

Notes on Spokes



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The Pro Class takes off at
Hickabilly Hills
at Warsaw, MO.

Photo by Miller Photography

TID BITS

I had to do things a little different this month, I wasn't able to get to the last two Hillbilly GP races of the season. But I still wanted cover them, *plus I needed to fill up the pages*. So I did the next best thing. I called Jon "Spud" Simons, the series promoter, and interviewed him.

And I also needed some pictures. So I dropped an e-mail to Tim Miller of Miller Photography and asked if he would contribute some photos. He said, "No Problem." So a big thanks goes to Tim for the photos used in the Warsaw and Ozark articles.

Miller Photography takes lots of photos at each race, plus they have a great setup for viewing and purchasing pictures at the race site! Check them out.

I've been working with lots of folks getting a trail for the MHSC Bull Creek race at Walnut Shade. The motorcycle loop is about 10 miles in length with lots of new single track. Yes, there will still be rocks. But the trail flows really well and shouldn't bottleneck, and if you've ridden Bull Creek, you know how challenging this can be.

The ATV loop is about 7 miles in length with some new trails put in and again, lots of open flowing trails, at least as open and flow-

ing as one can make a trail at Bull Creek.

It's only March and I'm already thinking about Colorado. There are quite a few folks planning on heading out the week of July 16th. The only bummer — gas prices.

The Black Jack Enduro season has had its first race, the White Rock Enduro at Cass, AR, and I'll be writing up something for next month's issue.



There's a new member in the Kreg and Cindy Simons family. Here's Answer.

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Warsaw



The track got slick at Warsaw

By Bob Fuerst

The sixth race of the series was held near Warsaw, MO on January 23rd. Unfortunately, the thing most racers will remember about this race is the slick frozen conditions. Spud hated to tease everyone with how loamy the course was on Saturday, but it froze up on Saturday night and got extremely slick in places. By the second moto a few lines turned loamy. Of course, it was pucker time getting across the ice to the loam.

The course was 4.5 miles long with a mile of pure single track. The start was an all-out NASCAR fourth gear long start with a banked right corner. The place doesn't have a lot of up and

down. On the grass track, the slick stuff had everyone doing a two wheel drift, if you wanted to or not.

In the motorcycle Pro class, Caleb Wohletz won both motos to win the day, but Shane Roberts had a hell of a ride in the first moto. Shane was only seconds behind Caleb the whole moto. Lars Valin got second in the Pro class with a third in the first moto and a second in the second moto. Shane finished third with a third in the second moto.

In the A Class, Bart "Fast Old Fart" Williams dominated! He won the first moto by three and a half minutes and the second moto by four and a half minutes. In the first moto, things got a little "interesting" for Elston Moore about a half mile from the finish.

He did a tank slapper entering the grass track and hit the ground the hardest he ever hit the ground without getting injured. Steve Underwood, being the nice guy that he is, stopped to see if Elston was hurt. Elston got up and took off with Steve in front. When Elston heard bikes coming up behind him, he gassed it up to speed and passed Steve. So did the two bikes that came from behind, Tom Eidem and Adam Ashcroft. It must have pissed Steve off, because in the second moto, Steve got second place in class.

In the B Class, Zach Neill won with two first place finishes. Shane Martin overcame starting problems with the big CR500, barely getting off the line in front of the class behind him to

(Continued on page 4)

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Kevin Henslee getting it on.

take second in the second moto. That combined with a third in the first moto, he picked up second in class for the day. Chris Goodall with a second and a third got third in class overall.

David Ross won the C Class with a first and a second. He was followed by James Roberts with a fourth and a third. Jordan Whitmer picked up third with a third and a fourth.

Matt Ellerman, Scott Frazier and Derrick Porter battled for top honors in the 30+ class. Ellerman with a first and second received the first place trophy. Porter, with third and first place finishes, picked up second. Frazier got third place honors with a second and third.

In the 40+, Mike Herbert continued his winning ways with two first place finishes. But it wasn't without fanfare. Spud said he had to hold up the start of the second moto while Mike went back to fuel up his bike. Kevin Henslee finished second in class with two second place finishes. Tony Siler rounded out the top three with two third place finishes.

A slick frozen race like this can really mix things up in the Trail Rider class. Ryan Hodge with a third and a second won the class. Scott Van Gelder got second with a fifth and a first. And David Roberts took home the third with a sixth and third.

A total of eight riders showed up for the youth class. I know most of the racers ride 85cc 2-strokes. They all deserve a big round of applause for riding on a day like that. Austin Butler got a second in the first moto and won the second moto to win his class. Tyler Mallow got second in class for the day. He won the first moto and Spud said, "He came through scoring and he was all jacked." It was his first moto win ever. Kole Henslee finished third on the day with a third and a second.

In the ATV classes, an ATV at the start damn near took out a truck outside of the second straightaway. Two ATVs connected, and one of them cartwheeled off into the

parking lot and the rider banged his head on a truck as he was going by. Wow.

In the pro class, Duane Johnson and Rhett Butler were

hooked up all day, with only one second separating them at the end of the first moto. Johnson ended up with two wins, but he earned them the hard way.



Lars Valin throws a little roost on his way to second overall



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the race!*

Ozark

By Bob Fuerst

There were several good points battles going into the last round and the weather was not conducive to off-road motorcycle racing. In fact, Spud announced only one race would be held. It was a true test of man and machine, *and brake pads!* Spud said, "It's a brake-pad-eatin' joint."

The hills really stuck out in folks' minds. There were two challenging hills and one "mother hill." The challenging hills had some barkbuster-tight single track with ledge stuff and stopped bikes.

The mother hill just "wore Chili slick," according to Spud. Riders could get a run from the pasture below and not make it to the bottleneck. According to Chili, he had to help every bike through except for the top four.

The race started late getting the course swept and re-routed.

In the Pro class, Aaron Shaw just checked out. He came very close to catching the winner of the A Class! Toby Atkins picked up second almost five minutes back.

In the A Class, Kreg Simons and Steve Underwood had a race-long battle. Kreg and Steve both had problems on the "mother hill." Kreg managed to ghost-ride his bike past Steve, pick it up and get going before Steve to take the win.

DA Spickard and Scott Johns battled for the win in the B Class. Scott lead for most of the race with DA taking the lead on the last lap. Mick Spickard and Chris Goodall fought for 3rd and 4th for most of the day. They each stopped after the third lap and Mr. "Too Stupid to Quit," John Welsh, comes in



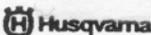
Here's Toby Atkins at the start of the Pro moto.

after 1:29:38, takes another lap and picks up 3rd.

The 30+ class was hotly contested with six riders not giving up and going four laps. Matt Ellerman came out on top, finishing his four laps in 1:31:05. Derrick Porter was 2.5 minutes back in second.

This had to be a three-time Olympic kayaker Mike Herbert kind of race. He won the 40+ class by almost 8 minutes. Kevin Henslee picked up second. Malcolm Woods' ride to third was not uneventful. At one point he ghost-rode his bike into a tree, standing on the rear wheel.

Chris Thomas dominated the C Class, taking the win by over 10 minutes! David Ross and Brad Kearns followed in second
(Continued on page 6)




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Oops, here's a crash at the start of the C Class

and third.

Seventeen racers signed up for the Trailrider class. Ten of them failed to make one lap. Chad Muxlow made three laps in 1:47:09 to take the win. Ryan Hodge and JR Richardson also made three laps to take second and third.

My hat's off to all the Youth riders for tackling the conditions. Quinten Tinsley made four laps to win with Sam Davis coming in second.



Zach Bryant gets some air



The start of the A Class with Kreg Simons leading

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MHSC Lebanon

By Bob Fuerst

The Missouri Hare Scramble Championship series kicked off the 2005 season at Elk Creek just outside Lebanon, MO. Frank and Steve Leivan promoted this race. They laid out a 9.6 mile motorcycle course.

240 motorcycle racers showed up for the race on Sunday. I heard 178 ATV racers came out to play on Saturday.

It was pretty tight, tough course with lots of single track and elevation changes. The ground was in very good condition, no dust and not too muddy. There were several long rocky creek sections. Of course, this is the Ozarks, so there were several miles of off-camber trails, rocks, downed trees and a couple of good field blasts. There were a few hill climbs; the one that looked the worst had several workers waiting to help, but it had quite a few lines, so no bottle necks formed. One of the other hills wasn't as steep, but it was single lined and rocky. I had to wait for a couple of riders on my first lap.



Spud on his last lap. Sitting or standing, you make the call.

Fifteen riders lined up on the front row. And when they came around for the first lap, only four seconds separated the first three riders. Brock Busenbark was leading with Aaron Shaw

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Oops

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two seconds back and Caleb Woheltz was only one second behind Shaw. Woheltz moved into the lead by the end of the second lap



Better have them barkbusters.

and Chris Nesbitt came from fourth to second only two seconds behind Woheltz. By the end of the third lap, Shaw got between Woheltz and Nesbitt and only five seconds separated the three of



279 gets a little air.

them. Shaw kept charging and passed Woheltz for the lead on the final lap.

The Ozark Mountain Trail Riders made a good showing at the event. The best

class finishes were Aaron "Chili" Roberts winning the Vet Class and Elston Moore winning the Senior class. *Yeah, we got some fast old guys! In fact, four of the top ten in the Senior class are OM-TRA members.* Other notable finishes included Shane Roberts, second in the A-Sportsman and 15th overall. Right behind Shane in the overall was Kreg Simons, 16th overall and fifth in the A-Intermediate class.



Malcolm Woods' pit stop.

Chris Goodall seems to have



Chris Goodall blasts past the pits

found his speed with a second in the 250 B class. In the Open B class, it was Shane Martin with a second. Steve Criner picked up second in the Open C class. And in the Women's class, Donna Moore came home with second.

All the folks I talked to seemed to have a good day. Probably better than I, since I came home with some pretty interesting bruises. The rain threatened all day, but we didn't encounter any until the drive home.

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OMTRA Meeting Check out www.hillbillygp.com

The February OMTRA meeting was held at Buckingham's on South Campbell on the 17th, with over 50 people in attendance. Shawn Hall presided over the first portion of the meeting. He addressed the issues concerning the resignation of 3 key officers. These members resigned their respective posts due to personal issues in their lives. Shawn was quick to thank them for their service to the club and commend them each on jobs well done. However, due to this rather sudden occurrence, the existing board members met earlier in the month and came up with a list of possible interim officers, to be voted on by the club members at this February meeting. The club received these nominations and accepted any new nominations. Those elected to serve in the offices until the regular election in July are as follows:

Chairman---Kevin Henslee

Vice Chairman--Shane Martin

Treasurer--- Mike Davis

Motion was made, seconded, and approved that Mike Davis will serve in his office capacity past July into the next year, due to the difficulty involved in transferring bank accounts.

At this point, Chairman Kevin Henslee took over the meeting. His first order of business was to address the issue of providing some sort of insurance for the club members when riding on private property. Terry Brumley has checked with the AMA, they provide coverage for their sanctioned events only. Shane Martin checked with several places, 2 of them involving land that is leased by the respective clubs who then provide their own coverage for their leased land. One club actually owns their own land and only club members are allowed access. This allows them to provide coverage for their members. Several possible scenarios were discussed involving corporation umbrella policies. OMTRA members agreed this matter will take more investigation. Several club members volunteered to continue with this issue.

Kevin and the entire club thanked Spud, Chili, Ken and their crews for their work and dedication to the Hillbilly Series. It has grown into a popular and very competitive series.

Ken Simons was awarded the OMTRA Hall of Fame award. Not only was he instrumental in guiding his own two sons in their motorcycle accomplishments, but he has helped and encouraged countless others along the way.



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Mark Your Calendar

OMTRA meeting—Check www.hillbillygp.com for the date and location of the next meeting

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- 4/3/05 – Cajun Classic, Forest Hill, LA
- 4/16-17/05—Gruber Two Day, Braggs, OK
- 5/15/05— Cycleland Park, Nacogdoches, TX
- 5/22/05— Lead Belt National, Park Hills, MO
- 6/12/05— Train Robbers, Bismarck, AR
- 6/26/05— Golden Eagle, Stillwater, OK
- 9/25/05— Indian Nations, Scipio, OK
- 10/9/05— Crosstimbers, Oklahoma City, OK
- 10/23/05— Hardwood, Walnut Shade, MO
- 11/6/05— Red River, Bulcher, TX

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- 4/2-3/05— Kahoka, ATVs on Sat.
- 4/23-24/05— Walnut Shade, ATVs on Sat.
- 4/30-5/1/05— Columbia, ATVs on Sat.
- 5/14-15/05 - Westphalia, ATVs on Sat.
- 6/4-5/05— Warsaw, ATVs on Sat.
- 6/18-19/05— Seymour, ATVs on Sat.
- 6/25-26/05— Park Hills, ATVs on Sat.
- 7/2-3/05— Jamestown, ATVs on Sat.
- 7/30-31/05— Florence, ATVs on Sat.
- 8/21/05— Newark, ATVs AND Bikes on SUNDAY
- 9/4/05— Eugene, Bikes Only
- 9/18/05— Bixby, Bikes Only
- 10/02/05 - Smithville, Bikes Only
- 10/15-16/05— Park Hills, ATVs on Sat.

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www.arkansasharescramble.com

TENTATIVE

- 4/16-17/05— Mtn. Home
- 4/30-5/1/05— Hot Springs
- 5/28-29/05— Spring Rain Date
- 6/18-19/05— Durham
- 7/9-10/05— Brickleys
- 7/30-31/05— Holly Springs
- 8/13-14/05— New Race—Near Conway
- 9/3-4/05— Mayflower
- 9/17-18/05— Osage
- 10/1-2/05— Decatur
- 10/15-16/05— Fall Rain Date
- 10/22-23/05— Ozark
- 11/12-13/05— Goshen
- 11/26-27/05— Fort Smith

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- 5/22/05— WARRENSBURG MO
- 6/12/05— FT SCOTT
- 6/26/05— FT SCOTT
- 7/24/05— QUENEMO KSGP
- 9/11/05— HAMILTON MO
- 9/25/05— CARBONDALE KS
- 10/9/05— WARRENSBURG MO
- 10/30/05— MILFORD LAKE KS
- 11/13/05— CARBONDALE KS

Donna Moore was recognized as the Mo. State Hare Scramble Women's Champion. She was featured in an article in the Springfield News-Leader which focused on her many successes as well as provided our sport with some positive coverage.

The club is preparing for the April 23-24 Hare Scramble event to be held at the Bull Creek riding area. There will be events for ATVs as well as motorcycles and separate pee wee events. Many members volunteered to help with various responsibilities. If you need to confirm what job you are scheduled to help with or would like to volunteer to help with any area, please contact Shawn Hall.

The motion was made and approved to change the date of the club's Hardwood Enduro due to conflict with the ISDE reunion event and another event to be held that same weekend in Arkansas. HOWEVER, as of the writing of these minutes the ISDE reunion has been re-scheduled and the date of the Hardwood Enduro will remain October 23rd.

It was also agreed to move the OMTRA meetings to the 3rd Wed. night of each month as many members have conflicts on Thurs. nights. Each month's meeting will be held at the same place and time, Buckingham's on South Campbell at 7 o'clock, for the foreseeable future.

By Judy Willis

OMTRA Secretary

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