

HEIKKI'S HURRICANE

The 1977 World 500cc
Motocross Champion



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Yamaha engineers are a little reticent to reveal horsepower figures for the World Championship-winning motocrosser. All that they will say is that the power is "adequate"..... a fact which both fans and rival competitors will testify to! The 397cc two-stroke motor has a bore and stroke of 85 x 70mm with reed valve induction from a Mikuni carburettor. The bike weighs 203lbs and the combination of the monoshock chassis and air/oil damped front forks give ten inches of wheel movement front and rear.

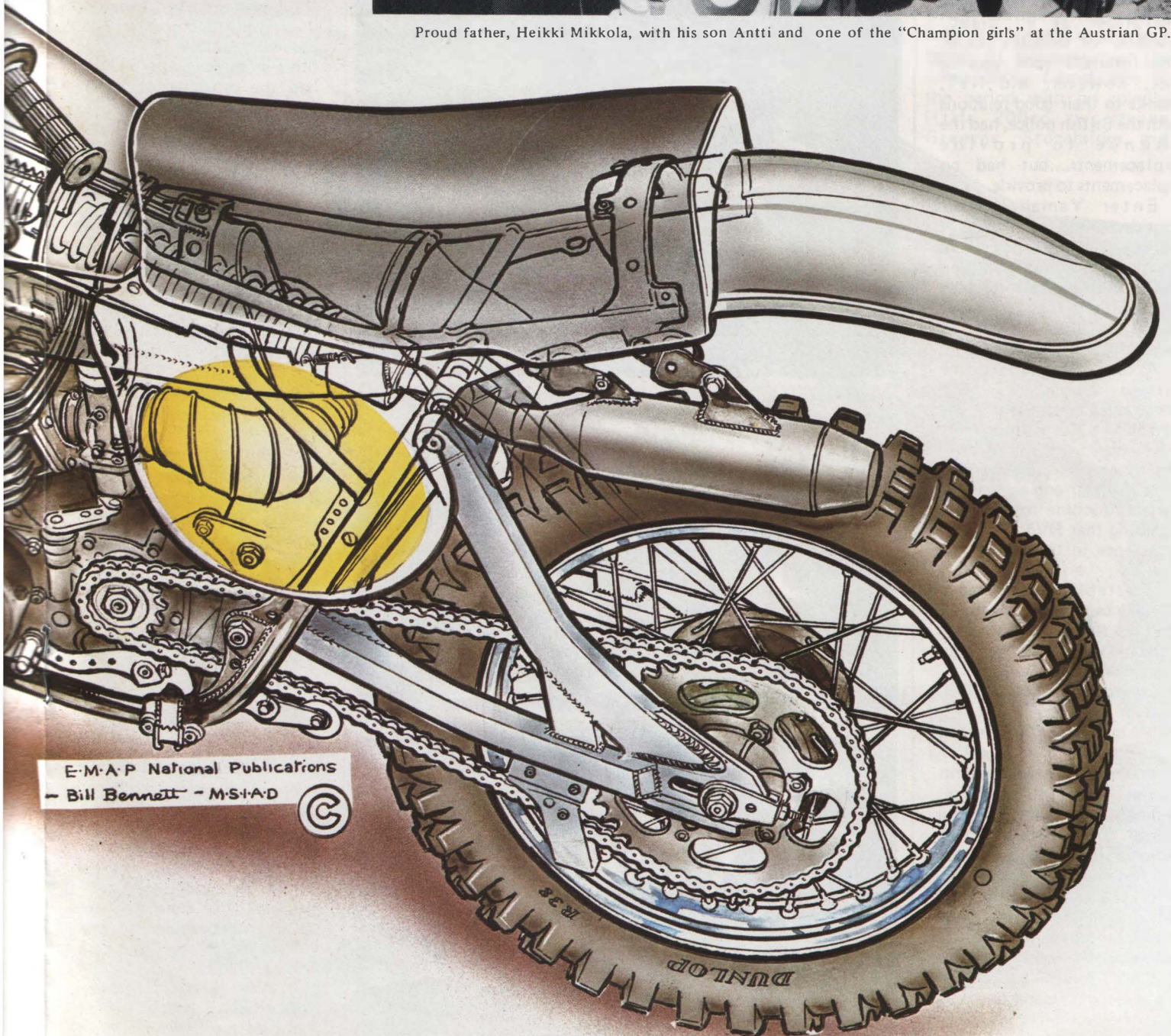
After 13 years with Husqvarna, Heikki Mikkola surprised the motorcycle world at the start of the 1977 season when he switched his allegiance to the Yamaha factory.

But once the racing season got into gear, there was no more surprise about either Heikki's reasons for the move, or the outcome of the 1977 World Championship.

Mikkola and Yamaha totally dominated the series, taking top points scores in seven consecutive Grands Prix as well as high placings in the remaining events. Heikki is back with Yamaha for 1978 and nobody is surprised!



Proud father, Heikki Mikkola, with his son Antti and one of the "Champion girls" at the Austrian GP.



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