

Sorry for the delay. Here's how our race unfolded. Terry Lanier and I lined up with over 40 riders for this 45.5 mile race. Right off the bat Randy Parker goes off the front for a 10-15 second gap which grows as we wind around on the first of the five laps. One OLP rider, then another struck out after him and one the long uphill the pack seemed complacent so went off to catch the 2 OLP riders and put a chase on to catch Parker. At about the 7 mile point the pack caught us as we were catching Parker. I guess he was just warming up. A couple of attacks by others over the next lap and a half till 3 riders, one with Hincapie, one with Postal Express and another rider managed to get a gap and build it. First 2 30 seconds, then to a minute the next lap around. There a few attacks to catch the break but none seemed to work. Barney Baxter attacked during the long downhill before the sharp right turn. Looked like a good opportunity (though my stomach was not cooperating through the entire ride) so I jumped hard, only to find Ron Hinson on my wheel, then the rest of the field. Terry Lanier went off with Bob Black (unattached) at one point and they held out for a while before getting swallowed up.

I can't remember the laps (maybe 2 & 1/3 to go) but on the long uphill, Mac Cannon, Baxter, Parker, Hinson and maybe one other got away and hovered only a few seconds off the front before getting organized and slowly building a gap. I think one came off, then Bob Black eventually made a solo effort to bridge up to that break. So then we had a break of 3, then a group of 5, then the field. On our last lap we couldn't seem to organize a good chase, several attack efforts only got brought back. On the long downhill, Ken Johnson with OLP got away before the corner and managed to stay away to the line for ninth. Before the last corner the pace picked up. Terry went off before the corner after Ken and I thought for just a bit that he might make it but the pace really picked up with 350 meters to go. I was just able to keep moving up and stay with the very lead guys. I think a Smith Barney cyclist got the field sprint and I crossed the line 4th in the group for 13th overall. I think Terry may have made top 20.

Gary Moore