

## Junior National Cycling Championships

By Lee Borrowman



Local junior development cycling club Tieni Duro has returned with good news from Nationals. Ye Lin placed 5th in the Criterium and Zach Williams came in 14th out of a starting field of 175 at the Road Race. Former Tieni Duro cyclist JP LeClair of Moraga, who now rides for the junior team Adobe/Schwalbe, also did well in the National Track Racing events, taking a silver medal in the individual pursuit and as a member of the team that won gold in the team pursuit.

“We had a rough time, but despite injuries to three of our riders we are very proud of their accomplishments at Nationals,” says Jason Kent. Zach Williams was the highest place rider from

Northern California, but, “about 10 miles after the start of the (age) 17/18 Road Race, there was a big accident involving about 40 riders. One of our riders, Andy Goessling, was air lifted to a hospital (He is recovering nicely from his injuries). Nicholas Jerabek dropped back with tendonitis in one knee.”

Only Williams and Ye Lin started at the Criterium the next day.

Kent says, “Williams rode like a pro that day. Knowing it was the last race of the trip, and a little frustrated that he did not place in the top ten the day before, he covered every attack and was in every break. Williams and Lin were in the final 11-man break, which had

to succeed for us. Williams stayed at the front driving hard for the next several laps. Things were looking great, the plan being to have Williams work, and Lin rest up for the sprint. Williams would then tow Lin up into the perfect position before the last turn, giving him the best shot at winning the national championship. Unfortunately another rider almost crashed in front of Williams with four laps to go, and consequently took Williams to the ground. Left on his own, Lin ended up taking 5th in the sprint and Williams escaped with some minor road rash.”

This article was prepared from information submitted by Jason Kent.