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06-30-15

TEAM MIKE'S BIKES P/B EQUATOR COFFEES STORMS ELITE ROAD NATIONALS

With wins in two of the three disciplines and 5 total podiums, TMBEquator dominated Elite Road Nationals last week in North Lake Tahoe.

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MARIN COUNTY, CA –Team Mike's Bikes p/b Equator Coffees just had the best week in their team's history bringing home 2 National Titles in the road race and time trial events at the 2015 USA Cycling Amateur Road National Championships in North Lake Tahoe, California.

The week of racing started on Wednesday with the road race and TMBEquator was clearly the dominant team on the road. They continually forced the action across 100 miles of hot, windy, and hilly terrain. Thanks to the amazing support of Toyota, the team was able to borrow an additional vehicle in order to keep their riders hydrated throughout the race and set them up for a strong finish. And as the race approached the finish at Northstar Village, the lead group had whittled down to about 20, with 5 riders from TMBEquator. Through strong teamwork, Colin Daw attacked within the last 3 kms and then again within the last km to secure his biggest win of his career. The depth and strength of the team was evident as in addition to the win, TMBEquator put another four riders in the top 10. *"I knew as I crossed the line that I couldn't have done it, not just to have won the Nationals Road Race, but to have come this far in cycling at all, without the support, mentorship, and camaraderie of my teammates. This was OUR victory, and the post-finish dog-pile, hugs, high-fives, and huge smiles were a special moment that we'll remember for the rest of our lives"* said an elated Daw after the race.

Two days later was the Men's Open Time Trial. Armed with the latest aero technology from sponsors Specialized and Zipp, Max Korus blazed across the 41km out and back course in a staggering 47:22, breaking a national record for that distance that has stood since 1990. Nate English was able to secure a 4th place finish with a time of 48:48. After the race, a grateful Korus summarized his feelings this way, *"While I had to do the pedaling and execute the plan of going ludicrous speeds, I had tremendous support from the team and my coach leading up to taking the start house for the TT, and I felt calm and serene knowing that everything was in place thanks to my friends' hard work and the great support that Team Mike's Bikes p/b Equator Coffees receives from all of our sponsors."*

The week wrapped up with the criterium in downtown Truckee, CA. The fast, technical course posed many problems for the field of 80+. The racing was fast and furious and Colin Daw and Dana Williams were able to sprint for 4th and 5th place respectively. According to Dana Williams, *"the tight and narrow nature of the course meant positioning was going to be extremely important."* He describes the last lap this way, *"The back stretch was fairly long for a crit at 0.21 miles. It was into a head wind and the last two turns were tight 90-degree left-handers with a quick sprint to the finish. My teammates and I knew that positions wouldn't change much from the second last turn to the finish. So getting down the back stretch and being first or second into the final two turns were key."*

The success from last week wouldn't have been possible without the tremendous support of our sponsors and our team's leadership. Team Captain Adam Switters had this to say about the team's preparation and commitment to the team, *"With the National Championships being in California this year, the goal of everyone on the team was to peak in late June. Around mid-April, things finally started clicking and the last 2 months have been a whirlwind of exciting victories and amazing teamwork. I am excited that everyone kept their heads held high and their eyes on our main objective this year. The fortitude and commitment that each rider on the team has shown over the last month is what this team is about. We knew that if we rode a great race, we could come home with a National Championships. To come home with two, and just missing out on a third, is nothing short of unbelievable. We knew that coming into these races that we were the best amateur cycling team in the nation, and I think over this last week, we proved it."*

About Team Mike's Bikes

Team Mike's Bikes was formed in 2010 with the goal to elevate the NorCal racing scene and demonstrate a new level of teamwork, professionalism, and excitement. Team Mike's Bikes found much success and has stood atop many podiums. As result of dedication to teamwork and the adoption of the Mike's Bikes core value of Always Be Awesome, TMB has become the strongest team in the NCNCA. For additional information about Mike's Bikes, visit www.teammikesbikes.com.

About Mike's Bikes

Mike's Bikes currently operates 11 stores throughout Northern California, and is the largest local bike shop in America. Mike's employs over 250 cycling enthusiasts locally, including 40 at their Novato headquarters. For additional information about Mike's Bikes, visit www.mikesbikes.com.

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