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Cycling America rides through Worland

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WORLAND - Cyclers participating in Cycling America's Coastto-Coast 2010 cycling tour capped off their 18th day of traveling by stopping at the Worland Community Center Complex on Wednesday for some much needed rest, food and - most importantly - a nice shower.

"It's been beautiful," said Terri of Oregon, speaking of traveling through the Wind River Canyon, part of the trip that took them north from Riverton where they started Wednesday morning. "But I'm really excited to take a shower." It's been quite a journey for the 130 or so cyclers on the tour, and for many, it's only just getting started.

The nationwide trip began in Seattle on June 19 and is slated to end on August 21. Forty-five cyclers will press on through the entire 4, 200 miles to the final destination in Boston, while others are riding only portions of the trip - which can still add up to thousands of miles on the **bike**.

Andrew Dordal, of Allentown, Penn. is traveling with his 17-year old son - the youngest cyclist in the group (the oldest is 81).

Their journey will end at Devil's Tower, after nearly 1, 500 miles of total cycling.

"It's been a dream to go across the country," Dordal explained when asked why he took the trip.

"It's fun for a father and son to get out together like this." According to Cycling America organizer Greg Walsh, the tour is a way for people to get out and see the country in a unique way.

"It's an opportunity for people who would really like to go out and see the landscapes," said Walsh. Chris Shepherd, a volunteer helping provide logistical support for the tour, agrees.

"It's a fun time for all walks of life," Shepherd explained, noting that this group contains riders from the places as far away as the Netherlands and New Zealand as well as from across America.

Worland is no stranger to Cycling America. According to Shepherd, the tour has made several stops in town on their way across the country in years past.

Today, the group continues their journey through Wyoming. Though an average day of riding will net them around 75 miles, today will be a little tougher. Buffalo, their next destination, lays in wait 90 miles away, across the Big Horn Mountains.

More information about Cycle America can be found on their website at www.cyclingamerica.com.

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