

Pirelli Moose Racing Maxxis

AMA MID-SOUTH CROSS COUNTRY
MOTORSPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP Round 1: Lakeview Lodge

Gibson's Dust Storm Finish

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Graham, Kentucky, Oct 5, 2008



The racers of the Mid-South Cross Country series were raring to go at Lakeview Lodge in Graham, Kentucky. The first round, a place where new battles and new challenges



were in demand, quickly encountered its first obstacle. Overcome another dust run. Gasping for air and seeking a glimpse of the other riders, trees, and ruts was top priority on everyone's first agenda. All of this plus more made an interesting finish with **Dustin Gibson (16)** getting the checkered flag first.

Each eye was on Mid-South's top riders and this no doubt will continue with every new race in the 12 event calendar between Mid-South's reigning Champion, **Jeff Cregg (1)**; its former Champion, **Dustin Gibson**; and Mid-South's youngest, fast guy, **Jordan Ashburn (30)**.

Off the start, Andrew's Yamaha / Maxxis / Monster backed Gibson pulled the rest of the AA pack around the corner and led them into the woods. Shortly thereafter, a couple of riders got around him but after the grass track, he clicked it into a higher gear, leaving them with dust in their eyes.

He said, "It was pretty uneventful, and I just tried to stay smooth and steady for most of the race. I thought the track was tough, and I know there is not much more you can do with all of these old trails. It beat me up and toward the end; Cregg came up on me fast, so I just gave it my all to stay ahead of him."

Dehydrated and tired, Gibson stayed in the lead for the rest of the race. He wanted to wish both his dad and girlfriend a happy birthday.

Cregg was a hard man to shake and was seconds down for several laps. In the beginning, they were on it and no one with exception to Ashburn could keep up with their pace. However, as Cregg's race proceeded, he struggled with a couple of falls, allowing Ashburn to move into second place.

"I tried to ride smooth my first couple of laps. A lot of people were out there wrecking because of the dust. I took it easy and had a couple of good crashes myself and got messed up on that big hill back there."

Throughout the next lap, Ashburn led Cregg for second place. It was a close race and the Sarge's Cycles / Johnny Signs / Moose / Silkolene / Tire Balls supported Cregg swapped several times with him. He got around him when they stopped for gas, meaning it would be a very quick pit stop for him. Ashburn missed his pass by seconds, and Cregg left leading him for a fast-paced, fourth lap. They switched again. Later on the same big hill, Cregg mastered his RM Suzuki into a second place finish while Ashburn stayed in third place.



Cregg passed Ashburn during their pit stops, savoring his lead by seconds.



“Once I got around him, I just put on a charge. My last lap I tried to get around Dustin, but it was too difficult because of the dust.”

He finished seconds behind Gibson while Ashburn, **Chase Bishop**(3) and **Loupie Lambruno** followed for the top five.



Hats off to **Tristin Redferrin**, **Tyson Ezell**, **Clay Stuckey**, and **Eric Gill**; they were the winners of the A classes.

MY OWN RACE...

Michael Williams

4 Stroke B

17th Place Overall

Michael Williams rode an impressive race. After a forced advanced placement from last year's C class win, he showed everyone how to get the job done and finished his 4 Stroke B win as the Overall B rider. This guy will most likely be someone to keep within your sights this season.

Dylan Cox

200 C

29th Place Overall

Likewise, Dylan Cox made all the right moves in 200 C class. After winning his class, he charged for the entire 250 C class and came out as Lakeview Lodge's top novice rider.

BRIEFLY...

P.A. Allen, former five-time Mid-South Overall Champion, made a comeback finish for the Mid-South Hare Scramble Series. This time he switched gears and became Lakeview Lodge's Trail Boss. He promoted the first round, creating eleven miles for the two main events. Things ran smoothly and in a timely fashion under his command, other than one major, rookie mistake. He went a little overboard and ordered dust by the truckloads.

The Whitakers, Lakeview landowners, did a superb job at making sure everyone was welcome. They served up some delicious grub with a smile and kept some of the dust down by watering portions of the track. As always, their help was very, much appreciated by everyone in the Mid-South family.

Next stop: Pro Action of Kentucky in Crofton, Kentucky

Pirelli Moose Racing Maxxis

AMA MID-SOUTH CROSS COUNTRY YOUTH MOTORSPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP



IOTT ON IT

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Graham, Kentucky, Oct 5, 2008

After a long awaited summer, the youth racers from the Mid-South Cross Country racing series hit the Lakeview, Kentucky, trails. They were pumped over the PA Allen prepped course, which was equipped with everything that a youth rider could want. It had tight woods, grass tracks, hill climbs, and all the intertwining of a real hare scramble. Well, it had everything with exception to one thing, precipitation.

No rain for three months made for nasty conditions. However, they plunged into it with **Brett Iott** taking home the Junior A win.

“This track was rough but fast,” said Iott. “It had quite a few big dips but once you got used to it, you could fly. Right around the third lap, it started to get dusty and then later, some guy on a Suzuki picked up his pace and was on me the whole time. I am so glad that I won it, and I hope that I can win more.”

Iott had a awesome ride with nearly fifty other bikes on the trail, he maneuvered his KX 100 with ease. After getting the holeshot, he kept a steady pace without faltering from the fact that **Jase Martin**, racing the Suzuki and KTM’s **Logan P’Pool** were directly behind him. Shortly thereafter, **Luke Chilman** and **Colin Brasher** came in to complete Junior A’s top five.

The Junior B class encountered the largest participants with 33 entries. Everyone finished, making two laps or more and nineteen riders completed five laps with **Lee Austin**, **Jake Froman**, **Kelley Adkins**, **Blake Ricketts** and **Cole Kirchoff** finishing in the top five.

P’Pool said, “I wrecked the first lap and then later hit somebody and went over the bars. I tried really hard to catch up and finished the race in third place.”

Heading up the Mini classes were **Justin Lenard** in Mini A and **Sam Thurman** of Mini B. They were on fire in their classes and no one could keep up with them. In Mini A, Lenard held on in spite of a few bumps and bruises. He finished his race with two minutes lead over **Andrew Clark** and **Bailey Cox** who took third place while Thurman took on a new set of objectives. After getting his holeshot, he was on the prowl for every A rider. He sought after and passed all but three of them. In one move, he got around a group of five when they collided into one another.

“It was really, really rough in some places,” said Lenard, “but I got the holeshot and ran away with it. I fell a couple of times and got up really fast every time.”

The Pee Wee classes were the last to enter the track. Their race was a little over twenty minutes with three riders making seven laps in the 7-8 year olds bracket. **Leighton Tittle** finished his race out front with **Hunter Plaster**, **Josh Vendor**, and **Garrett Russell** following. In the 4-6 year olds bracket, **Dylan Profitt** came out the winner, followed by **Garrett Elrod**, **Jeremy Lenard**, and **Luke Holbrook**.