

Stocks Team misses the Medals in Maropeng 24 Hour



In what, I Guess was intended to be, and will surely in the future become, the Woodstock of SA mountain biking, the **Maropeng Mugg and Bean 24 Hour** , The Stocks team gave its all ; Supported by a network of assorted friends, family and concert goers



Kim ,approximating the new Corporate ID. Next years cycling strip is under design

Perhaps distracted by the Festival atmosphere , and a lack of preparation, the team achieved a result that that will be a good base for improvement for next year. The course, by consensus, was tough, especially for Corporate riders. Twisting over rough disgregated quartzites down dusty argillaceous sediments, it seems the designers were determined to leave their imprint on the participants, and our members were able to show these imprints on their arms ,cheeks ,buttocks etc. When evening came the worst ascent /descent was bypassed as too dangerous, still the spills continued.



For the Stocks Team, problems like inadequate training . a poor development process and general underfunding were cited. All of these, it has have been promised will be addressed going forward. Under design is the new faster Stefanutti Stocks cycling strip ,expected to improve lap times significantly. Despite a lacklustre performance, the athletes all cited the attendance

at this event the centre of the Cradle of Humankind as a great learning experience.

Evening brought the opportunity to showcase the Latest LED technology , a broad noctilucent arc out on the track circumambulating the Stadium.



From the Golden circle
Prime Circle

Further into the night, scintillating performances by Stealing Love Jones and Prime Circle further delayed our team's progress.



Stealing Love Jones stealing the limelight

The Grolsch supply by our unofficial sponsor added to the delay. Organisers have however promised stricter drug testing next year. By late evening, however (some of) the boys and girls were back on the circuit under a sickle Moon,



Event VIP's spent the 24 hours at the Hotel

Eventually the cold and dark took its toll and the Team retired to bed awaiting a fresh start in the morning .

In all ,a superbly arranged event with nice touches like a Kiddies race ; part of the route through the Exhibit hall at 40 Km per Hour , riders skirting the front of the Hotel, where they had a full view of how the VIP's for the event were spending their 24

Hours ; Cycling the Border of the Standard Bank game farm ; Hot Showers that never ran out ; The amphitheatre and sound engineering with thundering acoustics ; and the roborant experience of spending the weekend in a very special place with South Africa's Heritage



