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SEE INSIDE

# DIRT BIKE

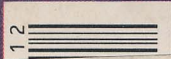
IND  
DECEMBER 1977

34355 \$1.00  
UK60p

**125cc**  
**CONTROVERSY:**  
**BROC GLOVER**  
**TELLS**  
**HIS SIDE**

**TEST:**  
**CAN-AM**  
**125**  
**QUALIFIER**

**SMITH TAKES**  
**500 LAURELS**



WORLDWIDE MX  
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812 SO. 27TH AVE.  
BARVIL MARSH  
DWA988902MARH812X 121576 7801

• WORLD SPEEDWAY

# DIRT BIKE

DECEMBER 1977 VOLUME SEVEN NUMBER TWELVE

## TEST

- 36 CAN-AM 125 QUALIFIER  
*Quiet, heavy and fast*

## COMPETITION

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ON THE COVER: John Therriault shot the action. Jim Gianatsis lensed the laurels; Marty Smith earned them.

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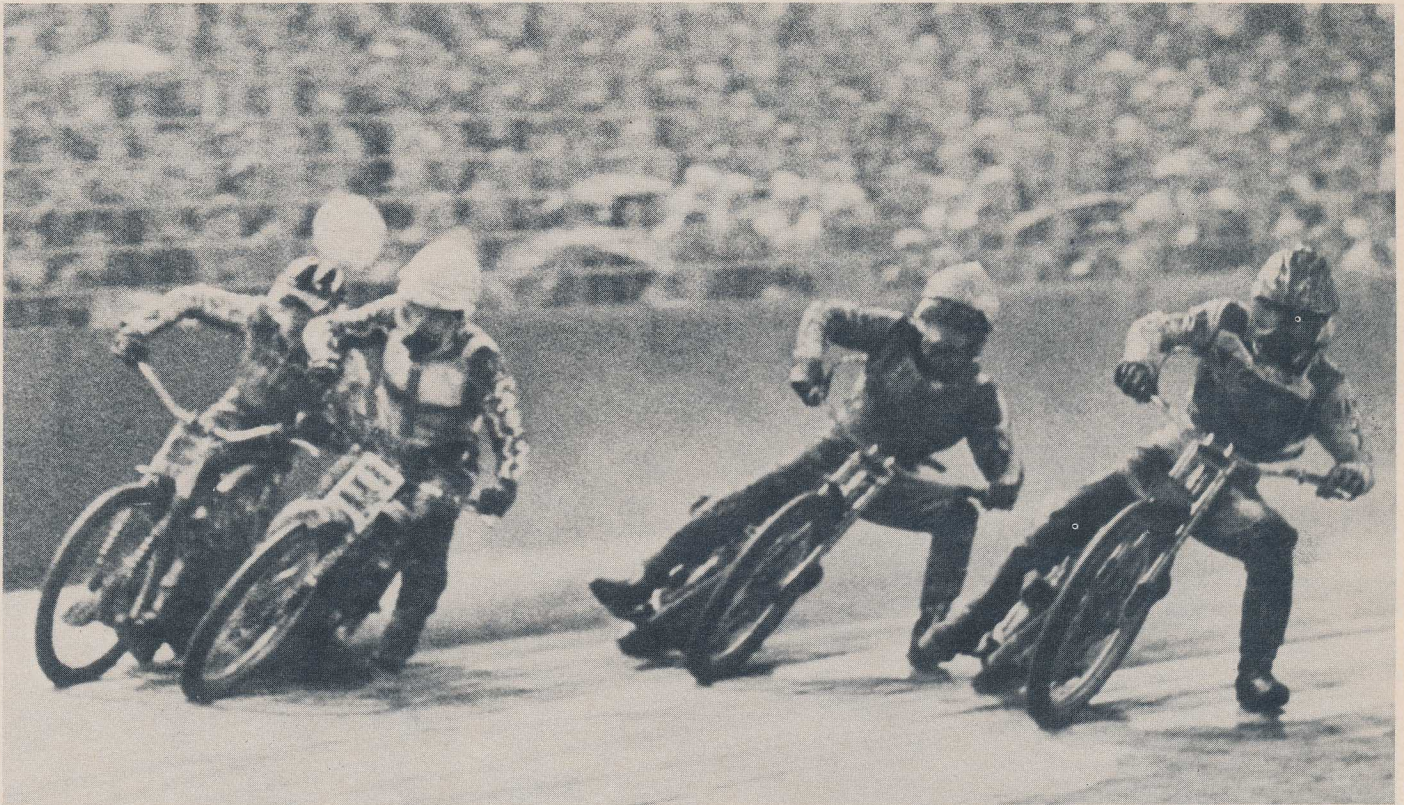
SIDEWAYS IN THE RAIN

# WORLD SPEEDWAY FINAL

*Ivan Mauger wins a record-tying fifth title*

Report by Stewart Boroughs.

Photography by Trevor Meeks



The defending champ's unlucky 13th heat. Egon Muller on the outside is about to fall after tangling with Collins. Bernt Persson is in the middle, Mauger on the inside. Collins was leading when the race was stopped, Mauger won the rerun.

Ivan Mauger finally equaled Ove Fundin's record five world titles at Gothenburg's Ullevi Stadium. Fundin, a Swede now retired from the sport, was present at the rain-drenched arena to offer his congratulations.

Mauger, 37, is the only rider to win three titles consecutively, scoring in 1968, 1969 and 1970. He also has three seconds. The meeting was no walkover for the New Zealand rider, as he overcame some of the worst track conditions in the 32-year history of world finals to edge defending champion Peter

Collins, 14 to 13.

Collins, from England, was a favorite to repeat until a racing mishap a week before the final cracked the fibula bone in his left leg. He had needed 32 stitches to close the wound, smashed by a loose drain hole cover at a British track. After resting all week he flew to the track by private plane, arriving an hour before the program began.

Another crippled contender was Anders Michanek. Three years earlier the Swede had won the world title at his home stadium. His broken right foot was encased in a



1976  
champion  
Peter Collins  
on crutches.



Longtrack world champion Egon Muller  
outside Ole Olsen. Average time for four  
times around the 400-meter track was one  
minute, 15 seconds.



The top four finishers. From the left: Ole Olsen who took third, Michael Lee who was fourth, Ivan Mauger with the bottle and Peter Collins, second.

special support following a crash three weeks earlier.

Eighteen-year-old Michael Lee rode the match of his astonishingly short successful career to finish fourth overall, losing third in a runoff with Dane Ole Olsen, a former world champion.

Collins' fate was settled in heat 13 when he met Mauger, Persson and Muller. Shoulder to shoulder the

heavy brigade charged to the first bend but the German, Egon Muller, twice world longtrack champion, tangled with Collins near the fence and fell. Unfortunately for Collins, who went on to take the lead, the race had to be stopped with Muller still lying on the track. Mauger made the gate in the rerun to win comfortably.

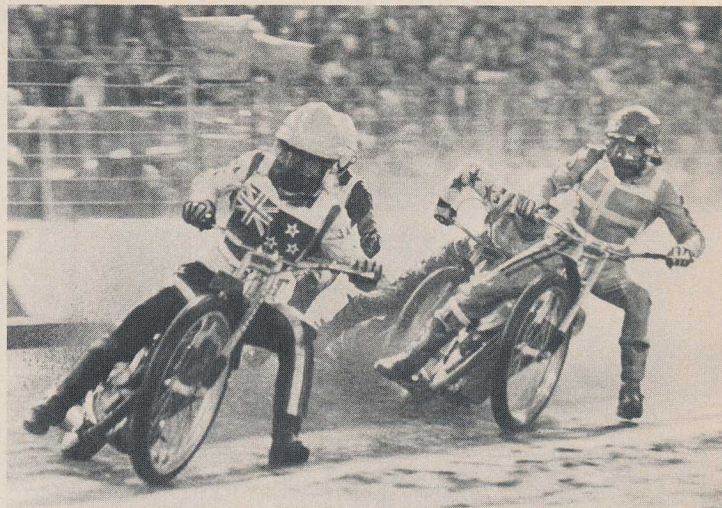
Ole Olsen was tied with Mauger with 11 points as the pair went to the line for heat 18, while the English sensation Lee was a single point behind them.



The two five-time world champions. Ove Fundin pours the bubbly over Mauger's head while Ivan's son, Kym, grins.

Hearts missed a beat as the start tapes flew up crooked. When the race did get under way, surprise, surprise, it was John Boulger leading Olsen who led Mauger.

Ole's high hopes for another title came to a disastrous end at the third corner. Boulger overslid and Ole, a couple of lengths behind, had to lay his Jawa four down in unison. Boulger was excluded, but Ole's mishap came as a godsend for Lee,



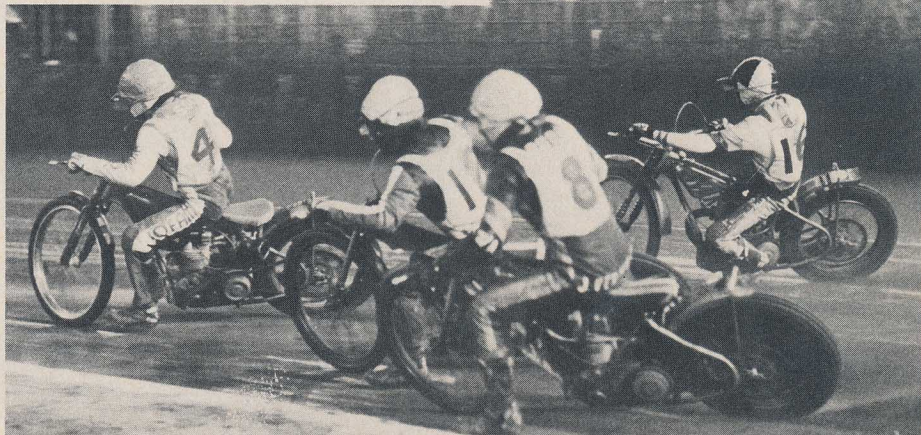
Mauger's first ride. Behind him are Jan Verner (obscured), Edward Jancarz (almost down) and Anders Michanek.



It's all over except for the final two heats as victorious Mauger returns to the pits. Despite the rain the event drew 35,000.

whose throttle was sticking, gummed up with wet shale. The restart pause gave Lee time to switch to his reserve Weslake. Olsen had to borrow Thomsen's spare bike for the rerun which, with his arm raised in salute 'round the last turn, Mauger won from Lee. At last the elusive fifth title was in his hands.

An inside look. From the left: Tommy Nilsson, Bernt Persson and Jan Verner as Michael Lee powers around the outside.



## WORLD SPEEDWAY FINAL

Gothenburg, Sweden  
September 4, 1977

	HEATS	PTS.
1. Ivan Mauger, New Zealand	3 2 3 3 3	14
2. Peter Collins, Great Britain	3 3 2 2 3	13
3. Ole Olsen, Denmark	2 3 3 3 1	12
4. Michael Lee, Great Britain	2 3 3 2 2	12
5. Finn Thomsen, Denmark	2 3 1 1 3	10
6. Anders Michanek, Sweden	2 1 3 3 0	9
7. Egon Muller, West Germany	3 2 0 0 3	8
8. Bengt Jansson, Sweden	1 0 2 3 2	8
9. Billy Sanders, Australia	3 1 2 0 0	6
10. Tommy Nilsson, Sweden	0 2 0 2 2	6
11. Bernt Persson, Sweden	1 1 2 1 1	6
12. John Boulger, Australia	1 2 0 2 0	5
13. Edward Jancarz, Poland	1 1 1 1 0	4
14. Jiri Stanci, Czechoslovakia	0 0 1 0 2	3
15. Jan Verner, Czechoslovakia	0 0 0 1 0	1
15. Jan Mucha, Poland	0 0 1 0 0	1