

I slid a little farther than the bike. When I stopped, the marks that my helmet and leathers made on the pavement and the marks the bike made are right next to each other.

I stopped six feet from the grass in the left-hand lane, and the bike was about ten to 15 feet into the grass. So I was really lucky that the bike didn't hit me on one of its bounces.

Estimates say that the first bounce the bike took was 40 to 60 feet high, the second bounce was 60 to 80 feet, with the front end completely broken off and higher than the bike.

The speed on that pass was 169.96 mph. At 8.90 seconds.

The bike was completely destroyed. Estimated \$21,000 damage.

Evidently, on the first bounce, the bike landed on the front end.

It pushed the frame back, like it'd hit a brick wall.

The seat must've broken off on the first flipover, because it appears that the bike must've landed on the rear end on one of its bounces. Also, the entire rear section of the frame is broken completely off. The only thing holding the rear wheel and frame section to the bike is the drive chain. That never broke.

The front end was completely broken off the motorcycle. It was a Ceriani, and both triple trees are in perfect shape, except for road rash. The tubes were just bent and buckled back under the frame, and the wheels, rims, brakes, tires and tubes were completely destroyed.

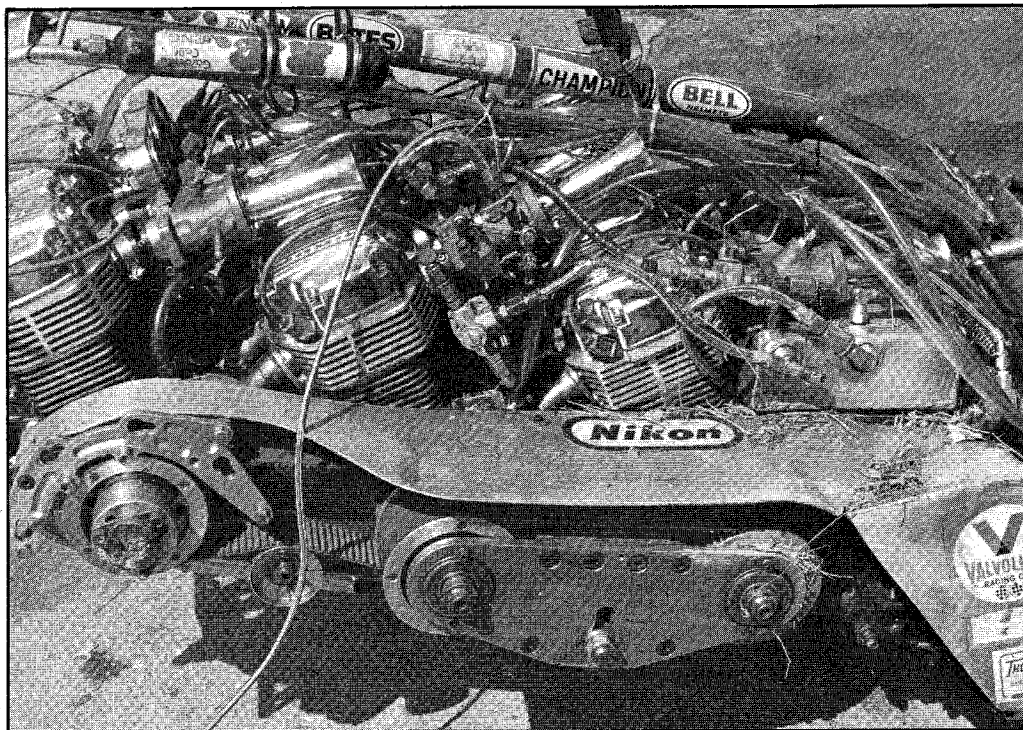
The bike looks as if it were parked on the freeway for about three days and every truck in L.A. went over it.

The bike is physically in four pieces — the seat came off, the front end and forks were in one piece, the rear frame section and wheel were in one piece and the engine pods and main frame section were the other.

I was blanked out from the time I went down until about five p.m. the next day — about 24 full hours lost — when I woke up in intensive care.

What happened to me?

First of all, I bruised my left toe. I had a cut that took ten or 12 stitches above the left knee. I broke four ribs on my right side, punctured a lung cavity, collapsed a lung, dislocated the left shoulder, destroyed all the muscles in



Amazingly, the three engines remained intact.

my left shoulder and the left part of my neck.

My left arm is virtually a club, which will come back to normal with therapy.

I broke the pinky on my left hand at the bottom joint, broke the second finger on my right hand at the bottom joint a little more severely.

There's a little road rash on my right rear cheek, my left arm was road rashed pretty badly, and all of my knuckles, wrist and elbow were rashed.

My right eye was swollen and blood-shot, looking like I'd been hit in the eye with a baseball bat.

And, finally, I ruptured my spleen and gall bladder.

I have to say that if I hadn't been wearing Bates Leathers and a Bell helmet, things would've been a lot worse. I can't plug these companies' products too heavily.

After all, I'm recovering.

The bike didn't have leathers or a helmet, so it's committed to the junk pile.

Anyway, the first hospital they sent me to didn't have a surgical team on duty, so they put me in another ambulance and headed for Akron City Hospital.

The guys in the ambulance had their act together, because they had my leathers off, and me pretty well washed down by the time we got there. Plus they'd been giving me oxygen, blood and glucose.

Plus they had a flat tire on the way,

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which Dave said took them exactly one minute to change.

So when we got to Akron, the surgical team was waiting. They just ran me straight into the operating theater, cut my guts open and pulled out the

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