

# First Edition Cycling News, Friday, January 8, 2010

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January 8, 14:00

## 2009 Reader Poll: Capturing triumph and tragedy in pictures



January 7, 23:26  
By: Cycling News

### Dramatic image from Giro's final stage voted best by Cyclingnews readers

They say a picture paints a thousand words, and in the case of Denis Menchov at this year's Giro d'Italia, a thousand emotions must have been flying through the Russian's head when he hit the deck during the final time

trial in Rome.

For this reason *Cyclingnews* readers voted this image, taken by experienced Italian lensman Roberto Bettini, the best of the year during what was a dramatic season full of colour and intrigue.

Menchov came into the final time trial in the historic Italian capital needing to maintain a slender lead over local favourite Danilo Di Luca; the Rabobank captain's dramatic fall in the final kilometre was notable not only for the tense finale it created but the immaculate bike change from his team mechanic Vincent Hendriks, who received a plethora of plaudits after the event.

The runner up in this category came from another Grand Tour, the Tour de France, and the final stage dominance of Mark Cavendish and teammate Mark Renshaw. Columbia-HTC's two Marks scored full marks for their efforts on the Champs Élysées - Renshaw's leadout was phenomenal, the Australian taking the Manxman to the 200m marker and collecting second place whilst Cavendish claimed his sixth stage victory.

The image sums up the American team's dominance in sprints at this year's Tour, and although Cavendish didn't collect the *maillot vert* of best sprinter in Paris, his performances spoke greater volumes than any jersey could summate.

It was back to the Giro d'Italia for the bronze medal, according to our readers, as an image of the peloton climbing a snow-capped and cold-looking Passo Rolle got the nod for the bottom step of the dais. A picture courtesy of another long-time Italian snapper, Sirotti, it covers the stage won by Denis Menchov as he set up his overall victory in the event.

Below is a gallery of the finalists in our Pic of the Year category - ranked in the order you voted for them - showcasing the best professional cycling has to offer in a myriad of fantastic images. Enjoy!



- [Second Edition Cycling News, Tuesday, January 12, 2010](#)
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- [First Edition Cycling News, Monday, January 11, 2010](#)
- [First Edition Cycling News, Sunday, January 10, 2010](#)
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