



The Luck of the Weather

Once again Mother Nature decided to toy with the first year of the Chicago Time Trial Series. This time it was done in a way that had the full effect of a well-orchestrated Spielberg action sequence. The timing was delivered to ironic perfection. All that was missing was the dramatic music track. It went something like this:

7:00am Cue up slight overcast to make everyone feel good about the race

7:15am Move in a tremendous wall of very dark clouds from no-where

7:30am Throw down sheets of rain, heavy wind, lightning and thunder

8:30am The race is called

9:00am Bring out the sun while the course is being torn down.

It was a tough call, partly because this would be the second time in a row. But after consulting with officials, racers, and the volunteer staff the call was made. No one seemed upset. There was indication that there was debris on the road from the heavy rain and wind, and while there were conflicting reports, several people reported a second wave of heavy weather that was moving in to hit us hard again. That weather never materialized, but just the thought of racers out on the course and getting hit with lightning or worse-yes worse-made the call a little easier.

We will try to put the word "Series" back into the Chicago Time Trial soon. The Beverly Bike-Vee Pak Inc. Racing Team was fantastic. They set up the course and tore it all down in the nastiest of weather. The police in Willow Springs were fantastic too. From permitting the race right through race day, the police department was very nice and made sure we had what we needed and checked on us often on race day. All of you who showed up to race and were understanding of the situation deserve big thanks as well.

We will not be rescheduling Monee. But the Willow Spring race may have a second attempt on July 19 if the manpower can be arranged. Stay tuned. Next time I'm bringing a good Spielberg sound track.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Art J. Wan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.