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Northern California Mountain Biker Places 4th in World Championships as excitement begins for next year's World Championships in Weaverville, California

The longest mountain bike race that Weaverville's Michael Novak had ever completed was the 8 Hours this August in a race in Northern California's coastal town of Arcata. After the last few days he can multiply that by 3.

On Saturday and Sunday of this last weekend, Novak not only raced in the 2014 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Mountain Bike Championships in Fort William, Scotland but placed 4th in the 35 – 39 age group.

Taking place on the world renowned Witch's Trail and World Championships courses in the Forestry Commission Scotland's Leanachan Forest, the 2014 Championships included internationally known names such as 5-time WEMBO Champion Jason English and US Pro Kelly Magelky, 2014 Women's Champion from Kim Hurst from New Zealand and characters like Australia's single speed hero Brett Bellchambers and emerging US rider Danielle Musto.

Novak's 4th place (39th overall out of 150+ riders, including the elite pros) finish is a significant personal achievement. When asked what surprised him most about his experience he answered, "The speed of the elite riders. You think that you're going fast and then one of the front-runners come by going so much quicker and smoother. Phenomenal!"

Proudly wearing the Weaverville 24 Jersey, promoting the location of next year's World Championships, Novak was accompanied on the trip by Vic Armijo, Alex Cousins and Tony Lewis as a support team and to assist in promoting next year's event.

The 2015 WEMBO World Solo 24 Hour Mountain Bike Championships will take place on the well hewn trails of the Weaver Basin Trail System that hug the hillsides above the historic gold mining town of Weaverville, California. "We opened registration a few weeks ago and the majority of our registrants are international," said Cousins, "this is going to be huge and we're looking forward to getting back to work on next year's race when we get stateside."

For more information on this last weekend's race and the upcoming World Championships in Weaverville in October of 2015 visit www.weaverville24.us.

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Attachments

1. Michael Novak coming through the pits at 19 hours (photo credit: Vic Armijo)
2. A happy and tired Michael Novak after completing 24 hours (photo credit: Vic Armijo)