

# Seventh Annual Volvo Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port



Frank McCormack and Syd Lea at the Friendship Races



David Jaye (front) and Ian Clemence-Schreiner



Allie LaForce and Katie Meade

Four hundred cyclists from around the world participated Saturday, May 20 in the seventh annual Volvo Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port, a fundraising bike ride from Boston to Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The event raised more than \$2 million for Best Buddies programs worldwide.

Syd Lea, a participant with intellectual disabilities from Maryland, rode 90 miles in the front pack of cyclists that included pros Frank McCormack and Mark McCormack. Pulling ahead at the end, Syd was the first rider to cross the finish line in Hyannis Port.

After Syd won, his mother wrote, "It was a terrific event. Many times the lead group in these big rides forgets what the ride is all about, and having Syd in the pack kept the ride focused on what the ride was about. Syd opened some riders' eyes to what is possible."

Later in the day, Syd and Mark McCormack took first place on a tandem bike at the Celebrity Friendship Races at the Kennedy Compound, competing against other celebrity tandems led by Patriots Tedy Bruschi, Dan Koppen and Tully Banta-Cain. Other highlights of the day included a Hawaiian-themed rest stop hosted by actress Kelly Hu at South Shore Volvo in Norwell, Mass. (see right), and New England Patriot Tedy Bruschi's speech at the opening ceremonies of the 20-mile start at CVS/pharmacy in Sandwich, Mass.

Additional special guests included CSI: Miami star David Caruso, Baywatch alum Traci Bingham and Olympic champion Carl Lewis. Miss Teen USA Allie LaForce rode the 90-mile course with her Buddy Katie Meade from Iowa and representatives from Best Buddies Colombia traveled thousands of miles to participate in the event, proving that the power of the Best Buddies mission is universal.

The Challenge culminated with a lobster clambake and private performance by the GO-GO's at the Kennedy Compound. The event was televised nationally on NBC Sports on Saturday, July 29 at 4:00 p.m., and regionally on Boston's WB56 Saturday, August 5 at 3:00 p.m. 📺

## South Shore Volvo Hosts Hawaiian Luau

By Katie Hawken, Exec. Assistant to VP, National Corporate Partnerships

Hundreds of cyclists in the Volvo Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port got a taste of the tropics as they entered the Hawaiian-themed rest-stop located at South Shore Volvo in Norwell, Massachusetts.

Tropical music filled the air and palm trees swayed in the warm breeze as actress Kelly Hu greeted cyclists with a smile and a lei.

This was the first year South Shore Volvo owners Nick and Jen Bokawich hosted a rest stop for the Challenge, but it's not likely to be the last. With all of the excitement of hundreds of riders stopping in, along with a great group of celebrities and an impressive list of media covering the event, Nick and Jen are already gearing up for next year. "We had a great experience hosting Rest Stop One," said Jen Bokawich. *(continued on page 14)*