

For Immediate Release

May 29, 2007

3,000 MILES, EIGHT MEN, TWO TEAMS, ONE MISSION

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On June 12, two teams of four men will embark on a journey across America. These eight men, who make up the teams, Ari's Angels (from PA) and Shannon's Soldiers (from AZ), will bike over 3,000 miles from San Diego, CA to Atlantic City, NJ in the 2007 Race Across America (RAAM) in support of neurofibromatosis (NF) research, a disorder which both team captain's daughters suffer from. NF causes tumors to grow on nerves anywhere on or in the body and can have devastating effects. They are raising funds for the Children's Tumor Foundation (CTF), the leading non-profit organization dedicated to enabling effective treatments and one day, a cure for NF.

Known as one of the toughest endurance events in the world, RAAM offers long-distance cyclists the opportunity to challenge themselves to the height of their abilities. Over 1400 cyclists have completed RAAM since its first edition in 1982. 220 more will test their skills this year. These modern day heroes brave the desert, plains and mountain weather, lead a crew in a mini-organization of support, and raise thousands of dollars for charities around the world. "RAAM unites people of all backgrounds, nationalities, and cycling histories in an adventure that challenges them to the core of everything they are," says Fred Boethling, who bought rights to the race in 2006, after becoming the oldest man to successfully race RAAM Solo across the country. "It's man against the elements, the road, and ultimately, him or herself."

Steve Kendra, Team Captain of Ari's Angels states, "We are riding to raise awareness and funding to for neurofibromatosis research, a genetic disorder with which my youngest daughter and the team captain of Shannon's Soldiers, Pat Mahoney's daughter have struggled." Kendra, who is also the NF Marathon Team Director for the Children's Tumor Foundation says, "We are taking part in a celebration of the capacity of the human spirit to overcome adversity. There are thousands of children and adults suffering the devastating effects of neurofibromatosis, who overcome whatever hurdles are thrown in their paths. We are doing this to honor them, to bring awareness to their plight, and to ask for assistance in helping to end this difficult disorder." Kendra, as well as the other three members of Ari's Angels: Bill Edmonds, Bill Hardy and John Hardy, as well as their sister team from Phoenix, comprised of Pat Mahoney, John Asher, Dan Schmidt, and Peter Alexandre are on a mission to not only complete the cross-country trek, but also to raise \$400,000 for NF research.

To learn more about RAAM, and to monitor the team's progress during the race visit www.raceacrossamerica.org. For more information about Ari's Angels and Shannon's Soldiers, visit <http://www.active.com/donate/nfraa2007>.

About the Children's Tumor Foundation:

The Children's Tumor Foundation is the leading not-for-profit health organization dedicated to improving the health and well being of the 1 in 3,000 individuals living with neurofibromatosis by funding research to enable effective treatments and ultimately a cure for NF. For more information about neurofibromatosis and the Children's Tumor Foundation, please visit www.ctf.org or call 212-344-6633.