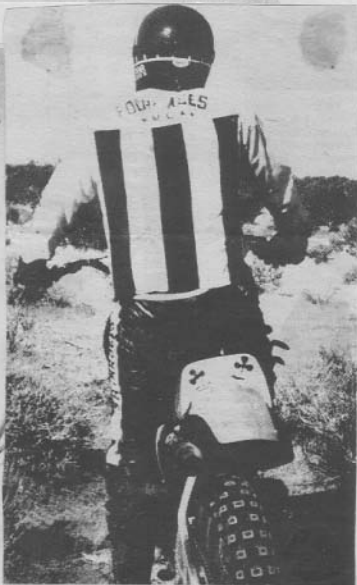


Bike gang war feared

SHAMROCK BEWARE... the
Four Aces have put out the word!



Upp Uppends D37 Riders — Draws 4 Aces

A.1.

by Joyce May

FREMONT VALLEY — JUNE 10. CRC's hot shot, Kenny Upp, was came up with the winning hand at the Four Aces bash as he flew to the over-all win, racking up an extremely healthy margin while doing so.

The fun all began on Saturday, however, as the Four Aces M.C. treated the Shamrocks to a "feed" and a "drunk." A statement of 'Articles of War' between these two clubs had been officially presented at a D-37 meeting held early in June, so it was now at the stage where "anything goes". "all is fair in love and war" . . . etc.

The Four Aces had searched thru some old, old home-made films and came up with some jewels which they showed after dark for everyone's enjoyment. The films included the 1939 Pedro Bailey and the Little Bear and The Big Bear race in the early

40's (when gas stops were made at the local gas stations and "energy" was only 14 1/2¢ a gallon!!) Also on the movie bill were the Barney Oldfield Hill Climbs, the Four Aces Grand Prix at Willow Springs in 1970, and the 1974 Moose Run.

Throughout the evening gals and guys from the Shamrocks were swapping T-shirts with the gals and guys from the Four Aces. Soon it became impossible to distinguish one 'foe' from the other. Mixed into this mess also was a group of riders from northern California (the Los Gatos club) who made the trek to the southern desert to support the Four Aces event. They too got into the T-shirt swapping game. Their game, however, had started with the Four Aces back in May at the Virginia City (Nevada) Grand Prix when a Los Gatos jumper had been "captured" and brought to southern

California.)

To put the final touch to the evening the Shamrocks 'captured' every Four Aces banner they could find as well as any blazer that was 'unattached' while the movies were being shown.

A few of the Four Aces banners were 'recaptured' the next morning while the Shamrocks were over at the Four Aces camp setting off bright red smoke bombs.

Ah, but this was really only the beginning. The REAL fun was yet to come during and after the race. It was almost impossible to figure out who was putting on the race as there were more 'Shamrocks' and 'Los Gatos' out there in front of the start line marking tank cards than Four Aces. Besides that, there were numerous 'Four Aces' jumpers (one on the back of Shamrock Bob Perkins) on the starting line ready to race.

As the amateur and experts readied themselves for the race the banner went up. It was a Shamrock banner which the Four Aces proceeded to set on fire to the amazement of all who watched. Finally the banner poles, almost barren of a banner, dropped signifying the start of the race.

The Los Gatos crew were madly scrambling to put on their helmets and gloves. They had been caught completely off guard and were hollering "wait — we're not ready" . . . but the show went on anyway. After the rest of the riders had left the line, the Los Gatos group finally got started and circled the banner truck several times like a band of Indians before continuing on to the bomb. In their exuberance, however, two of their group collided head-on. One rider returned to the Rescue 3 truck

CONT. ↗

Four Aces —

(Continued from A-1)

lying across the 'saddle' of a bike like a sack of potatoes with his leathers torn wide open across the rear. Rescue 3 doctored the body and then patched the leathers with lots and lots of 'super tape.'

Meanwhile, the 'smoke bomb' was ablaze with color as black, yellow and red smoke grenades were set off.

Chuck Miller, who had hurried to the event from the Mexico race, didn't make it to the starting line as he had been center punched on his way to the start by an unconcerned pit racer. Chuck reinjured his hip and received enough damage to his machine that he couldn't race.

The weather wasn't overly hot, but the Four Aces have a way of laying out a course that will work up a good sweat. Check points were showering the riders with

water and there were even reports of 'beer stops' being made along the way.

Bob Balentine was out of the race before it really began. Upp had led it to the bomb with Lee Scheffers and Balentine close on his heels. Balentine soon took over the lead only to lose it when bike problems arose.

Ken Upp (250) took back the lead with Scheffers (open), Rich Zagic and Mike Echardt (both 250's) breathing down his neck. Next were Gary Charters Sr (Sr-175), Kevin Hopkins (100), Bill Saltzman (open) and Rick Jones (open). Rick Schumaker (175) was in the ninth over-all spot followed by Jeff Matthews (open) rounding out the top ten.

The first ten riders "juggled" positions as they made the big sweep up thru the mountains, down the wash below the Rands, across the highway, thru the flat





country, and then back across the highway towards the pits.

Echardt had now taken over the lead with Upp dropping into second. Zagic was pressing in the third spot. In the fourth o/a slot was the first heavyweight, Saltzman followed by the ever-charging senior, Charters.

Jones (open) was next followed by top trail biker Hopkins whose stay away from the desert in recent months seemed to only make him keener at the sport. Russ Jenkins (250) had moved up into the top ten along with two others: Paul Christensen (250) and senior Morris Norman (open).

At the end of the first loop the novice trail and beginners took the checkered. This group was led by trail biker Bill Mattox. Beginner Don Solberg was second, first 250. Three "C" bikers battled to the finish with Gregg Whitehorn leading the trio including Steve Sixbery and Jim Mattox past the checkered.

First beginner open honors went to John Hylton while Karl Smith was the second trail biker in. David Lovell earned the second spot in the 250 class.

Echardt soon broke down on the second loop and Upp took over the lead with Zagic still not far behind. Saltzman moved up to third o/a while wildman Charters was now in the fourth o/a spot. Hopkins, Jones, Christensen, Jenkins and Norman also all moved up a position as Echardt dropped out as they continued to move around the loop for the second time.

With the trail almost completely empty ahead of him, Upp opened up an impressive lead as he flew to the first over-all win, drawing a full hand of four aces!!!

Zagic (second o/a) also had pulled well ahead of the third o/a slot, finishing with a healthy lead over Saltzman.

The next five to take the checkered were Charters and Hopkins (this trail biker finished 5th over all!!!). Next were Jones, Christensen, and Jenkins while Norman and Lee Scheffers rounded out the top ten.

Steve Krasch finished in the eleventh spot and also had the

dubious honor of being the first Shamrock to cross the finish line. The Four Aces had a surprise for all the Shamrocks that took the checkered (except the beginners, as the Four Aces were afraid the beginners might spill the beans to the rest of their club riders.) The Four Aces planted a whipped cream pie squarely into Steve's face as soon as he took off his helmet.

As each Shamrock pulled his machine to a stop and got his breath, he got a pie. A few didn't take their helmets off, so . . . a well placed pie went thru the goggles opening.

Most of the Los Gatos riders were also greeted by this doubtful honor, but it was all accepted in the vein intended . . . to add a bit of humor and fun to a hard day of racing.

First expert "C" honors went to Mike Matlock with a 13th o/a finish.

Ken Upp holds an amateur card in the District, even tho he is presently running Number 1 in CRC. With this win, some changes really should be made!

Second amateur thru the finish was Jenkins, also running second 250 behind Upp. Krasch was the first amateur open, followed three slots back by second amateur open, Craig Wolfson.

First amateur "C" honors went to Mike Smith with Mike Martin five bikes back in the second "C" spot.

Finishing first novice over-all in the 25th slot was Dan Smith on a 400 Yamaha. He was four bikes ahead of Shamrock amateur heavyweight, Blair Swallow.

Pete Postel once again captured the first novice "C" title while first novice 250 honors went to J. B. Short.

First gal honors went to an amateur, Debbie Hopkins, finishing 62nd over-all. Nancy Caselli was the first novice gal, while Kimberly Cain earned the beginner win.

With the Shamrocks race coming up in the not-too-distant future, the big question arises . . . "Can you top this???" It will be interesting to see what harmless fun the Shamrocks will cook up the would surpass the brilliance of the Four Aces banner and pie-in-eye ventures.

style . . .

THE 4 ACES M.C. is looking for new members who want to join a family orientated club. If interested, call (213) 998-4935.

Saturday evening the big friendly battle between the Four Aces and the Shamrocks was expected to explode once again. The Shamrocks started the evening out with a watermelon feed for everyone -- with a choice of watermelon with straws . . . or without.

At around 9 P.M. a signal shot of fire crackers heralded a water and melon attack on the Shamrocks. More outsiders than Shamrocks got doused, however, because many of the Shamrocks, at the first inkling of 'trouble', retreated into their campers.

THE 4 ACES M.C. — AGAIN — The club wants to remind everyone to put June 10th on their calendar. Their Hare Scrambles will be held in Fremont Valley and will be a Lisa Christensen Memorial Race.

THE 4 ACES M.C. — ONE MORE TIME. An inter-club fun-type rivalry has developed between the 4 Aces and the Shamrocks Club. It seems that recently the 4 Aces invaded the peaceful Shamrocks camp one evening, bearing gifts (ice cream for all) and singing Christmas Carols (in the middle of March no less!!!), but left the Shamrocks after setting off a lovely violet-colored smoke bomb. — Oh, Oh, What Next??????!

FOUR ACES vs SHAMROCKS. If you attended the Four Aces race last week-end and were wondering what was going on between the Four Aces and Shamrocks, here's the answer. The two clubs have started a friendly club-type rivalry compete with "Articles of War" which was officially presented at a recent D-37 meeting . . . all in the spirit of good, clean (this word is questionable in this text after all the pie throwing that went on at the finish line) fun. It should make for some very interesting happenings.