

Pirate Shop Grad Update

- Tallon Trentz -



(Man): "You know much about Kawasakis?"

(Tallon): "Well, uhm, (pause), actually I know quite a bit."

For all of his four years in the Marshfield Pirate Shop, Tallon was unwavering about his desire to become a motorcycle mechanic. Immediately after graduation in 2008 he hit the road for Phoenix, Arizona to attend the Motorcycle Mechanics Institute (MMI). A little more than a year later, degree in hand, he came back to Coos Bay and was hired at Bay Area Yamaha, a bike shop that has been in business in 1976.

In a recent visit to the Pirate Shop, Tallon was asked the above question. For the full significance of his reply, know that Tallon is the quiet type, ego devoid and never brags or boasts. I listened with interest, and during the pause, wondered how he would handle the question. He finally decided on a simple statement of fact. Like in that old series *The Guns of Will Sonnett* where Walter Brennan would always say, "No brag, just fact."

The day I visited Tallon at his workplace he had three bikes on lifts. One was a top end rebuild, one he was prepared to bore the cylinder to fit a new piston and rings and a third ancient machine needed the carbs cleaned. Asked how it was going he said "Living the dream." There is a lot of enjoyment watching the next generation pick up the wrenches. One thing never changes..you never have enough tools. "What's your next tool", I asked. "Snap-On torque wrench." Click type? Naw, digital, do all kinds of stuff, newton meters, inch pounds, foot pounds. I didn't argue, blab on like an old fart about not needing that..etc,etc. I would have wanted one too at his age.