

# **\*\*F\*A\*S\*T\*T\*I\*M\*E\*S\*\***

## **Upcoming Autocross “Back in SIR” Event Number 3**

This coming Sunday, March 21, SCCA Region 88 will host their third event for the spring series at Southwestern International Raceway. The Border Region is back at their old location after taking a few tours at the Pinal Airpark road track. Remember we are going back to the four heat run work group, different that what was run last at Pinal. (but the same as we used to run at SIR) Unfortunately our old trusty meals on wheels that serviced SIR in the past will not be coming back. The mobile gourmet wagon is off on retirement somewhere in California. The day begins with registration from 7:45 to 8:45 and the drivers meeting is at 9:00. Remember to bring your own lunch buckets. Remember sun block, Arizona’s heating up. Remember your helmet. And of course bring a smile and some fun competition.

## **ARIZONA REGION WINS AWARD!**

That is right folks. Dave Rock received a letter from Steve Johnson, President of the SCCA. It appears we have won the first place award, “Best Web Site” for the smaller regions. Since this is such fresh late breaking news, and my lack of skill as a news reporter, I am not really sure who is responsible for this though. Who ever it is, you know who you are, THANKS!



“One of the coolest cars I know of” said one of the fond observers of this Lotus Elise. Cars like this, a Red Ferrari 360 and a 74 Mercury Capri graced the SCCA National Tour Number 3 in San Diego.

## NATIONAL TOUR NUMBER 3 IN SAN DIEGO

The third leg of the national tour hit the Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego. Close to 300 competitors invaded this huge parking lot. The course was tight right from the start but opened up quickly. The long flowing course would rise and fall in elevation a great deal. This played havoc for drivers used to only flat pavement. "The Slaloms are real tricky when the rights are going up hill and the lefts are down hill", said Shelby Zigler of Washington. The fast speeds were also something to contend with as most cars hit third gear on this course! Think about it...that's FAST.

Arizona had a nice showing with 31 drivers listed from our state. The Border Region had four competitors. Last years National Champ David Schotz dominated the F Stock class by a margin of 4.7 seconds from the second place car! Dane Campbell took third in a very competitive GS class. David Rock had rough day placing 12<sup>th</sup> out of 20 cars as he is trying to dial in his new suspension. Wiggy Greacen was out of the money due to those nasty cones he hit every run on the first day. He was also in a newly prepared car yet to be dialed in. Look out for these two guys once they get their cars get all sorted out!



### Dane Campbell cornering hard at the National Tour in Phoenix

Dane Campbell placed at his first National Tour event with a 4<sup>th</sup> Place trophy in Phoenix. The Valentines Day "Race through the Heart" at Firebird International Raceway also proved to be a successful day as Dane was awarded his first PAX 1000! Quite excited he said, "*it's sticky tires, what a great holiday, and them tires is really hookin up!*" He also recently had a good showing in San Diego at the National Tour Number 3 where he took 3<sup>rd</sup> place avenging two of his losses from Tour Number One, beating the 2003 Tire Rack National sixth place winner Jeff Jacobs by a super close margin of .03 seconds and the AZ VW Hotshoe Mark Shaw.

## \*\*\*SUCCESS AT PINAL!\*\*\*

It was the second event for the Arizona Border Region held at Pinal Airpark. Arriving early and fighting the cold one could tell the organization was much improved from the first event. The field was spilt into only 2 heats with four runs each along with a practice lap. This aided the worker chief since many new positions were needed along the course. The course used many more cones than last event and was run in the opposite direction. Although the course was deemed safer we still had times faster than the first event. Even our Divisional Safety Steward was there from Southern California to make sure everything was safe.

The day was filled with fun as road course autocrossing is a rare type of event; however some different talent and type of cars seem to prevail. As with the first event Joe Curry in his cool Spitfire had great runs. This event he set the FTD with an amazing 83.9. He also topped out DM over two Porsche club hot shoes who also posted the 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> FTD! Josh Sorter not only returned the top PAX time of day but won a very competitive ESP class with 5 entries! Both second place, Wiggy Greacen, and Third place, Larry Petrucci took the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> FTD. The three top placer's PAX scores were over 969! Mark Eddy also had a solid run of 87.5 for the 4<sup>th</sup> FTD. Mike Quigly dominated the STX class which was the largest of the day, boasting an 88.4 for a 7<sup>th</sup> FTD.

Both the street tire class and novice classes proved to be filled with competitive people! ST had 18 entries with Jay Balduci in his Subaru edging out the "getting much faster" red 350Z of Matt Francis by a mere .115 seconds! "WOW! That was close finish!", said Skip Campbell! The 10 car field for the Novice Class was another tight battle with Gary Tang taking a solid first. However Daniel Hanstrom second, and John Ellis third, and John Kay fourth were separated by less than .4 seconds! Other class champions include Dave Rock in his STS Celica taking the 4<sup>th</sup> top PAX time. He was also seen breaking in a few novice drivers through the day. One Passenger said "Boy he drives too fast". The other commented, "I guess smooth is the way to be, cause he was, and that was a fast run!"

Team Sparling came out of winter hibernation with their stealthy factory HiPo Saab. Kim took top Ladies Class honors. Chris beat out a guest driver from Ohio in the infamous black #7 CooperS for the GS win. Kim Kemper took the SS first place by a mere .067 from the experienced Joel Schotz. Barbra Boehme took the FS honors in yellow Mach 1 Mustang. She also was luckily aided in getting out of the high spotter tower! "Boy I was worried she wasn't going to make it! She was maybe scared of heights and then trying to go down the ladder backwards!" said one tower spotter. Thank goodness we got our divisional safety steward home in one piece or we would have all had it!

Of course an event like this pulls out all sorts of new rides to try there hand. We had Terry Murry bring out his TM Fabrication Vee for the first time. A new hot orange Factory five cobra also broke in some new ground for the first time. A super flogged 4 cylinder Firebird was driven by a few local hot shoes. A three person team ran every bit of horse power from an old tired Mazda 323 GTX. The big green Cutlass not only had more drivers and passengers as usual but spectators as well, all wide eyed with smiles as usual. Rhonda Smith gave her hand to the mighty Emmick/Cobra Cart. It was the same mean machine that powered Kayla Smith to hold the FTD early on in the day.

As usual, if you are one of the detail nerds who have to know every place, times down to thousandths of seconds and points placing, check the web page results section. As for us, let's keep on having fun and be safe!

For official event details visit <http://www.azbrscca.org/Results/2004/jan04.html>

**ERRATA 1:** We were recently informed of a name misspelling in our FAST TIMES newsletter. The young Smith kid who wrecks scooters into steel poles, likes big sub woofers and attempts to occasionally take the big blue Chevy Camero sideways around the course is named Jesse, not Jessie.

**ERRATA 2:** We had two other Arizona Border Region racers at the National Tour Event Number One in Phoenix not mentioned. For some reason the National SCCA office excluded the Modified Classes from the mailed results. Joe Curry took Second Place in D Modified and Greg Duncan took Third Place in E Modified. Good job guys!

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

3/21/2004	Tucson	Solo 2	Spring 3 of 4	Southwestern Int. Raceway
4/3/2004	Phoenix	Solo 2	Spring 2 of 4	Phoenix Int. Raceway
4/4/2004	Sierra Vista	Solo 2	Spring 4 of 4	Sierra Vista
4/10/2004	Phoenix	Solo 2	Spring 3 of 4	Firebird Int. Raceway
4/24-25/2004	Atwater, CA	Solo 2	Solo2 National Tour#5	Castle Airport
4/25/2004	Tucson	Solo 2	Spring 4 of 4	Southwestern Int. Raceway
5/2/2004	Sierra Vista	Solo 2	Summer 1 of 3	Sierra Vista

**CLASSIFIEDS**

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**TRAILER FOR SALE-** The trailer is a Harbor Freight 3 1/3' x 4' utility trailer, red metal frame, wood deck, eye-bolts for tie downs, prewired for brakes/signals. It was used less than 6 events and now that I trailer the car itself I no longer need it. I'm asking \$150 OBO for everything. All you need is the receiver on your car or truck. Contact Travis Higdon at (520) 245-6877 Cell or (520) 207-4200 Home or e-mail him a higdon@u.arizona.edu (preferred)



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