

ACRL Returns to Mesa Marin Raceway



Team San Diego, Margie Smith-Haas, Bob Schader, and Marc Zurlinden, win the City Trophy last month at Mesa Marin.

In 1988, City-Team auto racing burst onto the West Coast sports scene. In this kind of racing, fans and media can identify with their city's team in a rivalry with other cities. San Francisco has the 49ers, Los Angeles has the Dodgers, and San Jose has the Sharks, but no one had ever seen City-Team auto racing. This exciting new sport was introduced by the American City Racing League, the new kid on the block. The ACRL is sanctioned by the Pro Racing Division of the Sports Car Club of America and managed by the ACRL Board of Directors.

There are currently 10 west coast cities represented in the ACRL, allowing spectators to cheer on their favorite city's team. Before qualifying, each team must designate three points-scoring cars. The top two finishing cars from each team score team

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1996 RACING SCHEDULE

March 30/31	Laguna Seca
April 27	Mesa Marin
May 25/26	Mesa Marin
June 14/15/16	Portland
July 5/6/7	Portland
July 12/13/14	Sears Point
Sept 21/22	Reno

points and all score driver points and participate in the drivers purse.

The ACRL has two divisions - Super Sports 2000 with Ford Cosworth 2-liter, 16 valve DOHC power, and Sports 2000 using the Ford 2-liter single cam engine. The cars run on Hoosier spec tires and use Daeco racing fuel.

This is ACRL's third race of their 8 race season and the second of two appearances at Mesa Marin. 1995 Team Champion, San Jose leads San Diego, 1994 Champs, by just 9 points. They are challenged by Team Santa Barbara and Team Las Vegas.

Team San Diego's Bob Schader still leads by 16 points after his win at Laguna Seca and 2nd place at Mesa Marin #1. He is followed by San Jose's Lee Lucas, the 1992 & 1993 Driver Champ, and by the 1995 ACRL Rookie of the Year, Jeff Glenn.

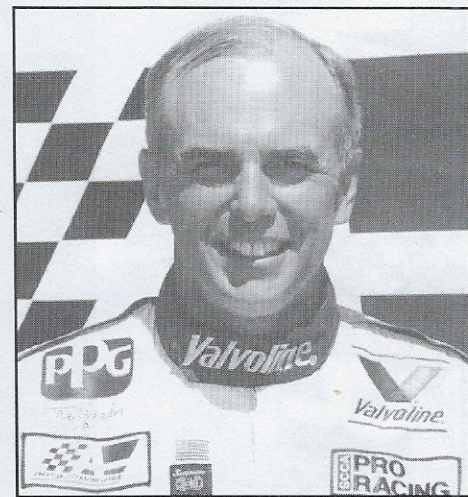
The ACRL put on an exciting show earlier this month with a fierce race between oval track specialist and 1995 USAC Ford 2000 Rookie of the Year, Memo Gibley, Team Santa Barbara, who narrowly won over points leader Bob Schader followed by Team Reno's Rick Lee. Peter Zarcades (pole setter by .003 seconds) was a hot contender until he found himself in the turn 4 and front straight inside walls. Dicing, sometimes four abreast, were San Jose's Lee Lucas, Jeff Glenn, 1994 ACRL Champion Margie Smith-Haas (Team San Diego) and Team Las Vegas' Leo Sismani.

The S2000 race was a hard fought contest between Team Woodland's Leo Giroski and Santa Barbara's Tom Bungay followed by Team Anaheim's Len Rennick.

Team San Diego's 2nd and 6th place finishes (Schader & Smith-Haas) won the City Cup honors just ahead of Team San Jose who still leads the series team points by just 9 points ahead of Team San Diego.



Team San Diego's Bob Schader won the season opener at Laguna Seca.



Bob Schader, Team San Diego, SS2 Points Leader

AMERICAN CITY RACING LEAGUE

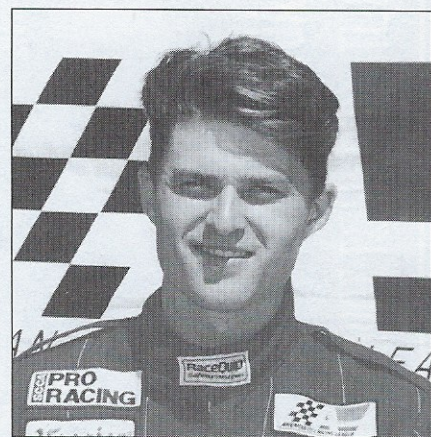
	<u>DRIVER</u>	<u>HOMETOWN/SPONSOR</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>CAR TYPE</u>	<u>TEAM</u>
1	Jim Paul	Manhattan Beach, CA EZ UP	SS2	Swift DB5	Long Beach
5	Marc Zurlinden	Carmel Valley, CA Pro Pack/PPG/Valvoline	SS2	Swift DB2	San Diego
6	Margie Smith-Haas	Del Mar, CA PPG/Valvoline/Finish Line	SS2	Falcon H94	San Diego
8	Bob Schader	Boulder, CO PetroCal/PPG/Valvoline	SS2	Lola T89/90	San Diego
11	Rick Lee	Incline Village, NV Reno Sparks CVA	SS2	Lola 89/90	Reno
17	Leo Giroski	Woodland, WA Master Transmission & Auto	S2	Tiga SC89	Woodland
18	Joe Giroski	Woodland, WA Master Transmission & Auto	S2	Tiga 88/89 Weep	Woodland
24	Buddy Dold	San Leandro, CA Rotex Punch	SS2	Lola T-87	Santa Barbara
25	Brad Krause	Santa Barbara, CA Kinko's	SS2	Lola	Santa Barbara
27	Lee Lucas	Los Gatos, CA Saturn/Clarion/Red Line Oil	SS2	Swift DB5/ Purcell	San Jose
28	Tom Bungay	Santa Barbara, CA QMI	SS2	Swift DB 2	San Diego
33	Jeff Glenn	Pleasanton, CA Bank of the West/KJWL	SS2	Swift DB2	San Jose
35	Joe Casanova	San Jose, CA Casanova Enterprises	SS2	Swift DB2	San Jose
51	Peter Zarcades	San Diego, CA Pennzoil	SS2	Swift DB5	Las Vegas
52	Chris Ronson	Modesto, CA Tom Rust Racing/Evergreen	SS2	Swift DB5	Las Vegas
55	Leo Sismani	Rancho Santa Fe, CA California Scene	SS2	Swift/Falcon	Las Vegas
59	John Ostlund	Fresno, CA Alistar/KJWL Radio	S2	Swift DB2	Fresno
94	Len Renick	Renick Cadillac Brea, CA	S2	Tiga	Anaheim
99	Dennis Reed	Palo Alto, CA Syntropy Music Pub	SS2	Tiga	Anaheim



Lee Lucas, Team San Jose, '92, '93 ACRL Champion



Margie Smith-Haas, Team San Diego, '94 ACRL Champion



Jeff Glenn, Team San Jose



Rick Lee, Team Reno



Leo Giroski, Team Woodland, S2 Points Leader



John Ostlund, Team Fresno