

## Greeting Alumni, Sponsors and Teammates!

The Easter Holiday brought the UMBRC some great luck! Racing took place in Williamstown, MA with the famous Williams Crit, and Sunday teams traveled to the Dartmouth Road Race in New Hampshire.

Beautiful spring weather finally gave way and treated us to a great weekend. Just like the good old days, we had a full van of racers, an overflowing roof rack, and even some bikes precariously hanging off the back thanks to the rickety old trunk rack. The criterium course at Williams with its punishing uphill and the switchback descent (all in less than a mile) proved tricky as always. Success came early for the club when Dave Brodsky rode a strong race in what was a shattered group for 4<sup>th</sup> in mens D, picking up 2<sup>nd</sup> in the midway preme as well. We didn't do as well in C's. Leland Turner tore off in a mountain bike style start only to be chewed up and spit out a few laps later. Matt Valauri got caught out in some tight corners, I got pulled after 7 laps, and our fearless leader Pieter stayed in almost to the end. On to the B women – Caitlin Trahan once again raced strong and this time finished just outside the points in 18<sup>th</sup>. The mighty UMBRC B men lined up with high hopes, but a crash took out Alvin “Money” Nordell early – well, he crashed himself and restarted but blew his rhythm. Donny Quimby got “stuck” in too many corners and dropped out, Roland Munier and Justin Finn rode most of the race together and finished 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, just ahead of Alvin in 22<sup>nd</sup>. Once again, Mr. Consistency, Aaron Oakes raced smart and ended up picked up 11 points in 9<sup>th</sup> place. Then came Alicia Genest. Not much to say here, she rode a textbook crit and picked up the win with a fantastic and perfectly timed sprint finish! The first victory for UMass this season! The team ended up 7<sup>th</sup> of 19.

While most of us were at home eating too much food and chocolate bunnies, the strong few went to Dartmouth on Sunday to continue the success of the weekend. From what I know, we only had 2 racers on Sunday, but we couldn't have asked them to do more. Alicia took 2<sup>nd</sup> to her arch-rival Julia Oh from Harvard, closing out a superb weekend. And from out of nowhere, recent transfer student, Mukunda Feldman took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Men's A race. These two results were good enough to put the team in a tie for 5<sup>th</sup> (of 20)!

To add to the racing success, the UPS man brought us a Patriots Day gift in the form of our team frame kits from Iron Horse! Hopefully this is just the kick of enthusiasm we need to race to success this coming weekend at Easterns hosted by UNH.

As always, check out the website for photos – [www.umbrc.com](http://www.umbrc.com) - this time including the first team photo in a few years! Go UMBRC!

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