

LOCAL AFT RACERS DOMINATE THE INDY MILE

Story by Kevin Lambert Jr. | Photos by Flat Trak Fotos





▲ The King is back on his throne, Wiles has re-established himself as a powerhouse singles racer with the RMR team behind him. Many young racers have looked up to Wiles for almost 20 years.

A Kitchen locks Horns with RMR riders #17 Hank Wiles and #54 Mike Inderbizin

Brandon Kitchen: The Clifford Road Kid

Brandon Kitchen slows down up the front stretch after running the best race in his life, to date the Indy Mile! Hard work, hours in the saddle and support from his family and friends has all come full circle and paid off for the young rider. When Brandon stops he picks up one of his most important team members Brent Donely, and together they take Brandon's first ever AFT victory lap.

It is very hard to believe that only a handful of years ago, Brandon Kitchen had never raced a half mile dirt oval, a mile or even an out of state race of for

that matter. However, Brandon did excel locally in the D14 flat track division that composes of short tracks and TTs; the current lack of track diversity and no open practice facilities forces many area racers to compete at out-of-state venues if they are wanting to make it at the next level. To add to the stress, Brandon was told by a few sponsors that he had to step up his social media "game" as well.

Brandon's talent was about to be molded with the help of Robby-Bobby and his flat track commune in Florida. Kitchen, put in hours on the track with some of the best talent the country can offer including Morgen Mishler, Justin



▲ Ben Lowe #25 pulled away from thr field in dominating fashion early on in the the main event.

Jones, Trevor Brunner and 2019 AFT singles champ Dalton Gautier.

Seeing how much this practice was helping Brandon, Brent Donley took it upon himself to create a small facility at his home to not only aid Brandon but, to help local pros and amateurs as well. Practice makes prefect and The Clifford Road Kid was about to hit paydirt in the biggest way possible!

Kitchen's race program is not what some may call "elite" but, this does not mean they cannot compete at the upper echelons of the professional ranks. However, I does not hurt to have a lil help from your friends or one of the best motorcycle performance companies in the industry. Dalton Gautier and Robby-Bobby were approached by Vance and Hines about an opportunity for a singles racer to run the Vance and Hines shop bike; Gautier did not hesitate to lobby for a promising up and comer in Brandon Kitchen. With a few words, Kitchens destiny was sealed.

Brandon didn't seem to be swinging for the fences immediately, he was putting up fast times and was a solid contender in the mix but, was he playing possum, or was he waiting to let lose in the main event?

When the main event rolled around the sophomore played it smart, observing his competitors and learning the track, seeing who would do what, where they would do it and where he would need to be as the time was running out. As the race developed, wear and tear on equipment becomes a major factor; the conservative racer, a smart racer, waits to make their moves till the final laps of the event, Kitchen was this racer. A final lap pass nearing the finish bagged Kitchen his first ever win in professional competition; placing him in first place in overall standings in the AFT singles class. Kitchen's Father and stepmother went absolutely bonkers while Mother Amy, overcome with

INDY MILE continued on page 18



Ben Lowe takes his first ever victory lap

To this Month's



OCTOBER 2020 MATERIAL DEADLINES:

Materials need to be submitted by the following date. Sorry, but late submissions are subject to prevailing space and time restrictions and may, if necessary, be left out of the deadlined publication until the following edition.

Advertising & Editorial: **Due SEPTEMBER 20**

SPACE

Space is reserved in every issue for every division in the District. Please, promote your sport by contributing stories and photos about your events, past and/or upcoming. This is **FREE advertising for your division**. Take advantage of it!

When submitting a story or photo please ensure to include event dates and locations, and <u>photos MUST in-</u> <u>clude captions</u>. Event results are always nice to include as well.

For detailed information on submission policies for editorial content and advertising, please go to www.D14News.net.

DELIVERY

The delivery goal of District 14 News is normally around the middle of the month. However, due to varying factors of submissions, printing, and mailing, there is no guarantee the newspaper will reach readers by a specific date in the month. It is recommended and good practice to think at least 1 or 2 months ahead when promoting special events or other time sensitive dates. For example, if your special event is in August, you should consider promoting that event <u>no later than the July edition</u>.

For more info: linda@D14News.net | 586.855.7413

PLEASE RECYCLE. This publication is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks.



While the 'Rona has shut down most activities for the state of Michigan, it sure doesn't seem to have stopped our D14 Family from having fun this summer! As it should be. Carry on! THANK YOU to all of our contributors. If you were gracious enough to make a submission and haven't seen it yet, fear not... it will show up soon! In the future, I would greatly appreciate **inclusion of the sender's name, photographer's name, captions, location/promoter name and date if known!** Thanks again! Also, I would like to make PERFECTLY clear... NOBODY is trying to steal or take credit for anyone else's photos. If you see a photo on the pages of any edition and it is yours and not given proper credit, here's what you do... you contact me and let me know and I will make sure that you get credit. Okay? K.

Right now is a good time to make sure your memberships are up-to-date. There's a **NEW FORM BELOW** if you're not tech savvy or still prefer mailing it in. STILL only \$15!! You can also purchase online at AMA-D14.org or at the races.

'Til next time ... take care, be cool, be well ____ and safe. And as always, enjoy the ride... it all goes by in a blink.



APPLICATION AMA RIGHTS, RIDING, RACING \$15 – REGULAR MEMBERSHIP \$13 – FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$30 – Two (2)-Year MEMBERSHIP (Canadian Residents NOT eligible) Must be AMA Member: Must have One (1) Full District Family \$45 – Three (3)-Year MEMBERSHIP Member; includes Competition Card Only. Your card will expire one-year from the issue date Must be AMA Member; includes Competition Card and Newspaper Subscription. All memberships are Indicate Name of Member with Full Membership: н н non-refundable. Please check ALL riding disciplines that apply: ____ATV _____MX _____ Ice ____ Road Name I. Enduro Hare Scramble Flat Track AMA# _ н L Sprint Enduro MAIL TO – MOLLY KIDNER I. I I. \$15 - CANADIAN MEMBERSHIP 13785 Spring Creek Dr SW Fife Lake MI 49633 I. Required if you have Canadian Residence. Must be AMA Member; includes Competition Card Bring your copy of this completed form with you to L EVERY race until you receive your card! L You must be an AMA Member to join District 14 L PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY and fill out COMPLETELY to receive your paper and membership card Name: First Middle Last Address: _ _ Apt.# _ _ City: State: Zip: or Canadian Province: Country: If you have a Canadian address, you must choose "Canadian Membership" abov _ (home/ cell) E-mail: Phone: YOUR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION _(all 6 digits or temporary number from application) EXPIRATION DATE: AMA NUMBER: DISTRICT 14 NUMBER: _ _(all numbers or write NEW/RENEW) DOB: I understand that this membership is for the right to participate in a District 14 points paying event and I am required to follow the By-laws, policies and procedures of District 14 Club Council as well as the applicable policies of the participating pro Signature: Date: Attention D14 Members: Your copy of this application may be used to sign-up in AMA/District 14 Events for 60 Days. If you have not received you District 14 Membership card in 30 days, contact District 14 Membership Administration with information as to where you purchased your membership

D14 Membership App 06/01/2019 Rev.06/2019

Ensure continued delivery of the **District 14 News** direct to your home mailbox & **SAVE TIME AT SIGN UP!** Complete this form & send in your membership dues today!

Important!

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Don't have your card in 30 days? Call **231-670-5450** to find out where it is.

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PLEASE NOTE: The phone number listed for your organization is the number that was supplied as the primary contact on your application

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If your Charter is not listed, you will need to submit a Charter Application and \$25 Charter Fee. If your application is currently pending, your listing will appear once your status has cleared. If you believe this information to be incorrect, please verify

your status with the D14 Secretary, **TAYLOR CARPENTER at 517-802-9609** or via email D14Secretary@ama-d14.org. Thank You!

DIRECT ALL D14 MEMBERSHIP, ADDRESS CHANGES, CARD REPLACEMENTS. MISSED NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER MEMBERSHIP RELATED ISSUES TO THE MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATOR:

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• Yamaha found themselves on top of the GNCC podium when Steward Baylor put the AmPro YZ450FX in the winner's circle at the recent Mountaineer event in West Virginia. Whether that is a good thing or not remains to be seen - Baylor is extremely outspoken about how he can win on any bike (and he can), so there may not be much to commend one brand over the other.

• Honda must be glad that TrialGP is back on track (on rock?) Toni Bou came charging from the proverbial gate in quest of his 14th outdoor trial championship, winning the first three rounds of the series. Amazingly though, 38 year old Adam Raga was able to interrupt the champ's dominance by taking day 2 of the French round, winning for the first time in over three years.

• On the other hand, the Big Red Machine has foundered in MotoGP following Marq Marquez' exit from the series with a broken arm at the opening round of the 2020 season. The Spaniard's amazing skill seems to have made up for a number of deficiencies in the bike.

• In a move remarkably similar to what we've come from Marquez, MotoGP elder statesman Valentino Rossi recovered from a washout at the Misano GP by levering the bike up from the ground with his knees and elbows. At speed.

· James Stewart was spotted trackside at the recent Red Bud National MX, cheering on his young protégé Chase Sexton. Sexton has been having a breakout season in the 450 class, although the hammer-and-tongs fight for the title also includes fellow rookie Adam Cianciarulo, and Zach Osbourne.

Three-in-a-row 450 MX champ Eli Tomac has been good but not great through the first five rounds of the outdoor MX series. An odd season, a recent supercross title, on-fire competitors, and a new baby seem to have taken the edge off of Tomac's outdoors dominance.

• The Geico Honda team are soon to be the ' ... ' Honda team. After a number of seasons as a title sponsor for the 250 factory Honda team, the insurance giant has decided to not renew their sponsorship

with the team that has won championships with Malcolm Stewart, Justin Bogle, Chase Sexton and many others.

• It was thought that Justin Barcia would be headed to the Troy Lee Designs Gas-Gas team next year, but seemingly for the first time in history, Yamaha exercised an option to keep 'BamBam' on a blue bike for 2021 and beyond.

· Speaking of which, rumor has it that the Yamaha factory 450 effort will find itself under the Star Racing tent next year.

 Tony Cairoli earned a remarkable 91st MX world championship victory with a 2-2 finish at the third Italian round (round eight of the series). The Sicilain's victory was made easier when Jeffrey Herling's smacked the ground and took himself out of the series for the near future, and he now leads Honda's Tim Gajser in the overall standings.

• Long term reviews of the Yamaha Tenere 700 are coming back, and riders from across the street/dirt/adventure spectrum are almost universal in their praise. Too bad so many US dealers are still unaware of the bike.

• It will be a crime if the Toledo Trail Riders don't end up back on the hare scrambles schedule in 2021. I had a chance to ride the event trail at a recent Steve Vollmar Memorial Ride/Bike Rodeo/Pit Bike Challenge/Swap Meet down in Swanton, Ohio, and it was first class.

• The slow boat from Italy lands in Long Beach October 6th, bringing with it the first batch of 2021 TMs. We've got a fuelinjected 250 2T and a 300cc twin-pipe 4T (as well as a carbureted 300 2T) on the water right now.

• Kudos to both the Sprint Enduro series and the Toledo Trail Riders for their recent efforts to honor one of the best guys in District 14 racing. Vollmar lost his life racing in November 2019.

If you can't catch us on the trail, you can catch us on the web at afterhourscycle. com. We would love to help get you set up on a new TM or Beta enduro bike, or even a Beta trials bike. If a suspension tune is more in line with what you need, we can help you there as well.



Colin Cook looks ahead to see where the race leader is

VINTAGE MX THE BROOMS BROOMS VERE OUT AL Dutch Story and photos by Steve Baginski

DUTCH SPORT PARK MX (Bloomingdale, MI) | August 9, 2020

Round Three of the series at Dutch Sport Park went off perfectly. A slightly lower than average turnout showed up but that didn't lessen the battles on the track. The crew did an amazing job to give a great track and experience. They moved through the program quickly and efficiently. They even did a group vintage photo during the intermission and hoped to get everyone and 8x10. Thanks for all the hard work they put in to run such a smooth program.

The first two classes out on the track were the Innovation and Historic. Ray Brooks grabbed the first moto holeshot and put in a few good laps before Nik Michael took over. He put his head down for a comfortable win. Ray had to charge hard and fight the entire moto to hold onto second just ahead of Gene Huntoon. Connor Goulet put in some solid laps for fourth as Todd Lane made his return to round out the top five. Jeff Sherene had a good back and forth battle with Todd as they were wheel to wheel coming to the finish. Jeff tried his best to force the pass but Todd was just far enough ahead. Jeff almost went down going up the finish jump but settled for sixth. Simon Farmer and Joe Hovorka had smooth smart rides to take seventh and eighth as Greg Jones got caught up in turn two and slowed his progress. Skip Krassa had a tip over in the deep sand and took Greg down with him. Greg worked his way back into ninth as Rick Murphy rounded out the top ten. Skip struggled the rest of the moto but crossed in eleventh. The Historic guys were in drop to and it was William Hawkins leading from the drop of the gate. He grabbed the holeshot and never looked back as he went on to the moto win. Shaun Nestor and Mick McCauley started in the top three and stayed there the entire race. Derek Michael put in a good race and was able to stay ahead of Dave Mclean as they rounded out the top five. Jeff Doneth made it about 30 feet out of the gate when his bike loaded up. He was exactly a lap down before





 Eli Hovorka was a solid top five overall with a great start in moto two

▲ Mick McCauley had a quiet ride to take third in Historic



▲ Ray Brooks (015) and Gene Huntoon (780) fought all the way to the finish

he got going and would end up in sixth. Moto two had Gene back out front with the holeshot but the lead wouldn't last long as he would fall and hand the lead to Nik. HE would then cruise on for the rest of the moto and take the 1-1 and overall. Gene picked himself up and charged all moto long to get back into second for second overall. Todd ran second for a few laps until Gene got by and Connor was breathing down his neck. Connor kept his head down and also made the pass to get into third which was good enough for third overall. Todd then started to get pressure from Ray as they were only a second apart at the finish. Todd would hold on for fourth but Ray's 2-5 was just better for fourth overall. Jeff had a lonely ride in sixth for sixth with Simon in a consistent 7-7 for seventh. Rick had a better race to take eighth for eighth overall. Greg once again got hung up a little in turn two but kept it up on two wheels. He was slowly catching Rick on the last lap but ended up in ninth for ninth overall. Joe put in solid laps to round out the top ten as Skip had a few more falls and ended up with a dnf for eleventh. More of the

same happened with the Historic class with William grabbing the holeshot and checking out. He went on to an easy 1-1 and overall. Shaun was right there off the start but lost a little ground early and settled for second. Mick and Derek were consistently third and fourth but it was Jeff out for redemption. He tinkered with his RM between moto's and put in a solid ride to take fifth from Dave and fifth overall. Dave would finish in sixth for sixth overall.

The Evolution class was out next with Shaun Nestor taking his first holeshot of the season. He was riding smart but Michael Sokalski was just on the gas after his second turn crash. He brought Ray Brooks with him as they went 1-2 with a small gap back to Shaun. Ron Schuitema had a good start going to a comfortable fourth. Keir Krassa looked good on his way to a top five just ahead of Jay Ottenwess, Victor Grahn and Rick Murphy. Mark Havalda had a small fuel issue and made it into turn two before his bike quit ending his race early. Mike was

DUTCH continued from page 7

back on his A game to take the holeshot and check out with the moto win and 1-1 overall. Shaun was a close second off the start just ahead of Ray. Ray took over second at the end of lap one and pulled away to take another second for second overall. Shaun settled into third to round out the podium. The battle was for fourth as Mark was on the move coming from the back of the pack and battling with Scott Schmock. Mark held on to take fourth but his first moto dnf dropped him back to ninth. Ron was in the mix with Keir who was just ahead of Victor, Jay and Rick. Ron came across in fifth to take fourth overall with Keir next to round out the top five. Victor, Jay and Rick were close for the last few laps as they finished out the top eight. Scott unfortunately went out with the wrong class and it wasn't caught until he had taken off for moto two so he was scored in last place.

The Transition class was out last with Nick Wickerham getting the holeshot. Colin Cook kept him honest for most of the race as they finished 1-2. Nik Michael switched to a 250 but struggled with the handling of the YZ over his Hondas and finished in third. Gene Huntoon rode solid to fourth as Eli Hovorka and Connor Goulet had a good battle for the top five. Connor would make the pass on the last lap putting Eli back to sixth. Mark Havalda was out on a budget build and was looking good holding off Simon Farmer. Simon was slowly closing the gap and with only two turns to go, Mark tipped over and stalled. Simon cruised on by to take seventh with Mark bummed as he crossed in eighth. Nick



▲ Simon Farmer drifting his way around the track inside the top ten



▲ Keir Krassa wheelies his way into the top five



 Michael Sokalski continues to be fast and consistent going 1-1 in Evolution



▲ Todd Lane (40) and Jeff Sherene (846) had a great first moto battle



▲ Shaun Nestor earned one holeshot but could only manage a top three in Evolution



William Hawkins led every lap on his way to victory



 Eventual winner Nik Michael (01) battles early with Connor Goulet (69)

was fastest out of the gate once again to take the holeshot and easy moto win. Eli was off to a fast start just ahead of Colin and Nik. They all sorted out quickly and by the end of lap one they were in their first moto positions. Nick went on to the 1-1 overall with Colin and Nik in the top three. Gene made his way into fourth with Eli rounding out the top five. Simon had some bike issues on lap one but would get going again to take sixth for sixth overall. Neither Connor or Mark made the start of moto two and would finish seventh and eight respectively.

We are now done with the Valley Trail Riders race and the Battle Creek GP and are in prep for the makeup date at Portland on Saturday September 19th. Then its another makeup date at Bulldogs on Sunday October 4th with a back to back weekend with our final GP race at Twisted MX on October 11th. Then we finish out our shortened season at Valley MX on Saturday October 24th. Please check out michiganvintagemotocross.com for any other changes. Thanks for checking in and I look forward to seeing everyone at the races.

RESULTS: DUTCH SPORT PARK 8/9/20 Historic: 1. W. Hawkins (Suz); 2. S. Nestor (CZ); 3. M. McCauley (Suz); 4. D. Michael (Yam); 5. J. Doneth (Suz); 6. D. Mclean (Hon) Evolution: 1. M. Sokalski (Hon); 2. R. Brooks (Suz); 3. S. Nestor (Mai); 4. R. Schuitema (Suz); 5. K. Krassa (Yam); 6. V. Grahn (Yam); 7. J. Ottenwess (Yam); 8. R. Murphy (Kaw); 9. M. Havalda (Suz); 10. S. Schmock (Suz) Innovation: 1. N. Michael (Hon); 2. G. Huntoon (Kaw); 3. C. Goulet (Hon); 4. R. Brooks (Suz); 5. T. Lane (Hon); 6. J. Sherene (Hon); 7. S. Farmer (Kaw); 8. R. Murphy (Hon); 9. G. Jones (Suz); 10. J. Hovorka (Hon); 11. S. Krassa (Hon) Transition: 1. N. Wickerham (Hon); 2. C. Cook (Yam); 3. N. Michael (Hon); 4. G. Huntoon (Kaw); 5. E. Hovorka (Hon); 6. S. Farmer (Kaw); 7. C. Goulet (Hon); 8. M. Havalda (Suz)



 Nick Wickerham showing how it's done to win in the Transition class



WROGERDECOSTEREIRTZHGEOYOEETG DAVE BOWMAN

NICKWEYD.D.WIERANDYDJEFFSTANTON LARRY STEWART

OLAGENOBUDAVIDBECKINGTONLNLEA

BRADLACKEYRKREGKRISKIPBIGELOW

EDDIEMBERTBERKDAVEHOLLISJEFFD

VALADEDAVIDONDAVECURRYWAGNERR

ALBERTSONWILLIAMFOSTERICKDUNN

SAMPLE (A) CIRCLE HE LETTER

History Lesson

MATTCROWN

DICKROBBINS

ALLEN DONETH

WILLIAM FOSTER

DENNY BENTLY

DEBRA MOTT

1) How many riders held a pro license? 2) How many riders placed first at Loretta Lynn's National?

DEADLY DON PRODUCTIONS



As we celebrate 45 years of racing Michigan Motocross. I'd like to remember those who made this sport possible. They are the track owners, the chairmen and the racers who gave us memories and helped grandfather the sport as it is today.

Thank you! **Deadly Don Wier**





Ads & Articles for October's paper are due **NOW!** <section-header><section-header>

FLAT TRAK

Dave and Kathy Hoenig have been chasing the professional flat track scene for over 40 years taking some of flat track's most iconic photos of all times; sadly all adventures come to an end and the couple publicly announced that they would be hanging it up for good.

Dave began shooting photos in the 1970s after he walked away from his professional race career from 65-70. Thankfully, Dave did not walk away from racing and continued to frequent events taking photos and writing articles for Cycle News which eventually led to paying gigs and assignments from the premier racing publication of the time. Eventually Flat Track Fotos was established in 1982 setting the bar for all flat track photographers to come!

Dave and Kathy have a soft spot for all current Michigan racers and provided the cover shot and photos for this month's issue of the D14 News. Kathy did state that Kevin Atherton is by far their favorite Michigan racer.

On behalf of all the flat track community, we thank you for your tireless dedication to the sport we love and wish you the best in all your future endeavors!



CHAIRPERSON Ryan Day C = MI State Championship Race		
SEI	PTEMBER	
05	Valley MX Stanton	
06	Valley MX Stanton	
07	🗘 Valley MX Stanton	
12	Red Bud MX Buchanan	
13	Red Bud MX Buchanan	
OCTOBER		
03	Log Road Bronson	
04	🛇 Log Road Bronson	
10	Dutch SP Bloomingdale	
11	Dutch SP Bloomingdale	
17	Twisted MX Milan	
18	Twisted MX Milan	

	C
CHAIRPERSON Jasc	on Cottrell
VICE CHAIR Jeff	Gramzow
SEPTEMBER	
19 Griffin Hines Farm Swa	anton, OH
OCTOBER	

Dutch Sport Park Bloomingdale 10



CHAIRPERSON Mike Maurer (No FES dates provided as of printing) **SEPTEMBER**

19	FES	Greenville, OH
OC	TOBER	
04	D14	Muddobber
10	FES	Fife Lake, MI
31	FES	. New Paris, IN
NO	VEMBER	
01	D14	Riders MC

01		 macronic
08	D14	 Treaty City



CHAIRPERSON Teresa Bennett VICE CHAIR Harmony Bailey **Q** = Quad Exhibition Offered

SEPTEMBER

12 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

ST (Q) Lucky Thumb MC

- STATE CHAMPIONSHIP 13 TT (Q) Lucky Thumb MC
- **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP (RAIN)** 19 ST Lucky Thumb MC

20 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP (RAIN) TT Lucky Thumb MC



13	Evergreen Creek???
20	Battle Creek MC Battle Creek



Image: State Championship - Max Points 💼 = Loretta Lynn Qualifier

SEPTEMBER

JLI	
05	Valley MX Stanton
06	Valley MX Stanton
07	Valley MX Stanton
12	Red Bud MX Buchanan
13	Red Bud MX Buchanan
13	Cadillac MC Cadillac
19	Portland TR Portland
20	Ortland TR Portland
26	Big Air MX Newago
27	Big Air MX Newago

27 Polka Dots MC..... Midland

OCTOBER

03	Log Road MX Bronson
04	Log Road MX Bronson
04	Sulldog Riders Millington
10	Dutch SP Bloomingdale
11	Outch SP Bloomingdale
17	Twisted MX Milan
18	Twisted MX Milan
24	Valley MX Stanton
25	Stanton Valley MX





Be sure to visit these websites often during the season and off-season to make sure you're up to date on the latest and greatest!

> **RidersMC.org** RedBudMX.com TheValleyTrailRiders.org ToledoTrailRiders.com TwistedMXMilan.com ValleyMotocross.com **UPSandStormers.com**

Have an Official FB Group? Want it listed here?

Email me to let me know how people can find you and I will list it here!

linda@d14news.net

FIND THEM

AMA – AmericanMotorcyclist.com D14 - AMA-D14.org MichiganVintageMotocross.com

BattleCreekMotorcycleClub.com BentWheels.com **BigAirMotocross.com** BullDogMX.com CadillacMC.com DutchSportParkMX.com FlintMotorcycleClub.com **GKTrailRiders.com** GrattanRaceway.com

I96Speedway.com LansingMotorcycleClub.org LogRoadMX.com LuckyThumbMotorcycleClub.com MidwestEnduros.com (Hill & Gully) MichiganMafiaMXC.com MichiganVintageMotocross.com MuddobbersMC.org MuskegonMotorcycleClub.com OwossoMotorsportsPark.com PHMC-USA.com PolkaDotsMC.net PortlandTrailRiders.com



A WORD FROM THE PREZ

<u>2020</u>

If anyone had of told me at the December sanctioning meeting that going into September that District 14 Racing season would be looking week to week on which events were being allowed to run and those that couldn't, would still be an issue, I would have called them crazy. But this being the Covid-19 year, nothing is guarantied.

I hope all of our racing family is safe and healthy. I personally have not heard of Covid illnesses in our community of racers but that doesn't mean it hasn't hit us in some fashion or another. Covid has had an effect on all our lives somehow, I hope you all are weathering the Storm!

RIDING AND RACING

For most of us, the riding and racing season continues, even if in a diminished capacity. Motocross, Flat Track, Hare Scrambles both Bike and ATV, have been able to run most of their after spring schedule and some are adding make-up dates, so watch your calenders and websites.

I will ask that the Chairs try to do better on our interactive events calender as I see a lot of times dates are not how they should be. So watch the Club's Social Media and websites to be sure they are running.

Personally, this Crazy Covid year has opened up my time to actually get out and ride and race. Riding multiple O.R.V, trails in our State and racing in three different D14 events to date.



▲ Levi Dunn at Polka Dots Motorcycle Club 2020



Thomas Dunn at Polka Dots Motorcycle Club 2020

Muskegon's Motorcycle Club put on a technical tough run that left me looking for a lighter bike. Hill and Gully's Enduro down in Roselawn Indiana, found me overheating in the August sun. And this past weekend, I rode Team Class with one of my sons (our first ride together since our 2nd place for the State Series in 2007) finishing, but not without major rib damage on a last lap crash. My son hated my bike and since then bought a Husky 125. I am supposed to ride with the ATV XC today at T-Time acres, but think the ribs will make that impossible.

ATV

ATV Racing is alive and grown again in D14. The ATV XC had a very short series in 2019 and the Leadership worked extremely hard to get Clubs, Promoters and friends with property to step up and help them grow. They put together an ambitious schedule that 2020 has knocked down some but they have pushed on and seen a growth rate we haven't seen in a long time.

MX division is also doing well and their numbers of races and riders are steady.

Flat Track ATV has a hard core following and watching them at speed is amazing.

I personally don't know how these riders make a quad go so fast and jump so high and give it to them for their skillset. If you have never watched an ATV event I would recommend it!

LEGISLATIVE & STATE NEWS

MISORVA continues to try and shut O.R.V. riders off of State designated trails during the winter if they are using multi-use trails that include snowmobile trail during December 1 to March 31. Keeping my attention on this as the Lower Peninsula's snow, or lack thereof, for the past several years means O.R.V season is a year long season.

The DNR/Parks and Recreation has already had internal meetings in the Upper Peninsula to put a director order in to shut O.R.V.'s out during the same time span. This would be done without public input.

I will continue to try and work with MISORVA for the best interest of the District and O.R.V. Riders of the State.

FUTURE

Going forward from here, the District is still moving ahead with the December Sanctioning Meeting in Lansing this year, but time will tell if that is able to happen or that we will have to put together a virtual meeting.

I will be recommending to the Chairs of each Division to work together on their schedules and rider overlap during the fall before the Sanctioning meeting to help the Sanctioning meeting in case we have an issue putting it on.

See ya at the races,

Thomas Junn



A Race winner Chad Curler (58) tries to get Mark Becker (96) to follow him through the puddles



▲ Garrison Goforth lets his big bore breath on the long straight

VINTAGE MX IST EVER VMX RACE at Valley Trail Riders

Story and photos by Steve Baginski

VALLEY TRAIL RIDERS (Bentley, MI) August 16, 2020

2020 is a season for a lot of firsts and we made history at Valley Trail Riders in Bentley MI. I met with Craig last year to set up an MX track at their trail facility. I thought we had a good layout picked out and all set for an early season race. Then we had to cancel and we thought our work was for nothing. They ran some laps on it during the shutdown and their workers seemed to enjoy it. So then we got the chance to reschedule and we jumped at the chance. We had an on par turnout with 45 total entries. CMP Suspensions stepped up and offered \$50 for each holeshot as it was a round of the Allpro Auto and off-road GP Series. The feedback was mostly good except that I did make it a little tight in some of the woods sections. But it was a different layout and everyone seemed to have a great time. Hopefully we can make a few track changes and re visit this venue for seasons to come.

The first class out was the Innovation guys with Tom Claerhout leading the





 Pretty sure Mark Smith had the most fun out of everyone on his XR200

way. He picked up the CMP holeshot and led every lap of the 23 minute race. Bode Meylan was one of the shorter kids I've seen on a bike and he was on the gas. He started near the back of the pack and was up to sixth by the end of lap one. He kept charging forward and ended up second by the end of the race. Kris Gillett had a good start and rode consistent to a top three. Gene Huntoon had a slower than normal start but being the endurance racer he is, worked his way into fourth by the end of the race. Ray Brooks and Connor Goulet were in a battle for a few laps with Gene as well. In the jump section, Gene cut up the inside to try and make the pass on Ray and Connor hit the back of Gene and went down. That was

enough for ray to hold onto fifth with Connor picking himself up and taking sixth. Steve Adema had an early battle with Blake Argue and then Blake made some passes and pulled away. Then late in the race, Blake had some bike issues and Steve caught up and made the pass for seventh on the last lap. Blake limped across in eighth just ahead of Rick Murphy and Joe Hovorka. Nik Michael was off to a fast start but on lap two, had some bike problems and went missing. It would take him nearly the entire moto to get going again and eventually finish the race in eleventh.

Historic and Schoolboy dropped together and once again it was Tom Claerhout with the holeshot to earn him a total of

▲ Tom Claerhout was fast and smooth as he took another GP win

\$100 in CMP Holeshot money. He was fast all race long and would lap all the way to fourth place on his way to victory. William Hawkins Jr started a close second and had a good battle with Joe Mapes for a few laps. Shaun Nestor was holding down fourth but had Blake Argue and Derek Michael keeping pace. Then on lap three, Joe went missing and it was Will into second where he would finish. Blake was up to third with Shaun back to fourth. Blake was in a comfortable third when on the last lap he would crash at the beginning of the lap and give up the spot to Shaun. Shaun would round out the podium with a hard charging Blake finishing in fourth. Derek rode strong and looked good on his way to a top five. Stephen Phillips



Gene Huntoon always finds the camera



▲ Ray Brooks (015) and Gene Huntoon (780) always seem to be in a battle



Proof that Jeff Doneth does stand and get some air while racing!



▲ Joe Mapes had good speed early in Historic but fell back to eighth by the end of the race

and Jeff Doneth were close for a few h laps but the tighter sections proved too much as Stephen pulled away for sixth k with Jeff in seventh. After a great first f few laps, Joe slid back to eighth along with Luke Mapes as he took ninth. Jim Jobson had bike issues on the line and T barely made the start. Unfortunately he would only make it a few turns before

his bike would die again ending his day early. Alexis Argue was the lone Schoolboy racer but looked great as she was fighting mid pack with the Historic class on her way to another race win.

The Evolution class was up next and it was the only one with a red flag start. Dean Howard tried to time the home

made speedway style start and caught the banner. Michael Sokalski got that holeshot but they all had to line up and try it again. The second time out was a success and Mike was able to grab that holeshot as well. Coming out of the woods on lap one was Mikes only mistake as he lost the rear and went down. Joe Mapes took over the lead and Mike was going again but with Mark Smith all over him. Santos Berlanga was a strong fourth followed by Mark Havalda and Shaun Nestor. The next lap through it was still Joe leading the way with Mike a close second as Smith held onto third. Ray Brooks was on the move into fourth with Dean now into the top five. The top



▲ Bode Meylan couldn't even touch the ground on his way to second in Innovation



 William Hawkins has looked good in his first year racing in our series



▲ Nik Michael liked his borrowed CR250

VINTAGE continued from page 15

three would battle for a few laps until mid race when Joe went missing. Mike took over the lead and would stretch it to over a minute by the end of the race. Smith rode a strong race to hold onto second with Dean Howard muscling his big Maico around to third. Ray had a good race going but lost a spot to Havalda with one lap to go. They battled hard in the top five with Ray making the final pass on the last lap to take fourth with Havalda back in fifth. Shaun and Alex Mangini also swapped positions in the last few laps with Alex getting the edge on his YZ100 to take sixth. Shaun ended the race in seventh as Garrison Goforth plugged along to take eighth. Jay Ottenwess and Rick Murphy were close for part of the race but it was Jay getting the edge as they rounded out the top ten. Santos had a tip over and went from fourth to last early and fought his way around to eventually end in eleventh.

The Transition class was out last and it was Chad Curler with the holeshot in his 125 and would check out. He opened a large lead and lapped up to fourth by the end of the race. Nik Michael jumped on a borrowed 250 from series sponsor Ken Allpro and looked good on his way to a



▲ Michael Sokalski had to work for his VTR GP race win

solid second. Tim Beougher came out of retirement on his KX125 and looked fast as he rounded out the podium. Chad Morehouse put his auto clutch CR250 to good use as he motored his way around going back and forth with Gene Huntoon. It was a battle of the rekluse and the 125cc. Gene looked to be gaining speed and catching third but then Morehouse came out ahead and went on to take fourth with Gene rounding out the top five. Mark Becker had a good start but just missed the top five to take sixth. Steve Luallen made his debut and had to fight with Eli Hovorka and Mark Harrison. Harrison took over sixth a little over half way just ahead of Steve and the now injured Eli. Eli hurt his ankle and would cruise around the last few laps to take ninth as Steve and Harrison fought for seventh. As they came to the finish it was Steve in seventh with a slight gap back to Harrison in eighth.

We are now done with the Valley Trail Riders race and the Battle Creek GP and are in prep for the makeup date at Portland on Saturday September 19th. Then its another makeup date at Bulldogs on Sunday October 4th with a back to back weekend with our final GP race at Twisted MX on October 11th. Then we finish



Submitted by Taylor Carpenter, D14 Secretary

Hey guys, there's some changes coming for the end of 2020 and beginning of 2021.

Still trying to secure an annual meeting location, due to COVID -19 it's been tough and will keep you all updated. Trust me it's normally all planned and set by the end of July or August at the latest. If we can't meet in person it'll be a tricky one to plan and get set up, we have some ideas in the works as backup.

Your packets are being prepped and will be sent at the end of October.

As race seasons are ending I (the Membership Admin and myself) are in need of those event reports! There's a growing list of past due reports, guys keep in mind these are **due no more than SEVEN days after your event**. Please let me know if you need the form to get these done.

When it comes to newspaper, any article will be accepted. Honestly it can be about an event you liked, a trip you took and want to share, or simply a memory you have from work or school. It doesn't have to be about ATV, bikes, racing, or even D14 for that matter.

Please submit content not a picture with a caption.

It's good to see The President back racing and enjoying to be able to ride. Raced at a few hare scrambles, most recent one was Evergreen Creek in Vassar, MI. He rode team with my brother and they placed second. Hats off to Jeremy and crew for this event, 10.8 miles is quite a feat in itself. Looked forward to it since he requested his paperwork last year, you guys didn't disappoint!

Later, T



CHANGES TO DISTRICT 14 MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021

Submitted by Molly Kidner, Membership Administrator

Beginning Jan. 1, 2021 District 14 is SIMPLIFYING our membership process. There will no longer be different types of membership - all participants will need simply a "District 14 Membership". This applies to ALL individuals, including Canadian members and minors.

Why the change? Well, the discounted "D14 family membership" created a lot of confusion and ultimately frustrated more people than it should have. We want to improve our customer experience by eliminating that.

The D14 website and Membership Application forms will be updated to reflect the changes.

District 14 is happy to announce there will again be no increase in membership fees! They will remain a bargain price of \$15 annually.





▲ Ben Lowe has paid his dues and is now reaping the rewards.



▲ Brent Donley climbs aboard for a victory lap.

INDY MILE continued from page 2

emotion wept tears of joy knowing her son had pulled off something many young men dream of, winning an AFT main event at arguably one of the most prestigious one mile flat track events in the world! Brandon Kitchen is one man in a long line of successful flat trackers in Michigan who have made their mark on Americas original Extreme sport.

Wiles and Lowe: completing the Michigan hat trick.

Michigan's Henry Wiles, the most successful TT racer of all times pulled off a win in the singles class on Day Two and production twins racer Ben Lowe bagged his first ever AFT victory ever after years of hard work, dedication, grit and determination commonly found among Michigan's D14 Flat track racers. Where does this magic come from? Well, maybe it's the hard water.



▲ Under the mask Kitchen is all smiles



▲ The Clifford Road Kid has a bright future in store



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ATVMX RIDER SPOTLIGHT BLAIR MILLER Story by Ed Hayden | Rider submitted photo



Blair Miller riding to another Top 5 at RedBud ATVMX National

For this months Rider Spotlight we sat down with 11 time District and National Championship winner Blair Miller. At 17 years old Blair is considered one of the top up and coming amateur racers in the country.

How long have you been racing?

I've been on a quad for as long as I can remember, I started out when I was 4 years old on a single a-arm drr 50 and haven't looked back!

How did you get into the sport?

My dad was always in some sort of motorsport and got me into racing which lead to both my mom and dad getting into it themselves. I took to the quad and here I stand.

Biggest accomplishment in your racing carrier?

My biggest accomplishment was winning the National Championship in the 250mod class in 2019. Had alot of ups and downs but somehow pulled threw on top. That last lap at Loretta Lynn Ranch in that class was the longest lap in my life, but still managed to come out on top with the Championship!

Goals for 2020 season?

Coming off from last year's success, I had high hopes going into the first round of the nationals. As fate would have it I got injured which scaled everything down a bit. My goals were to get at least a couple of wins in college and 450A. I'm on the right path as of now and excited for the last 2 rounds to try and make something happen. My goal currently is to win the Championship in Production Stock and I'm sitting in a good position in 450A

What machine are you riding this year?

The quad I'm running this year is a Suzuki LTR450 chassis with a 2016 YZ450 motor. The combo is working great for me so far. I'd like to in the future get a Walsh chassis to stuff that motor into. In the Production Stock class I run a Yamaha YFZ450 thanks to Ryan Day!

Sponsors or anyone you want to thank? I would like to thank Jim And Jessica Simpkins from Progressive irrigation for helping us out this season, I hope to be working with them in the future, Ryan Day from AllDayLighting and Toggled for letting me absolutely abuse his stock quad, Chad and Bill Reed from All4Racing exhausts for the great preforming pipes, Luke Adams from Pioneer Welding, Lance Reiner for building our motors, CST tires, Josh Cline from Ph3 photography always making me look fast and everyone who supports me at the local level! Couldn't have done it without you guys!

Any advise for people just starting in the sport?

It's easy to get discouraged about the little things and that's okay, but never give up. We are a community, we are here to help one another. Sometimes you need to relax to really understand what's going on and work on that. I still do that to this day, if I dont have a good ride in a moto, I go back in my head, play by play and pick apart areas I was lacking speed in and work on that. It's all about the mindset.

VINTAGE continued from page 16

out our shortened season at Valley MX on Saturday October 24th. Please check out www.michiganvintagemotocross. com for any other changes. Thanks for checking in and I look forward to seeing everyone at the races.

Results: Valley Trail Riders 8/16/20: Historic: 1. T. Claerhout (Hsk); 2. W. Hawkins (Suz); 3. S. Nestor (CZ); 4. B. Argue (Hon); 5. D. Michael (Yam); 6. S. Phillips (Hod); 7. J. Doneth (Suz); 8. J. Mapes (Kaw); 9. L. Mapes (Hon) Schoolboy: 1. A. Argue (Hon) Evolution: 1. M. Sokalski (Hon); 2. M. Smith (Hon); 3. D. Howard (Mai); 4. R. Brooks (Suz); 5. M. Havalda II (Suz); 6. A. Mangini (Yam); 7. S. Nestor (CZ); 8. G. Goforth (Mai); 9. J. Ottenwess (Yam); 10. R. Murphy (Kaw); 11. S. Berlanga (Yam) Innovation: 1. T. Claerhout (Suz); 2. B. Meylan (Hon); 3. K. Gillett (Kaw); 4. G. Huntoon (Kaw); 5. R. Brooks (Suz); 6. C. Goulet (Hon); 7. S. Adema (Hon); 8. B. Argue (Hon); 9. R. Murphy (Hon); 10. J. Hovorka (Hon); 11. N. Michael (Hon) Transition: 1. C. Curler (Hon); 2. N. Michael (Hon); 3. T. Beougher (Kaw); 4. C. Morehouse (Hon); 5. G. Huntoon (Kaw); 6. M. Becker (Hon); 7. S. Luallen (Suz); 8. M. Harrison (Yam); 9. E. Hovorka (Hon)



 Tim Beougher loved the one long moto format as well





Bryce had his first ever race at Grattan this weekend (July 2020). He's only been off training wheels for less than two months. Finished 9th of 13 in the Wobbler! ~ Submitted by Steve Lyman



D14 ATV XC Family Story and photos submitted by Chris Robinson, D14 ATV XC Rider Rep

A few years ago I picked up a small quad from a coworker for my son, Jeremiah, to ride. It didn't take long for him to decide that he wanted to race it. Another coworker told us about D14 Hare Scrambles. We found the ATV Hare Scramble (XC) series on Facebook and talked to the chairman, Jason Cottrell, about getting Jeremiah started racing in the Mini Class. I didn't realize at the time the impact this would have on our family. Jeremiah immediate loved racing in this series. It didn't take long for us to make friends at the races. We loved the family atmosphere. Before long I was racing in the over 40 class. This year Jeremiah moved up to the Youth Class and started racing on the big track with the adults. His little sister, Grace, wanted in as well and is now racing in the Mini Class.

Even with the late start to the race season due to the pandemic restrictions we saw our little series grow considerably this year. I was a little nervous that with the larger number of racers we would lose the "family" feeling to the series. I am happy to say that this has not been the case. The "family" has just gotten bigger.

I have seen many riders stopping to help someone who is injured, broken down, or stuck. On Jeremiah's GoPro videos I have seen many racers stopping to give him a hand. At Valley Trail Riders (VTR) August race, Jeremiah broke down way back in the woods. Annabelle Hayden, a new rider in the Women's Class, picked him up and let him ride double with her to get back to scoring. It was difficult for her on such a technical trail with a passenger. Another racer, Roy Thomas, came along and had Jeremiah ride with him the rest of the way back to scoring.

It's great to see that sportsmanship is more important than winning for many of the racers. There have been similar examples of great sportsmanship at every race. It makes me proud to be part of the D14 ATV XC family.



Brock Alexander glances over the hood of Christian Pranger as Bryce 'BAM' Miller edges him out in the final moto holeshot Monday afternoon.



Story and photos by Josh Cline / Ph3 Photos VALLEY MOTOCROSS (Stanton, MI) | September 4-7, 2020

RedBud, Baja, and Valley Motocross all with racing action on Labor Day Weekend. But Valley opened their doors to the biggest turnout for ATV racing yet this year, and everyone witnessed phenomenal action. From the minis to the sport atvs to a couple UTV racers throwing their 4x4 machines in the air! With open practice for riders on Friday, to gate drops Saturday, Sunday and Monday, racers let it all hang out in every race. As local racers like Chase Seeley, Blair Miller, Casey Fancher, and the brother and sister combo of Mason and Natalie Jackson among others prepare for the final two races of the National series, you can imagine the strength these riders perform day in and day out. No backing down, and no quit. Among the mentioned riders, many others

came out as well to battle, bang bars, and throw dirt. With an impressive 60 registered riders respectively taking a gate spot in one class or another, you can't help but respect the roar of the machines. As one spectator said, "How can they throw their machines around like that? It looks effortless!'

Blair Miller took his JGR Yamaha machine sponsored by Progressive Irrigation, All 4 Racing, and All Day Lighting, and showed off to the fans by letting them glance at the bottom of his machine clearing the famous 110 at Valley Motocross. Check him out in the ATV Rider Spotlight!

Not to be outdone, minis by the likes of Brock Alexander, and Tanner Reynolds,



▲ Blair Miller lets it all hang out at Valley Motocross on Labor day weekend on his way to a solid Overall win in Quad A and 14+ in Monday's State Championship Series Race. Blair stated, "Weird racing on a Monday, but it was fun!"



▲ Ed Hayden shows off the 2-stroke action making noise and proving the 2 Stroke class is alive and well! "I as well as others would love to see a National 2 stroke Class, but for now, I am happy we have one local."

"He ain't no joke though. Especially for not even being 11 years old!" stated Bam's Dad.

The consistent pressure on each other gave them both a big push. Respectively a 6 for 6 in motos gave Miller a complete weekend. Very tough to do! Congrats! With a mechanical failure, Brock had a DNF in his first moto Saturday, but swept the rest of the motos in 90 Auto. These two young men are just a site to watch. And when the race is done, all the wheel banging, and dirt flying, you can find a simple fist bump at the end, and hanging out in the pits cheering on the other riders as they race. Class and speed from these two, show they are doing things right.

As racing came to a close on Monday afternoon, riders parted ways anxious for the next gate drop. For some its 3 Palms Resort in Texas, and others its Big Air Motocross the last weekend of September. Expect a big turnout as it's a season favorite for the ATV riders. We would love to see more fans, and participants join the ATV racing. Please feel free to reach out to any of the riders, as they would be glad to see more on the gate.

they took their swing at the big hill. Other riders pushed themselves to grow by making the leap for the first time as well.

Making the statement that 2 strokes are not gone yet, Ed Hayden put his TRX250R through the paces letting all the R's ring for the fans! Nothing quite as distinct as a 2 stroke when it's in the power band! Taking the overall win on Monday, Ed looks to follow suit in a couple weeks at Big Air!

The future of the ATV Motocross sport is bright. Not to be outdone in the battles of the big bikes, Bryce "BAM' Miller and Brock Alexander saw each other swapping holeshots, and positions all weekend long. Bam riding a 90 mod and Brock on a 90 auto, both took overall wins in their classes.



Payton Day takes the gate and some air as she drops the hammer at Valley Motocross on Labor Day Weekend!

s we all know, the 2020 District #14 racing season has endured an abundance of delays and disruptions that are seemingly unmatched with seasons past. Thanks to the persistence and flexibility of the clubs, event organizers, District #14 officers and the membership, most disciplines were able to start the season with limited delay. The first Hare Scramble event of 2020 was hosted by Valley Trail Riders in Bentley, MI on June 21st. One young rider by the name of Bode Meylan wasted no time showing everyone in the Open B class who the competition would be this season! Bode jumped out front early in Round #1 and held the lead position for every lap yielding a well-deserved 1st place finish. As the season progressed, Bode's performance has practically mirrored that of Round #1. With 6 of the 8 races in the books, Bode has maintained the leading position for points in Open B and appears to have his sights set on yet another season championship. I say "another championship" because winning has been a large part of his racing career. At age 10, he won the 2nd place overall in the 65cc class of the 2016 season. He wraped up the 2017 season with his first overall class championship in the 85cc class, at age 11. He keeps the streak going in 2018 with the 2nd place 85-105cc class overall championship, at age 12. He dominated in 2019 with the class championship in 13-24yr C class, at just 13 years old! Bode's impressive skill at such a young age has caught the attention of many riders and spectators within the Hare Scramble community. I wanted to learn more about this talented young man, so I reached out him about doing a rider interview/spotlight article. My goal was to highlight his achievements, hit him with some questions that I believe many others are curious about and hopefully be the first guy who interviewed him before he turns pro!

I would like to start off by saying thank you for taking the time to talk with me. Tell me a little bit about yourself and what you enjoy doing when you not racing?

My name is Bode Meylan and I am 14 years old. When I'm not racing or riding my motorcycle, I'm usually mountain biking, in school, or spending time with my family. I used to do gymnastics in Midland Michigan and enjoyed doing things like that. I enjoy camping with my mom and stepdad when I'm not racing and doing things outdoors.

DISTRICT 14 HARE SCRAMBLES RIDER SPOTLIGHT – BODE MEYLAN By Days Zdybak, L. Bhata by District 14 Hara Scramble Bhatas and the Maylan Samily

By Doug Zdybek | Photo by District 14 Hare Scramble Photos and the Meylan Family



How long have you been riding dirt bikes and what led you to get involved in Hare Scrambles?

I've been riding dirt bikes since I was three years old. I have grown up around racing most of my life and Hare Scrambles were what the Mapes family did. I remember every time I would hear my cousin Jordan's bike, I would run out and watch him practice. I have always been interested in motorcycles and so when I raced my first race at VTR (Valley Trail Riders) I was hooked! For my birthday, my family surprised me with a KTM 65cc dirt bike. I have been nonstop racing District 14 Hare Scrambles ever since.

I know you also participate in the Michigan Sprint Enduro Series. How do the riding experiences compare, and do you have a preference? Why?

I would say that there are pros and cons

to both series. Logan Densmore hosts the Michigan Sprint Enduro events every year. I believe that Sprint Enduros are unique because you get to race and then see your friends and family. It's cool when you get a good lap and you can come back and talk to everyone about what's going on. When racing a Sprint Enduro, I have to really be careful and not fall. Falling in a Sprint Enduro can really make an impact on your day if you lose too much time. Hare Scrambles is the opposite of that, if you fall you can get back up and keep going and not lose the race because of a slip-up. I personally would choose Hare Scrambles over Michigan Sprint Enduro and this is because of the endurance part. After an hour of racing, I'm having fun and I enjoy going the long distance. Many people have different opinions about it, but I like racing for 2 hours plus.

Looking back at your previous season finishes, it's quite clear that winning

Rider Name:	Bode Meylan
Current Age:	14
Hometown:	Bay City, MI
Race Series:	Hare Scrambles
Series Class:	Open B
Bike Brand:	KTM
Racer #:	228

races is a common occurrence. What makes this happen for you?

Going out every week is just the passion and we put in a lot of time and effort to go out racing. So, every weekend I don't go out there to just have fun, I go out to put in a 100% effort. What keeps me coming back is the people there and the adrenaline rush is cool.

As the current points leader in open B class, you're pretty close to clinching another class championship. Did you go into the 2020 race season with this in mind?

Going into the 2020 season I was healthy and prepared. I knew that if I stayed healthy, mentally and physically I should be able to win the open B championship. At the first race lining up at the start of the VTR Hare Scramble, I started to get nervous. When I looked down the line, I saw a lot of big strong riders on 125's and 250's. So, I kept my head up and ended up winning that race by 8 minutes.



You advanced up a class level every year since your first Hare Scramble season back in 2015. I'm guessing there are at least a few riders who would like to see you move up to A class level (so they don't have to compete against you in the B class!) after the season ends. What are your current goals for the 2021 season?

My current goals for the 2021 season are to move up to A and win A championship. I would also like to put my suspension to stock because currently it is lowered 2 inches. I would like to work on my strength in my arms and endurance strength. My endurance strength is really good but when racing for two hours plus it can wear you out. My arms also get really tired after a Hare Scramble because I'm racing a motorcycle that is double my weight exactly. For the 2021 season, I would like to try and finish top 10 or better overall wise.

I strongly believe you have what it takes to win an overall Hare Scramble championship in the future. Is that something you've thought about or set your sights on?

Of course! My goal since I've been racing 65's was to move up a class every year. My plan is to move up to AA after open A, so hopefully I have what it takes when the time comes to beat the fast guys. Winning an overall championship is not easy and you really have to put the time and effort to win that kind of a championship.

Anyone who has witnessed your racing would agree that part of what makes you so unique and catches people's attention is your amazing skills as a smaller/younger rider. With that being said, I have one more question that I



believe people (as well as myself) want to know. How does a guy your size manage to get back up on your bike when you fall during a race? Do you find that being a smaller framed guy presents additional challenges or do you see it as an advantage over your competition?

The question that people ask me the most is how do I get back up during a race? Well, on a flat surface I can pick up my bike fairly easy now that I have gotten used to it. Sometimes when I'm practicing, I will come into the corner and fall on purpose. Doing this helps so during a race, I can get back up faster



and not lose too much time. A similar question is, how do I start my bike without a tree or a stand. I usually just pull the kick starter out and jump on and go. Being smaller definitely has its disadvantages to the other riders because not being able to touch the ground is a challenge, but I have gotten used to it from the past year of racing a 125cc.

Thank you Bode Meylan for sharing your story! Keep up the great work and we wish you the best of luck for the rest of your race season!







On behalf of D-14 XC. We have been a part of the series for about 31/2 years now. At first people were talking about how much of a "family" they were. I definitely did not feel that way. The first couple races you have no clue what you are doing and you probably don't even know anyone along with a new town and track probably a long drive from your home town. You show up try to do your best get a couple laps in and think why did I sign up for this? You get nervous probably make some mistakes (that you will learn from) then the adrenalin kicks in and you take a drink from your hydration pack (that you never knew you would need) another lap down and you begin to get confident, maybe even pass some riders. After about an hour you are back to the "what the heck was I thinking when I signed up for this?" You keep pushing through! Then you see the white flag! That's it, one more lap to go! You get in your own head and tell yourself "you got this!" the longest lap (as it seems) then the CHECKERD FLAG! That's it you have finished your race. Now you wait.... While waiting you make small talk with some of the other riders. Not knowing that these moments will in fact build friendships. Everyone waits together for the score board to be posted. Just like high school everyone rushes to see where they have placed. You stay back a little because it is still new to you. Once the crowd has cleared you step up....wow 8th place...holy crap that sucks you think to yourself. Then you start thinking of the track and where you made mistakes and what you could have done differently. Next time...next time I will try harder, do some upgrades, get some rest, be less nervous and practice. Then you head back to your truck. There are others nearby because now the only riders left are quad riders. You start to see familiar faces race after race. They are all grabbing a bite to eat before they hit the road for a long ride home. They offer you a plate and you think no I don't want to intrude then they tell you have plenty and they will just throw it away if you don't eat....ok (you are hungry anyway). While sharing a meal together you really start to get to know people on a personal level. Where they live, what they drive and what they race. These people will become your "race family". Now when you show up to the track to go camping the night before, these are the people you look for to camp/park next to. Share your canopy with or maybe even your coffee. It is no longer about winning but doing your best because GOD knows you actually race better when you are not worried about winning but just running your race. After a couple of seasons you realize that although you might not live in the same town than other racers, you become friends with, share the same interests and begin to have a bond with your new "race family" this is it! This is what they tell you about. It will not happen overnight or even a couple races but when you let your guard down and be open to new people these guys are a part of something bigger that just trophies. These guys are family. We have had a lot of new riders this past year. With that being said don't be afraid to talk to someone, introduce yourself and see what you have in common. You never know this might be the newest member of your D-14 race family.



AMA RIGHTS. RIDING. RACING Your division schedules and rules are online too at the DISTRICT 14 WEBSITE! www.AMA-D14.org Please be sure to check Club & Promoter Social Media sites too before heading to the track!



Story by Kevin Lambert Jr
DOING THE GOOD WORK FOR THE SPORT

I took a minor hiatus from writing this summer, mostly due to the negatively and slander thrown in my direction for something I did or did not do, who I wrote about, photos used or not used; at this point I really can't even remember.

As a writer, AMA Officer, craftsman, business owner and racer who loves Flat Track and Ice racing, I felt it was my duty to give our sport the recognition it deserves as well as active representation at the local and national levels; we are the sole reason AMA even exists.

This being said, all of you have the opportunity to put in the work to do the very same thing I am doing if you choose. Any AMA/D14 Member in good standing can be a chair or vice chair, a Rider Rep, D14 President or AMA Officer. All of us can write or submit photos or articles to the paper (make sure you watermark all photos, and if you use photos off the net and they are not watermarked try to find out who took them).

Be active, participate and give back! All of us can help pitch in and help make this thing huge! Complaining on the instabook-twitter will do you absolutely no good and only makes us look like fools to our peers. Do the classy thing and volunteer to help, the team needs you!



 Bob Knapp and Stan Propotnik. Many don't know that Stan was one of the countries best youth racers.

5 REASONS YOU SHOULD USE A Plant-based cleaner



1. Safety:

Have you read the label on the back of a commercial cleaner? Warning! Flammable! Do not ingest! Keep out of reach of children! Many chemicals used in household cleaners have not been tested for safety. Household cleaning supplies are one of the top five substance classes accounting for calls to the National Poison Control Center. Many commercial cleaners contain ingredients that are endocrine disrupting chemicals, carcinogens, or neurotoxins. Kids, babies, and pets are even more vulnerable to chemical exposure because they are smaller and cannot get rid of toxins as easily as adults. It is definitely worth ditching harsh chemicals for a cleaner with plant- and mineralbased ingredients.

2. Air Quality:

Did you know that indoor air is 5–7 times more polluted than outdoor air? Most cleaning products contain Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), which have been associated with many health problems, including damage to the liver, kidneys, and the central nervous system. They have also been shown to harm our lungs and cause throat irritations and headaches. VOCs are released when products are used and can linger in the air long after we clean. When we

breathe, we inhale the air—as well as whatever is in the air.

3. Environmental Impact:

Harsh chemicals found in cleaners are not only harmful to our bodies, but they also have a major impact on the environment and are huge contributors to environmental pollution. Some conventional cleaning products contain ingredients that are toxic, non-biodegradable, and from non-renewable resources like petroleum, so they harm the Earth's ecosystems. Harsh chemicals may contaminate the water through rivers, streams, and lakes, which affects wildlife, plants, trees, and us! Plus, there are thousands of chemicals that are in cleaning products that have never been tested for safety.

4. Convenience:

It's much easier to clean with a few products that take care of all your cleaning needs, rather than a having whole arsenal of toxic products under your sink and in your bathrooms. With Thieves® Household Cleaner, you can tackle multiple cleaning jobs in your home without switching products as you clean! It cleans countertops, windows, mirrors, floors, toilets, showers, and pretty much everything else. Plus, you don't have to worry about getting bleach stains on your clothes or accidentally mixing dangerous chemicals together. It's worth a try for the convenience alone.

5. Cost:

The cost of buying cleaners is expensive, especially if you have to buy multiple different cleaners. Thieves Household Cleaner is very cost effective, and it comes in a concentrated form. There are approximately 60 capfuls of the cleaner in a 14.4-ounce bottle. Using the medium degreasing ratio, you can get about 29 16-ounce cleaners. That's less than \$1 a bottle!

Why worry about all the what if's? Be empowered and take charge of your chores by using a cleaner with plant-based ingredients.

These are only five of the many reasons to use a plant-based product.



FOR MORE INFO OR TO ORDER YOURS:

586.855.7413 linda@inkandoils.com lnkandOils.com REFERRAL ID #1356931



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