



For Immediate Release
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Metromint and Metromint Cycling Sponsor the 32nd Giro di San Francisco-- The Oldest Bicycle Race in San Francisco

WHAT: The 32nd annual Giro di San Francisco, presented by Metromint Cycling, Metromint, Lombardi Sports and VeloPromo is back! The City's oldest cycling race returns to downtown San Francisco with fast, exciting criterium racing for cyclists of all ages and abilities—from beginners to world-class pros. Entry details for racers can be found at www.velopromo.com.

WHO: The Women's Category 1/2/3 and Men's Pro 1/2 fields may include a number of former Olympians, National and World Champions, and some of North America's top professional cyclists. Many of Northern California's fastest cyclists will be racing throughout the day.

WHEN: **Labor Day, Monday, September 4**

8:00 a.m. - Women's Category 4
8:40 a.m. - Masters 35+, Cat 4/5
9:30 a.m. - Women, Category 3
10:20 a.m. - Category 4/5
11:10 a.m. - Masters 45+ & 55+
11:50 a.m. - Masters 35+, Category 1/2/3
12:40 p.m. - SF Kids' Races
1:10 p.m. - Women, Category 1/2/3
2:10 p.m. - Category 3
3:00 p.m. - Pro/1/2

WHERE: Levi's Plaza, Battery Street at Union Street, San Francisco

- VISUALS:** Packs of colorful cyclists sprinting around a six-turn, .75-mile course. This year the expo area on Union Street, near the start/finish line, will include:
- Metromint tent with free product samples
 - Lombardi Sports tent
 - Free Valet Bike Parking
 - Massage Therapist
 - Select cycling product booths and refreshments

SPONSORS: Other sponsors include: Hydrapack, Big Swinging Cycles, MAXXIS, Clif Bar, SF Bicycle Coalition, Satori Yoga Studios and Louis Garneau.

About Metromint Cycling

Metromint Cycling a.k.a. “The Blue Dots” is an amateur bicycle racing team comprised of men and women of all ages and backgrounds and has existed under various sponsorships for the past ten years. Annually, the Metromint Cycling team co-produces the Giro de San Francisco on Labor Day—a historical race in the city of San Francisco that draws talent from across the country and generates significant local publicity. The team shares not only a competitive spirit, but also a passion for cycling and a commitment to promote the sport through volunteer efforts and community involvement. The team also partners with local organizations such as Bay Area Women’s Cycling, the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition and the Oakland High School Composite Mountain Bike Team.

Metromint Cycling’s commitment to the development of men and women racers, and the accompanying emphasis on the positive, healthy lifestyles of its racers, is at the core of Metromint’s team’s philosophy. www.metromintcycling.com.

About Metromint

Metromint is mintwater, pure and simple. Not only does it provide rapid refreshment and an instant cooling sensation, it also provides several natural benefits: mint calms the nerves, soothes and revives the body, stimulates the brain, and energizes the senses.

Metromint Peppermint and Spearmint are available in 500 ml. size for \$1.39-\$1.99 per bottle (retail) and in six-packs \$6.99-\$7.49 (Retail).

Metromint has a loyal following among discriminating consumers and is available in stores nationwide including Whole Foods Market, Safeway Naturals, Wild Oats, and other natural food outlets. www.metromint.com.

About Lombardi Sports

Lombardi Sports has been family owned and operated since 1948. An anchor in the San Francisco community for over 55 years, Lombardi has become well known as a premier athletic retailer. www.lombardisports.com.

About VeloPromo

Race Promoter Robert Leibold of VeloPromo organizes over 40 annual bicycle races throughout California. He works hand in hand with the city of San Francisco as well as local businesses to successfully plan and execute the Giro di San Francisco. www.velopromo.com.

About the Giro di San Francisco

The Giro di San Francisco began life as the "San Francisco Gran Prix" and was started by George Pagni of the San Francisco Columbus Day Celebration Committee in 1975. The race moved to various locations throughout San Francisco, including the North Beach Area, where both years' events were won by a young Greg LeMond, who would go on to win three Tours de France. The Giro di San Francisco moved to its current home in Levis Plaza in 1981.

The race, under the direction of Robert A. Leibold of Velo Promo, is organized this year by Metromint Cycling, Lombardi Sports, and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition.
<http://www.metromintcycling.com/>.

The Giro di San Francisco will be the eighth of nine races in the Northern California/Nevada Cycling Association's 2006 NCNCA Premier Series.