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DAYTONA GUIDE



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BEST OF THE YEAR

cars
drivers
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TIRE TESTING: Race vs. street face-off

Volume 27 •



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Wine Country Winner's Circle



▲ At the conclusion of the USTCC 2009 finale in California, second-place Andy Chittum (far left) and third-place Vince Parker (far right) joined winner Andrie Hartanto on the podium along with Miss USTCC, Jessica Johnson.

Hartanto and Lepper Team Up for USTCC Championship

story by ali arsham • photo by ryan cristobal

Andrie Hartanto and teammate Tom Lepper drove a Chevy Cobalt SS to a win at the Nitto Tire United States Touring Car Championship finale at Infineon Raceway on October 25, 2009. The USTCC finale was a two-hour endurance format, and the duo had a comfortable points lead going into the race. All they had to do was finish.

Rather than drive conservatively, however, Hartanto and Lepper stayed out of trouble and kept a strong pace even as the other top contenders fell out with mechanical problems. Only half of the 10-car field made it past the halfway point.

Primary challenger Andy Chittum was the fastest driver on track in his BMW 328ti, but his early lead was dissolved by a full-course yellow around the one-hour mark. He had the pace to open up a gap when the racing resumed, but the Cobalt team's blazing-fast pit stop put them at the front. They were able to maintain their lead to the checkered flag.

Vince Parker put his MINI Cooper S in third overall while securing the Dupli-Color Rookie of the Year award, and several other drivers came away with cool prizes courtesy of the USTCC's generous trophy programs. Visit ustcc.com for complete results.

pro racing news

Congrats to John Dearing, winner of the first World Challenge Fantasy League contest. John won a free four-day Grand Prix Road Racing School from Bondurant.

Grand-Am is posting season recaps from its first decade at grand-am.com in anticipation of the 10th anniversary celebration at the 2010 Rolex 24 weekend.

Pro racing coverage is provided by TheRaceSite.com. For the latest on the North American sports car racing scene, check out theracesite.com.

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