

The following is a recap of the first Kelly Brush Century Ride as written by Zeke Davisson and posted on the website CaringBridge.org/visit/kellybrush.

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Hello to all of you loyal supporters who are still checking the website, I hope there are many of you out there. The big news that warrants an update after so many weeks: this past weekend we had the Kelly Brush Century Ride, and what a success it turned out to be. Over the past months we have raised over \$50,000 for Kelly and her recreational endeavors, and donations are still trickling in! Almost the entire Middlebury College Ski Team completed 100 miles, as well as past coach Forest Carey, two alumni, and nordic ski coach Andrew Gardner. All told, about 2000 miles were logged between 8:30 and 4:00 on a sunny Saturday in Addison County. Kelly herself logged almost 10 miles of the loop, her most impressive journey on the hand-cycle yet! There were two crashes on the day, but there were no resulting injuries. (I guess I should admit that both crashes were of my doing.)

The ride was followed by a barbeque put on by Brian Cook and the residents of the campus housing from which we started and ended the ride. Guest appearances were made by the Brush family, Julie Brush, the Martins, the McLaughrys, the Davissons, the Reeds, the Fords, and new Athletic Director Erin Quinn. Special thanks go out to the whole support network that helped us out there on the road: the Giebink girls, Kelly's roommates Lani Young and Rachel Furman, Amy Witherspoon, Anna Furney, Scott Coriell, Lea Davison and everyone else involved.

I would like to take this chance to also personally thank all of you that were generous enough to donate to this event; we appreciate your involvement more than we can express. The ski team is very excited about the opportunities we will be able to provide for Kelly and never imaged that we would be as successful as we were; it was a true team and community effort, of which you were all a part. The ski team for which Kelly competed for will now be able to open doors that her injury threatened to close; she will be able to take one more step towards independence and liberation, and we are forever indebted to all you donors for making this possible.

On a side note, Kelly has successfully begun her school year here at Middlebury, taking a full class load and managing the hilly terrain of our campus. There have been tough aspects of the adjustment but her will has been inspiring to all who know her story. Please continue to check the website and hopefully we will update again in the next few weeks.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed to such a great weekend!

Zeke