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VOLUME TWO NUMBER THREE August 1977











SUZUKI GVX1 WORKS COMPETITION
number one son of RM
PRODUCT ANALYSIS
STARS BRENT PATTERSON
number one son of Speedo
COMPETITION
SPEEDO GRAND PRIX
the Corona Kid rides again
TRAX AND THE OPERATION OF SAME NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT
where to make haste crookedly
SANCTIONING ORGANIZATIONS
the AMA's and FIM's of BMX
TECHNICAL
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gofast sprocket combinations
HOT TIPS
FEATURES MENTAL PREPARATION
Kawasaki's number one son speaks of winning
PRO: PROFESSIONAL RACING ORGANIZATION
YOUR ORDINARY, EVERYDAY DEPARTMENTS EDITORIAL
SCOTOMANIA
PRODUCTS

On the cover

Neil Bonds (Mongoose) and Jeff Bottema (DG) in the thick of it at the Speedo Grand Prix. Photo by Windy ...aqain.





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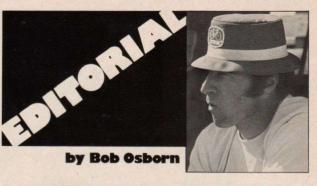
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THIS EDITORIAL MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE, READ IT.

What I have to say is heavy. For this I do NOT apologize.

Bicycle motocross racing and jumping motocross bikes are two totally different things.

In bicycle motocross racing, many safeguards are taken. Tracks are designed to be exciting but not dangerous. Reasonable rules of racing are adhered to. Bikes are padded and safe. Racers wear helmets, face masks, gloves, padding, etc.

Jumping motocross bikes is neither supervised nor organized. Very little thought is put into how potentially dangerous the situation might be. Virtually no safety equipment is worn. Everyone is testing their capabilities, and more often than not, exceeding them.

Injuries from organized racing usually involve skinned elbows and knees. Broken bones occur, but rarely.

Injuries from jumping and related unorganized activities (like racing down fire roads) usually begin with broken bones and get worse from there.

In this magazine, especially in the test section, there are photos of people jumping. We feel that with certain bikes, jump-testing adds to a more comprehensive report. But take another look at these jumping shots. In every one the rider is wearing FULL PROTECTIVE GEAR. What does not show in the photos is that the jumps and landing areas were checked out prior to jumping, and that there

were people standing by to insure that nobody got in the way of the jumper.

A 15-year-old BMX racer died last week (as this editorial is written). His name was Mark. He was a friend of mine. His death was NOT the result of injuries sustained in a bicycle motocross race. He died doing the same thing a lot of you guys do all the time—jumping without a helmet. He would have walked away from the crash with no injuries if he had just worn a helmet. But he didn't, and now he's dead. Forever.

Understand that I'm neither encouraging nor discouraging jumping. My boy does it all the time. So do all his friends. But they put some thought into what they're doing. They make sure the jump is not suicidal. When someone is jumping, the rest of them stand by to make sure nobody gets in the way. They try to discourage any. They try to discourage anyone from jumping who may not be capable. And they wear helmets.

But all you guys know that wearing a crash helmet when you're not racing is un-cool. It's sort of showing off, right? Well, let me tell you something. Dead is un-cool. Brain damage is un-cool. Turning yourself into a vegetable is un-cool. Having a steel plate in your head is un-cool. Being a slobbering idiot the rest of your life is un-cool.

Can you guess what has happened since my boy and his friends

continued on page 34



MENTAL PREPARATION

WORDSOFWI SDOMFROMO NEWHO'SBEE NTHERE...AC OUPLEORTH REETIMES!

By Jimmy Weinert

1974-75 500CC NATIONAL CHAMPION 1976 SUPER-SERIES STADIUM CHAMPION

In addition to holding the 500cc National Championship for two years in a row and the Super-Series Stadium Championship last year on those noisy, smoky things, Jimmy Weinert also markets a primo-quality line of BMX products, and is partners with Jerry Barlett in Laguna Distributors.

What 'James the Jammer' has to say about mental preparation is heavy, 'cause he's been there.

"You have to keep telling yourself that you can be No. 1, and when you attain it, you must try even harder."

Bicycle motocross is growing very rapidly and is fast becoming a serious and professional sport. The technology that has gone into building BMX equipment is growing as fast as the sport itself. With all the dedication that has gone into developing BMX, one has to wonder what it's all about.

I have a lot of respect for these young people who pedal their hearts out each week. I wonder how some of them can race 3 or 4 times a week, all year. In my racing I look forward with anticipation to the three months I have off, but being a professional racer, I have my obligations and I must fulfill them.

I think the key to success in any sport is mental preparation. You have to keep telling yourself that you can be No. 1, and when you attain it, you must try even harder. It's very important to get the proper rest, eat good foods, and

"I told myself that I was going to win that race and become champion again."

stay in shape. Conditioning plays a very big part in racing. When your body gets tired, so does your brain. But it works both ways—when your brain gets tired, so does your body. So, what's a person to do? I've already mentioned eating, sleeping, and conditioning. When you do these three things, your brain will function perfectly, but you must keep telling yourself that you are the best

When I go to a motorcycle race I tell myself, "Self, you are the best; you are in the best condition, your motorcycle is perfect, and you're going to win." With an attitude like that, it is very hard to be beaten.

A good example of my mental preparation was when I was trying to win my second 500cc National Championship. We were in Ohio and I had a 100-point advantage. I broke my motorcycle that day, lost the lead, and went down to second position. 30 points from the leader.

For the next week I trained in Columbus, Mississippi, which is a very hot and humid place in the month of September. Then we went to Louisiana. I told myself

that I was going to win that race and become champion again.

There were five riders who could have won the championship: Billy Grossi, Steve Stackable, Pierre Karsmakers, Kent Howerton, and myself. I had to win that race to win the championship.

I went to the race on Sunday with the attitude that I was the best and I was going to win. As it came out, I won the race after two furious motos in 100-degree heat and very high humidity. My training and mental preparation had paid off!

So, whatever you have to give up to be No. 1, or just to be good, it's worth it. Think of yourself as Numero Uno and it will get you there nine times out of ten.

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TRAINING CAMP

Howdy, hello, and welcome to Narlyville, USA.

You are now at this very moment reading the exciting, hi-zoot, zany, zapping 4th issue of the already fabtabulously famous BMX Action magazine. If you're a normal all-American newsstand nomad or just a nitwit novice racer, vou've probably read my first three columns.

In my first issue I told you how to go racing as a beginner so you don't get crushed by a 200-pound superjock professional pedal pusher. Issue Number 2 was the 1st Annual Bicycle Motocross Word Contest of Bicvcle Motocross Action, otherwise known as the 1st Annual BMXWC-BMXA. And in Issue No. 3, I cleaned out my garage .

Feast your eyes, for you hold the fanatical, farfetched Fourth Issue in your famished little hands.

This time I will tantalize your tangy teenage tastebuds by telling you about the most treacherous, technical training camp designed to twist your riding technique to complete barnstorming, berzerk, bonzai blasts of bursting energy.

I've been racing over six years now and I've tried thousands of different methods of training. A few years back, a mysterious man came to me at the races and said he would train me to be National No. 1. Of course I wanted to be No. 1, so I listened on...a ha, wala, and all the good stuff...Well, this year I got the NBA National No. 1. His training program worked so

well that he has now set up a complete BMX training camp! This BMX wonder wizard is none other than Charlie Narly, owner of Narly's Training Camp. Charlie works with only five riders per year, so it's hard to qualify for his program.

For 1977 his riders will be Perry Kramer, Billy MacIntyre, Stu Thomsen, "Dirt Clod" O'Hare and yours truly, of course.

Last Saturday was our first day of training for the upcoming summer nationals. I woke up with a thud, rolled off the bed, face first, onto the floor. After I realized I wasn't dreaming, I crawled to the bathroom and soaked my hungover head in the cold shower. It was 7:00 a.m. and I had a feeling that I should have slept in.

Stu and Billy met at my house at 8:00 a.m. so we could be at Perry and Dirt Clod's by 9:00. We were to meet Charlie Narly at the secret training camp at 10:00. It was going to be a long day.

From Perry's we booked over to the local MacDonald's for a gourmet breakfast. I ordered an Egg McMuffin and a pile of fries. The pile of fries ended up being weapons of war in a surprise attack on Perry and Stuart. Dirt Clod blew everyone up with a Big Mac attack. He splattered his leftover Big Mac in the center of the table. Flying pickles and mustard covered all of us. Then Dirt Clod jumped up, claiming victory: little did he know I had part of my Egg McMuffin left. Quickly I advanced

on enemy forces and covered Dirt Clod with egg and ham. All the other guys retreated to the car. then came the all-American Mac-Donald's manager! He wiped us all out! Needless to say. Dirt and I iammed for the car before all h... broke loose

The time had come to head towards the training camp Everyone was nervous, waiting to meet Charlie Narly. We drove up the back roads in case somebody was following us. Thirty minutes later I pulled over in the middle of nowhere. We all unloaded our bikes and headed to the top of the highest hill. This wasn't any ordinary hill because once you reached the top, it was a three-mile course of crazy, creepy bumps and jumps jolting your body into a cringing crinkle of crimson crippled crossbones. Naturally it was a "Narly" track. As we crested the top, we looked for Charlie. He was nowhere to be found.

We started to put on our helmets and all of a sudden. Charlie Narly appeared. Immediately he started in with exercises for us. By the time we were done, we were too tired to ride. He let us rest for a couple of seconds and then started his unique program. Charlie has a neat method of training. It's like hide-'n'-seek. He hides and we try to catch him. It sounds easy cause he's running and we're on bikes. Don't let that fool you because this guy's unreal. He's so fast no one can see him. To make it more exciting, we vell as we chase him. We all line up like the starting of a race, then he disappears. We start velling, "Get Narly!" and take off. You can hear us race down the hill velling, "Get Narly!" all the way. In the two years I've been doing this. I've never been able to "Get Narly." One of these days I'm gonna get

Sometimes Charlie shows up at the races to help us in practice You can tell he's there 'cause we

continued on page 36

TREASURES OF TANTALIZING TRICKERY



OURY BMX GRIPS

These are the same grips used by motorcycle motocross stars around the world. except you don't have to tape the 'throttle' side of your bars anymore since OURY realized that bicycle motocross is hot stuff.

OURY grips are made of the finest surgical rubber to help reduce hand and arm fatigue and blisters. Their BMX grips are an FMF exclusive and come in 7 high zoot, tootyfruity colors: red. vellow, green, blue, white. black, and orange. Get 'em to match your eyes, or your black and blue marks.

Available at your local, friendly, good-looking FMF dealer, or contact: FMF/BMX, 25905 Belleporte Ave., Harbor City, CA 90710.



ATTACHMENTS AND SEPARATIONS

There are lots of ways to put things together: nuts and bolts, glue, safety wire, welding, cotter pins, chewing gum, duct tape, brazing, screws, the tails of doves, etc. But only one way offers you ease of installation, good looks, and semi-permanence. That's PRESTON PETTY PRODUCTS Tie

These nylon straps are strong, and as long as you leave them alone, they're permanent. But you can simply snap them off with a pair of wire cutters when you want to; hence, semi-permanent.

What more could you want when a dozen are in a \$1.50 package? Slip on down to your PRESTON PETTY PRODUCTS dealer, or for more information, write: PRESTON PETTY PRODUCTS, INC., P.O. Box 89-BM, 403 North Main Street, Newberg, OR 97132.

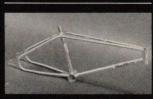


SOME DO. SOME DON'T, DID DO.

Ever had a chain snap on you right off the line? Or maybe halfway down a straight when you're in front? Instant munchilation!

The bald fact is that some chains just don't cut it in bicycle motocross competition. DID chains do. This is the same outfit that manufactures the super-chains for motor-

DID chains are nickel-plated, rust-resistant. and come with either 94 or 112 links plus the good split-clip master link. The exclusive distribution rights for DID bicycle motocross chains in the western states has been sewed up by none other than LAGUNA DISTRIBUTORS. If your local BMX shop doesn't have them, contact: LAGUNA DISTRIBUTORS, 27601 Forbes Rd. #24, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677.



A REAR OF A FRAME

The PANDA BIKE CO. of Northern California has added a spiffy new frame to its extensive line of bicycle motocross equipment.

The PANDA Elite frame is a double top tube. 4130 chrome-moly job that tips the scales at a shade under 4 pounds. This frame is available with either a one-piece crank hanger or one that will accept 10-speed cotterless cranks. In case you decide to run a rear freewheel, provision has been made to hang your caliper brake in its proper place.

According to PANDA, the Elite's geometry places the rider rearward for superior handling, control, balance, and leg room.

The Elite comes nickel plated with red. white, blue, and black stickies. Dealer inquiries should be sent to: PANDA BIKE COMPANY, 1450 Franquette Ave., Concord. CA 94520



SCHWINN COMPETITION SCRAMBLER

The big gun of the bicycle industry, namely SCHWINN, tested this bike in its prototype stage for the better part of a year before unleashing it on the public. Top riders and BMX adults all over the U.S. of A. raced. thrashed, and evaluated it. Then SCHWINN ran it through their own extensive testing laboratory.

The result? A super tough, extremely fine handling, competition machine, the most unique feature of which is the hand-brazed. chrome-moly frame. Without going into a bunch of detail, I can tell you that we've raced and thrashed one for over a year now and had absolutely zero problems with it.

Want to check 'em out? Trip on over to your local neighborhood high-zoot SCHWINN Market



SANORRIFIC NEW GOOSE CERVIX

Waging a never-ending battle against the evil forces of too much weight and too little strength, the good guys at DG PERFOR-MANCE SPECIALTIES have developed a revolutionary, new, spiffy gooseneck for bicycle motocross competition.

Forged of the exotic space-age alloy Tinsalloy, this job is supposed to be almost as light as a 10-speed gooseneck and yet as strong as any BMX stem available. Ah, such

The front-mounting clamp is secured with 4 hardened Allen bolts.

These stems will come in sizes to fit alloy bars or the flared center-piece steel bars.

Available from authorized DG dealers only For information contact: DG PERFOR-MANCE SPECIALTIES, 5552 La Palma Ave. East, Anaheim, CA 92806.

P.S. You know we're going to run a Product Analysis on this!

BRENT Patterson



KING OF THE 15 YEAR OLD NORCAL HILL

By Osborn and Windy

About a year ago Brent Patterson was riding around with some of his friends. Somebody told them about a BMX race scheduled for that day. They cruised over, Patterson entered, won 1st in his was a kick!

A star was born. But it wasn't quite that easy. As Patterson started racing regularly, he found that classification at most Northern California tracks was determined by height, weight, and age, like the original Yamaha Gold Cup Series.

He was fourteen at the time, and big. The 'big' put him in the expert

class with the likes of Oakley. Harrigan, and Busby. And those guys are fast.

With a definite power disadvantage, and unwilling to settle for 2nd place finishes, Patterson had to class, and decided that this stuff find other ways to win. Hard workouts, planning, style, and determination did the trick.

This early racing up in class probably accounts to a large degree for his current success. In most people's books, the quickest 15-year-olds racing BMX today are Brent Patterson, Tinker Juarez, and Brian Lewis, not necessarily in that order.

Brent has a full factory ride from

Speedo Racing Products which he has earned in spades. His most recent major races read like this:

NPSA NATIONALS 1st 15 Expert MODESTO CITY CHAMPIONSHIPS 1st 15 Expert CALIFORNIA CUP 1st 15 Expert PEPSI COLA WEST COAST CHAMPIONSHIPS 1st 15 Expert NORCAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 1st 15 Expert MONGOOSE GRAND NATIONALS 1st 15 Expert SPEEDO GRAN PRIX 1st 15 Expert

11

This guy can rock 'n roll.

AUGUST 1977

BICYCLE MOTOCHOSS ACTION





BMXA: What are you runnin' there, Brent?

PATTERSON: A Champion chromemoly frame, Speedo chrome-moly forks, aluminum rims, Bill Wood front hub...

BMXA: A Bill Wood front hub? With sealed bearings? Good looking hub.

PATTERSON: Campy cranks, Shimano freewheel, Schwinn rear hub, and the new Tough-Bike gooseneck.

BMXA: You mean the Tuf-Neck? What do you think of it?

PATTERSON: I don't know. I just put it on last night.

BMXA: Oh.

PATTERSON: Speedo aluminum handlebars, solid aluminum seat post, Union pedals, and leather pads.

BMXA: Yeah, that's class. Roughout red leather. Who makes those? PATTERSON: Speedo.

BMXA: What kind of tires are those? PATTERSON: Cheng Shin's, the new ones. 20X1.75's.

BMXA: Hey, outstanding. With that knob pattern, those things should be hot. Are they?

PATTERSON: I don't know. I just got 'em last night.

BMXA: What did you finish last vear in points?

PATTERSON: Number 14 in NBA (Northern California). But last year we didn't race for points, we raced where the competition was. This year my brother and I are going af-

year my brother and I are going after NBA National number 1 and 2, and Northern California NBA number 1 and 2.

BMXA: Just how serious are you about BMX?
PATTERSON: Very serious. You

know that monthly thing Mongoose has? Where the top points guy each month who rides a Mongoose gets a hundred dollars? I'm going to ride a Mongoose in the open class for that.

BMXA: That's neat of BMX Products to do that. There's getting to be a little money in bicycle motocross lately. O.K., how do you train for BMX?

PATTERSON: I work out on an exercycle. About five miles a day. Hard. Also on the exercycle I do one mile of starts every day. Plus I ride a lot.

BMXA: What gearing do you run on your race bike?

PATTERSON: I usually run easier gearing than everybody else. Like for this track I've got 44-16 which I think gives a gear number of about 55

BMXA: Does working out on an exercycle help get your RPM's up to where you can turn the low gears?

PATTERSON: Yeah, that's what I do. I spin it for a while, then I put it on hard for a while, then spin it, and like that.

BMXA: If you were interviewing you, what would you ask about? How's your love life? What do you do when you're not racing BMX?

PATTERSON: Uh...the other sports I like are water skiing and motorcycles. I want to start racing motorcycles.

BMXA: When you start racing motorcycles, are you going to drop BMX, or do both, or what?

PATTERSON: Probably after next year I'm going to...uh...just drop BMX. No...I don't know...I don't know.



BMXA: Have you noticed that all kinds of guys quit BMX for motorcycles and now...

PATTERSON: Yeah, now they're back to BMX, I know.

BMXA: How about a verbal thing on how you handle a race?

PATTERSON: Well, first I memorize the starter so when I'm on the line I know exactly how he's going to start the race. Then before the race I plan spots where if I'm in second, I can pass without falling. BMXA: How about describing your sponsorship from Speedo. Just

PATTERSON: Everything. Bikes, helmets, jerseys, pads, entry fees, travel costs. Like this weekend, we came down Friday night so we could practice on the track Saturday and be ready for the race on Sunday.

exactly what do you get?

BMXA: Where are you staying? PATTERSON: Six Pence Inn. BMXA: Who's paying for that?

PATTERSON: Speedo. Plus they buy our lunches and dinners and

everything.

BMXA: So what do you think of

Speedo? Are they grouches? Are they pretty neat?

PATTERSON: They're terrific. They have good stuff, too. Look at the welding. I think it's better than all the other forks.

BMXA: That's about it, Brent. You want to say howdy to anybody out

PATTERSON: Hi Beth.

BMXA: Who's Beth?

PATTERSON: Well...uh....

It seems that a lot of BMX racers are thinking about someday racing motorcycles. But not just yet...not just yet.



SUZUKI GVX1 WORKS COMPETITION

Mello Yellow? More Like Suzuki's Bazooka!



Eisenacher and Suzuki, motoflying to glory and a 1st place trophy.

Story & Photos By Bob Osborn

Once each year since 1974 a motocross bicycle has been introduced by a major Japanese motorcycle manufacturer.

Yamaha was first with the Moto-Bike, a fully-suspended bicycle that was a blast to ride but prone to tweaks and sheared crank pins, heavy, and generally boggish in a bicycle motocross race.

The next Japanese biggle to jump in was Kawasaki. These bikes sported rear shocks, an all-aluminum heat-treated frame, and a fake shock—triple clamp assembly instead of front forks. What with all this suspension paraphernalia, the Kaw just didn't get it when it came to flat out motocross racing.

Twinkle-toeing into the picture late in 1976 came the Suzuki Works Competition Bicycle—the GVX1. Besides how to name a bike so it sounds faster than anything in the world, had Suzuki learned anything from its predecessors? Well, hold your Fruit-of-the-Looms, young heroes, 'cause this is a different breed of Japanese cat!

The new Suzuki motocross bike is not only delightful to your eyeballs, but it fairly blossoms with trickness.

The Aspen Yellow frame is chrome-moly with deeply fishtailed space-welded double gussets at the steering head. The dropouts are long-slotted for switching sprockets without changing the

BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION



length of your chain. There is a cross tube between the seat stays that can be drilled to accept a caliper brake for freewheel conversion.

Phront Phorx are tubular chrome-moly jobs that curve forward to provide 11/2 inches of rake. absolutely perfecto-garcia when combined with the frame's 73degree steering head angle. Those guys at Suzuki did their homework. Color is the same mellow vellow as the frame and has the words 'SUZUKI WORKS BMX' emblazoned down the front. Neat. Very motocross.

The frame and fork combination will absorb wondrous amounts of thrashing, are spot-on in the steering geometry and weight distribu-

tion departments, and look mucho hot. The only possible bug in the soup is the 5-pound 6-ounce frame weight which could have been reduced a pound or so. Had Suzuki done this, they would have sacrificed some durability, so it's only a very tiny bug, and because very tiny bugs don't eat much, your soup (or frame, in this case) will last a lot longer.

Cranks are 61/2-inch chrome Takagis, heat-treated, of course, Pedals are the chrome KKTs with chrome-moly shafts. Both cranks and pedals are super-tough BMX stuff.

Tires are 20X2.125 Grippers with the Goodyear tread pattern. Good shoes. Rims are Araya heavyduty steel with 105-gauge spokes.

Are you getting the picture yet? The GVX1 was built to do anything that you've got enough nerve or dumb to try, and still be in good shape when the smoke clears.

A reduction of the blinding speeds attained during motocross competition is accomplished with a Shimano coaster brake

The gear combination supplied with the Suzuki is 40-18 which gives the amazing gear number of 44.4. With this gearing you could ride up a telephone pole if vou could get enough traction. For motocross it's way too low unless you can turn 20,000 rumps (RPMs) with your legs. Suzuki didn't blow this, it's part of the CPSC requirements for a street legal bike. Sort of. Anyway, change the back



This is one quivering mass of racing machinery. It'll take you where you want

blazing for the 16 novice class.

BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION



Mello Yellow, Japan's finest BMX bicycle.



Ike and Suzook at the Western States Championships (Morris), doing some trail-



It all comes down to this moment. The split second when you realize you're riding one of the finest BMX machines



Bulletproof Takagi 61/2-inch cranks, KKT pedals, and a black 'Works' chain guard that is really more for the street than motocross.



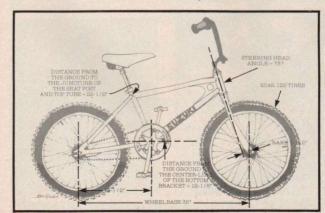
Classic style through powder. The Suzuki is quick, accurate, and responsive.



The far turn at Simi. Come in hard, hit the mid-turn jump at its nearest edge, kick out the rear, aim the front down the coming straight, and drive hard. Another fabtabulous DeCoster move executed with much class by R.L.



Suzuki's phront phorx are chrome-moly, tubular jobs. Steering head angle, rake, and the resulting trail were spot-on for quick, accurate steering.



sprocket to something like a 14 and you'll be at least close to competition gearing. The chain guard on the front sprocket looks good, but according to Don 'Bowlegged' Jones, is kind of 'streety.'

There were no complaints from our test riders about the seat. However, the bars and gooseneck were subjected to a bit of verbal abuse. The Sakae gooseneck is not as bulletproof as an Ashtabula or one of the double-clamp jobs, and the handlebars are too narrow and too low for anybody much over 12 years old. Also, the angle of the grip area does not allow for maximum body leverage when

BMXA: Tell me, Mr. Jones...have you leaped any tall buildings lately?

MR. JONES: Not really, just a few medium-sized ones to keep in shape.



'Long Gone' Eisenacher, jamming to a 1st place trophy on the GVX1. Yarnell Track.



You can always recognize Yarnell by the gnarly track surface, a fair amount of which the Suzook just spread over the countryside when Eisenacher got a little slideways.

pulling into the pedals. (Bowlegged Jones rated them 'doofy.') Try some DG or Two Wheeler's bars or BMX Products alloy bars. The test team, including Jones, rated the grips 'cool.'

Cost of this bike is in the neighborhood of 150 dollars, and I should probably stick in here somewhere that the Suzuki GVX1 Works Competition Bicycle (whew!) is supplied with the various and sundry reflectors that make it street legal as per the edicts of the CPSC. But they are easily removed when trimming down for competition.

And speaking of competition, folks, let's get on with how this bright and beautiful bicycle boogies in a berserk, blistering, bouncy BMX blowout. (Eat your heart out, Scot.)

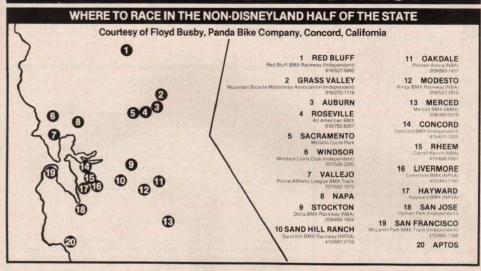
The combination of a short wheelbase and 73-degree steering head angle produced some very exciting moments for our almost fearless test team during the getting-used-to-the-beast part of testing. Going over the jumps the handlebars seemed to have an attraction for belt buckles, the steering was QUICK, and going through fast turns the rear wheel was not at all content with just following.

After a number of end-swappers and semi-loopers, the mighty BMXA test team began adjusting to the Suzuki's eccentricities. Once they had it wired, the GVX1 turned continued on page 39



What style! What grace! More Don Jones tall building leaping.

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GEARING for BMX

This is a long, dull article with no photos. Don't read... unless you want to go faster than greased moose poop on a BMX track!

Yes, friends, we are gathered once again to explore the mysteries of leverage, inertia, muscular capabilities, gear ratios, and mostly how to novocain all your compo at the next BMX race.

Last month the most factory magazine in the world gave you the total nitty-gritty on selecting cranks. That was step number one in converting your energy and muscular capabilities into the most blinding speed possible on a motocross track. Step number two is picking your hottest sprocket combination.

Primo gearing is nothing more than the right balance between something that will get you off the line like an explosion, and down the straights totally flat-out.

If you gear just for the start, everybody will dust you in the first straight. If you gear just for the straights, you'll be left cold and lonesome at the gate. The secret word is COMPROMISE—a single gear combination that will come close to solving both objectives.

Let's start with some ballpark gear combinations, and then, through race testing, tune them exactly to your capabilities and the crank length you decided on.

All you really little buggers can start with something around a 41-16 (51.2 on the chart).

8 to 10's try a 40-15 (53.3 on the chart).

11 and 12-year-olds, maybe a 44-16 (55.0).

Everybody over 12 start with a gear combination somewhere around 41-14 (58.6).

You can get these same gear ratios using larger sprockets, but if you stick to the smaller ones, you will shave off a little weight in the chain and sprockets.

GEAR CHART

FRONT SPROCKET

13	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
13	55.4	56.9	58.5	60.0	61.5	63.1	64.6	66.2	67.7	69.2	70.8	72.3	73.8
14	51.4	52.8	54.3	55.7	57.1	58.6	60.0	61.4	62.8	64.3	65.7	67.1	68.6
15	48.0	49.3	50.7	52.0	53.3	54.7	56.0	57.3	58.7	60.0	61.3	62.7	64.0
16	45.0	46.2	47.5	48.7	50.0	51.2	52.5	53.7	55.0	56.2	57.5	58.7	60.0
17	42.3	43.5	44.7	45.9	47.0	48.2	49.4	50.6	51.8	52.9	54.1	55.3	56.5
18	40.0	41.1	42.2	43.3	44.4	45.6	46.7	47.8	48.9	50.0	51.1	52.2	53.3

You probably already know how to use this gear chart, but just in case you don't, here's an easy explanation:

Find your front sprocket size and follow that column down to where it crosses the row for your rear sprocket size. The number in this box is the gear number for that combination of front and rear sprockets. The higher the gear number, the harder the gearing. Got it?

Now, for you guys who already know how to use a gear chart, or always want to know why a thing works the way it does, here's a harder explanation:

Let's use a 40-14 sprocket combination as an example. 40 divided by 14 equals 2.857. This means that if you're running 40-14 gearing, your gear ratio is 2.857, or to say it another way, every time your cranks pass through one full revolution, your back wheel will complete 2.857 revolutions.

You with me so far? Now if we multiply 2.857 by 20 inches (the diameter of your rear tire), we come up with 57.1. How about that? Now you know where gear numbers come from.

For you mathematical wizards, let's take this mess one step further. If we multiply 57.1 by pi (3.14), we get 179 point something, which is the distance in inches your bike will travel with one full revolution of the crank if you have 40-14 gearing and 20-inch tires. Pretty fascinating, huh? Hey...wake up!

See if you can hook your old man into going with you to your favorite flat track for some test riding. Pick a day when there are no races. Take some extra sprockets and your toolbox. The best deal here is to take the next larger and next smaller sprockets for both the front and rear. And take your safety gear, 'cause you're going to be ripping.

When you get there, take a couple of hot laps. Wear your safety gear and really get it on, just like you were racing. You and your father pay attention to your leg ac-

tion on the straights. Pay special attention at about the two-thirds point down the longest straight.

When you've done this, get together with your dad and the two of you cuss and discuss how your gearing looked and felt. When you hit the two-thirds point on the longest straight, you should have been pedaling very close to your maximum RPM's without overpedaling.

If you guys decide that your gearing was way too hard to accomplish this, change to a one-tooth-larger back sprocket. If you

peaked way back by the start of the straight and were overpedaling the rest of the way, change to a one-tooth-smaller back sprocket.

Changing rear sprockets is rough tuning. Changing front sprockets is fine tuning. The reason for this is that one tooth on the rear sprocket is approximately equal to three teeth on the front. When you start your fine tuning with front sprockets, you'll find out why a crank spider is so neat—you don't have to pull the cranks every time you change the sprocket.

When you were smoking around the track, if your gearing was fairly close, don't mess with the rear sprocket. Get right into fine tuning. If your gearing was a little too hard to reach max RPM's at the two-thirds point, drop one tooth on the front sprocket. If you peaked before the two-thirds point, add one tooth up front.

The reason for the two-thirds distance is that at this point in a moto you should be wound to the max. After passing this point, you will have to back off some for the next turn. Two-thirds of the way down the longest straight is the most wide-open, flat-out place on the track. That's where you need your top end.

So, make the changes and try it again until you are squeezing the maximum possible speed out of your body and bike at that two-thirds point. When you've accomplished this, you are very close to your primo gearing for a flat track. The only modification to this basic flat track gearing will concern starting.

For this you need a race. Best way to go here is to wait for a regularly scheduled motocross event.

Once again, you need someone to observe what you're doing so you can get two opinions (two heads are better than one).

O.K., you're on the line for your moto and your dad is somewhere close to observe what happens. Race your moto and then get with your old man to talk things over. If you were dusted at the start, but

passed a few people later in the moto, you're probably geared slightly high. Drop one tooth on the front sprocket. If you blazed off the line only to be passed by a bunch of guys in the straights, you're probably geared too low. Add one tooth to the front sprocket.

Now you're really down to the nitty-gritty of fine tuning your gearing. Keep in mind that the start is the most important part of any BMX race. Best over-all gearing will be a compromise between best starting gears and best top end gears. But, because the starts are so important, you should consider this when you determine your final gear combination. lean about one tooth on the front sprocket towards a better starting combination (slightly lower gearing).

Now you should have your own personal primo gearing for most flat tracks. Every track has its individual characteristics and you have to pick up or drop a tooth for some tracks, but I doubt it. If you do, make the change on your front sprocket, because changing

even one tooth on the rear changes your inches traveled a bunch.

Once your best flat track gearing is determined, downhill tracks are easy. Change to a front sprocket with one or at the most two more teeth.

Unless you have the bucks to keep a huge selection of front sprockets in your toolbox, you're going to need a gear chart to keep with you when you have to figure out how to get the right gearing from the sprockets on hand. If you don't want to get this copy of BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION all greasy, drop a line to:

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BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION AUGUST 1977

PRO: Professional PRO: Racing PRO: Organization

THE NEWEST PROFESSION IN THE WORLD

(Most photos shot at the NBA Western States Championships, Morris Track, Bakersfield, California)





'The Pomona Cowboy' Bob Hadley (Addicks), Vice Pres, of PRO.



'Earthquake' Stu Thompson (FMF), 1977 NBA Western States Champion.

By the BMXA FACTORY Staff

Professional BMX racing has arrived. That's right, sport fans, there is gradually getting to be some money to be made in bicycle motocross racing.

For the last few years most of the sanctioning organizations have been awarding savings bonds to their yearly top-point finishers. Monthly contingencies are now being given by manufacturers like BMX Products, R&R Racing Products, and Tuff-Wheels (Skyway) for point leaders who race their equipment.

Lately the NBA has renamed the 15-and-over open class. It is now known as the Pro Class, and for those racers signing up, there is a 100-percent payback of entry fees to the top three finishers. At small races, a Pro Class winner can take home up to 15 or 20 dollars. At large races, this 100-percent payback can run up to 80 or a 100 bucks for 1st, maybe 40 or 50 for 2nd, and around 25 for 3rd. Not too bad.

Well now, sure as bears poop in the forest, if you have a profes-

Jimmy Weinert sponsored David Clinton, whuppin' it on. ▶





WAHOO! 'The Corona Kid.' Kevin McNeal (Torker), Kevin's accomplishments include winning almost every annual major race there is at one time or another, never remembering to bring a number plate, and forgetting his jersey most of the time. Very unprofessional, McNeal.



Wild and wooly Coy Hudson (Wheels N' Things/Centurion). It's guys like Coy and the other members of PRO that make this sport as competitive, exciting, and lightning-paced as it is.



National hero David Clinton (Jimmy Weinert), past NBA #1 national plate holder, current SoCal points leader.

sional class, it won't be too long before you have a professional organization.

As usually happens, the Southern California open class racers have hole-shot everyone by forming the first Professional Racing Organization for bicycle motocrossers. Amazing as it sounds, they are calling their organization PRO. (Potentially Radical Ostriches? Partially Retarded Orangutans?)

This organization was conceived and is operated by BMX racers only. No sponsors, no parents, no adults. Just the racers themselves. Right there you gotta figure they'll probably accomplish a bunch.

PRO membership in the future will be determined by application, qualifications, and a vote. The charter membership reads like the Who's Who of BMX Racing, All are Pro Class riders and 15 years old and up. These guys are the stars, the trend-setters in bicycle moto-



Son of a gun, even the pros unload once in a while. Byron Friday (Shimano) and his trusty new Red Line prototype decided to sit this dance out.

cross, the best of the best, the factory racers.

According to the head honcho of PRO, Scot 'A Finger in Every Pie' Breithaupt, the aims of this new organization go something like this:

- . To establish a Pro Class with 100% payback at all sanctioned races and a Pro Class with purses at national level events.
- . To separate the professional racers from the amateur classes.
- To improve the situation of PRO racers as relates to sponsorships, advertising, and contingencies.
- · To conduct themselves in a professional manner
- . To learn some business common sense.
- · To set a good example for the younger
- . To upgrade the sport of bicycle motocontinued on page 45



The youngest PRO member, 15-year-old Stinker...uh...Tinker Juarez (Mongoose).

The Founding Fathers of PRO

Scot Breithaupt (FMF), President Bob Hadley (Addicks), Vice President Bill Wouda (DG) Bill Macintyre (Littleighn) Jeff Bottema (DG) Stu Thompson (FMF) Perry Kramer (Mongoose) Brian Curnell (Mongoose) Leo Green (Torker) Kevin McNeal (Torker) Tinker Juarez (Mongoose) Coy Hudson (Wheels N' Things) Ted Guilmette (Suzuki) Bobby Encinas (Shimano) Byron Friday (Shimano) John George (Shimano) David Clinton (Jimmy Weinert) Harry Leary (JMC) **Dennis Dain** Neil Bonds (Mongoose)



Lean, mean Leo Green (Torker). Leo goes only two ways: fastly and furiously.



Handsome devil, built like a Sherman tank, Harry Leary (JMC).



brung hiz jersey! Land o' Goshen! Ah wonder if'n he 'membered hiz number



It's himself, one of the all-time all-timers, Jeffrey Bottema (DG), >

It's ol' crook-tooth, Brian Curnell (Mon-

goose), displaying his rippling-muscled

body for all the world to enjoy and try to copy. But don't be scared, even our skin-

ny editor could beat him up if he wanted



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Charles Champion
BMX TIMES

"After earlier production problems, in the form of a torrential downpour, the show turned into a highly entertaining and competitive event well worth waiting for..."

BILLETIN

"...outrageous, fantastic, entertaining..."

Rex Ride
CINCINNATI
COMPETITION NEWS

The Speedo Co. premiered with a colossal production in their first attempt at a major attraction. The complimentary critic reviews were well deserved.

Executive producer, Vern Stewart of Speedo, was excited after the show. "It was fantastic. I plan to produce another one in the Northern California area sometime in mid '77," said the jubilant Stewart

Due to a cast of over 600 racers, the directors, Curran and Troy, were forced to cut the show short. With nightfall rapidly approaching, only two preliminary motos were complete when they went into the semi and main events. This was a disappointment to many racers who missed their third chance to push their way into the mains and fame and fortune.

There was also confusion as to why the semi and main features







Yessir, sports fans, BMX is getting to be a big deal. This is just part of the over-2000 people who came to Speedo's GP.



You don't mess around with Jim. At least now when he's calling the finish and waving the red and white tablecloth checkered flag. James D. (Marketing/Advertising, BMXA) was hooked into officiating instead of pushing magazines.



Wheels N'Things/Centurion-sponsored Jeff Schiedmer dusted everyone in the 7-year-old main except Gary Renteria (DG).

were mixed together as the show climaxed. This breakdown in communications between the work crew and directors proved to be a major concern for the participants of the production and the viewing audience.

Many riders relaxed and played it cool in what they thought was their semi. They just tried to qualify and save some stuff for the main. After crossing the finish line and

being told that that had been their main, they were justifiably upset.

Due to numerous complaints, directors Curran and Troy will run the established method of racing and qualifying in the future.

I must include in this review the excellent co-directorship of the La Mirada Regional Parks and Recreation Department. To my knowledge this is a first—to hold a major competitive event right in



Open class riders Scot Breithaupt and Neil Bonds stare in open-mouth amazement as 15-year-old Tinker Juarez wheelies by.

PIPPIN PHOT



Couldn't identify this guy, but he's got one fine set of threads.



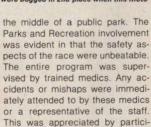
JMC's wildman, Harry Leary, hanging it out in the first berm.



Sr. sidehack winners, Ledbetter and Chastain were bogged in 2nd place when this moto



Some heavy dudes showed up with trick machines in case there was a push-worm



pants and spectators alike. A fascinating aspect of this production was the unusually high amount of competitive action throughout the entire program.

The main feature proved to be a perfect climax as the unknown uncontinued on page 44



C'mon, anybody can do a one-hander, but watch THIS, you guys!



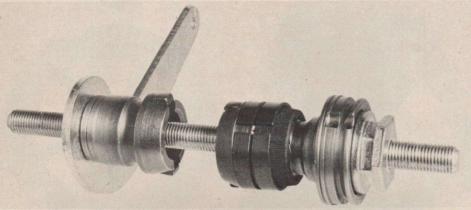
It's himself, DG's pint-sized thunderstorm, 9-year-old Stevie Skibel, jamming to a main event win.



BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION

TRICK AND SLICK WITH A FLICK OF YOUR BIC!

Motofying the Bendix Hub



Bendix coaster brake hub internals: (Left to right) lock nut (hidden behind brake arm), brake arm, brake-side expander, retarder assembly. drive screw, adjusting cone, lock nut. Not shown are the brake shoes, ball bearings with retainers, and of course the hub shell.

Take a new Bendix hub, preferably one that is not laced to a wheel. Hold it by the brake arm in your left hand and give the hub a spin. If the bearings are properly adjusted, it should rotate quite freely. This is the freewheeling aspect of the Bendix, and it works neat enough.

Now, while still holding the brake arm in your left hand, rotate the hub forward by turning the sprocket clockwise with your right hand. This is the drive aspect of the Bendix, and it doesn't work worth a hoot. For a street bike it's passable, but just. For a motocross bike, there's way too much friction.

The internal parts that are causing this friction will wear-in in time and the friction will lessen. but even then there will be more drag than is acceptable for serious motocross racing.

Does this mean you should chuck your Bendix? Negatory, Big Ben. If you like a coaster brake and prefer the longer throw of the Bendix when braking, then all that is necessary is a factory-type motofication of a couple internal parts. which will cost you a big fat

First a long explanation of how the stuff inside a Bendix works. If you don't care how it works and want to get right to the meat of this thing, skip down to where it says. NOW WE COME TO THE MAIN POINT OF ALL THIS DRIVEL.

Check the moto-photo above. See the thing that the brake arm is attached to? It's called the brakeside expander, and because it's held in place by the brake arm, it does not rotate.

The part that has large threads on one end and accepts the sprocket and lock ring on the other end is called the drive screw.

The gizmo (actually two gizmos with a spring clip holding them together) that threads onto the drive screw is called a retarder assembly. The individual parts are the drive-end expander, retarder spring, and drive clutch.

You with me so far? Well, hang in there 'cause now it gets gnarly.



The retarder assembly, unassembled: (Left to right) drive-end expander, retarder spring, drive clutch.

See the tabs on the brake-side expander and the drive-end expander? You already know that the brake shoes go in there, but check this: If the brake-side expander cannot rotate because the brake arm holds it in place, then the brake shoes cannot rotate, and they in turn keep the drive-end expander from rotating, comprende?

If you have that bit of information firmly imbedded in your brain, then you should see that if you back-pedal, the threads on the drive screw will force the retarder assembly toward the center of the hub, and the taper of both expanders (which are coming together), will expand the brake shoes until

continued on page 42

King of the Hill-Leader of the Pack

David Clinton has earned those titles in BMX. In the last 26 races he's entered, David has won 22 and finished second in the other 4. And he did it on a "Jammin' Jimmy" Weinert bike

But we're not telling you anything new. You know the real hot dogs choose the machine that can do the job. So when you're looking for the trick set-up be sure and go to your local dealer. who handles the two great "Jammin' Jimmy" Weinert bikes and components featured below.



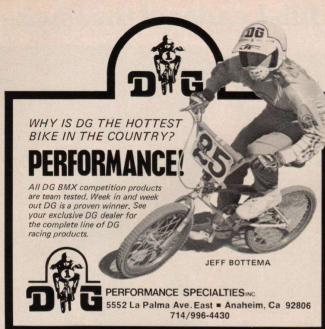


AUGUST 1977



Laguna Distributors

27601 Forbes Rd., #24 Laguna Niguel, CA. 92677



EDITORIAL continued from page 5

started wearing helmets for jumping? At first there were a few chuckles. Then a few more people started wearing them. Now, anybody around here who jumps without a helmet is considered crazy. Wearing a helmet while jumping has become cool.

I know, sure as anything, that some of you guys are thinking you're so good at jumping that you'll never crash as bad as Mark did.

In answer I have only one thing to say: Mark was a 15-year-old expert. He used to race the likes of Tinker Juarez and Brent Patterson. He was good.

Well, have I reached any of you? Are you considering wearing a helmet when you go jumping? Talk it over with your friends. Sooner or later one of those helmets is going to prevent brain damage or save a life. Maybe yours.

BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION

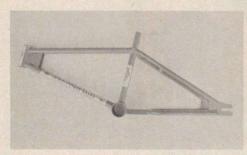
Think about it. Please.





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SCOTOMANIA

continued from page 8

always vell "Get Narly!" when he's on the track. You can try to catch him, but it's hazardous to your health if you try too hard to "Get Narly."

Stuart was the closest to get him. We were all jamming down the training hill at about 40 mph when Stuart saw Narly taking a rest. Stu started cranking faster and faster. He came whippin' round the craziest corner in the place. Narly told him to slow down. but Stu thought he could make it. He forgot about the big ditch on the outside of the corner. Naturally, Stu bit dookie and did a lipskid down the hill. Old Narly laughed and kept running. We all jumped over Stu as he was still rolling and tumbling down the hill. After we finished. Stu came riding down. torn up with bleeding elbows and ripped knees. He started to tell us how he was "Gettin' Narly." All of a sudden, that ditch opened up and tried to swallow him. But we all told Stu he never had a chance because you have to be a complete barnstorming, berzerk-o bermshooter to really "Get Narly."

Next time you see us out at a track and we're velling, "Get Narly!", look for a little baldheaded guy with a long red moustache and six fingers on his left hand. If you can catch him, you know you're "Getting Narly" •



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37

Cycles Peugeot, Gardena, CA

Product Analysis: THE SUPERBYKE **TUF-NECK** By Bob Osborn



In a previous issue of BMXA we ran a product release of the Tuf-Neck. We said that if this gooseneck is as good as Superbyke says it is, they've really got a hot item.

The notorious BMXA test team has been running Tuf-Necks on their racing and thrashing bikes for about four months now. You are about to find out if the Tuf-Neck measures up to Superbyke's promises

But first, a brief description. The iaws or clamps of the Tuf-Neck are aluminum, not heat-treated. They are clamped together (over the handlebar tube) with four beefy. hardened Allen bolts. An Allen wrench of proper size is supplied with the package. The stem is 1010/1018 mild steel which is press-fitted into the bottom aluminum plate under 40.000 pounds pressure and then pinned in place. The Tuf-Neck retails for about 23 dollars. Stem bolt and wedge are not included.

STATEMENT NO. 1: WEIGHS LESS THAN ONE POUND.

To be exact, the Tuf-Neck weighs 141/2 ounces, without the stem bolt and wedge. For comparison, the Ashtabula forged gooseneck weighs 15 ounces and the Cook Bros. chrome-moly double-clamp gooseneck weighs 19 ounces. that's both without stem bolts and wedges.

STATEMENT NO. 2: WILL WITH-STAND 80,000 POUNDS PRES-SURE.

80,000 pounds of what kind of pressure? We can say that during the four-month test period, none of the Tuf-Necks cracked or tweaked. although we did experience a couple other problems.

STATEMENT NO. 3: NO WELDS TO BREAK

Can't argue with that. What did happen to one of our Tuf-Necks

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was the pin that holds the plate to the stem (in addition to the press fit) worked inward until it came into contact with the stem bolt. Before this was discovered, the stem bolt was loosened and tightened several times, resulting in a deep groove being cut into the stem bolt. This happened to our fearsome Tech Editor, Rob Lynch, He discovered it after the second moto at Van Nuys. So as not to lose the pin, he tapped it the rest of the way out and rode his third moto relying on the press fit to hold the clamp on the stem. Without the pin, the gooseneck had a loose. wobbly feel despite the 40,000pound press fit. Later Rob tapped the pin back in place and has had no further problems with it.

Not so much a problem, but still annoving, was the initial creaking of all the Tuf-Necks. This was probably caused by the stem bolt stretching. After the bolts were snugged up several times and everything seated in, they guit

STATEMENT NO. 4: THE HANDLE-BARS WILL BEND BEFORE THE TUF-NECK WILL RELEASE ITS VISE-LIKE GRIP

If the right-sized Tuf-Neck is used (1" or 7/8"), if the bars are cleaned of grease or oil, and if the Allen bolts are cinched down super tight. One time R.L. landed so hard that he tweaked a mag wheel and knocked the bearing cups loose in it without the bars shifting in the Tuf-Neck, Another time Don Jones landed on the front wheel so hard that the alloy bars sheared off at the crossbar, and yet the Tuf-Neck held firm.

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BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION

SUZUKI GVX1

continued from page 18

into a very accurate machine for hasty transportation.

The time had arrived to make a few motofications and take the Suzook out to the field of honor First the reflectors came off, then the cranks were switched to 7-inch Takagis, BMX Products alloy box bars and an Ashtabula gooseneck were installed and the gearing was changed to 46/17 for the lightninglegged 16-year-old lke Eisenacher (eyes-n-nokker), who was elected to do most of the race testing

After a bunch of races and a bunch of trophies, we've got a bunch of info from which to draw a bunch of penetrating, fairly accurate conclusions. Namely:

Right out of the box the Suzuki is plenty competitive for the average racer and will take as much thrashing as the strongest bike you might want to compare it with.

At 33 pounds, the Suzuki is a bit heavy for serious, white-knuckle, wild-eved competition. 20X1.75 tires, alloy rims and 80-gauge spokes, alloy bars, and maybe a freewheel conversion would drop the weight to the ultra-competitive level

The quick steering and short wheelbase take some getting used to, but once mastered, provide such accurate and responsive handling characteristics that your brain will be boggled.

Once the bars are switched, the short wheelbase and resulting location of the bottom bracket produce a power/leverage position that gives blazing acceleration if you've got enough marbles in your pocket.

So, what does this all come down to? Well, lemme tell 'ya, with a price tag in the 150-frogskins area, and considering the fact that you get chrome-moly forks and frame, and taking into account the el superbo handling characteristics after you get used to it, this Suzuki GVX1 is a red-hot bike at a red-hot price! Dollar for dollar. point for point, you can't beat it.

Honda, where are you???

Anybody wanting more info about the Suzuki GVX1 can write to:

> Suzuki RMX Dent 13767 Freeway Dr. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

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BROOX RANDAI

BMX SANCTIONING ORGANIZATIONS

By Jack Scagnetti

All major sports have sanctioning bodies or associations that organize, operate and control activity to conform to standard rules, regulations and principles of the

To mention a few which readers will recognize: National Hot Rod Association (NHRA), major sanctioning body of organized drag racing; National Association for Stock Car Racing (NASCAR, stock car racing: SCORE International, off-road racing: United States Golf Association (USGA), golf; American Bowling Congress (ABC), bowling.

Sanctioning bodies are vital to the growth and stability of major sports. In addition to scheduling major events of their own, they sanction activities of individuals and groups within the membership. They establish rules and see that they are strictly enforced. They vote upon new rule suggestions or modifications of old rules. They consult with city, county, state and federal governments to see that their sport is not unduly affected by laws and restrictions. They publicize the sport.

No sport can experience continued growth and popularity without an effective sanctioning organization behind it. Somebody has to enforce rules. Somebody has to establish standards for equipment to avoid unfair advantages. Somebody has to schedule events to avoid conflict of dates. Somebody has to keep records. Somebody has to recognize national and regional champions.

Prior to the formation of the National Hot Rod Association, drag racing was an unorganized activity that was constantly in trouble with law enforcement officials. Races

were held on the streets posing dangerous mishaps for both competitors and bystanders. When the NHRA became established and moved the sport onto safe racetracks and set down guidelines for safety equipment, organized drag racing activity showed a dramatic growth and became a respected

Bicycle motocross, the fastestgrowing individual sport of the 1970s, could well have remained as it began-an unorganized "dovour-own-thing" activity at neighborhood vacant lots or on side streets. Youths jumping street curbs on unsafe bicycles and wearing no helmet or other protective gear could have resulted in such a rash of injuries that parents would've turned thumbs down on buying bikes.

Fortunately, the formation of sanctioning organizations came early enough in bicycle motocross to prevent tagging the sport as

"dangerous." as was the case with early, unorganized skateboarding. Parents were quick to respond with cooperation in helping to buy complete bikes or bike parts and driving voungsters to the races. Serious injuries, thanks to safety rules for both bicycles and riders, became so rare that insurance premiums have remained very economical at a time when they are rising else-

The purposes of bicycle motocross sanctioning associations are simple-but important:

- · For a more organized sport.
- · So each rider can be classified fairly and properly
- . To maintain a record of point standings for determining winners of events and of yearly awards.
- · To enforce rules to ensure fair play and safety of all competitors

The following is a list of sanctioning bodies for bicycle motocross racing. To the best of our knowledge, it is complete and accurate. Each organization was contacted by telephone or mail prior to the writing of this article. Those organizations who responded in time are described in more detail in the text. All of these organizations are equipped to sanction races and keep points for their member tracks and people anywhere in the U.S. of A. except as otherwise noted.

BMXA (Arizona only) 1822 E. Broadway Tucson, Arizona 85719

BMXA (San Diego only) 1056 E. Main El Cajon, California 92021

FBMXA (Florida only) 70 Melrose Drive Safety Harbor, Florida 33572

ABMXC (Arizona only) 1217 W. Hatcher Road Phoenix, Arizona 85021

NBA P.O. Box 411 Newhall, California 91321

> IBMX P.O. Box 3045 Orange, California 92665

NBL (East of the Mississippi only) 1179 S.W. First Way Deerfield Beach, Florida 33441

> 508 Vine Street Dunedin, Florida 33528

The cost of joining an association is very reasonable when you consider what you get and what expenses are involved in running a sanctioning body-office help postage, telephone, insurance. travel, advertising, printing, computer time for tabulating points, etc.

Let's take a look at the National Bicycle Association (NBA), which since its founding in November 1973, has grown to more than 6,000 members. Based in Newhall. near the Los Angeles area, the NBA draws about 1.200 members in the L.A. area and approximately 1,300 in Northern California. The rest come from Arizona, Washington, Oregon, Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, Ohio, Florida, Georgia and Rhode Island.

It costs \$7.00 to join the NBA (the fee is renewable annually). Members receive a rule book, membership card, classification by age and experience, a monthly newspaper which publishes point standings quarterly of national and district rankings

Race sponsors wishing to have their events sanctioned can receive a sanctioning kit from the NBA for \$10.00. The kit includes a rule book, scoring sheets, information on how to run a race and assistance in obtaining insurance. Events held within a 100-mile radius of Los Angeles can receive personal assistance on the planning and organization of a race.

Riders who are not NBA members may compete in NBA races but must compete in the expert class in their age group.

Riders who want to travel and receive points in another district of the NBA may do so by paying an additional \$3.00 to join the extra district. The rider competes in the

same classification in each district

In most sports, there is usually one sanctioning body that dominates the organizing, sponsoring and sanctioning of races. In bicycle motocross, the NBA appears to have a strong hold on retaining its rank as No. 1

Another prominent Californiabased sanctioning body is the International Bicycle Motocross (IBMX) in Orange. IBMX membership for promoters includes tabulation of all accumulated points, membership recruiting incentives in the form of commissions, a new innovated electronic gate system, and a complete set of sanctioning rules and race aids. IBMX has a National Travel Fund for individual riders. Transportation is provided for the top riders in their respective areas to two national racer per year (winter and summer). Jaycees. Lions Clubs and other community service-oriented organizations have been cooperating with the IBMX.

In the southern states and part of the midwest and east coast, the National Bicycle League (NBL) is starting its third year as a leading sanctioning association. NBL is operating predominantly east of the Mississippi with tracks in Florida, Georgia, Tennessee Missouri, Illinois, West Virginia. North Carolina and New Jersey. The NBL is headquartered in Deerfield Beach, Florida.

Whether you're an individual rider or a race promoter, it's wise to be sanctioned. We doubt that there is any major competition vehicle event, amateur or professional, that is not officially sanctioned by a recognized association. Insurance companies prefer to work with promoters who are sanc-



Sanctioning organizations maintain rules that require racers to wear safety gear and ride safe bikes.

tioning their events. Businessmen who contribute to contingency awards and special prize money prefer races that are sanctioned. City officials and the news media are much more likely to be cooperative with race events that are sanctioned. So, what are you waiting for? Sign up now!







continued from page 32

they come in contact with the inside surface of the hub, causing it to slow or stop.

NOW WE COME TO THE MAIN PART OF ALL THIS DRIVEL and if you skipped down to here, you're a turkey and won't understand anything I'm talking about. Hee, hee.

You ready for this? When you pedal forward, the threads on the drive screw will pull the retarder assembly toward the sprocket end of the hub where the knurled bevel of the drive clutch will engage a machined, tapered surface of the hub and drive the hub (and bike) forward.

Ah, but herein lies the problem. The drive clutch is rotating forward (to drive the hub forward). BUT THE DRIVE-END EXPANDER IS HELD IN A STATIONARY POSITION BY THE BRAKE SHOES This means the drive clutch must rotate inside the spring clip that holds the retarder assembly together. And this causes a bodacious amount of friction

So let's do a factory number on your Bendix. Pull out the retarder assembly and take it apart. Polish the flat (not beveled) surfaces of the drive-end expander and the drive clutch. These are the surfaces that contact the spring clip. This can best be accomplished by using a fine emery cloth (about 320), and then some fine polishing with steel wool. When you're done. you want smooth, shiny surfaces.

Now for the spring. What you must do is bend it open until it just barely holds the retarder assembly together. It's going to take a gorilla to bend this sucker, so if you're anything less than six feet and 200 pounds, maybe vou'd better get your old man. Anyway, however you accomplish this, don't use heat or you'll mess up the spring

Once the spring clip is opened to a delicate fit, smooth all the inside edges and surfaces so that while the various parts are rotating, friction will be at an absolute minimum. The best way to do this is to use a rat-tail file to take down the sharp inside edges, and steel wool to polish the inside surfaces. Really do a number on this operation because this spring clip is the key to the whole thing.

Once all this junk is done. grease the inside of the spring clip and the surfaces of the drive clutch and drive-end expander that the spring contacts, and stick it back together. If you've done everything right, this outfit should go together quite easily. If it's hard to get those things inside the spring clip, open it a bit more and try again.

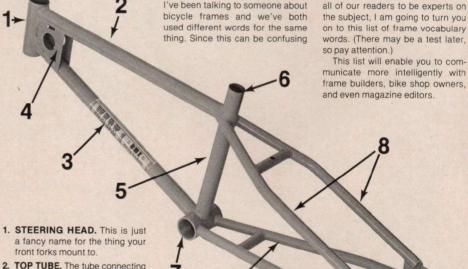
Now, clean up everything, grease the bearings lightly, and reassemble the entire hub...if you still remember how. If you don't, keep messing with it and you'll get it sooner or later.

That's it. You are now the faster owner of a motofied Bendix Hub. .



Tricky terms to impress vour buddies with...

and frustrating, and since we want



I don't know how many times

1. STEERING HEAD. This is just

the steering head and the seat

3. DOWN TUBE. The tube that connects the steering head and the bottom bracket.

- 4. GUSSET. A strengthening plate added to a high stress area.
- 5. SEAT TUBE. This is the tube your seat post goes into.
- 6. SEAT TUBE MAST. The part of the seat tube that sticks up above the top tube. This is what your seat post clamp clamps to.
- 7. BOTTOM BRACKET. This is the outfit that your cranks mount in. Also commonly referred to as the crank hanger.

AUGUST 1977

1-2-3-4-5-6-7. FRONT TRIANGLE. Although not technically a triangle, this is still what you get when everything so far listed is welded together

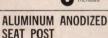
- 8. SEAT STAYS. These are the tubes running from the rear dropouts to the seat tube.
- 9. CHAIN STAYS. These run from the rear dropouts to the bottom bracket.
- 10. DROPOUTS. This is what your axles bolt to at both ends of the bike.

8-9-10. REAR TRIANGLE. This is what you get when you weld together the seat stays, chain stays, dropouts, and spacers if used.

Now if you take part numbers 1-2-3-4-5-6-7 and stick them not in your ear but to part numbers 8-9-10, presto! you have one complete bicycle frame. Pretty nifty, huh?







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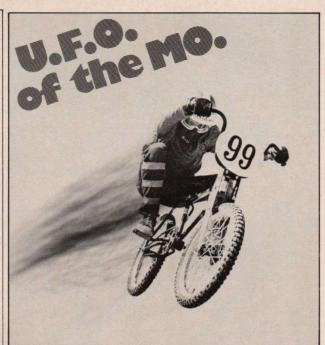
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SPEEDO GRAND PRIX

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derdog came from behind to battle with the super-heroes. In this case it was none other than DG's boy wonder Jeff Bottema being narrowly defeated by All-American Mr. Nice Guy, privateer underdog, Bill Harry. Bill's magnificent performance has since been rewarded with a contract for future shows from JMC

This final spectacle had the spectators standing and screaming in excitement as these two dominated the action, fighting elbow to elbow, tooth and nail to

the finish. Harry beat Bottema by two inches!!!

Including early production problems and late direction problems in its premiere showing, this show still proved to be simply spectacular. This is one writer who is excited by the anticipation of a future production.

Congrats to Curran/Troy, Speedo, La Mirada and the cast of thousands.

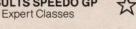
> Terry Twilight BMXA Show Editor

9 Expert

Joe Dean Jaques

David Wilson

RESULTS SPEEDO GP



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Drake Turnage

Jr. Sidehacks 10 Expert Mark Higgins Sr. Sidehacks Paul Melby 11 Expert

Steve Oakler

Steve West

12 Expert Mike Koron Eddy King Todd Dening 13 Expert

Mike Horner

Greg Hill

14 Expert Scott Clark Jeff Utterback Jim Richardson 15 Expert Brent Patterson

Bill Harry Jeff Bottema Kevin McNea

Kevin McNeal RoBo Moreno Jeff Bottema

PRO: PROFESSIONAL RACING ORGANIZATION

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It is also the intention of the members of PRO to become public relations representatives for BMX. not only through their personal conduct, but by holding safety seminars and racing clinics for newcomers to the sport. With all the traveling these guys do, this phase of PRO should be very effec-

Another area where PRO can be effective is to act as a kind of union: to consider grievances of its members, such as unacceptable racing tactics of other members. or contingency money that was promised but not paid by some manufacturer. Individually these guys would have a tough time solving this kind of problem, collectively they may have the horsepower to do it.

As PRO earns recognition as a legitimate and dynamic force within bicycle motocross, and as the attraction of these ultracompetitors is realized by race promoters. Pro Class racing for sizable purses at large events and 100- and 200-percent paybacks at local sanctioned races will probably become a standard practice.

All in all, if PRO is handled wisely, it sounds like something that can be good for the sport and good for its members.

Anybody wishing more information about PRO can write to:

PRO (Professional Racing Organization) 3215 E. Ocean Blvd. Long Beach, CA 90803.

BICYCLE **MOTOCROSS** ACTION IS **EQUIPMENT**

AUGUST 1977



PRODUCT ANALYSIS

continued from page 38

STATEMENT NO. 5: 100% UN-CONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED For one year.

SUMMARY: According to Superbyke, the problems stem (pun intended) from the stretching of mild steel stem bolts and the lack of a washer under the head of this bolt. This is more of a factor with the Tuf-Neck than other goosenecks due to the additional leverage inherent with this design

At the time of this writing, Superbyke has begun adding a stem bolt. washer, and wedge, all heattreated, to the Tuf-Neck package, at no additional cost to you, by the way. Additionally, they have increased the wall thickness of the stem.

According to Superbyke, these changes will solve the problems. Time will tell



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