

1997

Official Program - Ten Dollars

MOLSON INDY VANCOUVER



'90 UNSER WINS

'91 ANDRETTI WINS

'94 UNSER WINS

'92 ANDRETTI WINS

'96 ANDRETTI WINS

'93 UNSER WINS

'95 UNSER WINS



Marking The Commemorative Year - August 29, 30 and 31, 1997 at Concord Pacific Place, Vancouver, Canada

AMERICAN CITY



Home favorite Team Vancouver displays the Canadian and American flags during the traditional ACRL Parade lap.

RACING LEAGUE

By Gerry Frechette

The American City Racing League (ACRL), presented by I.W.E. Rear Ends Only and Ferenco, returns to the Vancouver event line-up for its 10th Anniversary year in 1997. In the four years that it ran previously, from 1991-1994, fans were treated to something unique in motorsports.

Why is it unique, you ask? Well, there is lots to cheer for at a major race weekend like the Molson Indy Vancouver. Everybody has a favorite driver, liked for his or her driving style or nationality, or a favorite team with the best-looking cars, or even a favorite sponsor.

But what if a racing series provided the chance for a fan to cheer on his or her hometown team? What a concept, just like in hockey or basketball. In the ACRL, it is a reality.

The concepts of team racing and inter-city rivalry are something different in auto racing. Sure, a multi-car team in, say, CART racing, will cooperate to a

point, but there is still lots of competition within Team Penske, for example.

In the ACRL, on the other hand, the focus is on sharing information in the pursuit of team success above all else, so that your squad, which typically consists of two to four cars, can hit the track and finish ahead of the other guys. The top two finishing cars from each team score team points.

All the teams regularly running in ACRL represent American cities on the West Coast, and all the races are in the West, as well. As we write this, the teams representing Las Vegas, Reno and Fresno are locked in a close battle for top spot in the League. Team San Diego won last year's title.

It would not do for there not to be a Team Vancouver here at Molson Indy, and, as in the previous races, there will be one. Vancouver-area residents, veteran Bob Thomson and up-and-coming rookie

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American City Racing League

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Marybeth Harrison, will be joined by former resident, veteran Jeff Clegg.

Just like other pro sports franchises, the rules don't force a driver to actually live in the city for whom he is racing, which allows Vancouver's Ian Wood to race for Team San Diego. You're still allowed to cheer for him, though!

As in past years, other local entries are expected as cars and financing become available, so you just might see a team or two from some other nearby city. Check your entry lists and keep an ear on the public address announcer as the cars head out on the track.

If you are new to the Molson Indy Vancouver weekend, or didn't attend the race prior to 1995, then you may not be familiar with the ACRL cars. They are called Sports Racers, and are purpose-built race cars with extremely aerodynamic bodies that are not intended to resemble a street car in any way.

There are actually two classes of cars competing on the track at the same time, even though they are

visually identical, to accommodate both those who want to go really fast and win races, and those with older cars and/or smaller budgets who are happy to be out there racing.

The faster "Super Sports" cars are powered by two-litre, twin-cam 16-valve Ford-Cosworth engines putting out about 185 hp, while the slower "Sports 2000" cars have the older style two-litre single-cam engine. There is a separate championship that S2000 cars compete for but the competition is just as fierce.

And of course, there are some really good drivers out there going for the win. Last year's PPG-CART World Series Champion, Jimmy Vasser, raced in ACRL, as did CART's Richie Hearn. This season sees Jeff Glenn, Rick Lee and Peter Zarcades amongst the leading drivers.

You just might see a future star on the track this weekend. And he or she just might be driving for your hometown team.



From left to right, Rick Lee (Team Reno), race winner Jeff Glenn (Team Beverly Hills) and ACRL series point leader Peter Zarcades on Portland Rose Cup Victory Stand.

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1997 American City Racing League Entry List

NO.	DRIVER	HOMETOWN	CITY TEAM	CAR	CLASS
5	Bob Young	Glenwood Springs, CO	San Diego	Lola T89/90	SS2
6	Margie Smith-Haas	Del Mar, CA	San Diego	Falcon H-96	SS2
8	Ian Wood	Vancouver, B.C.	San Diego	Swift DB-2	S2
10	Edd Ozard	Alamo, CA	Reno	Swift DB-5	SS2
11	Rick Lee	Incline Village, CA	Reno	Lola T89/90	SS2
12	Gary Hewett	San Leandro, CA	Reno	Swift DB-2	SS2
15	Leo Sismani	Rancho Sante Fe, CA	Reno	Swift DB-5	SS2
17	Leo Giroski	Woodland, WA	Woodland	Tiga Wasp	S2
18	Joe Giroski	Portland, OR	Woodland	Tiga Wasp	SS2
19	Brad Arntson	Portland, OR	Woodland	Tiga 84YA	S2
21	Larry Vollum	Portland, OR	Portland	Swift DB-5	SS2
24	Craig Simmiss	North Vancouver, B.C.	North Vancouver, B.C.	Shrike P-17C	S2
36	Bill Bachofner	Wilsonville, OR	Wilsonville	Swift DB2/5	SS2
37	John Bachofner	Wilsonville, OR	Wilsonville	Swift DB-2	S2
38	Dennis Pavlina	Vancouver, B.C.	Wilsonville	Swift DB-5	SS2
40	Jeff Clegg	Vancouver, WA	Vancouver, B.C.	Lola T90	SS2
41	Marybeth Harrison	Vancouver, B.C.	Vancouver, B.C.	Lola T90	SS2
42	Bob Thomson	Vancouver, B.C.	Vancouver, B.C.	Lola T90	SS2
44	Tom Kreger	Ridgefield, WA	Vancouver, WA	Lola 88/90	SS2
49	Bill King	Woodinville, WA	Vancouver, WA	Swift DB-2	SS2
51	Peter Zarcades	Rancho Santa Fe, CA	Las Vegas	Swift DB-5	SS2
52	Chris Ronson	Modesto, CA	Las Vegas	Lola T89/90	SS2
53	TBA		Las Vegas	Swift DB-5	
57	Stephen Romak	Clayton, CA	Fresno	Lola T87/90	SS2
58	Frank Arnold	Fresno, CA	Fresno	Swift DB-2	S2
59	John Ostlund	Fresno, CA	Fresno	Lola 89/90	SS2
71	Mark Neuhaus	Beverly Hills, CA	Beverly Hills	Carbir	SS2
72	Jeff Glenn	Pleasanton, CA	Beverly Hills	Carbir	SS2
76	TBA		Long Beach	Swift DB-2	SS2
77	Brien Pariseau	Yorba Linda, CA	Long Beach	Swift DB-2	SS2