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NATIONAL AUTO SPORT ASSOCIATION

NASA Midwest Inc.
5250 Grand Avenue
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Gurnee, IL 60031

Chicago, May 25, 2010, NASA Midwest, Inc.

NASA Invades Minnesota and finds Life on Planet Brainerd!

The invasion of Brainerd International Raceway in Brainerd Minnesota, began on Friday, with event set up and drivers trickling in as the day progressed. By the 7pm close of NASA Central, many new friends were made, old friends caught up and smiles were everywhere. The feeling of making history was in the air!

Saturday dawned cool and cloudy, with light rain in the late morning just in time for qualifying. At one point a BIG storm blew through and several trees came down in the paddock. The NASA Central Tent did its best to fly home to Chicago and part of a building fell on the Pace Car. Good thing it was a rental! First up was a 30 minute Driver Orientation session, as few had ever seen let alone driven the new configuration at BIR. Warm Up got started promptly at 9:30 am and drivers immediately gave the track rave reviews. Fast! Challenging! Fun! Did I mention FAST?

HPDE, Time Trials and Race Drivers all got plenty of track time Saturday. Several drivers moved up within HPDE and Time Trials and 3 drivers completed their Comp School requirements. Saturday finished off with pizza, beer and awards on the bandstand.

Sunday was warm, cloudy and humid. How is it that the hottest day of the 2010 racing season (so far) was 90 degrees in northern Minnesota??? No matter, there was driving to do! Time Trial drivers did their best to break the lap records set Saturday, with some class jumping to grab those valuable contingency dollars making things more interesting. The Comp School drivers got to start where they qualified and once again the crowd got a good show in turn 12 and 13.

Some highlights:

John Boos setting the course lap record in his ST1 Corvette at 1:37.309. Want a point of reference for how fast that is? 2009 AIX National Champ Chris Griswold set the AIX lap record at 1:41.540. We all know how fast Chris is....John was flying!

The CMC2 drivers did their best to entertain the large crowd with standing starts. Kent Owens has them down to a science with Top Fuel-esque starts. Now, if he could just figure out how to make it through the first corner...Kent did a celebratory doughnut after winning Race 2. Unfortunately he did it on lap 4 of Race 3 while leading! Props to Rookie and Comp School grad Brooks Letourneau, for beating both Kent & Steve Michael off the line in race 3 and leading for a lap. Not bad for his 3rd race! Watch out cause Brooks will be a winning before long.



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Brian Groth made the competition debut of his 2010 Chevrolet Camaro. Yes, it is every bit as cool in person as it is in the photos I've seen. And fast too, winning all 3 races over Mark Adams. Not only did Brian win all 3, but it's the first amateur racing victory for the new car.

NASA Midwest looks to the future and hopes the good will from this event will allow us to grow in the area.

For complete results and a list of lap records, please see www.nasamidwest.com

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