

Team Swift Race Reports

January 2017

Race Reports for:

1. San Bruno Hill Climb
2. Cal Aggie Criterium

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Rider Race Reports

1. San Bruno Hill Climb

Creighton Gruber

1/1/17

San Bruno

2nd Place San Bruno Hill Climb Juniors 15-18

This New Year's Day race was all just for fun. I had done a 70 mile race pace ride the day before, so I was going into this race not expecting much. Right from the start somebody attacked. Because the juniors had started with the Masters 55+ 4/5 we had a master driving the pace all the way up to the steep part of the climb. He ended up reeling back that attack. Right after that, Jonas attacked blowing up the field leaving me and with one other racer. I stayed on his wheel waiting for the right time to attack. He kept the pace high. Right when he slowed down a bit I attacked giving it everything I had, when I found out he was on my wheel at I let up. He put in a major dig. As he

did this I slowly lost his wheel. He was in my site till the line but I couldn't bring him back before the finish.

-Creighton

Jonas Crean

3rd Place San Bruno Hill Climb Juniors 15-18

Once I got to the race start I did my warm up, and me and my teammate Creighton talked strategy. Once the race started we realized we had no competition except for one guy. We were going fast, but not fast enough to blow up. After we hit the middle, we messed up. I thought we were getting close to the end, so I used most of my energy to set Creighton up for a sprint, but instead I blew up and lost a lot of my energy. By this time Creighton and the other guy caught up to me. Everyone else had been dropped. Then the other guy started attacking about a quarter mile from the summit, and I couldn't stay on Creighton's wheel. I placed third and was happy with my result.

-Jonas

Sawyer Taylor

3rd Place San Bruno Hill Climb Senior Cat 3-4 Women

*(combined with the Women Pro,1,2)

As a turned around after getting my race number before the start of my race in one chilly San Francisco morning, I saw a Jackaroo sweatshirt on a woman who was way too short to be Beth Hernandez.

"ILLLLIIIIIIII!" I yelled and as I practically tackled her. Illi was one of the girls who I raced all of my 2016 season with and then got to race with in Mexico. I hadn't seen her since November when I went with her and a few others to the velodrome in LA. In the hour track race that followed, Illi would proceed to get off the front in my race with another rider in the first five minutes and take the win in the P12 field.

Pretty soon after this, I was all ready to go after a warm-up on the hill itself. The race took a few minutes to wind up. Then Tanya Fredricks attacked and another rider quickly brought the race back together. Illi then launched her own attack and I, along with two other TMB racers, grabbed her wheel. Illi hit it again a few minutes later and the two TMB racers popped. A few minutes later I fell off too and I ended up riding with them for a while. Then, a few minutes from the top, I blew up and rode to the top to take 5th overall and 3rd in the 3-4's.

For this being my first race of the season and a hill climb, I'm happy with how I did. For the future, I'd definitely send extra clothing to the top for the long descent. Luckily, Michael Hernandez (one of my track coaches from my race in Mexico) had extra

jackets but I would have been really cold if this wasn't the case. I think that I could have worn more clothing in my warm up and taken most of it off right before my start.

These are all things I will definitely remember for next time. So long, San Bruno!
-Sawyer

2. Cal Aggie Criterium

1/28/17

Sacramento

Lucianno Lamperti

1st Place

Cal Aggie Criterium

Senior Category 3

It was my first race of the season. I was super excited but at the same time a little scared. This offseason I broke my arm. I was super excited to get back racing after a long off season. The morning of the race I did not have to leave early. My race was at 12:30. Before I knew it, Bang!! The race was off. There was an attack to get things going. There were a couple of counters and then the race settled in. Moves were going and I covered a few and then countered a big move. I got a good gap but after a lap they pulled me back in. As I got back my teammate and brother Gianni made a really strong attack. He was riding about 20-30 seconds off the front for about 2 laps before slowly coming back. We had to cover a few moves before Isaiah made a move with 2 other guys that stuck for about 3 laps. Now we only had 5 laps to go and the next lap was a prime. A rider attacked on the left and I hopped on his wheel. We did not have a big gap so I sprinted and got the prime. The field sat up so I told the guy we should roll it and took a hard pull. We rotated and extended our gap. It came back down and then went back out. With 1 to go I knew we were going to stick it. I started to be a little more conservative. In the last corner I jumped the rider and was able to win. Winning the first race of the season was a huge confidence builder coming off a tough off season.

-Lucianno

Isaiah Chass

5th Place

Cal Aggie Criterium

Senior Category 3

When the race started, I was able to clip in quickly and got a good start. I wasn't in great position the first few laps, but I was moving up and then drifting back from the front. My teammate Luke was covering everything at the front, and I needed to help out. I followed a move and was able to get off the front with another rider. I put in a good pull, and then sat on into the chicane. Coming out of the chicane into the last corner, the field was really close behind so I decided to ease up. We got pulled back and I drifted through the field to recover a little. There were a few more little moves, and my teammate Gianni got off the front. After Gianni came back, the field slowed up and I saw it a good time to attack. I got off the front solo and was able to hold it for a

lap. Coming into five laps to go, I was pulled back and then my teammate Luke rolled off the front with another rider. I stayed top five and waited for attacks. Davis had a teammate up the road with Luke, so they stayed at the front and blocked. It went pretty slow for the next couple laps, and then with two laps to go everyone knew the breakaway was for sure going to stick so everyone started setting up for the finish. With two laps to go I was where I wanted to be within the top five. I anticipated the front swarming and was able to stay in good position going into the last lap. Going into the last lap I was third wheel behind two teammates setting up for the sprint. They pulled hard through the chicane, but they had started way too early. I was second wheel coming out of the chicane, and the front was about to swarm since the pace slowed down. I stood up and got ready to sprint because I knew there was going to be an attack into the last corner. A few riders sprinted up the outside, and I jumped hard and got onto a wheel. I was second wheel coming out of the last corner, and then the rider in front of me slowed up instead of sprinting. It was still a really long ways out for me to start sprinting, but in the moment I jumped as hard as I could thinking I would be able to get a little gap and hold it. I wasn't able to hold it all the way to the line and ended up 3rd in the field sprint. I was happy that I was able to stay in good position the last few laps, and I learned what I could've done better in the last lap to do better in the field sprint.

-Isaiah

Gianni Lamperti

9th Place Cal Aggie Criterium Senior Category 3

The race started out pretty fast for the first couple of laps. It took me a few laps to get to the front, but I finally got there. Luke was at the front covering moves for about the first five laps and once I got there, I helped. Coming out of the sweeping corner on the finish straight, I jumped up the left side. I got a good gap on the field and when I came through the finish, they rung the bell for a prime lap. I stayed off for another lap and got the prime. When I got back Isaiah countered and was off with another guy for about half a lap. When they got caught Luke attacked with a Davis rider and they got a pretty good gap. The Davis team was on the front blocking, so I was on the outside waiting for someone to go. Coming into the last lap, we knew that the break was going to stay away, so I started to get ready for the sprint. In the last corner, I was around fifth wheel, but I got swarmed. I knew it was my fault and I should have been a little farther up so that didn't happen. I sprinted hard up the inside, still in the saddle as I was spun up. I was happy with Luke taking the win, but a little bummed with my finish.

-Gianni

Ben Cook

18, Category 2

13th Place Cal Aggie Criterium Pro/1/2/3

It's safe to say I was pretty nervous coming into my first race of the season, but Cal Aggie has been a historically "lucky" course for me, to make it simple. I raced Land Park, on the same course, when I was just 14 and held my first real win there. The next two years in a row I was 3rd and then 2nd as a cat 3, and now it was time to take my shot at the P/1/2/3's. I knew that the race would be tougher than my prior years, but I also knew that I was a fair amount stronger coming in. My goal for the day was a top 10, something I've been nearing but unable to achieve in this race.

I went for a short spin and rode to the finish just in time to watch my younger teammates crush the cat 3 race, placing 1st, 5th, and 8th, out of over 50 riders. Afterwards we all hung out in the Lamperti's sprinter van and relaxed before the start of the Pro1/2/3 race. After about a half an hour I kitted up and jumped on the trainer for my warm-up. I had a good pre race ride yesterday, but still needed to go my hardest now. Unfortunately we thought the race started 15 minutes before it actually did, and so I ended up having to rush my warm-up a bit. After about an 80% warm-up I had to get my gear together and roll to the start. Of course it was there we found out we had 15 minutes extra time, so we spun a couple laps while we had the time. After our 15 minutes of leisure were up, Isaiah, Luke, Gianni and I spun to the start and did junior rollout. We had about 70 riders in the Pro 1/2/3 field, and only a handful cat 3's with us in the bunch.

"Gentlemen, you'll be racing for 60 minutes." Began the referee. "On the whistle." I got my hands on the drops and got ready for a fast start. "Tweet!" And we were off! First race of the season. Right away, Zach and Cole from Specialized took off the front. Zach couldn't hang on and Cole broke away with two other riders for the first two laps. I settled into the top 20 of the field and hung tight. I was feeling ok, a little bit nervous and not quite warmed up yet, so I played things patiently and knew that the race wouldn't be won in the first half. Luke and I traded covering some attacks and staying up in the front, while Gianni and Isaiah sat just behind us. The field flowed and swayed smoothly like a 1/2 field usually does, but there were a few aggressive riders in the bunch that bumped shoulders, chopped wheels, and didn't take care for others in the bunch. The four of us noted it with a laugh and moved around them, remembering that today was not the day to go down hard.

About half way through a group of three rolled off the front on the start/finish stretch. In the right hand sweeper following, Charlie from DDA took off to bridge. Then Zach took off as well, and I figured I'd better have my go if the other juniors were doing it too. I jumped out of the field pretty steadily so I had some effort for the bridge, and quickly came around Zach, who seemed to be debating whether he should go for the move or not. I hopped in and five of us began rotating, though pretty sloppily. I took my turn when I could, but we were caught again by the front stretch. It was a fun try, and helped to open me up for the rest of the race. Now that I was feeling better I played more patiently in the front of the field. Gianni and Isaiah came along my sides with about 15 minutes to go, holding great position. We rode together and did what we could to stay at the front, warning each other of attacks and helping another move up. In the last 10 laps the pace ramped up, and we began drifting as a

team. We stayed in the top 20/30 but couldn't do much better. I struggled to find a balance of when to move up, and tried to judge how long I could hold position before the finish. Last year I was in the top 10 with one to go, but made the mistake of chasing a move from some of the big teams. This year I wasn't so lucky to be in that position, but felt I knew how to get closer to the front. With 5 to go I began moving up and staying in the top 15/20 riders. I held the position and figured that if I could finish, a top 10 might be in my reach. On the last lap I was drifting back a bit but still held onto the top 20. With 500 to go there is a wide chicane that, if one is daring enough, is a great spot to move up in, and proved useful in my podium last year. I came out of the chicane onto the open stretch, but hesitated just a bit and missed my chance to move up into the top 10. I rounded the last corner further back than I was hoping and sprinted my hardest into the finish.

Afterwards I spun down with my teammates, who had done everything they could to help, and checked the results. 13th. I was bummed to miss a top 10 but happy that I came close. Overall it was a fun first race of the season, but I know that I hesitated a few times today. Hopefully in future races I can open up and race more aggressively, and make it into the top 10.

-Ben

Gianni Lamperti

27th Place Cal Aggie Criterium Pro/1/2/3

Right off the gun Specialized attacked and got a pretty big gap on the field. It was really fast for the first few laps and let up just a little for about half a lap. There weren't too many attacks, just people drilling it on the front. Whenever it would slow down a little, I would take the opportunity and move up as much as I could. I stayed towards the front most of the time, but it was hard as you were constantly fighting for position. Coming into the final laps, I was going as hard as I could to stay in position. It was really hard though because Storck was going crazy fast setting it up for their sprinter. I stayed as far forward as I could and came in about mid field. Overall it was not a bad first weekend of racing.

-Gianni

Isaiah Chass

36th Place Cal Aggie Criterium Pro/1/2/3

I started on the right side a few rows back, and was pretty calm because the previous race started out fairly calm. When the whistle blew, Specialized jumped hard right away, and it was full gas off the line. I was a little caught off guard, and I was sprinting hard to even try to move up a little bit. The first few laps I was mid pack and I was having a hard time moving up and staying near the front. My head definitely wasn't there because the previous race was not as hard from the start. I did my best staying towards the front and other teams were really aggressive throughout the race. With a 3 laps to go, I followed a wheel towards the front, and moved up without using too much

energy. I focused on staying where I was and not moving back but on the last lap it went super hard out of the chicane and I couldn't hang on. I was really bummed with how I raced but it made me realize that I need to be alert and ready to jump hard from the line as soon as the race starts.

-Isaiah

Lucianno Lamperti

Cal Aggie Criterium Pro/1/2/3

Already having raced in the morning I did not do a big warm up. I was familiar with the course and ready to go. Bang!!!!!!!!!! A rider from Specialized junior team jumped hard. I started to move more toward the back so I clipped in and quickly moved forward. I thought I would ride good position for the first 5 laps. I thought it was going to be an average crit and go crazy for 5 laps. So about 5 laps later it was still going hard. I waited a few more laps and it still didn't slow down. So I knew it was going to be hard and fast the whole time. I moved up and followed some attacks. I was a little tired and did not want to ride myself out of the race so I did not follow to many moves. I just decided to ride top ten and help my teammates. We were about half way now. My teammate Ben was in a break for about 3 laps. When he came back a move went so I followed it. It was about 5 guys. We rotated for a lap or so before getting caught. The next lap was a prime. I lost a little bit of position. I knew I needed to move up when I saw 6 to go. I was pretty tired and not ready to sprint but I could help some teammates. I made an effort to get to the front. While I was moving up I told them to hop on my wheel. When we got close to the front I got some recovery time. We now had 3 laps to go. We were in good position and I was excited. Now at 2 to go we were where we needed to be. Going through the chicane the guy to the inside suddenly swerved out. This caused me to hit a bump and land on the edge of the curb. Barley being able to ride it out I was already at the back of the field with no speed. I quickly sprinted to try to get back on. I chased for the next lap but was only losing time. I rolled in off the back but was happy to finish safe and have fun.

-Luke

Jonas Crean

Racing age 15, Senior Category 5

9th Place Cal Aggie Criterium Juniors 13-18

This was my second race of the season, and I was super excited for it! In addition to this being one of the first races of the season, it was also my first criterium that I was racing with juniors! The night before the race I did my pre-race pyramids with my teammate Andrew. After that I had some pasta for dinner. The next day we had woke up at 5AM and drove to Sacramento for the race. Once we got out of the car we immediately started shivering. It was freezing! After we got our numbers and had our waivers filled out we changed into our cycling gear and did a quick warm up on the trainers. It was five minutes to race start so we got lined up. In addition to having

Andrew as a teammate, Creighton was also there. But we were way outnumbered by the Limitless and Tieni Enduro guys, who were the two dominant teams there. There was also a good amount of Hammer Nutrition riders there but just one SJBC rider. Once the race started, Grover from Reliable/Taco Bell Racing broke away from the group. Grover is a pretty strong rider, and he was helped by the fact that nobody wanted to work together to chase him down. Even after he attacked and broke away the first few laps were pretty mellow. Eventually the race started to pick up. The really sketchy part was when we got to the chicane, and then some people started crossing my line, leading to some dangerous situations. About middle of the race, two people were trying to break away, and no one seemed willing to chase them down. So I moved ahead and bridged over, bringing the pack up to them. Of course, once I did this I was in the top five, near the front. I did not want to be up there for rest of the race, so I drifted back into around 7th or 8th. Once the final lap came around, I was in terrible position, around 12th or 13th. So when we hit the final straightaway I sprinted and passed a few people, but suddenly someone yelled "LEFT" and sprinted past. I had to swerve right to avoid a crash. By this time there was no way that I was going to pass anybody else. So I sat up, and we passed the line. I placed 9th. I was pleased with my result for one of my first competitive criteriums, but I still had to race the cat 5s.

-Jonas

Creighton Gruber

12th Place Cal Aggie Criterium Juniors 13-18

After Andrew, Jonas, and I went through junior roll out we got to the line. The race started off slow with a few attacks but nothing that stuck. After a few attacks, I followed one that could've been a serious move. Right after we were brought back Grover, a racer from Reliable/Taco Bell Racing p/b Kinetic Cycles, attacked and got away. Nobody wanted to work together to chase, so I was trying to get away with almost anybody who attacked. Nothing stuck so it came down to a pack sprint for 2nd. Because I had covered almost all attacks, I knew my legs were going to be pretty bad in the sprint so I tried to attack before the final chicane. But, it turned into me leading the pack out.

-Creighton

Creighton Gruber

17th Place Cal Aggie Criterium Senior Category 4

In this race I took what I learned from my first race, and ended up being a lot smarter. I stayed in the top 3-8 places the whole race to avoid crashes, but I made sure my nose was never in the wind. My legs felt great the entire race, also nothing really happened in the race until the final lap. There were no big attacks that led to any breakaways so the pack was getting ready for a bunch sprint. I went into the hardest chicane in 3rd place, with two lines of riders on each side of me. The rider who was in front of me took the corner very slowly, which let the pack engulf us leaving me boxed

in at the back of the pack with a half a lap to go. I finished in the middle of the pack and with more knowledge for my next race.

-Creighton

Jonas Crean

23rd Place Cal Aggie Criterium Senior Category 5

There was not too much to this race, unlike the last one. In this I was just doing the extra race for the experience and so I could upgrade to cat 4 sooner. This race was also 10 minutes after my junior's race, so I had had a pretty good warm up. When I got to the line I was surprised by the size of the field. There were 35 riders in this field, which was larger than my junior's field of around 30. When the race started people immediately took off and everyone was scrambling to get good positions. I was just trying to avoid crashing so I could finish, so I hung around the back. I was very cautious because this race was faster than the previous race and a lot more aggressive. Once we got to the final sprint I passed one or two people and placed 23rd. It wasn't a great result, but I learned a lot of things racing that day and I stayed with the pack, so I was satisfied with my result.

-Jonas