

all-american soap box derby

THE GREAT RACE FOR BOYS

DERBY DOWNS • AKRON, OHIO • AUGUST 24, 1968

SOUVENIR PROGRAM



welcome

TO THE ALL-AMERICAN

For 243 boys and their families, this is it. The All-American Soap Box Derby—the great race for boys. All year long these outstanding young men have worked hard on their Soap Box Derby racing cars. By winning their hometown Derby each one of them has become a



Champion. And for each one of them, whether he is eliminated in the first heat or goes all the way to a win in the All-American finals, it will be the biggest day in his young life—and perhaps the most exciting day he'll ever know.

Speaking for the Chevrolet Division of General Motors Corporation and our many co-sponsors, we're happy that you are here to share the excitement with the Champions. And if you are one of the thousands of volunteers who have devoted their time and effort to the 31st All-American Soap Box Derby—here in Akron or in race cities in the U.S. or in one of our guest countries—

we would like to say a special "thank you." For the Soap Box Derby is vitally dependent upon people who, year after year, continue to be loyal supporters and hard workers.

Now, sit back and enjoy what has been called "the greatest amateur racing event in the world." But more important, witness what a bunch of kids can do when they start out with four wheels, some wood and paint, then add a generous portion of spirit and ingenuity. All of us associated with the Derby are proud of these boys. And to those of you who are associated with the boys we can only say "well done."

Mason Bell
General Manager
All-American Soap Box Derby, Inc.

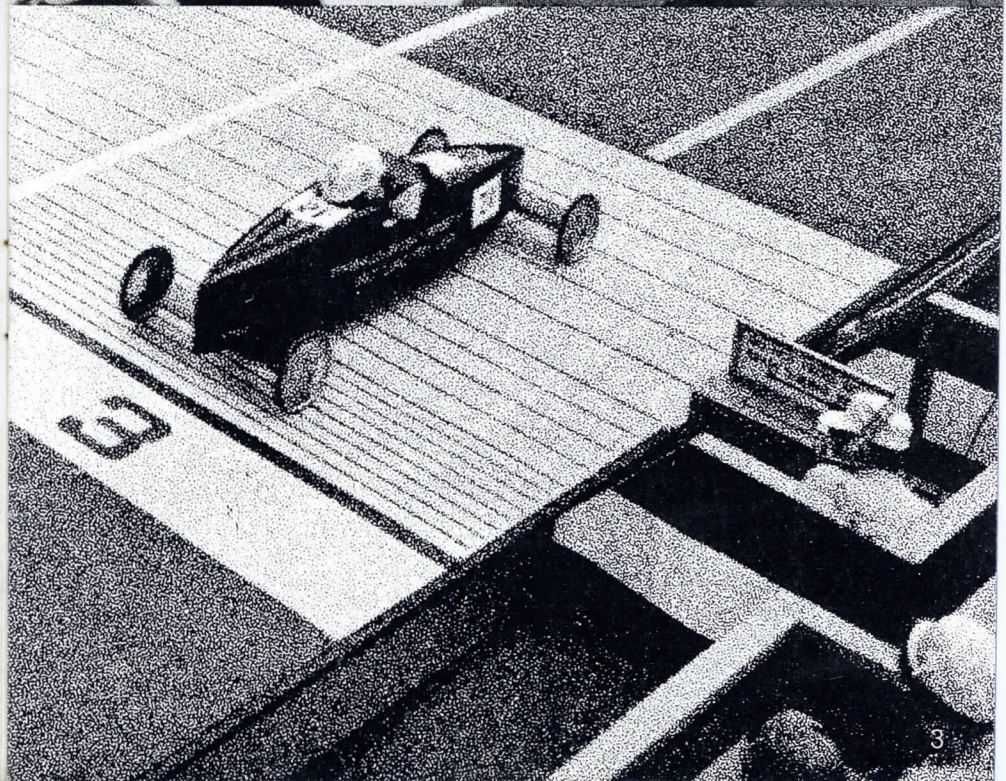
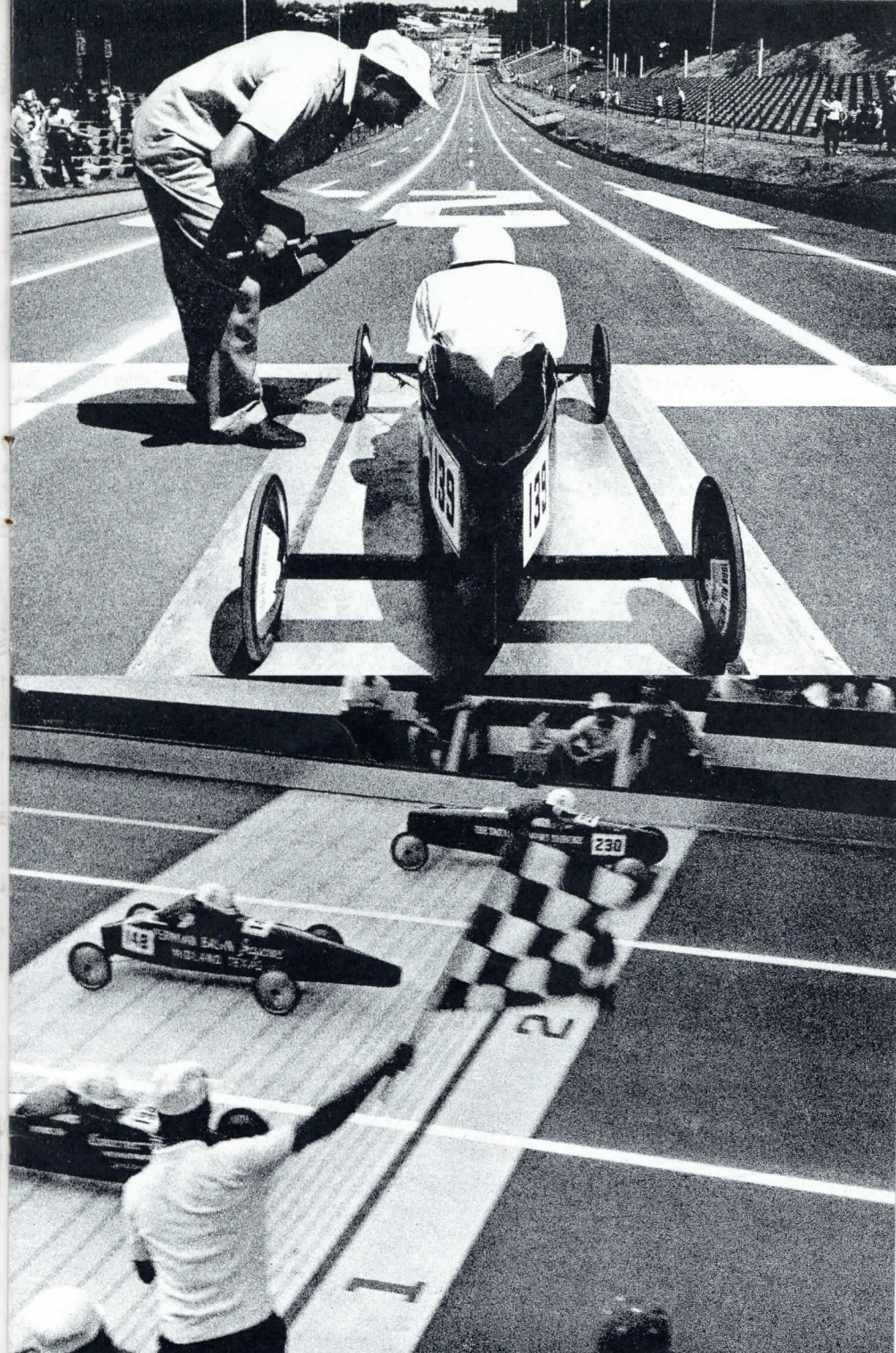
PRE-RACE PARADE LINEUP

- 11:00 A.M.
Boy Scouts March Down Track and Raise Flags
- 11:10 A.M.
Junior Red Cross and Boy Scouts March Up Track from Rubber Bowl
- 11:20 A.M.
Drill teams on track at Starting Line and Bridge for special maneuvers
- 11:45 A.M.
Boy Scouts from Topside and Bridge March to meet and John Raitt sings "God Bless America"
- 12:00 Noon
Pre-Race Parade starts

- 1:05 P.M.
Star Spangled Banner
- 1:08 P.M.
"Oil Can Trophy" Race
- 1:20 P.M.
All-American Soap Box Derby Race begins

TRACK BOMB SCHEDULE

- 11:00 A.M. 1—15-inch bomb
- 11:10 A.M. 2—15-inch bombs
- 12:00 Noon 3—15-inch bombs
- 1:08 P.M. 3— 9-inch bombs
- 1:20 P.M. 19—15-inch bombs
2—12-inch bombs
with American flags



awards

CHEVROLET SCHOLARSHIPS

1ST

\$7,500 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

2ND

\$5,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

3RD

\$4,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

4TH

\$3,500 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

5TH

\$3,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

6TH

\$2,500 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

7TH

\$2,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

8TH

\$1,500 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

9TH

\$1,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

SPECIAL AWARDS

BEST BRAKECHEVROLET TROPHY
BEST DESIGNED CARCHEVROLET TROPHY
BEST CONSTRUCTED CARCHEVROLET TROPHY
BEST UPHOLSTERED CARCHEVROLET TROPHY

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION AWARDS

- Chevrolet presents each champion with an award plaque in recognition of his participation in the 1968 All-American Soap Box Derby.
- Each champion receives a 17-jewel Elgin wrist watch from Chevrolet.
- An Instamatic Camera and film supply are presented to each champion by Eastman Kodak Company.
- Kar-Plaks and model car kits from AMT Corp.
- Champion's ring from T. A. Bardach, Inc.
- Levi Strauss Co. presents each champion with a pair of blue Levi's.
- In addition, the boys keep their All-American racing helmets, shirts, white Levi's and city flags with the compliments of Chevrolet as reminders of this memorable day.

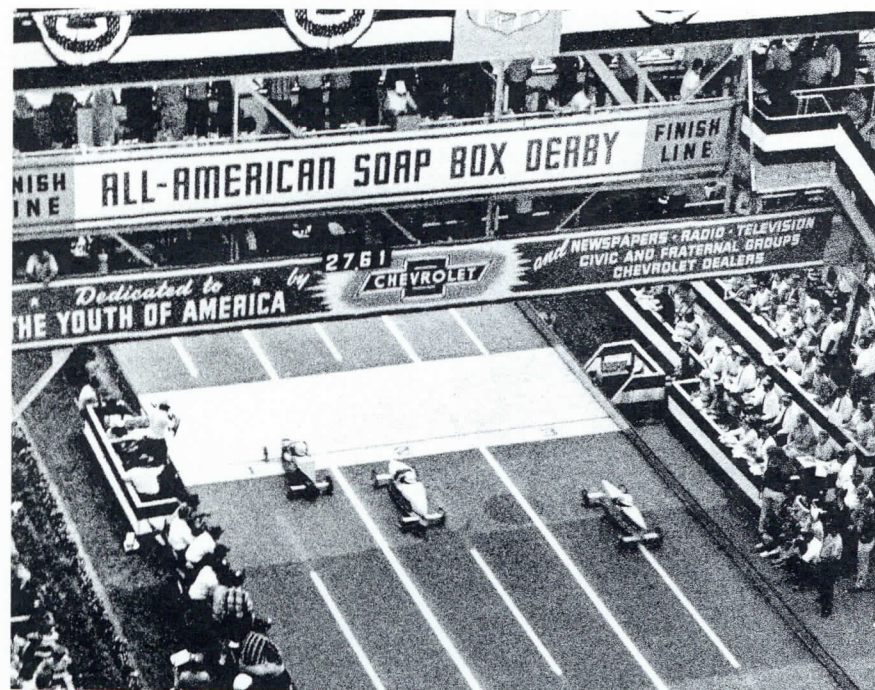
Brand names do not constitute endorsement by All-American Soap Box Derby, Inc.



the parade

- 1—United States Marine Corps Color Guard with National Colors
- 2—Garfield High School Band
Official Soap Box Derby Band
Kristan Crane, Director
- 3—Honorable **James A. Rhodes**,
Governor of Ohio,
Honorary Parade Marshall
- 4—Kenneth Cline, 1967 World Champion
Escorted by:
Bob Logan, 1965 Champion and
Dave Krussow, 1966 Champion
Both in Chevrolet Corvettes
- 5—Honorable **John S. Ballard**,
Mayor of Akron
- 6—Mogadore High School Band
James Martin, Director
- 7—1968 Champions: 243 Champions
from towns throughout the
United States, each carrying his
own Champion's flag
- 8—Akron East High School Band
Milton Nelson, Director
- 9—65 Derbytown Counselors
F. A. Wahl, Director
- 10—Summit County Sheriff's Corps
Sheriff Robert D. Campbell
- 11—Central High School Band
Fred Heyburn, Director
- 12—**Judy Carne**, Star of TV's "Laugh-In"
- 13—Akron Majorettes & Drum Corps
G. F. (Gail) McCleary, Director
- 14—Akron Ellet High School Band
Roger Schaeffer, Director
- 15—**Frank Randall and Jennie Smith**
Chevrolet's singing duo
"Frankie and Jennie"
- 16—Kentucky Belles and Little Colonels
All the way from Franklin, Kentucky
W. B. Cornell, Director
- 17—Buchtel High School Band
Wm. Abercrombie, Director
- 18—**Jean-Claude Killy**
Gold Medal Olympic Champion skier
- 19—YMCA Indian Guides
from Cuyahoga Falls
Tom Boso, Director
- 20—Hillsdale High School Band
from Holmesville, Ohio
James R. Saker, Director
- 21—**David Canary** of Massillon, Ohio
Featured as "Candy" in Bonanza
- 22—Lakemore Majorettes
from Lakemore, Ohio
Mrs. Margaret Smith, Director
- 23—**John "Hondo" Havlicek**,
Captain of Boston's basketball
team, the Celtics
- 24—The Poli-vets
Mrs. Ted Richner, Director
- 25—Akron South High School Band
Spurgeon Moore, Director
- 26—**Herb Alpert**
Director of Tijuana Brass
- 27—Sharps and Sharpettes
Kathy Collins, Director
- 28—Field High School Band,
the "Royal Guardsmen"
Frank Masters, Director
- 29—America's Junior Miss, **Debi Faubion**
Escorted by:
Melissa Rohde, Ohio's Junior Miss
Kathy Fliiss, Michigan's Junior Miss
- 30—The Royal Judells
Judy Patterson, Director
- 31—Bernd Schacherl
The Champion from Germany
- 32—Al Kaf Shrine Youth Group
Sam Culver, Director
- 33—Feliciano R. Santos
The Champion from the Philippines
- 34—Akron North High School Band
Frank Nelson, Director
- 35—Michael Lee Urquhart
The Champion from Okinawa
- 36—The Valentines - Majorettes
Norma Valentine, Director
- 37—Springfield Township High School
Band, James Lunn, Director
- 38—Valmore Miguel Juarez
The Champion from Venezuela
- 39—The Akronites
R. D. Steadman, Director
- 40—Wadsworth High School Band
Arthur Baldwin, Director
- 41—Two Champions from Canada:
Rodney Allen Million, from
Mission City, B. C., and
David Miller, from
St. Catharines, Ontario
- 42—The Copleyettes
Mrs. Helen Meek, Director
- 43—Former All-American Soap Box
Derby Champions
- 44—The Cadettes
Margaret Lindsey, Director
- 45—Firestone High School Band
Joseph Lentine, Director
- 46—The Musical Knights
Richard Heffelfinger, Director
- 47—The Dayton Darlings,
from Dayton, Ohio
Koneta Grierson and
Ada May Crawford, co-directors
- 48—American Federation of
Musicians Band
Bob Cole, Director
- 49—The Golden Majorettes,
from Hagerstown, Md.
R. A. "Buzz" Langlotz, Director
- 50—Kenmore High School Band
Ralph Vitt, Director
- 51—Akron Motorcycle Police
Sergeant Robert Keel Commanding

the race



HEAT PROCEDURE

Although boys in local races run in two classes (class A for boys 13 through 15 and class B for boys 11 and 12), every contestant in the All-American is considered a Champion and competes in the same classification.

First-round heats for the All-American are established by drawing the names of sponsoring cities on the Wednesday preceding Race Day. The first name drawn is in heat 1, lane 1; second name, heat 1, lane 2; and third name, heat 1, lane 3. Heats with only two cars use lanes 1 and 3. The winners from every three heats, from the first round on, draw for lane positions for the heats in the second round.

Flags are important in directing the races. The checkered flag designates the heat winner. The green flag means the track is "clear," while the red flag signals "not clear."

JUDGING PROCEDURE

As each racer crosses the finish line, it breaks an electric eye beam that triggers a special camera and timing clock. The camera is placed directly over the track with the timing clock in the field of vision so a visual record of the official time is recorded on the photograph. When, in the opinion of the finish-line judges, the closeness of a race warrants, the photo-finish negative may be developed and projected on a screen to facilitate decision making. In photo-finish heats, a copy of the official photograph will be posted on a board at the southwest corner of the west grandstand.

Decisions of the judges in all matters pertaining to the interpretation and enforcement of Soap Box Derby rules, the conduct of the race, and the determination of heat winners will be final and binding on all concerned.

KEEPING SCORE

To enable you to participate even more in the thrill of the All-American, the following four pages are designed so that you can indicate the winner of each heat. As each winner is called out by the track announcer, mark down his car number or city name. Then, you'll have your own complete record of the 31st All-American Soap Box Derby.

2nd round

FEATURING WINNERS OF FIRST-ROUND HEATS.

Heat No.	Heat No.
82..... (Winner of Heat 82)	95..... (Winner of Heat 95)
83..... (Winner of Heat 83)	96..... (Winner of Heat 96)
84..... (Winner of Heat 84)	97..... (Winner of Heat 97)
85..... (Winner of Heat 85)	98..... (Winner of Heat 98)
86..... (Winner of Heat 86)	99..... (Winner of Heat 99)
87..... (Winner of Heat 87)	100..... (Winner of Heat 100)
88..... (Winner of Heat 88)	101..... (Winner of Heat 101)
89..... (Winner of Heat 89)	102..... (Winner of Heat 102)
90..... (Winner of Heat 90)	103..... (Winner of Heat 103)
91..... (Winner of Heat 91)	104..... (Winner of Heat 104)
92..... Winner of Heat 92)	105..... (Winner of Heat 105)
93..... (Winner of Heat 93)	106..... (Winner of Heat 106)
94..... (Winner of Heat 94)	107..... (Winner of Heat 107)
108..... (Winner of Heat 108)	

3rd round

FEATURING WINNERS OF SECOND-ROUND HEATS.

Heat No.
109..... (Winner of Heat 109)
110..... (Winner of Heat 110)
111..... (Winner of Heat 111)
112..... (Winner of Heat 112)
113..... (Winner of Heat 113)
114..... (Winner of Heat 114)
115..... (Winner of Heat 115)
116..... (Winner of Heat 116)
117..... (Winner of Heat 117)
10

4th round

FEATURING WINNERS OF THIRD-ROUND HEATS.

Heat No.
1st.....
118 2nd.....
3rd.....
1st.....
119 2nd.....
3rd.....
1st.....
120 2nd.....
3rd.....

semi-final rounds

THE 3rd PLACE WINNERS OF HEATS 118, 119 AND 120 WILL COMPETE IN HEAT 121 FOR 7th, 8th AND 9th PRIZES.

9th.....
121 8th.....
7th.....

THE 2nd PLACE WINNERS OF HEATS 118, 119 AND 120 WILL COMPETE IN HEAT 122 FOR 4th, 5th AND 6th PRIZES.

6th.....
122 5th.....
4th.....

all-american final

HEAT NO. 123

THE 1st PLACE WINNERS OF HEATS 118, 119 AND 120 WILL COMPETE IN HEAT 123 FOR 1st, 2nd AND 3rd PRIZES.

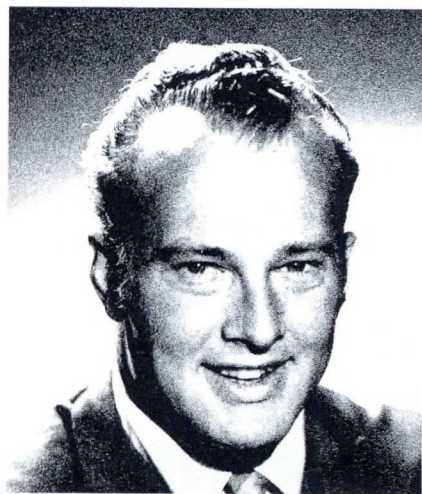
The All-American Champion

Second Place

Third Place

1,000,000 boys

IN 31 YEARS OF SOAP BOX DERBIES, OVER ONE MILLION BOYS HAVE BUILT AND RACED THEIR OWN CARS. THESE BOYS HAVE BECOME MEN LIKE . . .



Paul Hornung.

All-American back at Notre Dame. Star halfback for the Green Bay Packers. Paul Hornung lost his local Soap Box Derby race, but it helped him to become a tough competitor.



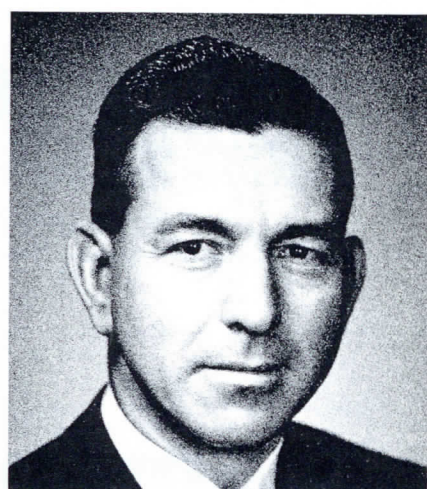
Johnny Carson.

As a boy in Nebraska, this famous television personality entered his local Soap Box Derby race. He still remembers the thrill and excitement of building and racing his own car.



Pete Dawkins.

Major, U.S. Army. Former All-American back for Army, Heisman Trophy winner, Rhodes Scholar and decorated soldier. Also former Soap Box Derby racer from Royal Oak, Michigan.



Alex Mair.

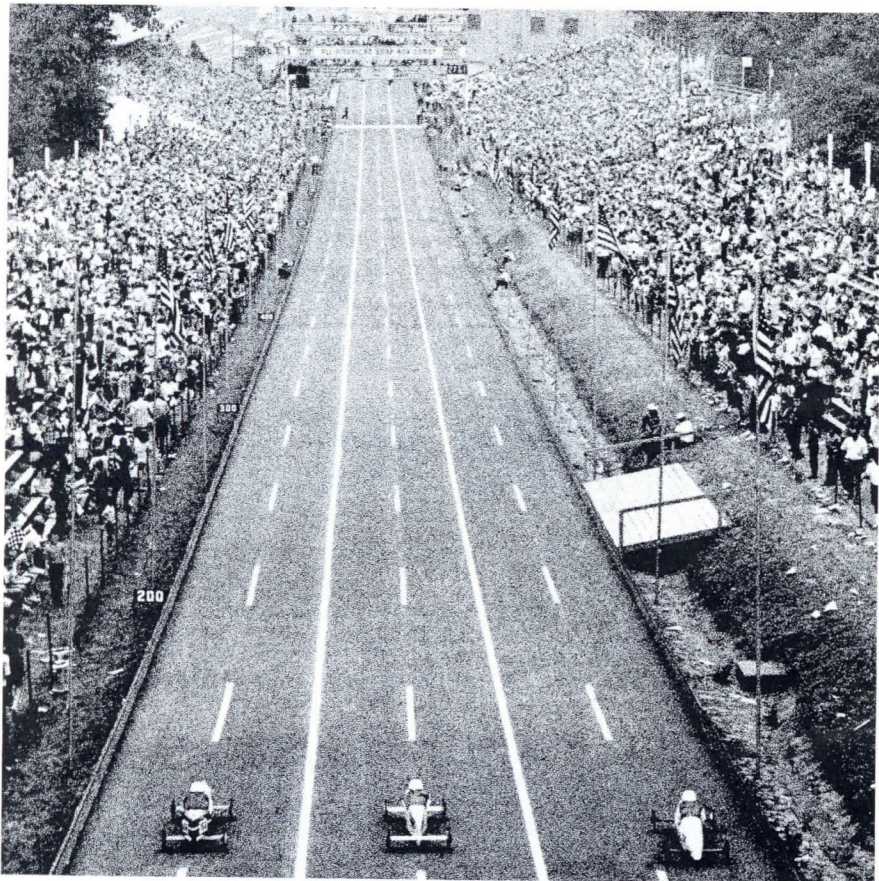
Currently Director of Engineering for Chevrolet Motor Division, Mr. Mair calls his Soap Box Derby experience a big help in leading him to a successful career in engineering.

1934-1967

ALL-AMERICAN CHAMPIONS

- 1934** Robert A. Turner, 11, Muncie, Indiana. Won title at Dayton, Ohio; 34 boys; \$500 scholarship.
- 1935** Maurice E. Bale, Jr., 14, Anderson, Indiana. First to win in Akron; 52 boys; \$2,000 scholarship.
- 1936** Herbert E. Muench, Jr., 14, St. Louis, Missouri. First to win at Akron's new Derby Downs; 116 boys; \$2,000 scholarship.
- 1937** Robert L. Ballard, 12, White Plains, New York; 120 boys; \$2,000 scholarship.
- 1938** Robert L. Berger, 14, Omaha, Nebraska; 113 boys; \$2,000 scholarship.
- 1939** Clifton W. Hardesty, Jr., 11, White Plains, New York; 114 boys; \$2,000 scholarship.
- 1940** Thomas D. Fisher, 12, Detroit, Michigan; 130 boys; \$2,000 scholarship.
- 1941** Claude A. Smith, 14, Akron, Ohio; 118 boys; \$2,000 scholarship.
- 1946** Gilbert Klecan, 14, San Diego, California; 111 boys; \$2,000 scholarship.
- 1947** Kenneth Holmboe, 14, Charleston, West Virginia; 134 boys; \$3,000 scholarship.
- 1948** Donald Strub, 14, Akron, Ohio; 153 boys; \$3,000 scholarship.
- 1949** Fred Derks, 15, Akron, Ohio; 146 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1950** Harold Williamson, 15, Charleston, West Virginia; 147 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1951** Darwin Cooper, 15, Williamsport, Pennsylvania; 141 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1952** Joe Lunn, 11, Columbus, Georgia; 154 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1953** Freddy Mohler, 14, Muncie, Indiana; 152 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1954** Dick Kemp, 14, Los Angeles, California; 151 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1955** Richard Rohrer, 14, Rochester, New York; 154 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1956** Norman Westfall, 14, Rochester, New York; 155 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1957** Terry Townsend, 14, Anderson, Indiana; 159 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1958** Jim Miley, 15, Muncie, Indiana; 160 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1959** Barney Townsend, 13, Anderson, Indiana; 170 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1960** Fredric Lake, 11, South Bend, Indiana; 168 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1961** Dick Dawson, 13, Wichita, Kansas; 151 boys; \$5,000 scholarship.
- 1962** David Mann, 14, Gary, Indiana; 184 boys; \$7,500 scholarship.
- 1963** Harold W. Conrad, 12, Duluth, Minnesota; 240 boys; \$7,500 scholarship.
- 1964** Gregory J. Schumacher, 14, Tacoma, Washington; 240 boys; \$7,500 scholarship.
- 1965** Robert Ellis Logan, 12, Santa Ana, California; 253 boys; \$7,500 scholarship.
- 1966** David Krussow, 12, Tacoma, Washington; 252 boys; \$7,500 scholarship.
- 1967** Kenneth Cline, 13, Lincoln, Nebraska; 244 boys; \$7,500 scholarship.

derby sponsors



In addition to the contestants, parents, officials and individuals who do so much toward making the Soap Box Derby successful, the sponsors and co-sponsors are vitally important to the Derby. Some help individual boys with funds for materials; some help with transportation. Still others provide publicity or organizational talents. Each sponsor makes his contribution in the hope of helping the boys and the Derby.

JAYCEES AND OTHER CIVIC AND FRATERNAL GROUPS:

This year, 123 local Jaycee units have helped in Soap Box Derby events. Other organizations important to the Derby include: Optimists, Lions, Exchange Clubs, Kiwanis, 20-30 Club, Knights of Columbus, Shriners, American Legion, Moose and municipal recreation departments. There were others, too, for a total of 63 in addition to the Jaycees.

NEWS MEDIA

Throughout the country, various newspapers and broadcast media contribute space, time and active participation in promoting the Soap Box Derby. For 1968, news media co-sponsors included: over 100 newspapers, 60 radio and television stations.

CHEVROLET DEALERS

Keeping pace with their position as leaders in the business community, 405 Chevrolet dealers in Derby cities donated their services and facilities to the 1968 Soap Box Derby.

the great race

FOR BOYS

It all began in 1933. Nobody had much money. And kids got by with rolling barrel hoops, playing football with stuffed rag balls and building coasters from junk parts and hunks of soap box wood. That year, a young Dayton, Ohio, newspaper photographer, Myron E. Scott, now assistant director of Public Relations for the Chevrolet Division, organized a coaster race . . . and the "Soap Box Derby" was born. Chevrolet sponsored the event and put it on a national basis the following year, drawing 34 entries to Dayton. A humble beginning for what is often called "the world's greatest amateur racing event."

In 1935 the All-American was moved to Akron and the next year saw the completion of Derby Downs, site of the race ever since. Steadily gaining both national and international stature, the Derby has been a story of growth—interrupted only during W.W. II, 1942-45.

The All-American Soap Box Derby has come a long way since its early years when contestants had limited resources and just about anything on four wheels could qualify. Today, as we celebrate the 31st event, the Derby holds special significance as a community activity for adults as well as boys. Clinics, local race organizations and Derby planning involve an average of six adults for every boy who enters the Derby. That means, with over 50,000 boys building cars every year, about 300,000 people are directly involved in some phase of the event.

Increasing popularity and civic support in the United States have brought about a growth in the number of local entries and the number of communities constructing permanent race courses, many fashioned after Derby Downs. In other nations the Derby is recognized as a living symbol of this country's youthful enterprise, competitive spirit, sportsmanship and opportunity.

However, it's still the boys who make the race. Contestants, cars and competition get sharper each year. Prizes such as the All-American Trophy and a share of \$30,000 in college scholarships are well worth working for. Yet, some of the greatest rewards are as intangible now as they were in 1933—the self-satisfaction that shows on the face of each contestant as he goes to the line . . . the anticipation of proud parents, sponsors and friends . . . and the wild exhilaration only the boy can feel as his car flashes toward the finish line.

