

# Rise, shine

Triathlon (Santa Cruz Sentinel)

10.200



Dan Coyro/Sentinel

Paul Dribnock of San Jose cranks his way toward Davenport during the second of three legs. Below: Mimi Boyle of Sausalito grabs a drink on the run in the final leg.

## Dunkell rewarded for hard work at annual triathlon

By DAVID KIEFER  
SENTINEL SPORTS EDITOR

SANTA CRUZ — Nothing could bother Andre Dunkell on Sunday. Certainly not the three would-be entrants who screamed at him for not honoring a guaranteed late deadline.

"They're in the water," he yelled happily shortly after the start, with the look of a man who was nearing a job well done after 11 years as race director of the Sentinel Triathlon.

Top men	
Name, hometown	Time
1. Andy Kelsey, Cupertino	1:46.32
2. Victor Plata, Santa Cruz	1:49.38
3. Kevin Joyce, Mtn. View	1:50.48
4. David Reid, S. Cruz	1:51.59
5. Andrew Ferguson, L. Gatos	1:54.03

Top women	
Name, hometown	Time
1. Sarah Kerlin, Santa Cruz	2:04.44
2. Alexis Waddel, Seaside	1:49.38
3. Allison Zamanian, Berkeley	1:50.48
4. Heather Rodde, Mtn. View	1:51.59
5. Annie Carrino, Portola Val.	1:54.03

**Note:** Complete race results and coverage on Page D2 and D3

Dunkell fielded numerous complaints because a notation on the registration application guaranteeing entry if done before Aug. 24 was

Others thought so, too, presenting Dunkell with a trophy inscribed "Best Race Director" at the awards ceremony. His wife Nancy Ogle was presented hand-picked roses from competitor Miriam Schmidt.



obsolete and the race filled up long before that. The situation helped convince Dunkell that it was time to leave.

It's possible, however, that his final race was his best. The race sold out faster than any in the event's 18 years, and it was controversy-free. Not bad for a race that five years ago was not selling out and was in danger of being dropped.

"I have a lot of respect for Andre," two-time winner Victor Plata said.

Plata described his first attempt at entering the Sentinel Triathlon in 1998. As a first-year pro with local roots, Plata politely asked for a complimentary entry.

"He said, 'It's not a professional race anymore, it's a fundraiser,'" said Plata, who had to pay the entry fee, which benefits county high school and college sports programs.

Plata won the race and was granted a lifetime comp entry, "but he made an impression on me," Plata said. "This race is a fundraiser. And even though I get a free entry, I pay for my entry anyway."

"I hope he feels good about his tenure," said Doug MacKinnon, the co-director of the Monterey Bay Challenge. "Because he deserves it. His work has been an inspiration to me."