

Local Contact: Dennis Borel
Executive Director
512.478.3366
www.capitolride05.org
www.cotwd.org



**350 Miles...7 Days...By HAND!
Mayor Cycles with Davenport on Last Leg
Final Stop: State Capitol Disability Rally**

AUSTIN, TEXAS March 8, 2005

WHAT: Police will be escorting Mayor Wynn, Mikail Davenport, and kids with disabilities using handcycles down Congress Avenue, as Davenport finishes the last leg of a seven day 350 mile handcycle journey to raise awareness of the capability of people with disabilities, cancer survivors and older Americans. Davenport, the kids, and the Mayor's trek down Congress will end on the South Steps of the Capitol, where CTD will be holding a disability rally and will be on hand to welcome Davenport home, before he begins visits to his legislators.

Davenport will be available to answer questions from the press and public. **This event offers unique photo and interview opportunities, and offers a great opportunity to meet with Capitol Ride '05 at the finish of a grueling 350 mile seven day hand cycle ride ending on the steps of the State Capitol on March 8th.**

WHEN: 1:30 pm, Tuesday, March 8, 2005

WHERE: South Steps of the State Capitol

WHO: Disability advocates, friends, families, supporters, and CTD partner organizations will be on hand to welcome Davenport, riding his hand cycle 350 across Texas, to raise awareness of the capabilities of people with disabilities and older adults.

Background/Contact Info: Mikail Davenport, 56, is a native Texan who contracted polio at age two. In 2002, after doctors removed 1/3 of his lung, he went on to successfully complete the 2003 Motorola Marathon. Davenport personifies the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities' mission of ensuring that people with all disabilities have the opportunity to live, learn, work, play and participate fully in the community of their choice. Capitol Ride '05 spotlights the potential of people with disabilities, older adults, and cancer survivors. Davenport knows that he is a messenger. At the kickoff press conference in Austin Davenport noted, "This is not about me. The message is that disabled does not mean unable. I can do anything. The only limit is the wall I hit with my disability, and I've been pushing that wall for a long time."

For more information about Capitol Ride '05 or the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, please contact CTD Board Member Crystal Lyons at 361.947.7201, CTD Executive Director Dennis Borel at 512.478.3366 or visit www.capitolride05.org