Mailbag - Brij

Posted At : August 7, 2008 8:30 PM | Posted By : Erik Voldengen
Related Categories: Bike

I received a message from "Brij" via the contact form thing in the right-hand margin of this site. This person didn't include any contact info, so I'll just answer it here...

> Hi Erik,
> Just stumbled across your blog--great stuff. I have a question about your Stan's tubeless set up, 2 years down the line: Is the wide rim width ever an issue? I ordered some wheels and am wondering if you ever have any problems with a spare set/nuetral support.
>
> I love all your notes on bike set up--I certainly concur and I'm only 150#.
>
> Best of luck this season.
> Thanks, Brij, Santa Cruz, CA

Stan's ZTR rims are for sure wider than normal road rims. Switching to those normal rims, say for a mid-race wheel change, could be a major problem.

For me, it's not that bad. I use Froggleg brakes, which are wide profile. They have a lot of travel, and changes in rim width are better tolerated with this type of brake. For a medium profile brake like Avid Shorty, you would have a harder time with this. I also have barrel adjusters for my shifter AND brake cables, all at the stem (where the bare tape ends). I can adjust my brakes or derailleur on the fly, if needed (and if I did a wheel change to a narrower rim, it would definitely be needed).

I'll sometimes swap out my wheels for some more narrow ones with road tires mounted on them for mid-week road rides. All I have to do is adjust the cable tension with those barrel adjusters, and it all works great.

Hope that helps, Brij.