

Ben Collins Crowned World Champion at Amateur World Championships

Hamburg, Germany
Sunday, September 02, 2007

Ben Collins left nothing to be desired as he took the 2007 World Championship title in his final race as an Amateur Triathlete. The International Triathlon Union (ITU) World Championships is an annual event that brings together the world's top professionals and amateurs for two separate races that mark the pinnacle of the triathlon season.

The 1.5k swim in the center of Hamburg went through 5 arches, funneling a wide field of athletes together each time. After the fourth bridge only six athletes remained in the lead group, and shortly thereafter Collins gapped the rest of the group on his way to the fastest swim of the day of 18:57. Collins's lead out of the water was never challenged and his 40k bike split of 58 minutes increased his overall lead to nearly 90 seconds.

Collins the 2007 US Champion described his race as "ideal". He went on further saying: "This entire week felt perfect. For the first time in my career I felt 100% prepared. There was nothing I would have done differently." And there was no need. Collins' time of 1:57:16 was the fastest time of the day by over a full minute. "It's a remarkable experience to travel this far to compete for your country and to have everything go right."

On September 3 Ben became the newest professional triathlete from the United States and will remain in Europe for the Poland ITU European Cup (professional) on September 9. He will then return to the US to finish out the 2007 season with races in San Luis Obispo (Tinley's Adventures) and San Francisco California.

You can follow all of Ben's race season, travels and training through his blog and website found at <http://bencollins.org/>.