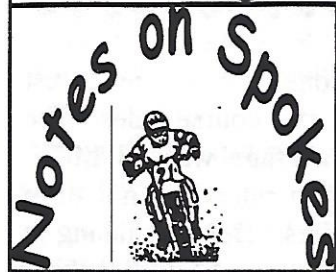


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NEWSLETTER

Local Dirt Bike News

December 1997

Wow! My first front page. As you know from last month's Notes on Spokes, Randy is handing over the reins of the newsletter to me, Bob Fuerst. Randy approached me in September, at an enduro of course, and we started discussing the future of the newsletter. I feel that this newsletter is an important part of off-road riding in this area, so I told him I would take a shot at it. Randy asked me if he could continue to contribute to the newsletter. YES, Randy any time, but you must use the word "goofy."

I do have a few things in my favor that might help make this thing work. First off, my wife has agreed to look over my shoulder to make sure I don't make any big mistakes. You see, she works for the Bolivar Herald-Free Press as a proofreader and reporter. She also has a master's degree in English. *That means that after she completed all those years of English in grade school and high school, she took six more years of it. Yuk!* Plus, I have been messing around with computers almost as long as I have been riding dirt bikes. (Dirt bikes for 24 years vs. computers for 16 years)

Then, things got crazy. I needed to get the December newsletter out and it was already the fifteenth of November. I stopped by one of those huge stores in Springfield that sell stereos, appliances, computers and more. I

spent over \$800 for a scanner, printer and software, quicker than I usually spend buying a tire for my dirt bike. But then things got really weird: I took it out of all the boxes, installed it and it all WORKED! Amazing! It all seems to be coming together. The ads got scanned in. Articles got written for Oklahoma City and Stillwater enduros, and I wrote up the minutes to the OMTRA meeting. All the names and addresses are loaded into the computer for you, the subscribers and the advertisers.

Thanks go to the subscribers and advertisers of this newsletter. For you support the future of off-road riding in this area. I have started the process of contacting all the advertisers and the ones I have contacted are going to continue to support this newsletter. Thanks, again.

I also want to use this newsletter as a forum for you to express your views, concerns or just a funny story.

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THE OKLAHOMA CITY ENDURO

The Windy City Enduro

No, the Black Jack Enduro Circuit did not have an enduro in Chicago. But Oklahoma City can be just as windy, if not more, as our EZ Up can attest. On November 2, the ninth enduro of the year was held at the Drapper Lake riding area next to Oklahoma City and Tinker Air Force Base. Being next to Tinker gives this run a unique flavor as the big planes fly over. You know how it goes; if you're like me, you are not one of the fastest riders on the circuit, and when you hear something come up behind

you, you look for the first place to pull over and let them by. Only in OK City, you just pulled over for a plane.

This enduro is co-sanctioned by the Texas Enduro Circuit, which means it was a big event. Over three hundred riders showed up for the event. The Oklahoma Dirt Riders put on a classic "test section" enduro with all the test sections having checks going in and coming out.

Sunday morning started out cold but sunny, and the forecast called for perfect riding

conditions. A six mile test started at 3 course miles. The speed average was 18 MPH. The good riders did not drop any points. But, not falling in that category, I hit everything and dropped 3 points by four seconds. The clock was not kind to me.

The next section was much more open with most riders zeroing the next section. Following a transport section was the biggest points taker of the event, a tough, tight sandy section. And some comedian, most likely a member of the Oklahoma Dirt Riders, put up a sign in the middle of the sandiest part that said "No Sand Castles allowed." Gee, I don't have the ability to ride in this STUFF. Now I can't even stop and build a sand castle.

Following that, the A and AA riders were treated to more of the same. While the C and B riders got an extended reset, the A and AA riders got to ride "The Sand Box," as locals call it.

The last special test on the short course was pretty open, but with a 24 MPH speed average, most riders dropped a few points. The B, A and AA riders had one more section to

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Oklahoma City Continued...

go. After an 18 MPH transport section, the speed bumped to 24 MPH and we got to go 12 miles as fast as we possibly could.

During the protest period, the Oklahoma Dirt Riders had plenty of giveaways. They ranged from hats and water bottles to an insulated enduro jacket. Almost everyone got something. The only thing left was to drive home and wash all that red dirt off the bikes.

RESULTS

- Overall, Leivan, Steve, 7
- AA, Bright, Scott, 9, Whitaker, Josh, 10, Higgins, Rick, 13, Crane, Larry, 14, Fow, Steve, 17
- Overall A, Wilson, Michael, 9
- A-200, Taliaferro, Michael, 17, Boyle, Kevin, 21, Owens, Rick, 23, O'Kelly, Cody, 23, Montgomery, Darin, 27
- A-250, Jennings, Jamie, 13, Clapsaddle, Carl, 19, Giles, Ken, 20, Schnell, Wade, 24, Bray, Bill, 27
- A-Open, Gabert, Gordon, 23, Udem, Steve, 35, Rousseau, Larry, 42, Shown, Mike, 11 chks, Byrd, Bruce, 9 chks
- A-Int, Paschel, Bobby, 20, Durant, Mitch, 25, Weisontels, Al, 29, Borts, Kevin, 7 chks
- A-Senior, Weaver, Rocke, 24, Williams, Kenny, 25, Compton, Harold, 28, Bieschke, Bud, 29, Schnell, Earl, 29
- A-SSenior, Shoalmire, Jack, 9, Glenn, Lee, 21, Pike, Bob, 26, Leivan, Frank, 32
- A Sportsman, West, Terry, 12, Markworth, Vernon, 15, Wilson, Herold, 16, Meknight, Bob, 16, Pace, Rusty, 17
- A-4strk, LonRoy, Jay, 22, Rogers, Mark, 30, Simpson, Kerry, 39, Harkey, Max, 39, Kencaid, Michael, 56
- A Youth LW, Podzemny, Casey, 15, Weisenfels, Josh, 18, Harmon, Jason, 20, Hill, Jacob, 24, Frazier, Jeremy, 24
- Overall B, Morland, Slade, 13 (16 Long)
- B-200, Hall, Jack, 18, Glenn, Matt, 19, Grub, Matt, 20, Bieschke, Adam, 29, Davis, Phill, 2 chks
- B-250, Chandler, Drew, 15, Mac, Kirk, 15, Crosslin, Robert, 19, McCall, Tim, 19, Southard, Rick, 22
- B-Open, Canion, Brian, 19, Rowen, Pete, 19, Knight, Todd, 20, Larsen, Curt, 25, Mason, Brad, 35
- B-Int, Joiner, Randy, 14, Joiner, Ron, 21, Simons, Jon, 22 (26 long), Howard, Chuck, 23, Moore, Elston, 25
- B-Sr., Maxwell, Terry, 12, Grice, Walt, 12, Willis, Jim, 20, Wylie, Dan, 20, Hemphil, Randy, 20
- B-S Sr., Beitler, Denny, 11, Harman, Randy, 23, Otto, Kenny, 24, Krause, Jim, 25, Schell, Dennis, 27
- Super 55, Burk, Charlie, 14, Lewis, Zahn, 23, Bonifacius, Clare, 53, Lankford, Sam, 120
- Overall C, Don Hogan, 6
- C-200, Miles, Jonathan, 10, Shen, Jeff, 25, Stalnaker, Jeff, 36, Ranck, Kevin, 39, Inman, Sam, 39
- C-250, Boswell, Clint, 11, Danzy, Kurt, 11, Bair, Weston, 17, Crawford, Jay, 18, Hill, Steve, 22

- C-Open, Kirkup, Tony, 18, Maddox, Stephen, 18, Lemay, Jeff, 19, Barton, Tim, 31, Harris, Gary, 31
- C-Int, Carr, Tim, 11, Hall, Shawn, 25, Mason, Whitey, 26, Miller, Clark, 35, Reese, Mike, 35
- C-Sr, Blizzard, Les, 24, Hondford, Mark, 26, Marple, Dwain, 28, Stiles, Robert, 32, Gann, Steve, 42
- 4-strk short, Giblet, Zane, 16, Philip Chicoine, 17, Russen, Jimmy, 23, Deeds, Kelly, 26, Simoneaux, Bryan, 36
- B-Youth, Lewis, Cody, 3, Fow, Cody, 8, Carr, Clint, 14, Yother, Brett, 50, Bray, Kyle, 147
- Women, Roy, Susan, 33, Harmon, Rita, 47, Yother, Lisa, 47, Gann, Amy, 153

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TID BITS

I did not see this personally, but this was reported by several reliable sources. It seems **Mike Shown**, of Flatland racing, is taking up farming. You see, Mike is trying to grow KTMs. Why else would he plant one up to its gas tank in the mud at Oklahoma City?

I must go to the races with the most anal group of riders on the BJEC. **Shawn Hall, Stewart Hall, Max Harkey, Dale Willis** and I were to meet at 10:30 Saturday to go to Stillwater. I

arrive at 10:10. I was the last person to arrive and everything possible was already loaded on the trailer.

I was talking with **Dan Wylie** the night before Stillwater and he was happy the key time had been pushed back to 9am. He still had to change a rear tire. Dan, you're supposed to do that before the event.

I think **Casey Haynes** is related to Dan Wylie. Casey showed up at Stillwater with his almost new YZ and he is still not too sure about the jetting. He starts it up. He thinks it might be a little lean. So, he puts on his boots and helmet (good move) and goes for a ride. When he comes back, he says, "I think the jetting is OK, but I couldn't really get on it. Because, the seat, tank and some of the plastic are not bolted down."

Here's a tip from **Cliff Davis**. If you are going to ride Toys for Tots and it's going to be cold, bring two jerseys and change between motos. This helps you keep from getting so stiff at the start of the second moto.

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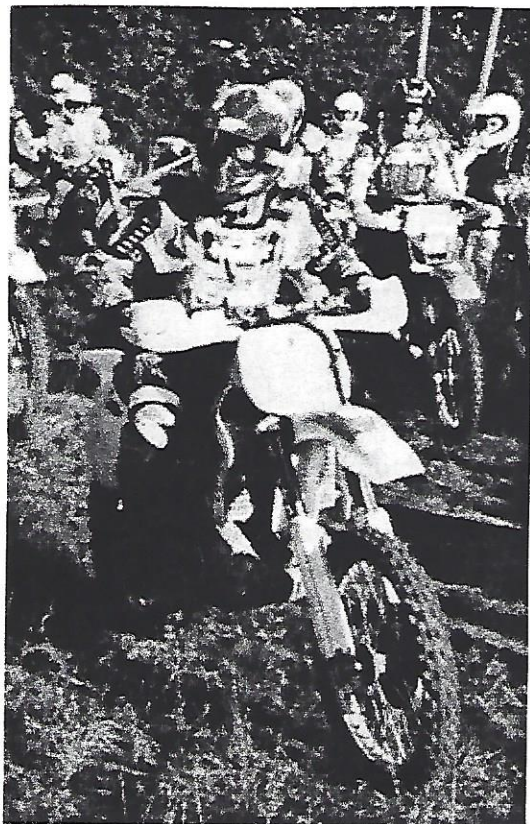
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Stewart Hall, OMTRA Member from Branson, before he got lost.

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Shawn Hall, OMTRA Chairman, before he got lost at Stillwater.

Stillwater

The enduro originally scheduled for October 12 was postponed to November 23. This was a good thing, because there was so much rain on October 12 that the event could have been won on a "Jet Ski." And with the land use problems encountered on the circuit, it was a very good idea. The key time was changed to 9 a.m. to let the sun come up and warm things up some. The forecast was for a great day with temperatures in the fifties.



The starting line. 9am and perfect weather

The first section was just over five miles long. It looked like the trail conditions were going to be perfect. It was tight enough to make most riders push to maintain an 18 MPH pace, but you had to make sure to check your odometer against the mile markers. Many riders burned this first check. Not to mention the fact that two riders on my minute had technical difficulties with their computers. Yes, I, computer nerd, was one of them and the other is an "A 250" rider that shall remain nameless. But he has a degree in engineering.

We had a frantic reset trying to figure out how to compensate for our computers. I had to ride 20 seconds hot to be at the top of my minute and that engineer had to ride 35 seconds hot. Next came a three mile section of neat trail followed by a tie breaker. We rolled in pretty close to 30 seconds into our minute. But, wait the clock was showing us 15 minutes early. Something was wrong here, but the check crew knew there is a problem and we left.

Another tenth down the trail was a 1.4 mile reset. With three miles of free zone after the check, we got

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Stillwater continued.

started early and rode to end of the free zone. There were only three possibles between the end of the free zone and the next reset. There were no checks before the reset.

After an extended reset and a road section, there was a special test. It was tight and tough, but the traction was perfect with no dust. This must be the land at Cooper's house! I got to the check and something was wrong. It seems the first thirty riders made a corner, but then someone blew a turn and picked up more arrows. And every rider after that missed that turn, an observation check and about a mile of trail.

We headed back to the sign up area on a gravel road riding unlicensed vehicles. The local powers frowned on this act and held us up for a minute and a half before releasing us. We turned off the road on to a trail. This trail, though, was a blast. Berms, perfect dirt, no dust, this is why I ride dirt bikes! I made up that minute and a half and zeroed the check.

Back at sign up, we find out that we have to stay off the gravel roads. So, the rest of the ride, the long course,

was cancelled.

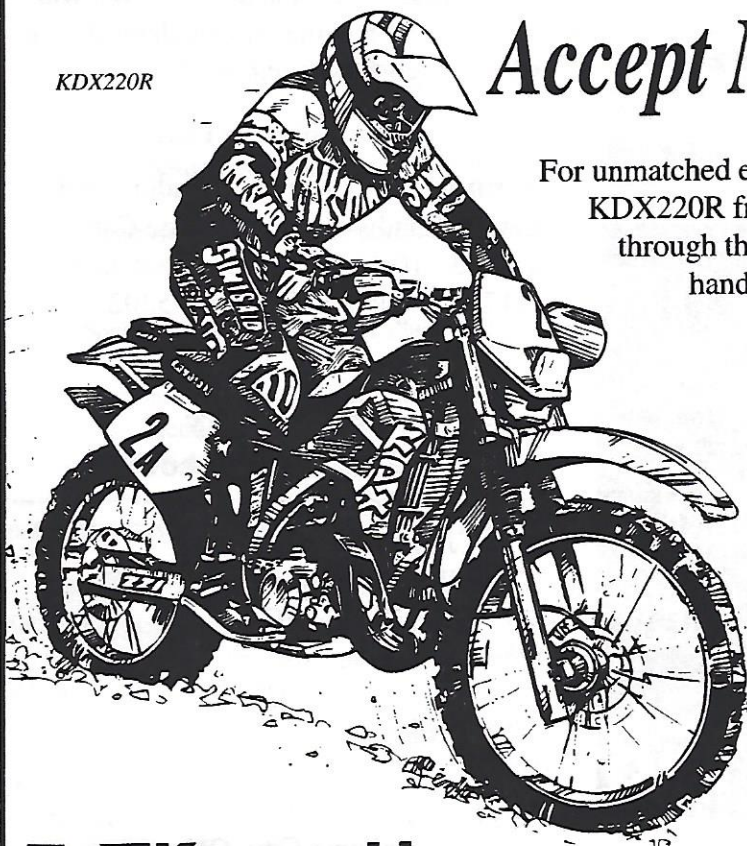
A few riders were upset about the situation. We need to remember that we do this for fun. Yes, somethings went wrong, but nobody is getting rich doing this. Not the promoters nor the riders. I have helped layout several of these. It is very easy miss one detail and that problem escalates down the whole course. The weather was awesome and the trails were a blast.

I have not recieved the results at the time of this writting. I will include them in next month's newsletter.



The "Computer Nerd" and the "Engineer Nerd" about to screw up their Computers.

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December 7 - Hare Scramble at Lou's Place. 5 Miles north of Bolivar on Hwy 13. Practice 10:30 - 11:30. Race 12:30. Classes: Youth 8 - 16, 125/200, 250/Open, Beginner, +30, +40, Intermediate, Expert. (417)887-3524

December 14 - Toys for Tots Hare Scramble by Surdyke Yamaha. Race is at Possum Hollow MX Park. Practice 10am. Race 11am. 2 One Hour Moto Scrambles. Entry: One toy valued at \$15.00 UNWRAPPED. Classes: Youth, Beginner, 0-200, 250/Open, +30. (417)258-2544

December 18 - OMTRA meet at Yarbrough's Machine at 6:30. We will have a short meeting before determining where to go for a social gathering.

January 1 - Clean up, Funduro and Eats at Chadwick, Cobb Ridge Campground. 10am. For information call (417)581-4046 or (417)694-5202.

Priliminary 1998 BJEC Schedule

- 3/1 - Bear Creek, AR
- 3/15 - Jimmy Jack, TX
- 3/22 - White Rock, AR
- 5/17 - Flat River, MO
- 8/30 - Stillwater, OK
- 9/13 - Little Rock, AR
- 9/27 - Collins, MO
- 10/11 - Tulsa, OK
- 10/25 - Chadwick, MO
- 11/22 - Oklahoma City, OK

OMTRA November Meeting

Over thirty people attended the November 20 OMTRA meeting at Mexican Villa in Springfield. Shawn Hall conducted the meeting. He received a high level of attention and respect from the members attending. He said, "I get this same kind of respect from my children."

Casey Haynes took the opportunity to thank all involved with the enduro. He had a list with names of over 50 people that in some way helped with the enduro. Treasurer Donna Moore covered the money details of the enduro. We made money! She is still waiting for the some of the final expenses to be turned in, but the enduro has provided the club with seed money to start projects.

Shawn covered the transfer of Notes on Spokes, the official Newsletter of the OMTRA, from Randy Prethus to Bob Fuerst. Bob will also get to head up the Communication committee.

Shawn recieved a letter from the Forest Service regarding the expansion of the Cobb Ridge campground. *Editor's note: I will be getting a copy of this letter and include as much as possible in a separate article in next month's Notes on Spokes.*

For the last few years, Randy Prethus has put on a fun ride/clean up day/cook out on January 1. This year the club is going to put on the "event". Not many changes are going to happen this year. Show up around 10 am and pick up trash for a couple of hours. Around noon, head out for a couple of hours of riding. We are going to lay out a loop arrowing the intersections. How long the loop is will depend on the weather. If you want to ride some more, ride the loop again. Then, we eat. Nothing fancy, just hot dogs and that kind of stuff. There are some folks talking about camping out New Year's eve night at Chadwick!

On December 14, the annual Toys for Tots event is scheduled at Possom Hollow. This event is sponsored by Steve Underwood and Surdyke Yamaha of Mari-onville. Members are encouraged to attended this event. It is for a a good cause.

A tentative work day at Chadwick is set up for January 18. We anticipate working on some bad erosion spots on some trails. There will be more on this at next months meeting.

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