Reversal Of Fortunes: Hawaii's November Regional

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Steve Timpson and Dave Goto thread their way through the Guard Shack chicane just before the Off Camber where Timpson would later get by .



ler and lap the slower cars of Ed Kemper (Mustang) and Jim Kellar (Rabbit).

CLOSED WHEEL EXCITEMENT

November turned out just the opposite of expectations. The most drama was clearly the first and second place fight in the closed wheel race. As usual Schulte and Guertler were lined in the front row followed by Kemper and Kellar. After the green flag, it was apparent that Schulte and Guertler were as evenly matched as two cars could be. Guertler was slightly stronger on the straight before turn one and could hold Schulte off in the turn two and chicane, but Schulte could gain some on the short straight before the sweeper.

For the first three laps Schulte lead with Guertler no more than ten feet behind all the time. On the fourth lap, at the end of the straight Guertler dove ahead. They then ran side by side to the chicane, and Guertler got clearly ahead. Schulte then followed for 3 or 4 laps until a little tapping by Schulte on the rear of Guertler's car at turn one, and by doing so, got by.

The nose to tail ensemble continued until about the eleventh lap, when Guertler again tried to dive in at turn one. Schulte

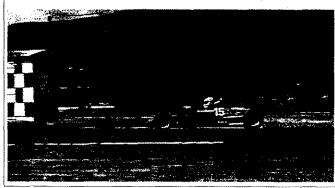
Ed Kemper brought his Ford Mustang home in second place after Scott Schulte went off.



blocked as best he could, but the result was a poor exit speed, they were side by side past turn two coming to the chicane, which is, by the way, not designed for two cars. Neither blinked, but Guertler was on the inside for the left turn. Schulte tried to out brake him, but the left front tire locked and Scott had a choice of hitting Guertler or going straight through the chicane. The latter did not work. As soon as the car hit the dirt, it snapped around in a cloud of dust stopping just after the chicane. It took about 3 laps for Scott to restart, but the racing was over at that point. As result Kemper and Keller got by Scott, but they finished a lap down from the Guertler.

OPEN WHEEL FUN

Eventual winner Steve Timpson had to work hard to get around Dave Goto twice to take top honors in the Formula Ford race.



The open wheel race started on an exciting foot. Timpson was leading the pack, followed by Aihara, Zane, Hirasuna, and Goto. But in a very quick shuffle, Goto passed Timpson at the reverse camber turn to get into first place, only to be repassed before turn one. But on the fourth lap, Goto regained the lead before the chicane. But that was that for excitement in the front. Timpson got by on the next lap, and Goto slowly faded in second place.

Further back, Zane had moved to third and Aihara to fourth. But the fifth lap, Aihara missed a shift and shifted himself to dead last. Eventually, Aihara was able to regain one position to finish fourth over Hirasuna. Zane finished a comfortable third.

Solo One featured two SCCA regulars. Lindsay Akamu, soon to be shifting to wheel to wheel, and Chris Messer, a sometime regional racer, each driving their 4 timed laps. Chris turned the fastest single lap of 1:03.911 and Lindsay finished with a 1:05.205.

With the recently completed SCCA driving school and four new drivers for in the closed wheel class, what turned out to be a terrific race in that category may be the foretelling future races in that category.