



(c/o ECHO Geophysical Corporation)  
1999 Broadway, Suite 3100, Denver, CO 80202 Phone: (303) 893.9014  
Team Highpoint: David Baker Jennifer Pauley John Jancik Terri Baker

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**50 FOR TIBET**  
**STATE HIGHPONTER**  
**FUND RAISING PROJECT**  
*FOR THE ROWELL FUND FOR TIBET*  
**41 STATE SUMMITS SUCCESSFULLY REACHED**

The Colorado based Team Highpoint has launched its 50 For Tibet project in a big way by collecting tax deductible donations and pledges in excess of \$87,000.00. The Team has so far reached 41 state highpoints (and Washington, DC) and has climbed over 62,000 feet of elevation gain since June 16, 2006. Team Highpoint hopes to reach the highest point in all 50 states as a fundraising effort for The Rowell Fund for Tibet ([www.savetibet.org/programs/rowellfund/index.php](http://www.savetibet.org/programs/rowellfund/index.php)), an organization which provides financial support to Tibetan artists, writers, and musicians around the world to help preserve the threatened Tibetan culture.

To date, financial support for the 50 For Tibet project has come from corporations and private donors around the world. Some contributors pledge an amount per highpoint reached, and others donate a specific amount to the project. One hundred percent (100%) of all donations go directly to The Rowell Fund because costs for transportation, lodging, food, equipment and other expenses for Team Highpoint are paid by the group's primary benefactor, ECHO Geophysical Corporation (Denver, Colorado) and/or individual team members.

"Our motto is to 'celebrate one mountain culture, preserve another'," said John Jancik, who began planning this challenging adventure in October of 2005 with his wife, Terri Baker. John and Terri, who originally met Galen Rowell in 1995 as the three of them prepared for their participation in the 1996 Top Of The World Expedition to northern Greenland, now serve on The Advisory Board of The Rowell Fund For Tibet. Team Highpoint also includes their son David Baker and his wife, Jennifer Pauley.

The "50 For Tibet" adventure began on June 16th when Team Highpoint successfully climbed California's highest point, Mt. Whitney. At 14,495 feet, Whitney is the highest mountain in the 49 states outside of Alaska and is near Galen and Barbara Rowell's gallery (<http://www.mountainlight.com/>) in Bishop, California. "Galen's spirit of adventure inspired me for many years before we were expedition teammates in 1996. After his and Barbara's passing in August 2002, I somehow wanted to support their legacy and this adventure fundraiser really seemed like a perfect combination," said John Jancik.

To learn more about Team Highpoint and its 50 For Tibet project, see the Team's website at [www.50forTibet.org](http://www.50forTibet.org) or contact Team Highpoint members John Jancik at [echojj@aol.com](mailto:echojj@aol.com) or Jennifer Pauley at [jenn@50fortibet.org](mailto:jenn@50fortibet.org). More information about the Tibetan situation is available from the International Campaign for Tibet at (<http://www.savetibet.org/>) or by phone at (202) 785-1515.

Check out this link [http://cbs4denver.com/topstories/local\\_story\\_215085744.html](http://cbs4denver.com/topstories/local_story_215085744.html) featuring a 50 For Tibet article and a feature story video aired by local Denver CBS network affiliate, KCNC-TV, Channel 4 on Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006.

**[www.50ForTibet.org](http://www.50ForTibet.org)**