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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheri Clark  
Race Director  
(559) 285-7932

### RACE ORGANIZERS HUNT FOR HOST FAMILIES

VISALIA — With almost a dozen professional and elite race teams already committed to ride in The Quad Knopf Sequoia Cycling Classic March 17-18, race organizers are putting a call out to those looking to rub elbows with the pros.

Organizers are on the hunt for families who can open up their homes and host professional cyclists headed to the two-day race. Now that the Tulare County event has been added to the National Race Calendar, riders can earn points at the race toward USA Cycling's National Championship.

“This year we are going to have a huge influx of riders from outside the area that are hoping to stay with local hosts. It's a chance to hang out with the pros — see how they live, see how they train and help them out,” said Race Director Sheri Clark. “These are not pro football players — they don't make hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.”

Professional and amateur cyclists are expected to head into the area to scout out courses several days before the weekend of racing begins in Exeter and Visalia, Clark said. Most riders will only be looking for housing Friday through Sunday. Those families who choose to host cyclists will be recognized with a free lunch at the VIP Pavilion during Sunday's Visalia Criterium.

Returning in 2007 for the second consecutive year following a three-year hiatus, the Quad Knopf Sequoia Cycling Classic is aiming to reclaim its reputation as a Tulare County staple with its billing on the National Race Calendar.

Hundreds are expected to attend the event, which will take place on St. Patrick's Day weekend. The Exeter Time Trial will kick off racing on March 17 and will be followed the next day by the Visalia Criterium in downtown Visalia.

For more information on the Quad Knopf Sequoia Cycling Classic, visit the race's official Web site at [www.sequoiaclassic.org](http://www.sequoiaclassic.org) or contact Sheri Clark at (559) 285-7932. To volunteer for host housing, contact Shaun Bagley at (559) 300-3378 or e-mail him at [shaunb93291@yahoo.com](mailto:shaunb93291@yahoo.com).



P.O. Box 155 • Lindsay, CA • 93247



### **About USA Cycling**

USA Cycling is a family of organizations that promotes and governs different disciplines of the sport, and that works as one to build the sport of bicycle racing, assist with athlete development and sustain international competitive excellence.

### **About Quad Knopf**

Established in 1972, Quad Knopf provides professional services for projects in both the public and private sectors. Recently ranked by Engineering News Record as one of the Top 500 Design Firms in the United States, its 350-person staff includes: civil and structural engineering, land development planning and engineering, land use planning, architecture, surveying, biological and environmental sciences and construction phase services. Based in Visalia, Calif., the firm also has offices in Bakersfield, Fresno, Roseville and Reno, Nev.

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