

A look at six bikes **GALLERY OF CHAMPIONS** that won seven titles

While we're on the subject of works bikes, we thought you'd like to gawk at the Kawasakis that carried Wardy to his

seven National Championships. Ward is tied with Bob Hannah and Rick Johnson for the number of championships won in a career,

but he's the only rider ever to win titles in all of the classes—125, 250, 500 and supercross.



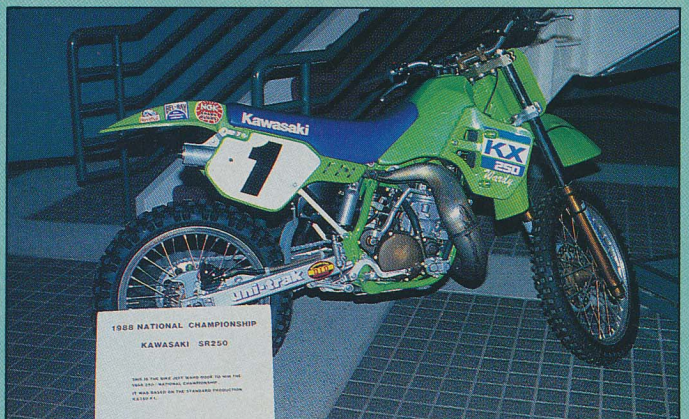
Really works: This '84 SR125 carried "The Flyin' Freckle" to his first championship over Mark Barnett. It also carried the first KIPS power-valve system and launched Ward to eight firsts and two seconds out of ten rounds. Check out the works aluminum gas tank, remote reservoir shock and works chromoly frame.



Last real works: Wardy moved to the 250s in 1985 and cleaned up on his SR250, winning both the 250 supercross and outdoor titles. The SR featured an aluminum tank and swingarm, adjustable fork preload and a remote reservoir rear shock with adjustable compression damping. Kawasaki dropped the dogbone Uni-Trak the next year.



Works production: The AMA production rule didn't stop Wardy from winning the 1987 supercross crown. His SR250 bristled with works triple clamps, a two-piece magnesium clutch cover, works KYB suspension, a glide plate and a removable subframe, but it wasn't as trick-looking as the '87 Hondas or Suzukis.



Works stocker: Wardy won the 1988 250 National title aboard this SR250. It wasn't that much different from his '87 SR, other than the more liberal use of magnesium and upgraded suspension. Check out the magnesium hubs, forks, clutch cover, handlebar clamps and perches.



Works-R-Us: The '89 SR500 that carried Wardy to his sixth title and championship sweep doesn't look all that trick, except the suspension. Check out the external bottoming bumper on the works KYB fork. The machine also bristles with magnesium, titanium and works aluminum pieces to shave weight.



Works is works: There's not much difference between Ward's '89 and '90 SR500s, externally. The inverted fork was improved and lost the external bumper, and the works KYB shock was also upgraded. The rear axle carrier is magnesium, as are the axle blocks. Check out the works triple clamps and sponge under the brake pedal. □