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NATIONAL AUTO SPORT ASSOCIATION

NASA Midwest Inc.  
5250 Grand Avenue  
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Chicago, April 13, 2010, NASA Midwest, Inc.

Performance Touring drivers start off 2010 at Mid Ohio

A cold start to the day Saturday morning had people shivering. Cold tires, cold track and no grip, but the sun was out and promising better conditions. The start of both races on Saturday and Sunday saw near perfect conditions: Sun on the asphalt and temperatures in the 60's.

**PTA** – Jeff “Drift” Diffenderfer jumped two classes this year with the “Rocket” red Mazda Miata. Matt Carlyle and Chris Herrick brought the always competitive C4 Corvettes. Carlyle took the lead, after the starting battle, followed by Diffenderfer and Herrick. Chris had some issues coming out of the keyhole five laps into the race and was done for the weekend. Carlyle thought the race was his after loosing sight of Drift’s Miata because of traffic. Then the red dot in his mirror began to grow. Drift and the “Rocket” would win a good battle after Carlyle was DQ’d for a racing infraction. Diffenderfer was so fast Saturday, he scared Carlyle into another series Sunday giving the Rocket an easy win.

**PTB** – The PTB class had three newcomers for the first race this year. Steve Eich, driving the HART Racing Honda Civic, Brooke Boomer, driving a very clean blue BMW E36 M3 and Mark Bardes with a silver BMW E36 M3 competed. The BMW’s were no match for the HART Racing Honda this weekend as Steve Eich took a commanding lead both days. Bardes, in the Motorkars Racing/Tom Hatem Motorsports/Autobody Specialists M3, held on for second after a long absence from the track. Boomer was close behind for third on Saturday. An overheating issue kept Boomer’s blue M3 out of the race Sunday.

**PTD** – Three competitors were in the PTD class also. Kelsey Smith, driving a Honda Prelude, Ron Dodson, driving an Acura Integra, and new for this season, Team Know Fear/Myers Motorsports Honda Civic, driven by Sam Myers and Brian Flint. These competitors are familiar with each other and each was anxious to see how the off season modifications would perform. The Team Know Fear/Myers Motorsports car received a new engine earlier in the week. Dobson’s Integra jumped to the lead and continued for the win Saturday and also Sunday after some sideways action in the carousel. Sam Myers, in the Know Fear/Myers Motorsports Honda had to pull out Saturday with a broken shifter. Kelsey Smith did not compete Saturday but was able to capture second place Sunday. Brian Flint, in the Know Fear/Myers Motorsports Honda came in third. This was Flint’s first time in the car and he will no doubt push the other competitors with his extensive driving experience soon.

**PTE** – Brian Makse was back this year in the Pakistan Express Honda Civic. The Pakistan Express Team won the regional championship last year and were so



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fast they scared everyone else out of the class. The Performance Touring Series Director, Mark Bardes, stated after the first race of 2009 that the Pakistan Express team would be “a force to reckon with”. Bardes turned out to be a prophet and even made print with that statement! Makse ran alone in the class and picked up the coveted regional points plus a new lap record.

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