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17th Supermoto Finale Comes to Infineon



GLEN CODDINGTON

As bad as the cancelled rounds at Texas and Vegas were, turns out to be our gain here in Nor-Cal. Late breaking news announced Oct 17, the XTRM AMA Supermoto Championship Series Finale will be held at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, November 15-16, a double header. Last time we got to see these top tier racers was 2003 at Laguna Seca. The series has had more than a few one-shot venues, so don't miss this one so we can keep it here in the Bay Area. ●

Oregon Ducati mechanic critical after being stabbed on Ecuadorian beach

Britt Leis, a 29 year old Ducati mechanic and super motard racer suffered life-threatening injuries, Oct 16, in an unprovoked attack while walking with his fiancée, Lia Koehn, on a beach on the north coast of Ecuador near the Colombian border. A group of men descended on them around 12 noon and there was no apparent motive for the attack; the unidentified assailants did not take any of the couple's possessions. They stabbed Leis repeatedly, and beat Koehn, then left as quickly as they had appeared. The Ducati mechanic and club racer was stabbed 18 times, starting at the throat and "working down, step by step" according to the sole witness, his fiancée, Koehn. Leis was taken to a local facility for emergency treatment, then transported to a hospital in Quito, the Ecuadorian capital, where he underwent three surgeries that removed part of his pancreas and repaired a lacerated spleen and damaged arteries. But infections set in, and doctors in Ecuador told Koehn that Leis could die. As he fought for his life, his family and Koehn struggled to get him back to the States for further treatment. He needed a special medevac plane and, without health insurance, the cost was astronomical: \$55,000.

The flight was finally arranged and Leis was airlifted first to Miami, and then to Loma Linda, CA, where his sister is a doctor on staff at Loma Linda University Medical Center. Leis is now conscious and responsive, Koehn reported in her most recent blog entry, but he remains in critical but stable condition and faces a long recovery.

"He has injuries to both the neck and the abdomen that potentially could have large complications for him" according to Dr. Richard Catalano, who is supervising Leis' treatment. If you would like to help this young couple recover from this devastating setback, please log on to helppbrittandlia.com. ●

DIRTBAGS AMONG US



The Dirtbag Challenge has evolved. It's always been a happening, but this year's was even better than the last. The bands were hot, the bikes actually rode all the way to Alice's Restaurant and everyone had a blast. Look for full story December issue.