

Local Sports News

YOUTH-ADULT ROUNDUP

Mueller soars in his first year of motocross

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It was only a matter of time before Nick Mueller would make the switch from racing BMX bikes to motorcycles.

Mueller jumped into the world of motocross last year and the transition couldn't have gone smoother. The San Marcos High freshman has taken off in the sport. He recently won a series championship in the California Motorcycle Association.

Mueller, 14, captured the CMA's Bounty Hunter series title in the 85cc beginner division. In the 10-race series that included as many as 90 riders in his division, he was victorious three times. His worst finish was a fifth.

"Nick started BMX when he was 3," his father Steve Mueller said.

"It was last year, he decided he wanted to try and race motorcycles. He took fourth in his first race and hasn't looked back since."

Nick, who is sponsored by Santa Barbara Motorsports, is moving up to the 85cc Novice class and also plans to race in the 125cc beginning class.

Nick's riding caught the attention of Sal De La Mora, who runs a local motocross team, Risky Bizness. Nick and the team will compete next weekend at the California Supercross in Fresno.

AUTO RACING

Goleta's Greg Voigt finished in second place at the Star Nursery.com 150 at Tucson Raceway Park in Arizona.

It was Voigt's best finish in the NASCAR AutoZone Elite Division Southwest Series, and it moved him into sixth place in the series standings with one race remaining. Voigt is hoping to qualify for the

season-ending Toyota All-Star Shootout at Irwindale Speedway later in November.

The Shootout pits the top 10 finishers in the four NASCAR Elite Division series against each other.

He'll compete next week in Phoenix.

Voigt has won several championships on asphalt and dirt tracks around the southwestern states. His engine builder is James Weston of Auto Pro Racing Engines.

YOUTH SOCCER

Leann Sgobba had a goal and assist to lead the California Legends under-18 girls gold team to a 3-1 victory over the Palmdale Thunder. Lauren Witchey and Sarah Erlanson also scored.

Other team members include Ally Kellogg, Julia Bottiani, Katherine Serdio, Kelly Riggs, Tina Vincent, Katie McIntosh, Marissa McCandlish, Zoe Zappas, Erica Thomas, Caly Davidson, Emma Allison, Emily Walker and Nora Mireles.

GYMNASTICS

Four members of the Spirals Gymnastics team qualified for the state championships at the Level 5-6 North Sectional meet in Malibu.

In Level 6, Montana Marshall and Sarah McAtee will represent the club after posting all-around scores of 32.15 and 32.00, respectively. The state meet is Nov. 13-14 at Cal State Fullerton.

The Level 5 qualifiers were Sara Peterson (34.325 all-around score) and Makeda Negash (33.375). They'll compete Nov. 6-7 at Azusa High.

WATER POLO

The Blaze gold team finished in third place in the Fall 14s championship tournament at Carpinteria Community Pool. In the third-place game, Jordan Ekola scored three goals in an 8-6 win over Camarillo. He finished with 10 goals in the tournament.

The Blaze Black lost to Central Coast 8-7 overtime in the fifth-place game. The Blaze Red squad, composed primarily of under-12 players, finished seventh.

BODYBUILDING

Santa Barbara's Carl Gaines will be competing at the Natural Olympia bodybuilding championships in Las Vegas on Nov. 13.

The Natural Olympia is the largest, most prestigious natural bodybuilding competition in the world.

Gaines is seeking donations to help him with expenses. Donations can be made at the Santa Barbara YMCA, 36 Hitchcock Way.

SAILING

The Santa Barbara Yacht Club's Wet Wednesday series announced its fleet winners for the season.

Starting in April, sailors in six fleets competed in the races each Wednesday through October.

The winner of the A Fleet was RIO, skippered by Loren Colahan. Radio personality Dr. Laura Schlessinger guided The Doc to first place in the B Fleet. Wild Goose, skippered by Dale Byers of the Santa Barbara Sailing Club, captured the C Fleet. R. Wann Rawles piloted Psyche's Song to the H Fleet title.

Repeat Offender, captained by Larry Harteck, captured the J105 Class and Pat Toole's 3 Big Dogs earned the title in the J24 Class.

COURTESY PHOTO

Nick Mueller has made a smooth jump from BMX racing to motocross. He recently won a California Motorcycle Association division championship.