



Chicago, October 12, 2009, NASA Midwest, Inc.

Putnam Park Road Course, October 2-4, 2009, NASA Great Lakes-Midwest Crossover Event

NASA Time Trial Drivers secure Championships at Putnam Park

NASA Great Lakes and Midwest Time Trial drivers showed up in force for the final event this season. With several Championships on the line this weekend, all of the drivers had one thing on their mind; driving fast, clean laps. With clear, but cool, weather and the fewest number of yellow flags seen in an event this season, the Time Trial drivers from both regions did not disappoint. It was a fast and fun weekend for all!

Starting at the top, Dean Daugharthy took an unopposed victory in TTR with a blistering pace of 1:13:220, setting the fastest lap of all TT drivers this weekend. TTU saw Tony Morris and Jim Avery battling it out with Morris taking the win in the first event with a 1:18.151 and Avery taking the win in the second event with a 1:17.302. Avery's two podium finishes this weekend helped him secure second place in the overall Great Lakes standings for the season. Brian Chubb finished third and second in the respective events this weekend, earning him more than enough points to secure the Great Lakes TTU Championship.

In TTS, the Championship for each region was on the line. Geff Sawtelle, fresh off his drive for the National Championship in Utah, was dominant in his Corvette for both events this weekend, securing the Midwest Championship over Derek Wright, who was unable to mount a fight due to engine troubles. John Brownlow was able to finish second ahead of Jerry Hunt's Porsche, but it wasn't enough to keep Jerry from winning the Great Lakes TTS Championship. Brownlow finished a very strong second for the season, 300 points ahead of his closest competitor.

TTA was all about the Great Lakes drivers this weekend. Matt Carlyle was able to set a time of 1:18.514 in his Corvette finishing in first through both events ahead of Bruce Raymond in his Camaro. This order slotted both of them in one-two finish for both the weekend and the overall Championship. Carlyle was also able to take an additional award home this weekend by being named the Great Lakes Instructor of the Year. Congratulations Matt!

While TTA showcased the Great Lakes region, TTB highlighted their Midwest companions. Nathan Pitcher dominated the weekend in his Mitsubishi; giving him an astonishing eight TTB wins in a row! The additional 200 points wasn't enough, however, as Jeff Vance drove his Eclipse to a second and a third place finish this weekend, winning the Midwest Championship with a 25-point lead over Pitcher. Newcomer Dave Lowum made a good showing, taking second place in



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the second event. Congratulations Dave on acquiring your Time Trial license this weekend.

TTC had one of the closest Championship battles going during the weekend. Aaron Leichty cleaned house during both events setting a fast time of 1:18.398 in his S2000, a full 2.5 seconds ahead of his closest competitor as well as a new track record. Second place in the first event went to Mike Ruth in his BMW and to David Proudfoot in the second event driving his S2000. The real battle in TTC was for the Midwest Championship. Bryce Austin came into the weekend trailing Ken Frey by 25 points. Throughout the course of the weekend, Austin was able to make up the 25 points and then some, taking the Midwest Championship over Frey by a mere 10 points! Frey was able to hold on to his second place standings in both the Great Lakes and Midwest regions.

TTD saw Tom Hatem unopposed for the first event this weekend driving his BMW. Newcomer Mike Alsip was able to come along and snatch the win from Hatem in his Acura Integra. Congratulations Mike on your first TT win and on acquiring your TT license!

TTE saw another extremely close Championship battle. Midwest driver Jose Petri came into the weekend knowing he needed a win in his Volkswagen Beetle to claim the Championship over Joseph Sullivan. It would be the Great Lakes Rookie of the Year driver Matt Johnston who would play spoiler and snatch the victory in both events from Petri in his Pakistan Express Civic. Johnston won by a margin of .191 seconds in the first event and .105 seconds in the second event. With Johnston gaining two first place finishes ahead of Petri, Sullivan was able to hold on to a narrow 10 point lead for the Midwest TTE Championship.

Eric Jensen taking a win for both events in his TTF Toyota rounded out the TT classes during the weekend. That's right, Jensen showed up in car that did not even class into TTF, but due to the rules, we had to bump him up. Talk about bringing a knife to a gunfight! It may not have been the fastest car out there, but Jensen looked like he was having a blast whipping that Toyota around the track!

After the competition was through for the weekend, Time Trial drivers from both regions were treated to a wonderful awards ceremony, with much celebrating, music, and awards. Thank you to NASA for a great season as well as a great season ending event. I would like to thank all of the Midwest and Great Lakes Time Trial drivers for an excellent season of competition. I hope you all had as much fun as I did. As always, thank you as well to Hoosier Tires and Hawk Brakes for your generous support of the NASA TT program. Congratulations to all of the NASA Midwest and Great Lakes Time Trial Champions!



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