

Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship Round 9: Pro Action



Michels Takes the Super Senior Strut

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

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Some things in life simply don't come easy. Such was the case for the eighth round of the Mid-South Cross Country racing series. This Pirelli, American Patriot Getaways, Parts Unlimited, and Maxxis sponsored event proved to be quite the challenge; however, years of

experience and wisdom smoothed out most of the rough edges and helped to cut a clear path for many of the winners who continue to work out their championships.

Paul Michels, pictured #74, was one such example. Super Senior's current point's leader got there for a reason. He ate up the Pro Action course as if he were eating cake and won his sixth race for this season.

He said, "No doubt, this was one tough course. You had to be on your toes because there were some rough spots. There were some deep ruts, rocks, and you had to pay attention. I know many a riders who lost the race on their first lap. I just tried to take my time on the first lap, so I could be out there for the last."

Michels got the lead and completed ten miles per lap, making three laps. He stayed in the lead for the entire race with **Ronnie Hackett** (pictured #11) and **Leon Parker** following. They finished the race taking the top three positions while **Tom Carter** (pictured # 58) took home second place in the Masters' class and **Don Rye** took home the win.

Senior A's winner, **Steve Thomas**, made a comeback win to gain his lead in points. He and **Scott Martin** have a tight battle going for the championship. Now, both riders have two wins, but Thomas is in the lead.

"It's been kind of going back and forth all season," said Thomas. "So, it looks like we're going to take this all the way into the last race."

Today's event was not really any different. On the last lap, Thomas got the better end of some lappers while Martin got stuck behind them. Thomas finished in seventeenth place in overall while Martin got nineteen. **Michael Barnick** was right in the middle of them. He stayed the course and became the winner of the Vet A class.

Mid-South's current champion, **Dustin Gibson**, was also busy working out another championship. He followed **Brett Zofchak** and **Robert Patterson** around the KTM holeshoot curve. He got the lead when Zofchak and Patterson veered onto last year's trail. From that point on, Gibson held on for a smooth finish and actually got bored. The Sarge's Cycles / Pro Action / KTM backed Champion got the overall win while **Travis Green**, 250 A's winner, charged for second place in overall. Zofchak and **John Maschino** finished in third and fourth place in overall.

Promoter Steve Ezell created an exciting day for the riders. He especially wanted to thank KTM for showing their continued Mid-South support by providing him with a banner and plenty of arrows.