



MOTOCROSS HISTORY THE RIDERS AND THE BIKES...

For Immediate Release



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Preserving the history of Motocross, the machines and the racers of this great sport!

The Legends & Heroes of Motocross Tour to Honor Blackwell & LaPorte with the first 30-40 Award at Pala!

Merced, Calif. ~ September 7, 2011: Mark Blackwell was a leading rider in the early days of motocross in the United States during the late 1960's and early 1970's. **Forty years ago**, he won

the 1971 American 500cc Motocross title (a predecessor of today's AMA National Motocross Championship) by being the top-scoring American in the Trans-AMA Series. He also scored a victory in the 500cc motocross class at Daytona International Speedway in 1972. Blackwell was one of the first American riders to compete in the Motocross World Championships during the early 1970's. Perhaps even more influential than his racing exploits were Blackwell's contributions as a manager in companies such as Suzuki, Husqvarna and later, Victory.



Danny LaPorte helped the United States make the transition from underdog to world leader in the sport of motocross. The rider from Los Angeles scored an AMA 500cc National Motocross Championship in 1979 before going on to become the first American to win the FIM 250cc World Motocross Championship in 1982. **Thirty years ago**, LaPorte was also a key member of the 1981 Team USA Motocross and Trophee des Nations squad that brought America its first win in the prestigious international Olympic-like competition.



"These two champions represent some great American milestone in US Moto history. Danny being part of the first American team to beat the Europeans and take home the USA's first MXDN trophy and Mark who pioneered the early days of motocross and in winning the American 500cc Motocross title back in 1971" states Alex Moroz, General Managing Partner of the Legends & Heroes of Motocross Tour.

Both champs will be at the Legends & Heroes Moto Museum display at this weekend's Pala National from 11am-12pm for a meet & greet with the fans and informal interviews.

About the Tour

The Legends & Heroes Motocross Tour is a professional historical display and time-line of Americas greatest motorsport. The tour includes the machines and the champs of Motocross. The project was conceived by a dedicated group of Motocross Enthusiasts who, over the years, have discovered the value of the rich 40+ years of Motocross legacy and its impact on the American motorsports history. "The dedication and passion of the sport has brought the Legends & Heroes Motocross Tour to the next level of sharing this legacy, the history of the machines and men, as well as the women of Motocross. The history of the Classic Iron and its' champions is a dynamic model ever changing. We see this rich history as a great learning lab for all ages" according to Alex Moroz the tours managing partner.