

DUCATI RACING

DUCATI RACING AT DAYTONA 1980

By Dennis Hatch

Daytona was a downer for most Ducati riders this year. In the amateur races on Wednesday of speed week, the only bright spot for Ducati was David Flemming's ride on the brand new 500 Pantah sponsored by Keith Harte of Canada. Fleming took the win on a showroom stock 500cc Pantah in the Showroom Stock 381 - 600 cc class.

The Pantah easily handled the RD Yamahas. Flemming returned later to do battle with the Modified Production 381 - 600 cc bikes and showed again that Taglioni and Company can humble the Japanese Middleweights with a second place finish.

In the Superbike 100 mile race on Friday, the top placed Ducati was the Syd's Cycles Super Sport ridden by DIOC member Malcom Tunstall. Tunstall took home 9th place edging by James Adamo's NCR Ducati prepared by Berliner Motor's Reno Leoni on the last lap.

Ducati fans should look forward to next year, when the multi-cylinder machines will have a displacement limit of 750cc. The new Superbike class will permit all twins to displace 870cc. This new formula should make for better racing with more equal horsepower bikes.

Malcom Tunstall was the only Ducati rider to qualify for the Daytona 200 this year. But he had to retire after about twenty five laps due to a broken oil pump gear.

Here is a run down of the Ducati mounted racers at this years Daytona Speedweek.

#266 Malcom Tunstall, Seminole, Florida

Tuner: Syd Tunstall

Bike: 989cc Desmo, Powerhouse pistons, factory Hailwood Replica full fairing, Kerker oil cooler.

Sponsors: Syd's Cycles, Rebel International, Henter Engineering.

Results: Superbike 100. started row four, completed 25 laps, finished 9th. In 200 miler, started in row seventeen but retired on lap 25 with oil pump failure.

#6 James Adamo, Glen Cove, NY

Tuner: Reno Leoni

Bike: 860cc Desmo, NCR dry clutch, oil cooler, Marzocchi gas shocks, Campagnolo wheels, remote float Dellorto carbs.

Sponsor: Berliner Motor Corp.

Results: Superbike 100, started in row four, completed 25 laps and finished 10th.

#227 Jerry Dean. Norwood, Ohio

Tuner: Self

Bike: 972 Desmo, 80mm stoker crank, Venolia pistons, Dymag cast wheels, Jonathan White pipes.

Sponsor: Self

Results: Superbike 100, started row ten, completed 23 laps, finished 29th.

#24 Art Chambers, Richmond, Calif.

Tuner: Marc Salvisberg

Bike: 947 Desmo, Venolia pistons, close ratio gearbox, Morris Mags, Hunt Aluminum discs, oversized valves.

Sponsors: Moto X Fox, Vanguard Engineering, San Rafael California Karls Motorcycles, Richmond, CA.

Results: Superbike 100, started row twelve, completed 23 laps, finished 30th.

#143 Doug Lantz, Greenwich, CT.

Tuner: Juan Gonzalez

Bike: 860cc Desmo, external oil filter, Marzocchi gas shocks, NCR pistons, 40mm valves.

Sponsor: Self

Results: Superbike 100, started row five, completed 16 laps finished 39th

#167 Bill Condon, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada

Tuner: Self

Bike 860 Desmo. Jonathan White Pipes, 42mm Valves

Sponsor: Self

Results: Started row eleven, completed 3 laps, finished 56th place.

#48 Richard Schlachter, Old Lyme, CT.

Tuner: George Vincenzi

Bike: 925 Desmo. Powerhouse pistons, or ex-factory Imola engine (989cc), Remote oil filter, special fork brace, Dymag cast wheels.

Sponsors: Keith Harte Racing, Gee Vee Performance

Results: Superbike 100, started row four, completed two laps, finished 57th.

#342 John Eastveld, Montreal, Canada

Tuner: Don Drake

Bike: 905 Desmo, Venolia pistons, Lockheed brakes

Sponsors: Drake Cycle Shop, Decatur, Indiana

Results: Entered in 200 miler only. Did not qualify.

Well there you have it folks, like I said before, things have got to look brighter next year under the new formula racing rules. See ya all then.

