

THE COBRA LIVES! NASA'S FACTORY FIVE SERIES

Grassroots Motorsports

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MX-5: AUTOCROSS PROJECT

MUSTANG MADNESS!

FORD'S LEGENDARY PONY STILL RULES THE RACE TRACK

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EDITORS' CHOICE
the best of 2011

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John Hiatt photo

Loren Trefethen led the points, followed closely by Team BTM Motorwerks and Team North Bay Bavarian. A field of 26 BMWs came to the November finale, where Brad McClure of BTM scored the win and regained the lead in the first race. Team North Bay Bavarian's Greg Peterson ran a masterful race in the final event of the weekend to finish first, but BTM scored second and the year-end championship by a very narrow margin.

Meanwhile, the Spec E30 racers in NASA's SoCal region had a bit of fun with a Le Mans-style start, and they made a video to commemorate the occasion. Watch the mayhem at tinyurl.com/7n529vj, and don't take it too seriously.

Camaro-Mustang Challenge 2

CMC2 drivers of the NASA Central and Rocky Mountain regions gathered at Motorsports Park Hastings October 8-9 for their final event of the season. Cody Powell secured a class win and the Rocky Mountain regional championship with his Chevy Camaro. The event marked the largest turnout so far for the region.

Time Trial

October's Motorsport Park Hastings event drew 18 Time Trial competitors

to battle the clock on this fun Nebraska circuit. David Jobusch (1995 BMW M3) took an early overall and TTA lead. His position held until the track dried on Sunday, allowing TTU racer John Slinkard (2002 Honda S2000) to knock the top time down to a 1:33.5. Other class winners were Randy Hablitzel (TTC 1989 Ford Mustang), Robert Cowan (TTR 1965 Factory Five Roadster) and David Balingit (TTD 1993 Mazda Miata).

US Touring Car Championship

On October 9, Brandon Kraus scored his fourth win of the 2011 Nitto Tires USTCC season in his Honda Prelude at California's Buttonwillow Raceway. Just 0.6 second separated Kraus and the second- and third-place cars of Felipe Cabezas (Mazdaspeed3) and Pete Bovenberg (Honda Civic). Cabezas had the pace to catch Kraus, but time simply ran out; Kraus admitted that another lap might have been too much for his defense. However, Cabezas was disqualified due to a technical infraction, moving Bovenberg up to second and promoting Curt Simmons's Dodge SRT4 to third. Visit ustcc.com for the latest.

Cody Powell was crowned the Rocky Mountain Camaro-Mustang Challenge 2 regional champion after a win at Motorsports Park Hastings in October.



NASA's United States Touring Car Championship gives out a ton of cool prizes after each race, including the PIAA Bright Idea of the Race, an AEM award and a Sampson Racing Radios award, plus Ironclad gloves and Optima batteries for the podium finishers. These guys are lucky if they have enough room left over for the trophy.