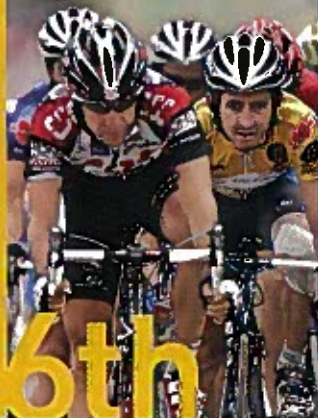


SEPTEMBER

4th-5th 12 HOURS OF PITCH BLACK SINGLETRACK, ROCKDALE, WI Ride for six, eight or 12 hours on a course that includes brand-new trails; all pass Heather's Rockdale Bar and Grill. Performance race shirts may be purchased at registration. pitchblacksingletrack.blogspot.com

VIVA LAS MONTAÑAS! THE TOUR OF SPAIN HITS THE CLIMBS TODAY, WITH A 206-KILOMETER ROUTE FROM ALZIRA TO ALTO DE AITANA. LAVUELTA.COM



11th-13th THREE NOTCH CENTURY, LINCOLN, NH Pedal 100 miles in one, two or three days while taking in fall scenery in the White Mountains. Proceeds benefit sports programs for disabled athletes. threenotchcentury.org

12th CIVIL WAR CENTURY, THURMONT, MD Ride the century to the South Mountain, Antietam and Gettysburg battlefields or roll through covered bridges on one of the four shorter routes. The finish party includes ice cream and fiddle music. baltobikeclub.org

ALSO ON THE 12th → BIKE WITH PIKE, WESTCLIFFE, CO Celebrate the life of explorer Zebulon Pike with a metric or full century in the Wet Mountains. Part of the ride follows original wagon-train routes; an 8-mile family ride tours the old mining district on the 13th. bikewithpike.org

ALSO ON THE 12th →

MAINE LIGHTHOUSE RIDE, SOUTH PORTLAND Visit as many as nine lighthouses while supporting the Eastern Trail Alliance, which aims to build a greenway from Kittery to South Portland. Riders can chow down on burgers, dogs, clam chowder and veggie chili. eastertrail.org



13th RIDE FOR KAREN, VAUGHAN, ONTARIO Ride 15, 62 or 100 miles to send kids with cancer to summer camp; over the past seven years, participants have raised nearly \$1 million. There's a postride lunch and a ride for children ages 2 to 12. rideforkaren.com

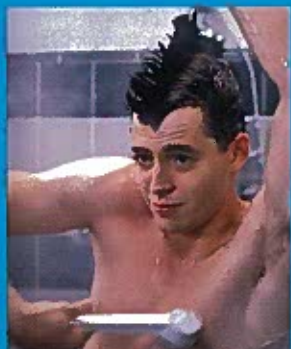
17th Former Talking Heads front man David Byrne chronicles his adventures cycling in cities around the world in the book *BICYCLE DIARIES*, which will be released today.



19th COTTON PATCH CHALLENGE, GREENVILLE, TX Ride 21, 31, 41, 54 or 65 miles, or test your mettle in the road race and time trial. Nonriders can enjoy music, kids' activities, a car show, a BBQ cook-off and a tour of the Railroad Museum. bikereg.com

ALSO ON THE 19th → TOUR DE CURE, THREE FORKS, MT Montana's first Tour de Cure begins at Missouri Headwaters State Park, where Lewis and Clark named the Jefferson, Gallatin and Madison rivers. Road routes range from 23 to 100 miles; there's also a 6-mile family bike-path ride. tour.diabetes.org

RIDE WITHOUT LIMITS, WAKE FOREST, NC Help fight cerebral palsy on 38, 64 or 100 miles of back roads, a few challenging hills and visits to small towns such as Pokomoke and Shoefly. Meals, entertainment, hot showers (right) and bike mechanics will be available. ridewithoutlimits.org



19th-20th

25th-27th NEW JERSEY RIDE AGAINST AIDS, HIGH POINT TO CAPE MAY Ride 250 miles from the highest point in the state to the southernmost point. You'll stay in hotels; organizers say sleeping arrangements will be "communal." \$1,500 fund-raising minimum; njrideagainstaids.org

26th NO BALONEY BICYCLE RIDE, PEORIA, IL Previously called "Gear Down the Geese," this 25-, 50-, 75- or 100-mile ride features a different culinary theme at each rest stop. "Come expecting the forest," organizers say, "and we'll give you the world." ivnobaloney.com

ALSO ON THE 26th → TAHOE SIERRA CENTURY, SQUAW VALLEY, CA You'll ride 30, 60 or 100 miles along Donner Lake and (for century riders) the North Shore of Lake Tahoe, which enjoys 274 days of sunshine a year. Refuel with pasta and gourmet pizza. tahoesierracentury.com

27th TOUR DE GREENBELT, TORONTO Ride 15, 31 or 62 miles through Ontario's Greenbelt, which includes 1.8 million acres of protected farmland, forests and wetlands. You'll get prairie snacks; lunch includes locally grown food. outfittourdegreenbelt.ca

ALSO ON THE 27th → YOM KIPPUR, the Jewish Day of Atonement, begins at sundown. In Israel, some also call it the Festival of Bicycles—it's considered bad etiquette to drive during the holiday, so cyclists take over city streets.

To find more events near you, visit BICYCLING.com/event_finder.

cool ride

TOUR DE RUIDOSO

BRING A CAMERA—AND YOUR CLIMBING LEGS

As you crest the rollers leaving the alpine village of Ruidoso, aspens give way to junipers and shrubbery, and the sky opens into the kind of bright blue expanse that inspired Georgia O'Keefe. Such long, gradual climbs are sprinkled throughout the out-and-back course. Add in heavy winds and altitudes that reach 7,485 feet,

TOUR DE RUIDOSO, RUIDOSO, NM
DATE: SEPTEMBER 20, 2009
DISTANCE: 20, 60 OR 100 MILES
INFO: BICYCLE RUIDOSO.COM

and you have a challenging ride. (I would know—I did 15 centuries last year.) But the feed stations keep you going: They're manned by enthusiastic volunteers from Ruidoso Hospice, and are stocked with peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches and homemade cookies. —Patti Murray

Plan Ahead

October 2-4, 2009

AUTUMN ESCAPE

BIKE TREK,

Plymouth to Provincetown, MA

Ride two or three days for 105 or 160 miles

along Cape Cod to benefit the American Lung Association. You'll spend the nights at Camp Burgess and Cape Cod Sea Camps. \$500 fund-raising minimum; lungne.org