

Davis Phinney, Alexi Grewal and Roy Knickman of the Coors Light cycling team lead the racers down Wolf Creek in Saturday's Kill Hill Road Race. Phinney won Sunday's University Criterium.

## Coors Light dominates local race

By Pat Malach

The Coors Light cycling team dominated the 1993 Tour of Willamette by winning the top three spots of the five-day, sixstage race.

Seven-time Tour de France veteran Ron Kiefel took the overall crown, followed by teammates Scott Moniger and Roy Knickman. Saturn rider Brian Walton was fourth, and Mike Engelman of Coors Light was fifth.

Coors Light broke the race open at Friday morning's Lost Creek Road Race near Dexter when it placed four riders in a five-man breakaway group that took off at the beginning of the second of two 29-mile laps.

Knickman won the stage, finishing with Kiefel and Moniger about 2:45 ahead of Engelman and Saturn rider Andrew Miller.

Team manager Len Petyjohn said he had hoped Coors Light would be able to use Friday's 60-mile stage, which included 4,830 feet of climbing, to open a lead on Walton before the afternoon's 12.3-mile time trial.

"We were a little worried before this," Petyjohn said. "We didn't want to leave Walton for the time trial. Now (Walton) is 2:45 down. Brian's a good time trialist, but he's not that good."

The tour started Wednesday with the Green Hill Prologue, a two-mile time trial to the top of Green Hill Road. The stage was won by Saturn's Scott Mercier.

Thursday saw the riders tackle the 88-mile Smith River Road Race, which was won by Chad Gerlach of Team San Jose. Inclement weather and tough climbing whittled the main field to about 20 riders before Gerlach successfully attacked with a kilometer to go.

Coors Light's big day came on Friday when the team faced a road race and time trial, placing four riders in the overall lead.

Walton won Saturday's stage, the 63-mile Kill Hill Road Race. by stomping up the one-kilometer uphill finish ahead of Bobby Julich and Kiefel.

'After (Friday's) road race in the morning, we got worked over by Coors Light," Walton said, "and we wanted to prove something, being the other pro team here.

Sunday's sixth stage brought the riders to the University campus, where they circled a .75mile course around the EMU. Sprinter Davis Phinney of Coors Light and four other riders broke away from the field on the 12th of 44 laps.



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