

Flying Dutchmen

New Ulm, MN - June 23/ 24

By Heidi Pfluger and Ryan Einerwold

Tim Zemanovic analyzed the track on Saturday during the heat races and judged that it was going to be tough racing. It had a narrow groove, was slippery, and there wasn't a lot of room to make mistakes. On top of that, the dust was unruly. As the weekend progressed however, the Flying Dutchmen worked to help widen the groove and remove a few "marbles" with the help of a street sweeper, that a local city worker must have left the keys in. Sunday's racers saw a faster and faster track with a widening race line, and the spectators saw some of the best flat track racing action the region has to offer.

Unofficial radar gun reports showed speeds of 70+ mph for the big bikes and (don't tell Mom) speeds in the 65 mph zone for 85cc 2 strokes. Talented riders in all classes adapted with the changes on the track, and coped with the heat to battle with the competition.

There were a few crashes over the weekend. The most spectacular involved Ryan Einerwold. Fellow racer Rick Waschek said, "Ryan proved white men can jump, fly, tumble, and fish flop... all on the same crash. He got more air than any flat tracker has before."

Saturday, during Quad Open A, #87 M. Barth tangled with #2 S. Palmer. Barth lost control and barreled through the snow fence only to meet up with a van bumper. Several other racers found their way off the track, into the woods and through the fence which made for exciting moments. Everyone was checked out by the very capable ambulance crew, and thankfully there was nothing than minor injuries reported.

Current 85cc District 23 points leader Cale Langland kept finding his way to the front on the Flying

Dutchmen's elliptical black groove to boost his season lead over very capable adversaries Cole Anderson, Zack Zemanovic, Dustin Paul, Andrew Hook, and the Darsow brother's, Alex and Elliott.

Nicholas Mataya fought hard, and rode mistake free to win his first of what is sure to be many Open AA Pro races on Sunday. Another Nicholas - this one with the last name of Allen kept his quad out front in the pro classes for most of the weekend with the rest of the field, dicing hard to keep the pace.

Lee Ganske took a pair of wins in the fight to the checkers for the 600 Vintage class. The scorers for this race better have had an extra strong cup of jo both mornings with places shuffling at what seemed like every corner, and hard charging, go for broke, three-wide blasts to the finish line.

The Flying Dutchmen club grounds, which are amazing, are located in a beautiful valley of the Minnesota River. The 3/8 mile banked groove

track was groomed to perfection and with a renovated club house that includes an antique bar, air conditioning, and fantastic bartenders, Shell's Beer made right there in New Ulm, and a perfect campsite. The long history of the Flying Dutchmen provide an excellent racing venue, bench racing at it's finest, and a welcome place for any family to spend a weekend whether you're a racer or spectator.

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