

WHEN WE SPONSORED AND ATTENDED THIS SOUTH TEXAS MOTORCYCLE SHOW IN SAN ANTONIO THIS YEAR, WE HAD THE HONOR OF MEETING A FEMALE MOTORCYCLE RACER, SHEILA PAUL. SHE HAD JUST MOVED FROM COLORADO, WHERE OUR SISTER PUBLICATION, THUNDER ROADS COLORADO, HAD DONE A FEW STORIES ABOUT HER RACING CAREER AND HER INVOLVEMENT WITH RACING 2 SAVE LIVES (RACING2SAVELIVES.ORG). SHEILA SHARED A RECENT RACING EXPERIENCE WITH US, NOW WE'RE SHARING WITH YOU.

The 1st Annual Michelin US Motorcycle Championship was held October 3-4 at Barber Motorsports Park, in Birmingham, Alabama. The Michelin U.S. Motorcycle Championship is an exclusive, invitation-only event for club-level racers who compete on MICHELIN racing tires. Participants were invited from all over the

(Vanmar Racing), and Brian Drebber who gave us a special tour of the museum. We wandered around the museum in awe looking at all the motorcycles.

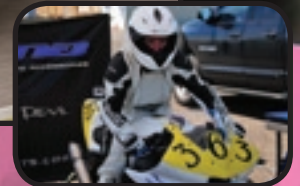
Saturday we started out with a sighting practice to get acclimated with the track. This was our first time on this track so we needed to take a little time to learn it. We had a total of five practice sessions and

track but by the time race 4 got underway the rain started coming down. Thanks to Keith Hertell (Road & Track Suspension) and Nick Montonaro for loaning me rain tires as well as helping us girls change them out.

We gridded up for the Women's Supersport class with the rain pouring down and huge puddles all around the track. I was able to get a good start but the track was slick and it was hard to stay out of the puddles. I managed to finish in 7th place which gave me an overall finish for the weekend in 10th place.

A special thanks to Michelin for putting on this event and to TotalRider.com for their generous support for the weekends race and Brandon Bones - Studio 819 for his professional photography.

The challenging weather conditions produced some great racing and unexpected results, as Michelin crowned champions in eight different classes, awarding \$87,500 in cash and prizes based on results from two days of racing.



US to compete in the weekend's event.

Kim Prichard, Sasha Toronto, and I traveled together to Barber Motorsports Park. It was a great trip as we watched videos of Barber to prepare ourselves for the weekend's races. We arrived in Alabama Thursday which gave us all day Friday to relax before the weekend's events.

If you have ever been to Barber Motorsports Park you know that there is the most awesome motorcycle museum located on the property. The Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum offers more than 1200 vintage and modern motorcycles, the largest collection of its kind in the world. We ran into several of our friends such as Mark, Tammy and Katie Schellinger

then it was time to race.

Kim and I competed in the 600 Supersport class. There were some fast racers in this class. Even though we didn't finish in the front of the pack it helped prepare us for the next race which was the Women's Supersport class. It was a great turnout as we had what may have been the largest-ever field of women at a national-level motorcycle road race. I struggled a little in this race as I was still learning the track so I didn't finish as well as Sasha and Kim. They both finished in the top ten for Saturday.

Sunday we woke up to gloomy weather and the weather channel said it was going to rain. We started out practice with a dry

Next up is Texas World Speedway October 17-18, in College Station, Texas. Come join us for some great racing!

Thank you to my 2009 Sponsors.

- Akuma Helmets
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For more information about Sheila and her racing career, visit MySpace.com/1oftheboys333

