



News From the Pittsburgh 250 News Bureau

For Immediate Release

Editor's Note: Please use "American Eagle Outfitters® Tour of Pennsylvania™, presented by Highmark Healthy High 5®" on first reference.

Contact:

Pam Golden
Allegheny Conference
412.392.4555, ext. 4528
pgolden@alleghenyconference.org

Jason Snyder
WordWrite Communications, LLC
724.935.7580
jason.snyder@wordwritepr.com

*Hundreds of thousands expected in Pittsburgh for Anniversary Celebration
Pittsburgh 250 Celebration Swings Into High Gear in June with Full Schedule of Events*

PITTSBURGH, June 18, 2008 – As the summer heats up, so does Pittsburgh 250, the yearlong celebration of the 250th anniversary of the naming of the region. With such Pittsburgh 250 events as the Parade of Champions, American Eagle Outfitters® Tour of Pennsylvania™ presented by Highmark Healthy High 5® and the rededication of the Boulevard of the Allies headlining a two-week span of festivities in late June, southwestern Pennsylvania is connecting its storied past with its exciting future.

With 300,000 people expected to converge on the city for these and other events, including South Side Celebrates 250 and the Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta, Pittsburgh will celebrate its 250th anniversary in grand fashion.

The following events highlight a June that kicks Pittsburgh 250 into high gear.:

Federated Investors Parade of Champions

Pittsburgh welcomes back some of its most famous sports heroes from **Friday, June 20 through Sunday, June 22**, during a three-day ultimate fan festival at the Senator John Heinz History Center and Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum.

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Throughout the weekend, families and sports enthusiasts can get autographs from former Pittsburgh champion athletes, including Pirates 1960 World Series stars Dick Groat, Bob Friend, and Elroy Face. Fans will also have the opportunity to see championship trophies from the Pittsburgh Penguins, Pirates, and Steelers, including their five Lombardi trophies. For more information, visit

www.pghhistory.org/ParadeofChampions.asp

The American Eagle Outfitters[®] Tour of Pennsylvania[™], presented by Highmark Healthy High 5[®]

Winding from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, the American Eagle Outfitters[®] Tour of Pennsylvania[™], presented by Highmark Healthy High 5[®], is a six-day, 420-mile, cycling stage race featuring 18 teams of six riders each (ages 18 to 24), including seven international and 11 U.S. teams. The Tour, scheduled for **June 24 to 29**, is sanctioned by the International Cycling Union and will feature future stars of the Olympics and Tour de France. The prize list of \$150,000 is the world's largest ever for this type of race.

The Versus cable network will air 30 minute highlights of the race nightly at 6 p.m. beginning on Wednesday, June 25, through Saturday, June 28. Live coverage will begin at 5 p.m. Sunday, June 29 on PCNC; 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Versus; and 6 p.m. on WPXI. WPXI's sister station, WJAC in Johnstown, Pa., also will broadcast portions of the race. For more information, including stage start and stop locations and times, go to www.touropa.com.

The final two stages of the race finish in Pittsburgh. Stage 5 finishes on Saturday, June 28, on South Side and the Pittsburgh Criterium – the final stage – finishes in downtown Pittsburgh on Sunday, June 29.

Press interested in covering the event should apply for media credentials, as soon as possible, by going to www.touropa.com and clicking on the Media Credentials button.

Highmark Healthy High 5[®] Finish Line Festivals

Highmark Healthy High 5[®] Finish Line Festivals, which are free and open to the community, will be held in Carlisle, Bedford, Latrobe, Pittsburgh's South Side and

downtown Pittsburgh. Festival activities are designed to provide fun, engaging activities for kids that promote health and wellness. In addition, national champion mountain bike rider Mike Steidley will perform stunt shows at each festival. Steidley has represented the United States at seven World Championship competitions and holds five national titles.

Pennsylvania's Forbes Trail: Gateways and Getaways along the Legendary Route from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh

The Tour of Pennsylvania race route roughly follows the Forbes Trail – a historic road that British and American troops cut across the Pennsylvania wilderness in 1758, the story of which is told in a new book, *Pennsylvania's Forbes Trail: Gateways and Getaways along the Legendary Route from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh*.

Now available, the book provides unprecedented access for families, tourists and others to the American history, diverse culture and outdoor activity along the trail. The soft-cover, 208-page book is fully color illustrated and contains, among other things, 42 themed one-day tours, original illustrations, photographs, maps, and lodging and dining recommendations. For more information, go to <http://www.forbestrail.org>.

South Side Celebrates 250

Presented by riverset credit union, South Side celebrates 250 will be held from **12 to 6 p.m., Saturday, June 28**, as Stage 5 of the Tour of Pennsylvania finishes there. Visitors to South Side will find fun, family-oriented activities, including shopping, food, and entertainment. At 9:30 p.m., fireworks will light up the skies over South Side.

Rededication of the Boulevard of the Allies

More than 1,000 veterans and active duty military service members along with representatives from several of World War I's Allied Nations will be present on Sunday, June 29, for the rededication of the Boulevard of the Allies. The ceremony will honor all American veterans and U.S. Allies on the 90th anniversary of the signing of the treaty that ended World War I.

The Boulevard of the Allies was dedicated on August 8, 1921. World War I ended on November 11, 1918.

Rededication activities include a United States Air Force flyover by the 911th Airlift Wing, attendance of international dignitaries including the ambassadors from Greece, Guatemala and New Zealand, a 21-gun salute by the 107th Field Artillery military color guards and a dove release. American flags are being installed permanently on the Boulevard of the Allies. Thirty banners in honor of the Allied Nations will be mounted on poles along the Boulevard.

The Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta

The Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta, scheduled for July 3 and 4, will be held on the North Shore for the first time. Last year, the regatta was held at Station Square. Events include the F-1 ChampBoat Series, a July 4 concert by Soul Asylum and a fireworks and laser display July 4 by Zambelli Fireworks.

During upcoming Pittsburgh 250 events, some streets will be closed. For detailed information of changes in traffic patterns, road closures, limited access to downtown garages and Port Authority Transit bus route changes, please visit www.imaginepittsburgh.com. Click on Pittsburgh 250 and Traffic Alerts.

About Pittsburgh 250:

Pittsburgh 250 is the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the naming of the region in 1758. With the support of business, government and civic leaders from across the region, Pittsburgh 250 has set three goals: Improve awareness of Southwestern Pennsylvania as a global leader in arts, science and quality of life through an integrated regional marketing effort; support the completion of lasting signature projects that connect the region's past to its future; and improve the region's competitiveness for future generations by encouraging grassroots participation in improving communities, attracting visitors, and living healthier lives.

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