



American IRON SERIES



TOYO TIRES™

*NASA NorCal Region, 2010 Season, ROUND 1
Infiniteon Raceway, Sonoma, CA*

*Weekend Racing Recap
27/28 Feb 2010*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
4 March 2010

The California AI and CMC racers invade Infineon to kick off the 2010 V8 racing season!

After considerable rain overnight and some light showers that threatened Saturday morning, even mother nature cooperated this weekend as the NorCal CMC and AI seasons got off to a roaring start. Drivers, crews, families and fans converged at Infineon Raceway in beautiful Sonoma County for Round 1 of the 2010 Northern California Regional CMC Championship. 4 CMC and 5 CMC2 cars were in attendance for this event.

INFINEON RACEWAY WEEKEND RACE SUMMARY:

- + 3 CMC/CMC2/AI/AIX **races** toward California championship points
- + 6 total race group sessions with 2 hours of track time!
- + 5 **AI** cars – two winners for the weekend – **Eric Fowler** (Sat) and **John Wheeler** (Sun)
- + 3 **AIX** cars – **Darrel Anderson** took first both Sat and Sun
- + 5 **CMC2** cars including one rookie - **Nick Steel** won from pole both Sat and Sun
- + 4 **CMC** cars - **Derek Tisinger** won both races, with Adam Ginsberg, racing for Team Hollywood, taking pole on Saturday.
- + 2 new licensed drivers – **Troy Dewell (AI)** and **Ron Klamecki (CMC2)**
- + Aaron Schroeder (CMC) and his father, Corky, were in attendance, continuing his quest for his competition license!
- + 2 new AI cars racing for 2010 – Addison Lee (Team DAL Racing) and Troy Dewell.
- + CMC'ers welcomed the return of Smitty (Dennis Smith) after a 2 year absence, as well as new CMC2 driver Robert Walter!
- + The **4th Gen's** are coming, the **4th Gen's** are coming! 4th Gen Camaros and Firebirds showed up in force to prove their mettle!

SATURDAY WARM UP – After Friday's dripping annual inspections, racers braved the wet conditions in the early morning to get out for their first track time of the season and mother nature conceded and backed off in time to keep conditions workable and move everyone forward to qualifying.



2009 Rookie of the Year Eric Fowler



Addison Lee's AI Cobra Mustang.

Images by Peder Beckman.

SATURDAY QUALIFYING – With the weather cooperating the group took the field just before lunch and found only one river on track at the entrance to the s's! As they typically do, the drivers took it all in stride and set fast times to set up for Saturdays race. Minor drama included Andrew Steyn showing what a Mustang looks like without a nose - his one piece nose flew off, but wasn't damaged.

Qualifying times and positions:

- AIX - Anderson(1:53.291)/P1, Black(1:57.409)/P2 (both later sent to the back for failing to go to impound)
- AI - Macmillian(1:56.538)/P1, Wheeler(1:56.624)/P2, Fowler(1:57.102)/P3, Team DAL(1:58.674)/P4
- CMC2 - Steel(1:57.720)/P1, Brown(1:58.091)/P2, Bua(2:00.215)/P3, Klamecki(2:02.465)/P4, Walter(2:35.683)/P5.
- CMC - Team Hollywood(2:00.851)/P1, Tisinger(2:02.058)/P2, Donahoe(2:02.099)/P3, Smitty(2:09.861)/P4

SATURDAY RACE #1 – Saturday's race (with 23 cars across all the classes) got off about 3:50PM with AI/AIX taking a flying start and charging hard up and around turn one while CMC2 and CMC lined up nice and neat for a standing start. **Wheeler** took the lead in the AI battle with **MacMillan** close behind while **Anderson** and **Black** worked their way in their AIX cars thru the pack. CMC2-er **Steel** shot from a cannon on the start and took a fast lead on **Brown** (of the dynamic **Life's Good Racing** team) and **Ginsberg** got a nice push off the start in CMC. Coming into the hairpin, **Wheeler** and **MacMillan** got tangled up, with **MacMillan** going around **Wheeler** while in the lead was black-flagged for being over the sound limit (was 109 vs. allowed of 103) and **Fowler** took the AI win, followed by **Team DAL Racing**, **Macmillian** and **Wheeler**. In CMC2 **Steel** won, closely followed by Team **Life's Good Racing** then **Bua**, **Klamecki** and **Walter**.



Hard charging V8 action at the infamous Infineon hairpin (F-R): Derek Tisinger, Ron Klamecki, and Adam Ginsberg. Image by Peder Beckman.

The CMC winner was **Tisinger** followed by **Ginsberg** (taking FTD with a 1:59.344), **Donahoe** and **Smith**. All and all, good clean racing and a good time. NASA Tech impounded the cars and handled inspections, checking ride height, rear shock mounts, stock rear frame rails, dyno sheets and weight for AI, wing dimensions/cost for CMC2, and stock/functioning alternators for CMC2 and CMC. No issues were found. NASA poured on the charm and treated all the racers and friends to fabulous BBQ, beverages and stories from the day.



The American Iron Saturday race start - (L-R): John Wheeler (#81), Team DAL Racing (#89), Eric Fowler (#92), Bryan MacMillian (#34), and AI newcomer, Troy Dewell (#84). Image by Peder Beckman

SUNDAY INVERTED QUALIFYING RACE – Sunday dawned sunny and cold for the qualifying race. NASA decided to change things up and bit, and changed the course configuration from the Long 7 to the Short 7. Team **Life's Good Racing** was noticeably absent from the starting grid right up to race time but managed to get their shifter bolt tightened just in time to join the group as they flew thru the start, albeit from the pit lane! Inverted starts always make for good racing from the spectator's perspective and Sundays romp around Infineon was no different. AI's **Wheeler** worked into the night and get a muffler welded on and enjoy his first ever AI win in a much quieter car. **Steel** worked his way thru the pack to win CMC2 while **Bua** and **Life's Good Racing** fought neck and neck, with **Life's Good Racing** stealing second by just a hood length. In CMC, Ginsberg, Tisinger, Donahoe and Smitty made it a 4 car, V8 freight train, racing nose to tail, with the Tisinger taking P1, followed closely by Ginsberg, Donahoe, and Smitty. The AIX battled finished with Darrell Anderson taking P1, Jim Black in P2, and Andrew Steyn in P3.



Sunday CMC start (L-R): Derek Tisinger (#57), Mike Donahoe (#8), Adam Ginsberg (#5), and Smitty (#20). Image by Peder Beckman.



Sunday CMC2 start (L-R): Dave Brown (Life's Good Racing #33), Nick Steel (#45), Jeremy Bua (#4), and Ron Klamecki (#7). Image by Peder Beckman.

SUNDAY RACE – Everyone was excited for the main event on Sunday which promised to be good racing. CMC2's **Steel** bogged on the start, giving up pole advantage to **Life's Good Racing** and

Bua strangely enough, **Ginsberg** had the same troubles in his CMC car and lost positions as well. **Steel** made a late braking pass on **Bua** going into 11 and after a long battle **Life's Good Racing** locked up his brakes going into 4 giving **Steel** his third CMC2 win for the weekend. **Life's Good Racing** recovered nicely taking second and rookie **Kalmeki** placed third in his very first race! **Tisinger** won CMC, followed by Donahue (taking FTD with a 1:57.067), Ginsberg and Smith.

The AI drivers drove hard, with John Wheeler taking his second win of the weekend, Team DAL Racing (P2), Eric Fowler (P3), Troy Dewell (P4), and Bryan MacMillian (P5). In AIX, Darrel Anderson made it a 3 race winning sweep taking P1, Andrew Steyn in P2, and Jim Black in P3. In tech, Eric Fowler's hood was sealed, and his black 4th gen AI Camaro sent to the dyno for compliance verification. Alan Blaine, NASA NorCal Chief of Tech, performed the dyno runs, and everything checked out.



*Sunday AI podium (L-R): Addison Lee (P2), John Wheeler (P1), and Eric Fowler (P3).
Image by Peder Beckman.*



*Sunday CMC2 podium (L-R): Ron Klamecki (P3), Nick Steel (P1), and Dave Brown (P2).
Image by Peder Beckman.*



*Sunday CMC podium (L-R): Adam Ginsberg (P3), Derek Tisinger (P1), and Mike Donahoe (P2).
Image by Peder Beckman.*

CONCLUSION - Many thanks to all the drivers, crews, and fans who ventured out to make this a memorable season opener.

The next event is 13/14 March 2010 at California Speedway in Fontana CA. Come out and watch the American Iron and Camaro Mustang Challenge V8 racers battle it out on the banks of Cal Speedway!

For more information, the following websites should be able to answer any of your licensing/rules/racing questions:

www.nasaproring.com
www.nasatx.com
www.americanironracing.com
www.camaromustangchallenge.com

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