



The San Diego
Union-Tribune.

August 13, 2008



John Gibbins / Union-Tribune

Mark Junge was greeted in downtown San Diego yesterday after finishing a bike tour from San Francisco to the U.S.-Mexico border Monday. He came back yesterday for a celebration. The ride, during which he used an oxygen accumulator, was to show others like himself who have diminished lung capacity that they can lead full lives.

SHORT TAKES: REGIONAL EDITION

Cyclist's tour puts focus on chronic lung disease

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO – A Wyoming cyclist rode into downtown San Diego yesterday to kick off the last segment of a 540-mile tour meant to raise awareness about chronic lung disease.

Cyclist Mark Junge, 65, who has the disorder, took a spin through Embarcadero Marina Park South before finishing the tour near the Mexican border at 2 p.m. He started the “Mark's Breathe Easy Tour” just outside San Francisco on July 24.

Junge's bike is retrofitted with the Eclipse, a portable oxygen concentrator, to help him breathe. Chronic lung disease can cause breathlessness, fatigue and muscle weakness.

The tour is sponsored by SeQual Technologies Inc. and the American Lung Association of California. For more information, go to sequal.com/corp_event.php. –S.A.H.