

Team Tortuga

Newsletter Volume 3

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Parrish Heats it up With 3 Straight Wins

With calves twice the size of Popeye's biceps, there was no doubting Scott Parrish would become an accomplished cyclist. When Mother Nature failed to notice the calendar and provide April like temperatures, Parrish cranked up the heat to win three straight races, a la David Rebellin's spring sweep last season.

Fighting stiff wind and 40-degree temps, Parrish broke away from the Category 4 field at Lincoln Trail State Park on April 23 to finish alone in impressive solo style. At the next day's Monrovia 40 K, Parrish generated enough heat to defeat all competitors as well as the balmy 29 degrees and mild 40-mph winds.

Parrish completed his streak by driving a break that eventually lapped the field at the Eagle Creek Traditional Crit. on April 30 with temperatures again hovering in the mid 40s. We now coin Scott the De-Icer.

The stay-at-home father of Sarah, age 4 and Jessica, age 9 months, attributes his success to the Wednesday World Training race. He's also quick to acknowledge how grateful he is to his wife, Diane, for allowing his training and racing forays away from home.

Indiana Race Series Continues

The weekend of April 16 and 17 found several Masters team members in northern Indiana for the Indy North Stage Race. Saturday's circuit race held on the flat, 3-mile loop in Tippecanoe River State Park, north of Winamac, Indiana, showed the Masters team they still have room for improvement. After a surge off the line, Bob Brooks attacked and dangled off the front until Scott Moon of the Heroes team joined him; unattended. The pair spent two laps alone until two more Heroes, along with Tim Davis and Sam Nichol, joined them.

Moon soloed away for the win with his teammates cleaning up 2nd and 3rd. Brooks finished 4th and Nichol finished 5th.

The afternoon TT was somewhat of a reprieve with Chris Kroll winning the 35+ Category and placing 3rd overall with a fine time of 11:07. Heffner and Nichol finished 3rd and 4th in the 35+ TT.

Kroll led the squad in Sunday's Lafayette RR, finishing 3rd and again, Nichol had a great race finishing 4th. Tim Davis worked hard the entire weekend, blowing himself out near the end of each race for the benefit of his teammates. Kroll and Nichol finished 3rd and 4th overall for the weekend.

At Lincoln Trail State Park, Nichol continued his strong early season performance by making the near race-long break and finishing 3rd behind two Heroes riders. Mike Brauner and Tim Davis finished 4th and 5th.

The team continued to lag behind the Heroes and Papa John's at the Hoosier Stage Race in Indianapolis on April 30 and May 1. Kurt Spoerle finished 2nd in the Lafayette Road 5-mile TT with a blistering 10:52. Sam Nichol

took 3rd in 10:55. Brooks and Nichol finished 5th and 6th overall for the weekend stage race.

Kroll broke away with one other rider at the outset of the Eagle Creek Fast race on May 7. The duo eventually lapped the field. Kroll finished 2nd and Brooks finished 4th for the Turtles.

40K Fusion

On Sunday May 8, Spoerle finished 2nd overall and won the 35+ category of the Monrovia 40 K with a time of 53:08! Can you say ballistic missile boys and girls?

More TT Success

The Masters squad scored more podium spots the weekend of May 14/15 when on Saturday, Bob Brooks finished 3rd overall and 1st in the 35+ at the Eagle Creek Time Trial, a 13.83-mile TT around the main loop of the park. Chris Kroll followed up on Sunday at the Monrovia 40k by placing 2nd overall and 2nd in the 35+ Category in 57:55.

Overall Leaders

After 8 straight grueling weekends of racing, Tortuga tops the leader board in the overall IRS 35+ standings. Bob Brooks sits atop the pack with 1006 points and Chris Kroll is 2nd with 854 points. Sam Nichol, Tim Davis and Kurt Spoerle are also among the top 10. Scott Parrish is currently 2nd overall in the Category 4 series.

Tour Da Vinci

If ever there were a race to feature the Mocha Lisa, the Tour Da Vinci would be the one. Honoring his wife's artistic/java fame, Chris Kroll was the sole turtle to do battle with the Papa John's and Estridge squads in Saturday's Criterium. Kroll acquitted himself well, landing in what looked like the break of the race. But after Estridge realized they did not have any 40+ers in the move they instructed their over 50 teammate to sit on, causing the other break members to also sit up.

Outnumbered by the other squads, Kroll had to let one rider go, but was in with a shot at 2nd place on the final lap until his chain slipped to the small gear just before the sprint. After a desperate shift back to the big ring, Kroll furiously sprinted by a few racers to garner a fine 7th place.

In Sunday's RR, Mike Brauner and Sean Bauer accompanied Kroll in the over 40 race. Kroll, Bauer and Brauner finished 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, respectively.

June will be a busy month for Team Tortuga, with 3 straight weekends of IRS racing on the calendar, including the ABR District RR in Battleground, Indiana on June 19 and the Epic St. Crispian RR, a one-lap, 52-mile course with 17 climbs and over 4,000 feet of climbing, on June 26. For those who cannot get enough racing (Kroll comes to mind), the month opens with the Tree City Stage Race in Greensburg, Indiana.

Look for more success stories and the "Separated at Birth" feature in the next issue of Tortuga News.

If anyone has photos they'd like to share, please pass them along to Chris Kroll and he'll get them loaded onto the web site.