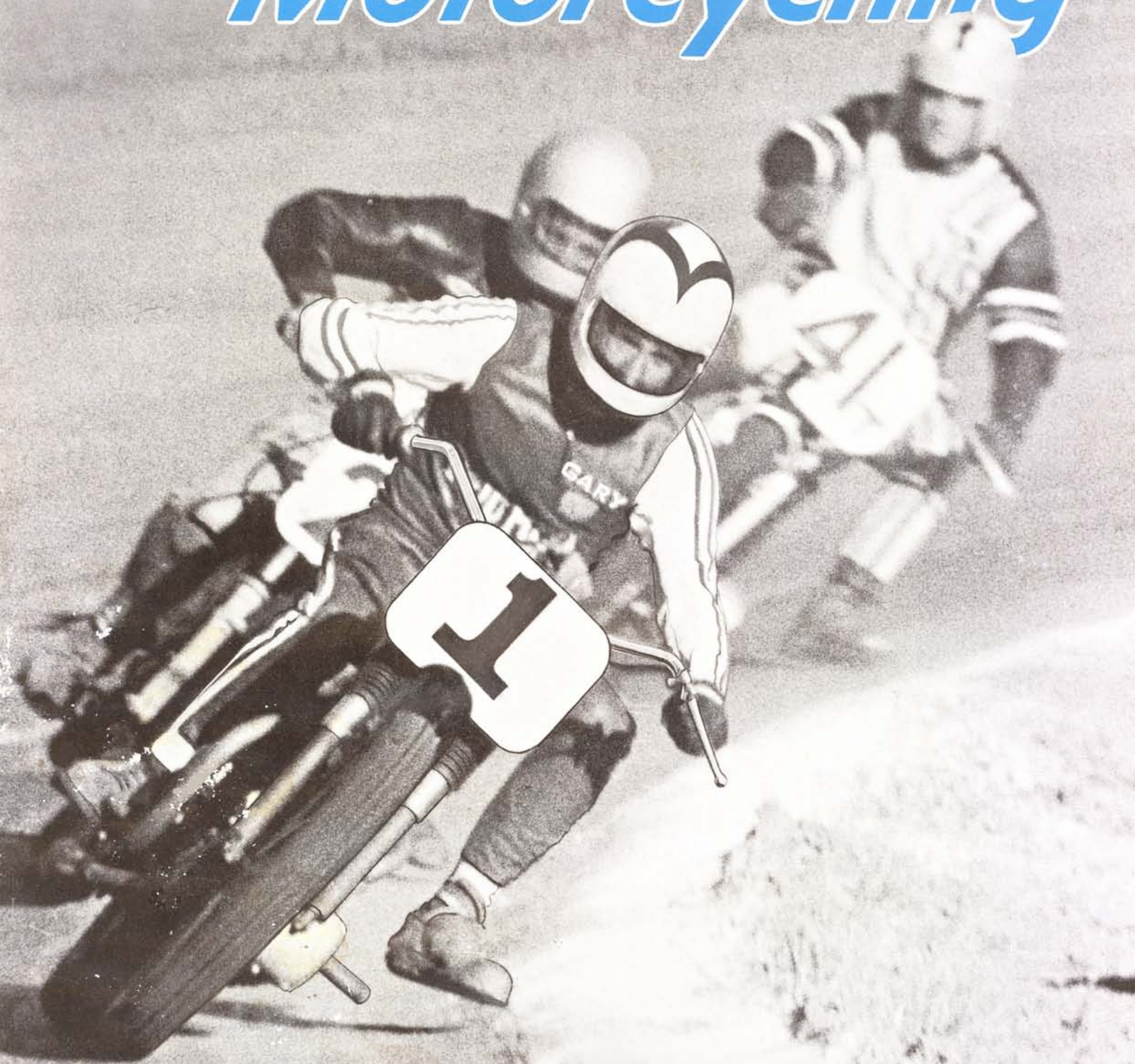


American Motorcycling



NIXON – #1 AGAIN FOR 1969

DETERMINATION! This one word describes Gary Nixon better than any other. In defense of his Grand National Champion title, it was his drive and great determination that made him successful in retaining the title in 1968

The victory was not easy for going into the last race of the year Gary was in second place, nine points behind Fred Nix in the point standings. His fourth place finish in this final race, the eight mile at Gardena, Calif., was three places better than point leader Nix which gave Nixon the necessary points to retain the champion's crown and number one plate by a margin of nine points at 622.

The 1968 Championship circuit was long and grueling. It covered the length and width of the country several times and spanned the calendar from February to October.

Nixon, the speedster from Baltimore, Md., started the year February 10 in the Houston Astrodome by winning the indoor short track championship and the lead in national points. A month later he slipped to eleventh place in the point standings when he finished the 200 mile road race in 19th place.

It was an uphill grind but on June 30 Gary regained the point lead with his win in the 10 mile at Columbus, Ohio. Even then his lead was a scant two points.

Gary tried to build this lead but failing to qualify in the 30 lap TT, then finishing seventh in the 50 lap TT and ninth in the 10 mile at Santa Rosa the lead was again lost to Rayborn at the 15 mile at Sedalia, Mo.

Bouncing right back Nixon regained the lead at the next championship only to lose it to Nix at the nine miler which was the next to last race.

The year has had its ups and downs, great hopes and many frustrations but Nixon's drive and tenacity gave him the title. In winning the Grand National Championship title, Gary amassed 622 points, the largest number ever accumulated by a rider. He won only two championships but posted points in 21 of the 23 events, a consistency that is typical of the champion.

Gary's rise to the top has followed this same consistent pattern. After becoming a professional, he moved through the novice and amateur ranks in the regulation time of one year each. He did not attract a great deal of attention with his performance but showed steady improvement. Gary's



1968
**GRAND NATIONAL
CHAMPION**

**GARY
NIXON**

ability and the skill and knowledge gained through the years as an AMA expert have made him a top contender in every type of race.

The two championships Nixon won in 1968 bring his racing career total to 14. They were the indoor short track at Houston, Texas, and the 10 mile dirt track at Columbus, Ohio.

Nixon first gained national points in 1962 finishing in 30th place but since then he has been in the top ten. This includes sixth place in 1963 and 1964, third in 1965, second in 1966 and Grand National Champion in 1967 and 1968.

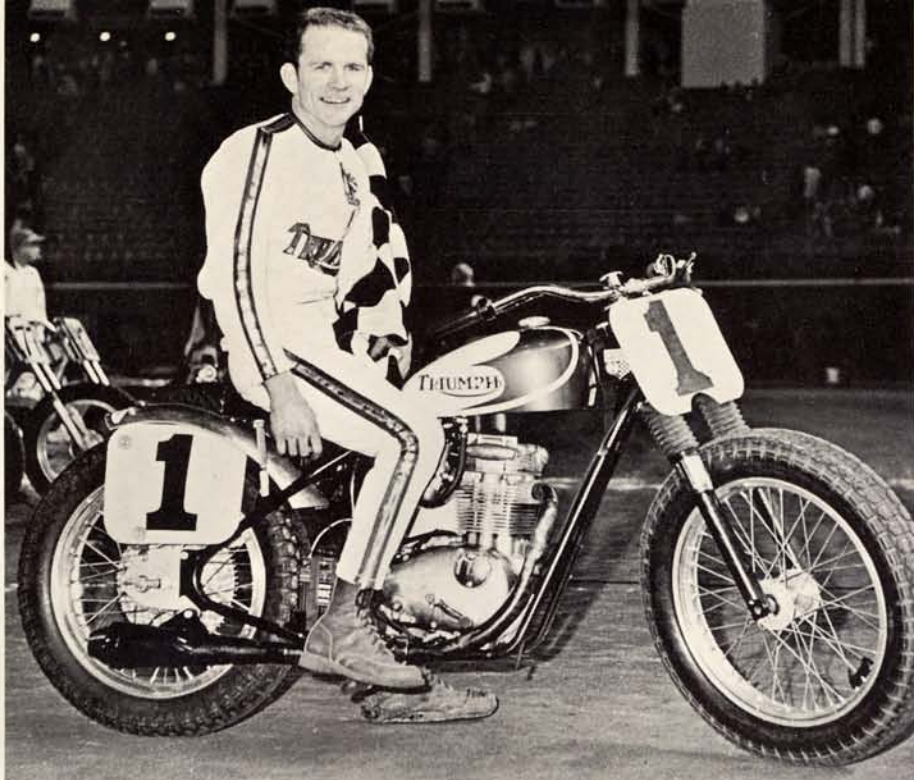
In over-all racing, Nixon's record shows that he has placed among the top 15 dirt track and short track racers each year since 1961. As an amateur he was also among the top flat track racers.

The following shows Nixon's 1968 National Championship race results:

- Indoor Short Track (1st)
- 200 Mile Road Race (19th)
- 13 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (6th)
- 12 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (3rd)
- 5 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (3rd)
- 15 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (7th)
- 100 Mile Road Race (2nd)
- Miniature Road Race (2nd)
- 10 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (1st)
- 20 Mile Dirt Track (mile track) (4th)
- 30 Lap TT (did not qualify)
- 50 Lap TT (7th)
- 10 Mile Dirt Track (mile track) (9th)
- 110 Mile Road Race (2nd)
- 25 Lap TT (4th)
- 20 Lap TT (6th)
- Short Track (6th)
- 15 Mile Dirt Track (mile track) (16th)
- 14 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (2nd)
- 11 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (4th)
- 25 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (4th)
- 9 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (7th)
- 8 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track) (4th)

Total national championships won by Nixon:

- 1963 50 Mile Road Race, Windber, Pa.
- Short Track, Hinsdale, Ill.
- 1964 20 Mile Dirt Track (mile track)
- Sacramento, Calif.
- 1965 Short Track, Hinsdale, Ill.
- 75 Mile Road Race, Marlboro, Md.
- 1966 110 Mile Road Race, Indianola, Iowa
- 50 Mile Dirt Track (mile track)
- Springfield, Ill.
- 1967 200 Mile Road Race, Daytona Beach, Fla.
- 100 Mile Road Race, Loudon, N.H.
- 20 Mile Dirt Track (mile track)
- Portland, Ore.
- Short Track, Hinsdale, Ill.
- 75 Mile Road Race, Carlsbad, Cal.
- 1968 Indoor Short Track, Houston, Texas
- 10 Mile Dirt Track (1/2 mile track), Columbus, Ohio



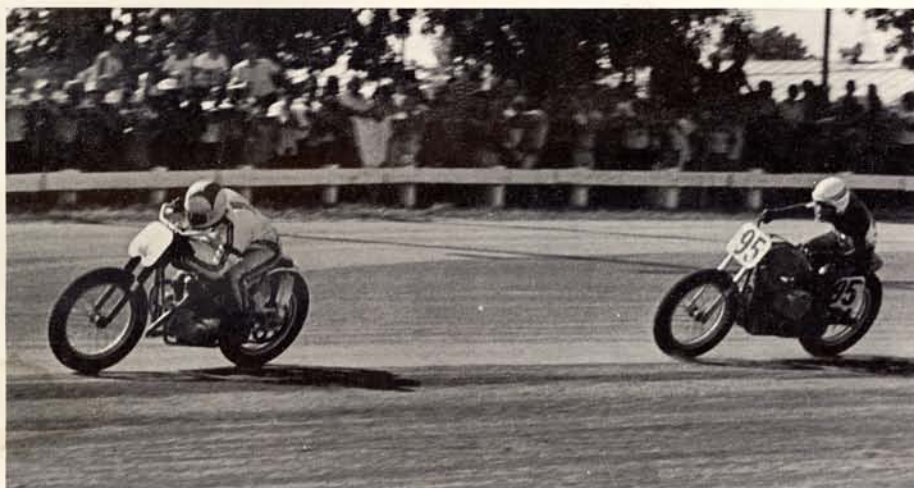
Grand National Champion Gary Nixon posts a victory in the indoor short track, the first championship of the 1968 season at Houston, Texas.



Nixon's victory sign is a wheelie down the front straightaway before the cheering spectators.



Gary Nixon receives big victory kiss from Mrs. Nixon after winning the 10 mile national at Columbus, Ohio.



In the fourth turn of lap 12 at the 10 mile national Nixon charged passed Nix to take the lead. The remaining eight laps he stuck to the groove and out ran Nix to the checkered flag.

Join the first team.

no. **1** in '69



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