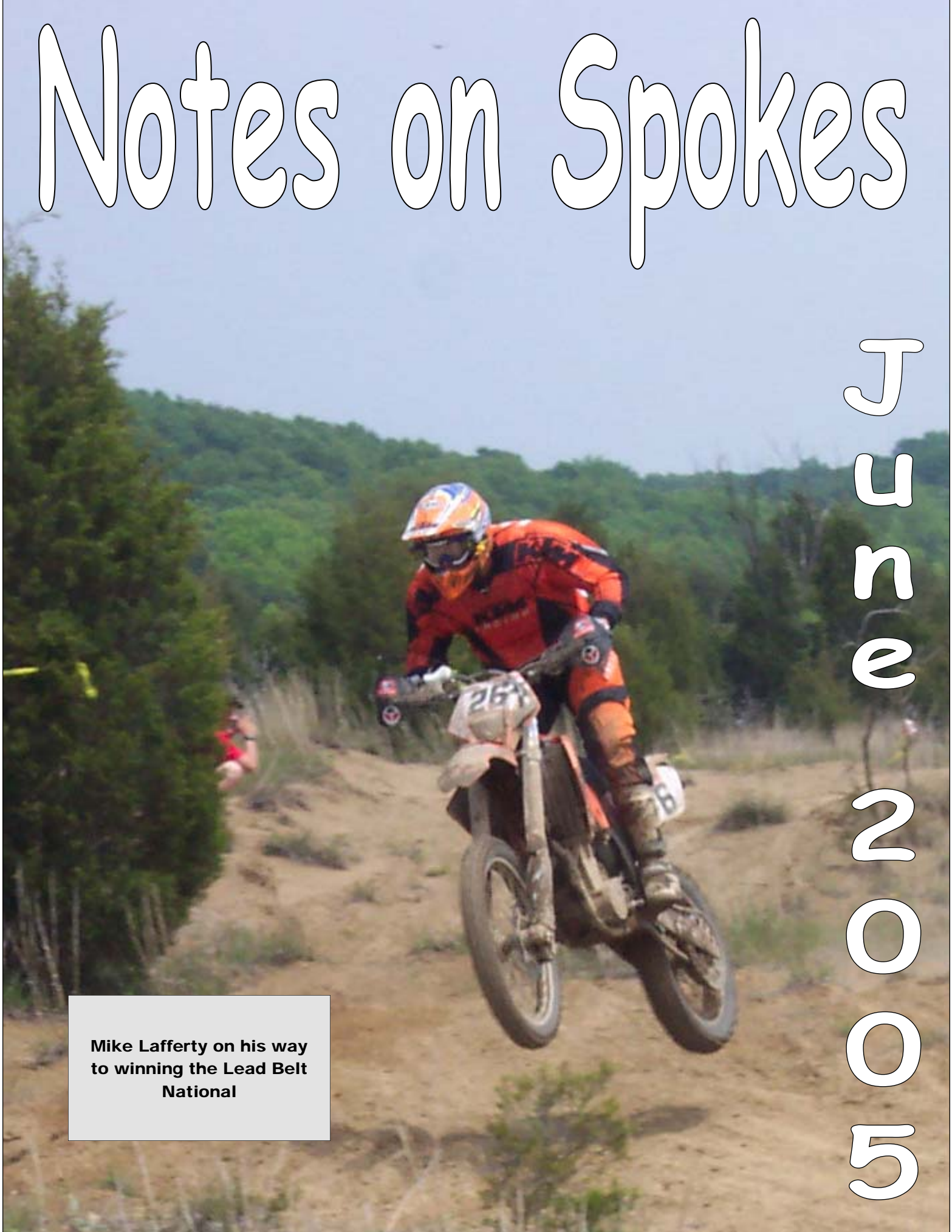


Notes on Spokes

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Mike Lafferty on his way
to winning the Lead Belt
National

TID BITS

New Notes on Spokes editor!

Well, that's what I hope. After eight years of doing Notes on Spokes, I'm going to hang it up after this year. I am currently looking for someone to take over. So if you or someone you know is interested, have them get ahold of me.

Notes on Spokes is separate from the Ozark Mountain Trail Riders Association. It is a business. You don't have to be a member of OMTRA to get Notes on Spokes nor do you have to get Notes on Spokes to be a member.

The advertisements run from January 1st to December 31st. Which is why I am running it until the end of the year. If you are a subscriber, I don't plan on sending out any more renewal notices, unless someone steps up to do this next year. I don't want anyone to have paid a year's subscription and only get a few issues.

Colorado!

As I write this, it's less than a week until I leave for a week of riding in Colorado. I am ready. Unfortunately, my bike is not ready, but it will be. I'll write all about the trip in next month's newsletter. I'll be back home from Colorado for about four weeks before I head back to Colorado for the Colorado 500. Well, some-

one has to do it. Speaking of the Colorado 500, Luther Stem is going to be my rookie this year. *If you are unfamiliar with the Colorado 500, you must be invited to ride it.* I got a call from Luther. He got his packet. He was as excited as a kid on Christmas Eve. He was amped!

Hardwood Enduro!

As you'll read in the OMTRA minutes, I got elected trail master for this year's Hardwood Enduro. I've already been working on the course. It's going to be a fun ride. I've had a whole year to get to know the property and the trail. Heck, last year at this time a lot of the trail didn't exist.

Like I said, it's going to be fun. The extra short course is going to be much more doable. I've taken the edge off the short course and there will be a few more breaks. The long course is going to be tough. But at least they won't be hammered before they start the loop.

Blackjack Enduro

The next race on the Black Jack Enduro Circuit is, believe it or not, at Blackjack, MO. Brian Jahelka, BJEC scoring chairman and webmaster, is putting this one on. 4,000 acres of new terrain. Mark your calendars for Sept. 11.

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Leadbelt National

By Bob Fuerst

Ah, the Leadbelt National. It's put on by the Missouri Mudders at the Park Hills off-road riding area. It's not just an AMA national Enduro, it's also a Black-jack Enduro. So I made my annual trek to see the big dogs. This year's edition was held on May 22nd. The Missouri Mudders laid out a 46-mile loop. Long course riders got to ride it two times. The short course riders make one trip around.

On Saturday, it was pretty dry. The area needed some rain. We spent our time wandering around the pits checking out some of the national rigs. I guess the high gas prices affected some of the riders. In fact, instead of the usual luxury rig, current national number one Randy Hawkins showed up in a pickup with trailer. Mike Lafferty had the same rig that he's had for several years. Oh yeah, it was his first race back after breaking his collar bone only four weeks before.

It didn't stay dusty for the race. Rain woke us up in the middle of the night. It stopped and then it started again. Luckily, it stopped about dawn. But it left some of the course pretty sloppy. Other parts were great, especially the sandy areas.

Usually, analyzing the route sheet for this race is a waste of time. And this year was no different. The first three miles were at 15 mph. OK, this should be no problem. In fact, it was doable by this rider. I think I had about 30 seconds to wait at the 2.9 mile point before it was time to go.

The speed average bumped to 18 mph for the next 6 miles; at



Steve Hatch, second overall, at the last check.

that point the speed average went up to 24 mph for 10 miles to the gas available. I was hoping to be on time through the 18 mph section and then if I was able to maintain 18 mph through the 24 mph section, I would drop about 8 points at the check before the gas available. There had to be a check right before the gas available, didn't there? Unfortunately, I was already down 7 minutes by the time I got to the 24 mph section. So much for strategy; for this rider, it was going to be a 46-mile hare scramble.

I got to the gas available, bumped the mileage on my computer and I was still 13 minutes down. That's how I did. When looking at the scores of the top ten riders, the most points dropped was 5 and the least was 1 point dropped. They had to wait at the gas available!

(Continued on page 4)

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There was a 10-minute pause after this section. This was enough to get the top riders back on time, but not me. I was starting to get hammered. There were 16 more miles before the end of the short course, the first six at 18 mph and the last 10 at 24 mph; I do remember the trail being fun in this section, except for one long creek section.

I was sure glad to see that last check. And I was really glad that I was only riding short course.

Shawn Hall provided all the pictures from the race. Here's why Shawn makes the pilgrimage to the race— The Mother Ship for all KTM riders!

Long course riders got a half hour break before heading back out. That is, if they were on time. They got to

(Continued from page 3)

ride the same course again.



Randy Hawkins on his way to fourth overall.

Trail conditions were pretty sloppy in a few places. There were a few hills that got tough. It was slick enough that if you got your rear wheel caught on a root or a rock, it could mean getting off and pushing.

After the gas available, they wanted us to go really fast! They bumped the speed average to 30 mph for 9 miles. Yeah, right. It was easy to drop buckets full of points in this section for us mere mortals. This was the big points-taking section of the day. Even the big dogs were dropping nine and ten points here.

When all was said and done, Mike Lafferty won with a 21, three points over Steve Hatch. Coming in third was Matt Stavish with a 25. Current national champion Randy Hawkins dropped 28 points, beating fifth place finisher Billy Russell, on tie-breakers. Only 6 seconds separated Hawkins and Russell.

Cody Potts took first place Blackjack with a thirteenth overall.



Here's the way to do the gas available—first, get there on time; second, have your mechanic ready to look the bike over; and finally, your wife is ready with fresh goggles and gloves. And they are all dressed in their nifty outfits.



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See ya at the race!

Train Robbers

By Bob Fuerst

June 10, 2005

Bismark, Ark

It looked like it was going to be hot and dusty for the seventh race of the BJEC season at the Train Robbers Enduro put on by the Arkansas Dirt Riders. This is always a well-attended event with it being sanctioned by three circuits. Not only is it part of the BJEC season, but it is also a SERA, Southern Enduro Riders Association, and TSCEC, Texas State Champion Enduro Circuit, race. Over 300 riders participated. I headed down with Shawn Hall in the RV. We drove through rain a couple of times on the way down. We hoped that they were getting rain at the race site. Unfortunately, they were not.

It was a traditional time-keeping enduro with three loops. Extra Short Course riders made one loop. Short Course riders made two loops and long course riders would ride all three loops.

The first loop, at just over 19 miles, was fun for most. One thing that was really noticeable on the route sheet was the first reset. At 18 mph, the reset from 3.6 to 3.65 was just 10 seconds in length. Why? Anyhow, once in the woods, the dust wasn't too bad. It would get dusty when the route dropped out to an open road. A few riders complained of missing a corner and getting lost for a short time. There were three checks on this loop. The first check was at 4.2 miles. All the top riders zeroed it. The check was followed by a reset from 4.58 to 6.31. If you know your enduro rules, there must be three miles between checks. With the check at 4.2, there could not be a check before 7.2 miles. So the smart riders cruised up to 7.1 miles and waited. It really wasn't necessary to advance down the trail though, since the check was followed by a long trail section that was relatively easy to stay on time.

In fact, it was quite a bit of fun to freight train with three other riders on my minute, including 3rd overall, first BJEC, Cody Potts. I not sure how long this section was, but I think we hit

the next check about the 13 mile mark. The check out was at the end of the loop, right back at camp. I had to hustle and I still dropped one point. It was 1:58, but it was still one point! Of the top ten finishers, seven came into this check with a perfect score. In fact, those seven riders had perfect scores at the end of the first loop.

After an extended reset and gas available, we headed out on the second loop. The speed average bumped up to 20 mph. Check four, the first check on the second loop, was just a short distance from the reset. There was a short reset seven miles into the loop. I think check five was right after this reset. It got to be a blur at that point. About three miles later, the speed average bumped to 24 mph for seven miles before a reset. Check six, right before the reset, proved to be the first points-taker for the top riders. Carsten Cagle and Stephen Reed both dropped three points at this check.

Now, the top riders may have been able to take advantage of this reset. But for us mere mortals, it wasn't quite enough to get us back on time. There were 10 more miles before the end of the short course. The Arkansas Dirt Riders showed the riders some mercy and had the last check three miles from the end of the course. Cagle would continue to lead, zeroing this check. There were a whole bunch of the top riders dropping only one point.

The third loop was approximately 28 miles in length, with the last nine run at 24 mph. All the top riders zeroed check eight, the first check on loop three. A long ways later, the riders got to check nine, the final check of the day. Cagle again topped the field, dropping only 3 points. Reed, Potts and Nolan Knight each dropped 4 points.

Cagle's score totaled 6 points for the overall win. Reed dropped 8 points for second. Potts and Knight tied with 9 points. Potts took third by 25 seconds on tie breakers.



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Golden Eagle

By Bob Fuerst

June 26, 2005

Stillwater, OK

Summer had arrived in time for the Golden Eagle Enduro. The Golden Eagle was the eighth race of the year. It was held in its traditional location outside Stillwater, OK.

It was going to be hot. It was going to get real hot later in the day.

The Stillwater Trail Riders don't have much room to work with at the Stillwater Motorcycle Park. It's referred to as the 500, for 500 acres of land. Consequently, it was a qualifier-style enduro with a 20-mile loop. Extra short course riders rode it one time. Short course riders going twice and long course riders made three loops. There were three special tests per loop, except for the last



Riders at the start of the Golden Eagle

(Continued on page 7)

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(Continued from page 6)

loop. There was only one special test on the last loop. It was the whole loop, minus one little section.

All the sections looked pretty much the same, lots of tight corners, back and forth. A few hills are thrown in, but they are really big gullies. Oh yeah, if you haven't been there, the dirt is very red, very, very red. There are a few rocks, but they are big rocks that don't move when you hit them.

The first special test started about four miles into the loop and it ran for four miles. The second special test was across the road on "the eighty", 80 acres of the park separated by a county road. This special test was two miles long.

The third special test was the last four miles of the loop.

Riders were required to start all the loops on time. Riders were penalized one minute for each minute they were late.



Row 10 takes off



Hare scramblers and motocrossers were just as at home as enduro riders. Above, ISDE rider JD Hammock on his way to 7th overall

Now the long course riders didn't race across the road. Just before the road crossing, there was a sign directing riders on the first and second loops to cross the road. Third loop riders were to stay to the left and not cross the road. As riders took off for the third loop, a piece of orange tape was placed on their number plates, indicating they were on the third loop. This was necessary, since early third loop riders could catch late second loop riders. Riders would also go through the

checks used on the first and second loops. The orange tape alerted check workers that this was a long course rider and mark the score card as an observation check. And get out of the way.

Cody Potts continued his winning ways by taking the overall, and first BJEC, with a total time of 129 minutes and 15 seconds. Cole Kirkpatrick was second, 32 seconds back. Matt Lane, with a time of 132m 32s, was third, second BJEC. Drew Chandler and Allan Swartz filled out the top five.

The overall A award went to A Vet rider Craig Chapman.

First B rider was B Viet rider Jeff Simunek.

Charlie Wagner won the C class. And the fastest old fart was Tom Eidem.

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05 - 06 Hillbilly GP

Here's the schedule for the upcoming season:

OCT. 8-9 THAYER MOTORSPORTS, THAYER (RIDING PARK)
NOV. 5-6 LOAIZA DAIRY FARMS, WESTPHALIA (RIDING PARK)
DEC. 3-4 MILE HIGH, SEYMOUR
DEC. 17-18 BULL CREEK, WALNUT SHADE
(This will also be a Toys for Tots event)
JAN. 7-8 CENTURY FARMS, RICHLAND
JAN. 28-29 BLACK JACK RANCH, COLLINS (RIDING PARK)
FEB. 11-12 HILLBILLY HIGHWAYS, HIGHLANDVILLE
MAR. 4-5 CASSVILLE NATIONALS, CASSVILLE

Here's the new stuff:

ATVS WILL RACE ON SATURDAY (SAME GREAT HILLBILLY FORMAT)
BIKES ON SUNDAY (SAME GREAT HILLBILLY FORMAT)
PEE WEES WILL RACE BETWEEN MOTOS
START TIME, FIRST RACE "HIGH NOON"

Class Changes:

ATV, WE'RE ADDING A +30 CLASS
BIKES, ADD A +50, GETTING RID OF VINTAGE & WOMEN'S CLASSES
PEE WEE, WE'LL PROBABLY HAVE 2 AGE CLASSES THIS YEAR (8 & UNDER/9 & OVER)

Other Stuff:

WORK AVERAGE: YOU WILL WORK ALL DAY OF YOUR EVENT & COMPETE IN ALL OF THE OTHER RACES FOR YOUR AVERAGE OF TOP 3 SCORES TO KICK IN.
PROMOTOR POWER: IF WE SEE SOMEONE OBVIOUSLY IN THE WRONG CLASS, THEY WILL BE TOLD TO MOVE. IN THE PAST, SPUD WOULD ASK: THERE IS A DIFFERENCE.
TOYS FOR TOTS: THE HILLBILLY IS BUSINESS AS USUAL, AT THE END OF THE DAY, TIME PERMITTING WE'LL HAVE A PANTY RAID "TEAM RACE" IT'S BIG FUN & ABSOLUTLY HILARIOUS TO WATCH. WE'RE HOPING EVERYONE WILL BRING A NEW TOY FOR DONATION "I WILL BE" WHETHER YOU'RE IN ON THE RAID OR NOT.

THAT'S ABOUT IT, ALL WE GOT TO DO IS MAKE IT THROUGH SUMMER & WE'LL HAVE IT MADE, SEE YA AT THE RACES, SPUD

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OMTRA Stuff



OMTRA Meeting
Check out www.hillbillygp.com

Folks, there have been May and June meetings since the last newsletter. Unfortunately, our club secretary, Judy Willis, wasn't able to make the meetings. So that means I am relying on my memories of the meeting for these notes.

The May meeting was held at Buckingham's on South Campbell. The first issue discussed was the incorporation status of the club, it seems all is well. The corporation status is back in good shape. A lot of time was spent talking about racing.

The June meeting was held Carlos O'Kellys on South Campbell. It was a packed room. Vice Chairman Shane Martin had prepared a mission statement for the club. It's one of those things that are necessary every couple of years to help set the direction of the club. It brought up lots of questions. I just wish I could find the darn thing.

Shawn Hall was elected to head up the enduro on October 23rd and Bob Fuerst was elected as trail master. *Darn, I had to remember that.*

The club also voted to rent the Radical Rob's motocross track at Halfway on July 3rd.

That's about all I can remember, except Kevin telling me to wake up.

Bob Fuerst
Communication Chairman.

Newest OMTRA Member:
Shane (RedCrMan) and Jamie Martin are the proud parents of a baby boy (RedCrBaby). He arrived Thursday at 10pm.
Jackson David Martin.



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Mark Your Calendar

OMTRA meeting—July 13 at Bredeaux—2810 E. Battlefield, Springfield, MO (corner of Battlefield and Lone Pine—Buffet! - Starts at 7pm.

2005 BJEC Schedule

www.BlackJackEnduro.com

- 9/11/05 — Blackjack Ranch, Blackjack, MO
- 9/25/05— Indian Nations, Scipio, OK
- 10/23/05— Hardwood, Walnut Shade, MO
- 11/6/05— Red River, Bulcher, TX

2005 Missouri Hare Scrambles Championship

Information 417-537-8406 Frank Leivan
[Www.mhscracing.com](http://www.mhscracing.com)

- 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.

Forward Motion Hare Scramble Series

www.kansasoffroad.com

- 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

2005-2006 Hillbilly GP

- Oct. 8-9— Thayer Motorsports, Thayer
- Nov. 5-6— Loaiza Dairy Farms, Westphalia
- Dec. 3-4— Mile High, Seymour
- Dec.17-18— Bull Creek, Walnut Shade
(This Will Also Be A Toy's For Tot's Event)
- Jan. 7-8— Century Farms, Richland
- Jan.28-29— Black Jack Ranch, Collins
- Feb.11-12— Hillbilly Hwy's, Highlandville
- Mar. 4-5— Cassville Nationals, Cassville

**Keep up with the schedule on:
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2005 Arkansas Hare Scramble Championship Series

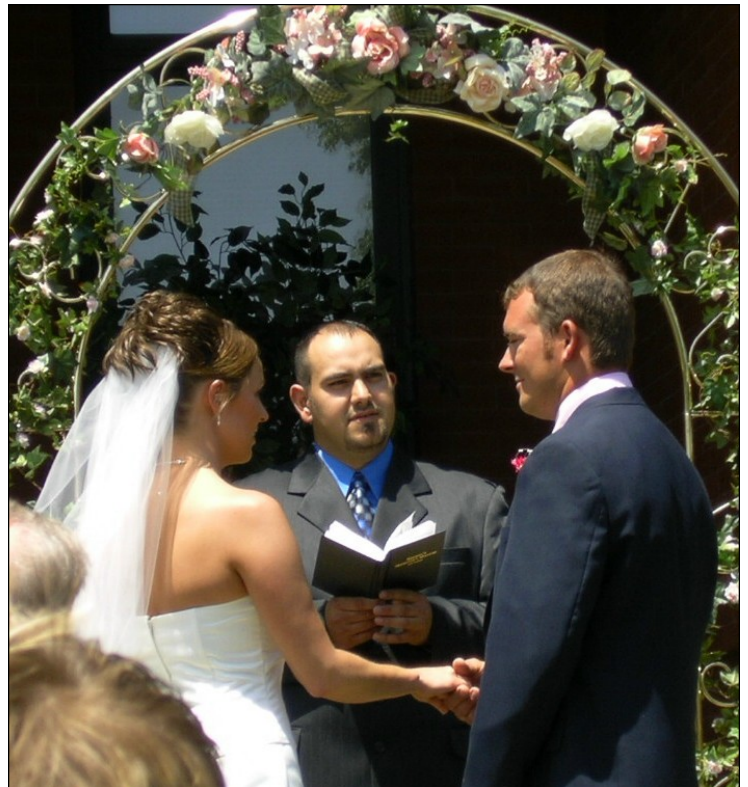
www.arkansasharescramble.com

- 7/9-10/05— Brickleys
- 7/30-31/05— Holly Springs
- 8/13-14/05— TBA
- 9/3-4-/05— Mayflower
- 9/17-18/05— Harrison
- 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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Ozark Mountain Trail Riders Steve Criner and Kerri Brummet were married May 21, 2005, at the SMSU Research Campus in Mountain Grove. Shortly after the ceremony the bride and groom sped away in their get-away golf cart. Photos by Donna Moore.

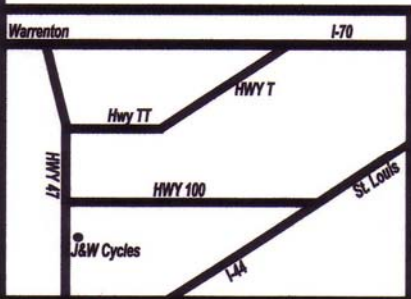
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