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University of San Diego

Office of Public Relations

News Bureau

CHAMPION BICYCLISTS, STUDENTS FROM THROUGHOUT STATE COMPETE IN 6TH ANNUAL USD PRO/AM BIKE RACE

Professional cyclists and hundreds of California college students will compete in the University of San Diego Associated Students' Sixth Annual Grand Prix Bicycle Race on Saturday and Sunday, February 7 and 8.

The event begins at 8 a.m. each day and runs until 4:30 p.m. throughout Alcalá Park, the picturesque 180-acre USD campus located atop a majestic hill on the west end of Mission Valley with a breathtaking view of Mission Bay, San Diego Harbor, and Tecolote Canyon.

All races are sanctioned by the U.S. Cycling Federation. Each day's premier professional race will take place at 3:00 p.m.

Professionals and amateurs will compete for a \$5,000 purse. Collegiate cyclists will compete for medals and points towards their schools' standing within the Western Collegiate Cycling Conference (WCCC).

Cyclists must register at least 30 minutes before their intended events; registration on both Saturday and Sunday begins at 7 a.m. Spectators are welcome at no charge.

The USD Associated Students is hosting the event with additional sponsor contributions by Adams Avenue Bikes, Mon-Systeme Team Outfitters and Sportswear, GatorZ Sports Optics, Speedplay, Subway, Travel Lodge, Powerbar, and numerous bike

stores in the area. A USD Little Grand Prix (mountain bike racing) open to students and competitors alike will take place on Saturday at 1:00 p.m., just before the top pro race at 3:00 p.m.

The field of competitors will include former Olympic medalists, world champions, and cyclists who have raced in the Tour de France and other major international competitions. U.S. professional and amateur teams expected to compete include Subaru-Montgomery, Chevrolet/L.A. Sheriffs, Coors Light and Spago as well as teams from the 22 universities within the WCCC.

For more information, contact race co-directors Lauren Riaski or Jen Hardin, 260-6827.