



BISSELL'S RICHARD ENGLAND CAPTURES STAGE FIVE VICTORY AT TOUR DE GEORGIA PRESENTED BY AT&T *Stage Five – Suwanee to Dahlonega*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*Sixth Edition
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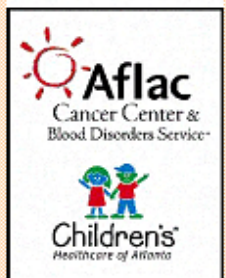
2.8 million spectators in five years

15 of the best national and international cycling teams

4,000 volunteers each year

\$27 million in direct economic impact in 2007

BENEFITING



DAHLONEGA, Ga. (April 25, 2008) – Australian Richard England of Bissell Pro Cycling used a downhill decent in the final 500 meters to push himself to a Stage Five victory at 2008 Tour de Georgia presented by AT&T. Thousands of spectators lined the streets of Dahlonega to see 22 in the pro peloton battle for the finish line adjacent to North Georgia College and State University. Finishing just behind England was fellow Aussie Rory Sutherland of Health Net presented by Maxxis and American George Hincapie of Team High Road.

"I knew that if I was in first around the corner, even though there were guys with good legs behind me, I knew I was still going to have a chance on the podium," said England, a third-year professional rider about the end of his five hours of racing 133.4 miles (214.7 km). "I went around the corner and gave it everything I had to the finish line and ended up coming out on front."

After today's action, Trent Lowe (AUS) of Slipstream Chipotle moved to first place in the General Classification and donned the AT&T Overall Leader Jersey. Slipstream, which won Thursday's Team Time Trial, has riders rounding out the G.C. Top 3 with David Zabriskie (USA) in second and Christian Vande Velde (USA) in third. Americans Levi Leipheimer and Chris Horner of Astana moved up to fourth and fifth, respectively, in the G.C.

While Lowe also leads the GE Best Young Rider classification, that award jersey will be worn by Christian Meier (CAN) of Symmetrics Cycling, currently second in points. Edward King (USA) of Bissell will wear the United Community Bank King of the Mountain (KOM) jersey. Tim Johnson (USA) of Health Net presented by Maxxis was awarded the Georgia Lottery Most Aggressive Rider jersey for two attacks on the mountain stage.

Stage Five, the longest stage of the week, began in Suwanee/Gwinnett County, a first-time venue for the Tour. The 117 riders departed from Town Center Park, a part of the 63-acre Suwanee Town Center, at 10:00 a.m. The first of two mountain stages, Stage Five was a battlefield for climbers. Three United Community Bank King of the Mountain competitions were contested in front of huge crowds at Burnt Mountain, Woody Gap and Crown Mountain before finishing in the gold rush town of Dahlonega. Four riders, including Johnson and King, were part of a four-man break that led for most of the race, but melted into the peloton at the final KOM.

"There's great crowds in Georgia," Johnson said about the spectators along the route today. "For myself, I rode for Jittery Joe's in '05, I lived in Athens, Georgia for half the year, so I heard a

lot of 'Go Tim' out there which, I gotta say, when you travel far and wide to race, it's pretty nice to hear your name yelled when you're going by. But for sprinters like Richard (England), that's what you need to get over a climb. If you're not 100% confident you're gonna make it, when you hear people screaming, it definitely helps."

Stage Six, the "Queen Stage" of the Tour, will launch from Blairsville/Union County at 11:00 a.m. and engage riders in an intense 88.4-mile (142.2 km) journey through the Appalachian Mountains of north Georgia. UCB KOM points will be earned at Hogpen and Unicoi Gaps before the stage finish at the highest spot in Georgia (4,783 feet), Brasstown Bald Mountain in Towns County. Spectators will see the peloton ride through Blairsville two times, as the riders contest a Georgia Power Sprint line in the town square after 38.9 miles in Union County. The riders are expected to arrive at Brasstown Bald between 2:15-3:15 p.m.

Official Results – Top 10 - Stage Five

<u>Position</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Rider</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Gap</u>
1.	85	ENGLAND, Richard	BPC	5.15'15"	
2.	91	SUTHERLAND, Rory	HNM	5.15'15"	
3.	21	HINCAPIE, George	THR	5.15'15"	
4.	45	PINFOLD, Andrew	SYM	5.15'15"	
5.	142	SAVILLA, Oscar	RRC	5.15'15"	
6.	3	LEIPHEIMER, Levi	AST	5.15'15"	
7.	111	ALDAPE, Moises	TT1	5.15'15"	
8.	11	JULICH, Bobby	CSC	5.15'15"	
9.	65	LOWE, Trent	TSL	5.15'15"	
10.	121	WILSON, Trent	JIT	5.15'15"	

General Classification

<u>Position</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Rider</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Gap</u>
1.	65	AUS	LOWE, Trent	TSL	16.33'29"	
2.	68	USA	ZABRISKE, David	TSL	16.33'29"	
3.	67	USA	VANDE VELDE, Christian	TSL	16.33'29"	

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The Tour de Georgia presented by AT&T is North America's premier, professional cycling event and rolling festival of community activities. The Tour was first held in 2003 and has become a spring tradition with a varying route of over 600 miles of racing. Over 2.8 million spectators have traveled to Georgia to watch the event in the past five years, and direct economic impact has totaled over \$148 million. The event is sanctioned by the Union Cycliste Internationale (2.HC ranking), and is part of the USA Cycling Professional Tour USA Cycling, Inc., making the event one of the top stage races for elite athletes around the world. The Tour de Georgia is owned and operated by the Tour de Georgia Foundation (501 c3) and managed by Medalist Sports (www.medalistsports.com). Route maps, host venue information, merchandise offerings and sponsor news are available at the official website, www.tourdegeorgia.com.

ABOUT USA CYCLING

Recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee and the Union Cycliste Internationale, USA Cycling promotes American cycling through its 60,000 members and 2,500 annual events. USA Cycling associations include the BMX Association (BMX), National Off-Road Bicycle Association (mountain bike), U.S. Cycling Federation (road/track), the National Collegiate Cycling Association and the U.S. Professional Racing Organization professional men's road). USA Cycling is the license holder for the USA Cycling Professional Individual Time Trial Championships and USA Cycling Professional Road Race Championships. For more information visit www.usacycling.org, or contact USA Cycling Director of Communications, Andy Lee at 719-866-4867.

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The Aflac Cancer Center and Blood Disorders Service of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is a national leader among childhood cancer, hematology, and blood and marrow transplant programs, serving infants to young adults. Recognized as one of the top five pediatric cancer centers in the country by Child magazine, the Aflac Cancer Center treats more than 325 new cancer patients each year and follows more than 2,000 patients with sickle cell disease, hemophilia and other blood disorders. The Aflac Cancer Center is one of many programs at Children's committed to enhancing the lives of children through excellence in patient care, research and education. Children's, one of the top three pediatric healthcare systems in the country, is a not-for-profit organization that benefits from the generous philanthropic and volunteer support of our community. Visit www.aflaccancercenter.org or call 404-250-KIDS for more information.

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