

# RACE REPORT

March 7-8, 2009

After handling the pack with superior tactics the entire day, Matthew Furlow (left) and Max Korus (right) out-sprint the main field for 4th and 5th place.



## **Penn Cycling leads the charge** at Spirit of '69 Season Opener

By Leonard Klipper

This weekend saw the reemergence of Penn Cycling as a force to be reckoned with, as 14 Penn riders rode in this weekend's festivities. Car issues at every point withstanding, it was a perfect weekend for racing with sunny skies and near record temperatures in the 60's for both days.

The weekend started off with Rutgers' short 2.8 mile ITT, and Penn riders did exceptionally well. Making their debut in Men's D, Will Quin, Brad Gulick, Jimmy Ma, David Hilbert and Chris Sulmone all got their first taste of racing and put out good showings in their debut. Tara Walhart also made her debut to the collegiate ranks and made a good first showing in her first showing after a long injury layoff.

Showing off his newly shorn legs, skinsuit and new tubular aero wheelset, Lenny "It's ALL about the Bike" Klipper rode to the first (and his only) point of the weekend, placing 15<sup>th</sup> in the Men's B time trial. Ross finished less than 1 second off, the aerodynamic drag of his mustache slowing him down and bumping him down to 18<sup>th</sup> place.



Top: Dave Hilbert riding strong in the pack in the Men D Circuit race  
 Left: Spirit of '69 Men C Sean Whiteman, winner of the ITT, Circuit Race and Criterium, poses with the winner's jersey  
 Bottom: Sean Whiteman and Justin Bosley break away from the pack



However, the glory of the day (and weekend) would belong to the Men's C field, who basically put on a clinic all weekend. Finishing almost 25 seconds faster than any of our B racers, Sean Whiteman blazed his way to victory #1 of the weekend with a time of 5:55.75. Also slowed by the aerodynamic drag of his awesome mustache and European mullet cut, Justin Bosley finished in 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:10.81. Finally making his way from the dark side of track and field into the awesomeness known as Penn Cycling, Max Korus placed 4<sup>th</sup> with a time of 6:14 in his first top 5 performance of the day, while Matt Furlow added some more points with his 12<sup>th</sup> place finish. Adam Siebert would also finish strong placing 38<sup>th</sup> out of a field of 93.

After more car troubles, the Mens D field performed valiantly in their first mass start action of the year, given the lack of any warmup and high anxiety they faced in our mass dash effort to get them to the start.

The Mens C field again provided the highlight of the afternoon, as they played out team tactics beautifully in again bringing home the victory. Sean and Justin both individually broke away from the pack before rejoining together for several laps and working together off the front, while both Max Korus and Matthew Furlow stayed at the front of the peloton blocking the field to perfection. Even the announcers were impressed with the tactical poise Penn showed in dominating the race from start to finish. Sean wrapped up victory #2 in dramatic fashion, soloing away the final 7 laps, while

Justin was able to stay clear of the field for his second #2 finishing for the day. Even after working at the front all day, Matt and Max were able to finish 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively in the field wrapping up 4 of the top 5 places for the day....Total domination. Adam Siebert finished a respectable 33<sup>rd</sup>

Ross raced well in his debut to the B field before deciding to save his race legs for tomorrow's circuit as Lenny adjusted to racing on carbon tubulars and found himself spit off the back of the pack in no mans land for much of the race.

After a delectable meal at Wegman's that left all in a food coma, we returned home ready to return to battle the next day. Sunday's race saw fewer racers, but just as much enthusiasm. David Hilbert raced the best I've ever seen on his trusty new steed, racing in the pack the entire day and finishing 36<sup>th</sup>. Will and Ethan also raced smart the entire day, tucked in the main pack and finishing 34<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup>, respectively.

With less teammates to work with and a course that saw pack sprints in every category, the trio of Sean, Max and Matt spent much of the day in the pack, at times too much in the front, but



most of the time in the top ten, biding their time for that final sprint. Matt would fall prey to unlucky pack handling skills by others, crashing out but remaining in good spirits. On the final downhill

sprint, Sean would break away from the group with a wheel that featured two broken rear spokes that left the wheel severely rubbing brake pads to victory #3 and the weekend's omnium jersey...impressive! Max finished in the pack at 19<sup>th</sup>.

The B race saw much better racing from Ross and Lenny who both raced smart and in very good positioning the entire race. After finally figuring out how to corner on tubulars the day before, Lenny would become victim to the difficult road conditions, flatting on a tubular and having to wait until next week to prove his worth. Ross raced the smartest I've seen and finished an impressive 10<sup>th</sup> in the mass sprint against a stacked UVM squad for his first points in Mens B.

Overall the weekend was a great success and left Penn in 16<sup>th</sup> out of 35 teams, which is remarkable given its lack of any Men or Women A riders. Ross is in 23<sup>rd</sup> place for Men's B, while Lenny finds himself in 30<sup>th</sup>. Sean earned twice as many points as his next closest competitor to cement himself in the #1 spot, while Justin Bosley would stay in 3<sup>rd</sup> place even without racing Sunday. Max Korus would be in 12<sup>th</sup> while even after crashing in Sunday's crit, Matthew stays competitive in 23<sup>rd</sup> place.

## Spirit of '69 Season Opener Omnium:

### Rutgers & Princeton Results

Stage 1, Time Trial, 2.8 miles

Women B, 47 starters

35. Tara Walhart 7:47.41

Men B, 48 starters

15. Leonard Klipper, 6:20.18 (1pt)

18. Ross Marklein, 6:21.13



Men C, 93 starters

1. Sean Whiteman, 5:55.75 (32 pt)

2. Justin Bosley, 6:10.81 (24 pt)

4. Max Korus, 6:14.20 (15 pt)

12. Matt Furlow, 6:24.34 (1pt)

38. Adam Siebert 6:34.29

Men D, 122 Starters

37. Will Quin, 6:59.07

55. Brad Gulick, 7:07.29

62. Jimmy Ma, 7:12.85

100. David Hilbert, 7:38.30

118. Chris Sulmone, 8:19.83

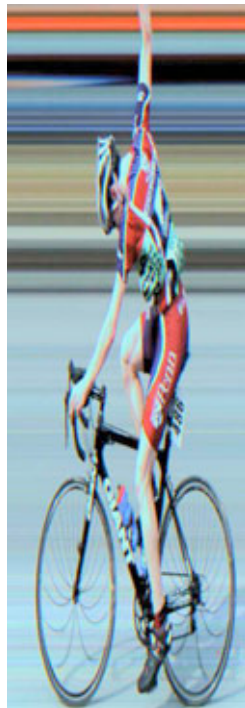
Stage 2, Princeton Criterium

Women B, 49 starters

17. Tara Walhart

Men B, 53 starters

36. Leonard Klipper  
DNF- Ross Marklein



Men C, 51 starters

1. Sean Whiteman (22 +15  
prim pts)

2. Justin Bosley, (16 + 8 prim  
pts)

4. Matt Furlow, (10 pts)

5. Max Korus, (9 pts)

33. Adam Siebert

Men D, 61 starters

33. Will Quinn

39. Brad Gulick

43. Jimmy Ma

DNF- Chris Sulmone

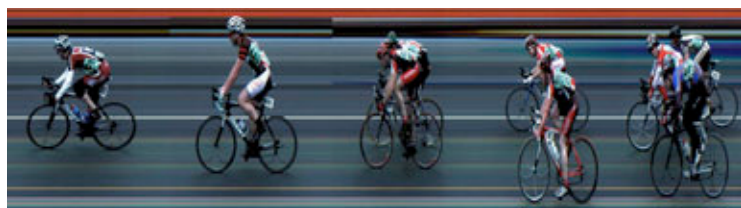
DNF- David Hilbert

Stage 3, Circuit Race

Men B, 50 Starters

10. Ross Marklein (9 pts)

DNF- Leonard Klipper



Men C, 48 starters

1. Sean Whiteman (32 pts)

19. Max Korus

DNF- Matthew Furlow

Men D, 59 starters

34. Will Quinn

36. David Hilbert

40. Ethan Schrum