

Billy Mac posts two solid rides in the MX1 category



© Ray Chaus

virtually a stocker – prepared by PSM Casola who has no experience all year with a 450 – and it is a slug!

But then Windham falls, BT is past and away and Vuillemin is on the American as he wobbles into the next turn. The Frenchman then evens out the odds as Windham goes down again with a little help before Ramon, who has worked his way past Philippaerts, also goes through in a strange race with more lappers than boys on the gas.

Nunny gets 11th after passing Nobby late on as the UK boys come home in tandem again.

With Stribos sixth, Belgium are announced as leaders on four scores but the effective balance of power is seen on three scores. USA and France are on 12, Belgium 14 and the Kiwis on 26 with the Brits sixth behind Estonia on 32.

But the Belgians have only one score better

than fifth and don't look capable of better so the victory will surely be fought out between the Yanks and the French.

Staying realistic, Pichon cannot hope for better than second to RC so it's up to Vuillemin to again beat Windham by two for the Tricolor to fly high. And the final podium is not decided yet either as the Kiwis have a lot to pull back but BT and Josh are hauling!

It gets physical at turn three as Pichon pushes past Windham for the lead but RC rails the outside berm, puts the Frenchman's front wheel into the soft dirt at turn four and the order is RC, Windham, Josh and Pichon.

Pichon gets Josh on lap two but BT has already come from a miserable start to second to slug it out with RC as the pair out-distance the rest at two-seconds-a-lap. It's the very last lap before Ben lets Carmichael soak up the applause at reduced pace – Mitch Payton has

only seen BT ride once before but now knows he's backed a winner.

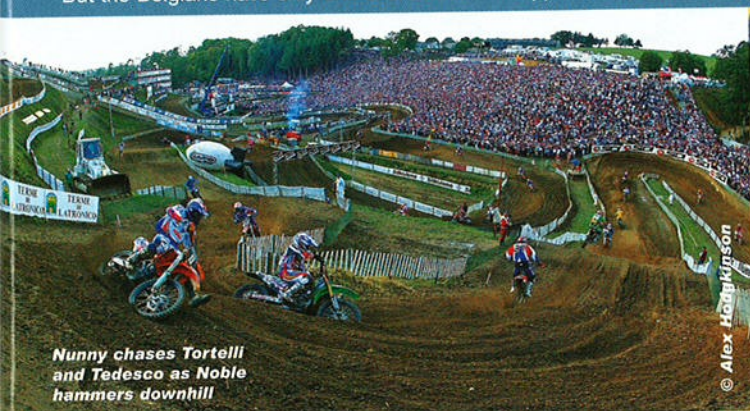
French hopes lay with the possibility of the nervous Windham wobbling under pressure – and Pichon keeps the pressure firmly on until he goes down himself in a desperate final lap as Vuillemin comes home nearly a minute down, his bike not capable of more.

Everts falls again on lap one and it is Stribos in eighth who just salvages bronze for Belgium as Billy and Nobby outscore Leok and Laansoo to leapfrog the Estonians for fifth.

The win takes USA onto 16, equal with the British Empire (that's what the team was called for the first four victories in 1947, 1949, 1950 and 1952) with next year's race at Farleigh.

Belgium also have something to prove there because they won both previous Nations down Wiltshire way.

Hotel bookings are now being taken!



Nunny chases Tortelli and Tedesco as Noble hammers downhill

© Alex Hodgkinson



Nunny heads Hot Sauce

© Warren Johnson

## best of british!

BROWN AND PETERS LEAD OUR SIDECARCROSS CREWS TO SECOND

Words by Leen van der Sluis Photo by Bert van der Sluis

While the two-wheeled warriors are scrapping it out in France, the Sidecarcross des Nations goes off at Jauer in Eastern Germany – and the three-crew, six-man GB team come away with a surprise second place.

Macclesfield's Stuart Brown and his passenger Jason Peters head the GB effort together with brothers John and Mark Watson and Scott Wilkinson and Gary Burt. And the Brits are in front after the opening moto thanks to Brown and Watson steering their outfits to a 2-3 behind Swede Henke Soderqvist.

Moto two sees the Watson brothers holding down second early on until problems with the sidecar push them back to 11th. The Wilkinson/Burt pairing manages a great ninth but Latvia move into the lead thanks to a win by Krister Sergis/Kaspars Stupelis and third for Maris Rupeikis/Harald Kurpnieks.

Brown and Peters come out fighting in race three but their second place finish – backed up by Wilkinson in 11th – isn't enough to overhaul Latvia who again take the race win thanks to Sergis/Stupelis.

"This is a very good result for our team," reckons Stuart. "Everyone in the team worked hard for the team result. The Watson brothers did the impossible to finish the second heat with a broken rail – that's risky and dangerous."

Brown and Peters help the Brits to second in the Sidecarcross des Nations

