

Bob Schader, Joe Giroski Get ACRL Wins In Portland

Bob Schader and Joe Giroski captured two class wins each in Rounds 5 and 6 of the Sports Car Club of America's American City Racing League at Oregon's Portland International Raceway.

Schader of Team San Diego set the pace all weekend in the Super Sports 2000 Division for Ford Cosworth-powered cars, while Giroski of Team Woodland (Washington) topped the Sports 2000 Division.

Schader clocked a 1:07.680 to qualify more than 1 second faster than second-quickest Jeff Glenn of Team San Jose. Leo Sismani, Rick Lee and Peter Zarcades rounded out the first day's top five. Giroski, 11th fastest overall, topped the S2 times at 1:11.636 ahead of Bill Bachofner and Brad Arntson.

Schader easily led the entire 22-lap Saturday race and cruised past the checkered flag

with a 20-second margin over Lee of Team Reno and Sismani of Team Las Vegas. Glenn's promising weekend took a downturn when he suffered a flat rear tire. Giroski's Tiga SC89 finished eighth overall, a lap ahead of the second-place Sports 2000 Swift of Bachofner of Team Wilsonville.

In Sunday's qualifying, Schader backed up his Saturday time with a 1:07.931, again ahead of Glenn, Sismani and Lee, followed by Brad Krause's Lola. But Krause lost control just at the close of the 10-minute session and hit a tire wall, causing extensive damage to the car.

Sunday's 22-lap race was a carbon copy of the day before for Schader, who improved his margin of victory to 23.81 seconds. Lee and Sismani swapped finishing positions as Sismani drove his Falcon-Swift into the second slot, his best ACRL career finish. Glenn battled back from a stop-and-go penalty for contact with Lee to finish fourth. Giroski again finished the race eighth overall to win his class, a lap ahead of

second-place Ian Wood.

—Bob Kehoe

AMERICAN CITY RACING LEAGUE ROUNDS 5 & 6

Portland, Ore., Portland International Raceway (1.918-mile road course), July 6 and 7, 1996, 22 laps (42.196 miles), ROUND 5, July 6: 1 (1) Bob Schader, Lola T89-90/Ford-Cosworth, 25:17.407; 2 (4) Rick Lee, Lola T89-90/Ford-Cosworth, 25:37.517; 3 (3) Leo Sismani, Falcon Swift DB5/Ford-Cosworth, 22; 4 (6) Chris Ronson, Swift DB5/Ford-Cosworth, 22; 5 (8) Larry Vollum, Swift DB5/Ford-Cosworth; 6 (7) Tom Kreger, Lola T88-90/Ford-Cosworth, 22; 7 (9) Brad Krause, Lola T89-90/Ford-Cosworth, 22; 8 (11) Joe Giroski, Tiga SC89/Ford, 22, (\$2000 winner); 9 (10) Marc Zurlinden, Swift DB2/Ford-Cosworth, 21; 10 (5) Peter Zarcades, Swift DB5/Ford Cosworth, 21; 11 other starters. **Winner's Average Speed:** 100.10 mph. **Fast Lap:** Schader 1:08.620. **Lap Leaders:** Schader 1-22.

ROUND 6, July 7: 1 (1) Schader, 26:50.106; 2 (3) Sismani, 27:13.916; 3 (4) Lee, 22; 4 (2) Jeff Glenn, Swift DB5/Ford-Cosworth, 22; 5 (7) Ronson, 22; 6 (9) Zurlinden, 22; 7 (6) Vollum, 22; 8 (11) Giroski, 22; 9 (13) Ian Wood, Swift DB2/Ford, 21; 10 (12) Bill King, Swift DB2/Ford-Cosworth; 21; 13 other starters. **Winner's Average Speed:** 94.345 mph. **Fast Lap:** Schader 1:08.563 mph. **Lap Leaders:** Schader 1-22.

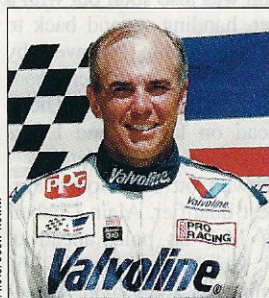
Bob Schader Clinches ACRL Driver Title

Team San Diego's Bob Schader locked up his first American City Racing League drivers' championship with a victory in Round 7 of the Sports Car Club of America series at Sears Point Raceway in Sonoma, Calif.

Pole-sitter Jeff Glenn of Team San Jose hounded Schader the entire way and closed to within a few feet at the flag, but he couldn't stop Schader from taking his fifth win of the year. Chris Ronson of Team Las Vegas followed the battling duo to the line for his first podium finish, while Team Santa Barbara's Buddy Dold finished fourth, and San Diego's Margie Smith-Haas was fifth.

Schader, who had been fastest by more than a second in all of the practice sessions, damaged a front winglet on the first lap of qualifying, which slowed him just enough to allow Glenn to take the pole by .1 second at 1:36.075. San Diego's Marc Zurlinden, Reno's Rick Lee and Ronson also made the top-five podium.

Glenn took off at the green flag and held the



Photo/Geoff Hewitt

Bob Schader's dominating performance in the ACRL series continued at Sears Point.

lead for three laps until Schader surged by in Turn 1 to take the lead for good. Zurlinden spun back to 13th place on the first lap, worked his way back up to fifth but was eventually sidelined by a Turn 6 crash.

Lee ran in third behind the flying duo of Schader and Glenn but sputtered to a halt in Turn 3 two laps from the end, victim of a fuel-consumption miscalculation. This moved Ronson to third, Dold to fourth and Smith-Haas, slipping and sliding in Dold's late-race oil spray, to fifth. Her finish clinched the team win for San Diego.

In the Sports 2000 "B" Class for non-Cos-

worth-powered machines, series leader Joe Giroski of Team Woodland triumphed after passing the Team Fresno cars of pole-winner Eric Lunn and John Ostlund following a caution flag. A late-race incident dropped the Fresno drivers even farther back, leaving second to Bill Bachofner of Team Wilsonville (Oregon) and third to San Diego's Ian Wood. Only Giroski's father, Leo, has chance to catch him for the Sports 2000 drivers' championship.

With the drivers' battle settled and one race remaining, only the team championship remains in doubt. Only Team Las Vegas still has a mathematical chance of catching Team San Diego.

—Roger Diez

AMERICAN CITY RACING LEAGUE • ROUND 8

Sonoma, Calif., Sears Point Raceway (2.52 miles) July 13, 1996, 18 laps (45.36 miles): 1 Bob Schader/San Diego, 18 laps; 2 Jeff Glenn/San Jose, 18; 3 Chris Ronson/Las Vegas, 18; 4 Buddy Dold/Santa Barbara, 18; 5 Margie Smith-Haas/San Diego, 18; 6 Larry Vollum/Portland, 18; 7 (S2) Joe Giroski/Woodland, 18; 8 (S2) Bill Bachofner/Wilsonville, 18; 9 (S2) Ian Wood/San Diego, 18; 10 (S2) Dennis Reed/San Jose, 18; 12 other starters.