



*Junior Cycling Development Program*

P.O. Box 103 | Fulton, CA 95439 | www

**Race Report #14**  
**Nevada City Criterium June 15, 2003**

**17-18 year old results**

1st Steven Cozza Team Swift  
2nd Nathan Miller Team Swift  
3rd Duke Schimmer Team Swift  
5th Brady Harter Team Swift

**15-16 year old results**

1st Adam Switters SGW  
2nd Eric Riggs SGW  
3rd Rich Weir Team Swift

**Rider Reports:**

**Nathan Miller**

Hi everyone,

I said that I would continually keep everyone posted about everything that was going on before we left for the trip. Now that we are down to seven days before we leave though, I am frantically trying to get everything I need in order. Also, I've had a big family affair come up this morning so I will have to keep this as brief as possible and only include details about Nevada City. (Sorry, but I promise I'll send out another report before we leave)

The plan for the Junior race was for Steve and me to get into a break away without taking anyone else up the road. Here's how it was supposed to happen: Rich would attack on the second lap and try to stay away as long as possible. When he got caught, I was supposed to attack and a lap later Steve would bridge up to me and the race would be won. Here's what actually happened: Rich did his breakaway on perfect timing, but got covered almost immediately. Then, Steve put in a hard attack that was immediately covered again by Adam Switters. Steve kept pulling harder and it soon became obvious that they weren't coming back. So, I attacked not more than 45 seconds after Steve's attack and bridged across to the two leaders. The end result was close to the plan, except that we had Switters with us, which was the one that we felt would be the biggest threat. Knowing that he would be attacked all of the way to the finish and not even in our age group though, he said that he didn't care about 1st or 2nd and

that he would sit up at the end if we would not attack him. I thought that idea sounded great! We had 1st and 2nd with hardly any effort, and then we would easily have enough energy to compete in the pro race as well, which is what I was really looking forward to. I thought that an all out individual time trial in a junior race that we had already won was pretty pointless considering the toughness of the pro race to come. I guess that Steve felt differently though, because he immediately attacked. Adam wasn't expecting it and I was left sitting on his wheel waiting for him to chase. After about three or four laps of Adam chasing while I sat on his wheel, I knew that he wouldn't catch Steve, but I began to wonder if we would get caught by the field which was less than 30sec behind. He said again that he would sit up at the end if I would pull, so I said sure since I would have to start pulling anyway or be caught by the field. We finished the race just doing an easy tempo and he was true to his word and backed off at the end. I got 2nd place for the second year in a row and Duke again won the field sprint to take 3rd in the 17-18 age category. Another all Team Swift podium.  
Nathan

**Steven Cozza:**

So me and my family for the first time set out to one of the most famous races in California one known as the Nevada City Classic. The town was hot. It had some of the nicest houses I have ever seen and some of the coolest little shops. From what I had heard from other races is that the Nevada city course was super challenging and tough so I new the race would be good for me. For me the harder the race the better it is for me. All of Team Swift made sure to get a good warm up because we new this race was going to go from the gun and it did. After a good 30 minutes of warming up the legs we lined up for the start of the race and bang we were off like a bolt of lightning. Leading the first climb was Brady Harter putting in a huge effort to shatter the field and that he did. After the first lap we had only like 8 guys with us. I decided to put the hammer down on the second lap and managed to create a gap with racer Adam Switters from SGW. Later on in the lap Nathan Miller bridged up to us and we took off like the three musketeers. On the fourth lap Adam said that he will let us win if we all work together but I new that winning this race would not be a problem for me for this course seemed like it was made for me. On the fifth lap I was the first to go through the very sharp and off camber turns in the race. I looked back and no one was there. I could not believe it I had broken away on a turn and I did not even mean to do so. I decided well if no one is going to stay on my wheel then I am going to just set tempo and if they want to race with me then they can if not see ya later. I set a good rhythmic tempo the rest of the race and ended up winning the whole thing. It was a great feeling to have come back from such hard racing in Europe and still feel good. After the race it was cool because I was able to talk about the race and about Team Swift. It was rad. Well until next time. Peace in the Middle East. Steven Cozza

**Anton Nicola:**

Nevada City Classic

06/15/03

Placement—Crash/Dropped out

It's a beautiful morning in Nevada City. My whole family drives up to the race event to watch me race. It's a tradition to watch the races on Father's Day, and now to watch their son, and brother race.

I ride around, checking out the course, studying the corners, and pondering every bump in the road, and checking out every little change in grade.

I was very ready for this race even though I did not notice it till about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the way into the race.

I go back and change into my Team Swift uniform, go get checked in, and make a whole bike check before I go off to warm up on the course, even though I had already studied my bike the last three days.

The juniors roll out, and we are on our way to race the toughest one day short course in the U.S.

The whistle blows and we're off to go, and torture ourselves. I get caught in towards the back, but am not panicking over the loss of ground already. I keep my eyes open to not get caught behind any slow riders that might bonk within the first lap. I slowly make my way towards the front. I am very pleased with myself to be keeping up with Duke, and Brady, and also Rich, who are all very good riders. Steve, and Nathan, along with Adam Switters attack off the front of the way, stretched out field, of a little group here, and a couple trying to bridge, and still others falling behind. This all happened within two laps of the race. When I was moving up from the poor start I had. I was happy though that two Team Swifters were dominating this race already. Steve attacks from the small group of three, and for the rest of the race, tears up the race to shreds. Behind him were Adam Switters, and Nathan chasing Steve. And behind them was my group with Duke, Rich, and myself, along with some SGW racers, and some other racers. With about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the race left to race, Clint Rogers from SGW, attacks right out of the 2nd bottom sharp, left hand corner into the climb. Rich follows, and they're out of sight off to bridge Adam, and Nathan. We race a couple more laps, setting a pretty good pace. I wasn't getting killed, and I didn't feel the fatigue that a lot of the racers did. I was feeling really good. With  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the race already finished, I was reviewing my plan on how to get a pretty good placing. I kept pondering about which part of the climb I should attack on, and still hold it out to the finish. So I set the pace going up the climb, and fall back in line to rest up a little on the decent. Duke descends the hill at a speed only Duke can. The rest of us descend following behind him. I don't know what Duke was trying to do. I think it was an attack. So I'm last in line not too close, but not too far. Knowing the speed that I can hit that bottom corner was a little bit slower than everybody else's speed. I knew that because of my weight, I could catch up to them really easily. It was dumb to risk it beyond what I knew I could do when I could easily catch up before the first corner on the climb. We hit the bottom corner, and there was this girl riding slow. I back off a little bit to be cautious, but the guys in front of me wanted

to bridge Duke in a hurry, so they yelled at the girl, to stay on the inside, and tried to go around her on the outside. The second left-hand corner is a little bit sharper than the first, and also narrows down, they go around the girl and the two guys smash right into the hay bales at 30 mph+. My cautious part of me would have served me well, but instead, one of the racer's bikes flew out into the middle of the road right in my line that I had chosen to go through that corner. I hit the bike's sprocket with my front wheel, fly up 4 ft. (according to one of the spectators), and hit down hard on my side, with a flat front tire, and no spare wheel. I run over to one of the guys that crashed to see if they had a spare wheel that I could borrow. One of the guy's bikes was totaled, so I skipped him, and then I went over to Collin Saaman from SGW, and his rear wheel was busted, but he still badly wanted to race, so I gave him my rear wheel, and told him to go and torture himself some more.

It was a disappointing race that I did well on, and could have finished well. Crashes happen in races, and I guess that today was just not my lucky day. I'll be back next year.