

WORLD CLASS WINE COLLECTING PART THREE: STELLAR WINE CELLARS

Robb Report

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2004

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BIG DOG'S NEW TRICKS

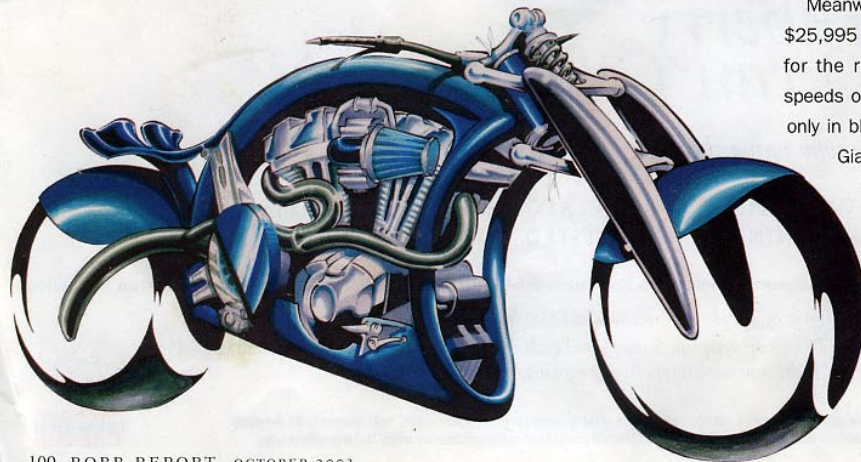
The 631-pound Ridgeback, which measures 107 inches from nose to rear and has an 82-inch wheelbase, is the latest entry to the increasingly popular chopper market. The motorcycle's long, windswept front fender, sleek rear fender, and stretched headlight capture the long and lean look of classic choppers. The bike's two-into-one chrome exhaust pipes give the bike a deep, throaty sound, and like all of its siblings, the \$24,900 Ridgeback sports fat tires and a 107-cu-in block. —F.S.

Big Dog Motorcycles, www.bigdogmotorcycles.com

SPARKLING SAPPHIRE

Initially conceived in 1999 and then shelved for two years, the Sapphire Wraith is nearing completion. Confederate Motorcycle Co. plans to unveil the first model of the \$75,000 bike in November. The Wraith, which is being built on Confederate's new G3 platform, will feature

Above: The Big Dog Ridgeback. Below: The Confederate Sapphire Wraith.



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an extensive use of carbon fiber and weigh less than 400 pounds. It will be powered by a 145-hp V-twin that achieves 160 ft lbs of torque. Confederate plans to deliver only 30 over the course of the next year. —F.S.

Confederate Motorcycle Co., www.confederate.com

BACK TO THE TRACK

The recent delivery of the \$13,995 Brutale Strada was only the first salvo in a barrage of new MV Agustas. Before the end of 2003, MV enthusiasts—including those who placed deposits on their bikes several years ago—will see the Brutale Oro, SPR, and Ago in U.S. showrooms.

The \$28,995 Brutale Oro is MV's signature naked bike, stripped of fairings to expose the innards of the highly tuned Italian machine. The Oro can rev as high as 13,100 rpm, peaking at 155.3 mph. The carbon fiber bike weighs only 393.8 pounds, allowing riders to blast to unspeakable speeds in a blink. Only 30 Oros are coming to the States.

Meanwhile, only 70 models of the \$22,695 SPR and the \$25,995 Ago will be sold in the States. Both are designed for the racetrack, weigh 413.6 pounds, and boast top speeds of 177.6 mph at 13,900 rpm. The SPR is available only in black, while the Ago, named after MV racing legend Giacomo Agostini, sports a red and silver coat. The Ago also bears the number 1, Agostini's racing number, on the side fairings, and a replica of his signature on the rev counter. Both the Ago and the Oro are adorned with a gold plate on the steering head bearing the bike's serial number and the name of its owner. —F.S.

MV Agusta, www.mvagustausa.com