MID-AM REPORT

A record 185 drivers have signed up for the Mid-Am Championship this year, this despite a reduction in Spec Miata numbers since it became a National

class. Every Region has drivers competing, and all but two have at least one driver in a trophy (Top-3) position with at least two finishes.

KANSAS CITY REGION (50 drivers) is the big dog on this street, with 15 drivers in the top-3. Stephen Johnson leads Spec Miata

and just moved into 5th on the Driver of the Year list. John Nelson's four wins tops Sports 2000. Tim Koch also has four to lead Formula Ford. Aaron Holstrom has an 11-point edge in ITS. Gary Phillips is the F/Mazda leader despite a DNF at MAM, and Willard King is out front in F/Atlantic. Standing second in class are Steve Bachenbarg in ITA, Jason Mabee in F/SCCA, Patrick Hughey in FV. O.L. Kinney holds that spot in SRF, with two more KC drivers, Dan Axtell and Jim Coté Sr. tied for third. Mike Asselta also is in a third-place tie, in Spec Miata. Others on the third step are Travis Nordwald, ITA; Scott Peterson, IT7, and Cliff Koehler, FM.

<u>ST. LOUIS REGION</u> (37 drivers) claims seven in trophy positions. Matt Guzowski in FV and James Stevens in IT7 both have identical 57-point records, four wins and one second. Bob Eichelberger has also won four, in FP, while Mary Daly has three wins to lead GT1. In runner-up positions on the points list are Charles Gruner in FM, Ed Smith in S2000, and Jim Krispin in CF.

DES MOINES VALLEY REGION (14 drivers) has the third-highest driver tally, and three of them are holding down second place in their classes at the moment. **Peter Lehr** is chasing the leader in Spec Miata. **Greg Scharnberg** is making a late bid in Club Continental, winning the most recent three races. **Harlan Donaldson** took the ITB win at MAM to bump up the points list.

<u>NEBRASKA REGION</u> (12 drivers) is led by Andy Wolverton, who already has seven wins in ITE and stands second in the Driver of the Year tally. **Don** Nelson is the runner-up so far in Formula Ford. <u>MID-SOUTH REGION</u> (11 drivers) has two class leaders, **Greer Haynes** in GT2 and **Robert Bass** in Club Continental, both with 4-win 48-point scores.



Bill Denton has won three in ITS for second place, and **Mark Zwolle** is the other half of that third-place tie in Spec Miata.

<u>WICHITA REGION</u> (11 drivers) has **Dave Gird** in the running for a new driver's suit from SafeRacer, leading SSC and standing sixth in

Driver of the Year. **Scott Bettinger** still leads American Sedan.

OZARK MOUNTAIN REGION (10 drivers) has four class leaders topped by **Jude Rudder** in ITA and also fourth in DotY. **Court Whitlock** leads EP, **Craig Chandler** has a 3-point edge in F/SCCA, and **Shane Bennoch** is the F/Continental leader.

OKLAHOMA REGION (10 drivers) has the leader in the tough Spec Racer Ford class, **Jack Donnellan**, who also stands third on the DotY list after winning all four July races. **Jeff Norris** won't figure in HP as a result of going over the limit in National points but is hanging on to the lead in Club Ford. **Lynn Lamb** holds down second in IT7.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS REGION (9 drivers) has **Chris Albin** in his accustomed places atop the ITB and DotY lists. **Kenneth Probst** tops GT Lite while **Donald Hendry** is third in ITB.

<u>NEOKLA REGION</u> (8 drivers) has **Ron Pawley** runner-up in ITE while the **Wagner boys** hold down 2nd (**Randy**) and 3rd (**Marty**) in FP.

<u>ARKANSAS REGION</u> (7 drivers), shows Kenneth Kirkland out front of F500 after four wins. Holding third-place slots are Scott Davie in ITE and Dan Crossett in ITS.

<u>SALINA REGION</u> (3 drivers) has **Rocky Entriken** atop the GP class after a July blitz, the only other driver to score 12 at all four races.

<u>KANSAS REGION</u> (2 drivers), lists Howard Duncan as its best, 5th in IT7 with one win.

<u>MISSISSIPPI REGION</u> (1 driver) has only Skip Brunson, 6th in ITS.

--Rocky Entriken