

## That was so much harder than it should have been



It feels like Kevin came back from France with a brand new motor, more powerful than ever before. While mine, well, it feels like it should be back in the shop for repair.

We've been back from France for... 9 days? About midnight Friday, with my first ride back last Sunday, heading over to LaHonda and back via West Alpine. Alone, because Kevin needed to catch up with his GF after being gone two weeks. And somehow, skipping a ride, Kevin's riding much stronger than he has in ages, while I'm struggling. It can't have anything to do with me being 66 and him 29. Thursday morning he flew up Kings, getting his best time ever for the climb through the park. Today he posted a solid 20 minutes up Old LaHonda, while I dragged myself up there 6 minutes later. I was getting worried I'd be able to hang onto his wheel heading out to Pescadero, but it's pretty hard to shake me on a descent or flat terrain.



No cookies today! The Pescadero Bakery was fairly crowded but the sandwich line moved fast. But... no cookies!!! Had to settle for a triangular cherry-filled pastry.

No nasty headwinds going north today, just the three nasty climbs on Stage. I almost always have the upper hand on them, but not today; Kevin was feeling good. Good enough that we were already discussing plans for Tunitas, how he wasn't going to let me slow him down, it was time to see what he could do. Would he really go for it? A definite yes on that; he hit the bottom (flatter) part of Tunitas HARD; I lost his wheel maybe half a mile before the forest starts. Even so, my own time to the start of the forest was pretty darned good, but I was in no condition to keep it up and didn't do well on the steeper middle section. Unfortunately, I did catch up to Kevin about a mile after Tunitas flattens out; he was recovering from a seizure. Well, there will be other days.



Is this information you really want to know?I did notice my new Garmin's "How much do you have left in the tank" feature was warning me that I had nothing left, showing