



American IRON S E R I E S



TOYO TIRES™

*NASA NorCal Region, 2012 Season Opener, ROUND 1
Sears Point International Raceway, Sonoma CA*

*Weekend Racing Recap
11/12 February 2012*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
18 February 2012

SEARS POINT WEEKEND RACE SUMMARY:

- + 3 CMC2 races toward championship points
- + 2 AIX races towards the championship
- + 6 total race group sessions with over 2 hours of track time!
- + Rookie AI driver, **Asif Chaudhri**, in his new-build 1974 Javelin, takes his first win!
- + CMC veteran racer **Karl Chicca** returns for a weekend of close racing!
- + **Klamecki Brothers Racing** returns to CMC racing after a being away for a year!
- + AI newcomer, **Robin Riner**, returns for more American Iron action!
- + In typical AI/CMC fashion, racers come together to help wounded AI and CMC cars get back on track to take the green flag!
- + NASA NorCal hosted the 2011 Season Banquet on Saturday night, awarding trophies to the racers!

FRIDAY – After an off season of 3 months, the California AI/CMC racers converged on Sears Point for the start of the 2012 racing season.



Asif Chaudhri's #74 AMC Javelin, patiently waiting in the garages, ready for action. Image by Adam Ginsberg

SATURDAY MORNING PRACTICE – Group B was called to grid, but with some mild overnight rain and a wet track, most decided to stay in the garages and prep for qualifying. AI rookie Asif took his fresh-build 1974 Javelin on track to continue it's shakedown process, as did CMC's Ron Klamecki. After only a few laps, they both came in.

SATURDAY MORNING QUALIFYING – with a drying track, qualifying got underway at the drop of the green flag. Laptimes clicked off, and the CMC positions were set.....with very close margins! Mike Plum took pole with a 1:55.332, followed closely by Ginsberg (1:55.524), Tisinger (1:55.691), Ron Klamecki (1:58.851) and Karl Chicca. Robin Riner took the AIX pole with a 1:52.517, with Asif Chaudhri posting a 2:04.167.



A cache of CMC cars. Image by Adam Ginsberg

SATURDAY RACE #1 – A short break after qualifying, NASA called Group B to grid over the loudspeaker, and the AI/CMC racers got down to business.....the business of American V8 road racing!

The tight group of CMC'ers slowly rolled up to the start finish, as the flagger dropped the green for the start of the first race of the 2012 season! Plum, on pole, with Ginsberg on his right, both drove towards T1 door to door, with Tisinger, Klamecki and Chicca close behind. Plum took the lead as Ginsberg suddenly developed very loose condition with a possible down tire, forcing the #5 back into the pits. Gremlins continued on track, as the #57's front passenger rim began to separate, grinding down the brake caliper to point of leaking, also forcing him into the pits.

Riner and Chaudhri took their own AIX green flag, but in short order, teething pains for the #74 took their toll – a rear vibration appeared that forced him into the pits, giving the #91 the first AIX win of the 2012 season.

The final finishing order was Mike Plum, Ron Klamecki, Derek Tisinger, Adam Ginsberg and Karl Chicca.



The Klamecki Brothers #7 CMC Mustang back on track after a one year absence. Image by Susie Plum.



Saturday's CMC podium. L-R – Mike Plum (P1) and Ron Klamecki (P2). Not pictured, Derek Tisinger (P3). Image by Kyle Plum.



Asif Chaudhri's #74 undergoing some surgery. Image by Kyle Plum.

SATURDAY EVENING – After the Saturday race, the AI/CMC group got together to help Asif work on his car so that it would be ready for Sunday. Additionally, Derek Tisinger's crew chief, Daniel, patched up the #57 so that it could make the Sunday's races. Ginsberg's loose condition in R1 turned out to be nothing more than an older set of tires that simply needed more heat.

The racers took a break from wrenching to attend the NASA hosted 2011 Season banquet to award season championship trophies to the racers. BBQ, drinks, and fun were had by all.



The 2011 NorCal Season Champions, L-R: Adam Ginsberg (3rd), Mike Plum (1st), and Derek Tisinger (2nd). Image by Susie Plum.

SUNDAY MORNING WARMUP – After an evening of eating, drinking and wrenching, the AI/CMC drivers awoke to cool temperatures, with slightly overcast and threatening skies.

The #74 AI Javelin was still on jackstands, awaiting a few parts so it could race in the afternoon. Ginsberg's car was brought back down, prepped, and taken on track for a good shake down run. The Klamecki Brothers were forced into a parts store run to get pads, but all they could gather up were street pads.....something that would prove challenging for the hard braking zones.

SUNDAY MORNING QUAL RACE – CMC gridded for their honored tradition of an inverted qualifying race. Chicca sat out the qual race so he could be ready for the Sunday afternoon race. This change put Ginsberg's #5 **StopTech/Maximum Motorsports** Mustang on the pole, with Klamecki to his right, Plum and Tisinger on the second row.



Sunday morning's inverted qualifying grid. Image by Susie Plum.

The start was fierce at the drop of the green, with Klamecki edging out Ginsberg going into T2, followed closely by Plum and Tisinger. Tisinger dropped back due to his mechanical problems from Saturday.



Klamecki makes quick work of Ginsberg at the start. Image by Susie Plum.

Plum made an uncharacteristic mistake, spinning at the exit of T6, giving some breathing room to Ginsberg and Klamecki. The battle up front was hot, with the #5 and #7 swapping positions several times, with Ginsberg eventually taking the lead, but realizing quickly that he, too, had run out of brake pads! In the mean time, the #77 pressed hard to catch back up to the pack. Ginsberg dialed back to save the car, but soon realized that Plum was hot on his back bumper! On the last lap, Plum caught Ginsberg heading into the Esses, but couldn't make a move. As they entered T11, Plum squared off the turn to get on the gas sooner, giving him a run heading towards the checker and putting him alongside the #5s driver's door! It turned this race into a photo finish!

In Raceway Feb. 11-12, 2012
 up B & C - Combined
 day Qual/Race
 e started at 10:50:35

Infineon Raceway 2.520 Miles
 2/12/2012 10:45 AM

	PIC	No.	Name	Class	Laps	Diff	Total Tm	Best Tm C
1	1	5	Adam Ginsberg	CMC2	8		16:55.620	1:59.930
2	2	77	Michael Plum	CMC2	8	0.002	16:55.622	1:56.359
3	3	7	Ron Klamecki	CMC2	7	1 Lap	15:23.601	2:02.275

CMC RESULTS
ONLY

One of the closest finishes in CMC history, with Ginsberg taking his first win of the season by a scant .002 over Mike Plum. Image by Adam Ginsberg.

At the checker, it was Ginsberg over Plum by **2 THOUSANDS of a second**, followed by Klamecki.

AIX ran a regular qualify session, however both Robin Riner and Asif Chaudhri were wrenching on their cars, and decided to forgo the qual session to be ready for the afternoon. Throughout the day, friends, fellow drivers, and spectators all roamed the pits and garages, checking out the cars, talking to drivers, and asking questions about their own builds currently in progress.

SUNDAY LUNCH - Plum's early off in R2 caused the electric fan to hit the water pump pulley, blowing the fuse, pushed up the radiator core support, and damaged some oil cooler fittings. During initial repairs, the radiator sprung a leak. Not daunted in the least, all the CMC'ers pitched in to repair the leak, the core support, the oil cooler fittings, and get the electric fan working again so the #77 would be ready to do battle in the afternoon.



CMC'ers coming to the rescue of the wounded #77. Image by Susie Plum.



Derek Tisinger mans the sledgehammer, Mike Plum steadies the custom wood "tool", while Ginsberg supervises the core support fix of Plum's Camaro. Image by Susie Plum.

Robin Riner's AIX Mustang, and Asif Chaudhri's retro-Javelin were ready to go, even though both were nursing wounded cars. The #77 was patched up, and Ginsberg installed a fresh set of pads.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON RACE – Given the various mechanical pains ALL the AIX and CMC'ers drivers had been experiencing, the race was anyone's to take.

CMC elected to perform the first standing start of the season. The grid had Ginsberg on pole, followed by Mike Plum, Ron Klamecki, Derek Tisinger, and Karl Chicca.

At the drop of the green, Ginsberg launched hard, taking the lead heading into T1 and T2. But that didn't mean much, as the rest of the CMC drivers were close behind!

AIX took a flying green – the #74 stayed close to Riner's #91, but within a few laps, Riner's clutch was slipping so badly, he bought it into the pits, leaving the Javelin to take its first race win in its very first weekend at the track!

The CMC'ers were racing hard, with Ginsberg leading for several laps until the #77 made its move exiting T11, made it stick, and taking over. Klamecki, Tisinger and Chicca battled it out, but Tisinger's mechanicals forced him back into the pits, leaving Klamecki and Chicca racing.

Due to an incident at T1, a full course yellow as flown, followed shortly thereafter with the checker as the cleanup was going to take awhile

At the finish, Plum took his second win of the weekend, with Ginsberg, Klamecki, Tisinger, and Chicca bringing up the final CMC positions.



The AIX and CMC drivers roll into tech. Image by Susie Plum.



Mike Plum (L) gets a congratulatory handshake from Adam Ginsberg. Image by Susie Plum.



CMC Sunday afternoon podium. L-R: Adam Ginsberg (P2), Mike Plum (P1), and Ron Klamecki (P3). Image by Susie Plum.



AIX Javelin owner, rookie driver, and Sunday afternoon race winner Asif Chaudhri. Image by Susie Plum.

CONCLUSION – American V8 soon-to-be racers Chris Terra, the Smiths, Eli Cronbach, Jim Black, and many others are finishing up their cars, working on their competition licenses, and will be joining the rest of V8 racers during this race season.

AI and CMC goes back to Sears Point in 3 short weeks for our next event on 10/11 March 2012.

2012 CMC Points:		2012 AIX Points:	
298	Micheal Plum	191	Robin Riner
291	Adam Ginsberg	190	Asif Chaudhri
287	Klamecki Brothers Racing	0	Steve Butscher
281	Derek Tisinger	0	Tim Pinelli
184	Karl Chicca	0	Corey Weber
0	Don Lariviere	0	Ross Murray
0	Nick Steel	0	Bryan MacMillan
0	Aaron Schroeder	0	Rob Capetz
0	Carson Scheller	0	Ryan Walton
0	David Brown (Mustang)		
0	Jeremy Bua		
0	Ken Pearson		
0	Matt Renna		
0	Robert Walters		
0	Mike Donahoe		
0	Charles Weeks		
0	Sam Stowell (BAF Racing)		
0	Dennis "Smitty" Smith		
0	David Brown (Camaro)		
0	Randy Wright		

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

- www.nasaproracing.com
- www.camaromustangchallenge.com
- www.nasaponycars.com
- www.agentfortyseven.com/outlaw/index.html

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