

BICYCLE MOTOCROSS CHAMPIONSHIP

DIRT BIKE

34355 JANUARY 1975

**360 YZ
MONOCROSS**



**125
TYRAN
MX**

**175
PUCH
ISDT**

**250
BAJA
EL SINORE**

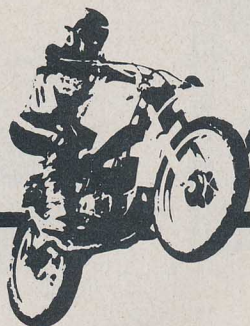
**ISDT: SIX DAYS
OF ALMOST
SEEING GIOVANNI
BATTISTA MONTINI**

**NATIONAL MOTOCROSS FINALS * QUEBEC'S
MAPLE LEAF ENDURO * EVEL'S SNAKE
RIVER SENDUP * BENGT'S SWEDISH SWEEP**

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ON THE COVER: Aerobatic advocate
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JONES AND WEINERT TAKE TITLES

NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL

Howerton and Semics top stompers in bayou swamp

by **RICHARD CREED**

Photos Courtesy of Cycle News Central.

Anyone who thought the final National motocross of the season would be a contest of snores and yawns certainly had their eyes yanked open from the first drop of the starting gate. Teams Honda and Yamaha passed up the action to get ready for Evel K.'s beer bust, and Team Suzuki wiped themselves out in the first motos of the day with snapped frames; but the action was anything but tame.

It was a race of surprises. Marty Tripes showed up wearing a big grin and a Can-Am jersey. It was the third factory ride Tripes had picked up in one season, which must be a new record of some sort. Marty is now back with the Jones Gang under a multi-year contract. Haven't we been here before? Speaking of records, Gary Jones clinched the 250 National Championship for the third year in a row, and he did it on a different brand every year.

The start of the first 250 was a chaotic happening as Tripes trailered everyone into the first turn. In the middle pack were Jimmy Ellis, Bruce Baron, Peter Lamppu and Gary Jones. Bringing up the very rear of the field was Brad Lackey. Lackey didn't stay down long and started picking off riders one at a time until his front brake locked up and sent him tumbling. Lackey was unhurt, but his bike had to be carried off for repairs.

Up front, Gary Jones led a Can-Am lock-up of the first three places with Marty Tripes in second and Jimmy Ellis, minus a footpeg, in third. Those who had their sights set on a Can-Am sweep saw

it end as Ellis dropped back under the constant pounding of one-legged riding and Tripes ended up in seventh at moto's end. Gary Jones won the first moto ahead of smooth-riding Kent Howerton. Howerton never seems to be going fast because he is so flawless. Before the day was over he would show everyone how good he really was.

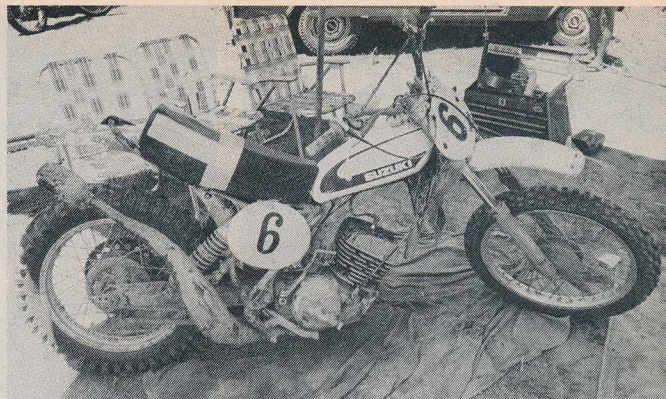
Jimmy Ellis and Brad Lackey were the second 250 moto. Everyone else was just taking up space. To say that the battle for



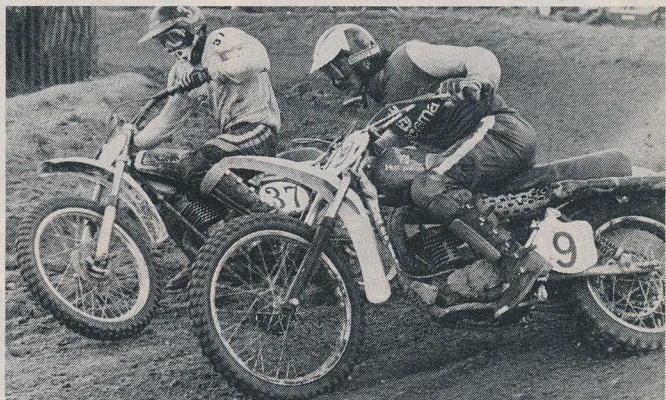
Steve Stackable finished second to Semics but beat him out for season's show spot.



Ellis missed half the season and still finished third overall behind Jones and Tripes. Yeah, that's 1-2-3 in the points standings for the current Can-Am roster.



For some reason or another Mike Runyard didn't have a good day.



Ellis and Lackey stayed like this lap after lap.



Crowd seems oblivious to DiStefano because Zelba Goldfarb was putting on a better show out of camera range.



Tripes with his new bike and same leathers.



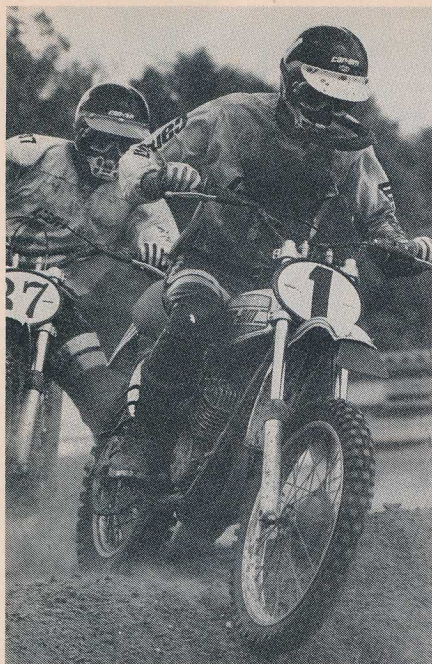
Semics swept both motos, took fourth for the season.



Weinert clinched the second Open title for Kawasaki in the last three years.



Kaphloomph, Ellis-style.



Gary won the first moto but two flats subdued efforts in the second.



Jones and Ellis won the motos but Kent Howerton took 250 action overall.



Brad's front brake locked up. Brad fell down.



Burrumph, Howerton-style.



Is this Zelda Goldfarb?

RESULTS
New Orleans National
September 2, 1974

250

- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| 1. Kent Howerton | HUS |
| 2. Jimmy Ellis | C-A |
| 3. Frank Stacy | OSS |
| 4. Peter Lamppu | MON |
| 5. Marty Tripes | C-A |
| 6. Trey Jorski | KAW |
| 7. Mike Gilliam | YAM |
| 8. Tony Wynn | NOG |
| 9. Bob Bayne | BUL |
| 10. Gary Jones | C-A |

500

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Gary Semics | HUS |
| 2. Steve Stackable | MAI |
| 3. Jim Weinert | KAW |
| 4. Tony DiStefano | CZ |
| 5. Bob Martindale | BUL |
| 6. Shan Moore | BUL |
| 7. Steve Floyd | BUL |
| 8. Scott Hames | BUL |
| 9. Dave Beavers | MAI |
| 10. Dewayne Baylor | YAM |

FINAL POINTS STANDINGS
1974 NATIONAL SERIES

250 CLASS

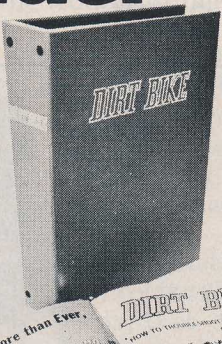
- | | | |
|---------------------|---------|-----|
| 1. Gary Jones | C-A | 600 |
| 2. Marty Tripes | HUS/C-A | 576 |
| 3. Jim Ellis | C-A | 430 |
| 4. Rich Thorwaldson | SUZ | 430 |
| 5. Billy Grossi | HON | 390 |
| 6. Kent Howerton | HUS | 367 |
| 7. Peter Lamppu | MON | 315 |
| 8. Frank Stacy | MAI | 285 |
| 9. Ken Zahrt | BUL | 257 |
| 10. Ron Pomeroy | BUL | 254 |

OPEN CLASS

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------|-----|
| 1. Jim Weinert | KAW | 900 |
| 2. Tony DiStefano | CZ | 780 |
| 3. Steve Stackable | MAI | 680 |
| 4. Gary Semics | HUS | 620 |
| 5. Mike Hartwig | YAM | 507 |
| 6. Bryar Holcomb | BUL/MAI | 395 |
| 7. Terry Clark | HUS | 295 |
| 8. Rex Staten | MAI | 257 |
| 9. Gary Chaplin | MAI | 200 |
| 10. Mike Runyard | SUZ | 174 |

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win as Lackey's woes continued to worsen, but Kent Howerton scored the overall class laurels, his first National victory. Ellis scored second overall. Frank Stacy turned 4-4 posting into third overall on a new Ossa Phantom.

Gary Semics dropped the hammer on his Husky in the Open Class, and everyone else had to fight for second place. Including National Open Champ Jim Weinert. Weinert and Semics duked it out for a short time in the first moto, but Semics was unstoppable. The heat got to Weinert, who later complained of feeling ill, but no one got to Semics. Tony DiStefano was running with the leaders in the first moto until his front brake cable wound itself shut and put Tony back in sixth. In the second moto Semics once again ran off with the lead and Tony DiStefano held onto second place ahead of Steve Stackable. Stackable finished second overall, Weinert was third and DiStefano fourth. At the end of the races everyone packed up just in time for a monsoon rain which caused a giant miles-long traffic jam. Fun. ☼

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