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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **USA CRITS Will Crown 2008 Champions Today at the Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas**

Las Vegas, NV. (September 25, 2008)—After an exciting season of outstanding heated competition, the stage is set for today’s finale of the USA CRITS 2008 Championship Series. Expect extremely aggressive fields of professional and elite male and female cyclists to speed along the one-of-a-kind course at the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas. Firmly in their sights will be the prospect of a prestigious victory, lap-leader cash awards, team bragging rights, and a healthy prize purse to motivate racers to step up their performances.

Nobody has to spell that out for Cuba’s Yosvany Falcon (TOSHIBA-Santo), who says he can’t help but consider the racer who will try to knock him out of first place overall in the men’s competition. Hot on Falcon’s back wheels in the standings is Adam Myerson (Time Pro-Cycling), and the final race is nothing more than another chance to stage an upset. Here’s how things stand right now at the top of the men’s leaderboard.

<b>Place</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Under 25 Competition</b>
1	Yosvany Falcon	TOSHIBA-Santo presented by Herbalife	1685	
2	Adam Myerson	Time Pro Cycling	1647	
3	Seth Hansley	Locos Grill & Pub	1271	1 <sup>st</sup> place
4	Mark Hekman	TOSHIBA-Santo presented by Herbalife	1239	
5	Hilton Clarke	Toyota-United Pro Cycling Team	1211	

“I’m excited about the final,” says Falcon. “To win the USA CRITS Series will probably be the best result for me in the United States this year. Of course, I’m going to try to maintain my lead using my speed because I definitely don’t want him [Myerson] to pass me on the last lap.” Falcon adds that he expects his TOSHIBA-Santo teammates Mark Hekman and Frank Travieso to help him fend off all threats.

The race is more than a little interesting in the women’s lineup too. Cheerwine Cycling’s Kelly Benjamin is in the overall lead, but the UNLV graduate is still being chased hard by Jennifer Wilson (Vanderkitten).

Place	Name	Team	Points	Under 25 Competition
1	Kelly Benjamin	Cheerwine Cycling	1588	
2	Jennifer Wilson	Vanderkitten Racing	1524	
3	Taitt Sato	ValueAct Capital Cycling Team	1181	
4	Laura Van Gilder	Cheerwine Cycling	1122	
5	Erica Allar	Aaron's Pro Women's Cycling Team	1092	1 <sup>st</sup> Place

Benjamin has been a study in consistency for most of the USA CRITS Series this year, and that has helped her stay just out of reach for months. The biggest question is this: Can she maintain her form and her lead to claim the championship, or is it physically and statistically possible for Wilson to catch and overtake her? It's a rivalry to watch. Also watch out for champion racers Tina Pic (Colavita/Sutter Home) and Laura Van Gilder (Cheerwine). Nobody can predict the outcome of any race when they wheel their bicycles to the start line.

### Events Schedule

- Amateur's Race - 5:30 pm.
- Masters' Race - 6:15 pm.
- Childrens' Race - 7 pm.
- Pro Women Championship Race - 7:20 pm
- Cycling Industry Cup Race - 8:15 pm.
- Pro Men Championship Race - 9:15 pm.

### Concurrently

- The Wounded Warrior Project Victory Lap – Time TBA
- Bulldog Bikes BMX Exhibitions - 7:25 and 8:25 pm.
- Full Speed Ahead Time Trials Shows - 7:40 and 9:30 pm.

The remaining event in the Series is as follows:

USA CRITS Final	Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino – Convention Center, East Parking Lot - Las Vegas, NV	Thursday	25-Sep-08
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### About USA CRITS

USA CRITS National Criterium Series has been developed to feature a brand of cycling unique to the United States, the criterium. Criteriums are historically run on short laps through city streets. Riders accumulate points throughout the year awarded through start points; laps led; first, middle, and end sprint point laps; and the final order of finish. Criteriums offer spectators the opportunity to watch Olympians, world and national champions up-close as they ride at top speed. This has made the criterium format the most spectator-friendly form of cycling entertainment. Events on the USA CRITS series have the ideals that have made criterium racing an American legacy: Challenging courses that showcase arts and entertainment districts; a large and energized base of spectators; broad community support; and strong marketing opportunities for sponsors. For more information, visit [www.usacrits.com](http://www.usacrits.com).