



## Race Riders Quote Sheet Compiled After Stage 3 of the Amgen Tour of California Men's Race

### **Toms Skujins, Trek-Segafredo**

"California is always fun, always cool, and I'm super happy to be here. Last year obviously didn't pan out as I wanted it to, but three out of four is still pretty good, so I'm super stoked about it. Today was not an easy one, the breakaway was super strong, and that played into our advantage, because it widdled down the field really quick, as you saw in the final there were not that many people. Sean (Bennett) was super strong. I was a couple times on the limit there, but I've done this course before....I knew that whoever gets over the top first, even if it's a small gap, that gap can stick."

*On going over the top and knowing when he was going to win:*

"Definitely that right-hander when you come off, that's kind of when I knew that I had it. Over the top I was not sure how much Sean has in him, because obviously, he has a couple more pedal strokes, so he could come back on the downhill. But we were so deep in the pain cave, I'm surprised even I had a pedal stroke left....I was expecting someone to take a flyer and blow through us at any moment. The only time I really realized it was at the very top of the corkscrew."

*On the win given the significance of his crash last year around this time:*

"It's brilliant. It's not my first win since the crash, which is even more surprising, but California has always been special to me since my first win with Hincapie...I definitely wouldn't have believed if someone said I would win next year again."

### **Egan Bernal, Team Sky**

"Today was a really hard stage. The breakaway was strong and all day the wind was hard, and the final part was so fast. The Team Sky guys did a really good job in the final part. They tried to control the final part. For us, the most important thing was to keep the GC jersey, and to save energy for tomorrow. Tomorrow will be so hard for me. I hope to do a good time trial, but I'm not sure about that, so I will try to do my best tomorrow."

**Sean Bennett, Hagens Berman Axeon Cycling Team**

“I was fully committed. I knew that if I didn’t work it wasn’t going to stay away at all, so I gave it everything. It clearly hurt me in the end, going so deep, but I’m glad I did. I’m glad both of us stayed away. Second is better than nothing, and there’s more days in the race.”