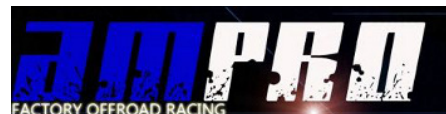




YAMAHA



Race Report: Setra Rock Crusher, NC.

Rider: Paul Whibley

Team: AmPro Yamaha

Bike: Yamaha YZ450 F

Result: 1st



With one GNCC to go this season, the weekend had to be filled with a race somewhere to boost my seat time. A Setra event 3 hours away was the closest event so we loaded up and headed to the Rock Crusher in North Carolina.

A long start straight that dove across a small creek awaited us off the line. A good start was important as second or third would probably result in wet goggles. I jumped off the line quick and took the lead. Stu Baylor quickly dropped in behind and a mile in he passed me when I failed to see a good line inside a tree. Stu set a quick pace early on and wasn't afraid to pin it through the leaf litter. His pace soon slowed and I began looking for a way around. He then waved me by, signalling that he had massive arm pump. I continued to break trail and searched for the arrows that turned on and off the multitude of formed trails. Ricky Russell soon moved up to join us at the front and after passing Stu latched on to my rear wheel. Late in the second lap I made a mistake when passing a lapped rider allowing Ricky to take the lead. Ricky took off like a cut cat. We ride together a lot during the week so now the race was just like training.

Passing was tough and Ricky was making no mistakes and leaving no doors open. After we gassed at the end of the second to last lap I got back into the lead only to hand it back when I ran wide on a grassy straight. With half a lap to go and minimal passing opportunities I thought Ricky had it. I kept the pressure on and in the last mile his pace seemed to slow and I was showing him a wheel on the many switchbacks but there was no room to get by. On the last corner before scoring I held it on and came in hot around the outside and finally made a pass. Ricky rode a great race and earned a win. Unfortunately his slowed pace was from a flat rear (needed that 22 psi in your tire Ricky).

1st: Paul Whibley

2nd: Ricky Russell

3rd: Stu Baylor

Paul Whibley is supported by:

AmPro Yamaha, Monster Energy, Shoei, Sidi, Smith, G2, Asterisk, Moto SR, Vortex Ignitions, EC3D, Bush Riders MCC, Darbis, GHQ, Sargent Motorcycles, Yamaha NZ, Rosscos Start Up Services, Works Connection, Pro Taper, Race Pace Services, Unabiker, Leatt Brace, Tire Balls, bikesportnz.com, Stuk, KettleClamp, Alliance Offroad, Ride Eng.

The AmPro Yamaha Team is supported by:

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