

NATIONAL RACING REPORT

Sit back, catch your breath. Whooh! Three races in five weeks and there were at least 19 MiDiv drivers who made all three! Okay, the spring scramble is past and now we settle back to a more sane summer schedule of a race every three weeks, sometimes two, but No more two-plus-two.

Kansas City Region drivers are leading seven classes so far, including a sweep of the SportsRacing classes. Three-time winner **Hans Peter** tops CSR, **Mark Dalen** leads DSR, **Jack Platt** is ahead of S2000, and **Ron Lentz** is top dog of 19 Spec Racer Fords. Also out front and flying the KC banner are **John Strickler** in his pro-series Star Mazda leading Formula Atlantic, **Cliff Johnson's** Piper with a 3-point edge in Formula Ford, and three-time winner **Mike McGinley** in T1.

St. Louis Region has a matching total, seven class leaders, led by FV National Champ **Brad Stout** with three victories. Also in the small formulae, **Kenny Price** heads up F500. Riding on street rubber are AS leader **James Stevens**, SSB's **Ward Herst**, and **Steven Burkett** in T3 with a Mazda RX8, all three of them two-time winners. **Peter Zekert** has stepped out in front of GT-Lite, and **Barry Schonberger** is in a tie for the GT2 lead (the only class with a tie at the top for the moment).

Oklahoma Region has the other half of that GT2 tie in **Roger Bryan's** Porsche 946, one of four class leaders from the Sooner state. Also atop the charts are **Jeff Norris** in HP, **Robert Weaver** in GT3, and the perennial **John Saucier** who already has five finishes in SSC, winning four of them.

Ozark Mountain Region has three class leaders, including **Chuck Leighton** in GP and **Chris Brannon** in T2. But look at the newest and hottest class in club racing today, Spec Miata, which has **Hugh Sutton** atop a 38-driver list.

Mid-South Region claims the class leaders in GT1, **Bill Gray**, and EP, **Kevin Grant**, each with two wins on the board. Also noteworthy is **Jim Drago**, second in that huge Spec Miata class.

Kansas Region also has a pair at the top, **Eric Prill's** Lotus Super 7 in FP and **Bill Allman's** Tatuus in Formula Continental.

Which leaves one class left -- Formula Mazda, led by **Ken DeNault** of Des Moines Valley Region. The national champ in T2, **Chuck Hemmingson**, holds down third place in that class.

Nebraska Region's top driver of the moment is **Natha Waldbaum**, second in T1 with her brand new "Li'l Red Corvette" after wiping out her ride at last

year's Runoffs (didja see that on Speed Channel? Wow!)

Southern Illinois Region has a pair of Vee-Dubs contending in GP. Two-time winner **Chris Albin** is second in points and Gateway winner **Chuck Mathis** is fourth.

NeOkla Region's **Charlie James** (his SafeRacer outfit sponsors our Mid-Am Championship) holds down third spot in Spec Miata, one point out of second and four behind first.

The only other region with points-scoring drivers is Wichita Region, where the highest score belongs to **Dave Wilcox** in Formula Atlantic after a Hallett victory.

Next up, the racers' holiday, Memorial Day weekend at Memphis. Then the first National at the new Runoffs home, Heartland Park, where points might be tougher to find. Visitors expected!

--Rocky Entriken

The Midwest Division I.T. Tour

It takes three starts to qualify for the Midwest Division I.T. Tour and three drivers have met that already.

Chris Albin (Sill) in SSB, of course, winning all three. No surprise there. And then **Andy Wolverton** (Neb) in ITE, winning two of his three and runner-up in the other. The third is **Ed Mabry** (Ark) in the very busy ITA class -- 24 drivers! -- but he sits second to two-time winner **Tom Scheifler**.

One-time winners lead the other three classes, with three-way ties in both ITS and IT7 and **Michael Major** (StL) the only driver to post in ITC so far.
--R.E.