

NAT'L MX OPENER / WHAT'S WORKS FOR '77

DIRT BIKE

JULY 1977

34355

\$1.00
UK60p

175cc ENDUROS

YAMAHA CAN-AM PENTON

WHICH IS KING?

CAN-AM 250 MX3- WONDER IN ELLIS LAND?



DIRT BIKE

JULY 1977 VOLUME SEVEN NUMBER SEVEN

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If you race it on a dyno it'll never lose.

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ON THE COVER:

Pomeroy is back! Wegner shot the Hangtown photo.

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HANGTOWN 125 & 250 NATIONAL MOTOCROSS

NATIONAL OPENER



Marty Smith had it all together that dusty Easter Sunday in the torturous sand pit at Plymouth. He put two strong seconds together to give him the overall victory at Hangtown and a healthy share of points toward this year's 250 National Championship. After chasing Bimbo most of the way in the first go-round, he found himself playing a similar tune in moto two. But this time he played hound to DiStefano.

Danny LaPorte and Marty Smith take the driest Hangtown in five years

by George Wegner
(alias: "Hangtown Crasher")



Gaylon Mosier picks a lucky number at Hangtown



The 125 National show was stolen by Suzuki's Danny LaPorte, who scored a perfect two-moto victory to take home 50 National Championship points. This boy has a good head on his shoulders. Keep an eye on him.

HANGTOWN



Since Jim Pomeroy had spent a good part of last year touring Europe, he was forced to run in a qualifier, where he motored to an easy second behind Marty Tripes' Harley D. In order to make it quite clear that he is indeed very serious about riding motocross in the U.S., he quickly displaced the early leaders in the first few laps and went on to win by a healthy distance over teammate Marty Smith. After a poor start in the second moto, he worked his way past half the field to fourth spot by the time the checkered fell. He is obviously very happy with his new Type 2, and this should be just a glimpse of things to come. His first and fourth finishes put him in second for the day.

Marty Tripes is back in the action and pulled out a fourth and a fifth, which was good enough for a fourth for the day. Surely Harley-Davidson is quite pleased with his efforts before a crowd of riders and spectators from across the United States and Canada.



Gaylon Mosier ran a strong eighth in the first moto, and then took the holeshot in the second to end up third by the end of 40 minutes plus two laps. His dedication to long, hard hours of training is paying off.



Pat Richter rode his water-cooled Moto-X Fox RM125 to second for the day with placings of second and third respectively. He led moto two for nearly half the distance before LaPorte got by him.



Jimmy Ellis led lap one of the first moto 'till unloading just before the finish line. He came back in the second moto to clip a tree with his rear wheel and crash heavily, sending a spectator to the hospital. This plastic fencing is not the hot setup. He restarted and continued on in the tradition of Iron Men throughout history.



After moving through the pack to fifth spot with Marty Tripes drafting in behind in moto one, Tony DiStefano proceeded to show the gang why he carries that big number one on his Suzuki by scoring a healthy second moto victory. His first and fifth put him in third place for National points after this, the opening round.



Hard luck for the day award is a toss-up between Bob Hannah and Jim Weinert. The Hurricane made an incredible charge from the mid-20s to second behind LaPorte in the first round, only to have his pipe come loose, dropping him back to 17th. In round two he again rocketed to second only to have his chain tensioner self-destruct and throw the chain putting him out. The Jammer sucked dirt into his Big Green and DNFed the first moto, and then got off hard while running near the front in the second race, separating his shoulder.

Kent Howerton rode his near-production CR250 Husky to third and seventh place finishes for fifth overall. Kent was just one of the many top riders to hit that muscle-burning sand that day. His fall in the final few laps of moto two was from sheer exhaustion.



The consistency of a fourth and a sixth combined gave Gary Ogden third 125 honors, ahead of Gary Wise and Warren Reid, who took fourth and fifth spots.

