The Fastrack

Spreading the Good News

The Fastrack is Formula Hardrocker Racing’s budding newsletter. Started this year, The Fastrack is our way to let sponsors, alumni, and anyone interested in our team know what Formula Hardrocker Racing is up to. If you or someone you know would like to be on the mailing list, send an email to hardrocker_racing@hotmail.com or call 605.390.6881 to subscribe.

Engine Running on E-85!

It is our pleasure to share with you the latest updates from our Engine Development Group, which has successfully run our test engine on E-85 with great results! The most recent dyno pull produced a strong 75 horse-power, more than a similar engine on 100 octane unleaded fuel. Joe Dexter, Engine Development Lead had this to say: “I was very impressed by the initial power produced by the E-85, and I am looking forward to a lot more power once we get the engine tuned and outfitted with the competition-spec components.” Our prototype carbon-fiber intake is currently being manufactured, our high-performance FTZ head has arrived, and the injectors are on their way. With these items and more tuning, we hope to gain even better results from this already powerful setup. Meanwhile, the competition engine has arrived and has been disassembled for machining, inspection, blueprinting and rebuilding. The FTZ racing head and Wiseco performance pistons are sure to give the engine an added boost of power. Stay tuned for more exciting updates from the Engine Development Group.

Frame Fabrication

Fabrication of the F06 frame was completed over many long hours during Christmas break. Team Leader and Frame Designer, Chad Kirby said, “This is the earliest our frame has ever been completed, which is a great accomplishment and sets a new standard for our team.” While the frame was being fabricated, the drivetrain components were being machined by Drivetrain Group leader Wayne Baker. The sprocket and differential mounts, housing, and case are now completed and in the process of being fit and mounted to the frame. This is a great start on what is becoming an exciting year for Formula Hardrocker Racing.
Downforce Development

Development of the aero package is well under way. Team members have been busy cutting the wing airfoil elements out of foam to build the prototype wings. Once the prototype wings have been completed and tested, fabrication of the body, undertray, and competition wings will begin.

Community Involvement

Last semester, the team initiated an outreach program to local middle school students introducing them to engineering at SDSM&T and our Formula SAE Program. The students enjoy the opportunity to see our car and ask questions about engineering. “With these visits, we hope to show students the exciting things that can be done with engineering, and hopefully get the students to think about a career in engineering,” said Anthony Johnson, team PR Manager. The ethanol magnets, brochures, and t-shirts, provided by Broin and the South Dakota Corn Growers Association, will be a hot commodity at our visits this semester. Along with the school visits, the 2005 car will be on display at the Rushmore Mall during the Black Hills Stock Show and at the Counts Car Show in February, two events that always draw a large crowd. We look forward to spreading the word about ethanol at these events and our upcoming school visits.

Team Featured in Broin Newsletter

Formula Hardrocker Racing was featured in the most recent edition of the Broin Companies newsletter. The article highlights the sponsorship of Formula Hardrocker Racing by Broin and the South Dakota Corn Growers Association, and explains the team and Formula SAE Competition to the readers. Formula Hardrocker Racing is excited to work with our sponsors to promote ethanol use in western South Dakota and at the Formula SAE West competition in Fontana, California.

It’s Here!

The Solid-Works model of F06 is here for you to see, thanks to the hard work of Clay Pojorle. The car includes a carbon fiber body, aero package, intake, and our ethanol paint scheme. Stay tuned to The Fastrack for updates as the car is completed and testing begins in April.