



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon and ½ Marathon Closing in on Capacity Field *28th annual event on Sunday, Oct. 21 to host its largest field ever*

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon has registered more than 9,900 registrants – closing in on its first-ever field limit of 10,000 participants. The 28th anniversary event is slated to take place on Sunday, Oct. 21, 2007.

“We have been registering at least 100 participants a day over the past week and at this rate, we expect to be at capacity by Friday,” said Scott Weaver, executive director of the Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon.

The current registration has already broken last year’s record of more than 7,700 people in both the marathon and 1/2 marathon events. Online registration at www.columbusmarathon.com closes at 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18.

“We are excited that our ambitious registration goal set earlier this year is in our sights,” Weaver said.

The Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon weekend kicks off on Friday, Oct. 19 when the Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon Expo begins at Battelle Hall from noon to 7 p.m. The Expo will feature more than 70 running and health and fitness related booths, Family Fun Zone with activities for kids of all ages, interactive games, fitness seminars and participant registration and packet pickup. The Expo will re-open on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The third annual Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon *Ringling Bros. Red Nose Children’s Run* festivities and registration will begin at 10 a.m. at Franklin Park, with the actual races taking place at 1 p.m. The shotgun will go off for the 28th running of the Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon and ½ Marathon at 8 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 21 (walkers start at 7 a.m.) in downtown Columbus from the corner of Broad and High Streets. The wheelchair racers will get an early start at 7:55 a.m.

The Columbus Marathon was one of the 25 largest marathons in the United States in 2006. That event featured approximately 7,700 runners, walkers and wheelchair athletes; 1,500 volunteers and tens of thousands of spectators. For more information, please visit the Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon and ½ Marathon’s Web site at www.columbusmarathon.com.

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