

MODERN CYCLE

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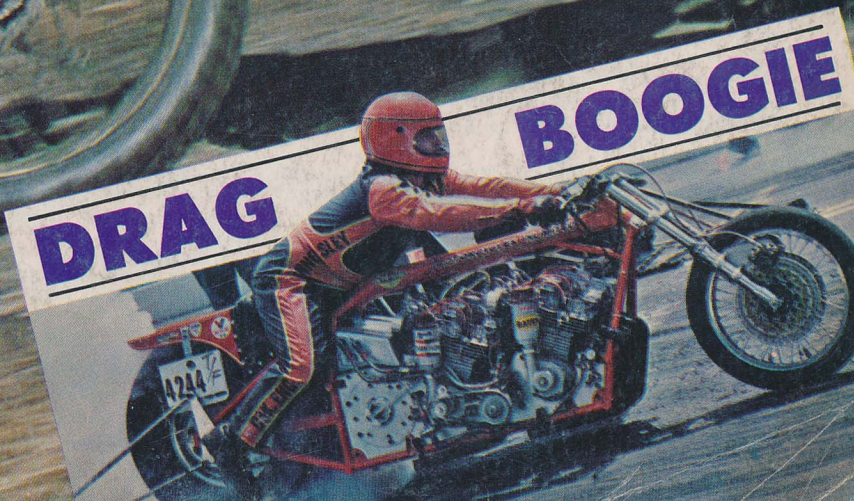
**PROJECT 1115:  
SERIOUS  
HORSEPOWER**

**MORE YAMAHA  
"IT" GOODIES**

**COMPETITION!  
HANNAH'S  
250  
CHAMP**

**BURR OAK  
ENDURO**

**BELL'S  
SUPER-  
BOWL**



**DRAG**

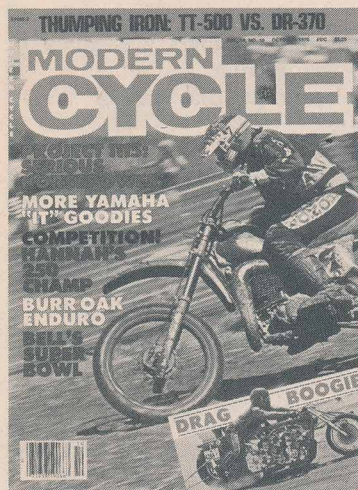
**BOOGIE**





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VOL. 14, NO. 10 OCTOBER 1978



**ON THE COVER:** Team Honda's Tommy Croft is the force in the 500 class, especially at Sears Point. Photo by Ned Owens.

Ken Annesly aboard the Motorcycles Unlimited's double-engined top fueler. Photo by Jeff Peck.

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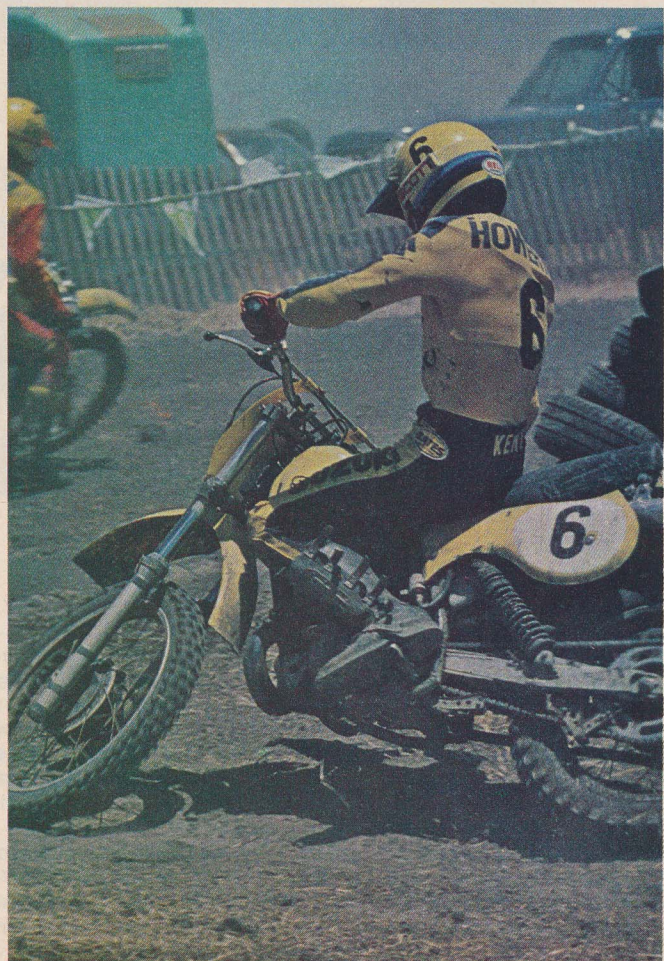
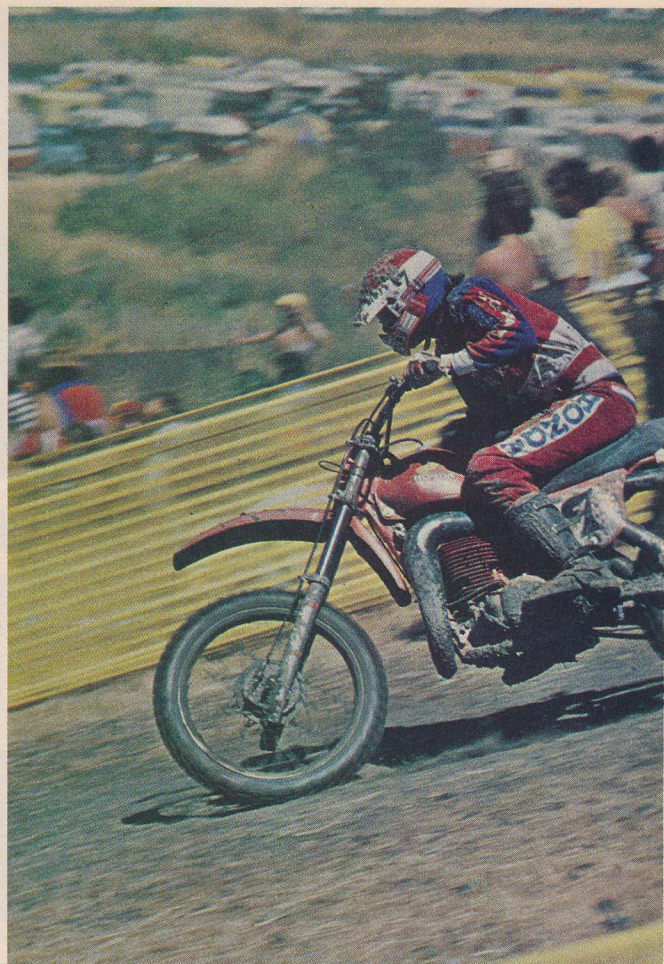
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# HANNAH SMOKES MR. PIBB'S 250 CHAMPIONSHIP

PHOTOS BY TRISH OWENS, JACK HARWOOD AND ORINGZ

## HANNAH WINS AGAIN

It was hot, dry and dusty in Sonoma, California, but the elements didn't prevent the top motorcycle riders from giving an exciting performance of professional motocross racing in the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA)/Mr. PiBB Motocross Nationals at the Sears Point Raceway. Bob Hannah was the winner in the 250cc class while Tommy Croft took top honors on the 500cc bikes.

Hannah, the human hurricane from Whittier, California, won the first 250cc moto although it featured some excellent competition between Yamaha rider Hannah and Honda rider Jim Ellis of East Hampton, Connecticut. The winner of the second moto, Honda's Marty Tripes from Santee, California, held the early lead in the first moto but a broken chain required his exit during the seventh lap. Hannah and Ellis battled throughout most of

the race until Hannah finally clinched the lead and the moto on the 11th lap.

In second 250cc moto action, Tripes started in the rear of the pack but struggled into fourth position by the sixth lap. On lap seven it was a four man battle between Tripes, Hannah, Husqvarna rider Chuck Sun of Sherwood, Oregon and Kawasaki rider "Jammin" Jimmy Weinert of Laguna Beach California. Two laps later Tripes turned on the juice and flew by everybody to win by approximately 12 seconds.

## CROFT TAKES 500 RACE

Tommy Croft was the winner and Marty Smith was right behind him in 2nd as the Team Honda red machines dominated the second round of the AMA 500cc motocross national series.

The win puts Croft in the lead in the points ranking, as he had scored a strong 2nd overall at the initial

event.

Both Team Honda riders were going strong in the first moto until Smith got a string of course-marking banners tangled in his rear wheel, which slowed him up considerably. At the checkered flag Croft was 1st and Smith had dropped to 4th.

The second moto on the very natural and technical Sears Point International Raceway track near Sonoma, California, was close fought all the way, with a lot of passing up front even in the late laps. The spectators, about 7,000 in number, saw lots of action in the sharp turns and off-camber sections which mark the course.

At the end of the final moto Smith was in 2nd closely followed by Croft in 3rd. Tommy's strong 1st and 3rd gave him four points and the overall victory while Marty's six points from 4th and 2nd was good for second overall.



Chuck Sun got both holeshots in the 250 class and led each moto early-on.







Marty Tripes got a hair in the second moto and walked away from Ellis, Weinert, and Hannah who were busy with each other.



A complete switch from the long, fast, green Trans-Am track run last fall, this Sears Point course was tight, slow, off camber, and dusty.

## HANNAH CAPTURES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP; MIKE BELL DOMINATES 500cc RACE

At Cycle World USA in St. Peters, Missouri, the AMA/Mr. PiBB National Motocross championship was motorcycle racing at its finest as Bob Hannah once again captured the 250cc bracket, along with the National Championship, possessing 388 points, 127 more than second-place contender, Jim Ellis. Mike Bell of Lakewood, California, triumphed in the 500 class, winning both motos for an overall first place finish.

In the 250cc behind Hannah was Husqvarna rider, Chuck Sun who performed atop his bike superbly, doing the best job of his career, constantly pushing Hannah in the motos. Third behind Sun was Honda rider, Jimmy Ellis; Pierre Karsmakers, fourth and San Antonio's Kent Howerton was fifth.

The 500cc action ended with current National Point Leader, Tommy Croft, second; Darrell Shultz was third; Marty Smith, fourth and fifth place went to Rex Staten.

Rich Eierstedt was back on the 250cc circuit after a shoulder separation in Pittsburgh and fared well, finishing fifth and ninth in the motos for an overall sixth position.

Gaining fifty points with two moto wins, Mike Bell was closing in on current point leader, Tommy Croft, who settled for an overall finish of second place for the day.

### 250cc AMA/MR. PiBB MX STANDINGS

Pos.	Name, Hometown	Points
1.	Bob Hannah, Whittier, CA	388
2.	Jim Ellis, E. Hampton, CT	261
3.	Chuck Sun, Sherwood, OR	253
4.	P. Karsmakers, Mis. Viejo, CA	251
5.	Jim Pomeroy, Yakima, WA	216
6.	Jim Weinert, Laguna Beach, CA	210
7.	John Savitski, Atlas, PA	185
8.	Rich Eierstedt, Tustin, CA	168
9.	Kent Howerton, San Antonio, TX	156
10.	Greg Theiss, Omaha, NB	155
11.	Parry Klassen, Fresno, CA	118
12.	Marty Tripes, Santee, CA	87
13.	Jim Gibson, Orange, CA	80
14.	Monte Anderson, Midlothian, TX	78
15.	Tony Wanket, Encinitas, CA	72
16.	Dennis Brand, Oakhurst, CA	67
17.	David Bowman, Livonia, MI	57
18.	Bill Grossi, Santa Cruz, CA	52
18.	Don Kudalski, Coral Springs, FL	52
20.	Mark Rakestraw, W. Memphis, AR	49

### 500cc AMA/MR. PiBB MX STANDINGS

Pos.	Name, Hometown	Points
1.	Tommy Croft, San Diego, CA	122
2.	Mike Bell, Lakewood, CA	108
3.	Marty Smith, San Diego, CA	105
3.	Rex Staten, Fontana, CA	105
5.	Danny LaPorte, Yucca Valley, CA	99
6.	Rick Burgett, Sandy OR	80
7.	Gary Semics, Hunt. Beach, CA	66
7.	Darrell Shultz, Orangevale, CA	66
9.	Steve Stackable, Austin, TX	59
10.	Frank Stacy, Cheektowaga, NY	51
11.	M. Boone, Winston-Salem, NC	48
12.	Tommy Summey, Charlotte, NC	47
13.	Dennis Swartz, Marietta, OH	40
14.	Mickey Kessler, Farmingdale, NJ	36
15.	Jim Turner, LaSelva Beach, CA	32
16.	Ken Adams, West Grove, PA	27
17.	Pat Moroney, Newburgh, NY	26
18.	Brian Jodry, Rancho Cordova, CA	25
19.	Tony DiStefano, Morrisville, PA	24
20.	Robert Myers, Antioch, CA	18





## HOWERTON AND BURGETT TAKE VICTORIES

In a foot of mud and drenching rain, Suzuki rider Kent Howerton from San Antonio, Texas captured the overall win in the 250cc bracket and Sandy, Oregon's Rick Burgett powered his Yamaha to a first place finish in the 500cc class at the AMA/Mr. PiBB National Motocross race in Buchanan, Michigan.

Howerton battled the elements and placed second in the first moto and first ahead of Bob Hannah in the next moto. National standings point leader Hannah crashed in the mud during the first moto and was unable to finish the initial competition.

Finishing second in the 250cc division was Jimmy Ellis. Third place went to Jim Pomeroy riding a Honda; fourth was Greg Theiss and fifth spot was grabbed by Husqvarna-rider, Chuck Sun.

In 500cc motocross action, Burgett took the first moto and placed third in the second moto. Exciting racing prevailed in the second moto with Yucca Valley's Danny LaPorte passing Michael Kessler of Farmingdale, New Jersey. That second moto win for LaPorte gave Kessler the overall number two spot while LaPorte came in third. Denny Swartz of Marietta, Ohio was fourth and Frank Stacy, fifth.

### 250cc AMA/MR. PiBB POINT STANDINGS

Pos.	Name, Home Town	Points
1.	Bob Hannah, Whittier, CA	410
2.	Jim Ellis, E. Hampton, CT	301
3.	Chuck Sun, Sherwood, OR	285
4.	P. Karsmakers, La. Niguel, CA	266
5.	Jim Pomeroy, Yakima, WA	252
6.	Jim Weinert, Laguna Beach, CA	210
7.	Kent Howerton, San Antonio, TX	203
8.	Rich Eierstedt, Tustin, CA	188
9.	Greg Theiss, Omaha, NE	187
10.	John Savitski, Atlas, PA	185
11.	Parry Klassen, Fresno, CA	130
12.	Marty Tripes, Santee, CA	97
13.	Dennis Brand, Oakhurst, CA	84
14.	Jim Gibson, Orange, CA	80
15.	Monte Anderson, Midlothian, TX	78
16.	David Boles, Colleyville, TX	74
17.	Tony Wanket, Encinitas, CA	72
18.	Scott Lester, Ashtabula, OH	62
19.	David Bowman, Livonia, MI	57
20.	Bill Grossi, Santa Cruz, CA	52

### 500cc AMA/MR. PiBB POINT STANDINGS

Pos.	Name, Home Town	Points
1.	Tommy Croft, San Diego, CA	150
2.	Mike Bell, Lakewood, CA	135
3.	Danny LaPorte, Yucca Valley, CA	133
4.	Marty Smith, San Diego, CA	127
4.	Rex Staten, Fontana, CA	127
6.	Rick Burgett, Sandy, OR	125
7.	Steve Stackable, Austin, TX	85
8.	Frank Stacy, Cheektowaga, NY	79
9.	Mickey Kessler, Farmingdale, NJ	78
9.	Darrell Shultz, Orangevale, CA	78