including the USA Cycling National Development Team, the USA Cycling Women's National Team, the USA Cycling Junior Development Team, Talent Identification and Regional Development Camps, domestic and international race calendars, direct athlete funding and support programs, and educational camps and seminars. USA Cycling also fields and supports U.S. National Teams for various international events, including the Olympic Games, World Championships, Pan American Games, Continental Championship and World Cups across all levels and disciplines of competitive cycling. USA cycling further supports grass roots and locally-based initiatives through its 32 Local Associations and comprehensive network of licensed and certified coaches and officials. Additionally, USA Cycling conducts National Championship events for amateur and professional cyclists, awarding more than 600 national titles annually to men and women in junior, U23, masters, elite, professional and paralympic categories throughout the various disciplines of competitive cycling. To learn more about USA Cycling, visit www.usacycling.org. For media-related or general inquiries, please contact USA Cycling Director of Communications, Andy Lee at 719-866-4867 or alee@usacycling.org.

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