

Motocross Wrap-Up



David Bailey

Wrangler Champions

Honda's David Bailey put his name in the record books when he became the first Wrangler Super Series Grand National Champion. The new-for-'83 Wrangler Super Series format created five titles for competitors in the three displacement classes of AMA professional motocross racing. The championships include the 125, 250 and 500cc individual titles, the Supercross crown and, finally, the Grand National Championship (GNC) title for the rider who earns the most combined points from his chosen displacement class and from Supercross. To prevent points hoarding by those with the equipment and funds, the Super Series requires riders

to stay with their chosen displacement class throughout the season.

Bailey was definitely the man to beat this year as he took home the Supercross and 250cc Championships in addition to the GNC honor. Bailey rode consistently well all season, displaying the controlled, decisive style of Donnie Hansen, 1982's 250cc and Supercross Champion.

Completing Honda's near-dominance of American motocross racing, Johnny O'Mara, aboard his Jim Felt-prepared RC125, ended Suzuki's long-time stranglehold on the 125cc class. O'Mara finished with a nine-point advantage over Kawasaki's Jeff Ward. O'Mara's bike ran faultlessly throughout the season, and when

riders are as close in talent as O'Mara, Ward and Barnett, reliability always provides the winning edge. The third-place 125-class finisher, Mark Barnett, enjoyed his share of moto wins, but mechanical failures prevented him from a better shot at winning a fourth-straight 125 title.



Broc Glover

Competition in the 125 class was as hot as ever with Yamaha's rookie Ron Lechien filling out the top four. It doesn't happen often, but this year the season ended with four different brands under the top four riders.

The new 500cc National Champ, Broc Glover, enjoyed the most successful of the three individual title chases by earning 471 points toward the 500cc crown. Glover collected

Wrangler Super Series Champions

125cc		
1. Johnny O'Mara	Honda	463 points
2. Jeff Ward	Kawasaki	453 points
3. Mark Barnett	Suzuki	441 points
250cc		
1. David Bailey	Honda	440 points
2. Scott Burnworth	Suzuki	403 points
3. Bob Hannah	Honda	374 points
500cc		
1. Broc Glover	Yamaha	471 points
2. Kent Howerton	Kawasaki	438 points
3. Danny Chandler	Honda	356 points

Wrangler Super Series Grand National Championship

1. David Bailey	Honda	860 points
2. Mark Barnett	Suzuki	859 points
3. Broc Glover	Yamaha	825 points
4. Jeff Ward	Kawasaki	806 points
5. Johnny O'Mara	Honda	749 points
6. Bob Hannah	Honda	719 points
7. Ron Lechien	Yamaha	627 points
8. Scott Burnworth	Suzuki	583 points
9. Brian Myerscough	Honda	574 points
10. Alan King	Suzuki	552 points



Johnny O'Mara

more points in his chase for the 500 title than any other rider did for his respective class.

All in all, the Season That Almost Wasn't rated a success, thanks to the belated cooperation between the AMA and the manufacturers.