

MID-AM REPORT

Whatever the problems were last year that affected the Mid-Am Championship, they seem to be shaking off this year. Already we have 134 drivers registered, more than at the end of the 2001 season, and every one of MiDiv's 14 Regions has drivers registered with points scored.

After one lap around the Division, with every track but the new MidAmerica Motorplex having held a race, some early results are beginning to suggest trends, but none that cannot be overcome with 13 races yet to run. It is not yet too late to get in on the fun.

PRODUCTION ~ EP: **Ron Davis** (Kan) has the points lead in defense of his 2001 championship, with **Dale Smith** (Kan) pressing the strongest challenge. FP: **Bob Eichelberger** (StL) won the first two rounds at Memphis and Gateway, but now **Mickey Schreiner** (NeOk) has jumped in. Mickey's a 7-time HP champ but now the Schreiner Midget is an FP car. GP: **Chuck Leighton** (OzMt) reeled off a trio of wins, two at the Heartland Park double regional and one a week later at Hallett, with **Rocky Entriken** (Sal) chasing him home each time. HP: **Andrew Wright** (StL) has the only score so far.

GT ~ GT1: **Mary Daly** collected a pair in the early eastside races. GT2: **Don Christman** took his pair at Heartland Park. GT3: Two wins here also, but one each for **Charles Guenther** (KC) and **David Bower** (Okla).

SPORTSRACING ~ SRF: The only class with any activity has plenty of it with points to nine drivers already. **Bill Allman** (Kan) ran off four straight wins before stumbling at Hallett while **Wayne Hudec** (NeOk) won, but that is a very strong early lead for Allman.

FORMULA ~ FA: **Phil Gumpert** (StL) won one at Memphis. FC: **Shane Bennoch** (OzMt) won at Gateway and twice at Heartland Park, but then **Phil Hemes** (KC) outran him at Hallett. FF: **Tim Koch** (KC) struck twice at Heartland Park and has a three-point edge on **Staton Breidenthal** (Ark). CF: **Tom Coppage** (StL) has three wins on the board to one for David Livingston (MidS).

STREET TIRES ~ AS: **Ted Johnson** (Neb), the two-time champ, has two wins in his bid for a third. T1: **Loren Moore** (OzMt) already has four wins on the board. SSC: **Jan Gerber** (Neb) bought John Saucier's Neon and has three wins already. SM: Spec Miata, Mid-Am's newest class, is really taking off with points to eight drivers already. **Dick Faxon** (OzMt) was edged out for the first SM championship, but is hard after it again with three victories at Gateway and Heartland Park. **Bill Kucera** (DMV) is holding second place.

IMPROVED TOURING ~ ITS: **Dan Crossett** (Ark) leads after winning one of the Heartland Park races, but only by two points over the brothers **Wagner -- Marty and Randy** (NeOk) tied at 25 each. ITA: A new name, **Charles Casteel** (KC) stands atop the chart after winning at Hallett, but his margin is even thinner -- one point -- over **Timothy Finley** (StL) and **David Volante** (DMV). Finley won the Memphis-Gateway parlay and Volante took both Heartland Park races. ITB: Yes, it's **Chris Albin** (Sill) on top, but "only" with three wins. **Robert Briggen** (Sill) is next, winning the two where Albin ended his races on the hook. ITC: **Matt Armfield** (Wich) won one of the HPT races and again at Hallett, for a 10-point edge over **Ray Barker** (Wich). ITE: **Fred Tranbarger** (StL), the 2000 ITE champ, won the Memphis and Gateway rounds to start his quest for another title. *-Rocky Entriken*