

WEROCK, CORR Updates, UROC, Terrible's Cup, Midnight 250, Vegas to Reno, Primm 300

DESERT *SPORTS*

& RECREATION

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FREE



With 51 DNF's in the Truck & Buggy group, the Best in the Desert, TSCO, "Vegas to Reno" again proved to be a test of mechanical and driver abilities. The longest single day off-road race in the USA yielded no reward for returning winners Nick Baldwin/Ronnie Gillespie of Class 1400, Curt LeDuc/Todd LeDuc of Class 8000, and Bud Feldkamp Sr/Brandon Gaughan Class 1500. Instead it was the team of Collins and Ragland (Class 1400) that pulled down the overall win with Arizona driver Garron Cadiente only 8 minutes behind. Collins and Ragland were coming off of their Baja 500 win and were already in race form and ready to tackle this grueling endurance race.

Cadiente had regular co-driver Chris Godfrey on board, but at mile marker 319 Cadiente relinquished his drivers seat to truck builder Rick Geiser of Geiser Bros. Rick, who hasn't piloted a race truck since the 2004 Baja 1000 when he co-drove with Pistol Pete Sohren, jumped in and finished the race. DSR caught up with Rick after the race to get his reaction to his first drive in two years and ever so eloquently Rick summed up his experience as "beautiful". Rick went on to inform us that in the 1000 he will be teaming up with Bob Shepard and will be starting the race in Ensenada and swapping driving duties with Shepard at around the 300 mile mark.

In the MX and quad arena it was the expected top three duo's of Mike Childress & Steve Hengeveld (1st Overall), Johnny Campbell & Robby Bell (2nd Overall), and Christopher Blais and Nicholas Blais (3rd Overall). The distance in time between 1st overall and 3rd overall was nearly an hour. Thus again putting an exclamation mark behind Team Honda! American Honda proved endurance and desert worthy again with a 1st place Quad finish. Wayne Matlock and Chad Prull finished within 30 minutes of the third place overall MX bike of Blais.

The mighty UTV's, or Rhino's as their commonly referred to have made their entrance and impact felt in desert racing, however until now none has finished within race regulation time. Ten Rhinos entered the treacherous Vegas to Reno race and only one would finish. Ryan Combs and the Jagged Extreme Yamaha Rhino finished and won their category within regulation time. In a bone rattling and intestine deforming 22:35:30 "the little Rhino that could" completed the race. It was an awe inspiring moment in the Rhino community as other contenders kicked themselves at not being the first in history to complete a race of this magnitude. Now that this barrier has been crossed I look forward to seeing what team will dominate, as the one that does will be legendary. Teams to watch are Jagged Extreme, Rhino Mafia, Desert Toyz, Dragon Fire Racing, Toxic Rhino, and Black Rhino. Congratulations to the mighty UTV's for taking it to the next level.

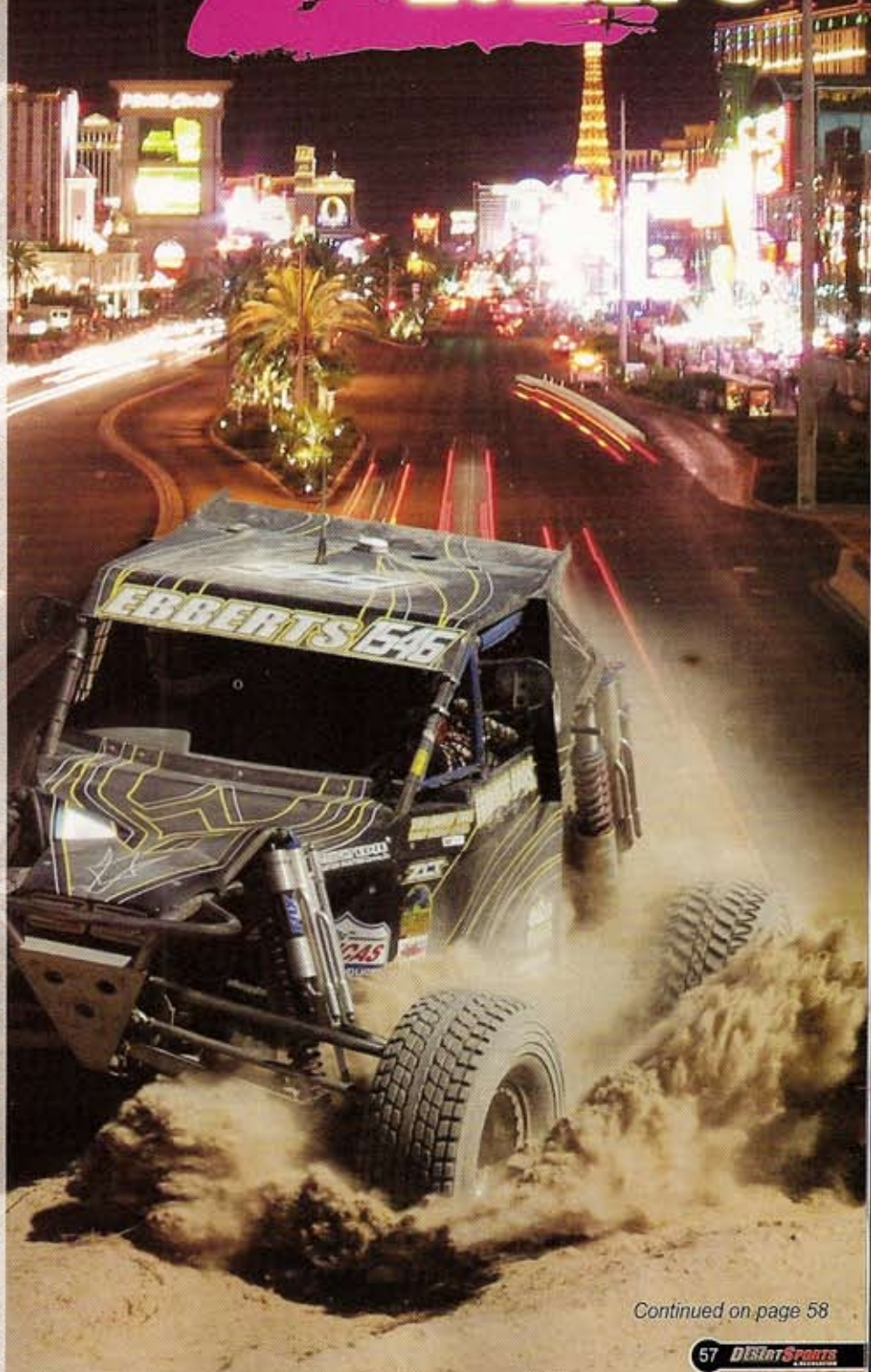
With three races left it's hard to say who will capture class victories in the BITD series. In Class 1000 Allen Gerber appears to have control, but Arizona's Terry Stevens

VEGAS

Story by Andy Myers
Photos by Trackside

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DESERT**
NATIONAL ENDURANCE RACE

RENO




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VEGAS RENO



is a distant but close second. "Tavo" Vildosola in Class 1200 is in a tight and heated battle with Staats, Koch, Bednar, and Hogan, but his skills are there and his recent win at Primm helps his confidence level going into the next rounds. The 1400 battle is tough to pick as Veteran Curt LeDuc is within 5 points of first place rookie TT driver Garron Cadiente. I'm not going out on a limb because I think John Herder is going to take the points in Class 1500. Richardson is running strong, but Herder is in a zone in BITD.

Other close calls are in Class 2000 where Waszkiewicz is leading Janss by a mere 8 points. Roeseler appears to have Class 7200 under control as he has a commanding 17 point lead over Gary Dixon, however Dixon is skilled and could push this battle closer. Gary Foutz of my hometown of Chandler, Ariz. is in a war with Randy Merritt of Parker, Ariz. Foutz is leading by a non-dominating 10 points. I'll bet anyone that Elmer Symons in Class 250 wins. Steve Pitts, Kurt Sofka, and Scott Glimp in MX Class 0-40 are all in contention for first as only 7 points separates them. And last but not least in the tight battles for first is Melsheimer and Trulove with only 6 points between them.

See you at the "Vegas 300" 

KC Ford F-150 Wins Vegas to Reno Race

The KC HiLITES sponsored Ford F-150 won the Stock Full truck class at the recent Best In The Desert Vegas to Reno off-road race that ran August 25th and 26th. Covering 584 miles of the most rugged desert and mountain terrain Nevada has to offer, Vegas



to Reno is the longest off-road race in the continental United States.

The KC F-150 is driven by Mongo Racing's Randy Merritt of Parker, AZ. After

a little over 13 hours of racing, Randy took the checkered flag just 40 seconds ahead of the second place finisher. Many hours of the race took place well after the sun had set. In order to keep the speeds up and stay on course in the dark Nevada desert, the KC F-150 was equipped with eight KC Rally 800 HID lights to give Randy the necessary vision to take the win. In fact, KC equipped drivers captured 3 of the top 5 spots in the Stock Full class.

As a dedicated sponsor and active participant, look for KC HiLITES at off-road racing events throughout the southwest. For more information, visit: www.kchilites.com