

The Great Carroll County Cycling Event

June 18, 2005

Commentary and Results

Bicycle racers arrived from six States to race the 62 miles or was it really 67 miles around Carroll County, Illinois. The event, organized and promoted by the Carroll County Cycling Club, is gaining fame as one tough race in some of the most beautiful countryside in Illinois and the Midwest area.

One lap races are not common in the Midwest. Unlike multiple lap road races and criteriums, were after one lap you know what to expect in terrain, this race always brings something new, even if you drove it yesterday you cannot possibly remember all the nuances. To highlight each town on the route the Promoters move the start and finish to a new town on the route. Now the riders are faced with a new start, a new finish and every piece of terrain has rotated.

Last year, the start and finish were at the park in the flat land of Lanark. Mt. Carroll was the starting point this year, in a nice river valley, and ¼ mile after the start it was up a paving stone road hill, I mean climb up a HILL, bump a bumpily bump, hey is this Roubaix? Then came more ups and downs, one after the other, finally the comfortable lands of Lanark. A tour de town and out into the wide open country with the roller coaster hills. Big signs at each turn helps to direct you if the Lead Vehicle is helping a rider or guarding a corner. Each town has feed zone volunteers holding up bottled water for the riders. Most of the race is out in the ranch and farm land, the tour de towns is a nice break. Then comes the flat land along the Mississippi, mile after mile, sometimes twisting and rolling towards Savanna, was that a prison we just past, a cruise on a bike path avoids the traffic mess and then looms the dreaded Hospital Hill climb. You turn and you go up, turn again and up more, another turn and where is the top of this hill? Over the top to miles and miles of hills, some winding through forests, a few miles of typical chip and seal road, and then the winding outskirts of town before the final down hill, right turn, over the wooden bridge to the finish in a Mt Carroll valley. I was really hoping on finishing on the paving stone hill but then the field was so broken up it would not have mattered.

As for the actual racing, here is a performance nutshell account.

The Cat 1 / 2, 3 & 4 categories started together, did some jamming but basically loll gag until reaching Hospital Hill in Savanna. Then the power masters pushed and pushed dropping riders one at a time through the hills until the final couple miles when the need to be in front riders increased the speed, stringing the riders out and basically setting the order of finish before the final descent. A plan well executed.

Masters 30, 40 & 50 categories started a couple minutes after the above and up the Mt Carroll paving stones Doug Peterson and Dan Madsen rode away from the field. They eventually caught the loll gag gang. Good break and persistence paid off even when they had difficulties staying together. Back in the Masters field the pace was brisk and they were gradually catching the break. Then along came Tyger Johnson pedaling his 95% fully faired recumbent. Accelerating around this Masters field on the downhill and into the flats caused Ben-Jamin Widoff to sprint for the draft (what draft?? Besides your nearly two feet higher in the air) and along came Dan Conway, Chris Lombardo, Richard Kreutzfeldt, Bruce Grell and Gary Campbell to form a chase group. This chase

group caught the break loll gaging with the gang before Savanna. With six race categories in contention for first place in that lead field you now can understand why Savanna to Mt Carroll was a roller coaster of broken dreams of glory and hard earned placing. Widoff, Lombardo, Conway, Kreutzfeldt and Peterson flew away from the field. Cat 4 riders so close for many but it only took a split second timing error and you were not first like Senffner. 1st year cat 3 Jonathon Tenny takes first after a long hard race. The only flat I know of was Kevin Stephens in Savanna. The neutral support wheel worked and he was able to finish but unfortunately was not able to join in the runt to Mt Carroll. Tom Weil was slowed by the new chip seal and finished behind the field.

The third field to start was the Masters 60, 65 and Women Open, Cat 4, 40+ & 60+. The hill out of Mt Carroll took a toll on some, the attrition was slow but again Savanna to Mt Carroll was the determining factor plus endurance and power. June Upshaw and Tom Jones rode from the field and tangled with the new chip seal before finishing 1st in their races. "Those hills, I am not use to riding those hills" was a comment heard often. I wonder how much speed and power Heidi Schmidt (I love hills) lost riding a loaner bike? Her seat post bolt broke shortly before the start. Big thanks to the rider who forgot his shoes and loaned his bike to her. Dear Cat 4 Women riders, new racer Catherine Scott is a potential power house, her first place is secondary to what was witnessed on the course.

Below are the results with finish time for each rider. Congrats to all. You earned it.

Special congratulations to those racers who rode most of the race by themselves off the back. Mary Green should have given a speech on how to finish a race, she was ecstatic when she finished.

THANK YOU Carroll County Cycling Club, Carroll County, Mt. Carroll and all the Towns, Cities, the people who put this event together, handed up drinks at the feed zones, welcomed the bicycle riders and were so polite to the riders. We hope to return in 2006.

Tyger Johnson riding an almost fully faired recumbent racing bicycle started after the third race field and finished the distance in 2:48:09.00. He was close to catching the lead field when the new chip seal slowed him down. He is 60+ and a former National Team member.

**Tour of Illinois & Wisconsin
Carroll County Road Race
Results**

18 June 2005

CATEGORY	Place	Name	Time rider finished
CAT 1/2	1	Kevin Stephens, Project 5 Racing	3:03.37.01
CAT 3	1	Jonathan Tenny, UCVC	2:50.58.14
	2	Patrick Hanrahan, DICE	2:52.22.00
	3	Andrew Nicholson, UCVC	2:59.30.21
	4	Thomas Berube, UCVC	3:03.35.37
Cat 4	1	Jason Senffner	2:50.46.83
	2	Parrish Marugg	2:50.50.37
	3	Brian Ehlers, Bicycle World	2:50.50.66

4	Joe Doyle, XXX Racing / Athletico	2:50.51.98
5	Derric Ungaro	2:50.53.79
6	Pete Hill, ABD	2:50.54.36
7	Dave Thompson, DICE	2:51.01.56
8	Michael Redlich, ABD	2:52.09.59
9	Lance Andre, Chain Reaction	2:52.27.55
10	David Larue, ABD	2:58.21.34
11	James Lund, ABD	2:59.31.03
12	Maris Goldmanis, UCV	3:00.21.05
13	Gary Peterson, Team Apache	3:01.12.66
14	Jeffery Guzman	3:01.51.96
15	John Harrington	3:05.03.36
16	Voytek Glinkowski	3:06.01.37
17	Sead Duranovic	3:18.30.36
18	Jon Emrich, Team Apache	3:20.00.96
19	W. Jason Silber	3:22.51.51
20	Mitchell Piekos	3:26.39.93
21	Nathaniel Williams	3:37.26.63
	Phillip Curran, DICE, dnf	

Masters 30

1	Doug Peterson, Team Mack	2:49.08.75
2	Bruce Grell, DICE	2:54.08.94
3	Timothy Henry, Project 5 Racing	3:01.31.72
4	Greg Aronson	3:05.35.18
5	William Huntsberger, DICE	3:05.39.99

Masters 40

1	Ben-jamin Widoff, ABD	2:48.44.96
2	Chris Lombardo, Active Endeavors	2:48.47.09
3	Bisic Tubic	3:01.19.94
4	Henry Saha, Team BBC	3:01.20.17
5	Christopher Dial, Mid South Velo	3:01.22.18
6	Zbigniew Demel, Redline Racing	3:01.23.94
7	Jim Laurson	3:12.17.02
8	John Reese	3:42.08.26
9	Gary Strakeljahn	4:39.24.68

Masters 50

1	Daniel Conway, Prairie Scorchers	2:48.50.62
2	Richard Kreutzfeldt, Vision Quest	2:48.50.77
3	Daniel Madsen, Team Mack	2:52.00.65
4	Gary Campbell, ABD	2:58.37.85
5	Mike Rummelhart, Team Mack	3:01.23.75
6	Karl Biggs, Gladiators	3:05.06.63
7	Tom Weil, Cycles Velore	3:08.11.86
8	John Cruise	3:39.33.45
9	Alan Stern, Velo Club Roubaix	3:50.18.72
10	Victor Alcazar	3:54.07.78
11	Leslie Scott	4:05.25.47

Master 60	1	Steven Presti, Team Mack	3:15.25.91
	2	Garry McGovern, Redline Racing	3:18.45.18
	3	Zbigniew Potylicki, ABD	3:18.49.36
Master 65	1	Thomas Jones, Ann Arbor Velo	3:12.05.46
	2	Robert Burns, Team Mack	3:15.26.12
	3	Robert Beck, Midwest Masters	3:21.04.32
	4	Jack Patterson, Midwest Masters	3:39.30.64
	5	Terry Clark, Belmont	3:45.22.11
Master 70		none	
Women Cat 4	1	Catherine Scott	3:22.39.81
	2	Keta Foltz, Carroll County CC	4:17.50.77
	3	Mary Green, Carroll County CC	6:28.59.31
Women 40	1	June Upshaw, Team BBC	3:12.56.64
	2	Heidi Schmidt	3:18.54.37
	3	Christy Hoff, Midwest Masters	3:39.32.92
	4	Regina Schurman, Team Apache	4:03.12.73
Women 50		none	
Women 60	1	Patricia Beam, Lightning Bolt	3:45.58.74
	2	Nancy Beck, Midwest Masters	5:07.18.31
Juniors		none	