

Time Trial

Men 35-39; Howard

Although the distance was reduced from 25 miles to 40 km (24.85 miles) this year, no one matched Dennis Haserot's '82 national record of 55:29.53. In his first year as a vet, John Howard (Leucadia, CA) posted the best time at 55:53.70, winning the championship in the 35-39 category.

"I don't think I've lost any speed, but I don't have the snap that I used to because I've been running 70 miles a week," he said. "You can't swim and run and ride and still be fast—my mileage is down to 300 a week. I stepped it up to about 350 or 375 last week for this event. I've lost a little, but I'm happy doing triathlons."

Women 35-39: Layton

A slight headwind and dense, humid air did not prevent Judy Layton (Tahoe City, CA), defending champion and holder of the national record (58:58.8) among veteran women, from besting her last year's time on this course by 35 sec and completing the distance in 1:01:40.64. Layton had hoped to break an hour, but knew at the turnaround that she wouldn't make it. She pushed a 53x14 on the gradual upgrades going out, then dropped to the 13 for the return. Confident about retaining her championship for the 3rd consecutive year, 40-year-old Layton had sized up the competition at the '82 senior nationals and wasn't threatened by much more than the thought of a flat tire. The 2nd-place finisher Linda Tischer, was more than 6 minutes behind her.

Men 45-54: Hammer

Living up to his name and reputation, Franz Hammer (Redmon, WA) easily won the championship in his category with a time of 56:19.68—only 27 sec down from Howard, and 2nd best overall. This was Hammer's 4th national TT championship in 6 years. He won the 35-44 category in '78 and '79, flatted '80, regained the title in '81, and placed 5th in '82 despite illness.

Jerry Nugent, (Bowie, MD) was the silver medalist. Former masters champion Dick Poor (Montclair, NJ) took the bronze and was also first among the men 50-54 with a 59:49.56.

New Champions

Joan Paul (Miami Springs, FL) a 50-year-old mother of six, walked away with the championship among women 45-54, posting the 3rd best time of all the women, and 2nd only to Layton among the vets, at 1:06:31.17. Billy Richards (New Orleans, LA) rode a 1:02:00.06 for his first championship, in the 55-59 category. Ralph Myatt (San Diego, CA) defeated 12 other 40-44 riders to take the title in this new category with a 56:57.81, the 4th best time overall.

Among the seniors 30-34, Diane Flynn (Audubon, NJ) won her first stars-and-stripes with a 1:03:18.81, and David LeDuc (Raleigh, NC) outdid 14 other seniors with a 56:56.78, the 3rd best time in the championships.

Other new faces included 60-64 winner Francis McGowan (Sarasota, FL), 70-74 victor Nelson Dunn (New Port Richey, FL), and 75-79 ace Edward Delano (Davis, CA).

Old Favorites

The first of the newly-designed veterans national championship jerseys went to Martha Hanson (Madison, WI) in the women's 55+ category, who trimmed 6 minutes off her '82 time. Pat Patten (Dallas, TX) won the men's 65-69 group and bettered his last year's winning time by nearly a minute at 1:05:34.4. Fred Knoller (Lauderdale, FL), the oldest competitor at age 87, cut his record-setting '82 time by nearly 2 minutes, finishing in 1:28:50.72. Al Hatos (Ft. Pierce, FL) repeated his victory in the 80-85 category. □

Complete official results for all veteran classes for both the time trial and road championships, as well as those for the 30-34 category, will be published in the next issue.