



Notes on Spokes

Late breaking news: The Eagle Gun & Sports Ranch at Collins, MO has been sold. Stan Hammack has had the ranch on the market for several years and has found a buyer who is not interested in off-roading. Unfortunately the last day of riding there was November 29, 1998.

Many good races have been held there over the years. I've helped Max Harkey put on two or three enduros. A bunch of Missouri Hare Scramble Championships races have been held there, plus vintage trial and motocross races.

Lee Glenn, BJEC chairman, along with his club out of Kansas City, was scheduled to put on the 1999 Black Jack Enduro at Collins in May. If you have a couple thousand acres of woods close to KC, give Lee a call.

It's winter racing season. Jerry Sharp is going to have a three-race series starting December 6 at Lu's place north of Bolivar. The next two races will be January 3 at Cassville, then January 17 at Marshfield. You must ride two races to be eligible for series awards, but all three races count. So mark your calendar for all three events.

There should be classes for everybody, Youth 8-16 (80's, 125's or 200's only), 125/200, 250/Open, Beginner, 4 Stroke, +30, +40, Intermediate, and Expert. He will have maps for the Cassville and Marshfield events at Lu's place.

Surdyke Motorsports is promoting the Toys for Tots race on December 13 at Possum Hollow Motocross. This is a good thing. The entry fee is a \$15 toy for a child. The race is set up to interest off-road riders and motocross riders. The trail uses the motocross track and a trail through the surrounding woods. The race is broken into two one-hour motos with a half-hour break in-between. The direction of the trail is reversed between motos. Be there. It's for a good cause!

This month a new advertiser joins the ranks of supporters of this newsletter, Kevin Swindle of Performance Cycle in Republic, MO. Thank You Kevin. If you haven't been by his shop, check it out.

Speaking of Chadwick, I rode there Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend and it was packed. I have never seen that many people there. NEVER! That includes enduros! Max wanted to know where sign up was. 101 needed traffic lights! The weather was perfect. It was a long weekend and they came out of the woodwork. One guy came up to us and asked if it had changed much since the last time he had ridden there in 1971!

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**OMTRA Christmas Party is
December 12 at Classic
Sports inside the Clarion
Hotel at 3333 S. Glenstone
at 8:00.**

Motocrossing in Sedalia



Here's Jeff, 166, at the start of his first moto. With nine bikes in his class, they had to go to two lines at the start.

A 22 week winter motocross series is being held at the state fair grounds in Sedalia, MO. I went up there one rainy Sunday to watch Jeff Freeman, service guy at Davis Motorsports, give it a try.

The track is small. Very small. 15 second lap times. The day I was there jumps were also very small. I'd even jump them! But they said they would be bringing in more dirt and making bigger jumps.

It really seemed small when the ATVs were out there. They were flipping all over the place.



Jeff's blasting in to a corner. Notice the camo pants.

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TID BITS

If you have a chance, say hi to Joe Shackelford. Joe is working with Rick Moon at Chadwick. I was talking with Joe and Rick at the Chadwick enduro about sending Joe a newsletter, and Rick pointed out that Joe lives in Arkansas. Joe assured us they do have mail delivery in Arkansas.

Speaking of Rick Moon, he got married a few months ago. Congrats Rick.

Somewhere else in this newsletter you will find the minutes of the last OMTRA meeting provided by Judy Willis. What Judy didn't mention was - Shawn Hall, OMTRA Chairman, forgot about the meeting! He gave all these excuses like his parents were in town and all that. But, I hate to say it again, "Shawn, you're getting old!"

If you do that internet thing, you need to check out the BJEC web site at www.blackjackenduro.com. Web master Jim Ingram is working on the new site and it includes the 99 schedule, information on the officers, the rules (this section is still under construction), a list of all classes and contingency information.

In fact, if you check out this web site, you'll find out that Steve Leivan won the final Black Jack Enduro in Oklahoma City, OK, thus winning the Black Jack Enduro Circuit overall. Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find that Steve also won the Missouri Hare Scramble Championship. CONGRATULATIONS STEVE!!

There is an old saying in snow skiing that you ski with your kids one day in your life. It takes that long to go from picking them up and wiping their noses to having them blow you away. That saying hits pretty close to home on dirt bikes, too. I don't have kids, but Max Harkey's son Daniel has been riding with us since he was on an XR 100. Well, this past weekend he was on an RM 125 at Chadwick, and I think that day for Max might be tomorrow!

**Don't forget the
New Year's Day Chadwick
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HARE SCRAMBLE DECEMBER 6 LU'S PLACE

+++++

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We will count finishes on all three races.....you must ride at
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Daily contingency awards at each race!!!

January 3 at Cassville,

January 17 at Marshfield

Maps to these races at LU's Place

Possum 417-887-3524

LEIVAN FINISHES IT AT FESTUS HS

By: Frank Leivan

Festus, MO October 18

In what may have been a fitting end to the 1998 Missouri Hare Scrambles Championship, six-time champion Steve Leivan came from nearly a minute deficit at the start to complete a great come-back ride and take the overall victory. Despite clinching the series championship the previous weekend with a runner up finish, Leivan was focused on the final event.

"Last week I knew what I had to do to win the championship and that's what I did. I tried to win the race, but Windmann was just a little better than I was, and it paid off to ride a smart race and get the title taken care of. Today, it didn't really matter what I did, so I was able to push the edge if I needed to and focus on just this race," said Leivan. Although there were eight riders in the AA class, Leivan's job was made a little easier since series runner up Mike Windmann and the third place rider in the series, Chris Thiele, would both be absent from the results today.

The eight mile course at the Platin Creek area was ideal for racing. The quad race in the morning was somewhat sloppy due to overnight thunder storms, but the ATV's dried out the trail and made traction near perfect. Mother Nature cooperated with tem-

peratures in the mid 60's. Lap times for the front runners were right around 22 minutes and the top eight riders in the overall tally completed six laps.

In what has become the normal first turn scene of the AA class start, Chris Nesbitt directed his Answer/Scott/Trelleborg-backed YZ-250 into the lead spot with Chris Graber, Ken Yount, and Brandon Forrester in tow. Leivan was left at the start line for nearly a minute before he got going. "I guess that I flooded the bike on the first kick and then I got in a hurry trying to get going. I finally went through the procedure and it started right up," Leivan stated.

When the riders entered the woods, Nesbitt lost the front end and collected Garber with him. The riders close behind took to the brush to get around the pile up and Chris Caplinger moved into the lead. One rider who didn't fare well by going around the downed riders was Tanner England, who was coming off the best ride of his season. "My throttle cable got kinked when I went through the brush and I fought it until the grass track. I stopped and got it to stop sticking wide open, but it still wasn't right," explained England.

Caplinger's moment in front lasted through the grass track area, *(Continued on page 6)*

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(Continued from page 5)

until the final turn when he went down. This put 14-year-old Brandon Forrester into the lead for the first time ever with Yount and 125 KTM rider Jeff Lappe close behind. Lappe, having dominated the "A" class this year and having already clinched the class championship, was making his first appearance in the AA class and proving that he and his little 125 have the speed to compete with the bigger bikes.

Behind the front pack, Leivan was on the charge. By the time he entered the grass track, which was roughly a mile and a half into the course, he had caught up to the tail end of the class, presumably because he had a clear course. "I'd say those guys were all protecting their lines and going slow in the corners to keep their position, while I could use all the berms and carry a lot of speed by going around the outside." Leivan moved around England first, who was fiddling with his kinked cable, then Caplinger, who blew a corner and waited until Leivan moved around.

Leivan's next target was Graber, and when the two came to a creek crossing, Graber went left and Leivan went through the center with Leivan moving ahead and taking over fifth. Nesbitt was next in Leivan's sights and when Nesbitt tried to take a shorter line and got hung between two trees, Leivan was up to fourth. At the six-mile mark of the first lap, Leivan closed in on the leading trio of Forrester, Yount, and Lappe.

"We were in a really fast fire road section and Lappe was trying to get around Kenny. He started to go around on the right and then moved back to the left, so I just pinned the throttle and went around Lappe on the right. I almost got around Kenny but I was on the outside and had to back off for the corner," said Leivan.

With roughly a mile left in the first lap, Forrester lost control in a rocky section and went down, putting Yount into the lead and Leivan in second. As the riders entered the spectator area, Leivan made his bid for the lead by trying to out-accelerate Yount. This didn't work, as the two Yamaha four strokes were evenly matched. Leivan drove into the final turn hard and forced Yount to the outside, allowing Leivan to take the lead just a few feet before the barrels.

"I had a \$20 bet with the promoter that I'd be leading after the first lap and after that poor start, I didn't think I'd have a chance. I just worked through the guys one by one and when Kenny couldn't get to the berm in the last turn, I knew that was my opportunity," said Leivan.

From this point on Leivan held the lead, never really being seriously challenged for the remainder of the two hour race. The action behind the leader, though, changed from lap to lap. Lappe, who completed the first lap in third, moved into the runner-up position after the second go around, with Yount close behind and Caplinger moving up to fourth. Caplinger then moved around both riders on the third lap and actually made up about 35 seconds on the leader Leivan, who had stopped for fuel and fresh goggles.

With Leivan's lead over Caplinger's YZ400F measuring 35 seconds, Lappe followed in third another 14 seconds back with Yount right on his heels. Forrester had control of fifth and was more than a minute clear of early leader Nesbitt who never seemed to be able to find his rhythm after his early spill. Leivan picked the pace up on lap four and put another 15 seconds between himself and Caplinger, while Forrester had the bit between his teeth and turned in his fastest lap of the

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

day, a 21:58, to take over third. Yount had moved around Lappe and was only five seconds in back of Forrester.

Although Caplinger was on a fast pace, Leivan was also and added a few seconds to his lead on each of the two final times around the track, saving his best for last and turning in a 21:07, the fastest of the day. The SCR/Yamaha/Pro Action/ Dunlop/Answer/RK Chain rider finished with a lead of slightly over one minute on his WR400F to claim his seventh win of the series.

"I felt really good all day and even after the bad start, I still felt confident that I could pull it off. It was just one of those days where everything felt good and I didn't really have to push it. It is a great way to end the year," said Leivan. Caplinger brought his Donelson Cycles mount home in the runner-up spot to complete his best ride since a win at round two back in March.

Yount held off Forrester by a few bike lengths, making it three Yamaha 400F's in the top three, on his way to the final podium spot. Forrester, in only his third race as an "AA" rider, completed the best ride of his young career, with Lappe and his Pro Dirt KTM filling out the top five.

Results

O/A: 1. Steve Leivan (Yam); 2. Chris Caplinger (Yam); 3. Ken Yount (Yam); 4. Brandon Forrester (Yam); 5. Jeff Lappe (KTM)

AA: 1. Chris Caplinger (Yam); 2. Ken Yount (Yam); 3. Jeff Lappe (KTM); 4. Tanner England (Yam); 5. Chris Nesbitt (Yam)

A: 1. Kevin Boyle (Hon); 2. John Yarnell (Hon); 3. David Dilligham (KTM); 4. Donnie Mathis (Hon); 5. Matt Faletti (KTM)

125 B: 1. Levi Rawson (Yam); 2. Luke Manion (Yam); 3. Casey Hinkel

(Yam); 4. David Pryor (Hon); 5. Kurt Eibell (Yam)

200 B: 1. David Haworth (KTM); 2. Steve Crews (Kaw); 3. Robert Armon (Kaw); 4. Dale Griesinger (KTM); 5. John Stout (Kaw)

250 B: 1. Tim Gibson (Hon); 2. Tom Summers (Yam); 3. Matt Weis (Yam); 4. Nick Crawford (Yam); 5. David Von Holten (Suz)

250 C: 1. Bronce Smith (Hon); 2. Dan Halbeck (Kaw); 3. Bradley Murdick (Kaw); 4. John Issacson (KTM); 5. Kermit Turner (Suz)

Open B: 1. Matt Coffman (KTM); 2. Marty Smith (Hon); 3. Larry Portell (KTM); 4. Kurt Mitsching (Hon); 5. Paul Hansen (KTM)

4-Stroke B: 1. Ralph Gerding (Hon); 2. Brian Richardson (Yam); 3. Gary Pilant (Hon); 4. Paul Arnett (Hon); 5. Joseph Armon (Hon)

Vet: 1. Dave Berry (Suz); 2. Kreg Simons (Yam); 3. Jon Simons (Yam); 4. Craig Hayes (Hus); 5. Dale Pesch (Yam)

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Junior: 1. Bobby Duncan (Yam); 2. Zack Mabery (Hon); 3. James Sloan (Yam); 4. Steve Akers (Kaw); 5. Andy Pashia (Yam)

Trail Rider: 1. Todd Hecht (KTM); 2. Brian Dietrich (Yam); 3. Josh Walter (Suz); 4. Mike Garrison (Yam); 5. John Hesemann (Kaw)

Davis Motorsports

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The advertisement features a black and white photograph of the Davis Motorsports building. The building is a long, single-story structure with a sign that reads "DAVIS MOTORSPORTS". To the right of the building, there is a sign for "POLARIS". In the foreground, several motorcycles and ATVs are parked. A large sign on a pole in front of the building reads "Kawasaki". The contact information is displayed in large, bold, white text at the bottom of the image.

OMTRA Stuff

OMTRA MEETING MINUTES
November, 19, 1998

Discussion included:

- Toys For Tots motocross at Buffalo on Nov. 29. There is a \$5 dollar gate fee. Bring a \$15 (approx.) toy.
- Toys For Tots event will also be held at Possum Hollow Dec. 13.
- Thanks was extended to all who helped with the Chadwick Enduro. Report was given there were approximately 180 entries. Since all the event t-shirts were sold, it was suggested we place a re-order for shirts to be supplied to the workers of the event. Brian Sharp and Dale Willis are going to check on prices.
- Christmas Party is to be held at Classic Sports inside the Clarion Hotel at 3333 S. Glenstone. They will reserve a section for us, plan on eating at 8:00. There are batting cages and pool tables available, and we plan to show motorcycle videos. The date

is December 12. Food will be ordered off the menu.

- Due to the Christmas party Dec. 12 there will be no OMTRA meeting until January
- Brian Sharp is in charge of ordering caps with the OMTRA logo on them. They will be blue and tan. There will be summer and winter caps available.
- Fun-Enduro, Jan. 1, Chadwick was discussed. Volunteers are needed to help. Contact Casey. Trash bags will be provided for the trash pickup. Those with trucks or flatbed trailers are encouraged to bring them to remove large items. There was discussion of possible tickets to be given for full trash bags turned in to be eligible for prizes.
- Bob Fuerst and Cliff Davis were asked to consider constructing an OMTRA web page.

Windmann Battle, Leivans war

By: Frank Leivan
Drexel, MO; October 11

In an event that turned out to be the closest battle of the 1998 Missouri Hare Scrambles Championship, KTM rider Mike Windmann held off the charges of defending champion Steve Leivan, to claim a one-second margin of victory and stand at the top of the podium for the second time this year. Maybe even more excited than winner Windmann was SCR/Yamaha rider Leivan, who clinched his sixth series championship in seven years.

"It has been a tough year, and it feels really good to get the job done again. Coming back from a broken wrist this summer and working so hard to get back to where I was before the injury, makes me really appreciate this championship," Leivan said after the event. In winning this year's series title, Leivan becomes the first four stroke rider to do so.

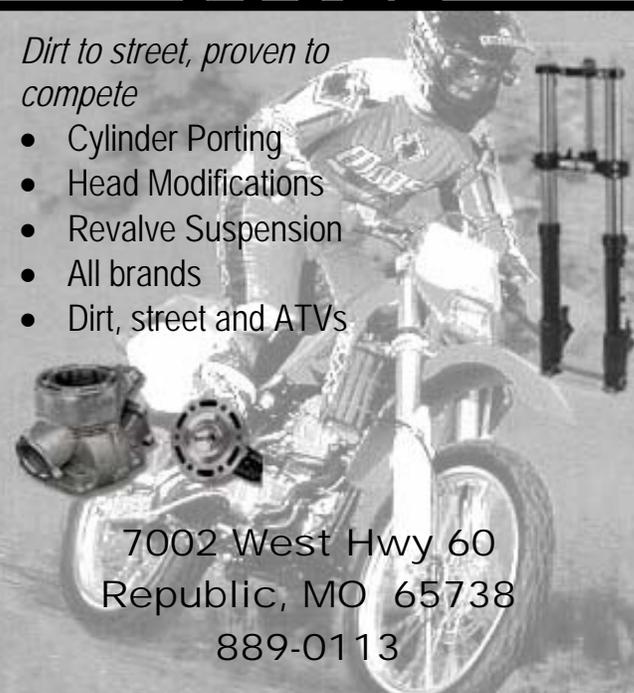
Round 15 of the series took place at the Extreme Sports Park near Drexel. A relatively short 5.8 mile course featured grass track sections, wooded trails, a short part of the motocross track, and a bottleneck mud hole or two. Virtually the entire trail consisted of ruts due to massive rains the previous weekend. Lap times for the leaders measured around the 15 to 16 minute mark, with the top six riders going eight laps.

O/A: 1. Mike Windmann (KTM); 2. Steve Leivan (Yam); 3. Tanner Eng-
(Continued on page 11)

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Mark Your Calender

November 19 - OMTRA meeting. Mexican Villa South, at 7:00.

January 1 – Chadwick clean up and trail ride

- 9 am Clean up – *Meet at the Pavilion*
- 12 noon Trail Ride
- 3 pm food and give aways

December 13 – Toys for Tots

1999 BJEC Schedule

- March 7**, Bear Creek, Kirby, AR
- March 21**, White Rock, Cass, AR
- March 28**, Jimmy Jack, St. Joe, TX
- April 11**, Golden Eagle, Stillwater, OK
- May 2**, Cannon Creek, Collins, MO
- May 23**, Lead Belt, Flat River, MO
- August 8**, Breezy Hills, Breezy Hills, LA
- August 29**, Little Rock, Little Rock, AR
- Sept. 12**, Tulsa, Tulsa, OK
- October 3**, Crosstimbers, Oklahoma City, OK
- October 17**, Hardwood, Chadwick, MO
- October 31**, Red River, Muenster, TX

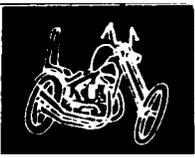
Winter Hare Scramble Series

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December 6 – Lou's place, Bolivar.

January 3 - Cassville

January 17 - Marshfield



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Notes on Spokes - 702 Hwy T, Aldrich, MO

(Continued from page 8)

land (Yam); 4. Ryan Wuebbeling (Yam); 5. Kevin Boyle (Hon); 6. Chris Nesbitt (Yam); 7. Carl Dobson (KTM); 8. Dave Berry (Suz); 9. Terry Meyer (Hon); 10. Collin Sheridan (Yam)

AA: 1. Steve Leivan (Yam); 2. Tanner England (Yam); 3. Chris Nesbitt (Yam); 4. Adam Zarda (Kaw); 5. Brandon Forrester (Yam)

A: 1. Kevin Boyle (Hon); 2. Terry Meyer (Hon); 3. Charles Thiele (Kaw); 4. Brian Shrout (Suz); 5. J.D. Black (Suz)

125 B: 1. Luke Manion (Yam); 2. Luke Smith (Yam); 3. Jason Manczuk (Suz); 4. Kyle Dorton (Yam); 5. Derrick Conner (KTM)

200 B: 1. Steve Crews (Kaw); 2. Dave Haworth (KTM); 3. Dale Griesinger (KTM); 4. Roger Wellman (Kaw); 5. Robert Armon (Kaw)

250 B: 1. Ryan Wuebbeling (Yam); 2. Collin Sheridan (Yam); 3. Matt Weis (Yam); 4. Johnny Wilhite (Yam); 5. Mike Dobson (Kaw)

Open B: 1. Matt Coffman (KTM); 2. Danny Crawford (Hon); 3. Rick Helmick (Yam); 4. Orbus Conner (Kaw); 5. Marty Smith (Hon)

4-Stroke B: 1. Shawn Taylor (Yam); 2. Ralph Getding (Hon); 3. Travis Pilant (Hon); 4. Gary Pilant (Hon); 5. Doug Jones (Yam)

Vet: 1. Carl Dobson (KTM); 2. Dave Berry (Suz); 3. Jon Simons (Yam); 4. Kreg Simons (Yam); 5. Brad Peterson (Yam)

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Super Senior: 1. Rick Whelove (Hus); 2. Bob Jones (Kaw); 3. Rick Carpenter (KTM); 4. Frank Leivan (Yam); 5. Tony Schlader (Hon)

Junior: 1. Bobby Duncan (Yam); 2. Zack Mabery (Hon); 3. Andy Pashia (Yam); 4. Steve Akers (Kaw); 5. James Sloan (Yam)

250 C: 1. Tim Gibson (Hon); 2. Michael Hamilton (Yam); 3. Troy Taff (Kaw); 4. David VonHolten (Suz); 5. Bardley Murdick (Kaw)

Trail Rider: 1. Lance Jensen (Hon); 2. Kevin Hahn (Suz); 3. Gregg Hecht (KTM); 4. Todd Hecht (KTM); 5. Steve Shearer (KTM)

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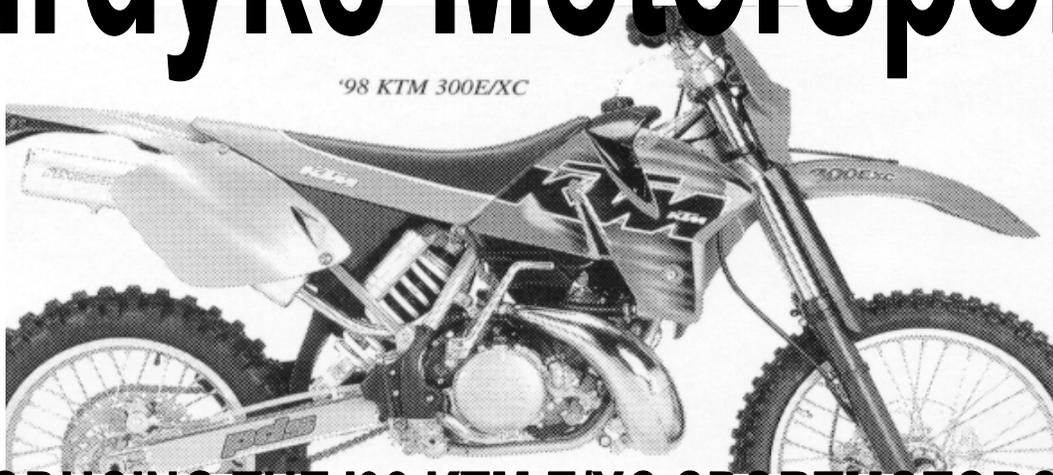
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