

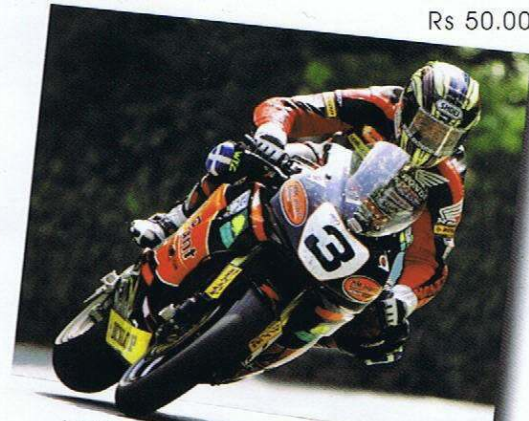
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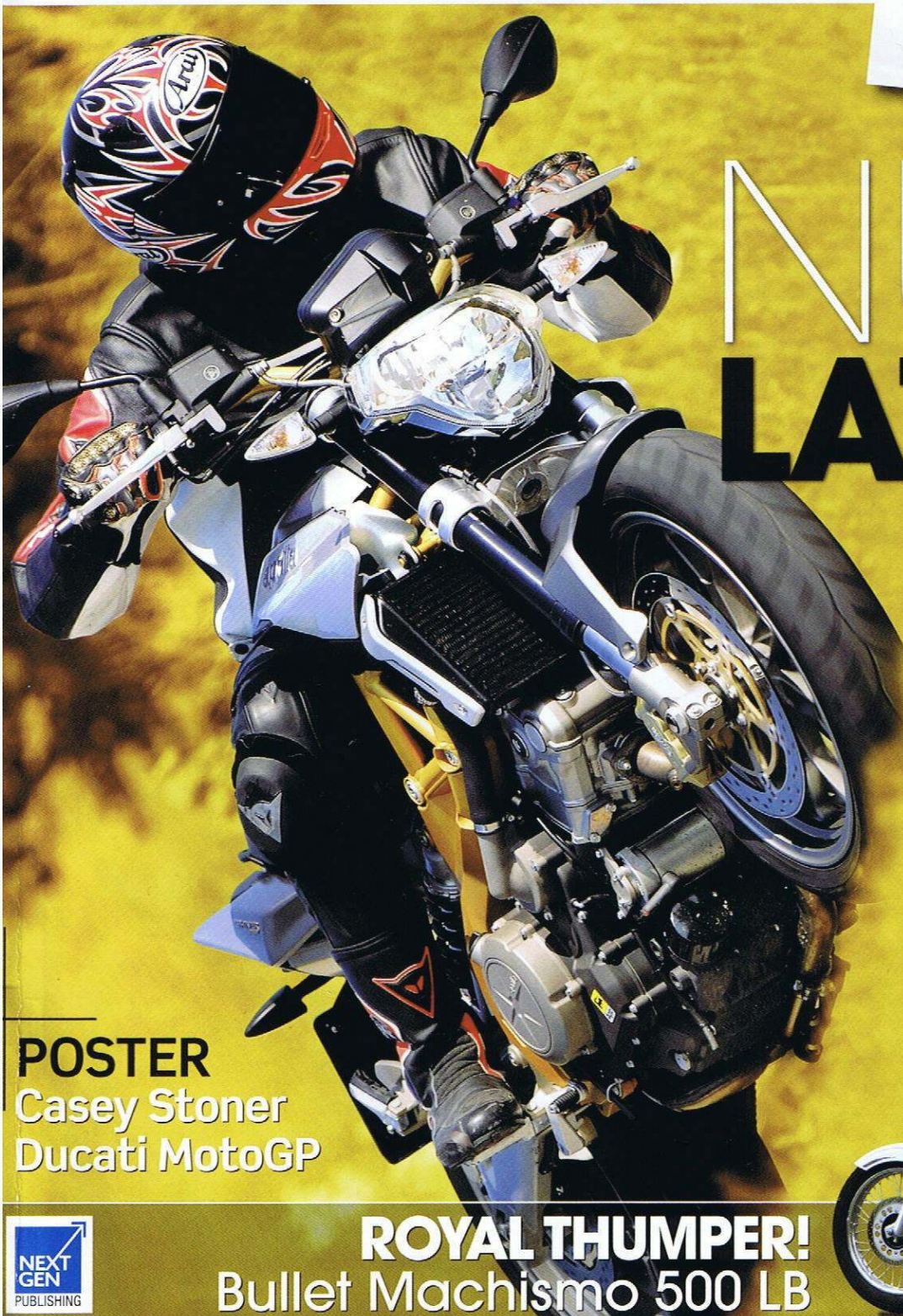
BIKE

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SWISS KNIFE

The Concept 10 special from Streetfighters Switzerland is the latest custom weapon from the land of the Alps

SWITZERLAND IS KNOWN FOR RATHER mundane and peaceful things. Like the Red Cross or swiss chocolates. Allaying all doubts about the radicalism of the Swiss, however, is this latest custom bike from Streetfighters Switzerland called the Concept 10, seen here in its intimidating, cyborg-like glory. Although the bike is not likely to see any streetfighting at all since it is not road legal, it looks like it is out to eat the competition raw, and that humongous 400 section rear looks ready to chew the tarmac off without a burp.

The star attraction of the bike, obviously, is the rear tyre. Procured from Brit tyre manufacturer Buntts, the Concept 10 is one of the few customs to use the company's 400 section tyre. The tyre puts down a contact patch large enough to put some of the SUV's to shame. Not surprisingly, the Swiss had their own share of hunting to do in order to find a rim large enough to hold the rubber and to go with the swingarm, with little success. They finally managed to tinker around with a 14.5x18 rim made by German wheel builder Rick's house, cutting and welding to make sure the tyre fit snugly.

The bike is powered by an oil-cooled Suzuki

GSXR-1100 engine, only with a larger oil cooler. The Concept 10, however, shares precious little with the Japanese sportbike of the yore. The engine remains essentially unmodified, including the carbs. Changes include modified engine cases which have been made from polished aluminium, braided oil lines for edgier visuals, and a completely silenced exhaust tubing. The engine is held in an aluminium tube based frame, home grown by the Swiss Streetfighters. The nice and stout subframe matches the theme of the motorcycle perfectly. The gigantic single sided swingarm is a great touch, but contrary to what may seem, it is more about function than form; the function being to hold that fat, fat tyre.

The front forks are the same as the GSX-R's from the inside, but have been cosmetically changed to look uniform in width, white bands and all. The front rim accommodates a 180 section Dunlop slick, and obeying the 'big is beautiful' ideology are the yokes, machined from billet aluminium. Braking power is provided by four-piston Tokico callipers, smuggled off a Kawasaki ZXR750, but have not been left untouched by style and carry a black refinish. Providing the bike with a neat and very

individualistic touch are the stainless steel front discs, which have the barmy makers' name cut into them.

With oodles of attitude down below, the top has sensibly been left uncluttered. The smallish tank and seat unit make sure the attention sticks to the rear, but the rising backrest adds some much needed verticality to the design. The tank and the seat unit have been made from sheet aluminium, just like the front mudguard and the belly pan that looks ready to bite. The matt black finish looks splendid, and has been provided by a local swiss paintshop. Drag style handlebars and beautiful, recessed rearsets might manage to assist the rider stay in place.

Tiny headlamps and an even tinier LED tail-lamp at the tip of the seat unit are smart touches, but don't really help the bike's case as a road-going vehicle, since the rear tyre is far from street legal in Switzerland, and the loud exhaust makes it sure-shot impound material under the strict Swiss traffic laws. Even if for show-purposes only, the bike runs, and you might want to ride one if there is no corner in sight for miles.

SOPAN SHARMA





- 'Wicked' is the name of the game for the mean Concept 10
- The stainless steel discs up front bear the name of the bike's zany makers
- Recessed rearsets intend to keep the rider in place

