

4 December 2000

PRESS RELEASE

Subject: Merry Mile

The Socorro Striders and Riders are pleased to announce the second running of the "Merry Mile" in Socorro, New Mexico on December 17, 2000. The one mile fun run and walk will begin at the New Mexico Tech Student Activity Center (SAC) at 9:00 AM and finish in front of City Hall near the Plaza. Awards will be given in several categories and all participants under 12 will receive a special Christmas stocking stuffed with goodies. An award will be given to the best Christmas costume. The Merry Mile will collect unwrapped toys for the "Toys for Tots" campaign as a part of the entry fee.

"We want to make this race an event for the whole family," said Race Director Kim Schaffer. "Race day is a week from Christmas when we are usually getting stressed out and forgetting to enjoy the season. By dressing up, giving toys, and exercising our bodies, the spirit of the season is sure to return. And the entire event will last less than an hour! Still plenty of time to go to church, see the balloons, and even do a little last minute Christmas shopping."

The Merry Mile is sponsored by the SS&R, the City of Socorro, New Mexico Tech, the Albuquerque Road Runners, Fleet Feet Sports, El Sombrero Restaurant, The Christmas Store, Brownbilts, Elegante Hair Designs, Blue Canyon Gallery, Ace Hardware, Val Verde Restaurant, and the Athlete's Edge.

For additional information, call Kim Schaffer at 835-2364 or Cathy Pearce at 835-2507.

About the Socorro Striders and Riders: The Socorro Striders and Riders (SS&R) is a local club of approximately 30 runners, triathletes, and cyclists. The primary focus on the club is the social, recreational, and health benefits of sport. The SS&R holds regular group runs and bicycle rides and holds a monthly business meeting and social gathering on the first Monday of each month. The SS&R also organizes several local events, including the M-Mountain Duathlon, Socorro Triathlon, San Antonio ITT Series, Socorro Springs Brewing Company Winter ITT Series (both bicycle time trials) and the **Cruising with the Cranes 15k Run and Relay (3 February 2001)**. The SS&R is a member of several national organizations, including the Road Runners Club of America, the American Cycling Association, and USA Triathlon. For information, contact SS&R President Cathy Pearce at (505) 835-2507.

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