

## MSXC Mid-South Youth Cross Country Series by Pirelli/ Answer/ Pro Taper/ Maxxis

Round 1 Lakeview Lodge  
10/05/09 White Plains, Kentucky  
By Rich Thurman  
Thurman takes Lakeview

Lakeview Lodge played host to round one of the wettest starts to the Mid-South Youth Series history. 11 inches of rain in ten days made some parts of the track look more like an extension of the Lodge's lake itself.



Photo by Deb Allen

KTM/Performance Supercycles/Johnny Signs/K100 backed **Sam Thurman**, pictured above, grabbed the holeshot in the 65 cc mini A class and had his hands full. A few turns later Team Green rider Brett Gourley had put a wheel in on Thurman and made the pass. The race was on with both riders swapping back and forth the first lap. Thurman came through the lap one with the lead and never looked back.

Putting pressure on Gourley now was R.J. Cook on his Champion Cycles/Powerband Racing/Oakley/FCA /MX Trader .net backed KTM. Cook and Gourley fought through the mud with each other as Thurman began to inch away from the pair lap by lap. 40 minutes into the race Thurman held a minute lead over Cook and Cook was putting time in between himself and Gourley. When the checkered flag fell, last years mini B champion Thurman, had his first win of the season with Cook and Gourley rounding out the top three. Thurman said " Man, Gouley and I battled back and forth that first lap. That was a great race." Cook who races MX commented on his first woods race " It was brutal at the end with big roots and ruts." Cory Jordan riding out of Performance Supercycles on a KTM finished a strong fourth and Ben

Jones from Lawrenceville, Il came in fifth.

Last seasons Junior B class champion, Austin Lee, decided to move up and race the junior A class for the new season. This would prove by the end of the race to be a wise decision.

Team Greens Brandon Gourley,who normally races MX, took a break from his heavy schedule to try his hand at Cross Country racing. This also was a good choice because he jumped out to an early lead and held the it for the first five laps. Staying within striking distance was KTM mounted Lee.

As the race was winding down, Lee was only a few seconds behind Gourley and hungry for his first win in the Junior A class. Like a home run in the bottom of the ninth, Lee put a last lap closing seconds pass on Indiana's Gourley when Gourley got held up by a lapped rider. Lee took a different line and snuck past them both for the win. Cominsky Indiana's Luke Chilman on his Kawasaki, finished in third. Jake Froman came in fourth with Logan P'Pool rounding out the top five.

Junior A : 1<sup>st</sup> Austin Lee KTM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brandon Gourley Kaw, 3<sup>rd</sup> Luke Chilman KAW 4<sup>th</sup> Jake Froman Kaw, 5<sup>th</sup> Logan Ppool KTM

Junior B 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Clark KTM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Blake Rinsch KTM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Hunter Hutchinson KTM , 4<sup>th</sup> Kelly Adkins Yam, 5<sup>th</sup> Tanner McCoy KTM

Mini A 1<sup>st</sup> Sam Thurman KTM, 2<sup>nd</sup> R.J. Cook KTM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brett Gourley Kaw, 4<sup>th</sup> Cory Jordan KTM, 5<sup>th</sup> Ben Jones Kaw

Mini B 1<sup>st</sup> Kruz Sampson Cob, 2<sup>nd</sup> Matthew Harris KTM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Landon Morrison Suz, 4<sup>th</sup> Leighton Tittle KTM, 5<sup>th</sup> Wesley Hardin Kaw

Peewee 7 to 8 1<sup>st</sup> Nathan McCoy KTM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Hunter Plaster KTM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ty Gallimore KTM, 4<sup>th</sup> Dusty Bass KTM 5<sup>th</sup> Garrett Elrod KTM

Peewee 4 to 6 1<sup>st</sup> Austin Sullivan KTM