Sox Brookhart Memorial Enduro Lost in Lodi Community Group w/ Athens Motorcycle Club ACES Round 3 Shade, Ohio May 22, 2011 "Gaitten Sox It To Em"

By: Steve Wheeler

Mention the word Lodi and many will have the old CCR tune tumbling about in their heads. For this event, a more appropriate tune would have been *Who'll Stop The Rain*. Fortunately, southern Ohio has been spared the severe storms that much of the country has suffered, perhaps because the sun hasn't shined enough to provide the thermal energy needed to generate severe weather. However, this has been one of the wettest springs on record and Lodi, like New Straitsville, would remind everyone why these events are called enduros.

For race day, the skies actually cleared as riders began to arrive at sign up at the Richland Township Volunteer Fire Department in Shade, Ohio. It was quite an impressive site to see the community in full support of this fund raising event for the fire department. Saturday arrivals found the prime parking for their campers in the old school lot, while those who arrived later were directed into nearby lots or front yards. The folks of Shade know what hospitality is and throughout the day you would find volunteers manning concession stands, checks and road crossings.

While the locals made everyone feel comfortable, no one felt more so than KTM support rider Josh Gaitten as he railed to an impressive score of 11. Morgan Green (KTM) dropped 18 to take second overall with Robbie Jenks (GG-19) rounding out the top 3. With this finish, Gaitten and Jenks find themselves tied at the top of the AA and Overall results after three rounds.

It was the first section that would be the downfall tor many with 135 riders beginning their day pumped about the promise of 100% new trail. Over 50 of them discovered that new translates into difficult when you factor in spring rains and foliage. It was here that Gaitten served notice that he intended for his name to be the first one etched on one of Sox's old bike stands which would be presented by Sox's widow Jeanie as the rotating trophy for this event. Gaitten bested the other contenders by 2 points here and went on to become the third different winner in as many events in 2011.

The section also set the tone for bragging rights in the A ranks as 2003 Enduro Champion Jeff Anderson (Hon) made his first appearance as a competitor in years and was the only A rider to turn a 5. Anderson went on to drop 20 and finish 4<sup>th</sup> overall for the day. The B division, on the other hand, would be close all day with Brad Graves (KTM) carrying a 1 or 2 point lead all day

only to have Zac Thomas (GG) eclipse him by 2 points in the last section to card a 38, pulling off a 1 point win.

As proof of enduro's uniqueness among motorsports, Thomas rode the race with his father Mark (KTM). Dad competed in the Sr. B class and although the elder Thomas never topped his son's scores, he must have done a pretty good job of pushing Zac along as the father / son team went on to finish 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> overall with each winning their respective classes.

At days end, tired but satisfied participants and their crews were rewarded with unique Overall awards, raffle prizes, Point View Cycle gift cards, and certificates from SCOTT and EBC. To help with the community fundraiser, Moose support rider Todd Ghearing and Moose Racing provided much appreciated merchandise. Ghearing, who loves the tough runs, was disappointed to sit out the race due to a broken foot suffered in a practice crash but was there to support his friends and represent his sponsor.

The Appalachian Championship Enduro Series (ACES) is a traditional format enduro series and our 2011 season continues June 5th in Ray, Ohio, at the Dennis Mitchell Memorial Enduro. We would like to thank the following sponsors for contributing to the growth of our series and supporting our riders: Osburn Signs, KTM, Husqvarna, EVS, Enduro Engineering, EBC, SCOTT, KENDA, MSR, T&E News, Point View Cycles, Smith's Power Sports, Caton's Cycle Center, Sport Cycles, Wheelsports, JM Cycles and Ohio Motorcycle.

Overall: Josh Gaitten (KTM) Overall A: Jeff Anderson (Hon) Overall B: Zac Thomas

AA: 1. Josh Gaitten (KTM); 2. Morgan Green (KTM); 3. Robbie Jenks (GG); 4. Rodney Judson (Bet)

200A: 1. Travis Bidwell (KTM); 2. Mike Molnar (KTM); 3. Jason Smith (GG)

250A: 1. Mark McGrath (KTM); 2. Cary Eberts (KTM); 3. Tyler Chadwell (KTM); 4. Michael Jolly (Hsq); 5. Colin Klier (KTM)

Open A: 1. Brian Rickard (KTM); 2. John Grimm (Ho)n); 3. Robert Heinzerling (KTM)

Vet A: 1. Jeff Anderson (Hon); 2. Brian Sovak (Yam); 3. Joe Uhrig (KTM);

4. Brian Hollingshead (KTM); 5. Matt Hatten (Kaw)

Sr. A: 1. Jeff Johnson (Yam); 2. Lloyd Shaffer (Yam); 3. Doug Rinehart (KTM);

4. David Olive (KTM); 5. Wayne Perdue (KTM)

S.Sr. A: Mark Lederle (KTM); 2. Scott Klamfoth (KTM); 3. Adam Cadle (Yam);

4. Jim Kalleker (KTM); 5. Norm Into (Hon)

200 B: 1. Brad Graves (KTM); 2. Dave Moody (KTM)

250 B: 1. Zac Thomas (GG); 2. Andy Matheny (Hon); 3. Brad Geyer (KTM); 4, Christopher Kight (Kaw); 5. Jacob Walburn (KTM)

Open B: 1. Grant Smith (KTM); 2. Ryan Curtiss (KTM); 3. Jeff Best (KTM); 4. Travis Jarvis (KTM); 5. Kyle Harter (Hon)

Vet B: 1. Tim Antle (Yam); 2. Greg Kalwasinskli (KTM); 3. Trent Gardner (KTM); 4. Greg Olenic (GG); 5. James Holter (KTM)

Sr. B: 1. Mark Thomas (KTM); 2. Neil Brague (KTM); 3. Scott Perrie (KTM); 4. Robert Gorst (KTM); 5. Jim Miller (Yam)

S.SR. B: 1. Ron Valdman (KTM); 2. Mike Branham (Hon); 3. Von Brachna (KTM); 4. Mark Best (KTM); 5. Robert Thaw (KTM)

Masters: 1. Marvin Popp (KTM)

Vintage: Tom Notestone (Hsq); 2. Timothy Grow (Hsq)

Schoolboy C: 1. Vinnie Petrella (KTM); 2. Levi Exline (KTM); 3. Kelby Kisor (Hsq)

C: 1, Chuck Freeze (KTM); 2. Adam Clark (KTM); 3. Scott Clayton (Hsq);



Jeff Anderson Overall A



Josh Gaitten Overall



Zac Thomas Overall B