

Texas Adventure Racing · Texas Quest 2010 · Race Report

April 10, 2010
Coldspring, Texas
by *Caroline Lanier*

Ok here it goes:

Woke up at the crack of dawn again. thoughts go like this: What fucking time is it now? 4:15 am. i gotta get a life! i mean people complain that they get up with kids at 6 am. id love to frickin sleep to 6 am. every damn weekend the same thing! Up earlier at least by 3-4 hours then during the week. i dont even set my alarm during the week. Damn stupid! Pissed off. then Lance says something like "hey time to get up"

Fricking pissing me off already huh? gonna be a long day. might as well suck it up and get moving!
"where is the coffee? didnt you set the pot?"

uuuuuuugh. get the clothes on. great! Cold! pants and jacket over bike tights and HART jersey. Why do these jerseys come up and my big ole gut hangs over every time, Note to self, put shirt under jersey so pictures and other racers are not blinded by big gut!

walk the dogs, load the bikes, ensure dog walker (andrea) coming.....pull out car chip going to have to speed running late.....on the road....80-85...wow almost there, that mapquest is way wrong. Dumbass thing never says the truth. Could have slept another 30 minns. feel like shit, need more sleep, pissed off cuz went to bed too late all week, ate crap, pissed off. Can you tell I am not a morning person????

Well stop for pee and ice and go to boat drop. Cold! Get the boat, paddles, pfd. Set. To TA. We are going to make this in one trip? "yeah right!" Yes, i am not walking back here. Shed the unnecessary stuff, its basically like a sprint i mean 6 hrs. Can do that in my sleep! Shed water, shed clothes, socks etc. No changing. No extras. Each take a bike and box or cooler. I take cooler balance on bike. Lets go.
"ummmm ok gear box is like 50 lbs how bout some help!" Ok here ya go, box loaded on bike. TO TA!

Dump stuff. I mean who needs a pop up, chairs, plotting table and all that fancy crap. the ground, small cooler and shared box. damn efficient we are, could teach these other yahoos something i think. look at all of this shit everywhere! amateurs!

Hey jonathon and lisa, glad to see you too have a yard sale with pile of unorganized gear and 2 bikes.
Wow! Geaux HART!

OK prerace coming, need to pee again and put on shirt to hide gut. Hi cynthia chit chat turn around and find a nice root as i was running to TA, bammmm on my knees now bleeding perfusely and slightly embarresed I mean now I trip and will be lost for the rest of the day. Why am I here!?! Ugh this sucks, why did I think I had to come to support my friend's race. I should be sleeping!!! uuuuuugh pissed off!

aaaah oh well, gonna suck it up, gonna get bloody anyway. Lance's first race try not to be negative. everyone is having fun and I am just having a ball! (:

Ok prerace, get ther rules and specifics, blah blah blah. 7 hr cutoff, we will get our moneys worth.
Thought to self "shit 7 hrs, I came for 6!"

Why do I have to carry all the mandatory gear on the first run? Dumb! " Lance, here the guys always carry the gear!" I mean you are a runner so you should carry the weight!" I will carry on the bike!

Off we go, "we need to find out 7 hour pace!" Run run run, couple miles then I am finally warming up and in a better mood. Glad I am here! i love the woods! I am having so much fun! Smiling smiling!

We get to bike after this! I am soooo happy! Love to race love to run love to ride! Yeah!

Pass a few peeps on the run, thinking a bit faster than I run with my short legged boys! well alot faster! Shit! i may die! OK well not to worry just get through, biking soon. To TA on to bike! ITS ON! LETS ride!

Into the trails! Ready to pass! ON YOUR LEFT when you get a chance! Ok I said ON YOUR LEFT! ok we need to get by you need to pull over or ride faster! GET THE HELL out of the way or I will run you over!!!!!!! Finally they are out of our way! GEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEZE! pass pass pass, we are smokin! happy happy! pass pass pass! Back to TA...

Land nav section. Plot the points. Ok call out the pace count of course lance runs way up cuz hes like a 6 min frickin mile pace. "fantastic lets run 6 min miles because i love to do that! Why the hell did I ask him to race with me!" so he finds a check point which is not where I think it should be and tell him to keep going! Lots of other racers here looking, it should be close! Lisa and I collaborate! Well what did I do??????? Oh not so good at this this time. HAD MAP SIDEWAYS! CONFUSED MY EAST AND NORTH!! serious. my points were no where near where they should be but I ended up right by the point so I was on the wrong road and had the wrong points!!!!!! Worst navigator in HISTORY I am! Gonna be a long damn day!

Well we team up with lisa and jonathon and find the next point then back to TA and off to the boats! Point in gully on the way there. "Mark the miles from here, we want 2500 m about" first gully, lots of teams. I say keep going its too early. naked man (kyle) says yeah I think so too. Get to the next gully, read the road, all looks right! "Ray ray and Lance - get in there and find that thing" Got it! We see Lisa and Jonathon - HEY! HERE!

To the boats, paddle number 2 for Lance, should be interesting! Off we go! Splash splash splash! COLD! "ok you gotta keep that thing in the water and quit splashing me!" "ok stevie wonder you dont need to dance ur head back and forth like that" "rotate" "you have a box, dont break the box" "Use your abs" "Reach to your toes, not past the hip" STEVIE!

Oh man ok we need to practice this! I dont know what I was even saying, just repeated all the stuff weihan yells at me from behind. The whole time Lance is like "look out for that, watch out for that" Im like "what part of I cant steer this thing you dont understand" It not a car we can hit stuff! You want a seat belt stevie?

"what's a bulkhead?" that wall thing. "oh well thats the clue where the point is up here when we hit the lake" got it!

Ok got it and we go. Passed some jackass muscle heads (more to say on this later) that were embarressed they were getting beat by a girl and a 2 time paddler!

Back to the bikes. Lance gets out then holds the boat so I can get out then hes ready to get on the bike. I pull the boat up the hill and yell" hey dont worry about me! Ill just pull the damn thing myself" He goes like "oh yeah Im not thinking very clear, need a gel" I am like yeah ok stevie I just paddled my ass off you need a gel, you just get on that!" (:

On the bikes, back to TA. Little wind, little wind. Special test I think here. Tightrope and rope maize! Damn good we are. ASide from the toe cramps we rocked this!

trekking section, Well not to worry Ive got the map in the right direction now and the points are correct. Just took the wrong section of the lone star trail but dont worry since we are virtually sprinting everywhere the extra mile did not cost us any time! Found the points bam bam bam. I can do one thing. PACE COUNT. Lance's strong points - running to get the point and easily spotting the flags from his many years at following those golf balls. Like a weihan spotter! I was impressed! Back to TA. Man we been racing a long time this surely must be it! Lets go home baby! Wahoo! We are in first place! Cant believe it! I thought we would be in last. Not minding the blazing pace because I am done!

Another special test! WTF! Suck some smarties with a straw and put em in a cup! I got no wind, I got snot shooting everywhere and stevie frickin wonder on the side of me sounds like a tornado! Sucking and dunking and knocking over the cups. Me- think I got like 7 smarties in! What the helllllll! 3rd talent for lance anderson (running, spotting checkpoints and smartie sucking) Wow! You learn so many things about a person in a race scenario! Im blown away! Literally!

Ok well we are sure to be done now! Right? OK no one more bike! 2 points, find first point and first point will lead you to second point! Got it, I know where it is. I been there before. Off we go, Lisa and J and me and Lance. Find the first point and then plot the second point.....looking looking looking..... got to be close. its right here. I will look over here I say. Running fast, teams are coming I just know it! I run and WHAM something takes me down, knocks me out of my shoes!!!! Face on the ground, wind knocked out of me, what is going on! BARB WIRE! For the second time in 6 hours I am on my bloody knees with my face on the ground (may explain the poison ivy on my chin). SHIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIT! I wanna finish this damn thing!

Now blood EVERYWHERE and still no point! Within 10 mins the boys get the point, jonathon has his hand on lances butt and lisa and i think maybe we should leave them in privacy!!!! OK Jonathon birthday boy says lets cross together. We say FANTASTIC! "cant keep up with them!!!!" I said to Lance " i hope you know we wouldnt have a chance!"

We cross together in one big HART fashion. Jonathon and Lisa clearly the stronger team and birthday owners take first and we take second. 6 hr sprint is what we did! Muscle heads from before came out 3rd and said something about crassing together that we had no presence. Better believe in the next race they will see my presence! HART - ONE TEAM!

Bloody and tired we accept our awards and think HART showed up today!

It was bittersweet and we said our goodbyes to Lisa who is leaving Wed. I already miss her! Looking forward to a trip down to OZ though! Not pissed off anymore and very gratefull I got out of bed so I could spend that last race with Lisa and Jonathon and first one with Lance. Great day!

love u leetha!

c