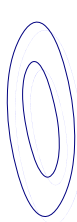


Pirelli Moose Racing Maxxis

AMA MID-SOUTH CROSS COUNTRY ATV MOTORSPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP
THE TFTC RUN



Ockerman's Overall Status

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Birdsong, Tennessee, March 29, 2009

Mention Donnie Ockerman at a Mid-South Cross Country racing event and you will quickly discover that his name has become the latest of buzz words and for good reason, too.

Ockerman has had one sweet season and the TFTC Run made it even better. Like several other races, he was quick to capture the overall, but Birdsong, Tennessee, was different. He added a victory chant for the Championship and guess what is even better? It is his first Mid-South Overall Championship ever.

“You know, I really don’t know of anyone other than Craig [Reed] having it,” said the Mid-South’s Yamaha supported Champion. “If he would have been out front today, that would have been a hard day because that kid can roll. I guess it is pretty cool to win a Mid-South Championship. I didn’t think I would ever do it. I think it’s wrapped up, or at least I hope so. I am tired of fighting these boys; they’re too fast.”

The eleventh round encountered its usual three-man pack between Ockerman, Jody Estes, and Ryan Lane. They were battling for the lead and bouncing back and forth in between the Pro and the Pro Am classes. While Ockerman pretty much owned it, the rain soaked terrain created the perfect challenge and settled at least one score for the fighting trio- the championship. However, the fight for second continues well into the final round.

Ockerman said, “It was pretty crazy out there today. We went all the way back and to the front, three or four times on the first lap. The mud and everyone getting stuck; it was chaos.”

The racers made three laps on a tight nine miles loop which had several grass tracks and a whole lot of thick underbrush with just enough water to make it interesting.

“Donnie made a line,” said Estes, “and I don’t see how he made it through it but he did. I sat there for about ten-



Jody Estes [pictured above] and Ryan Lane [pictured right] will have to take their battle for this season's second place finish into the final round at Gamaliel, Kentucky.

seconds myself. I went to the left, and he went straight. After that, Donnie walked away and Ryan and the rest were behind me, so I really don't know what happened to them."

"I found the first mud hole," said Lane, "got stuck, and then some of the Pro Am and probably some of the A riders went by. I thought it was terrible."

No doubt, Gamaliel, Kentucky, will be one race to see and both Estes and Lane will be prepped and ready to race next round. Whoever finishes first will land second place for the season.



Interestingly enough, Bo Jones, this season's B class Champion, moved up to the next level, and once again, proved a top-notch finish. He mastered the Open A class immediately and then maneuvered past the Pro Am and many Pro riders, finishing his race in fourth place in Overall. This guy was fast and may be buzzed into next year's chat list for having an interesting season because he rocked it out this year.



Bo Jones, this season's B class Champion, struts in the A class, earns his first top five finish as fourth place in Overall.

Other happy winners were the Overall B and C riders. Racing in ATV 21 – 29 B class, Glen Marshall had an impressive first place finish and then kept going to beat all of the B riders. Likewise, Glen Vair, was pumped for the novice win and took home the famed Chigger hat as a prize for getting the class win plus each received a free poster of their favorite riders- most likely themselves.

To see more pictures or interviews of this event, visit www.justhavingfunracing.org
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