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Final PRESS RELEASE

Villars, January 17th, 2010

Sun, snow and great success for the 12th running of the BCV 24 hour race staged at Villars-Bretaye, the mid station above the Swiss resort of Villars, on January 16-17, 2010.

An enthusiastic reception for the 2010 event.

The 12th running of the BCV Villars 24 hour race was a resounding success this weekend. 81 teams of between 4 and 8 skiers took part, making a total of more than 500 contestants. Despite the snowstorm that started at 22.00 and lasted until the end of the race at 12.00 the next day, the contenders covered 34,143km and raised CHF211,166 for charity. During the evening session, morale was raised by a concert on the open air stage at Bretaye, with music from A Few Good Men from Lausanne, Paul Mc Bonvin and Attentat Rock, plus a surprise appearance from singer, Stephan Eicher. Encouraged by DJs, Jonathan Loys and Yves Larock, 2000 people danced in the snow far into the night.

Motor racing celebrities, Paul Stewart, Craig Pollock, Patrick Tambay and Kim Vattanen, joined in until well after midnight.

To the organisers' great credit, the race was completed with no major accidents. Competitors include teenagers and people with reduced mobility in addition to the general public so safety is always a prime concern. The fact that teams of up to 8 racers ski in a relay has greatly reduced the danger of accidents due to exhaustion. Racers are forbidden to wear catsuits, a measure designed to calm the passions of the more competitive spirits.

The three charities that benefited from the 2010 event, La Ligue Vaudoise contre le cancer, EORTC (European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer) and Disability Snowsports, shared a total of CHF211.166. The cheques were presented on stage at 13.30 on Sunday shortly after the end of the race.

The manufacturers, SoftTub set up their jacuzzis beside the stage so spectators could have a soak during the concert. They also put a jacuzzi up for auction, raising CHF4500 for the charities.

A big round of applause....

...for the Disability Snowsports team of handicapped skiers, some of them on sit-skis, who covered 386km and raised CHF16.500

Media wars on the piste: Great Britain vs Spain.

Teams of famous journalists representing prominent British, Spanish and Catalan newspapers and magazines competed fiercely in a light hearted contest for European domination. Great Britain StarMedia Racing completed 462km to take 38th place, ahead of Suiza Turismo Racing who came 70th with 153km.

Villars BCV24 Hour Race, 2010: the winners

Open

1. Team Royalp, representing the hotel of the same name. Opened for the 2008-9 winter season, the Royalp is Villars' new 5 star flagship. Thanks to impeccable team work and dazzling skiing, its hot young instructors in their chic black and gold jackets clocked up an unbeatable 569km.
2. The Rockstars: 563km
3. Les Ormonans: 557km

Schools (adolescents)

1. For You : 547km
2. Les Cornichons: 532km
3. TiSix Team Kiwanis: 511m

Biggest contributions raised for the charities

1. Aiglon College Alumni: CHF 25,000
2. Stephan Eicher Team: CHF22,037 (including the profits from his private concert in Villars on Friday evening)
3. Les Payes de Bruxelles, including former F1 World Champion racing driver, Jacques Villeneuve: CHF 11,000

Biggest contribution in the Schools category

1. Ecole Nouvelle: CHF6783

Runners up: Les Cornichons and Tisix Team Kiwanis

Photos/pictures

Studio Patrick covered the event throughout the weekend. Their high resolution images are available on the press page on www.bcv24hvillars.com. The password is b2c4v. The images are available free of charge to all publications for coverage related to the event. Special requests: Anne, Grobety, Studio Patrick, info@studiopatrick.ch.

Detailed team results: www.bcv24hvillars.com

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Villars-Gryon, the BCV24HVillars committee and BCV wish you a happy New Year in 2010 and thank you for your valuable contribution.

BCV24HVillars Press Team Villars, January 2010