

# Orlando

March 2006

## Mayor's Race Joins Nation's Top Cycling Events

Mayor Claudio F. Hood's Festival of Speed, set for April 13-14, 2006, joins the country's top cycling events as part of the 2002 National Racing Calendar (NRC). The City of Orlando has teamed up with FloridaRacing.net, the Central Florida Sports Commission and the Downtown Development Board to host the event.

The Lake Eola Criterium will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 13. On Sunday, April 14th, the festival will continue with the Lake Nona Circuit Race.

The weekend-long cycling event recently gained the acceptance of the U.S. Cycling Federation (USCF) as one of the top fifty road cycling events in the nation. It will introduce some of the world's top professional cyclists to Orlando's Bicycle Friendly City and allow them to compete for a prize purse, while providing free family entertainment to the community.

The Festival of Speed is the result of an aggressive bicycle facility improvement plan over the last decade led by Mayor Hood. "We are a bicycle friendly city, doing to increase cycling options within our city. This event will be a great way to support the world cyclists in our community and introduce our residents to Orlando's many bicycling options," said Mayor Hood.



### Orlando Makes Substantial Bicycling Progress:

- 1998 Bicycling Magazine rated Orlando as the second worst city for bicycling in America.
- 1999 Bicycling Magazine ranked Orlando's bicycling friendly progress.
- 2002 Mayor Hood challenged city staff to complete 100 miles (at the time the city had about 30).
- 1998-1999 30 percent increase in goal resulted in building 18 miles of bikeways per year. City staff completed 500 miles of new bikeways and integrated bicycling into the city's development plan.
- 2000 Orlando named "Bicycle Friendly Community" by League of American Bicyclists.
- 2001 With 150 miles of bikeway facilities, Bicycling Magazine described Orlando's efforts as a "commendable push to make cycling safer, easier and more fun."
- 2002 1st Annual Festival of Speed race in Downtown Orlando added to National Racing Calendar by USCF.
- 2003 2nd Annual Festival of Speed NRC race scheduled for Lake Eola.
- 2004 3rd Annual Festival of Speed NRC race scheduled for Lake Eola.

## City of Orlando Mayor's Race Joins Nation's Top Cycling Events

Gold Medalist to Compete In Orlando's Festival of Speed!

Orlando's own Pan Am gold medalist in 1996 & 97, Ivan Dominguez will return to compete in the Festival of Speed Lake Eola Criterium Race on Saturday in the Pro 1-2 event.

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