

# Pirelli / Moose Racing / Maxxis

AMA / Mid-South Cross Country Winter Hare Scramble Series

Round 1: East Fork Creek

## Allen Picks Fork Clean

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Gamaliel, KY, October 1

With engines fired up and ready to go, nearly 600 racers were raring to start the first round of the Mid-South Cross Country Winter Hare Scramble Series. It was a refreshing new start with Gamaliel, Kentucky, highlighting one perfect setting for East Fork Creek's debut winter series run, and Grady Short, the track's promoter, couldn't wait to serve up plenty of challenging and varying terrain for everyone who anticipated this huge adventure.



Even the Mid-South experts were chomping at the bit, awaiting the new challenge and looking forward to this year's increased Pro Payouts and contingency related programs venturing a nice gain for anyone who was up for the Pirelli, Moose, and Maxxis challenge. This year's top line-up encountered a full compliment of former Mid-South Champions, and it ended with **P.A. Allen [37]**, **Robert Patterson [2]**, and **Loupie Lambruno** taking an Overall Kawasaki Podium Sweep.

"It wasn't easy," said Allen. "This was a tough race, and there was one spot out there where I just knew Robert [Patterson] was going to pass me or at least he did every lap up to this last one. I thought he was going to do it again, so I tried real hard to get some time in on him, but I wasn't sure whether that was going to work out or not. All I could see was him passing me the same way that he had done, every time before that."



After the start, it didn't take long to stir up some dust as the Allen and Patterson [2] battle began. Patterson was the first to claim the lead. Soon after Yamaha mounted **Cliff Ousley[124]** got the holeshot, Patterson took charge and was not willing to give it up to anyone. While **Jeff Cregg [80]** and **Mike Sampson** were battling from his rear, **John Maschino** and Allen were recovering from their dead last starts. Then about two or three miles in, Allen put on a charge that was unstoppable and he nested the lead toward the end of the first lap.

It never failed," said Allen. "His 450 was faster than mine, and he'd get by me every time. I'd tried to pull away, and I would, but then some lappers would get in my way and I'd lose all that I had gained."

Luckily, on that last lap, Allen swallowed hard and gripped the throttle throughout that last stretch. It worked. He stayed out front and Patterson maneuvered into second place not fifteen seconds later.

Patterson said, "It was great. I moved into first place and thought I was going to get to run with it but on the first lap, I started running into some break issues. The creek kept them cooled down but by the third lap, my breaks had completely gone out. On the last lap, I was hoping to set PA up for a last lap run and I hit the ground about four times too many."

It was a fast race as the two traversed throughout each of the ten mile loops. They rode at a fast pace through some tight sections with each of them gaining time from their previous laps. No one could keep up with them except for one lonely 250 A rider and a Kawasaki / Sarge's Cycle / Smith / Thor / IMS teammate, **Loupie Lambruno[19]**.



Lambruno was on fire. He got the holeshot and left them. By the fourth lap, he started seeing the AA class and made his move for a third place in overall position. He said, "I just wanted to go faster and faster. When I started to see

the AA class, I wanted to pass them, so I did."

## My Own Race:

### John Maschino 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Obermeyer's Maschino was in the forefront and got the lead on the second lap, but admits to getting a little too excited. He said, "Afterward, I got hooked up with a lapper, endowed with a culvert, and then lost my patience with a bottle neck," In spite of a few difficult moments, he garnered the podium in third place for the AA class and fourth place in Overall and learned a valuable lesson from it, "Tire Balls only work when you put them in the tire. I had them in the front, and of course got my flat from the back. Next time, I'll know better!"



### Mike Sampson 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Sampson's race went fairly well for being on a new bike with 15 minutes riding time. Sampson said, "PA and Robert got through the bottle neck in the back better than I did. Then I lost touch with them. So I really just rode around and had fun. My bike will be ready to go by the next round, and I'm looking forward to being up front all day."

### Harvey Whitaker 7<sup>th</sup> Place

Blue Grass Cycle / Thumper / M2R backed Whitaker changed colors and moved into Senior A class. Racing his KTM, he said, "I rode like an old man. I just sat on the seat and rode around having fun." He won Senior A and came in seventh place in overall.

## Briefly...

After a bout of severe stomach cramps, Allen decided it was best for him to go to the emergency room and left his mother in charge of the podium's commemorative champagne. From left to right: Robert Patterson, **Debbie Allen**, John Machino, and Loupie Lambruno enjoy the winner's circle. Allen wanted to thank Fred Andrews and the Monster / Pro Circuit gang for their support.



**Richard Brewer** [909] got third place in the new, Junior class while Hagan Hix won.

East Fork Creek equally divided the ten mile track. On one side, it was very difficult and it contained the infamous bottleneck which caused a dead engine time out

for some. While many struggled with the hill climb, others simply traversed up it as if it were no problem at all. The other side was fairly easy, complete with many spectators' sights.

Captions:

1. P.A. Allen (front) and Robert Patterson (rear) battle it out at the first round of the Mid-South Cross Country Winter Hare Scramble Series.

2. The Gamaliel start was charged with energy as Cliff Ousley [124] got the holeshot, followed by Robert Patterson [2] and Jeff Cregg [80].

3. Loupie Lambruno [19] won the 250 A class and quickly made his way to a third place podium finish.

4. Mike Sampson [13] finished in fourth place in the AA class and fifth place in overall.

5. Team Green Kawasaki celebrates a podium sweep with [from left to right] Robert Patterson taking second place, Debbie Allen standing in for P.A. Allen claiming the win, John Maschino getting fourth place in overall and Loupie Lambruno celebrating his first third place podium finish.

6. Richard Brewer [909] enjoyed his first run in the Mid-South Cross Country's newest class, Junior MC.

# Pirelli / Moose Racing / Maxxis

AMA / Mid-South Cross Country Youth Winter Hare Scramble Series

Round 1: East Fork Creek

## Huddleston Hauls

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Gamaliel, KY, October 1

Some things in life simply do not get any better, and round one of the Mid-South Cross Country Youth Series was one such pleasure. Located in Gamaliel, Kentucky, it contained everything that made for a good day. East Fork Creek was a top notch hare scramble that bounced from all woods into long creeks and then back into fast grass tracks, and no one held onto its glory more than the Junior A winner, **Michael Huddleston** [Pictured].



“It was a really good race,” said Huddleston. “The promoter did a really good job on this course, and I really had a lot of fun. I got around Byarly when he was lying on the ground. After that, I didn’t see much of him anymore.”

Huddleston was fast and smooth as he charged for the lead. Racing against 36 other racers, he took charge early and fought a good battle with **Tanner Byarly** who finished in second place. They went back and fourth until one hill and another rider got the best of Byarly. Afterward, it was smooth sailing for Huddleston because Byarly injured his arm while trying to pass someone going up a hill.

“I got about a fourth place start,” said Byarly. “And, by the bottom of the hill, I was in second with Michael [Huddleston] right in front of me.”

Shortly thereafter, Vortex / N Style / Moose / Sarge’s Cycles / Scott backed Byarly passed him on an inside line and tried to pull away. However, they both kept up a pretty good pace and Huddleston was a hard one to shake. During their second lap, Huddleston went down allowing Byarly to get a good a better lead.

Mid-South Motoplex supported **Brett Iott** got first place in the Junior B class. He went an extra lap because he passed Huddleston towards the end of his race. He was fifth place

off of the start, and he passed everyone about fifty yards into it. From that point on, there was no stopping him.

“It got really wet out there,” said **Dylan Majors**, who took second place in Junior B class. “I can’t complain though; I just leaned back and held her pinned throughout that creek section.”

**Devin Walker, Jeremiah Bowman, and Tyler Carter** finished out the top five in the Junior A class while **Jacob Oliver, Michael Williamson, and Garrett Riddle** made the top five in Junior B class.

Racing the strongest in the Mini classes were **Luke Chilman** and **Austin Lee**. Chilman won the Mini A class while Lee was the hot rider in the Mini B class. It was an Indiana battle between the top two riders in each of their classes, but Chilman and Lee made it look easy as they finished in front of **Colton Pifer** and **Cole Kirchoff** who were honored with second place finishes.

The Pee Wee’s was the last event for the Youth race. They ventured **Samuel Thurman** and **Matthew Harris** as their winners, followed by Nolan Melton and Kruz Sampson, taking home the second place plaque.

Rounding out the podium for the Mini’s and Pee Wee’s were Trevor Vandiver, Justin Lenard, Jacob Pine, and Abbir Lee.