

Terrible Two, 1997: a nice day for a bike ride...

Last year, after finishing an impressive 2nd in his first Terrible Two, local boy and SRCC member Dan Hopley declared, "I'm never doing this ride again!" He was almost as good as his word, holding out until nearly the final day of registration before losing his resolve and sending in his entry. If Dan had mixed feelings about doing this daunting double again, he appeared to have them sorted out before ride time: he was first over the Geysers and came into lunch in a lead pack of seven. After dawdling a bit at the lunch stop, he caught and passed all the other leaders on the first big climbs on Skaggs Springs and motored away from everyone. Behind him, four riders began working together to reel him in, but even battling into a choppy headwind on the coast, all by himself, he still managed to put time on them and cruised home with a 17-minute lead. His time of 11:34 wasn't a record, but his margin of victory was the widest in several years, and his pursuers were no slouches: Rob Ifflander (last year's winner), Daryn Dodge (winner of several other doubles), Dave Discher, and Ray Plumhoff. *(Note: Dodge and Plumhoff would both finish first on subsequent TTs and would both break the course record when they did so.)*

Ray was on a single this year after stoking on last year's record-setting tandem with Paul McKenzie. Paul was back this year, aiming for the co-ed tandem record with mountain biking legend Sara Ballantyne as the backseat driver. This record attempt was successful as well, as their 12:21 (good for 11th overall) took nearly an hour off last year's record set by Mark Patten and Cindi Staiger. Further back in the field, Liz Galler and Kathlynn Beranek were setting another tandem record as the first all-gal big bike to complete the ride. Rita Faglia (nee Bozzo) topped the largest women's field ever for her third win in three tries, with a time of 13:46.

Not only was it the largest women's field ever, it was the largest field ever for the event, with nearly 220 riders spinning off into the sunrise in the traditional 5:30 AM mass start. 174 riders completed the course, 156 of them by the dreaded 10:00 PM "I Did It!" cut-off time. That appears to be about the standard for the new, shorter course.

High heat—the Terrible two's legendary bogeyman—was once again missing. The weather was cool and breezy most of the day and even a little chilly and damp out on the cliffs above the ocean, with the fog collecting in the trees and dripping on the road like a light rain. Many people complained about the unusual headwind on the run down Hwy 1, but few mentioned the corresponding tailwind on the run up Silverado Trail and Hwy 128 earlier in the day. It was just hot enough down in the protected canyons on the Geysers and Skaggs to make folks feel like they were really suffering. For the fourth year in a row, we just dodged the bullet on the heat: in each of those years, a mild TT Saturday has been followed by triple-digit readings a week later. Once again this year, by the following weekend, the mercury was hovering around 100° in Cloverdale. Next year, the ride is scheduled one week later...

While the generally benign weather made the ride a little easier than it might have been, it was still extremely tough. Several after-ride discussions turned to the question of which was harder this year: the TT or the new Devil Mountain Double. The consensus seemed to be that while DMD took longer to complete, this ride beats you up more. Why this is so is not quite clear, but most riders agree that in spite of being tougher, the TT is also their favorite ride. (Ask them that question as they're wandering through the purgatory of Skaggs Springs or winching themselves wearily up Fort Ross Road and they may give you a decidedly different and probably unprintable reply, but after the ride, while basking in the glow of their accomplishment, most of them are cheerfully generous in their praise of the event.)

Another unique aspect of the Terrible Two was mentioned by one of the front runners: the impressive caliber of riders in the field. Whether it's because of the great scenic beauty around the course or the challenging terrain or just its gnarly reputation, this ride always attracts a large number of excellent riders from other cycling disciplines who aren't regulars on the ultra/doubles scene. This year's field included riders who've won

major USCF races, world-class mountain bike events, and Ironman-distance triathlons...as well as a few very strong North Bay homeboys who never enter anything else but show up year after year for this, their favorite backyard ride. Hopley is a perfect case in point: a former NCNCA district road race champion who has only three doubles in his resumé...two TTs and a Davis (during which event he was photographed, with the image ending up on the cover of *Bicycling* magazine).

Our annual True Grit-No Brains award will be shared this year by two equally deserving riders. Ronald Milla ran afoul of a bad bump on the notorious Fort Ross descent and hit the deck, ending up with a clavicle broken in three places. As this was the third leg of his Triple Crown season, he was not about to quit and soldiered in the final 30, very painful miles. Earlier in the day, way back on the top of Trinity Grade, Duane Stephens stopped to clear a chip of wood out of his Speedplay cleat. Using a Swiss Army knife, he somehow managed to badly slice through the middle finger of his right hand, severing the extensor tendon, so the finger was flopping loose like a trap door. (He's a right-handed heart surgeon.) Our on-the-spot paramedic dressed the wound and then we redid the dressing at lunch and he carried on...170 miles with a finger hanging half-off. What some people will do for a t-shirt!

An honorable mention in this category might go to SRCC member John Eberly. He had crashed in the district criterium championships on the preceding Saturday, sustaining numerous minor injuries. Then he crashed again in a local crit on Tuesday evening, severely dislocating his shoulder. But the siren song of the Terrible Two was calling, and so, four days later, he set off to ride 200 miles of bumpy backroads, with an arm that should have been resting at home in a sling. 175 miles of painful pounding later, he had to cry uncle near Cazadero. A day later, the shoulder was swollen to twice its normal size. (Isn't this fun?)

Other local club members fared a little better: over 20 SRCCers started the ride and I believe at least 17 finished before 10, with Bert Daniel, Chuck Tyler, Robert Rand, Chris Murray, and Craig Combs all completing it for the first time. Congratulations to all of them and to all the other riders who came from near and far to tackle this toughest of all doubles. How far did riders come to do this ride? We had entrants from Washington, DC, Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri, Idaho, Arizona, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Nevada, and of course from every corner of California. Will any of them return next year? If you asked them immediately after the ride, most would say no. But as we learned with Dan Hopley, you need to take that first response with a large grain of salt.

Terrible Two 1997 Results

Place	Name	Age	Home Town	Elapsed Time
1	Dan Hopley	30	Rohnert Park	11:34
2	Daryn Dodge	37	Davis	11:51
	Ray Plumhoff	42	Oakland	
	David Discher	38	Woodside	
	Rob Ifflander	26	Milpitas	
6	Christopher Shirar	30	Vacaville	12:04
7	Kent Chilcott	31	Santa Rosa	12:05
	Brian Anderson	43	Woodside	
	Rod Rozman	40	Placerville	
	Brett Van Natta	35	Kenwood	
11	Paul McKenzie/Sara Ballantyne	42/36	Richmond/ Breckenridge, CO	12:21
	Jim Frink	34	Sacramento	
	Michael Ogul	41	Kensington	
	Dan Shadoan	50	Davis	
15	Richard Herms	38	Newark	12:31
16	Niles Guthrie	24	San Francisco	12:49
17	Brian Sidwell	29	Santa Cruz	12:50
	Peter Pop	47	Malibu	
19	Tracy Colwell	29	Redwood City	12:59
20	Rich Boettner	30	Alameda	13:00
21	Jeremy Witt	41	Napa	13:11
	Mike Chester	42	Oceanside	
	Bill Ripke	33	San Diego	
24	Larry Kluck	48	Eureka	13:21
	Tao Bernardi	30	Lafayette	
	Will Marek	39	Walnut Creek	
27	Mark Battany	NA	Davis	13:30
	Douglas Merrill	37	Davis	
	Gustavo Hernadez	35	Davis	
30	Robert Freed	46	Irvine	13:31
	Dan Wesolowski	45	Santa Barbara	
32	Mike Stollmeyer	23	Santa Rosa	13:35
33	Rita Faglia	33	Santa Rosa	13:46
34	Bruno Gougeon	31	Berkeley	13:48
35	Bill Halleck	33	Menlo Park	13:53
36	William Menchine	42	Santa Cruz	13:54
	Jay Schumann	44	San Francisco	
38	Duane Lyons	38	Loomis	13:58
39	Lisa Holsinger	34	Occidental	13:59
40	Wayne Tikkanen	42	South Pasadena	14:05
	James Hand	50	San Francisco	
	Emilio Castelli	41	Sebastopol	
43	John Hossack	33	Palo Alto	14:09
44	Andrea Kirsch	33	Davis	14:12
45	Bill Pratt	30	Berkeley	14:13

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Place	Name	Age	Home Town	Elapsed Time
46	Eric Birky	29	Santa Rosa	14:15
	Craig Taylor	43	Portola Valley	
	Keith White	47	El Cerrito	
49	Wayne Greenway	37	Moraga	14:17
50	Bert Daniel	42	Healdsburg	14:19
51	Ed Keller	42	Loomis	14:22
52	Jeffrey Leenhouts	34	Walnut Creek	14:23
53	Jesse Goodman	46	Healdsburg	14:24
	Erika Floric	33	Camp Meeker	
55	Sam Beal	45	Mountain View	14:26
56	Pierre Neu	53	Winters	14:31
	David Nosrati	34	Concord	
58	Michael Inglis	31	Vacaville	14:35
	Brenda Green	36	Vacaville	
	Ronald Milla	45	Vacaville	
	Bob Perry	38	Vacaville	
	Mark Waters	44	Vacaville	
	James Ottlinger	40	Vacaville	
64	Chris Murray	39	Windsor	14:37
65	Patrick Goebel	36	Stanford	14:38
66	Craig Robertson	39	Los Altos	14:42
67	Michael Schiff	NA	Menlo Park	14:43
68	Christopher Preas	29	Lafayette	14:47
	Scott Lewis	42	Salt Lake City, UT	
70	Jeff Wolfe	32	Santa Rosa	14:50
	Eric Ostendorff	36	Torrance	
72	Mike Aberg	31	Palo Alto	14:56
	Greg Lutz	48	Berkeley	
	Dennis Allard	43	Santa Monica	
75	Rich Fuglewicz	45	Santa Rosa	14:57
76	Dobin Westergard	33	Sacramento	14:59
77	Dan Clark	40	Citrus Heights	15:00
	Tim Kinkeade	32	Moscow, ID	
79	Alex Zonoff	40	San Jose	15:05
80	David McKenzie	40	Concord	15:06
81	Tom Lawrence	30	Mountain View	15:07
82	Adam Neubauer	27	Santa Rosa	15:11
	Brett Hendrix	33	Santa Rosa	
84	Jonathon Woo	26	San Dimas	15:14
85	Tom Long	50	Piedmont	15:16
86	Larry Bolander	52	Pacifica	15:17
87	Blair Narog	37	Mountain View	15:18
	Steven Correll	43	Scotts Valley	
	Bradford Rex	37	Santa Rosa	
	Phil Scheidler	36	Lexington, KY	
	Bob Rugo	43	Berkeley	
92	Ryan Kish	22	Oakley	15:19

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Place	Name	Age	Home Town	Elapsed Time
93	Kenneth Straub	45	Cupertino	15:25
	Robert Rand	34	Sebastopol	
95	Al Gobeille	51	Oakland	15:27
96	Rory MacLeod	44	Vacaville	15:28
	Dan Crain	52	Irvine	
	Blair Gast	35	Martines	
99	Ron Rogers	49	Concord	15:30
100	Ken Bell/Karen Bonnett	48/40	Sacramento	15:31
101	Rich Golden	36	San Leandro	15:32
	Robert Pelzar	39	Woodside	
103	Robert Yugo	50	Oakland	15:37
	Jim Kozera	51	Clovis	
	Chuck Tyler	53	Santa Rosa	
	Russ Morgan	53	Columbus, OH	
	Bob Coble	45	Concord	
108	Mike Erwin	56	Madera	15:39
109	Joseph Cabral	32	St Helena	15:42
	Bill Wambold	44	Petaluma	
	Greg Sage	44	Berkeley	
	Thomas Ryan	33	Berkeley	
113	Brad Buehler	43	Livermore	15:44
	Fenn Pervier	43	Fairfax	
115	Kevin Scott	34	Antioch	15:45
	Todd Delay	35	Columbus, OH	
117	Larry Burdick	59	Davis	15:50
118	Bruce Hoffman	35	Fremont	15:55
	Jim Poppy	42	Palo Alto	
120	Tom Zaharis	34	Burlingame	15:56
	Duane Stephens	48	Berkeley	
	Brian Martinelli	45	Martinez	
	Millo Fenzi	42	Palo Alto	
124	Hooshang Mehranpour	38	Granite Bay	15:58
	Ray Norr	31	Pacifica	
	Brent Bohigian	31	Hayward	
	Masoud Esnaashari	39	Folsom	
	Fred Stout	46	Greenbrae	
129	Jamie Meisel	43	Alameda	15:59
	Craig Combes	39	Sebastopol	
131	John Cleek	37	San Luis Obispo	16:00
	Tom Harriman	36	San Francisco	
133	Jason Sager	27	San Gregorio	16:02
	Leo Kodl	55	Monterey	
	Steve Goldbeck	41	San Francisco	
	Dan Magaw	39	Lincoln	
137	Thomas Maslen	35	Menlo Park	16:03
138	Russell Rocker	26	Folsom	16:06

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Place	Name	Age	Home Town	Elapsed Time
139	Jim von Tungeln, Jr	42	Irvine	16:07
	Eduardo Villasana	35	Sausalito	
	Thomas Zimlich	36	Pacifica	
142	Jolene Hood	33	Santa Maria	16:11
	David Berry	38	Santa Rosa	
	Robert Brouhard	50	Davis	
	Jack Rodgers	41	Sacramento	
146	Richard Gary	60	Carmichael	16:12
147	Mark Polak	34	Redondo Beach	16:14
148	Peter Ozorio	32	Campbell	16:15
	Liz Galler/Kathlynn Benarek	32/36	Chico/Cohasset	
150	Joe Steinmetz	32	Rocklin	16:16
	Catherine Carbonaro	30	Rocklin	
152	Steven Haskett	46	Sanger	16:19
	Wendy Page	36	Sonoma	
153	Richard Warren	NA	Mill Valley	16:23
155	Stuart Chase	41	Petaluma	16:27
156	Tim Rasmussen	40	Glendale	16:30
157	Erick Le	26	Daly City	16:35
	Vivian Terwilliger	40	Grass Valley	
159	Bill Bliss	61	San jose	16:42
160	Robert Kobliska	50	San Jose	17:01
	Andrea Adkins	28	Ridgecrest	
	Rob Bernier	36	Stanford	
163	Kevin Main	45	Cayucos	17:08
164	Michael Joe	30	San Francisco	17:12
	Gordon Johnson	30	Martinez	
166	Brison Ellinghaus	38	Cupertino	17:19
167	Donn King	50	Sebastopol	17:22
168	Ed Goshorn	53	Atascadero	17:59
	John Robbins	56	Rendondo Beach	
	Glenda Carberry	40	Fresno	
171	Marcia Gibbs	46	Winters	18:27
	Susan Gishi	44	Davis	
	Lois Springsteen	45	Boulder Creek	
	Susan Angebrannt	39	Palo Alto	

Notes:

Shaded entries donote female riders.

Tandems count as one place each in standings

DNF:

Jeff Warren, Nancy Borucki, Kevin Sullivan, Anne Schneider, Rudy Schuh, Chris Scheetz, Kim Chamness, Andreas Schultz, Lois Springsteen, Bill Bryant, Stephen Smith, Don Souter, Bob McIntyre, Susan Gishi, Susan Angebrannt, Bobby Mask, Carl Gasch, Cliff Mitchell, Robert Gilles, Marcia Gibbs, Cheryl Herms, Tammy Lackey, Barry Johnson, Meredith Jury, Kevin Griffin, Charles Griffice, Gary Hartman, Ann Lincoln, Rusty Dillon, Vic deOrnelas, Bill Dunn, Tom Dougherty, Giorgio Cosentino, Gary Waterfield/Aireen de Peralta, Paul Weeks, Marv Rensink, John Eberly, Paul Berg, Greg White, Myron Mu, Chaz Fetrow, Darrell Bernard, Kirk Beedle, Marc Nix,