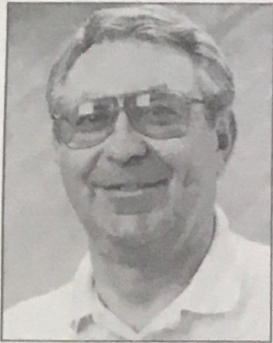


# Experienced Rookies



## Team Rules

American City Racing League by Roger Diez

points. Team Beverly Hills driver **Jeff Glenn** (285 points) has been the rabbit all season, notching three poles and a win for second in the driver standings. **Rick Lee** of Team Reno (260 points) was first to the checker at the season opener, and has finished high enough in other races to maintain third in driver

At the halfway point in the American City Racing League's eight-race season, three drivers have posted wins, two drivers have won poles, and the points battle for both driver and team honors is as tight as it has ever been. **Peter Zarcades** (290 points) is the only repeat winner with two victories and one pole, and his team (Las Vegas) is at the top in team

points.

Although chances are good that these three will continue to battle for the Drivers Championship in the second half of the season, there are a lot of talented drivers breathing down the leaders' necks. In fact, there are four "rookies" who could figure into both driver and team points in a big way. Like the Indianapolis 500, many ACRL rookies have lots of racing experience.

The highest placing rookie, sitting in fourth overall position after three fourth-place finishes, is **Steve Romak** of Team Fresno with 252 points. Romak ran one ACRL race last year in the S2 class, and scored a podium finish. This year he has qualified in the top five for every race, and set fast race lap at the Portland Rose Cup after spinning out of the lead. Romak began racing in 1983 in a Sports 2000 car, ran a Ford GT40 in vintage events in 1985 and 1986, then took a 10-year break before coming back to set pole in three SCCA Regional events in Sports 2000 in 1996.

**John Ostlund**, Romak's teammate, is seventh in the point standings with 237. Ostlund began racing motorcycles in 1970, switched to four wheels in 1985 and raced Formula Fords for three seasons. He began racing Sports

2000 in 1988, and has scored four Pacific Coast Road Racing Championships in Spec Sports 2000. He ran S2 class in ACRL in 1993, then returned last year to score a win, two thirds, a fourth and a fifth. Switching to a Cosworth-powered car this year, he is classified a SS2 rookie. He has two top-five qualifying efforts, and a second- and fifth-place finish. Team Fresno is currently second in team point standings with 617, and is definitely a threat to carry off the Blackaller Cup at season's end.

Team Wilsonville's **Dennis Pavlina** (219) is ninth in points. He also ran one ACRL event last year. Pavlina raced an IKF kart for five years, winning two Regional class championships and finishing second in the 1995 Swift Cup. He got his SCCA National Competition license in 1995, and took two wins and two seconds in S2000 races. He qualified second at the 1997 ACRL season opener in Portland and finished sixth. Pavlina has three top-10 finishes in four races.

"Rookie" **Bob Young** has been racing for 29 years, and is in his first ACRL season with Team San Diego. Starting the season in a rented car, Young now has his own Lola, which continues to improve with development. Tenth in driver points with 209, look for Young to move up as the season progresses. His racing resume is too extensive to list here, but he has been SCCA Division champion in Formula

Ford, Formula Atlantic and Shelby Can Am. In addition he has run the Shelby Can Am Pro series, IMSA GTO and GTU, WCAR Pro series, Baja 1000, Bonneville Salt Flats, and many more. His best finish to date in ACRL is a fourth place at Sears Point.

Another ACRL record also fell this year, that of the youngest driver in the series. **Spencer Trener**, all of 17 years old, has joined Team Las Vegas, driving a S2000 Swift DB-2. Trener conducted himself very well in his ACRL debut at Sears Point, leading the S2000 class early on and finishing second to points leader **Frank Arnold** of Team Fresno. Trener is expected to run most of the remainder of the season for Las Vegas.

Continuing its tradition of attracting "celebrity" drivers, the ACRL will see world cycling champion and three-time Tour de France winner **Greg LeMond** in the driver's seat of a Team Reno car at the season finale in Reno. LeMond, a native of the "Biggest Little City," is sure to be a big crowd draw. Team Reno in the past has had world champion skiers **Phil and Steve Mahre** drive for them, and actor **Craig T. Nelson** ran a couple of seasons for Team Spokane. ■

### SCCA American City Racing League Round 4: Sears Point International Raceway Sonoma, Calif., July 13, 1997

#### FINAL RESULTS: 18 laps, 45.414 miles.

Pos. (Start)	Driver	Chassis	Laps
1. (2)	Peter Zarcades, Las Vegas	Swift DB-5	18
2. (3)	John Ostlund, Fresno	Lola T89/90	18
3. (1)	Jeff Glenn, Beverly Hills	Carbir	18
4. (7)	Bob Young, San Diego	Lola	18
5. (9)	Leo Sismani, Reno	Swift DB-5	18
6. (6)	Larry Vollum, Portland	Swift DB-5	18
7. (8)	Chris Ronson, Las Vegas	Swift DB-5	18
8. (19)	Dennis Pavlina, Wilsonville	Swift DB-5	18
9. (11)	Margie Smith-Haas, S.D.	Falcon H96	18
10. (10)	Mark Neuhaus, Beverly Hills	Swift DB-5	18
11. (13)	Frank Arnold, Fresno (Swift DB-2)	18;	12. (16) Spencer Trener, Las Vegas (Swift DB-2) 18; 13. (17) Ian Wood, San Diego (Swift DB-2) 18; 14. (21) Edd Ozard, Reno (Swift DB-5) 17; 15. (18) Joe Casanova, San Jose (Swift DB-2) 13; 16. (12) Bill Bachofner, Wilsonville (Swift DB-2) 10; 17. (23) John Bachofner, Wilsonville (Swift DB-2) 7; 18. (5) Rick Lee, Reno (Lola T89/90) 0, crash; 19. (4) Stephen Romak, Fresno (Lola T87/90) 0, crash.

Time of Race: 32m28.025sec

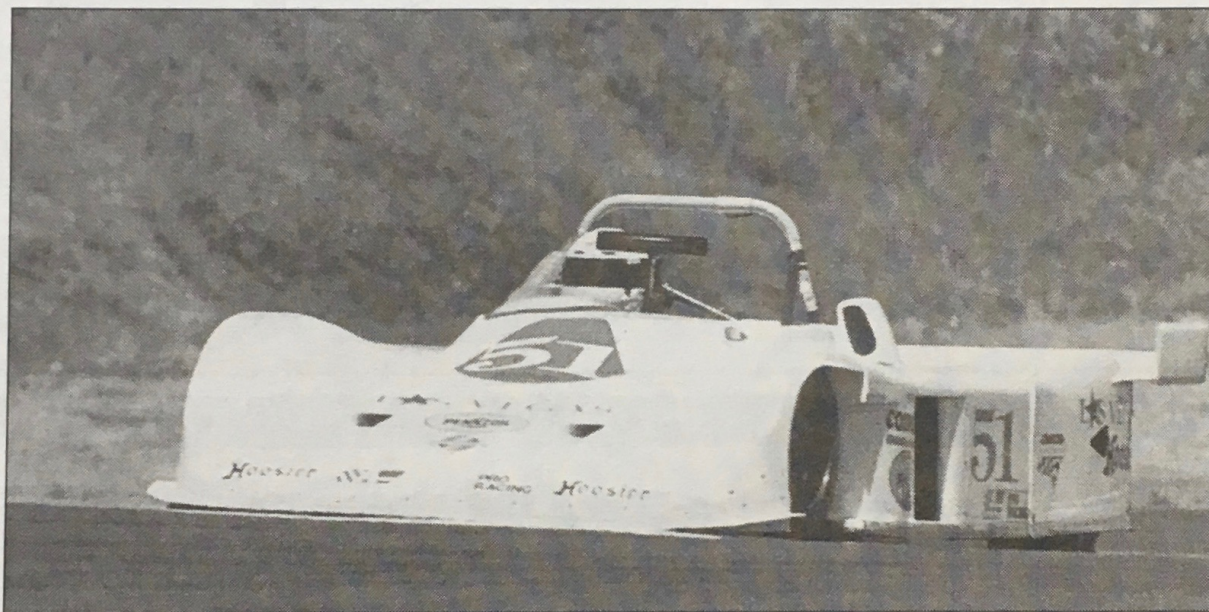
Average Speed: 83.926mph; Margin of Victory: 1.852sec

Track Length: 2.523 miles

Fastest Qualifier: Glenn, 1:35.650 (94.959mph)

Fastest Race Lap: Glenn, 1:36.899 (93.735mph)

Lap Leader: Zarcades, 1-18.



GEORGE DWINELL

Peter Zarcades sits atop the ACRL SS2000 driver points standings, thanks in part to his win at Sears Point over John Ostlund. Zarcades' success has also helped put Las Vegas out front in the team standings.