

# 1st family of moto cross prepares to compete

By MARTY BUDNER

The Bigelows just may be the "First Family" of moto cross racing. All four sons — Kirk, Kris, Kip and Greg — are intensely involved in motorcycle racing. And, their parents — Dick and Barbara — are their most avid fans.

The Shelby Township family will be out en masse at the Pontiac Silverdome this weekend for the fifth annual American Motorcycle Association (AMA) Supercross Championships. More than 70,000 people are expected to attend the popular two-day event, which begins 8 p.m. Saturday and concludes 2 p.m. Sunday.

"We'll have a lot of friends at the Silverdome watching us, and I will be a very enthusiastic crowd," said Kris, who, at 20, is the second-oldest Bigelow brother.

"It's a lot more fun riding in a place like the Silverdome than it is at a place like Daytona Beach (Fla.). In Daytona the people are just too far away, and you can't really hear them. The best races are always indoors for the fans because you can see everything.

And, outdoor racing isn't as physically demanding as it is indoors," he said. "Outdoor is 40 minutes long. Although indoor is only 20 minutes, it feels like you've been riding for 2 1/2 hours. Indoor is a lot more physically demanding."

Moto cross is a sport which features motorcycle racing on a dirt course. The various snake-like courses consist of

bumps, jumps traps which bounce riders in trampoline-like fashion.

Kirk, 22, Kris and Kip, 18 — all graduates of Ulica Eisenhower High School — are expert riders among the sport's top 100 competitors. They are the first brothers in AMA moto cross history to earn national racing numbers.

Kreg, 17 and a senior at Eisenhower, still competes as an amateur.

KIRK TURNED professional in 1978, and started his racing career in the Florida Winter Series. He finished as the top novice in that four-race series, and qualified for Supercross races in Atlanta and Daytona.

Sponsored by Kawasaki Midwest, Kirk led his qualifying race last year at the Silverdome until the last lap. He did well enough in 1979 to earn national number 89.

Like his older brother, Kris began his professional racing career at St. Petersburg, Orlando, Cocoa Beach and Gainesville — the four cities which comprise the Florida Winter Series. Last year was his first full year on the circuit.

Kris, who owns national number 60, is also an established racer in Canada. He finished second overall in the Molson Series, only one point behind the leader.

"I really didn't decide until two years ago that I wanted to go pro," said Kris, who logged more than 16,000 miles over the past four months traveling from race to race.

"I got a national number 15 ranking in the 125 class last year, and I got an expert rating, which is pretty hard to get. It's a very tough and challenging sport, and you have to keep in shape. I ride bikes a lot, go to Nautilus twice a week and play racquetball to stay in shape.

And, you never really think of the danger involved. When you're watching it may seem dangerous, but, when you're in the middle of (the race) you're concentrating so hard that it's really no big deal."

KIP, WHO is currently disabled with a shoulder injury, is the reigning 125 Champion of Michigan, and has a national number of 94. Kip and Kris are both privateer racers, meaning they ride independent of team — or factory — sponsorship.

The youngest Bigelow — Kreg — races in both the Youth and Amateur divisions of the AMA. Last year, when he earned a number four ranking, he

qualified from the Central Region in the 100 class for the amateur nationals in California.

Kreg plans on turning professional sometime next year.

"Dad raced in 1971, and we would go along and watch," said Kris, in explaining how the brothers started motorcycle racing.

"Then he bought Kirk and I some mini-bikes, and we wrecked them in two months. Then he got us moto cross bikes.

"One year Kirk wanted to start racing, then I did, and pretty soon we started beating my dad. Then my dad quit, and he would take us to different Scramble events around the state. Then our little brothers started getting involved in racing, and we've all been growing with the sport ever since.

"There's no way we could pull out of it now and sell our equipment," said Kris, who earned \$3,000 last year in his first full season on the circuit. "I want to stay in it as long as I can. I'm just starting right now. All I need is the ex-

perience."

The Silverdome moto cross double-headers — the largest indoor program of its kind in the country — are sponsored by the Metro Detroit Toyota Dealers, and presented by the Detroit Free Press. More than \$55,000 in prize money has been posted for the events.

Bob Hannah, who will not be competing this year because he broke his leg in a water skiing accident, has won the last six Supercross races at the Silverdome.

Mike Bell of Lakewood, Calif., Chuck Sun of Sherwood, Ore., Kent Howerton of San Antonio, Tex., Mark Barnett of Bridgeview, Ill., and Jim Gibson of Orange, Calif. are the top five racers in the 1980 AMA Supercross Series point standings.

Tickets for the Supercross are on sale at J.L. Hudson's, the Silverdome and selected motorcycle dealers. Adult tickets are \$10, \$8 and \$6, and children under 12 are \$4 and \$2.

Tickets are \$1 more on the days of the events.



KRIS BIGELOW  
Moto cross expert

## WB kickers blank Andover

West Bloomfield soccer coach Diane Smith had high hopes for Sue Vodicka before the season began. So far, the junior center fullback hasn't disappointed her coach.

Vodicka scored three goals last Monday to pace West Bloomfield's 7-0 victory over Southfield Hills Andover in the Eastern Conference of the North Suburban Girls' Soccer League. The win boosted Smith's Lakers to 2-0 this season.

Patty Bausano, Kari Zagloski, Wendy Stromberg and Tracy Smith each scored a goal for the winners. Kelly

Corby assisted on two of the goals. Two WB goalkeepers, Sara Mammoser and Marianne Cikalio, faced only Andover shots. The Lakers got off 24 shots.

Earlier, West Bloomfield opened its season with a 6-0 win over Southfield High School. Vodicka scored a pair of goals, and Stromberg, Bausano and Gage Sivavetta each added one. Goalie Mammoser faced only two Southfield shots.

West Bloomfield plays next on Monday, April 28, at home against Southfield-Lathrup. Game time is 5 p.m.

**Genie**  
GS 459 D  
Drive with Exclusive Sequensor® "Computer-Controlled Brain."  
\$185 plus tax plus fee

CRYPTAR II Digital Controls. Completely Solid-State. Meets all FCC Requirements. 1 Yr. Parts Warranty.

Any Suburb  
ALLIANCE AUTOMATIC DOOR CO.  
358-3833 SOUTHFIELD.

**KNOW THE EXCITING WORLD OF REAL ESTATE!!**  
Announcement of Classes Beginning May 5, 1980  
REAL ESTATE FUNDAMENTALS (Statutory Institute I)  
A comprehensive 30 hour course of instruction to prepare for the state salesperson license exam or for others who wish to learn to achieve personal objectives or 30 hours toward Broker exam.  
Courses include real estate math, legal aspects, marketing, finance, appraisal, license law, and more.  
Two evenings a week, Monday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., five weeks.  
Certificate awarded on successful completion.  
To enroll or for additional information call: 478-5801 (brochure on request).  
WALKER SCHOOL OF REAL ESTATE  
33216 Grand River  
Farmington, MI 48024  
Licensed by Michigan State Department of Education

**The Beatles are Back!**

John!  
Paul!  
George!  
Ringo!

Every hour on The Tower

**5 GAL. GAS FREE**  
If H&R Can't beat your Best Deal on Any TORO Mower. Any Valid Ad Qualifies

Spring Specials

SCOTTS TURF BUILDER 5,000 Sq. Ft. \$7.44 300 BAGS

TURF BUILDER PLUS 2 \$9.99 300 BAGS

REAR BAGGER AND MULCHERS #20698 \$17788 WITH MAY TRADE-IN

H&R V.I.P. FEATURES

- Money Back Guarantee
- 2 Year Warranty
- FREE 2 Gal. Gas Can
- FREE Engine Oil
- FREE Assembly
- FREE Chance to Win \$1000
- \$10 Holds on Layaway

"ALL MODELS NOW ON SALE!"

"FULL SERVICE DEALER"

VISIT US NOW AND GET A FREE DEMONSTRATION  
AMERICA'S LARGEST INDEPENDENT TORO DEALER

**H & R HARDWARE**  
27430 Joy Rd., Livonia 1-88 To Inquirer Exit B, 2 Miles To Joy 421-5161

**The 'Free Spirit' Weekend**

Whether you're ready to cut loose or just put your feet up and take it easy, there's a special way to do it.

Come to the Bristol Place and do exactly what you want to do (even better—forget about the things you don't feel like doing just yet). We take care of everything and you simply relax.

Our \$42.00 (Friday, Saturday or Sunday) package includes: 1 Night's Deluxe Accommodation, Double or Single Occupancy, Free Admission to our nightclub Dr. Livingstone's, use of our Indoor Pool, Sauna and Health Club, and Free Parking. Take advantage of our 24-hour room service, unleash at The Perroquet or enjoy an "in-house" movie (for a minimal charge). And children under 18 may share their parents' room at no extra cost.

Not applicable to groups. Reservation must be confirmed in advance.

950 Dixon Rd. at Toronto Int'l Airport • 675-9444  
For reservations \$10/11 free CANADA 1-800-268-4927

**The Bristol Place Hotel**  
A Suncoast Hotel

**MIDDAYS COME ALIVE!**  
Interviews, business news and more!

**WWW NEWSRADIO 95**

**GARAGE DOORS & ELECTRONIC OPENERS**

NEW INSTALLATIONS • SERVICE • REPAIRS

- ALL MAKES
- ALL SIZES
- ALL STYLES

FREE ESTIMATES  
355-2742

**DELET RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL GARAGE DOOR SERVICE**

**20** Our outlook on 40 investments as recession comes into focus.

Historically, there are certain investments that perform well even when the economy heads toward a recession. In our report "20/20 Recession Outlook," Bache analysts comment on 20 stocks and 20 bonds which we see as attractive in this interest sensitive environment.

For your free copy just call the number below or send in the coupon.

Bache 30700 Telegraph Road, Birmingham, Mich. 48010 313-645-6450

Bache 200 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48243 313-259-5000

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
BUSINESS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ BACHE CLIENTS ONLY NAME AND OFFICE OF ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE \_\_\_\_\_

**Bache**  
The winning attitude at Bache. Put it to work for you.

**RENT YOUR ROOM**

... with a rental ad in Classified. People looking for housing read Classified faithfully. Suitable tenants for your room are sure to see your ad in the Classified columns.

**people road classified**

**Observer & Eccentric CLASSIFIED ADS**

644-1100 Oakland County  
591-0800 Wayne County  
852-3222 Rochester/Avon

**There's Only One "Oh" In Detr. it!**

It's WOMC FM104 — affectionately known as "Detroit's Big Oh." And there's no other radio station in Detroit quite like it.

For oh-openers, WOMC lightens up your day with your favorite personalities. Down-to-earth, entertaining Detroit favorites like Marc Avery from 6 to 10 AM and Tom Dean from 3 to 7 PM.

But that's not all — oh no. "Detroit's Big Oh" also keeps you up-to-date with exclusive Accu Weather reports, the latest traffic reports, national and local news — even live broadcasts of University of Detroit basketball.

Oh... and we almost forgot... WOMC plays your kind of music. No funk, no punk and no junk. Just good music — and lots of it. Everything from Bob Dylan to Barbara Streisand.

So turn your dial to WOMC FM104 today. It's a Detroit oh-original!

**WOMC FM 104**

"Detroit's Big Oh!"