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Bike Race Brings Hundreds to Mocksville Kicks-off Five Day Festival of Speed

August 1, 2007 – Mocksville, NC. Travelers might have noticed a difference in traffic flow on Wednesday, August 1, 2007 as cyclists from across the nation and abroad took over the streets of Mocksville for the Historic Mocksville Criterium, presented by ERA Premier Realty and benefiting Davie County United Way.

Approximately 275 cyclists registered for four races, ranging from beginner to professional, competing to win cash prizes ranging from \$300 to \$2,000. Various countries outside of the United States were represented in the races including Argentina, Australia, Canada, Cuba, and Serbia. Cyclist, Eric Keim racing for the AEG-Toshiba-JetNetwork Cycling Team from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, won the Professional Race which encompassed 60 laps and took 60 minutes to complete. “The venue got rave reviews from the cyclists!” stated Crossroads Classic coordinator, Neal Boyd. “Everyone thought Mocksville was just a beautiful city. It was a great place to kick-off the series.”

The races were not the only festivities for spectators. Both kid’s races and Adult Trike Races, sponsored by Belk, BB&T and the Davie County Bar Association, featured local children, nonprofit executives, dignitaries and emergency responders. “As a cycling enthusiast, I thought the races were great to watch but the best parts were the kid’s races and Trike Races. What a sight to see Mayor Slate race against county commissioners and other dignitaries or to see the United Way executive race against her colleagues from their partner agencies,” stated event chairman, Jim Gildein.

Junker’s Mill hosted a variety of children’s games and activities including a Misting Station, obstacle course, moon walk bouncer, painting provided by Cancer Services, bingo provided by the Davie County Group Home, Putt-Putt provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters Services, Science Exploration provided by Davie County 4-H, coloring provided by Davie Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Center, and a bean bag toss game provided by Smart Start of Davie County. Boy Scouts were also on hand providing refreshment and attending to waste clean-up. Adults enjoyed the music of the Tom Troyer Band, Fokker Triplane and Steve Boger. Food was provided by Horn’s Express and Buck’s Pizza. “The 1st Annual Historic Mocksville Criterium Bike Race was a lot of fun and we hope to participate in it again next year,” stated Amy Boardwine of Big Brothers Big Sisters. “Our booth location and activity (a mini golf hole) was excellent, and we had a lot of people stop by to inquire about BBBS. Thanks to the United Way for putting this together...it was awesome!”

Davie County United Way, as beneficiary of the net proceeds, would like to extend sincere thanks to the Town of Mocksville and the merchants of Historic Downtown Mocksville for their assistance and cooperation during the planning and implementation process of this event. “So many people worked together to make it a great evening,” stated Executive Director, Mary Beth Forst. “I’m lucky to be able to work with such great partners and individuals who are willing to give of their time and talent to make this event so successful!” Other sponsors of the event who should be recognized include:



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Presenting: ERA Premier Realty.

Tent Sponsors: Davie County Enterprise Record, Horn's Express, Town of Mocksville and Ventlab.

T-Shirt Sponsors: Bank of the Carolinas, Buck's Pizza, Chinqua-Penn Plantation, Clemmons Bicycle, Embarq, Johnson Insurance, Larry McDaniel Builders, Mid-South Drilling, Nationwide – Jim Gildein Agency, Sagebrush Steakhouse, and Wal*Mart SuperCenter.

Impact Sign Sponsors included Anderson Aggregates, Davie County Chamber of Commerce, Jeffco, Julia Howard, Fire & Ice Custom Ice Sculptures, Fuller Architecture, Mocksville Builder's Supply, Time Warner Cable, Trailers of the East Coast, and Webb Heating & Air.

This caliber of event can not happen without a dedicated committee. Unending thanks should be given to Jim Gildein, Committee Chairman; Vincent Mannino, Sponsorship Chairman; Josh Tucker and Travis Bean, Cyclist Recruitment Chairs; Steve & Gayle Tuch, Mission Chairs; Don Boyles, Finance Chair; Robby Dilmore, Publicity Chair; Henry Horn, Logistics Chair; Mike Drayton with Serving Him Ministries; Charles London, Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 575 and Mike Gunning who coordinated the entertainment for the evening.

The Historic Mocksville Criterium was the first of a five-day series of races called the Crossroads Classic. Subsequent events were held on Thursday in Salisbury, Friday in Statesville, Saturday in Charlotte and Sunday in Winston-Salem.

The mission of the Davie County United Way is to unite the voluntary strength of our community to care for one another. This is achieved through direct programs facilitated by DCUW such as Call 211 Services, Home Loss Prevention Program and Day of Caring. DCUW also provides grants to partner agencies for programs that focus on one or more of three impact areas: Children and Youth, Health and Wellness and Crisis Intervention. For more information contact the DCUW office at 751-0313 or visit www.davieunitedway.org.

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