



THE NITTANY STAGE

RACE

State College Cycling Community,

My name is Andrew Artz, I'm a junior studying Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Mgmt at Penn State. I'm also the race director for the Penn State Cycling Club. I wanted to share with you the good news about the charity bicycle race we've been working on!

As of February 9th we finally have all of our permits approved from the local municipalities and we are proud to announce that our date has been set for August 1st & 2nd 2015! The Nittany Stage Race as it has been named will be a two day charity bike race which we expect will bring around 300 cyclists to Centre County.



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For the last fourteen months a very motivated group of students at the university have been researching, planning, and organizing a very exciting event for State College. THE NITTANY STAGE RACE is the result of their hard work and as of February 9th we are proud to announce that our race has been made official!

SO WHAT IS THE NITTANY STAGE RACE?

THE NITTANY STAGE RACE will be a two day, three event race held here in Centre County. In some ways it is similar to the other charity bike rides in the area, but it's also *very* different. All proceeds from the event will be donated to The Bestwick Foundation, a local 501(c)(3) non-profit, but unlike other events the NITTANY STAGE RACE will also feature actual USA Cycling races that make it appealing to people from far outside of the Centre region. Interest in the event has already been seen in from cyclists in places as far away as Boston! As a stage race this event will have one entry fee that covers all three races. General Classification winners will be those who have the lowest total time after all events.

WHAT COURSES ARE PART OF THE RACE?

A road race, time trial, and criterium are all part of the NITTANY STAGE RACE. Saturday will begin with the *Rattlesnake Road Race*. This race will take place outside of town in Black Moshannon State Park. This course is exactly the same as the spring races held by Penn State for the Eastern Collegiate Cycling Conference. Throughout the day six different

waves of riders will race to complete the challenging 21.5 mile course. Each lap of the course contains over 1,900 ft. of climbing making it both challenging and fun! All races are expected to finish before 3pm, so that visiting cyclists and their families will have time to eat, shop, and wander around downtown State College.

The *Campus Time Trial* will be a Merckx style individual time trial. Often called "the race of truth," this format pits individuals against the clock with riders starting one by-one at thirty second intervals. A Merckx time trial is different as it does not allow certain aerodynamic equipment to be used. This not only makes the race more accessible to every level of cyclist but also places more emphasis on rider ability. The *Campus Time Trial* will be a six mile long, out and back race starting at Beaver Stadium and passing every major Penn State landmark before descending into State College. From there cyclists will fly down College Avenue before making a short, steep attack up Shortlidge Rd. Passing the Millennial Science Center cyclists will loop around the freshly paved roads of the Nittany Residence Halls zipping past the halfway marker and racing back to The Bryce Jordan Center.

THE NITTANY STAGE RACE also offers a beginner friendly "open" category for any person wishing to race the time trial without entering all three races. This is a great, inexpensive way to come out, have fun, and test your fitness. Riders in the open category will not need a fancy bicycle. Riders will however be required to have a helmet and a safely maintained road bike. For safety reasons and to

comply with the rules of USA Cycling: mountain bikes and hybrid bikes may not be used for the *Campus Time Trial*.

The *Downtown Criterium* will be the third and final race of the weekend. As a wide, “L-shaped” course racers will have plenty of room to sprint to victory. A Criterium is a fast-paced, mass start event that is the staple of the American cycling season. Held on relatively short, closed courses Criteriums feature several corners giving spectators the opportunity to view the majority of the course and see competitors many times throughout the race. Primes, (pronounced “preems”) are sprints within a race for all riders in the main field including breakaway riders who have lapped the field. Riders who win the prime are awarded prizes even if they do not win the overall race.

We plan to make our criterium a fun family event with events like a helmet and bike light raffle, and by holding a family fun ride! The family fun ride will allow for any person who brings their own bike and helmet with them to ride the course *for free* before the start of the Pro Men’s race. This means that spectators and local residents will have the chance to hop on their bike and ride the same closed course as the actual racers! This will not be a competitive event but we do expect it to be a lot of fun for kids and adults alike. We are also planning to invite vendors like Rita’s Ice, Gemelli’s bakery and others to come out to the race.

WILL THERE BE ROAD CLOSURES?

In order to safely hold either of Sunday’s events there will be some road closures and detours. The race organizers have spoken with the local churches, businesses, PennDOT, and CATA, to ensure that none of the races seriously impact the normal traffic patterns of State College. Calder Way, Beaver Ave, Atherton Street, Park Ave, and many more roads will be completely unaffected by the races. Volunteers and police will be on site at both races to ensure that members of the community can cross or exit the course. The Cycling Club has a long history of

successful race promotion that they will be applying to these races as well. THE NITTANY STAGE RACE has been in the works for over a year with the goal of being something the community can enjoy. Unlike some larger events that may have passed through State College in years past; this is a very community focused not for profit event.

HOW MAY I FIND OUT MORE?

For more information about the event please visit www.RaceStateCollege.com. We are also on social media so please “like” us on Facebook at **The Nittany Stage Race** to get the latest and greatest news from our promotions team!

For more specific questions, or if you are part of a group or community organization that would like to volunteer at the event please email the race director Andrew Artz at: TheNittanyStageRace@gmail.com

HOW CAN I REGISTER FOR THE RACE?

Registration opens March 30th on BikeReg.com. Registration for all three events is \$70, registration for the open time trial category is a flat \$10 entry fee. A \$10 late fee will apply to any entries received after 11pm on July 12th and a \$15 late fee will apply to any entries received after July 26th including those on Saturday morning. There is no late fee applied to the Open ITT. Day of race registration opens at least 30 minutes before the first day’s race and closes 30 minutes before each races start time. Registration for the stage race is not available after Saturday morning. A USA Cycling license is also required to participate in the stage race. For more information on USA Cycling licenses please visit their [getting started](#) page.

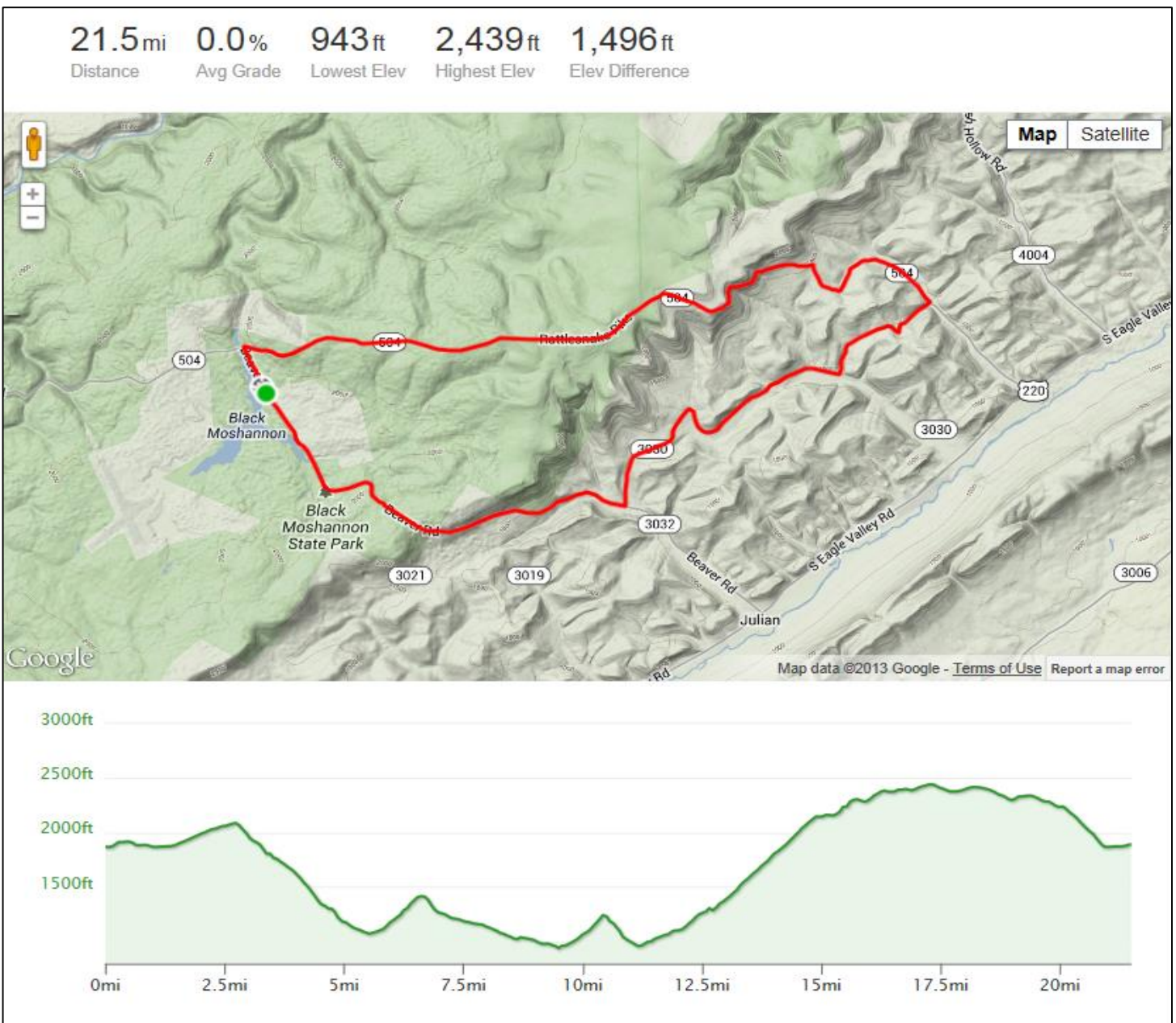
DO YOU HAVE ANY WORDS OF WISDOM?

Yes actually... *Get ready* and *get riding* because in just six short month’s cyclists from all across the Northeast are coming for *your* home race! Show them what State College is made of and don’t let the weather slow you down!



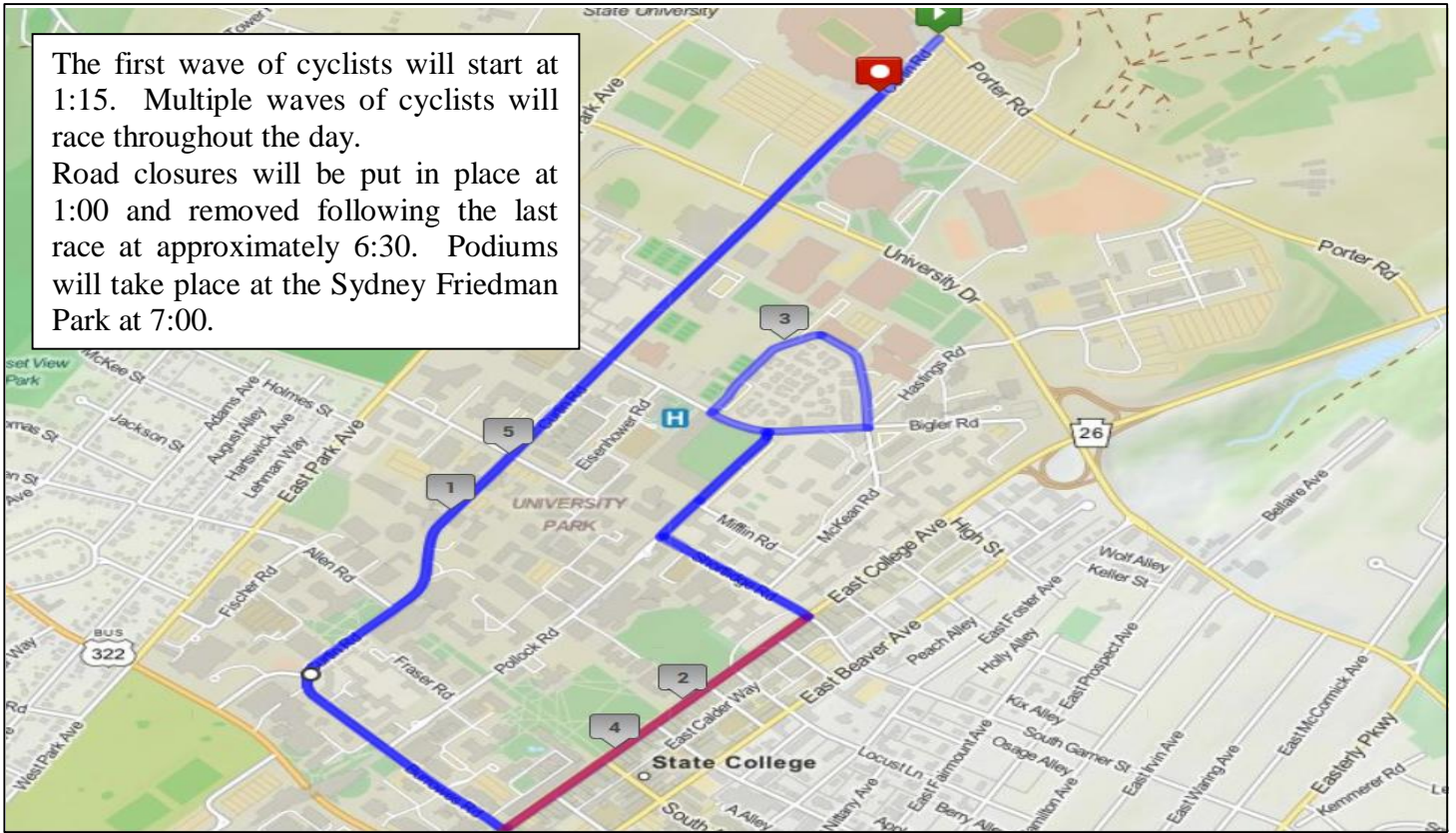
COURSE MAPS

RATTLESNAKE ROAD RACE



CAMPUS TIME TRIAL

The first wave of cyclists will start at 1:15. Multiple waves of cyclists will race throughout the day. Road closures will be put in place at 1:00 and removed following the last race at approximately 6:30. Podiums will take place at the Sydney Friedman Park at 7:00.



DOWNTOWN CRITERIUM

Races will start at 8:00 near Beaver Stadium all races will be concluded before 12:30. Road closures will be put in place at 7:40 and removed following the last cyclist.

