

# TOUR Southern & Eastern Kentucky

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*Pictured above are two of the race teams that participated in the weekend events*

With the efforts of Congressman Hal Rogers, TOUR Southern and Eastern Kentucky (SEKTDA) and the America's Byways Program funding was provided for the Red River Gorge National Scenic Byways "Pedals and Blooms" First Annual Festival held on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>. The festival and other events were created to welcome home Powell County resident, Joe Bowen from his 14,000 mile and 16 month bicycle ride across the United States. This was a multi-county event with arts, crafts, food, live entertainment and "one wild ride" throughout the Gorge.

The Pedals and Blooms Festival consisted of bicycle events and races which brought in hundreds of participants, some as far away as Colorado Springs. Carl Wilkins an official from the 1996 Atlanta Olympics was in attendance and assisted with officiating races.

To prepare for the race, 40 "Share the Road" signs were installed along the bike routes and will become permanent fixtures in the Gorge area to promote future bicycling routes. This event has given this region something to build on for the future

"This is a world class event and will have more impact on this region than anyone can imagine. This event would not have been possible had it not been for the efforts of TOUR Southern and Eastern Kentucky (SEKTDA)" said Jeff Kennedy, True North Outfitters owner and race coordinator.

If you would like to know more about the June 2007 Bike Event, please contact Jeff Crowe at 606-677-6095 or [jcrowe@tourseky.com](mailto:jcrowe@tourseky.com)