

Swanson Wins Again, James debuts with Victory

Written by James Cullen

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CJ Faulkner (Crossniacs) and Doug Swanson (GrandStay) battle in the closing laps.

A light chill in the air arrived just in time for Tuesday Night Cross #3. The course layout was more tight and technical this week compared to last, and conditions were very dry and dusty.

Mitch Nordahl of MNJRC won the Cat 4 Men for the 2nd week in a row. Josh Roeser and CJ Faulkner, both on Crossniacs, took advantage of the absence of Smithers and Rients. The pair made easy work of the Masters 35+, crossing the finish line together. Terra James (Sweet and Salty Cycling) made her TNC debut with a victory in the Women's field.

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A good crowd of spectators gathered along the course at the double barriers during the races, and they were treated to an array of spectacular crashes. Thankfully, no one was seriously injured.

The Men 1/2/3 was a 3 way battle for most of the race between Swanson, Faulkner, and Roeser. Roeser slid out in a corner late in the race, and lost touch, while the other 2 remained locked in battle. Faulkner seemed to lead most of the late laps, but Swanson moved to the front in the final lap, and held CJ off, taking the sprint victory. Roeser hung on for 3rd.

During my warm-up, I was stopped by a lady who lives in the adjacent apartment complex. She said, in a friendly manner, "My neighbors and I have been watching you guys every Tuesday night, and we are wondering what in the world are you doing?" I explained the style of racing, and she went on to say she was glad to see us utilize the park, and provide entertainment at the same time.