

BRYAN D SMITH

Redlands Race Report: 3/27-28/04 (Stages 4 & 5)

Hey Everyone,

Well that's the ball game. Endeavour finished the race with 3 guys and held 14th on the team GC. I think that's pretty darn good for our very first outing. As for how it all came down, I was very pleased to have survived the crit yesterday...let me tell you why!

Salton Criterium

The course was like no other I've raced. 9 corners, including two that were tighter than 90...you know how fun those are at speed with 130 other dudes. My objective was to sit in and try to stay up front. Well...I sat in...but pretty much saw half the field in front of me all day. It was fast, like a Superweek crit, the typical 30mph stuff. Wicked gaps to close on every corner. Unfortunately, fatigue got the best of Edrendel and he missed the time cut. Another very hard day.

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Sunset Road Race

So after Saturday I was very happy to still be 24th on GC and hoped to have good legs today for the final road race.

Well, the legs weren't quite as good as I needed

to make an impression, and an ill-timed flat sucked up what was left in the tank just chasing back on. The big bumper Sunday was Frank's DNF due to a chain problem...he slipped to 5th in the sprint competition as a result, but, as they say in NASCAR, “It's just one a them racin' things”.

“The big bumper Sunday was Frank's DNF due to a chain problem.”

We wrapped up with me in 24th on the GC, and Carlos and Bryce surviving.

I am now looking forward to getting home, enjoying some spring rain, seeing the family, and, of course, my dog. I am sure you all can guess, but the school work has been piling up like garbage in a landfill. Oh well, I know that some day in the near future I will have to earn a real living off that degree. I mean, each of us want the chance to become a professionals but we all know the odds are stacked against that.

On a related note, all of us are loving the fact that the racing season is going again. The team is going to be so strong after this really tough block of racing...10 days in 11...so I think we'll have some good days in May, June, July, August, and hopefully September.

Thanks a million for reading and supporting,
Bryan



Photo by Casey Gibson

And one team shot for the scrap book.