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> NEWS RELEASE <

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EDITOR'S NOTE: COMPLETE ENTRY LIST, MAP GRAPHICS (.jpg & .pdf), PHOTOGRAPHS AND MORE ARE AVAILABLE TO THE MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC AT:
<http://www.ausablecanoemarathon.org>

61st Weyerhaeuser Au Sable River Canoe Marathon July 26 and 27, 2008

Scott McNamara Ford-Mercury Time Trials to be held July 24 and 25, 2008

March 19, 2008-Grayling MI

The Weyerhaeuser Au Sable River Canoe Marathon race committee is pleased to announce Scott McNamara Ford-Mercury of Grayling will again be the sponsor of the time trials for the canoe race. "We are happy to have Scott McNamara Ford-Mercury back on board as a sponsor" said John Lucey, Chairman of the Canoe Race Committee. "The canoe race itself would not be as successful as it is without the support of sponsors like Scott McNamara" continued Lucey "and we appreciate their support of this great community event."

Time trials are held to determine the starting position for the LeMans style start of the Weyerhaeuser Au Sable River Canoe Marathon. Penrods Canoe Livery will be the host site for this two day event starting on Thursday July 26, 2008. Competitors paddle a looped course on the Au Sable River and the team with the fastest time secures the pole position for the race. Teams line up on Peninsula Street at 9 p.m. on race night and sprint three blocks with their canoes and paddles to the Au Sable River for the start of the canoe race. Once in the river competitors will begin a journey leading them through Northern Michigan's pristine forest and finishing 120 miles later in Oscoda MI.

The Weyerhaeuser Au Sable River Canoe Marathon is widely recognized as the “Longest, Richest and Toughest Canoe Race in North America”. Competitors paddle an average of fifty paddle strokes per minute to finish this grueling race. The race course runs from Grayling to Oscoda Michigan, covering over 120 miles of the world famous Au Sable River. For additional information visit www.ausablecanoemarathon.org