

# BRYAN D SMITH

## Redlands Race Report: 3/24/04 (Stage 1)

Hey Everyone,

This might be short, because I am super tired! Today's race was a new stage for the Redlands Classic. About 140k, finishing with a really brutal 6k climb...yes, I will admit to using the 25 today!

**"Great ride, super-great ride by Frank today."**

Wind played a factor early in the race, split things into groups and hurt some legs for sure. As things were regrouping, Frank Pipp took off and bridged up to the big break of the day. He was out pretty much all day long. Great ride, super-great ride by Frank today. Unfortunately the break got caught at the bottom of the climb.

### The Crash

I had the misfortune(?) of getting caught up in a huge wreck with about 30k to go. Bad place, bad time. I just couldn't stop and I rolled into the carnage, did a flip, cracked my helmet, and slid. I was lucky though, I could get up and keep going.

Nick wasn't so lucky. In fact, he was pretty bad. Road rash everywhere, and stitches in the knee...right now he is still at the ER.

I hope he can start tomorrow as he is going really well right now.

As it turns out something like 6 or 7 people had broken bones, and three guys had to be immobilized at the scene. Dave Zabriskie of US Postal was really bad, unconscious at the crash so I really hope he is OK. The last I saw of him, one of his teammates was screaming at him trying to wake him up.

**"Webcor decided to keep chasing... maybe a bit questionable, but this isn't playtime, it's war."**

### Getting back into the fight

Since the break was still away, Webcor decided to keep chasing...maybe a bit questionable, but this isn't playtime, it's war. That just meant I had to chase for about 10k until Jim was able to catch up in the team car. He paced me for almost 10 minutes at like 60k an hour. I only saw the caravan at the very bottom of the climb. I never saw the front again, and it's too bad because I think I could have had a good ride today. I don't know results yet, but let's hope the damage isn't too bad!

OK, I am way too tired to keep on writing!

Until tomorrow,

Bryan

*Check out [www.redlandscycling.com](http://www.redlandscycling.com)  
or [cyclingnews.com](http://cyclingnews.com) for full results.*



Photo by Ken Thomson

My teammate Frank Pipp made the most promising break of the day.

