

## Xing Yan Dong progress

Saturday, 23 June 2007

Xing Yan Dong (see picture home page of this site) arrived in Europe in May and had a hard time in the fast and technical races he did during his first weeks. The very talented rider from Harbin in the very north of China, got desperate in the twisty crits, cobbled narrow roads windy road races and short steep hills. He did not manage to finish one single race, although he kept dropping the rest of the team during training, especially uphill.

The Belgium Topcompetition race Memorial Philippe van Coningsloo was the breakthrough. XYD finished well after a typical Belgium race with some hills, cobbled sections and very high average speed.

Then he went to Circuito Montanes in Spain, one of the hardest 'amateur' stage races in Europe. XYD managed to finish every stage, despite his struggle to have a good position at the start of the climb, passing guys uphill all the way.

He will stay in Europe for a longer time, to work on his skills. We are sure he has a bright future ahead of him!

Also the rest of the team did not bad in Circuito Montanes: Thijs finished 14th GC, (got caught in the last km of the queen's stage after a solo break), new riders Brad and Joe were in breaks, Loh and Hisanori learned a lot and Pol also had a solid ride.