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Last Updated: Tue 23 Oct, 8:14 pm BST

Zabriskie v. amateurs for charity

By BikeRadar



David Zabriskie (© Tim de Waele)

Twenty amateur riders challenged US time trial champ Dave Zabriskie in a three-mile time trial race up Traverse Mountain in Draper, Utah on October 5th. The race benefited Bikes for Kids Utah, which provides bikes for underprivileged children, and Yield to Life, which promotes safe cycling and the protection of cyclists.

The time trial started at the foot of Salt Lake City's Traverse Mountain, climbing over 1,300 feet up Traverse Ridge Road to finish at Suncrest Market. The mountain's average gradient was over eight percent, but that didn't stop Zabriskie powering up it to clock an unbeatable 14'03. In second place was Elliot Smith, who finished in 17'21, while Ken Webster was third in 17'26.

"The time trial was a lot of fun," said Zabriskie, the reigning US time trial champion. "The climbs in the mountains around the Salt Lake Valley are just as difficult as the climbs I've raced on in Europe. I still raced my hardest, but it was a lot more relaxing racing for charity and hanging out with the local riders and racers."

"The climbs in the mountains around the Salt Lake Valley are just as difficult as the climbs I've raced on in Europe."

The top three in each age category were awarded Team CSC jerseys autographed by Zabriskie.

Results

1 Dave Zabriskie	0:14:03.14
2 Elliott Smith	0:03:18.42
3 Ken Webster	0:03:23.67
4 Curtis Doman	0:05:23.39
5 Zane Morris	0:05:55.87
6 Gerald Greenleaf	0:07:24.00

7 Barry Gates	0:07:47.69
8 Dan Wilcox	0:09:21.97
9 Todd Holsten	0:09:29.72
10 Joe Taylor	0:09:38.62
11 Bryan Lepinske	0:09:47.34
12 Michael Conti	0:10:35.19
13 Shane Evertsen	0:10:56.10
14 Brian Grenier	0:11:04.35
15 Ann Hoffman	0:11:06.36
16 Karen John	0:11:41.90
17 Todd Reid	0:13:15.82
18 Scott Finlinson	0:13:19.16
19 Cyndie Daley	0:14:12.59
20 Lynn Smith	0:14:55.08

1,000 bikes, helmets and locks distributed

In spite of rain and cold temperatures, Bikes for Kids Utah secured the funds and volunteers needed to distribute free brand new bicycles, helmets, bike locks and bicycle safety instruction to 1,000 underprivileged Utah second graders, Saturday October 6, 2007.

Saturday's event also included 3K family and 50K fundraising rides and an exclusive ride with Zabriskie, a Salt Lake City native and the third American ever to wear the yellow jersey in the [Tour de France](#). Proceeds from the rides went towards providing the different items given to the children that day.

"Bikes for Kids Utah was successful on so many fronts," said Debbie Reid, founder and executive director of Bikes for Kids Utah. "We had great support from the community, Dave Zabriskie, sponsors, presenters, volunteers and the cyclists. Seeing a smile on the face of one child while receiving a bike was enough. Seeing hundreds of smiling faces made it even better."

Throughout the event, hundreds of Utah second-graders were greeted by more than 60 volunteers and sponsors who distributed bikes and accessories. Volunteers also led students through a bicycle safety fair. Students and their families walked from tent to tent collecting bicycle accessories, being fitted for helmets and watching a bicycle produce enough energy to turn on a light bulb, a display provided by Murray City Power, among others.

"This event is like the trick or treating of Halloween and the anticipation of Christmas rolled into one for these kids," said Rachael Bess, mother of Trishan Bess, a second grader from Sandy Elementary School. "This new bicycle is all Trishan has talked about for the last two weeks. You can be sure nothing was going to keep him from coming today."

Bikes for Kids Utah is funded through multiple sponsorships, a fundraiser dinner and silent auction and various fundraising rides held on the same day the bicycles were give to the children. One of rides participants contributed \$1,000 to ride 50k with Dave Zabriskie, the current two-time national time trial champion and the third American ever to wear the yellow jersey in the Tour de France.

"Cycling has been a huge part of my life," said Dave Zabriskie, Salt Lake native and Tour de France stage winner. "It has provided me with a lot of freedom and taught me that exercise, discipline and responsibility can be fun. It felt good helping the kids get their new bicycles and I hope they have as much fun with their bikes as I do with mine."

The Bikes for Kids fundraiser dinner and silent auction held Friday October 5 at the Hidden Valley Country

Club, raised more than \$11,000 through dinner tickets and donated auction items. Donated items included a Halo Xbox and 52-inch flat-screen TV from Costco, sunglasses from Smiths Sport Optics, fragrant gift sets from Nordstrom, autographed sports artwork of Stuart O'Grady, Lance Armstrong, Apolo Ono and Chad Hendrix by local teenage artist TJ Eisenhart, and numerous gift certificates by local vendors and sports teams, to name a few.

Bikes for Kids Utah also benefited from generous personal donations including US\$10,000 from Dave and Ginger Marshall, from Salt Lake City. Marshall was injured by a car while riding his bike. After using the insurance settlement to cover his medical bills and to replace his bike, Marshall donated the remaining portion of the settlement to support Bikes for Kids Utah. Dave and Ginger also attended Saturday's event as volunteers handing out the bikes.

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