



2008 Cross Country Season ends with great success.

Early this year I decided to work on my Cross Country racing abilities, with good results in the endurance side of the sport I knew that improving my speed at the start of the race and the short climbs was going to get me better results not only in cross country but also in the endurance races weather one day or multi day.

My main goals for Cross Country were the NMBS-NORBA National series and the California State Series. To me the results I was able to get represent and dream come true, for the past 4 seasons I had watched the Pros race and always wanted to be part of the Elite group, thanks to team Sho-Air 2008 gave me a chance to rub elbows with world class Olympic riders like Geoff Kabush, Todd Wells, Adam Craig, Jeremiah Bishop and even World Champion Christoph Sauser. I cannot explain how happy I feel about the fact that I was able to race this riders and not only that but to know that with each passing year I will be closer and closer to the front.

The California State finals ended this weekend in Big Bear, the series had 8 events total and riders were able to drop the 2 lowest scores so only 6 events really counted. The series tested the rider's fitness all year long, with the first race taking place in March and the finals in October riders had to stay fit all year long.

By the finals I pretty much had the series wrapped up so all I had to do was finish, but the fact that I was on the new 2009 Specialized S-Works Stumpjumper Hardtail gave extra motivation to take first place, the course was short only 19miles, mostly fire roads and a couple of fast fun singletrack sections, the S-Works Hardtail was my best option for the final race, at 18 pounds the new machine climbed like a road bike, oversized downtube, oversize 1 1/2" Fork crown and carbon cranks had me thinking that the new bike was going to be heavier, with a lot of work in testing and engineering the bike is stiffer under pedaling forces but more supple over the rough stuff and guess what? The new complete bike came out to be lighter by 1 full pound compared to my previous S-Works.

California State Series Overall Result: 1st Place Overall

NMBS-NORBA National Series Result: 8th Place Overall

[Click here for the California State Series Overall Results](#)

[Click here for the NMBS-NORBA National Series Overall Results](#)

In the Endurance side of things all is left is the world famous La Ruta de los Conquistadores, the event will take place on November 12th-15th this will be my last race of the 2008 season, after that I will be taking my awaited 3 week break.

Thanks for reading.



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