



Quotes- Stage Six 2008 Tour de Georgia presented by AT&T

Kanstantin Sivtsov (BLR), Team High Road, Stage 6 Winner

On today...

"Today is very important stage... winner of stage is winner of race... maybe winner of Tour de Georgia For GC, understand that maybe for GC... last 500 meters is maybe 10 seconds, no time bonuses."

"I dream for this day, this stage is my characteristic. It is steep, long. . . I'm [using for] preparation for Tour de France... [winning stage] much elation, it is great."

Levi Leipheimer (USA)of Astana

Was he surprised by Kanstantin Sivtsov and Trent Lowe's (Slipstream) performance today?

"If you look back to the beginning of the day, there were a few names to consider, Sivtsov, Sevilla. . . It's hard to predict who's going to be strong. You could see from yesterday this kid's going to be strong and, you know, I think that looking back I was a little bit over confident and all I can say is Trent (Lowe) rode great, Slipstream rode great and High Road and Siutsou took advantage of the battle that was going on and everybody rode a really great bike race I've got to say and I made some mistakes but it was a really tough call. . . I was feeling good and we still had Chris (Horner) and Tony (Antonio Colom Mas) and I thought, if we make it hard at the bottom. These guys, my two teammates could crack everyone for me. Unfortunately, you know, I felt strong but I think Trent and, especially Sivtsov, were also very strong so, that's just bike racing."

How does this effect what he does during Stage Seven's Circuit Race

"You know, High Road has three really fast guys so Trent and I aren't exactly the best sprinters in the world so you can never say never but it would be very difficult."

Neil Shirley (USA), Jittery Joe's Professional Cycling Team, Georgia Lottery Most Aggressive Jersey Winner

On when he launched his attack...

"First off, there were five riders with a small gap just, I think it was maybe 25 miles into the race, just before we started going around the lake. And I could tell that the pack was starting to fan out across the road so I attacked and went across with Svein Tuft (Symmetrics) and that was the break. And then my goal kind of for the day was I knew that there was enough KOM points on the road to take the jersey, so that was my number one goal but once we got towards the top of Hogpen, I realized that Jason McCartney (Team CSC) was going for the KOM and it was kind of a change of plans. But I felt really good on the climbs, felt comfortable and knew that I needed to get in a jersey, I just had to keep attacking and try and get up the road solo, and had an opportunity just as the four other riders were catching on to us, getting close to Brasstown and once I got off the front I had good legs and was able to tick out a nice cadence for a few more miles before I got caught."

On riding the Tour de Georgia for an Athens, Ga.-based team and winning the Georgia Lottery Most Aggressive Jersey

"It's actually a really big honor for me. This is my third time doing the Tour de Georgia on Jittery Joe's, and I really haven't done anything significant before now so it's really a fantastic feeling for me knowing how many supportive fans there are out there and seeing Jittery Joe's chalked on the road and having people yell for Jittery Joe's and

actually for me by name now which is a pretty cool feeling as well. It's great to ride the home Tour and do something good and get out front."

Jason McCartney (USA), Team CSC, United Community Bank KOM Jersey Winner, Stage 6

On plans to get the United Community Bank KOM Jersey...

"Going in to the day, we had no plans, we figured Astana and Slipstream would control at the base and we would try to race up the climb... we've actually never really raced up this climb. Then we got in a break, it was a really hard start, and it was obvious someone was going to go and it was going to be smaller, it was going to be a crucial break, so I happened to be there and just kind of went... and it came down to going for the jersey, I guess."

On what he knew about Kanstantin Sivtsov, Stage 6 Winner

"Super talented. ... You can tell in the bunch how guys are riding, they're just light on the pedals, and he looked good the past couple days. I think Levi kind of underestimated him."

On Stage 7 (Atlanta) and whether teammate Juan Jose Haedo (ARG) will contest the win:

"That's what we're hoping for... he's feeling good... he came in [with a small bone broken in his hand...] so we didn't even really know if he was going to come here, and he had no pressure the other day when he won and was kind of telling us not to do anything for him and he popped a win (in Atlanta), he won here last year, so I know he's confident."

On today...

"Today is very important stage... winner of stage is winner of race... maybe winner of TdG For GC, understand that maybe for GC... last 500 meters is maybe 10 seconds, no time bonuses."