



Quotes from 2013 USA Pro Challenge Stage 4 Press Conference

RIDER QUOTES

Tejay van Garderen (USA)

BMC Racing Team

On Bachelor Gulch:

"I think Garmin's goal was to make it hard up the climb to try and drop me. They did a good job and they definitely whittled the field down to nothing, but I think they underestimated me and my team a little bit. I was able to sit pretty comfortable on the wheel as soon as the descent started, but it got tricky. Janier also showed incredible skill in the descent."

On the biggest challenge:

"The biggest challenge was the bottom of Bachelor Gulch. It was an insanely hard tempo. Another challenge was making those tricky decisions. We had to decide who throughout the day was going to work. We had Tony Gallopin in the break at the beginning of the day with ten other guys. We had a teammate up there, but our teammate was down on time. We had to decide whether or not to chase our teammate or rely on Garmin to pull. It was a strong break that had a pretty decent gap at one point. From a tactic standpoint, it just got tricky as to what to do throughout the day."

On working together with Janier:

"We both had different objectives and goals, but we were able to work together to really help accomplish each other's goals in the end."

On tactics for making a wet descent quickly:

"It's really two things. For one, it's mainly about skill. You want to avoid touching your front brake because if you do that on corners you're going to slide out. Secondly, we are racing with continental tires and those handle very well on wet surfaces. Personally, I don't think I'm that great going down a rainy descent, but those tires really help."

On the race today:

"I would think that Tom might be a little frustrated right now, but at the end of the day if you have a weakness in any area it's going to show through. If you have the skill set that Janier and I have on a wet descent, you really have to just take advantage of that. It's just part of the game."

On the Vail Individual Time Trial:

"I'm really confident about tomorrow's time trial, but nothing is ever given. I had a 35-second gap going into that time trial in 2011 and I lost it along with a further 11 seconds. I learned not to be too confident and I'm going to have to keep my wits about me and pace myself. I'm going to go through the motions as how I would approach any other time trial, whether I had the yellow jersey or not."

On Vail Individual Time Trial set-up:

"I'm going to go full TT set up...hopefully that's not giving away any secrets. I think some people would choose to go on a road bike, but BMC makes a light TT bike, so the advantages I gain from the aerodynamics of the TT bike means I don't sacrifice too much in weight with how long the frame is."

Janier Alexis Acevedo (COL)

Jamis-Hagens Berman p/b Sutter Home

On the climb:

"I felt very good and confident. I had a tremendous day today and I felt good about it. For me to win today is just amazing."

On the weather conditions:

"I had to go as easy as I could going downhill, taking as little risk possible going around corners. I'm glad it worked well and I made it across the finish line."

On his current season thus far:

"I feel very proud of myself for the season I've had. It's amazing for me to win in California and also here at the USA Pro Challenge where all the big names are. I couldn't be happier to be here with the team – it's a dream."

Matt Cooke (USA)

Jamis-Hagens Berman p/b Sutter Home

On Bachelor Gulch:

"That thing is incredible. I'm just impressed that anyone can ride up that pretty fast. It was steep and one heck of a course."