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For Immediate Release

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Delaware Attracts National Breakaway USA Bike Tour** *Two-day event planned from Wilmington to Dover in late May*

**Dover, DE (February 13, 2007)** - The Delaware Tourism Office is pleased to announce that Breakaway USA, a national provider of recreational cycling events, will bring a two-day "Tour of Delaware" ride to the First State.

"We wanted to host a national event that would promote local attractions and offer greater tourism exposure to communities in Delaware," said Tim Morgan, Director of the Delaware Tourism Office. "The Breakaway USA tour will offer cyclists and tourists a great opportunity to tour the First State from Wilmington to our state capital of Dover."

The two-day event will begin Saturday, May 19 at 8:00 a.m. at the Chase Center in Wilmington. Riders will travel 62 miles, a "metric century" (100 kilometers), through historic sections of Wilmington and the open countryside en route to Dover. The first of two chip-timed segments will take place with the one-mile climb over the C&D Canal Bridge in Delaware City. Upon arriving in Dover, riders can take part in the After Party, a gathering for riders, family and friends, that features live music, food, and the Health Village. Vendors of products and services focused on health and wellness make up the Health Village and attendees are able to gather new information, watch product demonstrations and sample foods.

On Sunday morning, phase two of the event kicks off with a chip-timed lap of Dover International Speedway before a 44-mile course that winds through Dover and the surrounding region. The event concludes at noon on Sunday back at Dover International Speedway for the awards and recognition event.

"The Delaware landscape provides the perfect venue for recreational cycling – relatively flat terrain, great country roads and historical sights, and the exciting opportunity for participants to ride on the International Speedway track.," said Brian McHugh, Breakaway USA Vice President of Sales and Marketing. "When you add in the great people of Delaware, it makes for an optimal location."

In addition to the two-day “Tour of Delaware” May 19-20, Breakaway USA will be staging events in cities across the country. Information on the 2007 Breakaway USA cycling series, including online registration, can be found at [www.gobreakaway.com](http://www.gobreakaway.com). Pictures of Breakaway USA events are available at the following link: <http://dedo.delaware.gov/Breakaway.zip>.

For more biking adventures, explore Delaware’s many bicycle paths. For example, the Southern Delaware Heritage Trail provides 130 miles of designated bicycle paths along historic towns like Millsboro, Milton, Seaford and Laurel. Bicycle Route One is a preferred route for experienced bicyclists traveling from Northern Delaware to the beaches. Mountain bikers will want to hit Newark’s Iron Hill Park, with its 40-foot drop “mega-dip.” The Bellevue Bikeway at Bellevue State Park is part of the Northern Delaware Greenway with paved paths that offer bikers a view of the Delaware River.

**About Delaware Tourism Office:** The Delaware Tourism Office, 99 Kings Highway in Dover, Del., a division of the Delaware Economic Development Office, promotes tourism and economic growth in Delaware. For more information, visit the official Delaware Tourism Web site at [www.visitdelaware.com](http://www.visitdelaware.com) or call toll-free (866) 284-7483.

**About Breakaway USA:** Breakaway USA is a national provider of recreational cycling events and advocate for healthy living. Founded on a mission to deliver high-quality cycling events that attract and engage all fitness levels, Breakaway USA leverages the growth of recreational cycling as an innovative health and wellness strategy. Breakaway USA has grown to become a valued partner with individuals, employers, communities and health care professionals in the movement to healthier lifestyles. For more information, please visit [www.gobreakaway.com](http://www.gobreakaway.com).

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