

Solo II Talk

By: Jennifer Lee



Gnats galore at the race track on Sunday. The order of rain then humidity attracted them. Overall, we had a pretty good turn out. The course consisted of a big sweeper, a couple esses, 3 slaloms and a traditional 'S' ending. Apparently it caused trouble for one racer, Benjamin Chu. He rounded the last turn coming in wide causing him to clear out the left side cones and then swerve at an angle which made him hit the timing light. Fortunately the timing light was fixable because only the casing and tripod were damaged. The laser was still intact. Taking fastest time of the day, with a time of 60.466, was Paul Schwartz driving Steven Lee's Reynard FF2000. Since there were only a few people in the last heat, there was plenty of time for fun runs. My favorite time of the day.

Our guest last month, Tom Ellam from the New York region, drove again with us in February. This time he shared a ride with Curtis Lee in his Datsun 240Z. He turned a 65.288, good enough to place 2nd in ASP.

Were any of you up at 7:30-8:00AM on Wednesday, February the 12th and happen to be watching the Channel 3 (KHON) news? If you were, you may have caught the live broadcast of the SCCA's Solo II special. Manolo Morales and his news crew went

down to Barber's Point at 6:45AM to meet some of the drivers, and to do a report. Some of the people there were, M.G. Lewis, Lindsey Akamu, Richard Shimabukuro, Kenneth Tamashiro, Ed Kemper, John Pinero, Curtis Lee, Garrett Chew, Jesse Weinberger, Steven Lee, Paul Schwartz, Pete Fagan, Benjamin Chu, and John Meyers. They set up a short track, (maybe at the most 45 seconds long), using their headlights to see what they were doing. After they were done setting up, Manolo did some interviews with John Pinero, Curtis Lee, and Ed Kemper, while the others took turns racing in the background. I wish I was there! In the end, everyone got their share of fame, John Meyers was caught on film spinning out in the offset gates. It was really neat to see the racers on TV. Hopefully we got some publicity out of that broadcast.

Well, I hope to see all you racers at the next autocross and don't forget the March event will include the Run-offs. To qualify for the Run-offs, you must have competed in at least six events and finished in the top five in overall points for your class. The March event will be held as usual and will not count towards your point standings. After the regular event, the Run-offs will take place and each competitor will have three runs. The fee for the Run-offs will be \$25.00. So, I'll be seeing you at the track and let's have a ball!!!