



**JOCKEYING FOR POSITION:** Gault (number 17) finished sixth at the demanding Croft circuit near Darlington.

# Gault's stock on the rise at championship

By Andrew Weston

**ALEX Gault equalled his best result of The National Super Stock 600 championship last weekend in round nine at the Croft Circuit, North Yorkshire.**

Gault finished sixth at the demanding circuit going round quicker than he has ever done previously with a fastest lap of 1.26.38 seconds.

The Carlisle race ace, who missed the previous round at Cadwell Park for personal reasons, was able to attend a test day at the circuit last week thanks to sponsor Trevor Baird and this paid handsome dividends with preparations for the weekend idea.

In the first qualifying session on Friday in wet conditions, only 43 of the 52 entered vying for the 40 places on the starting grid took to the track.

The Kawasaki ZX6R-mounted Gault posted a 1.36.785 second lap time to give him a provisional seventh position on the grid.

In Saturday qualifying, again on a wet track, teenager Gault posted a quicker time of 1.33.982 seconds.

However, overall times were quicker and the Astro Kawasaki rider ended up in eleventh place for the start of the Championship race later that day.

Tyre choice and suspension set-up was easy for the race as the track was completely dry, and a good start allowed Gault to climb to ninth by the end

of lap one.

Up front Robbie Brown was in a class of his own winning the race by more than eight laps.

Behind him there was a battle between Championship leader Johnston, Clark, Dixon and Burns, with a two-second gap to Akroyd and Gault, the pair pushing each other to the limit.

Both racers managed to catch Dixon in the pack ahead by the end of an exciting 15-lap race around the Croft circuit.

The result saw Gault climb to ninth place in the main championship and fourth in the under 19 championship.

zzwsh160809gault-01.jpg