

Mid-South Cross Country Racing Series

Banquet: Wildhorse Saloon

Gibson's Grand Slam

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

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If there was one important thing that you had to know about the Mid-South Cross Country Racing Series, it would be that its owner knows how to throw a party.

Thanks to **Scott and Cathy Horton**, a top notch grand finale event made the conclusion seem sweet. Nearly, five hundred racers, family members and friends gathered at the **Wild Horse Saloon** to kick up some star lit dust for Mid-South's Best

of the Best.

After all was said and done, everyone walked away pleased because American Patriots Getaway, Pirelli, Moose, and Maxxis along with each of the Tier 2 sponsors made sure of it, giving away \$30,000 worth of prizes.

Among those in attendance were country music star, **Craig Morgan**, along with **Dustin Gibson**, **Craig Reed**, and **Jordan Ashburn** who topped out the Overall Championship from each of twelve events held throughout its winter series.

Heading up the podium within the AA class were Gibson [pictured left], **Robert Patterson** [Pictured right], and **P.A. Allen**. Needless to say, when they took to the podium, the audience was all ears.

Gibson said, "I'd really like to thank all my sponsors, Jeremy Ketchum, my wife and family for all of their support. If it weren't for them, I wouldn't be here."

Gibson, Overall Champion, rode consistently and won four races throughout Mid-South's winter season. He said, "Next year, I want to win more and just do a better job for my sponsors."

Patterson, one of Gibson's sponsors, took home the second place trophy. He really didn't think he'd be enjoying this second place hot spot, but he was glad for the outcome. He said, "Dustin's too fast for me, and I don't really think I can keep up with him as far as winning another Championship for my goal next year. I would just mainly like to get my boys up to par so they can do it on their own."

Third place in the AA class went to Allen. He had wondered at the fact of even being there. He said, "I really didn't even think that I'd be here because I didn't race a lot due to illness and trying to upgrade my business. Then I got the call from Cathy Horton wanting to know if I was coming to the banquet."

Allen wanted to thank his wife for putting up with him, admitting that he was worth it, and making a goal for the upcoming season, stating, "I want to be right back here again next year; right on top."

"I'd like to congratulate Dustin for winning his championship this season," said Allen, "and Robert, I can remember him when I was ten years old, fifteen years ago, he was up here and he's still doing it; good for him."

Also in attendance were **Broc Sims, Josh Scott, Scott Martin** and **Tristan Redferrin** and **Loupie Lambruno**. Sims, Scott, and Martin were among some of the A class winners while Redferrin and Lambruno were celebrating B class victories in first and second place. Redferrin won every race with exception to the Big Stripper and Pro Action, and Lambruno had a great ride in the overall placement, finishing in nineteenth place.

Mid-South's Youth were thrilled at the chance to grab their prizes and trophies. They were thrilled as they posed for their pictures with posters in hand many trophies doubling their height; it was interesting watching them carry everything back to their seats.

As usual, the banquet ended in all smiles. Everyone walked away with trophies, number plates, and a variety of good prizes. However, the best thing that everyone walked away with was the pleasure of good company and doing it up right, in Mid-South celebration [Pictured first floor].