



For Immediate Release

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Metlushenko Takes Fast Univest Criterium of Doylestown In Sprint Finish

Doylestown, PA -- Ukrainian Yuri Metlushenko of the Amore e Vita/McDonalds team won his second North American sprint finish of 2008 by pulling away from the field in the final 200 meters to take the Univest Criterium of Doylestown.

Jake Keough of Kelly Benefits Strategies/Medifast took second and Yosvany Falcon of Toshiba-Santo Pro Cycling finished third, and Swede Frederick Ericsson claimed the overall omnium championship to provide a truly international finish to the 11th Annual Univest Grand Prix.

"It was a fast, fast race," Metlushenko said through an interpreter. "I thank Doylestown, I thank America, I thank God."

The Amore e Vita/McDonalds team decided in a team meeting Sunday morning that it would chase any break and the strategy paid off, Metlushenko said.

That's not to say there were no breaks in the 36 laps, 52.5 mile race. Efforts by team Time Pro Cycling and the always-exciting Team Tecos/Alderfer Auction kept the action hot and the pace fast throughout the 1 hour 49 minute race. However, none of the efforts succeeded and the field went into the final five laps together.

"It was a race that started out wide-open," said Keough. "You kept thinking things would break up but they never did. The course was so hard that all the strong riders were at the front. Anything that got away was dangerous."

Ericsson, who finished second Saturday at the Univest Grand Prix, finished 12th in the criterium on Sunday. Saturday winner Lucas Euser of Garmin Chipotle did not start on Sunday because his team was headed to the Tour of Missouri.

Ericsson, an amateur who works as a professional trainer in his home country, praised the race courses, organization and crowds.

"I didn't expect this many spectators in the United States," he said with a grin. "We're thrilled, of course. The team has been riding great the whole season. We didn't know how the jetlag would affect us, but we did all right."

The sunny, breezy weather for the Univest Criterium of Doylestown was the diametric opposite of Saturday's conditions. The Univest Grand Prix was ridden in the rain and wind as the remnants of Tropical Storm Hanna blew through eastern Pennsylvania, but the conditions made little difference to the racers.

"It was a fantastic, fantastic race," said Johan Lindgren of Cykelcity.se./Klehr Harrison, who won the Saab Lap Leader and Leidy's Best Sprinter awards on Sunday.

Race organizer John Eustice said the exciting finish demonstrates the true international nature of the Univest Grand Prix and the exposes American fans to true European cycling thrills.

"We've had it all this weekend: hurricane conditions on a brutal race course then sunshine and high speeds - this really showed fans what the sport is all about," Eustice said.

About Univest Grand Prix:

Patterned after the great classic races of Europe, the Univest Grand Prix showcases the beauty of 17 municipalities. From its inception, the cycling event was developed to provide opportunities for young athletes to advance, while also uniting the towns throughout Bucks and Montgomery counties for a community celebration. The pro event is presented by: Univest Corporation of Pennsylvania, Leidy's Premium Pork Products, SAAB, Doylestown Hospital, The Intelligencer, WFMZ-69, Universal Sports, Comcast Sportsnet. For more information, visit www.univestgrandprix.com.

About Univest Corporation:

Univest Corporation and its subsidiaries, Univest National Bank and Trust Co., Univest Insurance, Inc., Univest Capital Inc. and Univest Investments, Inc., provide support and leadership in their communities and offer a wide range of financial services to individuals, businesses, municipalities and nonprofit organizations throughout Bucks, Chester and Montgomery counties. For more information, visit www.univest.net.

About Sparta Cycling:

Sparta Cycling provides race promotion services to deliver world class events that meet the needs of sponsors, athletes, spectators and supporting communities. For more information, please visit www.spartacycling.com.

