

Hot summer Nights Race Report—week five



June 29, 2007—25th Anniversary & NUVO Night

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CIBA MOM TRIBUTE

Pretty cool deal - Catherine Dusing. First of what is to be an annual event on the anniversary night, honoring a special person who has had a great deal to do with Major Taylor Velodrome. Lots of cup cakes, too!!

RACERS TEARING IT UP

Darrell Bratton (team Mack) was STRONG in the 10 mile scratch - Josh Weir charged hard at the end, as if shot out of a cannon. Nearly caught him. Wearing plain kit - hmmm. Field of 23 - now that's the way a field oughta look!!

Moso had a strong night: After whining about being rode into the ground on training rides during the week by Sparky, Moso found the juice and the chi, coming close but not quite closing the deal: 4th in the 10-mile, 2nd in the 5-lap scratch (to Mr. Weir, and damn if Moso wasn't able to stick right with Josh as they really gapped the field). Check out ww.joshuaweir.com - pretty cool.

Been-Hit Rootin'-Tootin' was strong as well: 4th in the scratch race, 2nd in the snowball, and an animator in the 10-mile (finishing 10th).

Wives on the In-field! (and significant others) - Always a more pleasant, family vibe on the in-field at MTV when the wives show up—the Emonds, the Robisons, Virgil's Tracy, Tom's Lauren, and of course Bri and Lisa and Lisa and Abby and Pam.

Kovac - the Bar Exam agrees with you! Dominant, like Patton rolling through France, The Honorable Bri crushed her competition in every way, through every means, with every tactic, in every race. She was wishing she'd jumped in the 10-mile scratch race.

Sasha - he's upgrading SOON. The kid is rippin' fast. And fit.

Mikey Souers - GREAT win in the 5-mile scratch race! Super effort, but man, you've got to work on that sprint technique - you looked like you were humping your top tube..

Jeff Carl - you would likely have won the 5-mile, but made the right move and raced the 10-mile with the "big boys" - great choice, and good effort.

FRIDAY NIGHT DEBUTS

New 3's from Thursday make good showing in their Friday debuts:

Josh Prater (MOB Squad) finished 4th in scratch, 2nd in snowball and 2nd in 5-mile

Jim Zoellner (Heroes Foundation, he with the gaudy Roark) finished 5th in the snowball and 3rd in the 5-mile. Great showing guys - and you rode well.

Some Old-School Riders Making their Way Back to MTV:

Rocky Mountain Way - Joe Walsh was back at MTV, with his significant other, PJ (who chose not to race, but dammit, she shoulda!) Good to have you there, Joe.

Mike Lantz - also made his season debut, and showed that he's a true freak of nature, with impeccable tactical decisions. He comes out and races the track a couple times a year and always makes a good showing. Tonight, winning the 20-lap snowball.

RUNNING THE PLACE

Zel Manning the Mic - love it when he's there, I recall the Barry White songs from the 70's....

Also, it allows Dr. Knows-alot-ski to roam around and stir up, well, check on things....

SPECTATING!

Courtney Bishop - plotting and scheming for next year's Little 500 already....

**Major Taylor Action
Committee**

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June 30, 2007—NITE Ride Racing

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SPECTATORS & CIRCUS ACTS

Flying Laps - Scooters (just what the hell are those things anyway and what's the point?) - and Slowest Race at intermission were nice diversions for the fans - Off to a slow, make that super-slow, start, the Slowest Race proved to be a crowd favorite, with oohs and ahhs emanating whenever someone bit it. Josh Weir took the "Slowest" and "Fastest" man titles for the night—as well as "crowd favorite" for sure!

IN THE STANDS & ON THE MIC

The fans packed the place (though, to this observer, seemed a tad lighter than last year?) Those that were there were enthusiastic and the racers appreciated having people in the stands and banging on the boards.

Zel and Hum.V split announcing chores - Great Job, guys, you add a lot (and that Zoe is a CUTEY!) Check out Hum.V hit song "Simple Man" - number one on the Indy Charts (no lie).

KEEP THE RUBBER SIDE DOWN

Had our first crash of the season (well, there was one a couple weeks ago on a Thursday Night development race). On the first sprint of the Cat. 3 Points Race, duking it out for a single point three riders were up the road), WunTun, New Kid and Mikey were charging hard for the line. WunTun had about a bike length, and behind him New Kid struggled hard, actually popping his front wheel off the ground. Enough so that eventually it landed cocked, causing an immediate and abrupt change in his direction. WunTun didn't see it, but heard it loud and clear—Evidently Mikey hopped, juked, jived and shimmied to avoid what he could and actually snapped the stupid, lightweight sissy road bars he had on his track bike (what was he thinking?). Snapped bars of course spelled doom for his crash-avoidance efforts, and he bounced hard off the concrete, too.

Other than some BIG bruises, some road rash, and some destroyed bike parts, everyone walked away without serious injury (as is usually the case with these spectacular, crowd pleasing crashes). Thanks to Jeff Carl and Mike Sowers for making Nite Ride Racing extra special!

MISSING IN ACTION—A FOLLOW-UP

After Josh Prater came from a late night at work just for the Cat.3 Points Race (great effort, Josh! Love your enthusiasm!), there's just no excuse for these M.I.A. folks:

No Leibo's at the track. Apparently, Adam has sold all his bike stuff, joined a commune and can be found hanging out on street corners, dreads flowing....

Coke Cola still absent as well - haven't heard a definitive story on his whereabouts, but rumor is he's planning a mayoral campaign. I'd vote for him, and ask you all to do the same....Actually, he was out at Track Natz, getting 8th place in the keirin, and 7th in the Points Race! And yesterday, while we were all recovering from a big two days of racing, he was ripping off a 3:46 3k pursuit, good for fourth place!

WunTun still awaiting the racing debut of his aged teammates with the new Fuji track bikes to show on a Friday night and give the Cat. 3 field some experience

Dr. Chuck and The Legend - where are you? Don't miss the special book signing The Legend will have at Major Taylor, promoting his new book, "Almost Everything I know About Racing Bikes in the Midwest". Don't worry, it's mostly pictures taken by Mike Hanley.....

LEAVING US HANGING...

We promised a column on "Prof.Smurphy's Help for Young Lovers". Well, we couldn't really drum up enough content, even after two nights of sharing the infield with Prof. Smurphy and Lisa "I'm out of the office". Maybe next week.

MONEY TALKS—OR NOT?

Money Talks - well, not always....Riders should note that the prize purse disbursed on Friday Night was NOT from Nuvo, even though it was repeatedly billed as Nuvo Night - Don't know what Nuvo brought to the party, but the prize money came from MTAC. Thanks to Virgil and Tom and Bri and Skip and Ken and Linda and Patrick - they stepped up with the cash.

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