



Mid-South Youth Cross Country Series by Pirelli/Answer/MSR/Pro Taper/Maxxis
Round 8: TFTC Run

Thurman Captures CAMDEN

BY RICH THURMAN

PHOTO BY DEB ALLEN

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Round 8 of the Mid-South Cross Country Youth Series stopped the Tennessee Fire Arms Training Center in Camden Tennessee. Rain was in the forecast for the day but all in attendance were hoping it would hold off until evening or even nightfall. With spent gun shells strewn about the property and old abandoned targets, **Sam Thurman # 53** pictured above, in the Mini A 65 cc class, grabbed the holeshot and quickly had a battle on his hands with fellow

KTM rider Brett Gourley. The KTM/ Performance Supercycle/ Johnny Signs/ K100 backed Thurman had Gourley looking for any way around him he could find. It came soon on lap one when Thurman bobbed and Rincken Mods backed Gourley got by.

Thurman stayed close looking for his chance and when Gourley crashed on lap two, Thurman took the lead back. Close to the end of lap two, Gourley dove inside of Thurman on a corner and regained the lead for the second time. On laps three and four the two stayed close and only a few precious seconds separated the pair heading into the fifth and final lap. With the race winding down after almost 60 minutes of racing, Thurman made a last ditch effort to pass Gourley and dove inside of Gourley three turns from the finish. The pass put Thurman on the top spot of the podium and Gourley would hold on for a strong second place finish on the day. Thurman said after the race,

" I was thinking about what my dad told me before the race on Saturday when he said, you really need this one and I had to try to make the pass for the win before the scoring tent. It was kinda muddy out there, the track was all wide open and I had a good time."

In the Junior B 85 cc class the battle still continues for the championship. KTM mounted Go-Pro/RMW Machine Works backed Hunter Hutchinson, round seven winner, grabbed the lead early and stayed out front on laps one and two. He was looking to capitalize on his last round win and start a winning streak of his own.

Series points leader and fellow KTM rider Andrew Clark stayed close to Hutchinson in second and Tanner McCoy rounded out the freight train in third. The trio of riders were swapping back and forth on laps three and four. Andrew Clark began a late charge along with McCoy when Hutchinson crashed. This set up the last lap battle with Clark and McCoy going all out for the win. With about a mile left in the race, Clark and McCoy tangled up and McCoy came out on top with the victory. Clark would have to settle for second and Hutchinson, who regrouped after his crash, came in third. With 4 rounds left in the series, many of the championships are starting to shape up to be exciting races all the way to the end. Round 9 will be no exception in Nunnely Tennessee on March 14. For more information go to www.MSXC racing.com

Results:

Peewee (4-6): 1. Dylan Proffitt (Cob)

Peewee (7-8): 1. Daniel Spurgeon(Cob); 2. Nathan McCoy (KTM); 3. Ty Gallimore (Cob); 4. Garrett Elrod (Cob)

Mini A 1. Sam Thurman (KTM); 2. Brett Gourley (KTM); 3. Kalab Hagan (KTM) 4. Ben Jones (Kaw); 5. Dillon Bryant (Suz)

Mini B 1. Matthew Harris (KTM); 2. Leighton Tittle (KTM); 3. Landon Morrison (Suz); 4. Wesley Hardin (Kaw); 5. Agnes Bruce (KTM)

Junior A 1. Brandon Gourley (Kaw); 2. Austin Lee(KTM); 3. Colin Brasher (Hon); 4. Jake Froman (Kaw); 5. Blake Clark (KTM)

Junior B 1. Tanner McCoy (KTM); 2. Andrew Clark (KTM); 3. Hunter Hutchinson (KTM); 4. Blake Rinsch (KTM); 5. Matthew Bell (Yam)