

# Reedy International Race Of Champions

*By Gene Husting*



**W**hat brings the best 30 racers from around the world to participate in this 17th Annual Reedy Race? A number of things. The format of the racing is quite unique. These 30 drivers are invited to participate, based upon their outstanding performances in world class competitions.

Each one of these drivers will compete in six 2WD main events on Saturday, and six more 4WD main events on Sunday. The drivers will be rotated into different mains every round. This means every time they race, it will be against a different group of drivers. Their starting positions will also be rotated equally,





from the first row, the the middle, and then to the last rows. They will then receive points for their finishing positions in each race, with one throwout.

Each driver will therefore be racing against every other driver a number of times. The drivers who are consistently the fastest, will be at the top of the list. From the spectator's or driver's point of view, it's a chance to see the best 30 drivers in the world race against each other in 24 2WD mains on Saturday, and 24 4WD mains on Sunday. What could be better?

In addition, Mike chooses the best, and most popular tracks to hold these events. M-N-M's new raceway, in Corona, California was the site of this event. This is a big

modern, indoor track, with a large well stocked hobby shop. On top of that, Mike designs some of the most interesting layouts you'll ever see.

And there is also a full program of Open Class racing, using our normal type of qualifying and mains, for 2WD and 4WD cars. Something for everyone. The track proved quite challenging, especially the triple jumps. It appeared that more than half of the Open Class drivers could not clear the third jump, in one jump. And virtually every driver had problems with the triples, at one time or another.

#### **INVITATIONAL CLASS 2WD ROUND #1**

Of the 4 heats in round 1, Greg

Hodapp and Mark Pavidis started off with a win, as did Derek Furutani, who finished third in the last World Championships. A new rising start from Japan, Atusushi Hara, also won his heat.

#### **2WD ROUND #2**

Hodapp won his second race with points total now standing at (2). Rick Hohwart and Jimmy Jacobson both took a win. Brian Kinwald took his first win and a points total of (3). Pavidis had a traffic problem and would use this round as a throwout.

#### **2WD ROUND #3**

Hohwart took his second win (2) Pavidis also added another win (2),

*Atushi Hara from Japan  
had a very respectable  
7th place finish.*







*This was the pit area for the Invitational class drivers. and Billy Easton and Mark Francis took their first wins.*

#### **2WD ROUND #4**

Hodapp was hot with his third win (5), and Kinwald was also flying with another win (4). Pavidis was right there with a second place (4). Greg Dennett took his first win while Mark Francis took his second win.

#### **2WD ROUND #5**

It was looking like 2WD was going to be a dead heat between Hodapp, Pavidis and Kinwald. Then Hodapp had traffic problems in this heat, and finished in fifth, resulting in a throwout (5). Kinwald was still hot with another win (5), while Pavidis took another second place (6). Sohrab Tavakoli took his first win, while Dennett took his second win. Masami Hirosaka got his first win. Masami was certainly going fast enough, but when it came to traffic, he al-

ways seemed to be in the wrong place, at the wrong time.

#### **2WD FINAL ROUND #6**

This round would decide the overall 2WD class. The traffic bit Hodapp again, with a fifth place finish, and a points total of (10). Kinwald was blazing with yet another win (6). Kinwald had 4 wins, one second and one third - throwout. Pavidis was right behind with another win, too (7). Mark ended up with three wins, and two seconds. Derek Furutani was also right up there with two wins, two seconds and one third (9). Scott Hughes was also Mr. Consistent, with four seconds and one third (11). And Craig Drescher was right there with three seconds and two thirds (12).

#### **2WD TOP 10**

- 1st - Brian Kinwald/6 points**
- 2nd - Mark Pavidis/7 points**
- 3rd - Derek Furutani/9 points**
- 4th - Greg Hodapp/10 points**
- 5th - Scott Hughes/11 points**

- 6th - Rich Hohwart/12 points**
- 7th - Craig Drescher/12 points**
- 8th - Mike Weed/13 points**
- 9th - Greg Dennett/13 points**
- 10th - Mark Francis/14 points**

Another reason drivers like this race, is that referees are used, just like at the World Championships. One of the referees was Mike Swauger, the current 1/10 On-Road World Champion, and a driver, considered by his fellow racers, to be one of the cleanest drivers in the world. And working with Mike was Ken Thrombley, a

*Two very fast drivers. Scott Hughes (left) took 4th place overall, while Craig Drescher from England was 5th.*

very experienced, well like racer.

#### **4WD ROUND #1**

Now all the drivers switch to their 4WD cars, for another six races each, Greg Hodapp started with a win again (1), as did Mark Pavidis (1). Kinwald used his throwout. Shinnosuke Adachi and Atusushi Hara, both from Japan, took wins.

#### **4WD ROUND #2**

Hodapp started a string with his second win (2), and Kinwald picked up his first win (1), while Pavidis took a second. Craig Drescher, from England, took a win, and Patrick Fechtschenko, from Germany, also took a win.

#### **4WD ROUND #3**

Hodapp continued on his winning streak with another win (3),

while Kinwald (3) and Pavidis both took another second (5). Jukka Steenari, from Finland took his first win, with Billy Easton and Masami also taking a win.

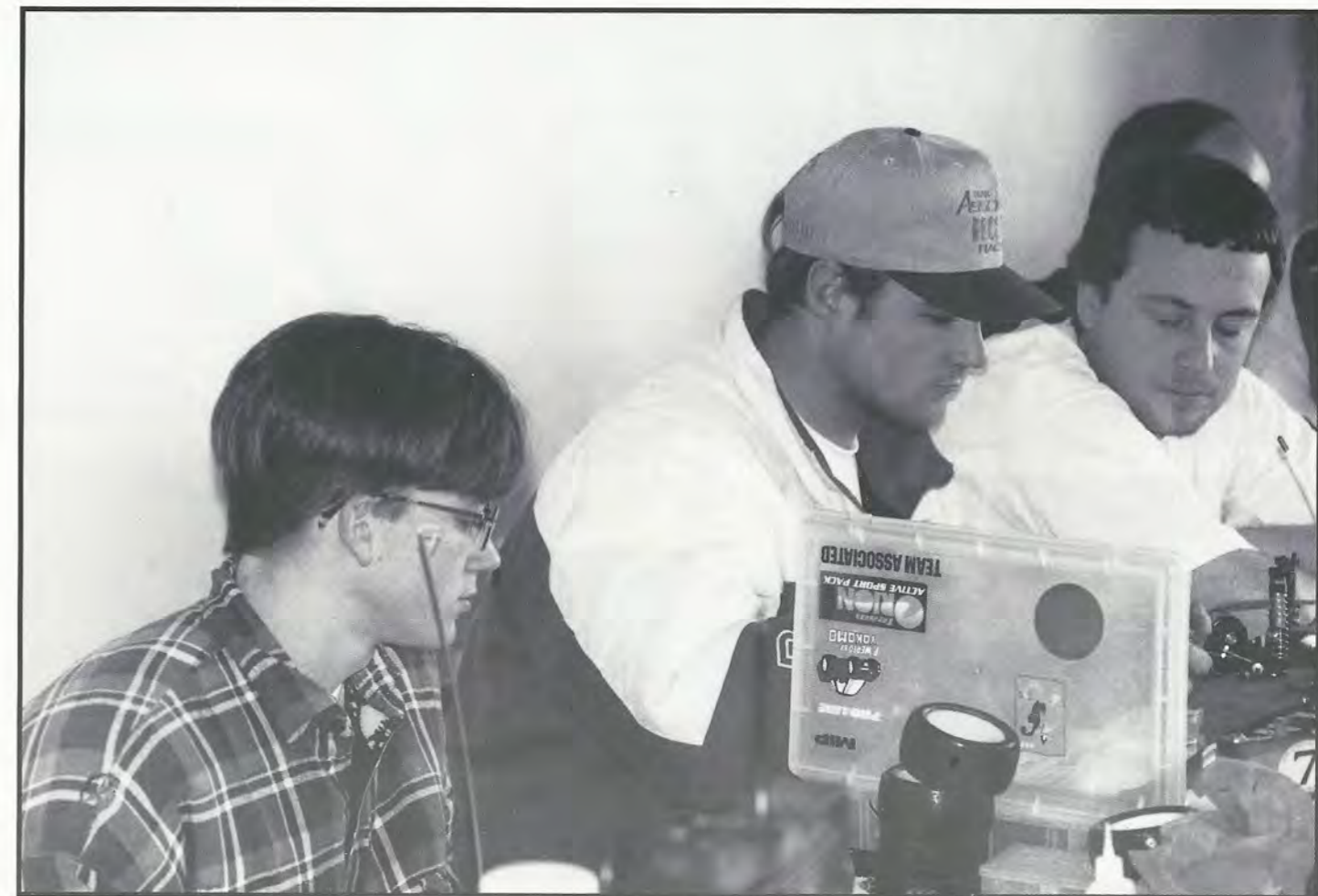
#### **4WD ROUND #4**

Talk about a hot streak, Hodapp made it four in a row (4). Remember, some of these starts are from the middle and the back rows. Pavidis also took a win (6), with Scott Hughes and Atusushi Hara taking his second win.

#### **4WD ROUND #5**

Greg Hodapp, Mark Pavidis and Brian Kinwald were all in this race. Only one of them could win. This was destined to be the deciding race, and as it turned out, one of the all time best races ever.

Brian had a second row starting







*This is only part of Joe Stanovich's M-N-M hobby shop area in Corona, California.*

position, while Mark and Greg were in the back row. Mike Weed took the lead, with Brian passing cars in the first corner to move into second. Greg and Mark, somehow managed to get through all the cars to move into third and fourth going into the big triple jumps.

Mark followed Greg to the straightaway, and then used his power to pull alongside Greg at the end of the straightaway, and made an inside pass on Greg to move into third. Then on the third lap, Mark rolled coming off the triples, and Greg went back into third.

A lap later, Brian closed in on Weed, but they bumped in a cor-

ner after the straightaway, and Weed got stuck on the pipes, as Greg and Mark got by. Mark was right on Greg's tail, and two laps later, Mark found a place to make a clean inside pass on Greg to take the lead. Then, 2 laps later, Mark

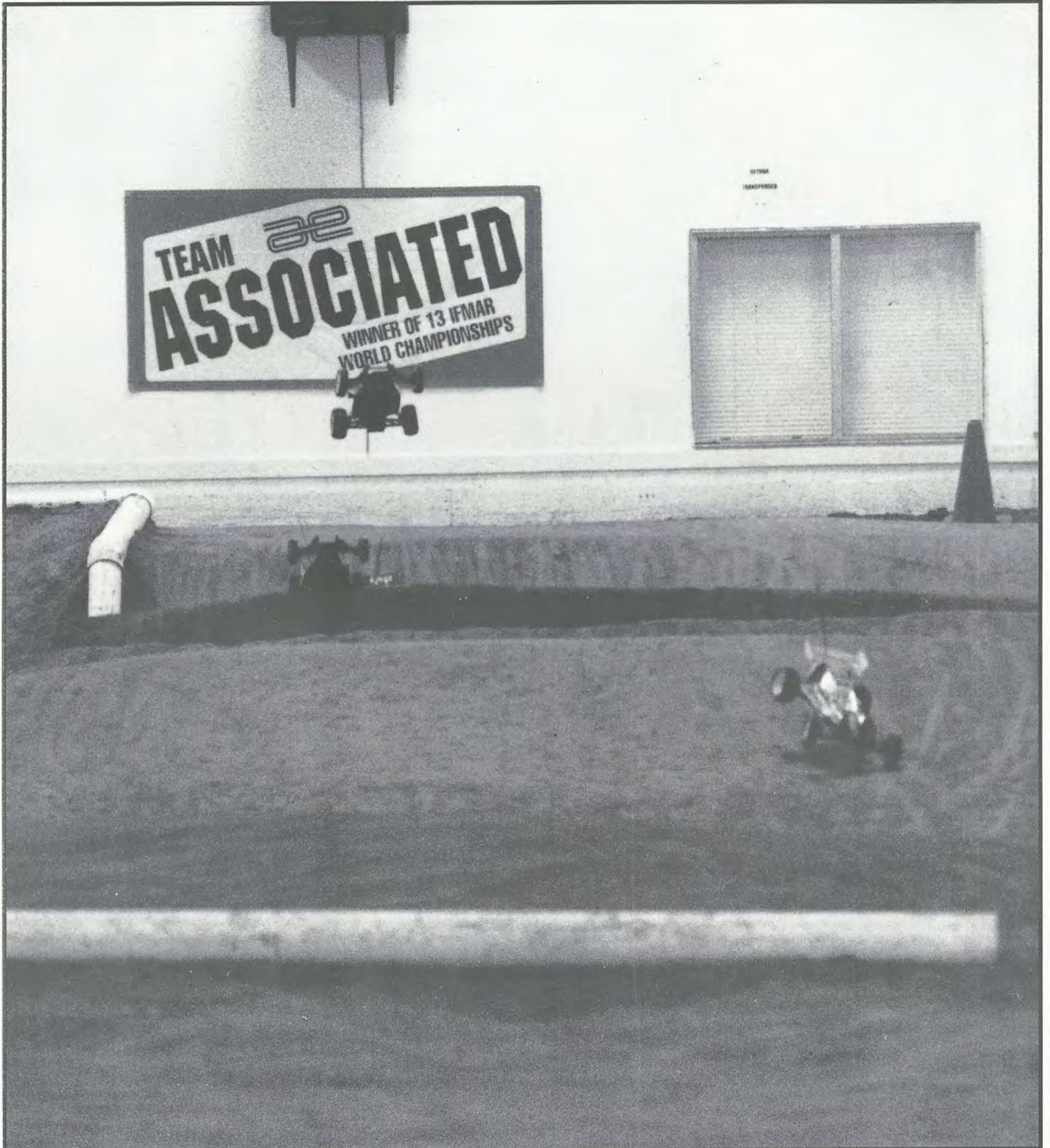
went a little too wide over the doubles, and Greg took the inside line to make a clean pass, and re-take the lead.

Then Mark got alongside Greg at the turn at the end of the straightaway, with Brian close behind. It



simply doesn't get any better than this. Greg took the inside line around the corner, so Mark took the outside line, which put him on the inside starting over the triples.

*The triples were not only a crowd pleaser, but a favorite with the drivers as well. As you can see there was plenty of air that could be generated off them. Additionally, these jumps set you up for an important corner, followed by the finish line. With racing as close as it was you couldn't make a mistake anywhere.*





Mark had a slight lead going over the triples, but not that much. However, Greg made his jump a little too short, causing the nose to dig in, kicking the rear end up, just as Brian got there, resulting in a crash with both cars laying upside down on the track.

Brian recovered first to take second, with Gabe Boudreaux, now in third. Then Gabe clipped a pipe and Jimmy Jacobson moved into third. A couple of laps later, Brian was right behind Mark, and after both cars cleared the triples, somehow Brian managed to jump over Mark's car in the valley.

Then, a corner later, Mark made an inside pass to retake the lead. Then, in an effort to retake the lead, Brian tried an inside pass on Mark at the kink, starting onto the straightaway, but he cut it too close, hit the pipe and spun out. Jimmy went by into second now, with Brian third.

The next lap, all the fun ended with Mark taking the checkered flag, with Jimmy second, Brian third and Greg fourth. You guys put on one heck of a great race.

This race gave everyone a chance to see how the new Losi 4WD car performed against the Yokomo car. To be fair, both sides have a lot to cheer about. The cars are pretty evenly matched right now. I'm sure they'll both be working extra hard to beat the other. But, that's what it's all about!

With this win, Mark had enough points to win the overall Championships. He certainly earned it. Nobody gave it to him. A word about the referees. They did a thorough, fair, but thankless job. 23

warnings were given to 18 drivers. The warnings were almost evenly divided between both teams. This includes three World Champions, one of whom had two warnings. Three warnings and you're out of the race. It's interesting to note that the overall winner didn't have any warnings.

#### 4WD ROUND #6

Hodapp won his fifth main (5) with Kinwald (9), Steenari and Scott Brown also winning their races. Pavidis used this race as his throwout (7).

#### 4WD TOP 10

- 1st - Greg Hodapp/5 points
- 2nd - Mark Pavidis/7 points
- 3rd - Jukka Steenari/8 points
- 4th - Brian Kinwald/9 points
- 5th - Scott Hughes/10 points
- 6th - Atusushi Hara/10 points
- 7th - Shinnosuke Adachi/12 points
- 8th - Craig Drescher/13 points
- 9th - Jimmy Jacobson/14 points
- 10th - Scott Brown/16 points

#### OVERALL INVITATIONAL CLASS RESULTS

- 1st - Mark Pavidis/14 points  
RC10B2/Yokomo/Reedy
- 2nd - Greg Hodapp/15 points  
Losi/Losi/Trinity
- 3rd - Brian Kinwald/15 points  
Losi/Losi/Trinity
- 4th - Scott Hughes/21 points  
RC10B2/Yokomo/Reedy
- 5th - Craig Drescher/25 points  
RC10B2/Yokomo/Reedy
- 6th - Derek Furutani/26 points  
Losi/Losi/Maxtec

7th - Atusushi Hara/28 points  
RC10B2/Yokomo/Reedy

8th - Jukka Steenari/30 points  
Schumacher/Schumacher/LRP

9th - Mark Francis/32 points  
RC10B2/Yokomo/Reedy

10th - Rick Hohwart/33 points  
Losi/Losi/Peak

11th - Jimmy Jacobson/33 pts.  
RC10B2/Yokomo/Reedy

12th - Scott Brown/33 points  
Losi/Losi/Trinity

13th - Gabe Boudreaux/35 pts.  
Losi/Losi/Trinity

14th - Greg Dennett/36 points  
Losi/Losi/Peak

15th - Masami Hirosaka/36 pts.  
RC10B2/Yokomo/Reedy  
2WD OPEN CLASS

Wes Kasper took the lead down the straight and around the first turn, but then Alex Guerrero made an inside pass to take the lead. Then Guerrero got stuck in a corner and Kasper went back in the lead with Todd Cariseo passing three cars in the next two corners to move into second, with Guerrero third.

Todd slowly moved in on Kasper, and after three laps made a clean inside pass to take the lead. Then Guerrero made an inside pass on Kasper to move into second. Then Guerrero got tapped by Kasper, spun out, with Shawn Dassonville moving into third.

Kasper then clipped a corner and Dassonville went into second.

Dassonville then clipped a corner and Guerrero went into second. While all this was going on Todd Cariseo was driving an error free race, and pulling farther and farther ahead to win by seven seconds.

#### 2WD OPEN CLASS A MAIN

1st - Todd Cariseo  
RC10B2/Reedy

2nd - Alex Guerrero  
Losi/Peak

3rd - Matt Lee  
Losi/Maxtec

4th - Wes Kasper  
Losi/Trinity

5th - Todd Hodge  
Losi/Trinity

6th - Shawn Dassonville  
RC10B2/Reedy

7th - Bryce Beaver  
RC10B2/Reedy

8th - Mike Haufpaur  
Losi/Peak

9th - Lloyd Dassonville  
RC10B2/Reedy

10th - Dustin Biber  
RC10B2/Reedy

#### B MAIN

- 1st - Travis Amezcua
- 2nd - Austin Dvorak
- 3rd - Randon Hayes
- 4th - Brent Thielke
- 5th - Mike Walker
- 6th - Albert Clemons
- 7th - Albert Guardado
- 8th - Frosty St. Clair

9th - Chad Bradley

10th - Jerry Walter  
4WD OPEN CLASS A MAIN

Alex Guerrero took the early lead, with Albert Guardado second and Brent Wallace moving up to third, with Travis Amezcua fourth. Todd Hodge got by both Wallace and Amezcua to move into third. Guerrero pulled away from the field to win by five seconds.

#### 4WD OPEN CLASS A MAIN

1st - Alex Guerrero  
Losi/Peak

2nd - Albert Guardado  
Losi/Peak

3rd - Todd Hodge  
Losi/Trinity

4th - Bryce Beaver  
Yokomo/Reedy

5th - Travis Amezcua  
Yokomo/Reedy

6th - Brent Wallace  
Yokomo/Maxtec

7th - John Scott  
Yokomo/Reedy

8th - Matt Lee  
Yokomo/Maxtec

9th - Dustin Biber  
Yokomo/Reedy

10th - Todd Cariseo  
Yokomo/Reedy

#### B MAIN

- 1st - Yukio Wakasugi
- 2nd - Frosty St. Clair
- 3rd - Chris McElroy
- 4th - Jeff Wittman
- 5th - Trever Adamo
- 6th - Jason Moberly
- 7th - James Thomas
- 8th - Gene Hickerson
- 9th - Robert Gillespie
- 10th - Scott Burns

CP