

Pua Sawick, The Path Bike Shop and Ellsworth Work Together to Support SoCal Junior Racer

Knowing that young riders and racers are the future of MTB racing, Pua Sawicki, Ellsworth's 2008 National Solo and Ultra Endurance Champion racer formed her Keiki Team. Started in 2007, the Keiki (Hawaiian for child) Team is her program to get young riders involved in MTB riding and racing. Last January, Willie McClure of Woodland Hills, CA, signed on to Pua's team and then became the youngest racer ever to compete in the 12 Hours of Temecula at just 12 years old. Even though Willie was racing on a hand me down bike that was a couple of sizes too big, quite a few pounds too heavy and lacking rear suspension, he still raced well enough to earn the 12 Hours of Temecula 2007 Champion Jersey at this past November's race.

Realizing that Willie's racing would improve dramatically with the guidance of Pua and the riding efficiency of an Ellsworth XC frame, Michael McClure, (Willie's Father, pit crew and #1 fan) asked Ron Sawicki for assistance to get to the next level. With his desire to race and solid support from his father, Ron and Pua Sawicki and the Path Bike Shop in Tustin, Willie was able to purchase a new Ellsworth Epiphany last week. "It was definitely a group effort; we saved costs with Pua and Ron providing most of the components from spare racing parts and by getting a blemished frame from Ellsworth. Tani Walling at The Path built the bike perfectly and now Willie will be racing an Epiphany at the 12 Hours of Temecula on November 15" said Michael. "I just hope he doesn't out grow the frame size by next season!"

We wish Willie good luck for his Temecula race! The Ellsworth crew along with Ron and Pua will be in the vendor area at the race to provide race support to Willie and all other Ellsworth riders and friends.

For more information please go to:

www.teammata.com

www.thepathbikeshop.com



Willie and his new racing machine



Tani Walling, owner of The Path Bike Shop in Tustin, CA

