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Staff Named for 2008 Teva U.S. Mountain Running Team

The 2008 Teva U.S. Mountain Running Team will travel to Crans Montana, Switzerland to compete in the 24th World Mountain Running Trophy Race in September. A talented staff will accompany the team at next year's events.

Richard Bolt, Portland, OR, has been named Team Leader for the sixth consecutive year. Prior to 2003 Bolt was an athlete member of the team in 1999 and 2002. He was the third U.S. finisher at the 1999 World Trophy and at the 1999 Challenge Stellina Race in Susa, Italy. Bolt has been a top finisher in the USATF New England mountain running circuit from 1996 through 2005 as well a regular top ten finisher at the prestigious Mt. Washington Hill Climb. Bolt also competed in the 1992, 1994, and 1998 U.S. Olympic Trials and was an All-American Nordic skier. Bolt is a former member of USATF's New England Board of Governors, and now represents MUT on the USATF Oregon long distance running committee. Bolt serves as the men's mountain rep to the USATF Mountain Ultra Trail Council.

"The 2008 Teva U.S. Mountain Running Team is looking forward to its strongest year to date. The launch of our team website (www.usmrt.com) gives us the opportunity to present our past accomplishments to a wider audience and give even better visibility to our sponsors," said Bolt.

Dave Dunham, Bradford, MA has been named Team Manager of the Junior team for the third consecutive year. Dunham has competed for the U.S. at seven World Mountain Running Trophy events finishing on the podium in 1993 as a silver medalist and as the top U.S. finisher six times. He has also been a manager of the men's team. He is a race director for both mountain and snowshoe races and was the organizer of the USATF New England Mountain Running Circuit for seven years (1996-2002). Diversified as an athlete, Dunham has also been on two 100km World Cup Teams, he was an Olympic Marathon Trials qualifier, and is a national 24-hour Rogaining Champion.

"We've set the bar very high with the junior girl's team taking home the silver medal last year. I hope to build on that success and recruit a strong team again in 2008. It is a great honor to work with so many highly motivated young athletes. It is also satisfying to see the program grow over the last few years," said Dunham.

Ellen Miller, Vail, CO will be the women's manager for the third consecutive year. She is an accomplished athlete and coach with an extensive background in high altitude mountaineering. Miller has successfully summited Mt. Everest two times. She was named Colorado Sportswoman of the Year 2002. She was a competitor on the Fila Skyrunning Team and qualified to compete in Europe and Tibet. Miller is an international adventure race competitor first with Team Vail and presently with Team Go-lite. She is the 2005 USATF Masters Trail Running Champion, a Level 2 USATF Coach, and founder and director of "Mountain Divas," a women's sports program in Vail.

"It is an honor and a privilege to remain working with such an esteemed group of athletes and coaches who represent the best in mountain running in the U.S. Our Teva U.S. Women's Team have been the World Champions for the past two years, and our women's program has evolved significantly since Nancy Hobbs started the program in 1985. It is exciting and rewarding to have the opportunity to work with top female athletes, and to give back to a sport which has given so much to me. Hopefully sharing my own experiences as a mountain runner, adventure racer, and climber — both at home and abroad — will help these athletes reach their full potential," said Miller.

Since 2002 the U.S. team has been sponsored by Teva, the title sponsor and official footwear of the team. SportHill is the official apparel sponsor. Fleet Feet Sports-Boulder and Windermere Real Estate of Teton Valley are sponsors of the team renewing their support from 2007.

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Selection races for the 2008 team include the Mount Washington Hill Climb on June 21 which will serve as the USA Mountain Running Championships and the La Sportiva Berry Picker Hill Climb on July 20 in Vail, CO.

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For results from the 2007 World Trophy, additional information on the 2007 mountain running selection races, and team sponsors visit the websites listed below:

Teva US Mountain Running Team	www.usmrt.com
Mt. Washington	www.gsrs.com
Berry Picker	www.vailrec.com
World Mountain Running Association	www.wmra.info
USA Track & Field	www.usatf.org
American Trail Running Association	www.trailrunner.com
Teva	www.teva.com
SportHill Clothing	www.sporthill.com
Fleet Feet Sports-Boulder	www.fleetfeetboulder.com
Windermere Real Estate Teton Valley	www.juliebryan.mywindermere.com

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