

One-Lap drivers end grueling, 10-day trek

By Bill Parker
staff writer

They drove over mountains and through deserts. They battled rain, sleet and snow. They passed through 32 states, breezed by parts of two oceans and ran rallycrosses at some of the toughest tracks in the country. Ten days and 8,000 miles after the start of the Uniroyal Goodrich One Lap of America, the cars and crews returned to the cheering of families and fans Sunday at the Uniroyal Technical Center in Troy.

"It was difficult, that's for sure," said Southfield's Erhard Dahm, who teamed up with Gene Henderson of Pinckney, Rick Shue of Dearborn and John Townsend of Gibraltar to win the SS (sports sedan) division of the performance touring class. "It's a very long event, and without sufficient sleep it makes it pretty tough. But it's amazing how the human body can adjust. Actually, I enjoyed it very much. It was one hell of a challenge."

JOHN BUFFUM of Colchester, Vt., piloted his factory-entered 1987 Audi 5000 Quattro to a first-place finish in the performance touring class. The Buffum team finished with a total of 62.64 penalty points, just 22.95 points ahead of Dahm's team which finished second overall in the performance touring class driving a prototype 1988 BMW M5.

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—Erhard Dahm
One Lap of America driver

Had it not been for a mix-up on the flags in the time-speed-distance (TSD) rallycross at Laguna Seca in Monterey, Calif., Dahm's team could have won the race.

"We got a white flag, which means there is one lap to go then a cool-off lap," explained Dahm. "We lost 40 points because we took a cool-off lap and everyone else kept going. Afterwards they told us the white flag was to let us know there was a slower car in front of us. But we already passed that car, so they didn't even need the flag."

"To my estimation we definitely know we should have been first in the performance class, but what are you going to do? Overall, it was an enjoyable event and I'd love to do it again."

BOB MARTIN of Sterling Heights, Mark Fox of Dayton, Ohio and Dave

Head of Indian, Ind., won the touring class competition in a 1987 Dodge Lancer.

Other area individuals who were members of teams participating in the race included Richard Wise of Bloomfield Hills, who finished 10th in the performance class with a 1986 Dodge Shelby; John Kish of Livonia, 17th in the touring class with a 1986 GMC Safari Van; Jim Bardis of Bloomfield Hills, 23rd in the touring class with a 1922 Ford Van that had to be towed across the finish line; Nick Helea of Livonia, 32nd in the touring class with a 1986 Audi 5000; James Bacon of Bloomfield Hills, 37th in the touring class with a 1986 Buick Regal; Carl Groble of Farmington, 43rd in the touring class with a 1986 Olds Delta 88; an Wayne Wolfe of Rochester, 44th in the touring class with a 1929 Ford van.



photos by BILL PARKER/staff photographer

Don Hagen raises the victory flag for finishing first in the GT Division of the Uniroyal Goodrich One Lap of America race that concluded

Sunday at the Uniroyal Technical Center in Troy. The race covered 10 days and 8,000 miles.

sports shorts

• K OF C SOFTBALL

The Knights of Columbus St. Francis Council in Farmington Hills is sponsoring a Sunday afternoon co-ed and Sunday night men's C softball leagues. Anyone interested in playing should call 476-1100 or 476-1101 for registration information.

• SOFTBALL TRAVELERS

Any girls 14-16 years old interested in playing for the Mid-America Mustangs, a sponsored, six-pitch

softball travel team, this summer should call Ray Knickerbocker at 455-5893 for further information.

• SOFTBALL SIGNUP

The Farmington Hills Recreation Division has openings available for new teams for the 1987 adult softball season in resident, open and industrial leagues.

Reservations can be made at the recreation office, 31555 11 Mile. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required.

Call 473-9579 for more information.

• COURSE OPENING

The city of Farmington Hills announces the opening of its nine-hole San Marino Golf Course, at 2634 Halsted between 11 and 12 Mile. The course offers a full-service pro shop, a snack bar, cart rental and lessons. Junior and senior rates are available. Tee time reservations can be made by calling 476-9510.

Amanze paces Mercy to victory over Regina

Adanna Amanze won the 100- and 200-meter dashes and anchored a pair of relay victories to pace Farmington Mercy's 67½-60½ victory over Harper Woods Regina in girls' track Monday.

Amanze sprinted to winning times of 12.07 in the 100 and 29.5 in the 200. With Amanze running the final leg, the Marlins posted times of 55.44 in the 400 relay and 1:55.04 in the 800.

Mercy's Nicki Kostecky was a double winner in the 100 and 300 hurdles, and Caroline Semerjian leaped 15 feet to win the long jump.

The Marlins, 1-0 in the Catholic

League and 2-1 overall, also won the 1,600 relay in 4:30.6. Regina is 0-1 in league meets.

FARMINGTON HARRISON

defeated Walled Lake Western 78-50 April 15 as Jenny Anderson won the 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs. Her times were 6:01.0 and 13:13.0.

Tracey Radke gave the Hawks first place in the long jump (14-9½), and Jane Peters won the 300 hurdles (52.0).

Harrison also swept the relays with times of 55.0 for 400 meters, 1:57.5 for 800, 4:38.8 for 1,600 and 11:15.8 for 3,200.

Marlins get tie with late score

Kathy McDonald's second-half goal enabled Farmington Mercy to tie Livonia Ladywood 1-1 in soccer Monday.

McDonald took a pass from Karen Baldas and scored the tying goal 10 minutes after Ladywood had taken the lead.

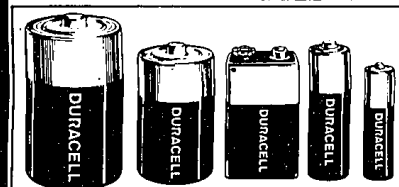
The Blazers scored eight minutes into the second half when a corner kick deflected off Mercy's fullback.

The Marlins outshot Ladywood in the second half, but couldn't capitalize on their advantage. Erica James, Leigh Clancy and Margaret DeMatta played well defensively for Mercy, 2-2-2.

The Marlins play at Troy today and at Redford Bishop Borgess Friday.

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