

The Boss Man Again

The Phoenix International Raceway road course couldn't be more different from the street layout at Miami, but you couldn't tell by the results of Round 3 of the Barber Dodge Pro Series.

In a replay of the first round in Miami, Geoff Boss won from the pole ahead of Jaki Scheckter and Barry Waddell. As in Miami, Scheckter stayed with Boss but couldn't get close enough to put on real pressure.

Only Waddell's race was significantly different. In Miami, he started on the front row and had a relatively easy time of it to finish third. In Phoenix, he started seventh and then worked his way up, passing Jeff Willoughby for the final rostrum spot with 8 minutes left. Boss now leads Waddell in points by five, with Scheckter two more tallies back.

The start was sure to be interesting, as two drivers — Jeff Bucknum and Chris McDougall — were making their first Barber Dodge starts. Bucknum qualified a stunning second, while McDougall, last seen in 1993 driving three races in a Tom Gloy Trans-Am Mustang, as winner of the sole Bondurant Pro Search program, was an equally impressive fifth. Even more interesting, this was McDougall's first-ever open-wheel race.

Overall, it also was a very tight field with the first 17 drivers within 1 second and the next nine by .8 second.

Bucknum's inexperience showed on the start. Boss, who was on the pole by virtue of his lap of 1:00.892 (89.270 mph), got the jump on him, Scheckter and Willoughby, too. But by midrace, even after falling as far as sixth, Bucknum got back up to fourth, and he and McDougall put on a tasty battle to the end.

Boss and Scheckter had checked out by this time. Scheckter got within a couple car lengths, but he couldn't reel Boss in. When Larry Voluum tagged the wall with one lap left, any chance at a try at last-lap heroics evaporated. The race finished under yellow.

Mattias Andersson matched his Sebring result, getting sixth again, while Diego Dominguez took seventh. Willoughby wound up eighth, Chris Menninga ninth for his first points finish and Thomas Schie 10th.

—Rick Roso

BARBER DODGE PRO SERIES • ROUND 3

Phoenix International Raceway (1.51 miles), May 6, 1995: 1. Geoff Boss, 29; 2. Jaki Scheckter, 29; 3. Barry Waddell, 29; 4. Jeff Bucknum, 29; 5. Chris McDougall, 29; 6. Mattias Andersson, 29; 7. Diego Dominguez, 29; 8. Jeff Willoughby, 29; 9. Chris Menninga, 29; 10. Thomas Schie, 29. **Time of race:** 29:59.817 **Winner's Average Speed:** 87.588 mph **Margin of Victory:** Race finished under yellow. **Fast Lap:** Boss, 1:00.654, 89.640 mph

Norick, Gidley Score Wins in FF2000

Lance Norick beat the biggest field in North American pro Formula Ford 2000 history to win the first round of the new U.S. Formula Ford 2000 National Championship. The 26-year-old scored the victory on the 1.51-mile Phoenix International Raceway road course May 5 with a daring last-lap pass after starting seventh in the 52-car field.

In the series second race a day later, Memo Gidley got the best of old rival Jimmy Chianis, beating his fellow Formula Ford rookie to the checkered flag on the same course. The victory in the series now sanctioned by the Sports Car Club of American and the United States Auto Club was Gidley's first professional racing win.

In the first race, pole-sitter Christian Vandal of Quebec, Canada, led for six laps before Aaron Hsu of Palo Alto, Calif., took over. After a caution, it was Jaret Lozano of San Antonio at the head of the field, followed closely by the Swifts of Norick and Jaret Schroeder. The three ran like that for the next 20 laps before Norick muscled by the Texan on the last lap, slipping underneath Lozano when his Van Diemen went slightly wide in

the hairpin. Post-race penalties for passing under the yellow were assessed against Lozano and Schroeder, dropping both drivers two spots to fourth and fifth, respectively. Chianis was credited with second in his Van Diemen, and David Pook of Long Beach, Calif., was third.

At the start of the second 32-lap contest, Canadian Vandal again led the 51-car field into the first turn with Chianis, who had started second, close behind. Gidley started from the third row, but finally took the lead on lap 25 and despite constant pressure from Chianis held on to win by 2.792 seconds.

—Scott McKee

U.S. FORMULA FORD 2000 • ROUND 1

Phoenix International Raceway Road Course, May 5, 1995 (1.51 miles) • 32 Laps: 1. Lance Norick (Swift DB-6) 32; 2. Jimmy Chianis, (Van Diemen RF-95) 32; 3. David Pook (Van Diemen) 32; 4. Jaret Lozano (Van Diemen) 32; 5. Jaret Schroeder (Swift) 32; 6. Aaron Hsu, (Van Diemen RF-94) 32; 7. Duncan Dayton (Van Diemen RF-95) 32; 8. Gary Weyhrich (Van Diemen) 32; 9. Sam Schmidt (Van Diemen) 32; 10. Richard Eanes (Van Diemen) 32. **Time of race:** 41:29.832 **Winner's Average Speed:** 88.751 mph **Margin of Victory:** 4.452 seconds. **ROUND 2:** 1. Memo Gidley (Van Diemen) 32 laps; 2. Chianis, 32; 3. Hsu, 32; 4. Tim Duit (Van Diemen RF-93) 32; 5. Tim Richardson (Van Diemen RF-95) 32; 6. Dayton, 32; 7. Lozano, 32; 8. Joaquin Desoto (Van Diemen) 32; 9. David Webb (Swift) 32; 10. John Filipakis (Van Diemen) 32. **Time of race:** 36:43.958 **Winner's Average Speed:** 88.450 mph **Margin of Victory:** 2.792 seconds

Phil Mahre Claims Racing League Victory

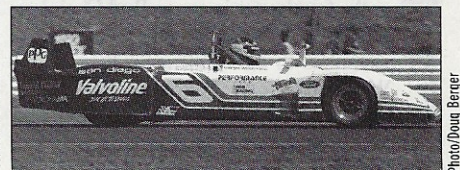
Former Olympic gold medal skier Phil Mahre had a successful return to the American City Racing League as he drove his Marker Ski Bindings Team Reno Lola to victory in Round Two of the series at Phoenix International Raceway May 6.

Mahre, who sat on pole with a 1:01.637 lap, took the lead at the green flag with Peter Zarcades' Wynns' Oil Swift DB5 representing Team Los Angeles in hot pursuit.

While Mahre and Zarcades pulled away, defending ACRL champion Margie Smith-Haas, settled into third spot in her Valvoline Falcon ahead of series rookie Jeff Glenn in his Team San Jose Bank of the West Swift. Following closely was Haas' teammate Leo Sismani.

They had a close battle until lap 14 when the hard charging Lee Lucas, up from last on the grid because of a terminal engine problem early in qualifying, broke up the threesome by passing each of them over five laps. By lap 15 of the scheduled 30, Lucas was in third and going after second. Rick Ferguson's Team Anaheim Diversified Metalwork Swift led another close pack consisting of Team San Jose's Chris Ronson's Tom Rust Racing Swift and Brad Krause's Team Santa Barbara Kinko's sponsored Lola.

Krause's handling went away, and he was passed by Bob Liebert in the Team Columbus RAL Group Pratt. Ronson got by Ferguson on lap 18 for seventh overall.



Photo/Doug Berger

Defending ACRL champion Margie Smith-Haas finished third at PIR.

On lap 26 Zarcades, now in the lead after passing Mahre on the 15 lap, had light contact with Mahre at Turn Two. Zarcades was unable to continue, and Mahre went on to victory.

Lucas' replacement engine held together long enough for him to claim second, while Haas finished third. Teammates Glenn and Ronson finished fourth and sixth to give Team San Jose the win.

—Mary Mitchell

ACRL • ROUND 2

Phoenix, Ariz., May 6, 1995 (1.51 miles) • 27 laps (40.5 miles): 1. Phil Mahre, Lola, 29:17.869; 2. Lee Lucas, Swift, 29:29.423; 3. Margie Smith-Haas, Falcon; 4. Jeff Glenn, Swift; 5. Leo Sismani, Swift; 6. Chris Ronson Swift; 7. Bob Liebert, Pratt; 8. Rick Ferguson, Swift; 9. Brad Krause, Lola; 10. Jim Paul, Swift. **Winner's Average Speed:** 82.941 mph **Fast Lap:** Mahre, 1:01.937 (87.184 mph)