



48th SCHELDEPRIJS

August 2

Rik Van Looy was the great entertainer, but 'the Emperor' suffered a frame break entering the final local lap. In the end it was Oellibrandt, Stolker and Buis who got away. In the sprint, there was no stopping the former champion of Belgium. The group sprint was won by Jan Palmans. Initially, Jan was also crowned champion of Antwerp, but after a complaint, he was disqualified along with Frans Aerenhouts. The Antwerp title was not awarded.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Brecht, Hoogstraten, Merksplas, Beerse, Gierle, Lichtaart, Kasterlee, Retie, Dessel, Mol, Tessenderlo, Westerlo, Olen, Herentals, Massenhoven, Wommelgem, Borsbeek, Wijnegem, 'sGravenwezel, Schoten (160 km) and four local laps of 17 km. Total 228 km.



RESULT

82 participants

1. Petrus Oellibrandt, 228 km in 6h03m; 2. Marcel Buys; 3. Mies Stolker (Ned); 4. *Jan Palmans, Champion of Antwerp*⁽¹⁾, at 27", disqualified; 4. Victor Wartel; 6. *Frans Aerenhouts*⁽¹⁾, disqualified; 5. Jos Mariën; 6. Ron Murray (Aus); 7. Raymond Vrancken; 8. Léopold Schaeken; 9. Gilbert Van de Wiele; 10. Jan Huyskens; 11. Willy Butzen; 12. Maurice Joosen; 13. Firmin Bral; 14. Jos Bosmans; 15. Jan Callaerts; 16. Jan Van Gompel; 17. Marcel Hendriks; 18. Lode Anthonis; 19. Alfons Vandenbrande; 21. ex-aequo: Jef Van Bael, René Van Meenen, Karel Borgmans, Lucien Mathys, José Thumas, Julien Van Holsbeke, Willy Haelterman, Guillaume Michiels, Willy Truye, Clement Leemans, Jos Hoevenaers, Juul Mertens, René De Keulenaer, Henri Van den Bossche, August Peeters, Karel Clerckx, Eddy Pauwels, Roger Baens, Frans Siroyt, Jos Sels.

⁽¹⁾ According to the official magazine of the KBWB, the title of Champion of Antwerp has not been awarded. Both Palmans and Aerenhouts were disqualified due to irregular sprinting.



Petrus 'Peet' Oellibrandt

(°Beveren-Waas 01.12.1935 - †Sint-Niklaas
15.06.2014)

was a strong one-day rider. 'Peet' reached his peak when he won the 1959 Belgian Championship in Herentals, ahead of the still young 'Emperor'. In the race, Rik Van Looy set off on a long flight, but was caught on the local laps. And so it was the slender Waaslander who was able to snatch his first Scheldeprijs.

René Vermeiren



49th SCHELDEPRIJS

August 1

The start of the race was given at noon in Schoten and the riders went for a big circuit of 160 km through Hoogstraten, Kasterlee, Geel, Herentals, Nijlen. Once they were back in Schoten they had to accomplish four laps of 17 km each.

The race was fast and moved. Five riders broke away in the final lap. They sprinted for victory and Raymond Vrancken, who already won the race three years earlier, was the fastest one.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Hoogstraten, Kasterlee, Veerle, Herentals, Ranst, Wommelgem, Borsbeek, Wijnegem, 'sGravenwezel, Schoten (160 km) and four laps of 17 km, 228 km total.



Marcel Janssens, second for the third time (!),
Raymond Vrancken, winner for the second time

RESULT

92 participants

1. Raymond Vrancken, 228 km in 5h57m; 2. Marcel Janssens, *Champion of Antwerp*; 3. Piet van Hees (Ned); 4. John Van Tongerloo; 5. Eddy Pauwels; 6. Jos Verachtert at 20"; 7. José Thumas; 8. Gustaaf Desmet; 9. Léopold Schaeken; 10. Hugo Verlinden; 11. Frans Aerenhouts; 12. Jos Bosmans; 13. Gilbert Saelens; 14. Lode Troonbeeckx; 15. Jos Mariën; 16. Jos Hoevenaers; 17. Jef Van Bael; 18. Gustaaf Sonck; 19. Ex-aequo: Jos Vloeberghs, Frans Van Looveren, Leon Gevaert, Maurice Joosen, Petrus Oellibrandt, Alfons Van den Brande, Jan Storms, Willy Vanden Berghen, Juul Mertens, Willy Butzen, Constant De Keyser, Alfons Hermans, Richard Everaerts, Rik Van Steenberghe, Constant Goossens, Jules Van Holsbeke, Tony Bergmans (Ned), Rik Scharlaekens, Emiel Severeijns, Jan Meuris, Karel Clerckx, Jan Laroy, Roger Baens, Gilbert Van de Wiele, Fons Sweeck, Jan Callaerts, Marcel Buys, Clement Leemans, Frans De Boitseleir, Lucien Mathys, Julien Van Oostende, Georges Van Maeckelberghe, Adolf Verpaelt, August Peeters.

Raymond Vrancken

(°Tongeren 04.08.1932-+Tongeren 02.04.2011)



Raymond came from a fifteen-child family. He was a really strong young rider. In '55 he won two stages in the Tour of Austria as well as in the Tour of Egypt. In 1957, he turned a professional. He achieved a great career even if he never belonged to the elite. He was a humble guy from Limburg who won 14 professional races, most of them at regional level. His two victories in the Scheldeprijs (1958-1961) are in fact the most important wins of his cycling career. He also won the races of Helchteren, Wellen, Goyer, Grobbendonk and Overijse (1957), the 3rd stage of the de GP Marvan (1958), Tielt and Hoeselt (1959), Geetbets (1960), Borgloon (1961), Lommel (1963) and the Circuit of Limburg (1965). In 1965 and in 1966 he broke his wrist twice and this is when he decided to stop racing. Raymond became a beer merchant in Tongeren.

René Vermeiren



50th SCHELDEPRIJS

July 31

90 riders will take the start of the race but with a twenty minutes delay as a big traffic jam in so-called 'rabbit pipe' made it impossible for riders coming from East and West Flanders to arrive on time in Schoten. André Noyelle, Robert De Middeleir and Pol Rosseel arrived even later and can definitely not start. Peet Oellibrandt is the last one to take place in the bunch on the start line but today the last shall be first! Peet Oellibrandt and John Van Tongerlo break together in the final; Vic Van Schil counter-attacks, but too late. Peet is faster than John and wins the 'golden' Scheldeprijs, which is in fact his second win in Schoten.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Brecht, Hoogstraten, Beerse, Kasterlee, Mol, Meerhout, Westerlo, Tongerlo, Herentals, Grobbendonk, Nijlen, Emblem, Lier, Boechout, Borsbeek, Wijnegem, 's-Gravenwezel, Schoten (150 km) and four local laps, total 227 km.



RESULT

90 participants

1. Petrus Oellibrandt, 220 km in 5h45m15s (38,233 km/h); 2. John Van Tongerloo, *Champion of Antwerp*; 3. Vic Van Schil at 100 meters; 4. Jos Wouters at 15"; 5. Oswald De Clercq; 6. Willy Butzen; 7. Gustaaf De Smet; 8. Jos De Wolf; 9. Willy Derboven; 10. Karel De Laet; 11. Frans Schoubben; 12. Marcel Janssens; 13. Lode Troonbeeckx; 14. Ludo Janssens; 15. Robert Seneca; 16. Julien Schepens; 17. Rik Scharlaeckens; 18. Constant Goossens; 19. Guillaume Michiels; 20. Georges Van Maeckelberghe; 21. Leon Sebregts (Ned); 22. Adolf De Waele; 23. José Thumas; 24. Jan Van Gompel; 25. Antoon Van der Steen (Ned); 26. Juul Mertens; 27. Arnould Flécy; 28. Laurent Christiaens; 29. Jos Van den Broeck; 30. René Van Meenen; 31. Louis Veraghtert; 32. Raymond Vrancken; 33. Jan Storms; 34. Emiel Severeyns; 35. Maurits Joosen; 36. Frans Van Immerseel; 37. Frans Aerenhouts; 38. Fons Hermans; 39. Willy Truye; 40. Marcel Buys; 41. André Van Houtven; 42. Roger Verlee; 43. Jos Geurts; 44. Jan Callaerts; 45. Eddy Pauwels; 46. Constant de Keyser; 47. Leon Gevaert; 48. Roger De Breucker; 49. Jan Palmans; 50. Karel Borgmans; 51. Roger De Coninck; 52. Karel Clerckx; 53. Elias Van Poucke; 54. Marcel Van den Bogaert; 55. Willy Schroeders; 56. Louis Proost; 57. Victor Desmeth.



Petrus 'Peet' Oellibrandt

(°Beveren-Waas 01.12.1935 - +Sint-Niklaas
15.06.2014)

He was a very strong rider in one-day races. He achieved his biggest win in 1959 when he won the Belgian Championship in Herentals, on the still young 'Emperor's doorstep. Rik Van Looy achieved a long breakaway earlier that day but he was caught on the local laps. In 2011 Mark Cavendish summed three victories too in the Scheldeprijs and equaled Oellibrandt's record. Since 2016, Marcel Kittel is the new and only record holder with his fourth Scheldeprijs victory, followed by a fifth victory in 2017.

René Vermeiren



51st SCHELDEPRIJS

July 30

The weather is really hot on that festive Tuesday 1963 in Schoten. Everybody has already the World Championship that will take place on August 11 in Ronse in mind. A race that will make history but the 85 riders who take the start of the 51st of the Scheldeprijs have no idea about that yet.

John Van Tongerloo, Huub Zilverberg and Hugo Hellemans attack on the local laps. Peet Oellibrandt bridges the gap on his own. He proves one more time he is the strongest rider. He attacks in the final part while Van Tongerloo, Hellemans and Zilverberg are no longer able to follow him. John from Meerle takes place 2, exactly like he did it the year before. Thanks to this third victory Peet Oellibrandt established a new record.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Hoogstraten, Beerse, Kasterlee, Mol, Westerlo, Herentals, Nijlen, Ranst, Wommelgem, Borsbeek, Wijnegem, Schoten (161 km) and four local laps, 229 km total.



RESULT

85 participants

1. Petrus Oellibrandt, 228 km in 5h43m (39,883 km/h); 2. John Van Tongerlo, Champion of Antwerp at 100 meters; 3. Hugo Hellemans; 4. Huub Zilverberg (Ned); 5. Jef Schils at 40"; 6. Wim van Est (Ned); 7. Fons Hermans; 8. Jos Verachtert at 45"; 9. Jos Dewit; 10. Lode Troonbeeckx; 11. Jos Bosmans; 12. Rik Luyten; 13. Frans Aerenhouts; 14. Raymond Vrancken; 15. Roger De Coninck; 16. Leo Van Bael; 17. Jan Van Gompel; 18. René Heuvelmans; 19. Pino Cerami; 20. Vic Van Schil; 21. Marcel Janssens; 22. Albert Smits; 23. Walter Muylaert; 24. Ex-aequo: Alfons Lemmens, Gust Verhaegen, Geurt Pos (Ned) and Frans Brands.



Petrus 'Peet' Oellibrandt

(°Beveren-Waas 01.12.1935 - +Sint-Niklaas
15.06.14)

He was a very strong rider in one-day races. He achieved his biggest win in 1959 when he won the Belgian Championship in Herentals, on the still young 'Emperor's' doorstep. Rik Van Looy achieved a long breakaway earlier that day but he was caught on the local laps. In 2011 Mark Cavendish summed three victories too in the Scheldeprijs and equaled Oellibrandt's record. Since 2016, Marcel Kittel is the new and only record holder with his fourth Scheldeprijs victory, followed by a fifth victory in 2017.

René Vermeiren



52nd SCHELDEPRIJS

July 28

66 professional riders start in this Scheldeprijs in a very sunny and hot day. Gust Verhaegen goes along in the lead for about 200 km. He is caught up in Schoten. Peet Oellibrandt and John Van Tongerlo break in the final part of the race, immediately joined by Jos Huysmans, Frans Aerenhouts, Roger De Coninck and Jos Hoevenaars who attacks in the final kilometer. His attack is a very mighty one and nobody is able to bridge the gap. Hoevenaars wins the event.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Hoogstraten, Beerse, Kasterlee, Mol, Westerlo, Herentals, Nijlen, Ranst, Wommelgem, Borsbeek, Wijnegem, Schoten (161 km) and four local laps. Total 229 km.



RESULT

66 participants

1. Jos Hoevenaars, Champion of Antwerp, 229 km in 6h00m (37,500 km/h); 2. Jos Huysmans at 10"; 3. Frans Aerenhouts; 4. Petrus Oellibrandt; 5. John Van Tongerloo; 6. Roger De Coninck; 7. Jef Schils at 20"; 8. Marcel Janssens; 9. Alfons Hellemans; 10. Fons Hermans; 11. Albert Covens; 12. Sylvain Henckaerts; 13. Jos Bosmans at 1'; 14. Arnould Flécy; 15. Willy Butzen; 16. Jan de Roover; 17. Raymond Vrancken; 18. Jan Van Gompel; 19. Karel De Laet; 20. Theo Mertens; 21. Julien Stevens; 22. Frans Brands; 23. Richard Everaerts; 24. André Lauwers; 25. Jos Dewit; 26. Alfons Lemmens; 27. Eddy Pauwels; 28. Jean Govaerts; 29. Karel Colpaert; 30. Roger De Breucker; 31. Hugo Hellemans; 32. Constant Jongen; 33. Ex-aequo: Roger Joosen and August Van Woensel; 35. Gust Verhaegen.



Jos Hoevenaars

(°Antwerpen 30.11.1932- +Wilrijk 14.06.1995)

Jos did not win a lot of races but he nevertheless became an excellent stage races rider. He also won the Flèche Wallonne in 1959, the Sels Cup in 1961 and the Scheldeprijs in 1964 and got many places of honor. He included won the bronze medal of the 1962 World Championship which took place in the Italian city of Salo (behind Stablinski and Elliott). In his quality of stage races rider, he won Naples-Rome-Naples in 1958. He wore the yellow jersey during four days in the Tour de France 1959 and finished the 10th overall in '58, the 8th in 59 and the 11th in 61. He took five in the overall ranking of the Giro '60 and wore the pink jersey during ten days. His professional career took place between 1956 and 1967. Jos died after a long illness when he was only 62 years old.

René Vermeiren



53rd SCHELDEPRIJS

July 27

75 riders took the start of the race and Gust Verhaegen broke alone in the big loop. The bunch caught him when two local laps were left to the finish. The race unavoidably finished in the sprint. Willy Vannitsen won it very easily. He was definitely the fastest rider of the group. A real talent! Young Eddy Merckx, who was then twenty years old, finished at the tenth position.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Brecht, Wortel, Beerse, Kasterlee, Mol, Groot-Vorst, Westerlo, Olen, Herentals, Grobbendonk, Nijlen, Emblem, Ranst, Wommelgem, Wijnegem, 's-Gravenwezel, Schoten (152 km) and four local laps in eight shape. Total 225 km.



RESULT

75 participants

1. Willy Vannitsen, 238 km in 5h48m (41,034 km/h); 2. Louis Proost, Champion of Antwerp; 3. Jos Huysmans; 4. Martin Van den Bossche; 5. Theo Mertens; 6. Lode Troonbeeckx; 7. Hugo Hellemans; 8. Jan Nolmans; 9. Jan Van Gompel; 10. Eddy Merckx; 11. Theo Nijs; 12. Ward Sels; 13. Jos Bosmans; 14. Jos Wouters; 15. Arie Den Hartog (Ned); 16. Jos Spruyt; 17. Frans Brands; 18. Marcel Janssens; 19. Bernard De Ville; 20. Karel De Laet; 21. Roger Joosen; 22. Emiel Daems; 23. Willy Verbruggen; 24. Jos Dewit; 25. Jaak Bels; 26. Arnould Flécy; 27. Alfons Hermans; 28. Bruno Janssens; 29. Karel Colpaert; 30. Yvo Molenaers; 31. Willy Hoogewijs; 32. Noël De Pauw; 33. Roger Cooreman; 34. Ludo Janssens; 35. Jos Hoevenaers; 36. John Van Tongerloo; 37. Marcel Van den Bogaert; 38. Jan De Roover; 39. Albert Covens; 40. Willy Vanden Berghen; 41. Petrus Oellibrandt; 42. Emiel Severeys; 43. Leo Knops; 44. Roger De Breucker.



Willy Vannitsen

(°Jeuk 08.02.1935- +Tienen 19.08.2001)

Vannitsen was really talented but he had a very special character and we cannot say that he trained as seriously as a professional rider is supposed to. Willy turned a professional in 1954 and remained in that category till 1966. His main victory is the Flèche Wallonne in 1961. He also won many other one day races (Tour of Tuscany 1958, Tour of Limburg 1957-60, the Three Sister Cities 1955, Milan-Vignola 1961, Tre Valli Varesine 1965...). He won two stages in the Tour (1962) and one in the Giro (the first stage of the edition 1958).

René Vermeiren



54th SCHELDEPRIJS

August 2

76 competitors presented themselves at the start of the race. Former winner Raymond Vrancken attacked in the big loop. Gust Verhaegen caught him and both riders entered in Schoten with an advantage of 4 minutes. Vrancken was caught after two local laps while Gust went on alone for a while before he was caught and dropped by Frans Brands and Rik Pauwels. Jos Spruyt was the only rider able to bridge the gap with the leaders. Brands suffered later a puncture and Spruyt easily beat Pauwels in the sprint.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Brecht, Rijkevorsel, Merksplas, Beerse, Gierle, Tielen, Lichtaart, Herentals, Vorselaar, Grobbendonk, Pulle, Pulderbos, Zandhoven, Oelegem, Schilde, 's-Gravenwezel, Schoten (100 km) and seven local laps in eight shape. Total 212 km.



RESULT

76 participants

1. Jos Spruyt, *Champion of Antwerp*, 212 km in 5h04m (41,842 km/h); 2. Rik Pauwels; 3. Louis Proost at 20"; 4. André Planckaert; 5. Alfons De Bal; 6. Theo Mertens; 7. Hugo Hellemans; 8. Vic Van Schil; 9. Jan Lauwers; 10. Tony Houbrechts; 11. Joseph Mathy; 12. Constant Jongen; 13. Frans Aerenhouts; 14. Petrus Oellibrandt; 15. Jaak van de Klundert (Ned); 16. Michaël Wright (Gbr); 17. Willy Van den Bulcke; 18. Noël Depauw; 19. Rik Luyten; 20. André Poppe; 21. Jan Goots; 22. Jean Monteyne; 23. Frans Melckenbeeck; 24. Walter Lambrechts; 25. Frans Brands; 26. Willy Van den Eynde; 27. Alfons Hermans; 28. Frans Van de Walle; 29. Ludo Verhoeven; 30. August Verhaegen; 31. Jos Hoevenaers; 32. Roger De Coninck; 33. Emiel Severeijns; 34. Marcel Buysen.



Jos Spruyt (°Viersel 25.02.1943)

Jos Spruyt turned a professional rider in 1965 with French team Mercier. He started like Poulidor's team-mate (1965-1967) before becoming Eddy Merckx's one during the longest part of his career (1968-1976). Jos participated in eight Tour de France. In 1967, during his second Tour, he rode the entire fifth stage with the yellow jersey on his shoulders. He won three stages and in 1966 he won of his most beautiful victories: the Scheldeprijs!

René Vermeiren



55th SCHELDEPRIJS

August 1

78 cyclists register for the 55th Scheldeprijs. During the large tour Rik Van Looy quietly disappears from the race after 104 km. Just before entering Schoten Paul In 't Ven take a one minute lead. The 22 year old amateur eventually crosses the finishing line with 30 seconds of his lead remaining.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Brecht, Hoogstraten, Merksplas, Lichtaart, Kasterlee, Geel, Veerle, Averbode, Langdorp, Aarschot, Booischot, Heist-op-den-Berg, Itegem, Lier, Nijlen, Herenthout, Grobbendonk, Zandhoven, Schilde, 's-Gravenwezel, Schoten (186 km) and three local laps in eight shape. Total 236 km.



RESULT

78 participants

1. Paul In 't Ven, *Champion of Antwerp*, 236 km in 5h44m (41,162 km/h); 2. Henk Nijdam (Ned) at 30"; 3. Joseph Mathy; 4. Jos Boons; 5. Jean-Baptist Claes; 6. Hans Junkermann (Dui); 7. Willy In 't Ven; 8. Ward Sels at 40"; 9. Daniël Van Rijckeghem; 10. Jan Harings (Ned); 11. Roger Swerts; 12. Roger Rosiers; 13. Pierre Nassen; 14. Noël Foré; 15. Frans Aerenhouts;
16. Remi Van Vreckom; 17. Emiel Coppens; 18. Alfons De Bal; 19. Nol Kloosterman (Ned); 20. Marin Creele; 21. Pol Vandeneste; 22. Tony Houbrechts; 23. Roland Vanderijse; 24. Maarten Breure (Ned); 25. Emile Bodart; 26. Vic Van Schil; 27. Roger Verheyden; 28. Jos Huysmans; 29. Jos Spruyt; 30. Leo van Dongen (Ned); 31. Pasquale De Luca (Ita); 32. Theo Mertens; 33. Cees Snepvangers (Ned); 34. Nico Lute (Ned); 35. Henri De Wolf; 36. Jan Lauwers; 37. Bart Zoet (Ned); 38. Roger Cooreman; 39. Willy Van den Eynde; 40. Gérard David; 41. Jos Van Hout; 42. Juul Van der Flaas; 43. Guy Vallée; 44. Herman Vanspringel; 45. Albert Lacroix; 46. Adri Van Middelkoop (Ned); 47. Albert Van Vlierberghe; 48. Hugo Hellemans; 49. Julien Stevens; 50. Eddy Beugels (Ned); 51. Frans Brands; 52. Franco Balmamion (Ita); 53. Marc Roelands; 54. Eric De Vlaeminck; 55. Willy Planckaert.



Paul In 't Ven (°Turnhout 01.04.1945)

In 1967 Paul joined his brother Willy in the Antwerp Mann-Grundig-formation. His debut was promising: he won in the Scheldeprijs, the GP d'Isbergues, Boom and Heist-op-den-Berg, he became third in the Omloop Mandel-Leie-Schelde and 43rd in the Tour. Afterwards his career went downhill and in 1971 he bode farewell to the world of professional cycling.

René Vermeiren



56th SCHELDEPRIJS

July 30

Ambiguity about Ward Sels' right to participate is the reason for a hectic start at this year's Scheldeprijs. Ward Sels is the only rider for the French Bic team and since the Scheldeprijs is a race for teams, not individuals, Sels shouldn't be allowed to start. The organization however makes an exception and thus is Sels one of the 105 riders starting in this year's Scheldeprijs.

A leading group of thirteen including Sels prepare for the sprint in Schoten. Ward Sels takes the victory by a length expects that this will seal his place for the World-Championship later in the year. Nothing seems to be less true...

ROADMAP

Schoten, Brecht, Hoogstraten, Merksplas, Turnhout, Geel, Averbode, Boischot, Heist-op-den-Berg, Itegem, Nijlen, Herenthout, Grobbendonk, Pulle, Pulderbos, Zandhoven, Oelegem, Schilde, 'sGravenwezel, Schoten (176 km) and three local laps (226 km).



RESULT

105 participants

1. Ward Sels, 226 km in 5h16m (43,291 km/h); 2. Harry Steevens (Ned); 3. Gerard Vianen (Ned); 4. Victor Nuelant; 5. Frans Verstraeten; 6. Roland Van de Rijse; 7. Jan Harings (Ned); 8. Frans Brands; 9. Rini Wagtmans (Ned); 10. Eddy Beugels (Ned); 11. Tony Houbrechts; 12. Roger Claessen; 13. Marcel Maes; 14. Julien Stevens at 1'20"; 15. Daniël Van Rijckeghem; 16. Gilbert Wuytack; 17. Willy Bocklandt at 1'25"; 18. Vic Van Schil at 2'; 19. Guido Van Damme; 20. Willy Donnie; 21. Huub Harings (Ned); 22. Julien Delocht; 23. Cees Snepvangers (Ned); 24. Pierre Vreys; 25. Roger Swerts; 26. Ferdinand Van Rijmenant; 27. August Badts; 28. Ludo Van Dromme; 29. Wim Schepers (Ned); 30. Paul In 't Ven.



Edward Sels (°Vorselaar 27.08.1941)

Ward was poised to become the successor of Rik van Looy. He became professional on July 3rd 1963 and immediately won his first four races. In his first full year as professional Ward was the revelation of the peloton: 19 victories, Champion of Belgium, yellow jersey and four stage wins in the Tour de France, stage wins in Paris-Nice, the Vuelta and the Tour of Luxembourg! He won many races amongst them Paris-Brussels 1965, Tour of Flanders 1966 and the Scheldeprijs 1968. A few serious crashes made him quite professional cycling in 1972.

René Vermeiren



57th SCHELDEPRIJS

July 29

This Scheldeprijs is very lively. The fierce crosswind breaks up the peloton into bits and pieces. Eventually, with echelon after echelon, 45 riders come together at the front. The other riders lose ground metre by metre, until the gap with the leaders reaches seven minutes and they abandon the race. Up front, Rini Wagtmans is very industrious, but the Flandria team, with Walter Godefroot and Roger De Vlaeminck leading the way, is too strong. Walter and Roger take turns to attack and in the end it is Walter who wins.

ROADMAP

Schoten, Brecht, Loenhout, Meer, Minderhout, Hoogstraten, Merksplas, Beerse, Gierle, Tielen, Lichtaart, Oevel, Tongerlo, Westerlo, Averbode, Herselt, Booischot, Heist-op-den-Berg, Itegem, Berlaar, Kessel, Nijlen, Herenthout, Bouwel, Grobbendonk, Pulle, Pulderbos, Zandhoven, Oelegem, Schilde, 's-Gravenwezel, Schoten (194 km) and three local laps. Total 241 km.



RESULT

123 participants

1. Walter Godefroot, 241 km in 5h35m (43,164 km/h); 2. Roger De Vlaeminck at 45"; 3. Rini Wagtmans (Ned) at 47"; 4. Christian Callens at 1'; 5. Etienne Buysse at 1'30"; 6. Tony Houbrechts at 1'40"; 7. Vic Van Schil; 8. Frans Verstraeten; 9. Eddy Reniers; 10. Hubert Hutsebaut; 11. Gilbert Wuytack at 4'04"; 12. Herman Vrijders; 13. Ronald De Witte at 5'; 14. Ward Janssens; 15. Jan Van Nueten;
16. Valeer Van Sweevelt at 6'20"; 17. Jan Serpenti (Ned); 18. Bart Zoet (Ned); 19. Jos De Schoenmaecker; 20. Rik Van Looy; 21. Englebert Opdebeeck; 22. Ronny Van de Vijver; 23. Jan Krekels (Ned); 24. Romain Pauwels; 25. Roger Kindt; 26. Leendert Groot (Ned); 27. Willy De Mol; 28. Roger Jochmans; 29. Fernand Hermie.



Walter Godefroot (°Gent 02.07.1943)

is a monument of the cycling sport. He won many big races. Champion of Belgium (1965-72), Liège-Bastogne-Liège (1967), Tour of Flanders (1968-78), Gent-Wevelgem (1968), Paris-Roubaix (1969), Scheldeprijs (1969), Bordeaux-Paris (1969-76), ten stages in the Tour de France and the points classification (1970), Zurich Championship (1970-74), Henninger Turm (1974), one stage in the Giro and two stages in the Vuelta. As an amateur, he won the bronze medal at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics... Later on, he was for many years the sports director of leading teams.

René Vermeiren