

the rest it was chance to profile for the happy townsfolk. The grass was snotty as can be and several off-camber turns meant you spent a lot of time sideways. One thing became clear, though: they sure learn how to motocross in Europe. German Reinhard Christel went outrageously fast, faster than anyone, on his 125 Zundapp. All the factory Zundapps were incredibly fresh after the Six Days, in fact, which tends to raise some eyebrows.

Jack Penton got the biggest cheer when he lead all those Czechs for a few laps—four laps, to be exact. Four laps is all you need, you can more afford to be careless on the remaining four. So after four laps two Czechs passed Jack effortlessly. But Jack was going fast nonetheless, it's just that those Czechs are in a class of their own.

What really knocked me out was Great Britain taking second World Trophy. No one was ready for that, not even Great Britain. The only Limey to drop some points was Arthur Browning, who goofed and changed a tire at a check when he should have been clocking in. Everyone agreed the Limeys were the funnest dudes there, too. Browning always has this cigarette hanging out of his mouth, and Malcolm Rathmell always has his tongue hanging out of his mouth, stuff like that. A lot of the teams either ride Six Days to do good or to have a laugh—Britain did both.

You can't help but wonder how close the Czechs came to getting beat. Probably not very. They were the only team which had all six guys zero the 80-odd checks during the 1100 miles. West Germany went faster on the Special Test, lots faster. Those Zunies bounced and pummeled all over the landscape, and handled superbly. Only one guy dropped 16 marks, and that dropped West Germany to fourth behind Austria.

If it's any consolation, our fifth place represented first place for anything that resembles motorcycles you can actually buy. KTM built the motor with a micrometer but all the parts on the whole bike are off the shelf. So Dane Leimbach and Carl Cranke and Billy Uhl and Tom and Jeff and Jack can rest easy knowing they are among the best in the world, riding something that represents what the Six Days is supposed to be about, If, if, if. If Jeff hadn't had the silicon problem, second would have been ours, maybe even first. Of course, the Czechs stopped having those kind of problems a long, long time ago.

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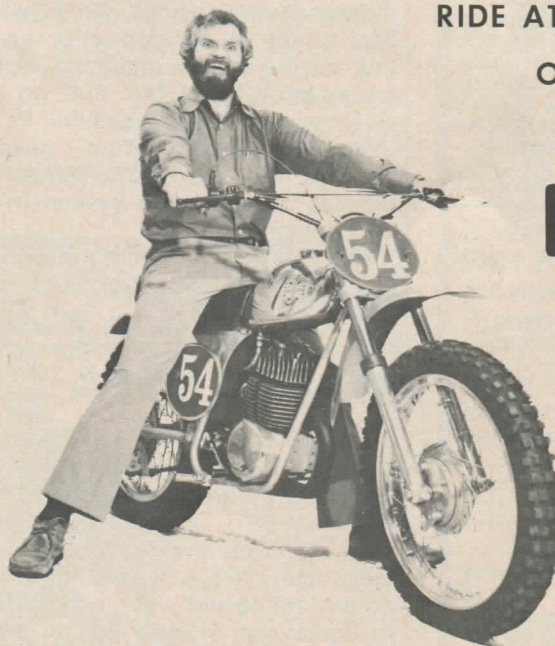
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