

Homestake Lodge Mountain Bike Race, June 28, 2009



Super Dork on a blue bird day at Homestake Lodge.

This past Sunday (6/28/09), we raced again, this time on Homestake Pass, just outside of Butte. The race took place not far from the top of the pass at a place called Homestake Lodge (www.homestakelodge.com), which is a nordic skiing destination in the winter time.

The Lodge sits in an incredibly beautiful and pristine meadow at around 8000 feet. When we arrived the night before the race, after setting up camp, Alex and I rode the course and saw several elk and two moose. And just a few nights earlier, visitors of the Lodge saw a wolf pack that came up onto the porch and were there for 3 hours. The night out was gorgeous.

Race day was picture perfect, except that summer heat has descended in Montana, which makes the extreme exertion of racing that much more taxing. After two strong laps on the course, the heat got to me and I faded, losing two places and ending up 8th in the Cat 1 Men category. Alex and Jen both won their categories, Cat 3 Junior & Cat 2 Women.

From here on out, our racing schedule is uncertain. I'm considering doing the Butte 100 on August 1, and Alex would like to do a race in Whitefish in July, but we'll see. Anyway, in September there are a couple of races we'll most likely do, so there'll probably be more posts later.



Alex on the podium and with Jen afterwards holding a "Go Levi" sign. Levi Leipheimer, an old friend from high school, is one of the main contenders in the Tour de France, which started July 4.