

LOCAL SPORT

Determination pays off for Arran

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SUN CITY - Determination has paid off for Arran Brown at the Powerade Lost City Cansa Cycle Challenge, presented by The Citizen, on Saturday.

Brown won the 115km road race in 2:35,39, by staying focussed and waiting for the right time to make his move.

After two punctures and a burnt out wheel bearing, Brown was not sure he would finish. That is when determination came into play.

"After my second puncture, I was feeling a bit down, but when my wheel bearing went, I really did not think I would do well at the finish," said Brown.

"But after finishing second three times in the last three races, I was not going to let the team down.

"As they rode for me to win, and not having done so well in the past, I was determined to win and waited until the last 300m, before I made my move," said Brown.

Brown pipped Nolan Hoffman in the last seconds of the race, the latter finishing second for the fourth time.

Third place went to Dusty Day, Johan Rabie was fourth and Christoff van Heerden fifth. But the surprise package was sixth-placed Calvin Beneke, son of Gary, who finished second in the sub-50 age group.

"I am still at school and will only look at cycling seriously, when I have finished my studies," said Calvin.

Carte Blanche, presenter, Derek Watts, rode his first 115km race for charity in the Change A Life programme and rode this race with training partner and coach, Malcolm Lange.

"This is the first time I have gone more than 30km, but Malcolm was with me all the way," said Watts.

"Ursula de Plooy from Change A Life has been fantastic and she has encouraged me all the way."

The women's race also had its fair share of drama. An-Li Pretorius, cut across the pack causing some of the riders to break. There was an objection to the outcome, which saw Cherise Taylor win ahead of Isabelle Moolman and Lynette Burger.

"I did put in an objection," said Taylor, "but I was not the only one. Another rider, from another team, also objected and everyone was able to see the problem on the screen.

"There was definitely a problem in the final stages of the race," Taylor added.

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