

AERO

A photograph of three men standing on a grassy field, holding a large white glider with blue and red accents. The man on the left is wearing a white polo shirt and white pants. The man in the middle is wearing an orange polo shirt and khaki pants. The man on the right is wearing an orange polo shirt and dark pants. The background shows a line of trees under a bright sky.

Most Memorable Aviation Records of 2006

Wisconsin Adventure



Kaufman and McDaniel in "The Blue Kids One"

Photos courtesy of Kaufman and McDaniel



McDaniel (left) and Kaufman during their record-setting adventure.

On June 20, neurosurgeon Bruce Kaufman and Midwest Airlines pilot Matthew McDaniel set a special category record for the *Fastest Time to Visit all the Hard Surface Public-use Airports in the state of Wisconsin*.

Flying in Kaufman's single-engine Cirrus SR-22, dubbed "The Blue Kids One" in honor of the children Kaufman works with as medical director at the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, the duo used the flight to raise more than \$12,000 for the hospital's pediatric neurosurgery program. With just three fuel stops, Kaufman and McDaniel flew 2,119 nautical miles and landed at every paved, public-use airport in Wisconsin – plus one private airstrip and one military base for good measure – in 16 hours, 42 minutes and 14 seconds.

"Not only does this set a national record, but I'm hoping this adventure serves a greater purpose of raising awareness and funds for Children's Hospital," said Kaufman, in a news release from the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. "I'm

inspired by the children and families I meet, their strength and courage."

Surprised to see a neurosurgeon make the cut for our roundup of most memorable aviation records? Kaufman sees his work and his hobby as parallel pursuits, comparing the global positioning systems and moving maps he uses to improve his flying to new technologies that have helped him understand and operate on the human brain. He used the flight to draw attention to these advances and to raise money for the important work being done at Children's Hospital.

"The field of pediatric neurosurgery has expanded from simply treating brain tumors, brain trauma, and fluid on the brain," Kufman said in the news release about his record-setting flight. "My colleagues and I are involved in areas like restorative neurosurgery, where function is improved through aggressive surgical treatment of epilepsy, the repair of nerve injuries, or the surgical treatments of spasticity and movement disorders."



The route for *Fastest Time to Visit all the Hard Surface Public-use Airports in the state of Wisconsin*.