

2006 Greenville Series: Week Two, Day 2 at the BMW test track.

The Deoro Masters Team was reeling a bit from the spanking that we took yesterday and ready to get started with the first crit style course of the 06 season. We arrived at the BMW test facility at 8:00AM wiping the sleep from our eyes as the sun was coming up and the temp. was a brisk 38 degrees. As we warmed up we could certainly tell that this "hour glass" shaped track was going to provide for a lot of fun and excitement. After warming up for an hour and a brief team meeting in the parking lot, Blair Palmer, Michael Satterfield, Matt Mason and me (Rodney Simpson) hit the line for the start with about 80 of the fastest cyclists in the southeast. All the hammers from the three previous events in the Greenville series were there and ready as well. As they always do, it started fast from the gun. It was surge after surge, attack after attack. And it was evident Matt and Michael had good legs today as they were mixing it up with the big guns like Todd Stourt, Gordon Steele, Mac Cannon, Steve Sperry, Glenn Thrift and about 75 of their fastest friends. Matt and Michael both made several attempts going off the front to draw the horses out to play but had no takers. With 15:00 to go plus two laps it was apparent that this was going to come down to a field sprint. I worked towards the front on Gordon Steele's wheel but lost it with two to go. My teammates were all in much better position than I as Matt put his head down going down the back stretch but could not get clear of the field. Michael was bumped hard coming to the line with one to go and lost his good position. Blair moved up and thru the field like a hot knife thru butter. Digging hard coming out of the last corner Blair finished 6th and Michael finished strong catching riders coming to the line for 19th. All in all a good day with an avg. of 26.5mph - just the training that we were looking for.

Rodney Simpson