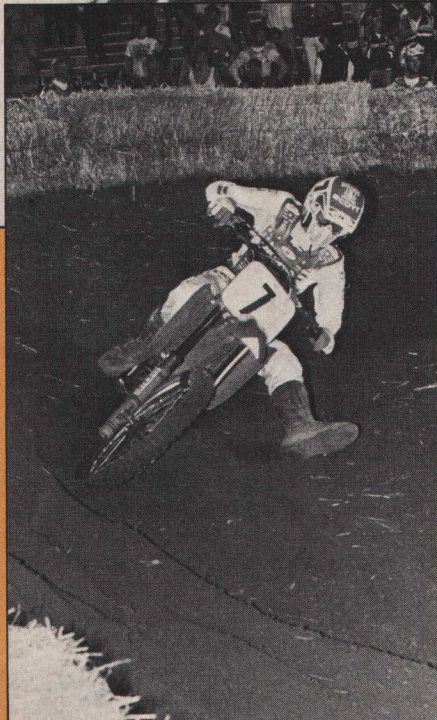




FLATTRACKING IN THE ROSE BOWL

A "poor excuse for a Supercross track" turns the Superbowl into the Stupidbowl of Motocross

By the DIRT BIKE Staff



Ron Lechien netted himself a fourth- or fifth-place start in the Main, and then bailed off for a second and had to work his way back to tenth. He was ready for better things—earlier in the night he'd won his Semi over a field of heavy hitters.



Jeff Ward complained bitterly about the no-challenge track, but good starts and a right wrist that wouldn't shut off netted him his second Supercross win of the year.

◀ Broc Glover, with a firmly anchored visor, stole the lead on the first lap, only to have it wrested from his grip on lap 18.

It was a slightly frightening experience to hear 20 riders wall into the first turn without shutting off. Just a twitch of the shoulders got them into the switchback, which was actually turn three. Attentive readers will notice that the top four positions are an exact replica of the finish. What's that tell you?

If the overall attitude wasn't obvious before the opening ceremonies, Johnny O'Mara's reply to a simple question made it evident to all.

Announcer: "Well, Johnny, what do you think of the track tonight?"

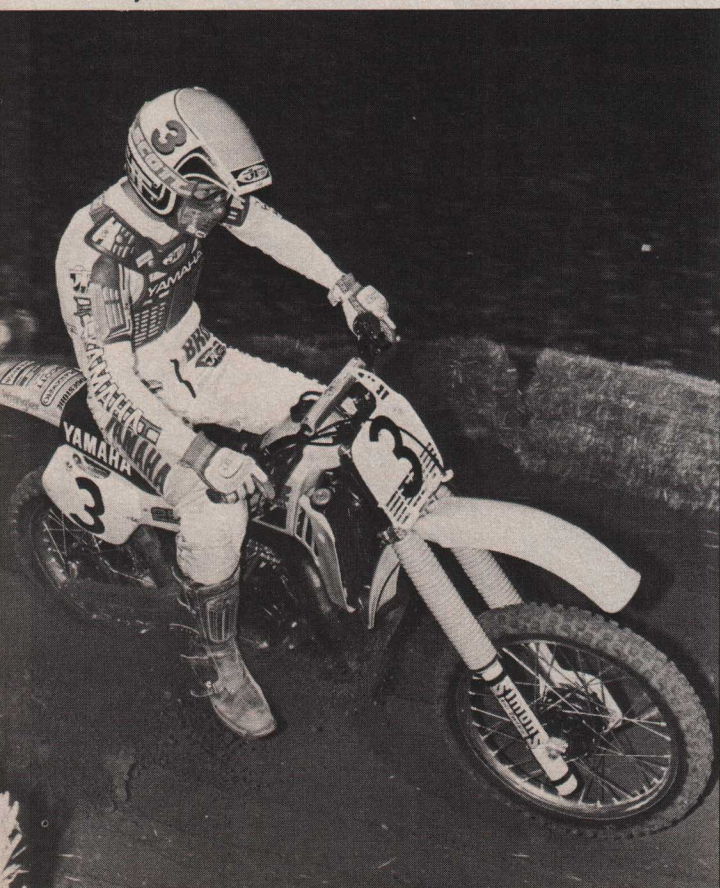
O'Mara: "I think this is the poorest excuse for a Supercross track that I've ever ridden on..."

And in our opinion, and in the opinion of nearly everybody else in attendance, he was right. There were no double jumps, very few tight turns or switchbacks, and one set of whoopedos exactly six bumps long. After practice, some riders in the pits were seen raising their gearing to get better top speed down the start straight.



Fresh from a Supercross win in Orlando, Yamaha star Ricky Johnson suffered poor starts all night long. He gated especially bad in the Final, but managed to berserk his way into eighth place.

At a pre-race press conference, Broc Glover said his mediocre finishes so far this year were due to his "not caring, watching too much TV, and not working out or practicing." What a kidder, that Broc. He led for most of the Main, and finally got stuffed in to a hay bale for second. He never lost his visor, though.



Alan King is Team Tamm's top rider, who only recently gave up the 250 class lead in the outdoor Nationals. Riding a more or less stock CR250, he flashed into a fifth-place finish for top non-factory rider. Very impressive.

Mark Barnett knew it would take a holeshot to win this race, and he proved it to the crowd by blasting to the lead in the second heat and taking the win by 14 seconds. Poor starts marred the rest of his evening, and he settled for a sixth place behind King.



MILLER HIGH LIFE PASADENA SUPERCROSS



He'd rather not follow in the footsteps of teammate Barnett, but with a production bike under him he puts on a fine show. George Holland "tunneled" to a seventh-place finish.



The Honda guys don't train on a TT track. They train on one of the gnarliest private tracks we've ever seen. Johnny O hated the track, wasn't shy about telling people about it, and his performance showed it. Jim Felt had his own worries—this is what he looked like when Ricky Johnson was only three seconds behind.

Jim Holley reflects the spirits of DIRT BIKE Magazine, his sponsor and financial trainer. He claims to have given away a fourth-place heat finish in order to win the "Longest Jump" award. "Two positions for a quick thousand bucks? Sure, it was worth it!"



David Bailey really does worry about the future of motocross. Because of that number one on his plate, he's taken on the job of spokesman for the troops, and he spent most of the night getting more and more depressed about the track conditions. "We're not used to this," he said. "We could have spent the week at Ascot if we knew it was going to be like this." He finished fourth.

David Bailey told us, "I hope you guys don't write another rave story about this race. You should make sure everybody knows it was a TT track. This is ridiculous." Jeff Ward complained long and hard, and Mark Barnett said, "I think it'll be perfect—as long as I get the holeshot. Nobody in second place will have a chance on this track."

For our little part, we have to apologize for the poor quality of the photos. We had plenty of photographers on hand, but everyone was herded into one less-than-interesting part of the track by the security guards. The reason? They were told to chase all the photographers out of the front part of the track because they were blocking the banners strung on fences in the infield. "People pay a lot of money for banner space here, and they don't want people standing in front of them during the race," we were told.

So, without blocking any banners, here is our coverage of the annual Superbowl of Motocross, which until this year was billed as the greatest spectacle in Supercross history. Hopefully, people in high places will try to forget about the Superbowl of '84, and not make the same mistakes in the future. □



RESULTS: PASADENA SUPERBOWL OF MOTOCROSS, JUNE 2, 1984

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|-----------------------------------|-------|-----|
| 1. Jeff Ward, Mission Viejo, CA | | Kaw |
| 2. Broc Glover, El Cajon, CA | | Yam |
| 3. Johnny O'Mara, Simi Valley, CA | | Hon |
| 4. David Bailey, Axton, VA | | Hon |
| 5. Alan King, Troy, MI | | Hon |
| 6. Mark Barnett, Lawley, AL | | Suz |
| 7. George Holland, Kerman, CA | | Suz |
| 8. Ricky Johnson, El Cajon, CA | | Yam |
| 9. Eric Eaton, Tacoma, WA | | Hon |
| 10. Ron Lechien, El Cajon, CA | | Hon |