

**Pirelli / Moose Racing / Parts Unlimited / Maxxis**

**AMA / Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship**

Round 10: Robert Patterson Memorial

# **ASHBURN'S AA CRUNCH**

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BY DEBBIE ALLEN

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**T**here is no better way to remember a man who gave his all for the sport of racing, than to race. With that in mind, the Mid-South Cross Country racing series dedicated the Robert Patterson Memorial as one way to pay tribute to a man who has been so deeply missed for the past year.

The tenth round brought back some memories and literally became a race of the season as the AA class rode with Patterson's passion. They were trying their best to diminish Jordan Ashburn's 250 A Overall winning streak.

Unfortunately, for them, that didn't happen. He claimed another Overall win, and this time the AA crunch left the Mid-South point's leaders with a sincere question. Can he take that away too?

Maybe, there are two races left in the series, so the Championship is up for grabs between Jeff Cregg, Dustin Gibson, and of course, our fearless 250 A Champion. Each has three wins notched into their belts. Cregg is leading in points followed by Gibson and then Ashburn. This upset will no doubt make it a fight to the finish for the last two events, but one thing is for sure. The Power Sport Graphics / Performance Super Cycles / EVS / Scott / KTM Hard Parts Ashburn has the podium finish locked in and only lags two points behind Gibson.

"This feels great!" said Ashburn. "I think I could get used to this because I had so much fun out there. I had a little bit of trouble with my suspension, but we will just have to work out the kinks to get it ready for the next two rounds. I liked winning today, and I would like to do it again. We'll have to see what happens."

Off the start, Cregg rounded the first curve with Gibson, Jake Fiddler, and the rest of the pack following. They made their dash for the woods, leaving an easily marked trail for the remaining classes to follow. One minute later, Ashburn quickly jumped to the lead and continued his pursuit for the front.

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It didn't take him long. He rode with a purpose and caught up to the frontrunners, passing Fiddler for the lead half way through the first lap then he battled with Gibson [left] for the remaining three laps.

Yamaha / Andrews Racing backed Gibson said, "I had to yell at him [Ashburn] to get him to settle down. At one point, I thought he was going to hurt himself, but he pulled it off. He did a good job, and I told him, slow down, you already won, but there was just no stopping his ride. He was on it."

They finished the race as the first two riders to cross the finish line and Cregg [pictured right] held tight for third place, keeping the points' lead and making it more challenging for any change in his plan to win the championship.



5<sup>th</sup> Place Overall

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## My Own Race:



Jake Fiddler

Fiddler continued his chase in third place throughout the first and second laps until Cregg passed him. He said, "On the last lap, I derailed my chain in one of those deep mud holes and had to put it back on! After that, I battled it out with Johnny Robbins to the finish. I never could loosen up out there. I was riding real cautious for some reason."

Jacob Patterson

8<sup>th</sup> Place Overall

Jacob Patterson [pictured left] put in a great ride and finished his 250 A ride in second place. He said, "I just want to thank Sarge's Cycles and all of my sponsors and everyone for all of their kind words. I couldn't have done this without them."

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May God watch over and bless the Pattersons