

## Motorcycling with John Savage

# Jamison bags two titles

**Ardsman Kirk Jamison wrapped up the Ulster Superbike and Irish Superstock Championships at Bishopscourt last Saturday, nevertheless, his sights remain firmly focused on his prime targets: the Irish and Ulster Superbike Championship crowns and the Mondello Masters title.**

Astride his ex-Keith Amor, Jim Angus Contracts BMW S1000RR, Jamison impressively won both Irish Superbike Championship races, as an ISB round was staged for the first time over the re-designed 1.479 miles former airfield circuit — the full revised circuit will be utilised for the first time at next month's Irish Superbike Championship Sunflower Trophy meeting.

The inaugural Irish Superstock Championship is staged concurrently with the premier Irish Superbike Championship, and by clinching the Irish Superstock and Ulster Superbike titles, 31 year old father of four Jamison perpetuated an illustrious family tradition, by following in the tyre tracks of his father, Norman, and his uncles David and Brian Jamison, who are all former Irish and Ulster champions.

Kirk beamed: "To say I am chuffed is a major understatement.

"I have worked hard for years and have lost a number of titles due to simple bad luck.

"My team and supporters have been superb all year and gave me a fantastic reception — the championships are every bit as much for them, as they are for me."

He chortled: "Speaking of fantastic receptions, I got my second instalment of a semi-naked Scott Thompson celebrating on the slow down lap: you have to give him points for enthusiasm!"

Cloughy man Thompson is on course to clinch the inaugural Ulster Pre-Injection Championship, the final round of which will be staged at Bishopscourt on

October 9.

Jamison won last Saturday's first 12 laps race by four seconds from his main Irish and Ulster Superbike Championship challenger, Randalstown man Matt Percy, on his VSK Logan Yamaha R1, with Crumlin's Stephen Thompson close behind in third, aboard the T&R Motorsport BMW.

There was a riveting dice for fourth, won by Ballyclare's Richard Rea, from Mark Glasgow, Gareth Keys and newly crowned Irish Senior Clubmans' champion Nico Mawhinney, but that quartet were way off the pace of the leading trio.

Jamison recounted: "I settled down behind leader Stephen Thompson, after a couple of laps, but was getting +0 on my board, so I knew I had to make my move.

"I had a fair idea it would be Percy behind me, so decided to try and make a break for it and leave the rest to fight amongst themselves. It all worked perfectly, as I hit the front and gradually built up a lead to take the win."

Kirk quipped: "My team, apparently, had a slight panic attack, as I wheeled over the line to start my last lap. They thought I had done a 'Scott Thompson' and believed the race was over a lap early, when, in fact, I had just missed a gear coming out of the last turn and accidentally lifted the front wheel when I kicked it back into place. Sure it keeps them on their toes!"

Kirk was referring to Thompson stopping a lap before the finish in an Ulster Pre-Injection Championship race at Kirkistown earlier this month, when there was confusion over the

chequered flag being shown.

Jamison's margin of victory in the second 12 laps race was even more impressive, as he won by over five seconds from Percy, who narrowly edged Thompson for second, while Glasgow claimed fourth, this time comfortably in front of Mawhinney, with Rea a lonely sixth.

Kirk reflected: "I pushed through to second after a poor start, but this time it was Percy who led.

"In race one, he had pretty much matched my fastest lap, but I knew I could do it lap after lap, so hit the front to see if he could do the same.

"My consistency was the key, as I continually extended my lead and in the end I took a comfortable win."

Jamison beamed: "I had a superb day, I couldn't have asked for better!"

He recounted: "My starts weren't great, as usual, but I put in two terrific first laps, making something like seven passes in the first three turns of race one.

"The second race was my sixth outright Superbike win this year, so when you add in the fact that I also have 13 Superstock wins it has already been a year to remember.

"The Superbike double means I have clinched the Ulster Superbike title and another Superstock double means I have finally won an Irish Championship."

With Australian Cameron Donald racing for the Honda TT Legends team, alongside Morecambe's John McGuinness and Scotsman Keith Amor, in last weekend's World Endurance Championship Le Mans 24 Hour race,

Jamison has leap-frogged Donald in the Irish Superbike Championship standings, and he now leads the series by 45 points from Matt Percy, with five races remaining.

Jamison also leads the Mondello Masters series from Dubliner Damien Byrne, and aims to add that title to his collection in the final round of the series at the Co Kildare circuit this weekend, where three crucial Irish Superbike Championship races will also be on the agenda, ahead of the final two ISB races at the Sunflower Trophy meeting at Bishopscourt on October 22.

Kirk analysed: "Percy's consistency all year is going to ensure I have to fight to the end for the Irish Superbike title, but it is getting ever closer.

"I have made no secret of the fact that the ISB title is the one I have wanted since I first hopped on a superbike in 2006.

"I have come close over the past five years, none more so than when Alastair Seeley piped me to it at the last round in 2006, so I know what it feels like to lose out in the closing stages."

He pledged: "I have no intention of feeling that way again this year."

Single mindedly Jamison continued: "This weekend, I have the opportunity to wrap up the ISB title, if I outscore Percy over the weekend by five points, but I also have the added pressure of the Adelaide Masters final. Three races over the weekend puts 75 points up for grabs and I have a slender 27 points lead over Mondello specialist Damien Byrne, who is a great rider, but with my Jim Angus Contracts BMW back on the pipe, I am confident we can do what needs to be done."

## Results

Superbike, 1st race: 1, K. Jamison (BMW) 94.71mph; 2, M. Percy (Yamaha); 3, S. Thompson (BMW); 4, R. Rea (BMW); 5, M. Glasgow (Suzuki); 6, G. Keys (Suzuki); 7, N. Mawhinney (Suzuki); 8, G. Johnston (BMW); 9, D. Byrne (Honda); 10, A. Poston (Yamaha). Record lap: Jamison 96.74mph. 2nd race: 1, Jamison 94.87mph; 2, Percy; 3, Thompson; 4, Glasgow; 5, Mawhinney; 6, Rea; 7, Johnston; 8, Byrne. Fastest lap: Jamison 96.64mph.

Supersport, 1st race: 1, J. Buckley (Yamaha) 93.80mph; 2, G. Jeffers (Yamaha); 3, A. Kirk (Yamaha); 4, C. Elkin (Triumph); 5, T. Elwood (Yamaha); 6, R. Lanigan (Yamaha); 7, C. Phillips



**Matt Percy leads Kirk Jamison at Bishopscourt last Saturday, but the Ardsman proved to be unbeatable**

(Yamaha); 8, A. McClean Parkhill 88.83mph. 2nd race: 1, Parkhill (Suzuki); 10, P. Cranston (Honda). Record lap: Buckley 95.47mph. 2nd race: 1, Jeffers 94.17mph; 2, Buckley; 3, Kirk; 4, Elkin; 5, Elwood; 6, C. Thompson (Triumph); 7, Phillips; 8, Lanigan; 9, Hoey; 10, McClean. Record lap: Buckley 96.98mph.

650cc Supertwins, 1st race: 1, A. Irwin (Suzuki) 86.77mph; 2, M. Lennon (Kawasaki); 3, C. Phillips (Kawasaki); 4, M. McKinney (Suzuki); 5, L. Hill (Suzuki); 6, D. Butler (Suzuki). Record lap: Lennon 90.29mph. 2nd race: 1, Lennon 87.57mph; 2, Hill; 3, Phillips; 4, McKinney; 5, Irwin; 6, Butler. Fastest lap: Lennon 90.14mph.

250cc, 1st race: 1, M. Kelly 89.59mph; 2, R. Glasgow; 3, R. Shanahan; 4, P. Robinson; 5, B. Davidson; 6, T. Henry (all Honda). Record lap: Kelly 91.83mph. 2nd race: 1, Glasgow 89.87mph; 2, Kelly; 3, Shanahan; 4, Robinson; 5, Davidson; 6, Henry. Fastest lap: Kelly 91.62mph.

125cc, 1st race: 1, C. Parkhill (Honda) 87.10mph; 2, P. Robinson (Aprilia); 3, L. Johnston (Honda); 4, K. McGreevy (Honda); 5, J. Lynn (Honda); 6, R. Patterson (Honda). Record lap:

81.64mph; 2, T. Ferguson (Yamaha). Record lap: Gilpin 83.46mph. 2nd race: 1, Gilpin 82.10mph; 2, Ferguson. Record lap: Gilpin 83.85mph.

Sidecar, 1st race: 1, D. & D. Lynch (Baker Suzuki) 84.45mph; 2, K. Young/S. Mullen (Baker Suzuki); 3, T. O'Reilly/C. Russell (Baker Suzuki); 4, S. Killough/B. Butler (Baker Yamaha); 5, F. Woodlock/F. Newton (Kelly Suzuki); 6, P. May/A. McDonnell (Baker Suzuki). Record lap: Lynch/Lynch 87.52mph. 2nd race: 1, Lynch/Lynch 85.07mph; 2, Young/Mullen; 3,

O'Reilly/Russell; 4, Killough/Butler; 5, May/McDonnell. Record lap: Lynch/Lynch 87.68mph.

Non-championship

Clubmans, 1st race: 1, N. Mawhinney (1000 Suzuki) 90.68mph; 2, J. McKelvey (1000 Honda); 3, J. Harvey (600 Yamaha); 4, A. Robinson (1000 Yamaha); 5, R. Clarke (1000 Suzuki); 6, S. Clarke (1000 Suzuki). Fastest lap: Mawhinney 92.43mph. 2nd race: 1, Mawhinney 90.94mph; 2, McKelvey; 3, Harvey; 4, S. Clarke; 5, Robinson; 6, R. Clarke. Record lap: Mawhinney 92.59mph.



**14 year old Conor Parkhill, from Eglinton, near Londonderry, underlined his potential, when he scored a superb race in the Irish 125cc Championship races at Bishopscourt.**

Gordon Williams

## Injured rider's wife says 'thanks'

**The wife of Belfast rider Paul Gordon, who was critically injured in a freak crash at Bishopscourt last Saturday, has extended her thanks to everyone who assisted at the scene of her husband's accident.**

Paul sustained multiple injuries when he crashed his GP Construction Honda Fireblade CBR1000RR into the pit wall at an estimated 100mph during qualifying for the non-championship Clubmans' race.

He was immediately attended by the expert Motor Cycle Union of Ireland (Ulster Centre) medical team and his condition was stabilised before he was transferred by ambulance to Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital, accompanied by a police escort.

Last Saturday evening, Paul underwent four hours of surgery at the Royal Victoria to a broken arm and broken leg, and at time of going to press, he was still sedated, due to having suffered extensive rib injuries.

His friend and fellow Irish Senior Clubmans' Championship competitor, Londonderry man Jeff Garrett, who was also racing at Bishopscourt, said Paul thoroughly enjoys his racing and 'lives for motorcycles', and Jeff paid a glowing tribute to Saturday's Clerk of the Course, former racer Mark Sanlon, for the professional manner in which he handled the situation.

Paul and his wife Karen have one son, and Karen has asked me to pass on her heartfelt gratitude to all the medical personnel, marshals, first aid volunteers and race officials who assisted following the incident, and also to the PSNI, staff at the Royal Victoria Hospital and everyone who has passed on good wishes to her.



**The top three in last Saturday's ISB race. Double winner Kirk Jamison, flanked by twice runner-up Matt Percy and Stephen Thompson (right), who was third in both races.**

Philip Campbell