

Another successful Terrible Two in 2010

When it comes to reporting on each new Terrible Two double century, almost inevitably, the first item of interest is the weather: how hot—or not—was it? Of course 200 miles in one day is going to be challenging; of course over 16,000' of steep climbing is going to be doubly difficult; but on top of all that, the rogue element we can never predict nor control is the weather...and whether the weather is kind or cruel makes all the difference.

The record will show that 2010 was one of the fortunate, “not” years: not hot. The official high for the day was only 78°, and both the early morning and later afternoon and evening were considerably cooler than that. For the most part, the riders thanked their lucky stars for not having to endure one of those bake-oven days on the Geysers and Skaggs, although there was a moderate amount of grouching about it being almost too cold; that a little more heat might have been nice. The only real downside to the weather was a mild headwind on the northbound run to the Geysers. But this also produced a handy tailwind on the run south out along the coast, so that one was about a wash.

227 entrants, including two tandems and one 'bent, took the start at Analy HS in Sebastopol at 5:30 AM on Saturday, June 19. At the end of the day, 165 of them had crossed the finish line before the traditional 10:00 PM cut-off, earning their I DID IT! t-shirts commemorating this, the 35th Anniversary edition of the ride. That translates to a 72% finishing rate. Ten more riders finished after ten. That's less than last year's near-record success rate of 80% but much better than the typical results from one of the hot years, where attrition sometimes takes out nearly half the field.

Curiously, while the mild weather contributed to generally good performances for many riders, it seemed to have the opposite effect on the elite tier at the front of the field. With conditions so benign, the alpha dogs settled into a cagey chess game heading north up the valleys between Oakville and the Geysers: all of them were marking one another and no one was willing to really hammer. The tempo remained a piano, with the result that the average speed was down a couple of mph over its normal torrid pace, and no fewer than 15 riders arrived at the lunch stop in one bunch, including most of the riders we would expect to see there.

But the many brutal walls of Skaggs are where these things are usually decided, and 2008 winner Bo Hebenstreit blew through the Las Lomas water stop (while others took a break) and was never seen again. SRCC's Marc Moons finished second, 17 minutes back, with Robert Choi, Kevin Kennedy, and Curtis Taylor tied for third, another 17 minutes adrift. Moons can take some consolation for being second (again) from the fact that he finished ahead of Choi and so locked up the 2010 California Triple Crown Stage Race.

Santa Rosa's Brenda Phelps once again topped the women's field, finishing tied for 18th overall in a time of 12:38. She has entered three times now and finished first all three times. SRCC's Karen Thompson finished second at 13:46, with Elizabeth Tenuto third, six minutes back. Thompson was lying second to Jeanine Spence in the CTC Stage Race standings. She beat Spence by 22 minutes, but couldn't overcome the lead Spence had after the first two rounds. So Thompson ends up second in the season series.

One of the more surprising stories of the day was the meltdown of seven-time winner Brian Anderson. He rolled into lunch in that front pack. But somewhere near Las Lomas, lying third in his usual come-from-behind style, he fell ill, leaving his lunch in the bushes. (He said later he had felt a bit off when he got up in the morning.) After trying to get past the problems, he finally gave up and rode back along Skaggs to the lunch stop, where the course workers were astonished to see him pop up two hours after they figured they'd seen the last of him. So he's human after all. In a way, seeing this frailty only highlights the scope of his accomplishments in past years: if he can crack like anyone else, how remarkable that he never did for so many years.

The other big story on the day was crashes...lots of them. An extra-rainy winter and tight county budgets left many of our best backroads in their worst shape ever: dangerous minefields of pot holes, cracks, and loose gravel. Some luckless riders were taken out by these hazards through no fault of their own. Others, who should have known better—and who were warned repeatedly to be cautious—still pushed the envelope and paid the price. There were numerous spills resulting in broken bones and acres of lurid road rash. Several riders were unable to continue and at least a couple ended up in the hospital. Steep, technical descents are part of the package at the TT. Being fearlessly, foolishly fast isn't ever going to carry the day here, bearing in mind the old adage: to finish first, first you must finish.

On a happier note, we would like to salute Francis Foo of Santa Rosa: he finished in a very snappy time of 13:19 after undergoing quadruple bypass surgery.

Chapeau! to all the riders who finished this monster marathon, and a huge thanks to all the volunteers who helped them do so.

2010 Terrible Two Results-Final Results

23 June 2010 21:57

Ordinal	Time	Bib	Name
1	11:20	93	Bo Hebenstreit, 42, Campbell
2	11:37	154	Marc Moons, 44, Petaluma
3	11:54	46	Robert Choi, 49, Gilroy
3	11:54	118	Kevin Kennedy, 37, Danville
3	11:54	218	Curtis Taylor, 38, Folsom
6	12:08	35	Bryan Buck, 50, San Jose
	12:08	146	Douglas McKenzie, 50, Santa Rosa
	12:08	174	Giampaolo Pesce, 45, Santa Rosa
	12:08	242	Scott Witthoff, 43, San Francisco
10	12:13	166	David Palmeri, 30, Live Oak
11	12:16	248	Ray Plumhoff, 55, Oakland
12	12:21	185	James Robbins, 41, Eureka
13	12:23	64	Gary Erickson, 52, Pope Valley
	12:23	65	Mike Ewers, 31, San Rafael
15	12:23	20	Shane Barnes, 37, Santa Rosa
16	12:25	177	Graham Pollock, 42, Folsom
17	12:33	13	Jim Atkinson, 39, San Jose
18	12:38	133	Tony Lee, 51, Petaluma
	12:38	144	Glenn Mattsson, 53, Santa Rosa
	12:38	176	Brenda Phelps, 35, Santa Rosa
21	12:46	127	Karl Kuhn, 54, Windsor
22	12:53	44	Mike Castaldo, 43, Chico
	12:53	206	Kevin Spaecht, 37, Chico
24	12:57	136	Mark Lowe, 36, Arvada, CO
25	13:00	192	Brad Sauber, 40, Mill Valley
26	13:01	239	Matthew Wietrick, 41, Sacramento
27	13:05	208	Ryan Spaulding, 24, Petaluma
	13:05	49	Daniel Connelly, 44, San Francisco
29	13:09	216	Joshua Talley, 38, Santa Monica
	13:09	119	Bryan Kilgore, 28, Oakland
31	13:09	67	Steve Fielding, 45, Walnut Creek
	13:09	251	Rich Jacobson, 51, Reseda
33	13:11	143	David Martin, 37, Fair Oaks
34	13:13	76	Jim Frink, 47, Folsom
	13:13	186	Craig Robertson, 52, Los Altos

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	13:13	247	Paul McKenzie, 55, Richmond
37	13:16	211	Paul Stimson, 57, Santa Rosa
38	13:18	29	Preston Booker, 47, Santa Rosa
39	13:19	213	David Strong, 40, San Anselmo
40	13:19	193	Zachary Schat, 41, Ukiah
	13:19	70	Francis Foo, 40, Santa Rosa
	13:19	234	Ben Weir, 29, Los Gatos
	13:19	32	Michael Brochier, 49, Redwood City
44	13:26	38	Robert Buntrock, 45, Discovery Bay
45	13:28	80	Leland Gee, 55, Santa Rosa
46	13:35	82	Brian Goldthwaite, 45, Muir Beach
	13:35	231	Gary Wang, 42, Corte Madera
48	13:36	31	Alex/Richard Brede/West (T), 50/62, Bellingham, WA
49	13:37	97	Patrick Hinderdael, 51, McLean, VA
50	13:41	162	Christopher O'Keefe, 43, Mountain View
51	13:46	107	Eric House, 48, Corvallis, OR
	13:46	225	Karen Thompson, 46, Santa Rosa
	13:46	111	Darrin Jenkins, 37, Rohnert Park
	13:46	214	Michael Svihura, 45, Belmont
54	13:48	52	Todd Crisafulli, 41, Mill Valley
55	13:51	221	Elizabeth Tenuto, 30, San Diego
56	13:52	159	Rico Mundy, 39, Angwin
57	13:58	8	Ross Anderson, 25, Healdsburg
	13:58	50	Keith Cook, 54, Loomis
59	14:00	232	Bennie Weber, 62, Lodi
60	14:01	179	Garth Powell, 47, Santa Rosa
	14:01	240	Matthew Wilson, 21, Santa Rosa
	14:01	150	Mitchell Meyer, 48, Rancho Cordova
63	14:03	53	John Culligan, 47, Salinas
	14:03	123	Larry Kluck, 61, Eureka
65	14:04	114	Lee Kane, 39, Mill Valley
	14:04	120	Bruce King, 55, Alameda
67	14:05	183	Nicholas Rice-McDonald, 29, Santa Clara
	14:05	182	Dave Reynolds, 49, Salt Lake City, UT
	14:05	116	Ed Keller, 56, Loomis

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Ordinal	Time	Bib	Name
70	14:08	209	Jeanine Spence, 45, Fresno
	14:08	56	Steven Decker, 49, Fresno
	14:08	226	Adrian Tieslau, 38, Kings Beach
73	14:14	41	Ken Cabeen, 47, Sebastopol
74	14:20	51	Mojo Cosgrove, 49, Davis
75	14:21	22	Tom Benvenuto, 46, Napa
	14:21	207	Josh Spaulding, 28, Petaluma
	14:21	228	Joe Turnbow, 46, Ukiah
78	14:27	6	Carl Andersen, 49, Kensington
	14:27	227	Ann Trason, 49, Kensington
	14:31	241	John Witkowicki, 59, Petaluma
	14:35	42	Kley Cardona, 48, San Jose
82	14:40	184	Doug Richardson, 46, Martinez
83	14:41	54	Peter Curley, 41, San Francisco
84	14:43	79	Mike Gaylor, 62, Sebastopol
85	14:44	223	Tertius Thakar, 48, San Francisco
	14:44	204	Bob Snyder, 56, Westlake Village
87	14:45	106	Eric Horning, 53, Livermore
88	14:48	55	Hal Danielsen, 60, San Francisco
	14:48	102	Jeff Hocking, 47, Orinda
	14:48	2	Mark Abrahams, 110, Berkeley
91	14:49	219	Tommy Taylor, 35, Fort Collins, CO
	14:49	66	John Fennel, 39, Somerville, MA
	14:49	85	Joe Gorin, 59, Santa Rosa
	14:49	72	Russ Foster, 39, Athens, GA
95	14:50	68	Linda Fluhrer, 50, Pleasant Hill
	14:50	69	Sid Fluhrer, 51, Pleasant Hill
97	14:51	24	Becky Berka, 46, Dublin
	14:51	36	Mark Buettner, 40, Auburn
	14:51	58	Greg Durbin, 53, Santa Rosa
	14:51	91	Jacob Hansen, 26, Vallejo
	14:51	180	Kenneth Prager, 48, Granite Bay
	14:51	170	Frank Pedrick, 60, Nevada City
103	14:52	25	Craig Berman, 44, Mill Valley
104	14:53	62	Bill Ellis, 51, Novato

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105	14:54	158	Mark Mularz, 42, Ashland, OR
106	14:56	195	Jason Schlunt, 31, Aptos
107	14:59	130	Todd Law, 42, San Rafael
108	15:04	250	Tom Vu, 49, San Jose
109	15:07	95	Stacey Hendrix, 46, Santa Rosa
110	15:08	100	David/Deborah Hoag (T), 45/56, San Jose
111	15:12	99	Byron Ho, 55, San Francisco
	15:12	122	Jack Klebanoff, 59, Walnut Creek
	15:12	238	Keith White, 60, Petaluma
114	15:15	92	Bill Hasencamp, 47, Los Angeles
115	15:17	39	Richard Burger, 53, Petaluma
	15:17	233	Andrew Weiner, 35, San Francisco
117	15:20	172	Chris Pemberton, 36, Oakland
	15:20	90	Adrian Halme, 39, Charlottesville, VA
119	15:23	21	Roy Benton, 60, Angwin
120	15:24	160	Dan Nelson, 53, San Francisco
	15:24	161	David Nelson, 55, Ivins, UT
122	15:26	61	Michael Eller, 60, Sebastopol
123	15:27	156	Leonard Moore, 61, Aptos
	15:27	169	John Parsons, 49, Santa Cruz
125	15:28	201	Tom Sheppard, 53, Greenbrae
126	15:29	108	Brian Houser, 48, Cheney, WA
	15:29	109	Francis-Marlon Ignacio, 42, Duarte
	15:29	10	Megan Arnold, 38, Santa Rosa
	15:29	96	Gustavo Hernandez, 41, Davis
130	15:31	1	Jay Abraham, 49, Santa Rosa
	15:31	28	John Bob, 45, Elk Grove
	15:31	163	Ramon Ochoa, 39, Sunnyvale
133	15:36	115	Zach Kaplan, 40, Alameda
134	15:37	145	Kathleen McCormick, 45, Alamo
135	15:39	129	Gladden Laudenslager, 49, Concord
136	15:40	4	Sherry Adams, 36, Healdsburg
	15:40	74	Pauli Frey, 41, Santa Rosa
	15:40	203	Andrew Snyder, 52, San Jose
139	15:41	63	Allan Erbes, 52, Los Gatos

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140	15:43	47	Brian Chun, 51, Cupertino
	15:43	140	Philip Mader, 43, Pleasanton
	15:43	164	Robert Okano, 44, San Jose
143	15:45	134	Cameron Lim, 41, San Jose
	15:45	178	Jim Poppy, 55, Palo Alto
145	15:49	45	Andrej Cedilnik, 34, San Jose
	15:49	155	Hunt Moore, 59, Petaluma
	15:49	222	Allen Testa, 50, Petaluma
148	15:50	89	Bashar Haddadin, 43, San Francisco
	15:50	152	Don Mitchell, 47, Napa
	15:50	189	Magali Saloman, 46, Mill Valley
	15:50	196	Michael Schlunt, 28, San Francisco
	15:50	243	Michael Yamada, 47, Santa Clara
153	15:54	48	Randall Coleman, 46, Sacramento
154	16:00	33	Scott Brown, 45, Elk Grove
	16:00	245	Ehud Yuhjtman, 50, Reno, NV
156	16:08	40	Steve Bursley, 51, Pleasanton
	16:08	188	John Roy, 49, Long Beach
	16:08	220	Frederic Taylor, 56, Pacific Grove
159	16:10	230	Paul Vlasveld, 50, San Jose
160	16:25	43	Bill Carroll, 54, Santa Rosa
	16:25	98	Eric Hjort, 48, Oakland
	16:25	117	Edwin Kempkey, 31, Napa
	16:25	202	Cliff Siegel, 53, Salinas
164	16:30	128	Robin Landis, 66, New York, NY
	16:30	141	Tara Madsen-Steigmeyer, 32, Berkeley
166	16:34	27	Gary Boal, 51, San Jose
167	16:38	126	Michael Kresser, 60, Monte Sereno
	16:38	137	Yvonne Lund, 46, Campbell
	16:38	236	Michelle West, 38, Santa Monica
170	16:46	235	Steven Werlin, 63, Dillon Beach
171	16:55	3	Dan Adams, 24, Boulder, CO
172	16:56	15	Kamran Azmoudeh, 54, Santa Rosa
	16:56	16	Kevin Azmoudeh, 52, McLean, VA
	16:56	19	Debra Banks, 53, Fairfield

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	16:56	57	James Donaldson, 58, El Dorado Hills
176	17:12	181	Rob Ramos, 46, Folsom