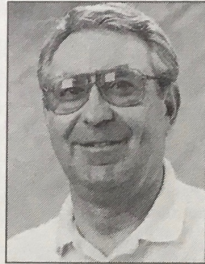# A Chance for Everyone

ACRL Action

American City Racing League by Roger Diez

One of the unique things about the American City Racing League is the broad spectrum of people the series draws. On one end are the young lions on their way up in the racing world, looking to get some seasoning in an entry-level professional series. On the other are those drivers who are successful in business and don't have the time to devote to a full-time racing career, but who enjoy pitting their driving skill and talent against those same young professionals. As often as not, the latter triumph over the former. This month we'll look at **Jeff Glenn and Peter Zarcades,** two drivers who represent each of those extremes—yet both are currently at the top of the points race.

Young lion Glenn, 24, is in his third year in the series. He was Rookie of the Year in 1994, winning that title by a single point over Chris Ronson (now Zarcades' teammate). Glenn has been competing in SCCA since he was 16, autocrossing at first, then moving into road racing. He won the San Francisco S2000 Regional Championship in 1994 with four poles and five wins in six races. He won his first professional race in 1996, the first ACRL event at Portland and closed out the season fourth in points with a win, a pole and five top-five finishes. Glenn has also qualified in the Top Five in every ACRL race he has entered in the SS2 class.

Glenn drove for Team San Jose his first two years, helping that team win the City Championship in 1995. This year he has switched to a new team and new chassis, moving from Swift to the Carbir as the factory development driver, and from San Jose to new Team Beverly Hills. He has also secured new sponsorship from Oilex. Much of the credit for the success of the team goes to Glenn's crew chief/engineer Eric Purcell. Purcell, with a wealth of racing experience, is particularly adept at analyzing data acquisition readouts and translating them into positive changes in car setup.

So far this year Glenn has scored poles at both Portland events, winning the second after a mechanical retirement in the first. He finished a strong second at Mesa Marin, which put him in the driver points lead (discarding his worst finish). Glenn has his sights firmly set on a professional racing career, and knows what it takes to do it. He graduated from San Jose State with a double major in Business Management and Advertising, and has his own business, JAG Promotions, to promote his racing and secure sponsorship. Jeff has the full support of his parents, Steve and Cherryl Glenn, who are nearly always at the track. Besides her many other duties, Cherryl keeps the entire ACRL family supplied with homemade cookies.

At the other extreme is Peter Zarcades, currently driving for Team Las Vegas. Zarcades is the youngest 64-year-old you'll ever meet, and one of the quickest drivers in the series. He's been with ACRL since its inception, running in the Firebird Raceway inaugural event in 1988 with Team San Diego. Prior to that, he was a mainstay of the WestPro series for Sports 2000 cars. He scored his first ACRL win at Vancouver in 1991, and has finished in the Top 10 in points every year since except 1992, when he ran only one race. In 1993 he scored one pole, one win and the ACRL's Hard Luck award at the annual banquet. Perhaps his best year to date was 1994, with three poles, three wins, four fastest race laps and third place in points while racing with Team Los Angeles. Switching allegiance to Las Vegas in 1995, he scored two wins, a pole and three fastest race laps and went on to tally a pair of poles and one fast race lap in 1996.

He has already demonstrated that his capability is undimmed in 1997, with a dominating performance at the Mesa Marin oval: pole position and flag-to-flag win. Zarcades is particularly pleased that Vancouver is back on the schedule this year. He has won two of the four ACRL outings there, and hopes to make it three for five this year.

Zarcades' Pennzoil-sponsored racer may be the best-developed Swift DB-5 on the planet. The car has been prepped and developed since 1990 by Lennie Gay, 1995 ACRL Mechanic of the Year. "I think I would have quit if it hadn't been for Lennie," says Zarcades of his friend and crew chief. A native of Greece, Zarcades graduated from Stanford with a degree in Electrical Engineering and was one of the founders of Doric Scientific Corporation, a highly successful electronics firm.

Schedule Change

The ACRL will race for the first time on the road course at the new Las Vegas Motor Speedway on Sept. 18-20 in conjunction with PSR (nee IMSA). This date replaces the Sept. 26-28 date at Pikes Peak International race with the SCCA Trans-Am series.

"We're excited and delighted to be able to race at this new venue," says series administrator Margie Smith-Haas. The Las Vegas race will run just four weeks prior to the season finale in Reno. ∎

Jeff Glenn took the Portland win he was denied in May at the Rose Cup ACRL round, besting Rick Lee by 6sec.

American City Racing League
Round 3: Portland International Raceway
Portland, Ore., June 15, 1997

FINAL RESULTS: 22 laps, 42.35 miles

Pos. (Start) Driver	Chassis	Laps
1. (1) Jeff Glenn, Beverly Hills	Carbir	22
2. (5) Rick Lee, Reno	Lola	22
3. (4) Peter Zarcades, Las Vegas	Swift DB-5	22
4. (2) Stephen Romak, Fresno	Lola T87/90	22
5. (3) Larry Vollum, Portland	Swift DB-5	22
6. (6) Leo Sismani, Reno	Swift DB-5	22
7. (9) Bob Young, San Diego	Lola	22
8. (14) Mark Neuhaus, Beverly Hills	Swift DB-5	22
9. (11) Tom Kreger, Vancouver	Lola T88/90	22
10. (7) John Ostlund, Fresno	Lola T89/90	22

11. (12) Mike Wright, Vancouver (Wright Design) 22; 12. (17) Bill Bachofner Wilsonville (Swift DB-2/5) 22; 13. (20) Brian Pariseau, Long Beach (Swift DB-2) 21; 14. (19) Frank Arnold, Fresno (Swift DB-2) 21; 15. (24) Brad Arntson, Woodland (Tiga) 21; 16. (22) Ian Wood, San Diego (Swift DB-2) 21; 17. (26) Leo Giroski, Woodland (Tiga Wasp) 21; 18. (23) John Bachofner, Wilsonville (Swift DB-2) 21; 19. (8) Jeff Clegg, Vancouver (Lola) 21; 20. (25) Bill King, Vancouver (Lola) 19; 19. (15) Bob Thomson, Vancouver (Swift DB-2) 11; 22. (21) Edd Ozard, Reno (Swift DB-5) 11; 23. (10) Joe Giroski, Woodland (Tiga Wasp) 8; 24. (18) Gary Hewett, Reno (Swift DB-2) 7; 25. (16) Chris Ronson, Las Vegas (Swift DB-5) 6; 26. (13) Dennis Pavlina, Wilsonville (Swift DB-5) 0.

Time of race: 30m10.77sec
Average Speed: 84.196mph; **Margin of Victory:** 6.218sec
Track Length: 1.925 miles
Fastest Qualifier: Glenn
Fastest Lap: Romak, 1:16.729 (90.177mph)
Lap Leaders: Romak, 1-7; Glenn 8-22.