

Greeting Alumni, Sponsors and Teammates!

It's time for the 2004 collegiate road-racing season! This is a little late but we've had a few changes to the team. We are now coached/managed by Alec Donahue of the Endurance Training Network. Pieter Van Lieu and William Van Doren passed the torch down to Aaron Oakes and Caitlin Trahan. While adjusting to the new changes we finally had sometime to get the newsletter out.

The season opened down in New Jersey with a criterium at Rutgers. UMass came in 20th out of 25 teams filling almost every category in the largest race the ECCC has had yet?! Freshman Anthony Santamaria and Alvin "Money" Nordell raced the Men's A category coming in 22nd and 27th respectively. I (Caitlin Trahan, Junior) raced in the Women's B category and came in a spectacular 28th. In the Men's B's we had Justin Finn (Sophomore) finishing a strong 7th with Aaron Oakes (Junior) to follow at 17th. Mathew Sheldon came in 34th in the Men's C category. Alex Barbati (Freshman) finished his first road race coming in 40th in Men's D's along with Junior Michael Stephan getting 44th accompanied by super-senior Pieter Van Lieu who did not finish due to a crash he "didn't" cause.

Week two, the team headed to Penn State. In the individual team time trial Alvin finished an amazing 6th place in Men's A's! Justin Finn followed in Men's A's with 26th. Pieter Van Lieu came in 21st in Men's D. After they were all rested from the ITT they headed out for the nice and easy criterium. In Men's A, Justin placed 33rd and Alvin just behind at 38th. Pieter placed 27th in his race. Too tired from the day before Justin and Alvin did not finish the tough road race they were racing for recovery. Pieter showed them up coming in 31 in Men's D. Overall the team placed 17th of 24. Good game team!

Week three, the team was in New York and back to New Jersey. At Columbia the team finished 17th of 27 with sore legs all around. Anthony and Alvin had a little trouble in Men's A and dropped out to save themselves for the next day. Back in Men's B Justin Finn had a great finish of 9th followed by Aaron Oakes just barely missing the points at 18th and Matt Sheldon bumping up placing 27th. David Maynard made an appearance out of the woods and on the pavement placing 8th in Men's C's. Pieter Van Lieu had a great finish at 4th in Men's D. Alex Barbati placed 42nd allowing Pieter to show him the way.

The next day UMass finished 17th overall competing against 19 other teams. Alvin came in 31st held back by his motherly instincts after Anthony crashed on the last lap nearing the line. Not to worry, he only suffered a few lumps and bumps but he is in the hole for a new helmet. I placed a miraculous 29th in Women's B's. The B field pulled it together with Aaron winning a sprint point and placing 13th. Justin placed 22nd with Matt Sheldon to follow at 28th, but also getting second place in a prime lap. In the Men's C field we had a great appearance by Dave winning all 3 primes and placing 7th overall...what happened?? Pieter and Alex placed 21 and 23 respectively.

This past weekend it was back to Pennsylvania and the update will hopefully be...up to date. Thanks for your support and you can check out all the results at http://eccc-info.com/race_calendar.html

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