

Upah Racing

Race Report

By Adam Upah



PRO ARMOR



UPAH CYCLE
REPAIR



**GNCC Rd. #12: Powerline Park
St. Clairsville, OH, Oct. 3, 2009**

Result: 15th of 31, Junior A (22+); 82nd of 206 Overall



After getting quite a bit of rain the week prior to this race, I was sure that we were in for another wet and slick track. Coming off my best finish of the season in North Carolina at a wet race, I was looking forward to it either way. Luckily though, by the time the morning classes made their way around the track for two hours, the mud was gone with the exception of a few creek sections. By the start of the afternoon race the weather was looking great.

I had another great jump off the line, but I took turn one a little too wide and fell back into around 10th place or so of 31 riders before heading into the first woods section. The track had a great mixture of both tight and fast woods sections, along with wide open field sections as well. There were two separate more technical sections with longer paths around each. On lap one I unintentionally took the long route around each, but corrected that on lap two. At the end of lap one I was in 13th place, but was struggling to get into a good groove and fell back to 18th place on lap two. I was feeling much better on lap three, and was riding pretty smooth when my engine began to overheat. I slowed down a bit, tried to keep the rpm's low and rode a gear higher most of the time to keep from damaging the engine. I felt like I was riding much slower but lap three actually turned out to be my fastest lap.



My pit was just after the finish line, so I knew that if I could just make it through that third lap I could pit and clean out the radiator. After about a 2 minute pit stop where I hosed the mud out of my radiator, I was ready to push hard again, and so was my quad. About a third of the way through that final lap though my front right tire suffered a bad sidewall puncture. I had lost one position during the pit stop which I was unable to regain and finished in 15th of 31 in the Junior A class and 82nd of 206 overall. I thought I could have done a little better had it not been for the overheating issue and flat tire, but overall I was happy with my top half finish.

As always, a big thank you goes out to all of my sponsors, to whom I attribute much of my success!!