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FAN TIPS FOR STAGE 6 FINISH

Saturday, April 26, 2008

BRASSTOWN BALD MOUNTAIN, TOWNS COUNTY., GA

EVENT: Blairsville/Union Co., Ga. to Brasstown Bald Mtn/Towns County, Ga.
Distance – 88.4 miles (142.3 km) -- Start 11:00 a.m. Expected finish 2:15-3:10 p.m.
KOMs (3) - Hogpen Gap, Unicoi Gap, Brasstown Bald Mtn (4,783 feet); Sprint (1) – Blairsville

DETAILS: Blairsville, the seat of Union County, will host the stage start for a third time (2005 and 2006). Nestled in the heart of the Northeast Georgia Mountains, Union County is a unique blend of modern America that maintains the charm of the legendary Appalachian era. Cyclists from across the Southeast and beyond come to Union County year round to train, while taking in some of Georgia's most breathtaking views.

Towns County, in the northeast corner of Georgia, is as rich in natural beauty as when the Cherokees roamed the land. Visitors can enjoy authentic mountain music, arts and crafts, fine lodging, dining and resort facilities and a multitude of recreational opportunities all designed to make a visit to Towns County memorable. A trip to Towns County is not complete without a visit to Brasstown Bald Mountain. It is the highest point in Georgia, with its 360-degree vista of four states and 4,784-foot elevation.

CONTACT: For the latest updates and information visit www.mountaintopga.com or call 800-984-1543 or 706-896-4966.

PARKING /

ROAD CLOSING: Ga 180 Spur to Brasstown Bald Mountain will be closing to the public on Friday, April 25 at 12:00 noon to prepare for the Tour de Georgia presented by AT&T cycling event. The mountain will reopen at 8:00 a.m., April 26 for public pedestrian access (walkers and bicyclists) to GA 180 spur. As in the past, there will be no bicycle access past the parking lot area at the top of the mountain. No cars are allowed in the parking lot at the mountain this year, except those with Tour de Georgia parking permits. Roads not reopened after the race until the last riders have finished.

Spectators wishing to see the race on the mountain are encouraged to park along the shoulder Hwy. 180 and take a shuttle bus (\$5 round trip) up Spur 180 to the Brasstown Bald parking lot. If parking a vehicle along Hwy 180, all wheels must be OFF the pavement to avoid interference with the race and avoid ticketing. Spectators are encouraged to hike to the top, or ride bicycles, and enjoy the Live Healthy Georgia Expo near the finish line!

SHUTTLE: Limited shuttle service will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the base of Ga 180 Spur to the parking lot on Brasstown Bald Mtn. A fee of \$5 for spectators is good for round-trip transportation.

RACE VIEWING: There will be exceptional viewing along the route, including the three-mile section of climbing from Jacks Gap on Ga Hwy 180 and Brasstown Bald Mountain on the Ga Hwy 180 Spur. There are also great viewing opportunities along United Community Bank King of the Mountain climbs on Hogpen Gap and Unicoi Gap that day. For maps and log sheets, visit www.tourdegeorgia.com.

ROLLING

FESTIVAL:

Friday, April 25

Blairsville/Union Co.

6:00 - 9:00 p.m., Night Before The Climb, in Downtown Blairsville at Seasons Inn Plaza on the Square; No Admission Fee; Outdoor Dining and Musical Entertainment by Sundown. Free. Information at www.DowntownBlairsville.com.

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9:30 a.m., Autograph Alley/Rider Sign-in opens

10 a.m. Start Ceremonies – Color Guard and national anthem

Saturday, April 26

Brasstown Bald Mtn/Towns Co.

8:00 a.m., 5th Annual Circle the Bald Bike Ride. Start/finish in Hiawassee, Ga. at Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds with 12 and 36 mile options. \$30 registration after April 19; limited to 1,000 riders. Information and registration at www.sabacycling.com

11:00 – 3:30 p.m., Health & Wellness Expo; free. Includes: Family-friendly activities, local vendors, food and beverage vendors, big screen with live race action