

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# 2008 Univest Grand Prix Returns Top International Cycling To Eastern Pennsylvania

Doylestown, Pa. -- The Univest Grand Prix, which has won international acclaim as a grueling bicycle race that showcases the best rising stars in the sport, returns to Souderton, Pa. and Doylestown in 2008 with a world-class line-up of 180 racers. Among the competitors are the team that won the inaugural Tour of Pennsylvania and the Ukrainian cyclist who claimed a dramatic win in the Lehigh Valley Classic in June.

The Univest Grand Prix features a tough 101-mile road race on Saturday, Sept. 6 that wends its way through the rolling countryside of Bucks and Montgomery counties before the uphill finish in Souderton. Racing continues with a fast, tactical criterium race on Sunday, Sept. 7 in Doylestown. The Souderton race will be televised live by WFMZ Channel 69, and both the Doylestown race and the Souderton events will be broadcast by NBC affiliate Universal Sports, formerly known as WCSN. In addition to live TV, post-race coverage will be broadcast on Comcast SportsNet. Both days of racing will be broadcast live on WNPV Info-Radio.

"The Univest Grand Prix has earned a reputation as one of the world's toughest cycling races, and it has become one of this region's most popular annual events. This year's Saturday and Sunday race courses incorporate five local community festivals, and we expect more than 40,000 spectators to see the exciting competition. We are proud that the Univest Grand Prix is achieving our goals of bringing people together and building stronger, more vibrant communities," said K. Leon Moyer, president and chief executive officer of Univest National Bank and Trust Co.

The 2008 field includes the Kelly Benefits team, which won the first Tour of Pennsylvania earlier this year, and the Amore e Vita/McDonald's team led by Yuriy Metlushanko, who won a dramatic photofinish sprint in Allentown, Pa. in June to take the first Lehigh Valley Classic and finish second overall in the Commerce Bank Triple Crown of Cycling. The race also will include teams from Mexico, Sweden, Germany, Canada, and across the United States.

"The Univest Grand Prix is proud of its reputation for spotlighting the best rising new talent in cycling, from Belgian Tom Boonen to American Will Frischkorn, who both went on to Tour de France glory. This year's field is very talented, and I expect the two days of racing will provide plenty of thrills for both

riders and fans," said race promoter John Eustice, a former professional cyclist, two-time United States Professional Champion and president of Sparta Cycling Inc.

The enhanced racing program will be complemented by an array of community events and activities. The popular Cyclosportif 100K recreational ride will return on Saturday, Sept. 6, giving participants an opportunity to challenge themselves on the racecourse of the Univest Grand Prix. This year's ride will be presented by Byers' Choice, LTD and Bicycling Magazine, with support by Valley Forge Convention & Visitors Bureau, visitPA.com, and Bucks County Convention & Visitors Bureau. The Cyclosportif will benefit Penn Foundation, a Sellersville-based non-profit that provides comprehensive behavioral healthcare to persons in need of hope, healing, and compassion.

During the professional race on Saturday, spectators in Souderton can enjoy a Family Fun Zone from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Univest Plaza, which includes children's activities, a book signing and photo opportunities with Mike Berenstain and the Berenstain Bears, community displays, giveaways, regional foods and more. Children's sprints will also be part of the schedule while the pro cyclists are racing out in the countryside. Spectators in Lansdale will be treated to children's sprints on Main Street at 10:00 a.m. and a community festival hosted by the North Penn Boys and Girls Club from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Lansdale activities will take place at Main Street and Susquehanna Avenue in the municipal lot adjacent to the Boys and Girls Club.

The community events continue on Sunday in Doylestown with children's races at 10:30 a.m. followed by the start of the professional race at 11:00 a.m. This year marks the fifth anniversary of the Univest Criterium of Doylestown, which provides a second day of fast-paced, circuit-style racing, a much different event than the Classic road race held on Saturday. In addition to the professional race, the Doylestown Business and Community Alliance will once again hold the Doylestown Arts Festival in conjunction with the Univest Grand Prix. The race route will showcase the festival by providing spectators and attendees an opportunity to watch the race while enjoying the work of local artists.

#### About Univest Grand Prix:

Patterned after the great classic races of Europe, the Univest Grand Prix showcases the beauty of 17 municipalities. From its inception, the cycling event was developed to provide opportunities for young athletes to advance, while also uniting the towns throughout Bucks and Montgomery counties for a community celebration. For more information visit www.univestgrandprix.com.

## About Univest Corporation:

Univest Corporation and its subsidiaries, Univest National Bank and Trust Co., Univest Insurance, Inc., and Univest Investments, Inc., provide support and leadership in their communities and offer a wide range of financial services to individuals, businesses, municipalities and nonprofit organizations throughout Bucks, Chester and Montgomery counties. For more information, visit www.univest.net.

## About Sparta Cycling:

Sparta Cycling provides race promotion services to deliver world class events that meet the needs of sponsors, athletes, spectators and supporting communities. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.spartacycling.com">www.spartacycling.com</a>.

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