

# NEWSLETTER

14th ISSUE

LOCAL DIRT BIKE NEWS

OCT'95

## Let's get this over with!

Last issue I talked about Collins (CANNON CREEK ENDURO) and incorrectly spelled Leigh Letelliers name about a zillion times. Sorry! Leigh (to his credit) didn't utter one word of complaint (maybe cause I got all the sponsors correct) but "I" felt bad. "We" try very hard to get everything right in this thing . . . and sometimes . . . "I" just screw up. This was one of those times. Leigh, Steve Leivan, Steve Travis . . . all had quite a battle going at that Enduro . . . but there was one name missing, Rusty Reynaud. The reason might be that he was working a check . . . or . . . it might be the early '70s vintage, yellow, Enduro 100 Yamaha I saw in the back of Rustys truck coming out of that check. I know Rusty is one accomplished rider (BJEC Hall of Fame and an early '80s ISDE trip to Spain) but really! Rusty . . . I think you need at least an early '70s, yellow, Yamaha Enduro "250" if your going to compete with this group!

Leigh again I'm sorry! . . . Now Honey, . . . don't take that \$20.00. That's the twenty Steve Leivan gave me to spell Leighs name wrong! **Just kidding!!!!**

## National MX in Branson?

If you didn't notice the small flyer in last months issue . . . you should have! NMA is coming to Branson this month! I don't care if you ride MX or not . . . this is a happening thing in our area, and you need to see it! That Larry guy from Surdyke Yamaha in Marionville is probably on the phone right now to Rusty: *Now Rusty, come on . . . I need that YZ 125 again . . . I kicked butt up at Buffalo MX on it . . . . Please, Please, Please!!!!!!!!!!!!!!* Seriously . . . I hope this level of event becomes a regular annual thing in our area, which means "I" got to go to the first one!!!! **Just do it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

## Koonta-Kinta

I swore . . . I was going to leave Koonta-man alone this month . . . but I just can't! At the Collins Enduro I listened to: *My bike's perfect in every way. Ten minutes passed; I might need to look at a new Honda 400 4-stroke. Another ten minutes passed; You know, I would really like to be on a YZ-125. Five more minutes; One of those new Yamaha 4-strokes would be cool. One minute pass's; My KDX is perfect for me.* I figure one of two things are going to happen here, #1. Koonta will do nothing and ride the KDX another year. #2. Koonta will hit the Lottery and buy a Husaberg 350 electric start for Enduro's, a YZ-125 for Hare Scrambles, a Honda 400 just because, a Yamaha Serow for the wife, and a PW-50 for Yee-Yee (that's Lilly for anyone above the age of six.) It's a new model year . . . I'll keep you posted!

## Whoa !

Correction time! Spoke with Paul (Springfield, Pro-Cycle, Honda, Yamaha, KTM manager) who said "clearly" that Pro-Cycle of Springfield **would be open on Mondays.** Last month I talked about "all" the local dealers being closed on Mondays . . . let's change that to "most" local dealers closed on Mondays.

## RUMORS ?

I know . . . rumors aren't always the most accurate things, but! I happened to call Jim L. (Leighs dad . . . and no, I'm not going to try and spell his last name) of LETKO Cycles in Kansas City. If I was smart (and I'm not) I would have made this rumor up just to confuse that Koonta-

Kinta man even more on these '96 models. "It seems" that Husky "may" (read this as a strong "may") come out with a 410 4-stroke to replace their 350. YES! A little more motor on a already fine handling, relatively light 4-stroke? Looks like all the manufacturers are responding to Hondas 400 with neat stuff of their own. Hey Koonta-Kinta . . . Now what are you going to do with that, hit the lotto, dream list? Life just keeps getting more, and more complicated!

## HARDWOOD ENDURO

Spent all of last week-end at Chadwick working on trail mileage for the enduro, and it was awesome! It drizzled all Friday night, stopping about noon on Saturday which made the trails perfect! The "feel" of this enduro is coming together to the point I can share some of it with you. Look for the pace to be gentle with the exceptions of a couple of 4 mile "tests" that no-one is going to make (this is probably a challenge to Rusty, Steve Leivan, and that Jim L. guy) on the first loop. The second loop for the long course guy's is going to take on an endurance, scramble type atmosphere that should keep everyone "busy" the whole way with "check in, check out" test sections that will insure honesty. I would plan on seeing some observation checks in there to make sure the local guy's don't take any known short cuts. My best advice for the long course guy's is: when you get checked into a section that's going 36 mph, turn your computer off and save the batteries . . . you won't need it anymore! Actually I thought . . . they can't make this at 24 mph (I can't keep 18 mph in it) . . . why not 36 mph? Indeed . . . why not? It's an effort on our part to reduce the amount of thinking they'll have to do in that section . . . trust me, they will NOT have to think about being early! Let's see, at 36 mph, that's a possible every six tenths . . .

## Black-Jack Enduro Circuit



If you missed last months issue . . . **You need to know** that BJEC in '96 is paying big bucks! Yamaha, Suzuki, Kawasaki, KTM (through MOTOSPORTS in Ft. Smith) are all paying varying degrees of dollars to BJEC riders. **Check it out!**

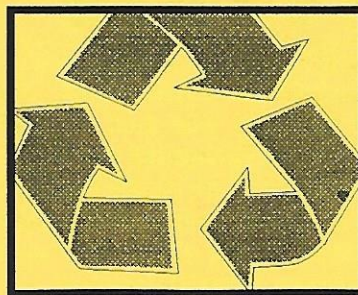
One way is to attend the HARDWOOD ENDURO at Chadwick, MO. on the 15 of October. Sign-up will be available Saturday from 1:00 PM-7:00PM, and Sunday morning from 7:00 AM-8:00AM. First rider out at 8:01 AM. If you've never ridden an Enduro, or haven't ridden one in a while . . . this is it! You **do not** have to be a BJEC member, or AMA member to ride this event, although both are encouraged . . . come have fun. For more info call: (417) 345-6211 mornings, (417) 862-4307 evenings, or (417) 276-5739 evenings. If you need an entry (pre-entry cut-off is 10 October) call the first number listed above, leave a fax # on the answering machine . . . and I'll send you one. The real deal is . . . come ride!

### What's wrong with America today?

In my mind at least, "we" don't have enough places to ride. Why is that? It could be that we don't appreciate the places we do have to ride. I recently heard someone from the Kansas City area grumbling about the size of the Chicken Ranch. No, I've never been there but it has to be big enough to hold a hare scramble. For something so near a major city, it sounds cool. I heard "a lot" of grumbling about rocks after Collins . . . did anyone notice some of the really cool trails? Yes. Chadwick does have "many" 4-wheelers, and no, you don't want to meet them on trail at speed. Maybe "we" just need to slow down at Chadwick when we're on

obvious 4-wheeler trail and save our "gotta go fast" spurts for single track trail. I also heard there was a new place (small, like 40 acre's) located just east of Springfield.

The next time you "have a place to ride," maybe "we" could all spend a few minutes to: pick up ours . . . and someone elses trash they forgot, . . . talk to the land owner a few minutes . . . and thank them, . . . make a point to tell the Forest Ranger how much you appreciate riding, . . . present a positive image to people who don't ride. I think if "we" could all do that . . . **there would be one less thing wrong with America today!**



## Crashing is Good?

I've just got to share one more "Koonta" story with you! While down in Chadwick last weekend, myself, Koonta, and John Lawson on his KTM 300 EXC (we're talking perfectly clean, sticky'd out, show room clean KTM,) were polking around on trails doing mileage. We came to one obscure trail and since I couldn't remember where it went . . . I took it. It led to an extremely narly, rocky stream crossing complete with "big," wet (slimey, moss covered roots.) Getting across it meant almost stopping then blasting up over an especially nasty root, up onto the bank. You got to do this off camber in big (football size) rolling rocks. Koonta and I both struggled very ungracefully up out of it, barely managing not to fall. We continued 40 yards or so through the tree's to wider trail where we could stop and "probably" not fall over. I look back when I hear the shrill scream of a 300 motor at about a zillion RPM to see this huge cloud of blue 2-stroke smoke through the tree's . . . about where that creek bed crossing is. The motor stops and the smoke slowly drifts off revealing two wheels up in the air and the sound of Johns voice using "big words!" I turned back to notice Koonta with this big smile on his face. "What are you smiling about, Koonta-Man?" Still grinning, He says; "God I'm glad John came along . . . it takes the pressure off of me!"

John comes out of there in a few minutes all pink in the face with sweat dripping out of his helmet . . . "obviously" having the time of his life. Koonta showing no mercy says; "Found the creek, hey?" as he laughs and rides off. I guess in Koonta's mind . . . **Sometimes, crashing is good! Especially if it's someone else! ! ! ! ! !**

If you would like a subscription to this NEWSLETTER, send your name & address, along with \$8.00 (for one year) to: NEWSLETTER, R3 Box 381A, Buffalo, MO. 65622

If you want to place an ad in the "Stuff for Sale" section, send complete description of the item, asking price, your phone #, and \$5.00 (ad runs 3-months.)

We have upgraded a little . . . you can now fax info in to us that you think is news worthy, or a story you would like to share with our readers. That number is: (417) 345-6211. Just send it in!

## Chadwick . . . loses a Friend!

**The Chadwick riding area lost one of it's favorite riders when Judy Robertson passed away Sept. 18th.**

**She loved to ride her Yamaha trials bike at Chadwick as much as any rider that has ever been on the trails.**

**Our sympathy to husband Jim, son Randy, and Randys wife, Karon.**

**When your on a trail . . . stop and turn your motor off for just a minute, and look into the sky . . . Judy is riding up there, looking down on us all.**

## The "tracks we leave."

Mel Gere gave me some note's the other day about Judy, and asked me to put them in the letter (see above.) I didn't personally know Judy . . . and that is my loss. After spending a couple of weekends at Chadwick in a row, I asked a few questions . . . and mainly just listened.

Judy Robertson touched the hearts . . . and was/is a friend to many. It caused me to stop and ponder life in general. No one makes you ride a motorcycle in the dirt. No one makes you enjoy the outdoors, the pleasure of good friends, good trails, the quiet commradery of a warm campfire after a good days ride. The stories . . . "did you see me almost make that hill?" . . . "No, I stopped to watch the deer."

I'm almost sure the measure of life is not in how fast you can go, or if you have the trickiest bike, . . . it is in the people who will remember and miss you as a person. If I'm right . . . Judy has taken "full measure."

*Judy . . . ride those new trails . . . our thoughts are with you!*

## The "New Breed"

I have noticed throughout the year that the B-Youth class in the Black Jack Enduro series, is a pretty good group of guy's.

Coy Workman . . . Whoops! . . . The Tiny Avenger, commented on this after the Collins Enduro.

All of us "Adults" usually don't ride on the same row as others in our class and as a result, don't know how our competition did until after the ride is over. These guy's usually ride together, all packed on a couple of rows. That's hard. If you get left . . . you immediatly know you're not doing well.

At the end of their loop at Collins they all huddled talking about certain hills, hard trails . . . congratulating each other, and generally having fun.

"Maybe" we, as adults could learn something here. Go back and read the part about, "*They're having fun,*" again. I'm not sure what the parents have done . . . but they have done it well!

## Who's Jane?

Jane is a young lady who will be before the nine mile marker at the 28th Annual, **HARDWOOD ENDURO**, on the 15th of Oct. at Chadwick.

She will be there to encourage you on, stun your eyeballs, flirt with your morality . . . did I say, encourage you on?

The real test will be to see who among you can resist stopping and talking with this slender, but somewhat cold, vivacious young lady!

"I think" at the trophy presentation . . . we could (read that as "we will," announce the "slowest score" through that section . . . and just see who really stopped to talk to "Jane." See you at trophy time!!!!!! . . . "Now Honey!"

# HARE SCRAMBLES!

I have to do some catching up on the Hare Scrambles scene. *Michael Liechti* was kind enough to send us some results from last month on the Missouri State Series . . .so here it is.

## Leivan Wins at Hilltop Raceway!

Steve Leivan outrode his competition for first place at Hilltop Raceway in the ninth round of the Missouri Hare Scrambles Series.

Chris Thiele came through scoring first on lap one with Steve Leivan, Leigh Letellier (*Michael knows how to spell that right!*) Terry Gilliland and Chris Caplinger packed up tight behind him. On the third lap, Leivan got around Thiele and Letellier scored third, right on his tire. Gilliland came in forty-five seconds back and Jamie Jennings moved up to score fifth.

On lap four, Leivan hit the scoring tent with about five minutes left. This sent the Surdyke Yamaha of Marionville/ Pro Action Suspension/ Motorcycle Stuff/ Dunlop/ Sprocket Specialists/ Fredette Racing/ RK Chain/ Answer/ Mike's Machine/ Camelbak/ Scott/ Acerbis/ Endura sponsored Leivan on a solo lap for the first Overall.

Gilliland moved up to finish second overall/ first expert, Thiele took second expert with Jennings thirty seconds behind for third. Letellier finished fourth and Caplinger took fifth in the expert class.

The overall standings included two intermediate class riders. Rodney Oller scored fourth, overall and Kelly Getz got fifth overall.

In the junior class, Mike Guffey blew into the scoring tent on the first lap followed by Dustin Wisecup, Jesse Faulstich, Collin Sheridan and Chris Miller. On the final lap, Faulstich moved up to finish first with Wisecup about a minute behind for second. Sheridan finished third, Guffey in fourth and Chris Miller in fifth.

Jason Stegall held on to the top spot in

the 125 class until the second lap, when Derek Zinchuck got around him. Zinchuck held on for the remaining two laps to take first. Steve Bough worked his way through the pack to finish second, less than two minutes behind Zinchuck.

O/A: Steve Leivan (Yam.) Terry Gilliland (KTM.) Chris Thiele (Kaw.) Rodney Oller (Yam.) Kelly Getz (Kaw.) AA/Exp:Terry Gilliland, Chris Thiele, Jamie Jennings (yam.) Leigh Letellier (KTM.) Chris Caplinger (ATK.) A-Int: Rodney Oller, Kelly Getz, Mike Kruger (KTM.) Jeff Lappe (Yam.) Ricky Horton (Yam.) OPEN: David Dillingham (KTM.) Tanner Endgland (Hon.) Todd Reed (KTM.) Wayne Hatfield, Dale Griesinger. 250 B: Tim Gilliland (KTM.) Jay Williams (Yam.) Kevin Harmon (Yam.) David Gerbes (Yam.) Joe Kost (Yam.) 250C: Chris Goodall (Yam.) Jerry Fifer (Kaw.) Dave Osborn (Suz.) Donnie Mathis (Hon.) Brad Sloan. 200: Cary Mittelberg (Kaw.) Steve Crews (Kaw.) Kevin Betts (Kaw.) Brian Selk (Kaw.) Derek Vaughn (Kaw.) 125: Derek Zinchuck (Yam.) Steve Bough, Brock Busenbark (Yam.) Jason Stegall (Yam.) Mike Liechti (Suz.) 4-Stroke: Mike Windmann (Hus.) Jake Bishop (Hon.) Keith Jackson, Cary Pilant (Hon.) Cornell Porter. SR: Charles Thiele (Yam.) Chuck Cannon, Everett Shinault (Hon.) William Guffey (Hon.) Jim Yount (Hon.) S/SR: John Oller (Yam.) Larry Hayes (Hus.) Jim Letellier (KTM.) JR: Jesse Faulstich (Kaw.) Dustin Wisecup (Yam.) Collin Sheridan (Kaw.) Mike Guffey (Yam.) Chris Miller (Kaw.) VINT: Steve Mcshorter (Hus.) TRL RDR: Chris Teegarden (Yam.) Scott Urich, Dan Melton (Suz.) Damon Still, Cyrus Swigert.

## Thiele Wins at Eleven Hills.

Chris Thiele held on through seven laps to take first Overall at Eleven Hills Riding area. Mo. Dirt Riders did a very thorough job laying out the course. Thanks to MO. Dirt Riders and Eleven Hills.

Chris Caplinger went into the woods first after a section of grass track followed by Chris Thiele, Steve Leivan, Leigh Letellier and Ken Yount. On the third lap, Caplinger went down and Thiele moved into first. Thiele, riding a KX 250, held the lead for the remaining four laps with Leivan never more than a minute behind. The Team Green/ Acerbis/ Scott/ Renthal/ Tsubaki/ Thor/ J and W Cycles sponsored Thiele crossed the finish line only fifteen seconds ahead of Leivan for first Overall. Leivan took first expert with Yount close behind for second expert. Chad Busebark, Jamie Jennings and Kevin Borts, on Yamaha's rounded out the top five. Rodney Oller and Jeff Lappe from the Intermediate class rode seven laps to finish first and second. Kevin Boyle completed six laps on his 350 Husaberg to capture first in the Four Stroke class.

O/A:Chris Thiele(Kaw) Steve Leivan (Yam) Ken Yount(Yam) Chad Busenbark(Yam) Jamie Jennings(Yam.) AA/EX: Steve Leivan, Ken Yount, Chad Busenbark, Jamie Jennings, Kevin Borts. A/INT:Rodney Oller(Yam) Jeff Lappe (Yam) Dwayne Miinch(Suz) Bob Lowrey(Yam) Sam Gosnell(Yam.) OPEN:Robert Brake, Ranner England (Hon) Brent Scrivner(KTM) J.R. Hanson(KTM) Nick Crawford.250 B: Aaron Shaw(Yam) Kevin Harman(Yam) Jay Williams(Yam) Joe Kost (Yam) Carl Dobson(KTM.) 250 C: Jerry Fifer(Kaw) Mathew Coffman, Kelly Eye, Mike Dalton, Robert Baumhoer. 200: Steve Crews(Kaw) Gary Mittelberg (Kaw) Kevin Betts(Kaw) Brian Selk (Kaw) John Ardrey(Kaw.) 125:Brock Busenbark(Yam) Steve Bough, Jason Stegall(Yam) Andy Laplante, Luke Manion(Kaw.) 4-Stroke:Kevin Boyle (Hsb) Chris Sloan(Hsb) Cornell Porter, Mike Windman(Hus.) SR:Charles Thiele(Yam) Roder Lerette(Yam) William Guffey(Hon) Jimmy Jones (Kaw) Rick Whelove (Hus.) S/Sr:John Oller (yam) Robert Caplinger, Larry Hayes (Hus) Jim Letellier (KTM) Jerry McComber (Hon) JR: Mike Guffey (Yam) Chris Miller (Kaw) Dustin Wisecup (Yam) Jesse Faulstich (Kaw.)

# POLAND SIX-DAYS! LETKO COMPETITION CYCLES

Received a call from Rick (Doc) Hill this morning (USA Team Doctor) as I scrambled out of the house, heading for the printer to get this in the mail . . .and "had" to ad his comments.

Rick had just gotten in from something like 22 hours on a slow jet. He didn't share a lot except when I asked about the US team, he said they didn't do well. He did say the Australian Junior team WON! That's almost as good as the USA winning . . .those guy's are a hoot! Everybody is just getting back so I'll try to get my nose to the ground and find out just how "we" did for next month. I'll keep you posted!

## The "Jac Man"

I understand that Jac Richmond has completed his training at a major Chevrolet car dealership as Parts Manager and is now Assistant Store Manager at SURDYKE YAMAHA of Marionville. His main focus will be on parts and service . . .but, it sounded like he will also function as the main trouble shooter. This means if you have a problem, or think you know a better way to do things . . .he's The MAN! You couldn't ask for a nicer guy to deal with and I have to believe this is a big league smart move on Steve Underwoods part getting him into that position.

Now let's see . . .what can I bitch about? . . . .Now, Jac . . .you should have someone open the front door for customers like those big-time resturants . . . .and, serve hot dogs every day . . . .and, give free massages after race's . . .and . . .and !!

It gives me pleasure to include a Letko Cycles ad in this NEWSLETTER. They have been involved in just about every aspect of off-road riding in the

area, for many years. Leigh (the one I butchered his last name in last issue) is going very fast on his factory sponsored KTM in both the Missouri State Scrambles and the National Scrambles series.

This ad is last minute. Look for a quarter page ad in the next issue.

If your in the market for a new bike, vintage parts, or new parts for European bike's . . .this is the place!

This is a continuation from an ad that ran last month that deals with health products. I'm caught on the fence with this one because my wife is the one that ran the ad. I'm happy to report this stuff works! (My home life would take a hit if I had to tell you it didn't,) fortunatly, I don't have to.

I've been taking the mineral supplement every morning for about three weeks (1/2 teaspoon in orange juice every morning) and the differance is amazing! More energy at all times . . .and you just feel better. This makes sense due to eating habits in the '90s (junk food and missed meals) as your entire body works off of minerals.

They also have a product called "Supercharge" that is an all natural herb and mineral supplement to combat fatigue and water loss in high energy situations (read dirt bike racing!) We're going to run a test . . .a young, already fast guy is going to try it: Steve Leivan, and an old, delapidated, self proclaimed slow guy: Me, is also going to try it. (Just think . . .if it works on me . . .Frank Leivan can double the dose and beat his son in the AA class . . .Steve said; "maybe not!" Anyway, I'll keep you posted but so far . . .this stuff is amazing!

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