

Pirelli Moose Racing Maxxis

AMA MID-SOUTH CROSS COUNTRY MOTORSPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP Round 2: Pro Action



Gibson's Pro Action Punch

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

Crofton, Kentucky, Oct 19, 2008

The Mid-South Cross Country Motorsports Championship got off to another great start as the second round rolled into Crofton, Kentucky. Beautiful weather made for one spectacular event with **Dustin Gibson (16)** taking the AA win. This time he rounded the top with **Jordan Ashburn** and **Jake Fiddler** completing the podium.

Andrew's Yamaha / Maxxis / Monster backed Gibson may have gotten dead last on his start, but he finished it with a Pro Action punch and got the lead when Ashburn made a mistake, giving Gibson his second win for this season.

Gibson said, "It was an awesome day, and we pretty much battled the whole time. I got up front on my first lap and then got lost. Afterward, I decided to follow Jordan up a steep hill because it looked like he knew where he was going. When we got to the top, I tried to figure out what he was doing, wiggling and squirming. I couldn't tell until I got there. Then I realized he was jumping a big hole or something, and so I cased my YZ 450 but managed to get out of there somehow. I had a lot of fun."



Off the start, **P.A. Allen (6)** took an outside line and rounded the hole shot with Ashburn (30) and the rest of the AA pack following for a very interesting first lap. They traveled nine miles throughout tight woods, slick creek beds, steep hills, and a few grass tracks and completed their first lap with Ashburn taking the lead followed by **Scott Summers (425)**, **Jeff Cregg (1)**, Gibson, Fiddler and the rest.

"I liked the track today," said Enduro Engineering's Ashburn. "The first lap was bad because we didn't break in the trail yet but afterwards, it was awesome. I wanted this win bad but in the end, I struggled a little. I want it this year. It was too close last year to at least not try."

Right before the finish, Gibson got too close for Ashburn's comfort. He bobbed while Gibson moved into first place.

“Jordan was always there,” said Gibson, “and riding strong. I just put the pressure on him hoping he would tip and he did.”

Ashburn and Gibson battled throughout the first few laps and at the end but in the middle, Ashburn tangled with a few lappers. After passing Cregg and Fiddler, he shook it off and nested the lead until the end of the race when Gibson got around him.



Meanwhile a battle for third was taking place, and Fiddler(341) got a first hand glimpse of the creek.literally. On his first lap, he tasted its slime after entering headfirst. Then he slid in complete disorder while trying to pick himself and the bike up off the creek bed. Next to last lap, Fiddler jumped the creek, passing Cregg for the podium while Cregg and Summers finished in fourth and fifth places.

“It took me a few laps to figure out this game,” said Fiddler, “because I haven’t ridden a Mid-South in a while. Once I put my head down, I put on a charge and held strong. I’d like to thank Monster Energy / Kawasaki, my mom and dad, Ryan Fields, and John Morgan for helping me out.”

My Own Race

Drew Wilson

16th Place in Overall

Drew Wilson (151) came close to not racing the second round until he was fortunate to receive a sponsored ride. He blew his motor at Lakeview and was unable to pay for it, so he was thankful that his sponsor, Barry Heath Racing, stepped up to that plate, making it possible for him to finish in sixteenth place in overall and making the Light A podium.

Tallon Swainson

1st Place, Junior MC

Tallon Swainson made all the right moves in the Junior MC class. He impressed everyone as he reached his goal, topping the fastest lap time, and then doing what he came to do, win.



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CHAMPIONSHIP

CROSS COUNTRY YOUTH MOTORSPORTS
PRO ACTION

Martin Makes

BY DEBBIE ALLEN

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Mid-South

Jase Martin (294) turned heads at the Mid-South Cross Country Youth Motorsports Championship. Racing in the Junior A class, he put on his game face. With fifty other riders racing the same trail, he was pumped for the Pro Action win.

The RG3 / Steel MX / Amsoil / UFO Plast / Powersport's Graphics backed Martin was looking for a win, big time. He found it in Crofton, Kentucky. After a fourth place start, he picked up his pace after avoiding a big pile up. Shortly thereafter, he found himself trailing behind Brett Iott, who got the hole shot. Martin grabbed the lead when Iott went down in a creek section, but it was only temporarily. They knocked it down and dragged it out for two more laps with each, taking their chance at the lead several times.

Martin said, "I like this kind of terrain, the rocks were great and probably were to my advantage since I am a National Youth Trials Champion. Once I got the lead for good, I just checked out until Zach Greenwell caught up to me on the last lap."



"I honestly don't know how I got this," said second place's **Zach Greenwell**. "I was really struggling off of the start. First turn, it felt like someone picked up my rear wheel and turned it out. Then once I got going, someone fell in front of me. Three turns before the finish, I caught up to Jase. It was really fun and since I'm not sure how I got it, I'm really happy with second."

The Newburg Indiana Native had an impressive race since he only recently tore his ACL. He really was not even planning to race at this event but as an afterthought, he entered it and signed up for points. On his last lap, Greenwell came out of nowhere and nearly got the lead several times but finished in second place with **Colin Brasher, Brett Iott, and Anthony Wagler** following.

Blake Ricketts won the Junior B class. He attributes his win to being the son of a Mid-South former Overall Champion, Shad Ricketts. He said it's really cool being his son because he gets lots of pointers, and he and his Granddad always keep his bike running.

"It was awesome," said Ricketts. "I really liked the trail. I knew something must have happened to **Austin Lee** because his whole back fender was missing."

Lee finished in second place with **Jake Froman** taking third.

In the Mini classes, nearly thirty ricers gave it their all in Mid-South style. They learned very quickly the importance of reading the trail while at the same time maintaining ones speed. Jacob Pyne, last year's Champion, got a fourth place start but came out the winner in Mini A class while Sam Thurman captured the Mini B win.

Pyne said, "I haven't raced in a while and missed the first race. This race, I got a bad start but fought back and caught first. On my last lap, I rode my hardest."

To see pictures of this event, please visit www.justhavingfunracing.org and click on the see photos link

To see interviews of the quad event, please visit this link:
http://justhavingfun.smugmug.com/gallery/6370033_6Z54U
